

# Refit Vuda Marina Fiji

**N**ovember 8<sup>th</sup>  
Its Sunday here in Fiji today but no day of rest for the intrepid crew of the S/V O2. Tomorrow we are being hauled out of the water to repaint the bottom and change through hole fittings. Today we are removing the incredible quantities of junk from both hulls to lighten the load.



Kenny up the mast changing the anchor light.

Dive tanks, surf boards, paddle boards, Kayaks, Sails, lines, paints, engine spares, brooms, mops, my ton of camera equipment, empty the freezer, refrigerator, blah blah blah. The list goes on and on.

Also it is unmercifully hot and there is not a smidgen of a breeze today to help cool things off a little. Wait!!!! am I complaining again?

Sorry about that but now I have myself in check I will tell you that we should only be out of the water for about a week.



This bug turned up on the boat this morning and as she had gone to the trouble of applying all her make up, well it would have been very rude of me not to take at least one photo, don't you think?

November 9<sup>th</sup>.

It's only 8 am and hotter than stink here in Fiji. It's so hot I could feel the energy just oozing from my poor dilapidated shell of a body.

Early in the day we cleaned out the left overs from storage spaces and lightened the boat a couple of tons more. What is all this stuff?



The O2 on the haul out ramp in Vuda Marina

Our girl is about to get her bottom cleaned and painted and maybe a little polish to brighten her up a little. She has performed well this last year and is due a nice reward.



A couple of different views of the marina.



November 10<sup>th</sup>.

Our bodies were cooked with the heat yesterday and we were deep fried today. Wow! what a scorcher. Despite the heat we struggled on and managed to get the anchor chain marked every 25 feet, the new freezer heat exchanger installed, the primer on the hull ready for antifouling tomorrow, old zincs removed and new prop zincs installed, a rudder squeak taken care of and a few more odds and ends.



Kenny marking the anchor chain so we know how much we have dropped.



New zincs on the prop. Tomorrow props polished so the fish will appreciate us more.



Pretty silver primer will of course make us go much faster.



Oni laying it on.



Epeli applying the primer.



This has absolutely nothing at all to do with our refit effort other than I love the labels of this wine and I thought you could do with a break from the monotony of boat work.



A view of The Boat Shed from our dock.  
A great watering hole for rusty old sailors.

**N**ovember 12<sup>th</sup>  
Another hot one today but what did you expect? its summer here in Fiji.

Bottom paint is complete and all the new sea cocks are in.

Polishing of the hulls is well under way and Kenny and I did a complete boat cleaning, Kenny outside and myself inside. Ofelia is working on parts and supplies as well as cooking for 2 hungry lads.



### Cyclone preparedness meeting at the Boat Shed

At 4pm there was a cyclone preparedness meeting in “The Boat Shed” at Vuda Marina that was pretty well attended.

I guess there was some value there but being quite deaf I didn't understand a word that was being said so I gravitated to the bar that was in close proximity. Here at least I understood everything.



Now I think this is a sign that our entry back into the water tomorrow is going to be a success.



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Sunset drinks at The Boat Shed



November 14<sup>th</sup> The S/V O2 back in her element.  
The O2 in H2O.



Another beautiful sunset from Vuda Marina.

**N**ovember 14  
With some final touch ups on the bottom paint and the polishing completed we now had to wait for high tide which occurred at 3pm.

Our trailer is coupled to the old tractor that's coupled to the excavator and we are slowly pushed back down the ramp into the water.

We did a quick check of all the new valves and through hull fittings to see that no water was pouring in and started the engines.

The O2 was once again in her element. We still had some refrigeration work to do on Tuesday then we would be free to roam the wide expanses of Fijian waters again keeping a good eye out for cyclones of course.  
Did I mention that it's stinking hot?

# OCEAN 2OLDIERS

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And now the cruising begins again.  
Stay tuned soldiers