



scuttlebutt

THE SOLDIERS POINT MARINA NEWSLETTER



As Good as Gold



(above) The Hon Jodi McKay and Darrell Barnett;
(below) the new 5 Gold Anchor logo.



Minister for Tourism, The Hon Jodi McKay, travelled to Soldiers Point Marina to present Darrell Barnett, Marina Manager, with the ultimate 5 Gold Anchor international rating from the Marina Industries Association of Australia.

The international Gold Anchor program was designed after considerable consumer research into what was expected and considered important at various "Anchor" rating levels – the higher the Anchor rating, the more extensive are the facilities, guest services and amenities.

The MIAA inspects and rates all participating marinas through a thorough process in which over 90 assessment criteria are judged before arriving at the rating. Infrastructure, facilities, planning and services are all assessed. Gold Anchor marinas are also subject to mystery shopper audits during the 3 year rating period to protect the integrity of the rating scheme.



Leif conducting his Boat Handling Course in April 2010

Vale Leif Albertson

It was with great sadness that we heard of the sudden passing of Leif Albertson a great friend of Soldiers Point Marina. Leif was at the marina at Easter time conducting his popular boat handling clinic for marina customers and spending one on one time with them in the afternoon.

Our deepest sympathies are with Leif's family and friends, he is sadly missed.

The aim of the Gold Anchor program is to provide boat owners and marina users with a simple way to determine which marinas best fit their needs via a quick and easy reference system similar to the hotel association's star rating scheme.

Soldiers Point Marina was delighted to receive the highest rating available (level 5).

"After being awarded Marina of the Year in 2007 and an Award of Excellence in 2009, the 5 Gold Anchor Award validates our position as a world class boutique resort marina" said Marina Manager Darrell Barnett CMM

Introducing the Flagship Apartment

Spacious, Stylish, Spectacular setting only minutes from the marina



Actual View from Flagship Apartment

Perfectly situated, the Flagship Apartment is a three minute walk from Soldiers Point Marina. The three bedroom, stylish and luxuriously appointed apartment is brand new with stunning views over Port Stephens.



Being just a stones' throw from two sandy beaches, cafes, restaurants, beauty salons, a general store, public wharf, tennis court, public transport right at the front door, this apartment is all about convenience and quality and makes for an excellent home base for your stay in Port Stephens. The beautifully co-ordinated décor creates an enjoyable, bright and airy living space with all the luxe cons you would expect:

large 58" plasma TV in the living room with a smaller plasma in the master bedroom, Foxtel, DVD, sound system, ducted air conditioning, fully equipped kitchen and internal laundry, spa bath, posturepedic mattresses, large undercover balcony with bbq setting, onsite parking for two cars and is wheelchair accessible. This classy home-away-from-home is available for short term rental year round. To enquire further, please look at our website www.soldierspointmarina.com.au or phone Port Stephens Accommodation +61 (02) 49 811577

Flagship Undercover Boat Storage and Valet Service



We can hitch and unhitch your boat...



Launch your boat for you...



Deliver complimentary summertime coffees to your boat

Located only one kilometre to the nearest boat ramp and the pristine waters of Port Stephens is the seven day a week Flagship Undercover Storage facility. If you prefer, the helpful marina staff can help you hitch and unhitch your boat and/or also take your boat to the marina ready for you to step on board without any hassles. A boat washing and detailing service is also available for your convenience. Security is our number one priority at Flagship Storage and we provide a back to base alarm system, security lighting and regular random security patrols.

As a highly valued customer you can also take advantage of the world class facilities that are available to the customers who berth their boat at the marina, including:

- complimentary use of the luxurious personal care facilities located at the marina
- complimentary use of the spacious dry sauna
- complimentary summertime morning coffees, newspapers and afternoon cocktails
- complimentary use of the internet and computer in the guest lounge/library
- complimentary game of tennis at the local courts
- complimentary use of the marina vehicle and pushbikes.

Full protection of your boat from the weather, saving on insurance, protecting the value of your vessel and increased security are some of the many benefits in having your boat stored securely with Flagship Storage.

Continuing Our Community Involvement



Supporting Local Hospital

A large plasma television donated by Soldiers Point Marina is a very welcome and appreciated addition to the palliative care lounge at Tomaree Community Hospital. Hospital CEO Mr Gary Spain (pictured) accepted the television on behalf of the "grateful patients and their families". When the television is not in use through the day it will at times be used for staff training.

\$50,000 Sponsorship to Support Local Students

By maintaining our three year major sponsorship of the Tomaree Peninsula Real Futures program, Soldiers Point Marina is ensuring that local students are gaining an employment advantage. The program's focus is on assisting Year 10 students make a smooth transition from school to the workplace by offering Ready for Work Programs, Industry Workshops and Work Experience.

Students participating in the Real Futures Tinny to Tanker Program were given the red carpet treatment and shown around the marina discussing the various employment opportunities available at a marina from mechanical to marina management.



Darrell Barnett pictured with the Real Future Ambassadors.



Local fishing guru John "Stinker" Clarke is a highly respected and well known Port Stephen's identity with regular radio segments. He also finds the time to write a weekly newspaper column and has published several books and other publications.

Stinker is a member of the Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park Advisory committee and is a member of the NSW Marine Parks Advisory Council.

Stinker's Summer Fishing Tips

"The magnificent waters inside Port Stephens and outside the heads are hotting up. In my opinion we are heading for a bumper season as we head towards the warmer period. It's around this time of the year that all the available species are considering spending their coming months in the Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park.

Inside the Port, thumping dusky flathead are stirring in the Karuah River and feeder streams. They are preparing to cruise into the main port. Bream have already taken up residence under all the oyster racks and along the break walls. Giant mulloway head for the deeper holes and shelter under the bridges and around Middle Island off Soldiers Point. Whiting, the most popular fish targeted by families, are swimming onto the inner harbour beaches and over the sandy spits in the middle of the Port. Mud crabs are lumbering through the extensive mangrove forests while blue swimmers crabs have started

tap dancing down the channels.

Outside the heads snapper, mulloway, kingfish and leatherjackets are on the boil around all the headlands, reefs and islands from Birubi, north to Broughton Island. The beaches are loading up with whiting, tailor, salmon and mulloway.

Dust off your fishing gear, oil the reel, fire up the outboard and get ready to rumble."

Stinker's hugely popular and best selling new book "Broughton Islanders" is now available at all reputable book stores, and he is currently working on his new book "Old Salt", about the pioneers of Port Stephens. Please visit Stinkers website www.stinker.com.au for more information.

Stinker will be conducting a fishing clinic at the marina on Wednesday January 12th at 10.30. Please call the office to book in to see this local legend.

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Three New Businesses at the Marina

Soldiers Point Boat Hire



The staff and management of Soldiers Point Marina are very excited to welcome Glenn and Anne Forrest and their business Soldiers Point Boat Hire to the marina.

The hire boats at Soldiers Point Boat Hire are the most safe and modern available in the area bar none and the first class boats are available for hire at very reasonable prices.

"We chose Soldiers Point Marina as the location for our business as we see it as a world class facility. We have water craft to suit just about every style of boating imaginable" said Glenn. Glenn and Anne have commenced their fleet with the following:

Kayaks...human power!!! These are for the fun at heart, sit on style making them safe and easy to operate and navigate!

4.5 Drifter, 15hp, tiller steer with seating for six passengers and is perfect for families or couples wanting to do a spot of fishing. From \$20 per hour. **No licence required.**

5.3 Warrior, 115hp, this boat is a real family orientated boat and has been built as a bow rider with seating in the cockpit and in the front of the boat forward of the screen, in total there is seating for six passengers. From \$48 per hour. **Licence required**

19ft "Elete" Pontoon Boat, 30hp (four stroke) luxurious lounge seating for 8x passengers, sound system with ample speakers, large bimini top for shade, comfort and style never before available on the bay! This boat also has a boarding ladder on the front deck for the kids after they have had their swim. From \$35 per hour. **No licence required.**

All hires come with the following inclusions:

- Fuel*
- esky
- local waterway maps
- hands on instructional demonstration
- GPS Safety Tracking Technology
- Aid & Assist Button

*Fuel charges may apply to some boats

Ph: (02) 4919 1234

Mob: 0419 482592

Web: www.soldierspointboathire.com.au

Email: info@soldierspointboathire.com.au

HIRE SPECIAL
pay for 2 days and receive
the 3rd day FREE
(conditions apply)

The Boat Shed Shop

Operated by the Forrest family from Soldiers Point Boat Hire, the Boat Shed stocks a wide range of all the provisions you would need whilst out boating. Cold drinks, milk, bread, gourmet snacks, condiments, bait, personal care items such as soap, deodorant, toothpaste, sun block are now available. You can also choose from a variety of chocolates, chips and cheeses, not to mention the famous Byron Bay cookies. Ice and LPG can also be purchased at the Boat Shed.

Another wonderful service the friendly team at the Boat Shed provide is the ability to provision your boat, all ready for you to step on board and relax without any fuss.

From the more traditional ice, beverages, wine and beer to caviar, gourmet cheeses and even toiletries, the staff at the Boat Shed source only the best in fresh produce and gourmet products for their customers!

Ph: (02) 4919 1234 Mob: 0419 482592 Email: info@soldierspointboathire.com.au Web: www.soldierspointboathire.com.au



MDBS Boat Brokerage - Port Stephens



We've now been in operation for over 9 months and despite a bitterly cold winter, boats have been selling. In addition to normal brokerage activities, Maurice Drent Boating Services Port Stephens are able to offer a spacious, clean, secure sales display area for trailer boats. This is adjacent to the marina facility and within sight of the boat launching facilities at Soldiers Point boat ramp.

Several quality boats on the marina are now listed for sale and there has already been many happy purchasers take delivery of their new craft. Strong sales activity in the last few weeks has left us seriously short of local boats on offer.

With a network of eighteen offices MDBS are well placed to help you sell your boat and have a wide portfolio of listings around Australasia.

STOP PRESS!

We are pleased to announce that we have been appointed NSW Dealer for the outstanding 'SeaTime 2800 Walkaround. This Queensland built; robust offshore fishing boat can be fitted with an inboard diesel or outboard power.

Tim extends a warm welcome to all past and future clients and invites them to visit him at his tasteful office premises overlooking the beautiful Port Stephens waterways..

If you would like to discuss the purchase/sale of a boat please contact Tim on:

Phone 4919 1555 Mobile 0410 784 522 Email: tim@mdbsport-stephens Web: www.mdbsaustralia.com

Our Year in Brief...

Marina Cocktail party



Nick & Lisa
from
The Deck..
finally married



Soldiers Point Marina is
honoured to be on the
cover of the inaugural
International Bellingham
Marine Calendar. Pictured,
photographer Brent Mail
with Darrell Barnett

SB3 National Titles



photo by Andrea Francolini

Soldiers Point Marina will again play host to an expected 30 boats at the SB3 National titles next April 11th – 17th, to be held as part of the Sail Port Stephens week. This year saw the largest fleet ever assembled in Australia, make way to Port Stephens for the first time.

Seafari ...Music on the Water

A relaxing and fun day out on the water for boat owners and their guests. Bring your boat, drop anchor and enjoy the floating live entertainment, with platters of seafood available to purchase and lots of giveaways. The last Seafari saw over 50 boats at Fame Cove. For location on the day please call Darrell on (02) 4982 7445

Next Seafari dates for your diary: December 4th, January 3rd and Easter Sunday April 24th.



Introduction of Digital TV to the Marina

Our number one priority at Soldiers Point Marina is to ensure the needs of our guests are met and to guarantee your stay is as pleasurable and comfortable as possible. Along with our new guest lounge/library and business centre, we have recently installed digital TV to the marina so customers can now (with a set top box) or a digital compatible TV, receive all the digital stations.

SOLDIERS POINT HOLIDAY PARK Port Stephens

Surrounded by the calm waters of the bay and located only 10 minutes from the facilities and attractions of Nelson Bay is the award winning Soldiers Point Holiday Park.

Choose from camp or van sites offering unbelievable water views through to luxury self contained villas. Stroll to the marina or enjoy a coffee at the local cafes. There's something for everyone.

FREE secure onsite boat storage available with deep water boat ramp situated directly behind the park.



Check availability or book online at
www.beachsideholidays.com.au
e:soldierspoint@beachsideholidays.com.au



CABINS START FROM
\$75 per night for 2 adults
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supplied.

Energy saving Tips for Boaties

Tips In the Galley

- ⚓ A dripping tap on your boat, either in the galley or the heads, could waste as much as 90 litres a week. If you are away from the mains supply cruising for a while and relying on your tanks that is quite a considerable amount of your water that is wasted!
- ⚓ Kettles should be filled with enough water for your needs but not to the brim. This will reduce your fuel bills too!
- ⚓ Whilst cruising or at home try to get into the habit of keeping a container of water (a jug or a bottle) in the fridge so that you don't need to run the water down the sink until it's cool enough to drink.
- ⚓ Select the proper size pans for cooking whilst out cruising. Large pans require more cooking water than may be necessary.
- ⚓ The most water efficient methods for cooking vegetables are microwaving, steaming or using a pressure cooker. Using lids that actually fit the saucepan also cuts down on the amount of water that just evaporates into thin air.
- ⚓ Use a washing up bowl rather than the sink for the washing up and don't rinse the dishes under a running tap, all you have to do is use another bowl full of clean water to rinse.
- ⚓ Check fridge seal regularly, if it is damaged then cold air will be escaping and wasting all the energy used to keep it cool.

Tips In the Head

- ⚓ Brushing your teeth on board with the tap running, wastes almost 6 litres a minute. Brushing your teeth with the tap off only uses an average of 1 litre.
- ⚓ Whether you are onboard your boat, using shore side facilities or at home, just taking a five minute shower a day, instead of a bath, will use a third of the water, saving up to 400 litres a week but be careful as a swish power shower can use more water.
- ⚓ If your shower can fill a 4 litre bucket in less than 20 seconds, then replace it with a water-efficient showerhead its probably worth checking.
- ⚓ Remember - you use less water by turning the hot tap down, rather than the cold tap up, if you require cooler water.
- ⚓ Turn the water off while you shampoo and condition your hair and you can save more than 200 litres a week.

For a full list of Energy Saving Tips for Boaties please visit our website www.soldierspointmarina.com.au



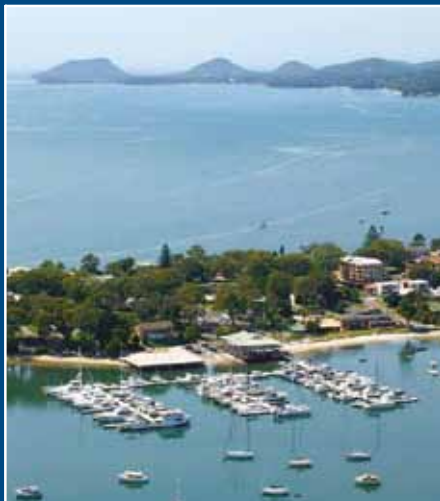
NSW Maritime - New Life Jacket Reforms

Current regulations require all recreational vessels in NSW to carry an appropriate size and type of lifejacket for each person on board. They must be stored or placed to allow quick and easy access.

The new rules for wearing lifejackets include:

- By children less than 12 years of age when:
 - in a vessel less than 4.8 metres;
 - when in an open area of a vessel less than 8 metres in length that is underway;
- By all boaters in a vessel less than 4.8 metres in the following heightened risk situations:
 - at night;
 - on open (ocean) waters;
 - on alpine lakes;
 - when boating alone; and
 - when the boat is being used as a tender more than 400metres from shore;
- At times of 'Skipper Judgement and Direction' in 'heightened risk' situations such as when the weather worsens or the boat breaks down;
- When water-skiing or wakeboarding;
- When operating a canoe or kayak on:
 - enclosed waters, when more than 100 metres from shore; and ocean waters.

For more information please visit www.maritime.nsw.gov.au



Soldier Point Marina, Australia

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designed and built to stand the test of time

With over half a century of experience, Bellingham is the proven industry leader in designing and building Marinas and commercial pontoons to suit virtually every conceivable application. Great Marinas are the result of inspired vision backed by old-fashioned 'been there - done that' competence. All around the world - Bellingham delivers.

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The World's Most Comprehensive Marina Builder

The Point Restaurant

As well as providing the areas premier fine dining experience with an emphasis on outstanding local seafood, the award winning The Point Restaurant also specialises in those very important family occasions.

"The Point Restaurant was the only place for our wedding reception" said Jo Drake (pictured right with her husband Chris) following her recent wedding. "Julie and Paul were amazing and everything went like clockwork. Attention was made to every little detail ensuring our day was perfect. I can't thank the staff enough for everything they did to help us".

The Point's large balcony overlooking the marina is also the ideal place to enjoy a quiet cocktail with good company and enjoy the stunning sunsets the area is famous for.

Don't look any further than The Point for your staff Christmas party to be held on Friday December 10th. Grab your work colleagues, put on your dancing shoes for the DJ and enjoy all the decorations and bonbons and of course a festive menu at only \$59per person.

New Years Eve at The Point is quite an experience, with a superb meal, live entertainment and a great vantage point to watch the midnight fireworks at the marina.

Bookings are essential and it is advisable to contact Julie early for both functions on (02) 4984 7111 Email: julie@thepointrestaurant.com.au Web: www.thepointrestaurant.com.au

Open: Tuesday– Sunday for lunch & dinner (closed Mondays except for the first 2 following Christmas Day)



The Deck Café / Waterfront Bar

You are always assured of a very warm welcome when you visit The Deck to have either a relaxing cocktail at their Bimini Waterfront Bar or dine at their superb Mediterranean influenced café. The Pappas family hospitality and service is well known and most of their customers have been many times before.

Special Greek Nights are held regularly throughout the year and are best enjoyed with a group of friends or family. Live bands set the mood, a great time is always had by all and you are welcome and always encouraged to eat as much as you like.

If you are staying on your boat at the marina and you don't feel like cooking (and who does

on holidays) the team at The Deck will happily organise a takeaway and (if they are not busy) deliver a meal right to your boat and with a 20% discount.

Bookings are still available for Christmas lunch and New Years Eve each at a cost of \$110 per person. This includes a stunning three course meal including lobster and there will be live entertainment on New Years Eve.

Please call now on (02) 4919 1502 to make your reservation. Web: thedeck.net.au

Open: 7 days, breakfast from 8am, lunch from 12noon, dinner from 6pm



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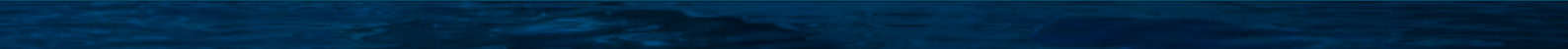


GoldAnchor

International Rating Scheme for Marinas



Scuttlebutt is printed using soy based inks on paper manufactured from sources with Responsible Forestry Practices and is Elementally chlorine free.



Services & Facilities

- ✓ Luxurious Private Personal Care Facilities
- ✓ Sauna
- ✓ Beauty Centre and masseuse
- ✓ 24 Hour Fuel Dock by Appointment
- ✓ Digital CCTV
- ✓ Random Security Patrols
- ✓ Digital TV
- ✓ Free WiFi
- ✓ Courtesy Car
- ✓ Reserved Car Parking
- ✓ Flagship Valet Service and Undercover Storage facility
- ✓ Business Services
- ✓ Library/Guest Lounge
- ✓ Laundry and Dry Cleaning Service
- ✓ Dock Assistance
- ✓ Wireless Internet
- ✓ Complimentary use of Bicycles
- ✓ State-of-the-art Berths
- ✓ Filtered Water
- ✓ Visitor Dock
- ✓ ATM
- ✓ Two Superb Restaurants
- ✓ Boat Broker
- ✓ Boat Hire
- ✓ Floating Shop
- ✓ Marine Services and Slipway
- ✓ Boat Valet Service
- ✓ Disabled Facilities
- ✓ Professional tennis coach available
- ✓ Complimentary Tennis
- ✓ Close to Award Winning Golf Courses
- ✓ Beach Access
- ✓ Summertime and Beyond, Complimentary Cocktails, Coffees and Newspapers
- ✓ Onsite Weather Station

New Lease of Life for the Port's Major Life Boat

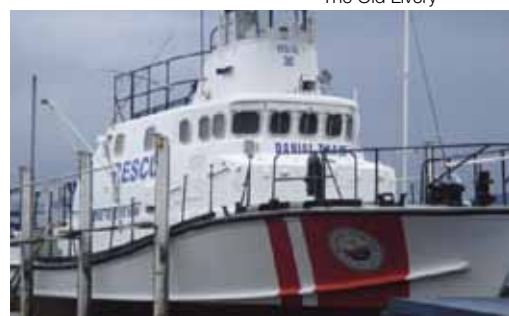
Soldiers Point Marine Centre is very proud to have won the tender to repaint the "Danial Thain" Coastal Patrol boat into the new Marine Rescue NSW livery. "Danial Thain" is an Arun Class all weather lifeboat built in 1978 in the U.K. for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. She was delivered to Port Stephens in 1999 by way of a very generous anonymous donation. As a purpose built lifeboat there are many features that make it very safe for the crew to operate in extreme conditions not the least of which is the self-righting capacity in the case of a knock down. The ability to maintain a good speed in rough seas is critical where time is of the essence when going to the assistance of a stricken vessel. Powered by two 460 HP diesel engines, a length of 52 feet, 32 tons and some very sophisticated electronics on board makes

the "Danial Thain" together with its hard working and brave crew a powerful asset in saving life at sea.

Volunteers and Donations are always keenly sought by Marine Rescue NSW, Nelson Bay Unit 02 4981 3585.



The Old Livery



New Marine Rescue Livery

What's On

December 4

Seafari – Music on the water

December 31

Spectacular Midnight Fireworks Display at Soldiers Point Marina

January 3

Seafari Music on the Water

January 12

Stinkers Fishing Clinic
Soldiers Point Marina

February 18, 19, 20

Billfish Shootout Tournament

February 26, 27

NSW GFA Interclub Tournament

March 5, 6

NSW GFA Interclub Tournament

April 23

Boat Handling Clinic
Soldiers Point Marina

April 24

Seafari – Music on the Water

June 10, 11, 13

Port Stephens Blue Water Country Music Festival

August

Port Stephens Golf Classic
(open only to those who live outside Port Stephens)

Bookings now open for Gamefish Tournament
...please call Darrell to confirm your berth.

For a full range of upcoming local events please check out our website www.soldierspointmarina.com.au

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- The Deck Café/ Waterfront Bar**, P: (02) 4919 1502, E: nick@thedeck.net.au W: www.thedeck.net.au
- The Point Restaurant**, P: (02) 4984 7111 E: julie@thepointrestaurant.com.au W: www.thepointrestaurant.com.au
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