

# **BMS 6 DAY TWEED RIVER CRUISE REPORT**

## **19 – 24 OCTOBER 2024**

This cruise was well attended with 20 vessels meeting at the Deep Hole at 8am, before heading out of the GC Seaway and bearing south, in a 15 knot northerly breeze with ½ to 1 metre swells. Several whale spouts and one whale breach were spotted in the distance along the way.

All vessels crossed the Tweed Bar and anchored at Cave Point where we went ashore to the Sheoak Café for lunch. Due to the exposed nature of this anchorage and increasing winds after lunch some vessels relocated to Chinderah for the calmer waters.

The following day after a planned delayed start to wait for the tide to provide sufficient depths at Stott's Island and the Rawsons Island shallows, we relocated to Tumbulgum and a number of dinghies took part in a safari around the Rous River and Mayal Creek, total distance of 11.7 NM. Some dinghies could not get past a tree which partly blocked the Creek. 40 people attended the Tumbulgum Tavern for dinner.

Next day, the fleet moved to anchor at the Condong Boat Ramp where there is a convenient pontoon and park, for a long lunch time BBQ. As there were no BBQ facilities, we took three BBQ's ashore from vessels to provide cooking facilities for the cruisers. A BMS sponsored random draw was held and 6 lucky people each won \$50 club cash. Following on, was another random draw sponsored by Precision Marine Maintenance took place, the participating boat names were drawn from a hat and 6 lucky people each won a bottle of wine.

On Tuesday, several sedan type vessels ferried guests and their dinghies to Murwillumbah, where crews explored the town. Later crews met for a pleasant lunch at the Riverview Hotel before heading back to Condong.

Wednesday was the start of the return journey downstream. First stop Tumbulgum, to await the tide to provide sufficient depth to transit the shallows at Rawsons Island and Stott's Island. Most of the fleet anchored at Chinderah, whilst three anchored at Cave Point as they were going earlier next day to head south to Yamba and the Clarence River.

All the remaining vessels safely transited the Tweed bar just after low tide and had a good run northwards into ½ to 1 metre swell from East and NE and 10-15 knot NW wind before returning to their own marinas. Several more whales were sighted along the way.

After the Melbourne Cup lunch at the Pacific Hotel, the next cruise planned is the BMS 6 Day Koorinal Cruise which starts on 17th November will be published on the Club website soon.

Notes for future cruises to Tweed River - Height constraints October 2024

NM from mouth of river	Clearance (m) HAT	Description
4.1	12.0	Barneys Point road bridge
5.2	20.3	Wire
6.8	20.3	Wire
10.7	7.5	Tumbulgum road bridge
11.2		Tumbulgum anchorage
14.6	4.4	Condong road bridge
14.8	More than 6m	Wire
16.3		Murwillumbah anchorage

16.5

4.8

Murwillumbah road bridge

