



CRUISING NEWS



OCTOBER 2022

September forum dinner 2022

Memories from our Kimberley Expedition

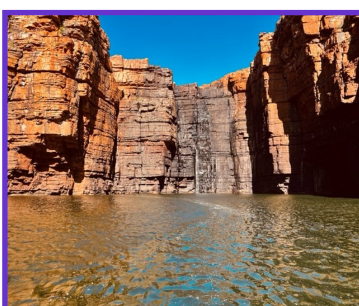
By *Barbara Burns*



20 or so people gathered to enjoy a delicious dinner in the Bay room and listen to our amazing Kimberley Coast Cruise. WE have been waiting to do this cruise for two years. Covid got in the way. However everything settled down, and we were finally able to start our adventure. After spending two lovely days in Darwin, we boarded the ship at 4 pm, and with a minimum of fuss were on our way. The first night we travelled 430 kilometres from Darwin, crossing the Joseph Bonaparte Bay to get to Koolama Bay at the head of the mighty King George River.

The Coral Geographer is the companies newest ship, and is beautifully fitted out with exquisite woodwork, using Australian timbers, pure woollen carpets fitted in all the state rooms ,and magnificent aboriginal art , artistically arranged throughout the ship.

The bridge was impressive, very modern, with computer screens everywhere. The handsome Italian captain, was impressive also. He had his watchful eye on all operations.. As I love Italian accents, it was always a pleasure to hear his announcements over the loudspeakers. The passengers were allowed to visit the bridge most of the time, except when complicated manoeuvres were in progress. This happened mostly at night when the ship was weaving in between the



islands. This was when most of the travelling was done, as it meant that during the day, we were anchored in some beautifully secluded bay. Then the huge tenders came into play, and we could whiz about at tremendous speed. This meant that we could go a long way into rivers and smaller bays. Everything was greatly influenced by the enormous tides, so timing was very important, as the company didn't want the expedition getting bogged somewhere in the mud.

This shot is of the magnificent cliffs and gorges on the King George River, with the waterfalls in the distance.

Memories from our Kimberley Expedition

By Barbara Burns

The coast around the mouth of the King George River was examined by a French Expedition in July 1803. Baudin and Freycinet on Le Geographe and Le Casuarina named Cape Bernier after a 24 year old who died on Le Geographe 05/06/1803. Cape Rulhieres was named after a French poet and historian by Baudin in 1800.

The mighty King George River, is majestic, with its vertical cliffs and teetering rocks sitting on precarious ledges. Our destination is the King George Falls (Oomari Falls) at the head of the river, which splits into two separate waterfalls.



King George River



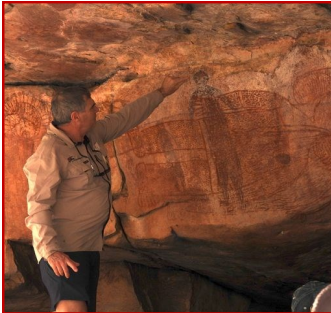
Cave on the King George River



King George Falls

Gwion rock art galleries off North Jar Island and East Jar Island. Prince Regent Bay, and Wollaston Bay.

The biggest gallery has with numerous different Wandjinas, turtles, a thylacine (or isitakangaroo?), several types of fish and so much more .



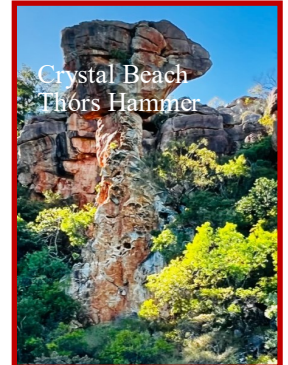
King Cascade (Mambulbada) Prince Regent Falls



White Breasted Sea Eagle



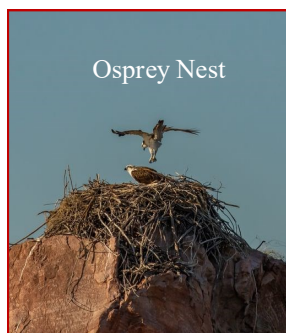
Bigge Island and Carreening Bay amazing caves



Crystal Beach Thors Hammer



Sticky Kurrajong or Kimberley Rose



Osprey Nest



Brahminy Kite



Mangroves showing the huge tidal flows

Memories from our Kimberley Expedition

By Barbara Burns

Talbot Bay (Canbadba)

The weathering away of the softer volcanic and siltstone layers in between the harder sandstone layers has allowed the Horizontal Waterfalls to form behind the narrow, eroded exits where the tidal water escapes with such force. Mangroves lined the upper reaches of Cyclone Creek where spectacular high bluffs in the distance created reflections on the calm water .



Going through the Horizontal falls



Montgomery Reef, 20km off Doubtful Bay on the central Kimberley coast, is perhaps the most astonishing marine spectacle in the country. With dramatic tide falls of more than 10m along this coast (the largest in the southern hemisphere), this unformed Atlantis can loom more than 5m above the ocean’s surface. Phillip Parker King named it after Andrew Montgomery, the surgeon on his ship, the Bathurst.



We thoroughly enjoyed our trip. I had not realised that there were so many small bays and rivers in this part of the Kimberley Coast. The last night was a long motor to Broome, where we disembarked at 8 am. It was all a smooth operation, with the Captain very skilfully parking the ship on a very small part of the wharf.

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Sue Drummond's Nautical Quiz

1 Trade winds are the permanent east to west prevailing winds that flow in the

- (a) Arctic Region
- (b) Atlantic Region
- (c) Equatorial Region
- (d) Antarctic Region

2. Which Hollywood celebrity is a longtime sailor?

- (a) Tom Cruise
- (b) Anthony Hopkins
- (c) Mel Gibson
- (d) Morgan Freeman

3. Which is the largest sail powered only yacht in the world?

- (a) Sailing Yacht A Nobiskrug
- (b) Y721 (Oceanco)
- (c) EOS (Lurssen Yachts)
- (d) Black Pearl

4. The Danish Royals Fredrick and Mary went public with their relationship in January 2003 at which Yacht Club?

- (a) CYCA
- (b) Royal Perth
- (c) Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania
- (d) Royal Yacht Club of Victoria

5. "Splice the main brace!" is an official order to issue the crew with a tot of rum (or a can of soft drink or beer).

- (a) Who is not permitted to give this order?
- (b) First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval staff.
- (c) Princess Eugenia of York
- (d) Prime Minister Liz Truss
- (e) Megan Markle

6. Where would you place your "baggy wrinkle " on your yacht?

- (a) On the forestay
- (b) On a shroud
- (c) On the transom
- (d) On the bowsprit

7. How many nautical miles did Jessica Watson sail in her 2010 circumnavigation?

- (a) 20,000
- (b) 23,000
- (c) 34,000
- (d) 42,000

8. What is a "boomkin "?

- (a) A small pole used for holding the head sail out running down wind.
- (b) A type of jellyfish
- (c) A pole used to attach the shroud aft of the stern
- (d) A command to duck the boom

9. The Laser was introduced to the Olympics in which year?

- (a) Los Angeles 1984
- (b) Sydney 2000
- (c) Atlanta 1996
- (d) Seoul 1988

10. Who or what is "The Red Duster"?

- (a) A ship carrying iron ore
- (b) The Red Ensign

The long weekend in September to Wyndham Harbour

By
Malcolm King

The long weekend in September seemed like a great opportunity to shake out the sails and get the yacht ready for some time away on the water.

The first thought was to head down to QCYC for all of the four days. Leave Thursday and return Sunday. Step one - check the weather. Step two book a berth. Step three check the weather. step four cancel the booking. The weather gods did not have our plans in the forefront of mind! SW wind Thursday - North wind Sunday. It's not going to happen!

Plan two - Wyndham harbour. SW wind tending southerly and remaining light for both Thursday and Friday. Step 1 good. Step two Book a berth. Booking a marina berth at Wyndham was easy. You have a choice of available pens on line. We chose a pen on D row with plenty of room to swing in. Not tight at all. So far so good.

Departure day. Patrice was watered and fridge was operating at a cold beer temperature. With the wind picking up after 12, we cast off at 11:30 and headed towards Altona. Crossing the channel we threw in a starboard tack and head parallel to the western side of the channel before changing tack to pick up a course directly to Wyndham. It was a very pleasant sail at a speed of 5 knots until the wind eased at the entrance to Wyndham. Temperature was cool in parts requiring a warm jacket.

A text from the marina gave us the access codes to the gate and the amenities as well as whether you would like assistance berthing.

On our arrival we noticed that the facilities have improved since we were there last. The pizza / bar area has been updated and a cafe and mini golf has also been added. The staff were friendly and courteous.

Our intention was to have dinner at the pizzeria. Alas, much to the disappointment of the owner or delight as the case maybe, the pizzeria proved so popular they had run out of dough by 7pm.

Fortunately, the ships stores were well stock so the Admiral and crew didn't go hungry.

The marina was full of friendly yachties, some cruising in for an overnight stop and some locals. We met some terrific people and made out stay a little more special and had sundowners with some of them.

The next morning, after an easy start to the day and a good nights sleep, we waited for the wind to get up, leaving at a leisurely 11:30 after a pleasant stroll and saying our farewells. The gentle breeze gave us an easy 3.5 - 4 knots on a direct course to Rbyc. Gradually the wind gathered strength, the southern sky clouded over, boat speed increased and the rain started to follow us. At one stage, we're hopeful that it may have stayed to the south but alas not to be. Visibility reduced and the sight of RBYC disappeared in the rain.

As we crossed the channel and approached Brighton, the rain stopped, the wind eased and the RBYC marina welcomed us back.

All in all, it was a great weekend away. It was made memorable by the friendly mariners at Wyndham. It was worth the effort to go and worth the effort to talk to our fellow yachties. They're a friendly bunch if you're relaxed and got the time.

Skipper Tips

By
Geoff Brewster

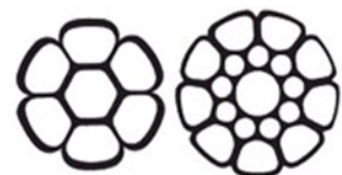
When having your standing rigging replaced consider using Dyform instead of "traditional" 1x19 stainless steel wire: Dyform (perhaps now called compacted) is high-tech low-stretch wire rigging.

A lay of 1x19 Dyform will provide something like 6,150 kg of capacity compared to 4,640kg for a 1x19 lay of traditional wire rigging..

This is something like a 30% increase in capacity for the same diameter cable, a significant increase in the capacity of the standing rigging.

The cost of Dyform is around \$20/m compared to \$9/m for "traditional", so there is a price to pay, but only for the cost of the cable all fittings etc stay the same.

Dyforms (Now Called Compacted) is high-tech, low stretch wire rigging, which features more than a 30% increase in breaking strength over traditional 1x19 wire, and 25% less stretch. It is approved for use with conventional swage and swageless fittings. The cross section shows how the specially shaped wires fill a greater proportion of the strand cross section. Compacted wire is also the best alternative when replacing rod rigging with wire



NOTICEBOARD

***Friday October 21st *** Annual Progressive Dinner

It's Back!

After being cancelled for the past two years (for obvious reasons) the annual Cruising Group **Progressive Dinner** is back on the calendar, and will be held on the evening of Friday October 21st, 2022. All Welcome. As always, this is an excellent evening to get to know your fellow cruisers and other club members, as the dinners are in small groups that change between the main course host boat and the dessert host boat.

Please contact **Pam Merritt** (phone: 0408 361 208, or email: andalucia1771@icloud.com) to book to come along as a boat guest, or to volunteer to host on your boat.

Gather in the Members Bar around 6:30pm for pre-dinner drinks, and to be allocated your boats. After the 7:00pm draw, we will then proceed down the pier to the marina for:

- Main course on your first allocated boat, followed by,
- Dessert and Tea/Coffee on your second allocated boat, finishing with:
Port and Chocolates on one (or more) of the larger boats

Cost: \$20 per person, with hosts to be reimbursed \$10/person for mains, and \$6/person for desserts.

Upcoming events - Save the dates

Saturday 29th Oct - Tuesday 1st Nov:

Melbourne Cup Long Weekend Cruise -

Destination: Mornington / Martha Cove (weather dependant) - Coordinator: Peter Gebhardt.

Friday 18th Nov - Guest Speaker Dinner - TBA

Saturday 3rd Dec - Hardstand Christmas Party.

Join the Cruising Group out on the Hardstand from 6pm for our Annual Hardstand Party. Load up the barrow for BYO everything, including folding chairs. Not for the BBQ. We will supply the BBQ. Please remember your Christmas Carols and don't forget to dig out your Christmas hat! Come for a fabulous evening of socialising and carol singing. Let us all hope for lovely warm weather!

Answers: to Sue Drummond's quiz

1. C 2. d 3.a 4 c 5 c 6.b. 7. b. 8. c. 9. c. 10. b

Chair Report October



There has been a bit of changing of the guard in the cruising group over the last month or two with Jennie Collins leaving after many years of dedicated service, Pam Merritt indicating up-coming retirement and Paul Jenkins departing after a two year stint as chairperson.

It is probably fair to say that with two years of covid restrictions, coupled with what seems to be particularly cold and windy weather, even by Melbourne standards, the activities of the cruising group have been down a little.

On the upside there seems to be a lot of activity going on at the moment with cruising group boats (including Saffron) being readied in anticipation of the coming cruising season, (we were at Sandringham the other day where Saffron's rigging is being replaced, and noticed Aquacadabra, and Favourite Child on the hardstand)..... so with all this preparation perhaps we will see a bit more of each other out on the water in the coming months.

We are pleased that Pam Merritt has once again taken on the organisation of the annual progressive dinner to be held on 21st October (Friday). I am sure it will be a great evening as it has been for many years, Barbara and I are looking forward to catching up with you all on the evening.

Geoff Brewster



.A bit of trivia

Valhalla was an old yacht kept at Brighton. Now all that remains is a faded sepia photograph

Geoff was talking to someone in Annapolis USA ,(trying to organize davits for the boat), whose father lived in Beaumaris and owned Valhalla and sailed at Royal Brighton Yacht Club. Small world