



Volunteer Marine Rescue Bundaberg Inc
The Secretary, PO Box 566, Bundaberg, Qld 4670
51 Harbour Esplanade Burnett Heads Qld
Ph: 07 4159 4349 Fax: 07 4159 4389
www.vmrbundabergfishingclassic.com.au



INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES: New active members are welcome and a commitment to training and participation in unit activities is required. Roles for active members include radio operators, rescue vessel crew and fundraising or administrative, with all training provided. For insurance purposes, prospective members may also require a medical clearance before being endorsed. Please indicate your preference to be an active member on the membership application.

CONSTITUTION & BY LAWS: A copy of the unit's Constitution & By Laws is available on the website listed above.

MEMBERSHIP FEES & ENQUIRIES: An annual membership fee of \$25 is payable with an optional partner membership available for \$5.50. Applications and annual membership fees apply to one person only and a separate form is required for each person (except partners). For all membership enquiries please contact the base on 4159 4349.

ASSISTANCE CHARGES: Any assistance provided by VMR Bundaberg is charged on a cost recovery basis. Charges are based on the cost of fuel used and a percentage on cost for vessel maintenance. Non-members incur an additional call out fee of \$80.00. All charges are exclusive of GST which is not payable.

BOAT LEVY: An optional boat levy is available to members to offset assistance charges (eg \$22 allows \$100 off towing costs, \$44 allows \$200, \$66 allows \$300, \$88 allows \$400, \$110 allows \$500). The levy is **not** transferable and applies only to the nominated boat. It is payable annually with membership renewals and there is no carryover of unused credits.

VMR Bundaberg has reciprocal arrangements with VMR Gladstone, VMR Round Hill and VMR Hervey Bay and members requiring assistance from these units will be reimbursed to the extent of any remaining paid levy benefit. Requests for reimbursement of charges from other VMRQ units will also be considered upon proof of payment.

COMMUNICATIONS: Ensure you are familiar with the correct operation of your radio and the frequencies used to call VMR before heading out. Our radio base at Burnett Heads is staffed by volunteers from 0600 to 1800 hours daily. We monitor VHF channels 16, 67, 22, 80 and 81 as well as HF frequencies 2524, 4125 and 6215 MHz.

MOBILE PHONES: Mobile phones are not designed for marine use and have proven most unreliable at sea. The best form of communication offshore in our area is a VHF marine radio.

SAFETY FIRST: Before heading out, notify someone of your destination and estimated time of return. Ensure your vessel is capable of undertaking the journey and is carrying sufficient fuel and the required safety equipment. Log on with VMR Bundaberg on your departure and log off on return.

EPIRBs: EPIRBs are compulsory for all vessels operating more than 2 nautical miles from land. They must be stored securely to prevent accidental activation. If your EPIRB is accidentally activated, turn it off immediately and notify the nearest marine rescue unit, police or AMSA. There is no penalty for accidental activation. Expired EPIRBs may be disposed of at Battery World Bundaberg for a nominal fee.

CHANGE OF DETAILS: Please email bundaberg@marinerescueqld.org.au if you change any of your personal particulars, towing vehicle or boat details. Your safety could depend on it.