



Queensland's Biggest Powerboat Racing Spectacular



2009 Information Package



2009

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*Dynamic Victorian Blown Boat RIVAL ,
driven by John Cross (VIC) winner of the Iron Nuts Shield at the
2008 Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder.*



2009

Introduction:

The Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder is Queensland's biggest power boat race spectacular. It incorporates 2 days of Australia's best racing, lunchtime water displays, and ancillary events of the Wide Bay Australia Ambassador Quest, Gala Pre-Race Party, Display of Competing Boats to the public, and more.

Established in 2000, the event has gained **national recognition** as one of the top racing events of the year, and attracts the fastest boats available in this country. Top class is the Unlimited Displacements, including the BAD Boats, blown alcohol displacement, racing at over 130mph.

The Trojan Cup is the most sought after trophy in Australia for the 6 litre open and carby displacement classes. The Iron Nuts Shield commemorates top Australian driver and an instigator of the event, Geoff Tomkins. The heats and final of this race for Unlimited Displacements are special to Bundaberg, capturing the indomitable spirit of Geoff and power boat racers everywhere.

F1's, Unlimited Outboards, 5 litre Displacements, Hydroplanes, Juniors, and other support classes make up a jam packed program of high octane action, providing brilliant value entertainment for racing fans and families alike.

The event provides tow money, fuel, prize money and major trophy honours to competitors.

The Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder is a major annual event in Bundaberg and Burnett region's calendar of events. It is held in early November every year, and attracts thousands of people including teams, supporters, racing fans and spectators from as far as Tasmania, Western Australia, Victoria, South Australia, NSW, interstate QLD, and locals.

2007 Central Queensland and Southern Reef Tourism Award Winner – Significant Festivals and Events Category - Highly Commended

2009 Overall 6th placing and the highest ranking event in the RACQ 150 Must Do's in Queensland promotion. The campaign celebrates Queensland's 150th birthday, and will be promoted throughout 2009 by RACQ in conjunction with the Queensland Government and Tourism Queensland.

The dates for the 2009 Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder will be Friday 6th, Saturday 7th, and Sunday 8th November. It will be the 10th anniversary of this spectacular event.



Burnett River | Bundaberg | QLD

The Site:

Located approximately 8 kms to the west of Bundaberg city centre is the beautiful “**Sandy Hook**” reach of the Burnett River. A fresh water, non-tidal waterway with natural elevated viewing banks, Sandy Hook is naturally brilliant for this event. Drivers praise the course and venue which increases the profile of the Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder every year.

The site is transformed with infrastructure for the event. This includes 2 spacious pits areas, 2 ramps, on-site catering and bar facilities, a kids kingdom with a variety of rides, grandstand seating, foot traffic bridge over main ramp, exclusive corporate marquee area, large car-parking areas, and much more.



A small portion of the riverbank at Sandy Hook on the Burnett River, Bundaberg.



Nov 7 | 8 | 9

Event Organisation:

The Bundy Thunder Power Boat Race Committee, a sub-committee of the Rotary Club of Bundaberg West, organizes the Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder. This community-based committee is made up of Rotarians, representatives of local councils, the Sandy Hook Ski Club, the Leukaemia Foundation, dedicated appointed individuals, and representatives of APBA Queensland Council.

The actual racing is conducted by the Australian Powerboat Association of Australia (Queensland Council) who provides all the race marshals, officials, judges, safety drivers and administrators required to conduct a sanctioned race meeting.

The event is a non-profit project of the Rotary Club of Bundaberg West, who distribute gate takings of the event to local charities and organizations. The Sandy Hook Ski Club invests profits from their on-site catering into site and clubhouse improvements, and the Leukaemia Foundation is the major beneficiary of ancillary events, The Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder Pre-Race Party, and the Miss Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder Ambassador Quest.



Craig Lewis - IMAGE (Qld) is congratulated by major sponsor, Ron Hancock from Wide Bay Australia Ltd, on winning the 2007 Trojan Cup for 6 litre Displacements.



Why do people love it?

best boat race meeting i have ever been to, only being topped by a nascar race at charlotte usa (CW)

Brilliant boat race meeting. As a participant, we have never been to a race meeting that was so well organised. It was well worth the drive from Victoria. Congratulations (LR)

This is a spectacular day even if you're not a follower of the sport. You can feel the roar of the engines right to your bones and the races are so exciting to watch. The boats themselves are beautiful to look at and the drivers and team members that I spoke to were really interesting and happy to have a chat. A great day out!! (DB)

West Australian Speed Boat club members make the annual pilgrimage to this “prestigious” race. Our club would be one of the clubs that travel the most distance to an event that no person who is a boat enthusiast would miss. (AK)

I have been a Miss Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder Entrant twice now, and I have enjoyed every second!! As an Entrant, young girls raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation, to help raise money for sick kids and adults with the battle of the cancer, and to help find a cure, along with accommodation facilities for the patients and their families. I also have attended the Wide Bay Aust. Bundy Thunder event every year, for the past 8 years, and have thoroughly enjoyed each weekend. I would encourage anyone, of any age, Australia wide, to make the trip to Bundaberg and check out the high octane, high adrenalin, speed boat racing! (ZP)

This is the best run powerboat racing event in the country and attracts the fastest boats in Australia. Its a must do for anyone keen on motorsport, and with plenty of rides and fun, perfect for the whole family. (AP)

Bundy Thunder has been our annual boys' weekend trip since its inception and continues to be the highlight of our year! From the parade through Bundaberg's heart, to the thrill of the King of the River finale, Bundy Thunder has proven itself to be a definite MUST DO for any motor racing fan! If you've never SEEN the spectacular sights... If you've never HEARD the overwhelming roar... If you've never FELT the chest-rattling thump... You've never been to Bundy Thunder! (JC)

What a great fun day out. I've been to one. It was noisy, it was fumeey, it was action packed, and it was FAST. It seems to affect all the senses. (GW)

If you love the thrill of speed then this is a must do. To top it off, Bundaberg is a great place with a lot to offer. (DD)

Incredible to see these drivers doing their stuff on liquid surfaces ... dangerous enough on bitument! Bloody good time I can tell ya' (PA)

Congrats to the City of Bundaberg for staging such a wonderful event. I have attended every event since its inception and I have seen it grow into Australias Grand Prix on water. Special thanks to the Bundy Thunder Commitee and the Bundy West Rotary Club for their ongoing tireless effort to bring this awesome event to Bundaberg and Queensland. Also not to forget Wide Bay Australia for their generous sponsorship. Theirs and the many other sponsorships make this event possible. I will be back. (GR)

What an awesome event, boats with up to 2000hp, will be back next year for sure. (WJ)

It is the best weekend you can ever have...The noise, the smell and the action. (ML)

To share the passion, guts, and glory of Australia's best circuit power boat racers is a must-do in anyone's lifetime, and particularly in Queensland's birthday year. Just once a year it happens in Bundaberg, and it's worth the wait to NOV 6-8 in 2009. (SP)

Three days of extreme horsepower with the chance to get up close with the best drivers and teams in Australia and to rub shoulders with the best . With some of the most picturesque views and an electric atmosphere to watch the boats thundering past. (JW)

One time I failed to drive the 5 hours north and was miserable the whole weekend knowing what I was missing. I'll never miss this event again! A great weekend! (AC)

These guys and girls are "the Bathurst" of Power Boat Racing in Australia. Absolutely one of the best motor sport spectacles in the Country. Awesome! (HB)

(Quotes are from the event listing on RACQ 150 Must Do's website 18.11.08 – 31.01.09)



2009 Planned Itinerary

FRIDAY 31ST JULY –

- Media Launch
Official launch of the event and introduction of 2009 Miss Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder Quest Entrants.

SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER

- Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder PRE-RACE PARTY
6pm-2am – Bundaberg's premier gala event in the Civic Centre. Hosted by the Leukaemia Foundation, this special evening features fabulous food and entertainment and the award ceremony for the Miss Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder Ambassador Quest

FRIDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2009

- Media Day
- Scrutineering.
- 4.30pm Assembly for 5.30pm start - Wide Bay Australia Bundy Thunder Display of Boats and Public Meet & Greet.
- Competing boats displayed to the public. Official 'Welcome to the City' by local dignitaries. Fans can mingle with drivers and team members, check out the boats, engineering and paint jobs.
- 7pm - Drivers & Teams Welcome function open to public. Food, entertainment, interviews and party. Free Entry.

SATURDAY 8th NOVEMBER

- 9am – 5pm Sandy Hook, Burnett River. Full Race Program featuring heats and trophy races. Lunchtime entertainment displays.
- 6pm – late (New spectators function planned for visitors to Bundaberg).

SUNDAY 9th NOVEMBER

- 9am – 5pm Sandy Hook, Burnett River. Full Race Program featuring heats, trophy races, and major presentations. Lunchtime entertainment displays.
- 6pm – Prize Money and Point Score Trophy Presentation.

Contact Us!

Bundy Thunder Race Committee:

For further details and sponsorship enquiries, please contact;

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Australia's Best Blown Boat Action