



scuttlebutt

THE SOLDIERS POINT MARINA NEWSLETTER



Totally Green Australia's First Carbon Neutral Marina

CRI audited the carbon emissions footprint of Soldiers Point Marina and then the marina adopted initiatives to reduce and offset those emissions. Based on their objectives and the CRI calculations, Soldiers Point was able to choose to become either a Low Carbon Marina or a Carbon Neutral Marina. Soldiers Point Marina chose to become carbon neutral.

Soldiers Point Marina Manager Darrell Barnett said it was important the marina adopted carbon neutral certification as it has always been a leader in environmental management. "Soldiers Point Marina is committed to setting the benchmark for the best environmental practices in the marine industry."

Soldiers Point Marina has adopted a range of initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint. These include providing complimentary bicycles for customers to pick up groceries; look around Soldiers Point and reduce car usage; installing energy efficient lighting; and using electronic rather than paper based administration wherever possible.

The marina has installed rainwater tanks to reduce dependency on mains supply with the water used to high-pressure blast the underside of vessels on the slipway and for general maintenance of the slipway. Soldiers Point Marina reviews business suppliers and where possible favours those who are low-carbon certified and those who use recyclable products. The marina also invests in carbon credits that are certified Greenhouse Friendly by the Australian Department of Climate Change.



ABOVE FROM LEFT: Raising the No CO2 flag at Soldiers Point Marina, Colin Bransgrove, MIAA; Jim Duncan, Soldiers Point Marina; Craig Baumann MP, State Member for Port Stephens; Robyn Bradbury, Chamber of Commerce, Port Stephens Council; Cr John Nell, Port Stephens Council; Cr Sally Dover, Port Stephens Council; Cr Bob Westbury, Port Stephens Council; Darrell Barnett, Soldiers Point Marina; Roy Privett, BIA; Rob Cawthorne, CRI; Paul Sinclair, Architect; Bob Baldwin MP, Federal Member for Paterson.

SOLDIERS POINT MARINA continues to lead the way in marina management. In August this year, Marina Manager Darrell Barnett was awarded certification as a carbon neutral marina by the NSW Minister for Ports and Waterways, the Hon Joe Tripodi, at the Sydney International Boat Show.

The award-winning marina is the first certified carbon neutral or No CO₂ marina under the Marina Industries Association of Australia's (MIAA) Low Carbon Marina Initiative launched in April this year. The

initiative is a national certification program for marinas, yacht clubs, boat clubs, slipways and other associated industry operators across Australia and is the first of its type in the world. The initiative is administered by the Carbon Reduction Institute (CRI) in conjunction with the MIAA.

The goal of the MIAA is to reduce the operational climate change impact from marinas by 20% by 2015 – this makes the marina industry a leader in taking joint voluntary action against global warming.

New Weather Console at Marina

A NEW LIVE weather console is amongst a raft of new services being offered by Soldiers Point Marina.

Using 42" daylight viewable plasma screens, the marina has established an information station for boat owners and visitors to the marina.

The weather station uses state-of-the-art Weather Display software to get the most comprehensive display on meteorological variances.

These displays include real time, notifications of extreme conditions, barometric readings, temperature/humidity, wind direction and speed as well as tides.



CARBON NEUTRAL Initiatives

ON YOUR BIKE

AS CLIMATE CHANGE becomes more evident it would seem sensible to seek ways to reduce our footprint on the earth, so Soldiers Point Marina invites you to leave the car behind and get those endorphins flowing (great stress release) by taking advantage of the complimentary push bikes now available at the Marina

Port Stephens is an ideal area in which to cycle with its great network of bike tracks, many along the waterfront, and wide roads with bike lanes along the main routes. Push bikes are a most efficient form of transport – there's no fuel required and no waste emitted so the air stays cleaner while at the same time our fitness, strength and



wellbeing improves, and you get to see the countryside at an easy leisurely pace. So pack a picnic and start peddling soon!

WATER TANKS

THE RECENT INSTALLATION of rainwater tanks at Soldiers Point Marina enables less reliance on the mains water supply for general maintenance around the slipway and the marina.



FACTS ABOUT Port Stephens

CABBAGE TREE ISLAND lies just north of the entrance to Port Stephens. It is the only place in the Southern Hemisphere that the Gould's Petrel nests.

In November each year, this rare bird lays a single egg amongst the ground litter underneath the Cabbage Tree palms that grow on the western side of the island.

Isn't it Time to Indulge?

LOOKING FOR THE perfect Christmas gift for someone special? A gift voucher from the Marina Massage & Beauty Centre may be just the answer.

The Centre is open seven days each week for massages, facials, hand and foot treatments, waxing etc, for both men and women. So book your special indulgence soon. See Michelle at the beauty centre on the ground floor of the marina or call 02 49827773 to book or arrange a voucher.





New Valet Service AND UNDERCOVER STORAGE FACILITY

TO MEET THE growing demand for trailer boat storage, we are pleased to release details of our new undercover storage and valet service.

The undercover storage facility is located just three kilometres from the marina. The storage facility can accommodate any size trailer boat as well as jet skis and is protected by an alarm system and security patrols.

The two tier, user pays valet service allows owners to choose the level of service and assistance they require when using their boat.

The standard valet package includes assistance to hitch up and park as well as a complimentary day berth at the marina, access to the marina's personal care facilities as well as discounted overnight berth rates.

The full valet package provides for a complete launch and retrieval service. Marina staff will launch the vessel, take it to the marina to await the owner's arrival and on return to the marina, will retrieve, wash down and return the vessel to the storage facility. The user pay system has been designed to suit every trailer boat owner's need.

In addition to boat and jet ski storage, launching and retrieval, the facility is also available for car storage and a courtesy vehicle will transport berth holders or valet service users to and from the marina.



What's the secret to building a great Marina? *Design-Build*

Great marinas are the result of inspired vision backed by old-fashioned "been there, done that" competence. Get it all in one company, with seamless execution and experienced supervision over every aspect of your project.

Make Bellingham Marine your design-build contractor and you'll enjoy the confidence and security that comes with working with the top design, engineering and construction talent in the business...specialists with years of experience building great marinas.

Don't just buy a marina. Design-build a great marina. Call Bellingham Marine, Australia +61 (0)3 9646 6744 and NZ +64 (0)9 273 5311.

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Riviera 4400

WORLD CLASS SPORT YACHT

THE RIVIERA 4400 Sport Yacht takes luxury boating to a new level with its lightweight yet robust hull construction and revolutionary Volvo Penta Inboard Propulsion System (IPS) that includes joystick docking, making the boat very simple to control and manoeuvre. It also delivers up to 30 percent better fuel consumption than traditional shaft drive systems.

The 4400 Sport Yacht exterior lines have been further refined to create even more visual appeal. Bonded glass windows each side of the boat are a striking feature that, together with an opening porthole each side, add natural light and ventilation into the aft cabin of the boat.

This two cabin/two bathroom cruiser exudes style and is packed with all the modern conveniences you would expect from a Riviera, making it the ultimate in delivering on water lifestyle.



MIKE WILESMITH JOINS R MARINE PORT STEPHENS

WELL KNOWN MARINE industry consultant Mike Wilesmith has recently joined R Marine Port Stephens, a premier dealership for Riviera, Princess and Grand Banks.

While Mike has had extensive experience in selling trailer boats and sports cruisers, he believes the R Marine range is ideally suited to the area. "Port Stephens is a blue water port and our luxury flybridge cruisers and one level sports yachts are enjoying unprecedented popularity. "Selling the Riviera lifestyle is easy. I often say to prospective buyers, get things into perspective - this is as good as it gets," he says.

Although Mike insists the flybridge convertibles are very popular, there has been a recent shift in the market to single level living offered by Riviera and Princess sport yachts. "These boats are visually impressive

FIRE TRAINING AT MARINE CENTRE

SOLDIERS POINT MARINE Centre would like to thank Soldiers Point Rural Fire Service for braving 40 knot winds and torrential rain to assist with the fire training on 22 October, an essential part of Occupational Health & Safety responsibilities.

All aspects of marina specific concerns were covered including fuel spills, gas leaks, uses of fire extinguishers and fire hoses and now enables our staff to deal with an emergency that may arise on the marina. The practical demonstrations really impressed upon staff

how quickly a situation can become serious and they listened intently when all safety measures were explained.

The Rural Fire Service hold open days every Saturday from 9.30am to encourage people to join the Rural Fire Service.

IS YOUR BOAT DUE FOR A SERVICE?

Call Clive on 02 49846300 or email admin@spmcentre.com for advice and bookings and beat the summer rush.



Music on the Water

SUMMER ON THE water in Port Stephens this year will be a little more upbeat due to a series of special events planned by the combined Port Stephens marinas.

'Music on the Water' has been designed to get people out on the water and to their favourite anchorage.

The combined marinas will provide a band on the water at a number of popular anchorages throughout the boating season.

Five dates have been selected -

- Saturday 6 December
- Sunday 28 December
- Thursday 8 January
- Saturday 17 January; and
- Friday 6 February.

Each of the days will have a different musical theme including rock 'n roll, opera on the water and easy listening music.

The first event will be held at North Arm Cove Easter Side however alternate anchorages

will be selected subject to weather. Other popular anchorages such as Fame Cove may also be used for these events. Details for each day will be available at the marina.

Organisers intend to provide additional services to those owners joining the events including a coffee boat which will sell coffee, ice creams and freshly schucked oysters. For further details on the 'Music on the Water' program, call the Soldiers Point Marina Office on 02 4982 7445.

CLIVE HOWES ATTENDS INAUGURAL MARINE SERVICE MANAGER'S COURSE

CLIVE HOWES, MANAGER of Soldiers Point Marine Centre recently attended the inaugural Marine Service Management School conducted on the Gold Coast.

The Marine Service Management Course is an internationally recognised course operated in Australia by the Marina Industries Association of Australia on behalf of the International Marina Institute, based in the USA. The course is offered to Service Managers seeking to attain professional status in the marine service industry.

"A great benefit of attending the course was the exposure to new ways of dealing with issues and challenges common throughout the industry," Clive said.

"We looked at policies and practices that

have been successful in other leading facilities and how they can be adopted in our own workshop and slipway. It was also great to meet colleagues in the boatyard service industry from all around Australia."

The course, which was originally established in the USA, is now part of the Marina Industries Association of Australia's (MIAA) education program and is currently the only credential of professionalism in the marine service industry.

The course is mandatory for those seeking to attain Certified Marine Service Manager (CMSM) status, an internationally recognized career certificate for experienced marine service personnel.

"My goal now is to further develop the Marine



ABOVE: Clive Howes with his Marine Service Management Certificate.

Centre's services with the new knowledge gained from the course and to become one of Australia's first CMSMs," said Clive.



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MERCURY
#1 On The Water™

Sea Ray celebrates 50th Anniversary

SEA RAY IS the world's largest manufacturer of pleasure boats, producing more than 40 models ranging from 18 to 68 feet. No other pleasure boat manufacturer in the world offers such variety.

Founded in 1959 by marine industry legend C. N. Ray, Sea Ray celebrates its 50th year in 2009. Their all new 2009 range will be officially released in Florida in December.

Sea Ray was one of the first boat builders to use fibreglass and other high-tech composite materials in the construction of pleasure boats.

The company's continuing innovations in unique styling, performance, interior design, technical systems, and many other areas, plus many revolutionary breakthroughs in technology and quality manufacturing processes, have placed Sea Ray at the top of the world's pleasure boat builders for over a quarter of a century.

In 1986, Sea Ray became part of the Brunswick Corporation. Sea Ray's range of products was augmented even further in 1995 with the acquisition of a new subsidiary, Baja, the world's largest manufacturer of performance boats.



AFC BREAM EVENT Lured to Port Stephens

THE CREAM OF Australia's bream fishing talent descended on Soldiers Point in early October for the filming of the first episode of Series 6 of the Australian Fishing Championships (AFC). Sporting hundreds of thousands of dollars of sponsor-wrapped boats and a cast and crew of around 20, the production showcased the quality bream angling that the port has to offer.

"The port has always been on our radar, but it took some prompting from Soldiers Point Marina's Darrell Barnett and co-operation

from Soldiers Point Holiday Park to get it off the ground in this part of the world," said Steve Morgan, AFC Executive Producer.

Filming day saw a sensational, calm morning followed by an afternoon sea breeze. Ideal filming and fishing conditions.

The AFC is a million-dollar production that takes a month to film. It covers around 5000 kilometres through some of Australia's best bream, bass and barramundi fishing arenas. AFC will air on Channel 10 on Sunday 21 December at 12pm and Southern Cross



television during December and January - check your local guides for screening times. Past episodes can be viewed on www.myoutdoorstv.com



*Book 4 nights or more at **Soldiers Point Holiday Park** in February or March '09 & show this ad to receive a **FREE VIP Beachside Bonus Membership** with discounts & saving at local restaurants, cafes and within Beachside Holiday Parks.

Sail into Soldiers Point...

The award winning Soldiers Point Holiday Park offers stunning views of the Port. Situated adjacent to the Marina, it's the perfect location for your next boating holiday. Leave your boat in the secure surroundings of the park and stay in one of the luxury villas or bring your tent or van and enjoy this stunning waterfront location. Calm water beaches & resort style pool are perfect for the kids.

do a little or do a lot!

**School holiday vacancies still available from 10 January 2009*

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soldiers point



holiday park

The REAL Flavour of Port Stephens

THE ENTRY TO The Point Restaurant at Soldiers Point Marina is adorned with awards for excellence. Chef extraordinaire Paul Simpson has achieved continuous accolades for fine dining in the Hunter Region of New South Wales. The consistency shown by the restaurant in winning the 'Best Fine Dining' category for four consecutive years as well as the Restaurant & Catering Awards for Excellence as the 'Best Seafood Restaurant' in the Hunter for 2008 is a testament to Paul's professionalism and culinary expertise.

Chef Paul and daughter Sue make a talented team excelling in both food preparation, presentation and service. Formerly from England, Paul acquired The Point Restaurant some eight years ago after originally working on the Gold Coast. Moving to Nelson Bay because of the boating and lifestyle, Paul saw the opportunity to create an exceptional fine dining restaurant which would highlight the real flavours of the region - fresh seafood, tender beef and the freshest of locally grown produce. The result is a menu equal to metropolitan five star cuisine. Paul changes the menu monthly and has introduced a special lunch menu.

While we mused over the choice of main courses, we enjoyed sour dough bread with superb dips of beetroot, sweet potato, rocket and sun dried tomato. Our selection included an entrée of plump and juicy pan fried scallops served with a cream and basil pesto while our mains included the Blue Eye Cod fillet served with an explosion of flavours including beetroot, orange and a tarragon salad. When in a seafood restaurant, it is hard to pass the Seafood Mixed Grill served with marinated Mediterranean vegetables and a rocket salad - absolutely fabulous. Be surprised by the standard of fare and the pricing. Entrees range from \$17 - \$19 while mains are from \$28 - \$38.

Not only is the cuisine exceptional, the view over Australia's best marina is simply breathtaking. The Point Restaurant is open every day for lunch and dinner and is also a popular venue for weddings.

Their Sunset Bar is simply the best place to enjoy a casual drink and unwind after a hectic day. The wine cellar is expansive with an emphasis on the best Hunter vintages and their tempting cocktails are simply to die for.



ABOVE: Sue and Paul Simpson. Paul's creative flair is reflected in the menu.

ALWAYS ON DECK



ABOVE: The Deck Café co-owner Bambos Papas - passionate about service.

THE DECK CAFÉ'S reputation has grown enormously over the last 18 months. The Deck's management philosophy has been based around the delivery of good food and great service. Says part-owner Bambos Papas, "We are also renowned for our seafood dishes. We get fresh seafood delivered daily, including a great range of local fish, oysters and prawns.

"We are open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, every day. People can also come in just for a drink at our bar, they don't necessarily have to order a meal. It's a very relaxing location. The alfresco dining area offers beautiful water views and cool breezes, and the Pelican Bar is a popular spot for a casual drink."

The Café offers a wide selection of pasta, risotto, salad, soup and different breads with a Mediterranean influence. Their roast lamb is a fantastic traditional dish and is always very popular. It's a slow roasted lamb

shoulder, on the bone, basted with fresh herbs, lemon juice and olive oil, served with seasonal vegetables.

They are open from 8am for breakfast. "As soon as breakfast is finished, then lunch starts. The same goes for dinner, so essentially the café is open all day. Between 3pm and 6pm, snacks are served. People come in for coffee or drinks, cake and other snacks," says Papas.

The restaurant offers delivery of takeaway meals to boats in the marina. Their takeaway menu is the same as the a la carte menu but they offer a 20% discount on takeaway dishes. Boat owners can come to the restaurant to pick up their meals or delivery can be arranged to any boat on the marina.

For bookings call 02 4919 1502 or visit their website at www.thedeck.net.au



Refer to www.whereis.com.au for more locations.

what's on

December 6	Music on the Water. Bring the boat and soak up the music, live bands afloat. North Arm Cove. Contact : Darrell 02 4982 7445
December 9 - 10	Rip Curl Girls Go Surfing Day, One Mile Beach Learn to surf event for girls. www.ripcurl.com 02 4981 9919
December 21	Carols by Candlelight, Fly Point 4.30-9.30pm with fireworks. Contact 02 4984 4751
December 28	Music on the Water. Bring the boat and soak up the music, live bands afloat. North Arm Cove. Contact Darrell 02 4982 7445
January 8	Music on the Water. Bring the boat and soak up the music, live bands afloat. North Arm Cove. Contact Darrell 02 4982 7445
January 17	Music on the Water. Bring the boat and soak up the music, live bands afloat. North Arm Cove. Contact Darrell 02 4982 7445
February 6	Music on the Water. Bring the boat and soak up the music, live bands afloat. North Arm Cove. Contact Darrell 02 4982 7445
February 14 - 15	Ross Hunter Game Fish Tournament Contact Ross Hunter 0409 047 727
February 21 - 22 & February 28 & March 1	NSW Game Fish Assoc. Interclub Competition Contact 02 4971 3936
February 25 - 26	Billfish Shoot-out
March (date TBA)	Karuah Oyster & Timber Festival 02 4997 5455
March 15	Annual Jazz at the Winery, 11am - 4pm. Live jazz all day at Port Stephens Winery www.portstephenswinery.com 02 4982 6411
April 3, 4, 5	Club Marine Trailerboat Sportsfishing Competition Contact Tony Poole 0416 282 022 www.tbft.com.au

Fox Sports 3 & Sky News NOW AVAILABLE

IF YOU'RE A fan of Foxtel, you'll be pleased to hear that Fox Sports 3 and Sky News are now available on the marina. The channels will need to be tuned in on your TV set, so please contact Darrell or Jim on 4982 7445 if you would like some assistance with connection.

Game Fishing Flags

A BOAT FLYING a RED FLAG with a shark indicates they have caught a shark. A BLUE FLAG with a marlin indicates they have caught a marlin. And when a RED TRIANGULAR FLAG with a T signifies they have tagged a fish of some type.

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