

BHP

HELPING HANDS!

Volunteer Marine Rescue Port Hedland's purpose is to preserve life at sea. The group is a volunteer organisation with professionally trained personnel, ready to assist 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year. We aim to be world class in volunteer marine rescue with teams of skilled, effective, and efficient volunteers. The Port Hedland Volunteer Marine Rescue (PHVMR) have contributed immensely to the promotion of Marine Safety in operation by engaging the Port Hedland community in training and educational programs, and demonstrations at local events. Overall, as is their main group objective, the PHVMR have successfully come to the aid of distressed mariners in the Port Hedland area for many years, preserving numerous precious lives along the way.

In the early hours of the 9th of December, as the Pilbara sun warmed up, ten members from BHP's Port Improvement team gathered at Port Hedland Volunteer Marine Rescue to volunteer their time and lend their hands to assist with a general busy bee. The team were literally met with a warm welcome, as they were told the long history of the service by Lachy, the temp began rising to 34 degrees. They were then briefed on the tasks for the day, where to find equipment and tools, and taken through safety procedures while on site with special mention to keep hydrated and take regular breaks. After a quick tour of the marine vehicles and the facility it was time to start the day. The team split into groups to attend to the list of tasks that were needed to be completed.



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One group undertook the yard duties trimming the overgrown tree then loading it onto the truck to be emptied at the tip. They made jokes and laughed as they also raked and cleared the side area of leaves, trimmed hedges, washed signs and stacked temporary fencing weights. It was hot and humid work, and the team appreciated the cold water which was regularly circulated to ensure everyone was well hydrated not to mention the morning tea break in the air condition and shade.

A couple of the team also started the long and onerous job of cleaning and organising the existing shelves in the shed glad for the vibes pumping from the speakers to sing along to. Other's pressure cleaned the exterior furniture and under croft area and one lucky member cleaned the air-conditioned training area inside the building. Another crew began the clean up on the Marine Rescue Vessels, which involved washing and scrubbing the outside of the boat, main deck and inside the main cabin. After a bit of Windex, surface cleaner and elbow grease the boats were all spruced up and ready for their next rescue. The day finished when the crew returned from the tip with the truck emptied of the green waste collected from the team's efforts, then sat together for a well-earned lunch break and cool down.

It was a job well done in good spirits on hot humid day but the tough team from Port Improvements proved themselves up to the challenge and displayed good teamwork and a fine effort that was much appreciated by the volunteer team from the PHVMR.

Thank you everyone for your support of the community in Port Hedland you can be proud of the contribution your team has made through your team volunteering day, hope you enjoyed the experience.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE PHOTOS FROM THE DAY.](#)