

NEWS

Man, kids found on yacht

POLICE SEARCH

BY EMILY BAROTN

North Durras

A LARGE search along the coast for a missing group ended peacefully on Tuesday afternoon.

A 42-year-old man and four children who went missing from Batemans Bay on Monday evening after a domestic argument, were found on board an allegedly stolen yacht at 11am on Tuesday.

The Moruya-based Westpac Life Saver helicopter and NSW Police located the yacht, with the male, his two sons, aged 13 and 8, as well as a 14-year-old girl and a 12-year-old boy on board, off North Durras.

The man left his Beach Road, Batemans Bay, home at 7pm on Monday after a dispute with his partner. Police held concerns for the groups welfare. The rescue helicopter was tasked on Tuesday morning to search for the missing persons.

Westpac Life Saver helicopter CEO Stephen Leahy said they searched the coast from Moruya, north to Batemans Bay and up the Clyde River, before they



We were requested to head to the Durras and Pretty Beach area to confirm if a yacht, which was alleged to be stolen from the Bay overnight, was in that area.

Stephen Leahy

headed north, where the yacht was located.

"We were briefed to look for any small boat, which appeared to be moving away from Batemans Bay, with a male and several children on board," he said.

"Our most southern search point was Tuross Head and we searched up to Pretty Beach and up the Clyde River to Nelligen."

Mr Leahy said the crew searched for one-and-a-half hours before returning to the base to refuel.

"Then we were requested

to head to the Durras and Pretty Beach area to confirm if a yacht, which was alleged to be stolen from the Bay overnight, was in that area. If so, what was the location and who was on board," he said.

"There was a NSW Fisheries boat nearby. We believe that they had initially spotted the possibly stolen boat.

"We were then asked to go and confirm location and see if we could see anything on board. As a result of that information, everyone was satisfied that this was the boat and the group being looked for. We didn't want to cause too much angst with the people on board. We left and fisheries stayed with them until police arrived on scene."

The yacht was reported stolen from Batmans Bay Marina.

The four children on board were taken to the marina at about 1pm. Police said at 2.30pm, the children were understood to be at home with their families. The man was escorted to Batemans Bay police station.

Far South Coast Local Area Command Police will investigate the circumstances surrounding the incident.



FOUND: A man and four children were found on board a yacht off North Durras on Tuesday. The yacht, left, was reported stolen from Batemans Bay on Monday night.

Campbell Page kicks off 30 year celebrations at The Bay



Left to Right- Anne Hodge who has been a longstanding part of the team at Batemans Bay, and David Hawdon who has been an integral part of the organisation for close to 20 years

What began as a youth drop in centre in Narooma, NSW 30 years ago, is today an all-encompassing community organisation spanning across five Australian states.

The Campbell Page Batemans Bay hub at 1 Museum Place has been an iconic part of our community since 1999. To commemorate 30 years of making a difference, the team held a variety of events across the country - with celebrations kicking off at the Bay. The nearby Mogo Preschool (also run by Campbell Page) performed for the Batemans Bay team, with David Hawdon (Chair and Director since 1997) joining in for a song and dance with the toddlers.

The Campbell Page Green Army paid a special tribute to 30 years, by hosting a tree planting ceremony in Brisbane (pictured right). The Minister of Environment, Greg Hunt, recently offered his congratulations to the team stating

that he has been 'delighted' with the Campbell Page Green Army's projects running throughout both NSW and QLD since 2014.

The 30th anniversary has also marked a time of change for Campbell Page, as Chairman of the Board David



Hawdon announced his retirement. Nirmal Hansra has been welcomed as the new Chairman, after three years of having a positive impact on Campbell Page as a board member.



The Campbell Page Board members with our Executive Team left to right Peter Bennett, Nirmal Hansra, Pamela Catty, Jane Schwager, Dale Cleaver (CEO), David Hawdon and Anne Hodge (Executive Assistant) pictured at the corner of 'Campbell' and 'Page' streets

Campbell Page is host to youth, family and indigenous support programs as well employment, education and training services

If you or someone you know are looking for work and need support visit the Campbell Page Batemans Bay Hub at the Cnr of Orient St and Museum Place Batemans Bay

1300 139 920 reception@campbellpage.org.au or www.campbellpage.org.au