



**Welcome to the March Edition of Ratlines!**

**First up - Club News:**

**Regular clubhouse sessions:** ...are still every Tuesday and Saturday from around 7:30/8:00 AM. We usually finish around midday, but that's flexible. Use of the clubhouse and facilities out of these times is also available to members by contacting the committee.

- **Mail:** Our mailing address is 68 Tingira Street, Portsmith. QLD 4870.
- **Ports North Master Plan:** No changes foreseen at this time.
- **Insurance:** Our recent insurance premium was considerably higher than last year, but still lower than the previous arrangement. Invoice & Certificate of Currency received.
- **Incorporation:** Up to date.

**Clubhouse:**

- Remember, we have all sorts of boat stainless steel fittings, bits & pieces, etc, so check us first.

**Boatbuilding Projects:**

**Roger's 15' strip planked canoe** is now 100% complete and has had her first launching. She slips through the water with nary a ripple and is very stable. A beautiful achievement.





**Tom's Pathfinder:**

Is closer to build completion. The stainless steel protector strip on her keel is secured in position and she has now been lowered onto her trailer; her rudder has been assembled & shipped; the paint job looks fantastic; the mast tabernacle has been test fitted; the bowsprit is fitted; and the cockpit coamings are being constructed. All in all, much further progress.



And just to show how it all began, this is the laying of the sole/bottom plate, August 2015!



**Brendon's Hartley:**  
Stripping off of sections of the starboard deck and underlying framework continues.



## **Roger's Bitaki Taari.**

Still awaits her turn in the second work bay, and redesign work has yet to start.

## **The 68 Tingira St compound update.**

The mower shed has been completed, thanks to Roger and all his willing helpers. The mower and associated stuff now reside within, further cleaning up the property and improving safety.



Brendon's ceremonial stowing of the mower for the 1<sup>st</sup> time!



And then of course we had the cyclone that swept in and touched up Cairns well before the met bureau decided it was going to pay us a visit. Power outages shut down almost all the traffic lights in the city, which turned the CBD and Sheridan Street & further north into gridlock. Again, Tom & Sheila braved the wind, rain & the dire traffic situation to get into Tingira Street to do a quick tie-down and tidy up.

Once again our previous major cleanup & stow reduced the job enormously.

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## **Other activities:**

Various members still regularly head on up to Tinaroo for the chance to mess around in boats, test drive weird & wacky contraptions – some with hydrofoils, some with steam engines - and so on. If you'd like to meet up with them, best to co-ordinate with our Secretary Roger.

## **Lake Tinaroo Raid, 2021.**

The Raid is confirmed for the Cairns Show weekend in July (15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>).

The rules for the Seagull Race, the Peculiar Propulsion Race, and the Paddle & Row Race have been revised. They will be sent out in their final format shortly.

A pleasure cruise of boats around the lake on Friday afternoon is almost a reality. Details are being investigated. Once we have all of our ducks in a row the Raid Program will be promulgated.

And last, but not least. This month we welcome two new members: John Todd and Mark Provan. You are very much welcomed into our club John & Mark, we hope you'll have as much fun in joining in as we do!

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Ladies and Gentlemen, this concludes Ratlines for March 2021, and the next issue will be in April. As always, if there's more you want to see or know about please let us know by return email - [WBACairns@gmail.com](mailto:WBACairns@gmail.com)

Chris O'Keefe  
President

**Clubhouse:** 68 Tingira Street, Portsmith, (Cairns) Qld 4870

**Committee is:** President- Chris O'Keefe; Vice President- Marc Richards; Secretary- Roger Fryer; Treasurer- Brendon O'Rourke; Committeemen- Tom Sparks, John Knight and Dermot Smyth.

**Build days:** Every Tuesday and Saturday mornings. Other days available on request.

**Website:** <https://www.woodenboatscairns.com.au>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Wooden-Boat-Association-of-Cairns-118900728480121/>

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...and finally, Pathfinder looking very pretty on her trailer.

