



05  
SPRING

# scuttlebutt

THE SOLDIERS POINT MARINA NEWSLETTER



## WIN a round of golf at a premier course

Here's a chance for you and a friend to WIN a round of golf at one of the Hunter's premier golf courses. Scuttlebutt will be reviewing some of the top golf courses including Pacific Dunes and The Vintage to name a few, and we would like you to join us for 18 holes. For your chance to win simply answer this golf trivia question:

### Name the winner of both the 2005 US Masters and British Open?

Post or email your answer along with your name and contact details to: [db@soldiersptmarina.com.au](mailto:db@soldiersptmarina.com.au) to go in the draw. First correct answer drawn will be the winner. One entry per person. Entries close November 3rd 2005. Winner will be drawn November 4th 2005.

## dropping a line with an all-ladies crew

Game fishing is not an easy sport, but for four ladies it has become a passion that has resulted in a lasting friendship taking them all over Australia.

They came together three years ago at the instigation of Sandy Murray at a Port Hinchinbrook tournament. Sandy managed to convince three other female anglers, Jenny Lovett, Ruth Vincent and Elva Patterson to get together as an all-ladies team and compete in the event.

Surprisingly, even to themselves, they came away winners of the competition and have since been runners up twice in years to follow.

But they haven't stopped there.

Competition at the Port Stephens Interclub Championships have seen Ruth take out best female angler in recent years, and her boat "Chine" has given the boys a good run for their money placing in the top ten a number of times.

"It's a great competition with so many boats out on the water, we really give it a good go and don't hold back, it's a lot of fun. The boys take it very seriously, and we've been known to get dressed up now and then and have a good laugh." Ruth said.

"We all enjoy the thrills of chasing and tagging big game fish in competitions and especially beating a few of the guys. We make the boys stand up and take notice," adds Jenny laughing.



Jenny Lovett, Elva Paterson and Ruth Vincent

Jenny, who resides up on the Gold Coast has held several Australian records and has tagged and released a 1000lb black marlin.

All the girls are talented in their own right with plenty of stories to tell, such as Elva's adventure skippering a boat in a competition near the Barrier Reef while being double-hooked up and capturing a marlin. All the girls agree it's a great adrenaline rush when they get down to business.

With all the ladies in their forties and fifties and each with over thirty years fishing experience, they don't look like slowing down anytime soon. As Jenny says, "We're going to have to stop one day, but I don't know when because we all love it so much."

So, what's left for the girls? Keeping the boys on their toes at Hinchinbrook and Port Stephens competitions, plus an expedition to Broome to try their luck at some Barramundi fishing. If they can reel in their lines, they might get around to a bit of sightseeing.

# mighty 55lb jewfish tamed at the marina

In an amazing effort proving that not all the big ones get away, Darren Williams recently taught his sons Brock and Kyle how to master the art of fishing. This 55lb jewfish was caught north of the Marina while the Williams family were making the most of their long weekend recently. Darren and his family are long-time patrons of Soldiers Point Marina, and it was a great way further enjoy their 47' Riviera "Willie". With the monster jewie now out of the water, there should be plenty of smaller ones left for us mere mortals to catch!



Brock Williams, Kyle Williams, Darren Williams and Norm Russell

## marina gets festive

Christmas Lunch was fully booked out at The Point Restaurant last year and it's a good idea to book early to make sure you don't miss out. For \$110 per adult you can enjoy a three course meal including wine and coffee at the award winning restaurant and only \$40 per child. News Years Eve dinner at The Point Restaurant is also available for bookings, with live entertainment and fantastic fireworks from the balcony, it is a must book night out. Call Julie or Paul at The Point Restaurant today to book your place this festive season (02) 4984 7111

## a point to remember

Finding the perfect venue for a function or wedding is never an easy task, especially when you're looking something a little different.

Just ask Soldiers Point couple Amy Rumble and Justin Mahony, who were in just such a situation earlier this year. Their wedding ceremony was planned for Shoal Bay beach and the wedding reception location needed to keep within the romantic and beachside feel of their wedding day.

Amy, the owner of local florist Poppies of the Bay, said they chose The Point Restaurant to

hold their reception because of the gorgeous location on the water and the wonderful cuisine they enjoyed there in the past.

Amy and Justin had 110 guests at their reception and chose a cocktail-style function with a four piece jazz band to keep them dancing all night.

"Julie at The Point Restaurant made it so easy to get organised, which was great because we only had three months to get it together. It was just an absolutely wonderful day, we had perfect weather with a beautiful sunset and The Point Restaurant team made it a night to remember," Amy said.



Photo courtesy of Amanda Wiltshire @ Say Cheese

The Point Restaurant can hold up to 120 guests for sit down ala carte and up to 150 guests for a cocktail style function. Owners Paul and Julie are always flexible to ensure functions are catered to individual tastes, styles and needs.

There is a host of accommodation and cosy B & B's close by to ensure complete comfort for guests on those special occasions. For more information on functions at The Point Restaurant, contact Julie Simpson on (02) 4984 7111.

## bimini's back!

The Bimini Bar is back and better than ever this year. The warmer weather heralds the official reopening of the Bimini Bar on Saturdays and Sundays from September 3rd. The new look Bimini Bar has had extensive renovations in the off season and will be the place to be this summer. The ever popular Happy Hour is also back, so make sure you call in for a cocktail and check out the great new look. The Bimini Bar is also open every day in peak holiday times.



### AQUA Nelson Bay Living

A luxury resort style development, moments from all that Nelson Bay has to offer. AQUA Apartments comprises 110 architect designed two and three bedroom apartments, with resort facilities in an idyllic location. Single and double storey Penthouse Apartments are also available. AQUA Apartments are under construction and are due for completion mid 2006. Prices starting from \$390,000



# tea gardens treasure

## summer fishing tips

with John "Stinker" Clark

Soldiers Point Marina is the hub for family fishing during the spring and summer months. The surrounding waters are warm, calm and jumping with fish. The great attraction to the area is safe boating where a family group can spend hours on the water drifting the channels for cracker trumpeter whiting, bream that cruise around the oyster racks and thumping flathead that wait in ambush for your bait or lure to go floating past. Don't forget to set a couple of witches hats for the blue swimmer crabs that tap dance up and down the channels over the summer months. Remember--kids don't need to catch big fish to have big fun.

For more information on fishing in the area visit [www.stinker.com.au](http://www.stinker.com.au)

## website watch

Be sure to check out our new live Web-Cams at Soldiers Point Marina. You can view the current weather, tides and of course our stunning sunsets. Log in to : [www.soldierspointmarina.com.au](http://www.soldierspointmarina.com.au) and check us out!

A leisurely thirty-minute boat ride from Soldiers Point Marina will take you to the sleepy little tucked-away town of Tea Gardens.

Meander through the waterways past Winda Woppa Headland to enter the corridor of the well-known Myall Lakes District. Take your time and drop a line on the way past the renowned oyster farms as you wind your way into Tea Gardens. There's plenty of great fishing opportunities and accommodating bream or flathead.

You know you've arrived as you pass under the 10.0 mtr plus clearance bridge that separates Tea Gardens from the Hawks Nest peninsula. Pull up at the public jetty and take your pick from some friendly eating venues along Marine Drive, or start with a drink at the Tea Gardens Hotel on the corner of Maxwell Street.

Up from the Hotel is the cosy and highly recommended Ocean Breeze Chinese Restaurant, where local specialities are combined with Asian taste sensations like pippis in fresh garlic and soy, black bean mud crab and ginger/shallot



Riina and Ed Byrne

whole snapper. All seafood is local produce and some is even caught within viewing distance of the restaurant.

Riina and Ed Byrne, long time patrons of Soldiers Point Marina, have explored many of the nooks and crannies of Port Stephens and say, "It's the best Asian cuisine this side of Sydney and well worth a visit - or two - to make sure you get to try all of their unusual local dishes!"

Following lunch, wander down the main street where you will find Nicole's Art Gallery and Café, full of exquisite local art and tranquil water features - a great spot to stop for coffee.

Take as little or as long as you like in Tea Gardens. Exploring its great little galleries, arts and crafts, quiet cafes means the time can quite literally disappear. Regular ferries to and from Nelson Bay and Tea Gardens are also available. Keep your eye out for the local dolphin pods that are likely to join you on the way back to the Marina.

It's a great day out to relax and also enjoy the fantastic waterways of Port Stephens and the Great Lakes area and it's only a boat trip away. For further information on getting to Tea Gardens catch up with Jim at the Marina or call Tea Gardens Visitor Information on (02) 4997 0111.



Next generation  
Lexus IS250

coming to  
Lexus of Newcastle  
4956 4388

[newlexus@lexusofnewcastle.com.au](mailto:newlexus@lexusofnewcastle.com.au)

and  
Lexus of Chatswood  
(02) 9410 3288

[sales@lexusofchatswood.com.au](mailto:sales@lexusofchatswood.com.au)

# SOLDIERS POINT MARINA



Refer to [www.whereis.com.au](http://www.whereis.com.au) for more locations.

## what's on & map

September-October	Whale migration back to Antarctica
September 23-25	Hunter Boat Show, Newcastle Entertainment Centre
November 4-6	Port Stephens Music Event. Contact : (02) 4981 5822 <a href="http://www.portstephensmusic.com.au">www.portstephensmusic.com.au</a>
December 10	Bay of Lights Festival, Nelson Bay. Contact : (02) 4984 4751
December 11	Carols by Candlelight, Fly Point 7.00pm. Contact : (02) 4982 1351
December 31	New Year's Eve Fireworks, Soldiers Point Marina
January 4	Fishing Clinic with John "Stinker" Clark, Soldiers Point Marina. Contact : (02) 4982 7445
January 8	Twilight Summer Jazz at Port Stephens Winery, 6-10pm. Contact : (02) 4982 6411
January 13 & 14	Boating Clinics with Leif Albertson, Soldiers Point Marina. Contact : (02) 4982 7445
January 22	Blessing of the Fleet, Nelson Bay 2.00pm. Contact : (02) 4981 3618
February 19-20	Ross Hunter Game Fish Tournament
February 25-26 & March 4-5	NSW Game Fish Association Interclub Competition
March 12-13	Billfish Shoot-out
March 19	Port Stephens Jazz at the Winery. Contact : (02) 4982 6411

## job well done!

Congratulations to our Marina Supervisor Jim Duncan on winning the 2005 Nelson Bay Rotary Pride of Workmanship Award earlier this year. Well done Jim!

## best seafood restaurant 2005

Congratulations to Paul and Julie Simpson, Owners of the Point Restaurant, who won the Best Seafood Restaurant Hunter /Port Stephens in the recent NSW Restaurant and Catering Awards for Excellence on June 6.



## marina quote of the day

*"Give a man a fish and he has food for a day; teach him how to fish and you can get rid of him for the entire weekend."*  
~Zenna Schaffer

## PLAY LIKE A CHAMPION AT PACIFIC DUNES



*"Live to Play at Pacific Dunes."*  
PAT RAFTER

Whether you love to play or simply enjoy a slice of the good life, enquire today about this truly world-class course, Pacific Dunes. Only 20 minutes to Nelson Bay and 25 minutes to the city centre of Newcastle, this magnificent premier golf and residential community, Pacific Dunes, is waiting to be discovered. Enjoy the good life every day in a place where you can *live to Play*.

Golf Bookings: 02 4916 0500 [www.pacificdunes.com.au](http://www.pacificdunes.com.au)

