



From the Bridge

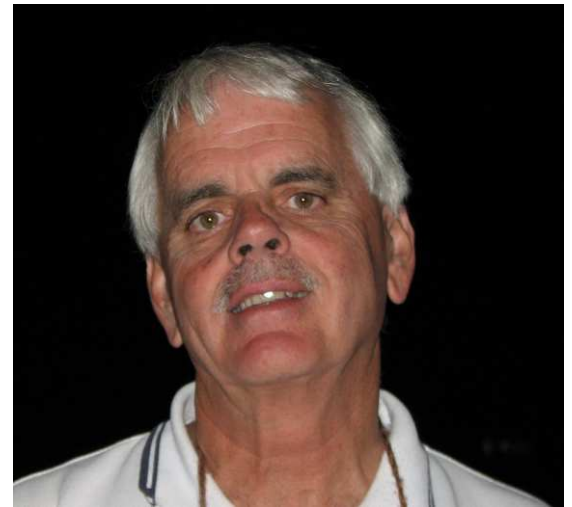
Our winter of discontent is here. We may have desires to be in the warm waters of North Queensland, but, with light wind and a sunny day, an extended picnic lunch can be very enjoyable. The need to winterise our boats is something we haven't learnt. The North American lakes only have a three month sailing season and Northern Europeans also have to hallow their boats from the water each winter. Maybe our discontent is relative.

The staff on the front desk at NSW Maritime, Kent St will be pleased with our Robert and John who have halved the number of envelopes that need to be prepared for our monthly mail out. I thank members who have made this transition to email for our minutes and newsletter.

Security of moored boats is our main function of our watch. Marine Rescue has been asked by Water Police to be involved in this and have been patrolling on a fairly regular basis. This can only help and we appreciate their actions on this.

Our thanks go to Adam Parkinson (BSO for Upper Middle Harbour) who is on the case of the tags on the two public moorings east of the Spit Bridge. We support the Boat Owners Association request for more waiting moorings on both sides of the bridge.

The issue of dinghy theft has arisen with the rudeness of them being taken from the back of a vessel while the owners have been asleep on board. This is very disturbing as it is other boaters who will have done this. One suggestion and a good cruising practice is to lift the dinghy from the water at night. Power boats will often have davits but yachts can use a



halyard to lift the dinghy clear of the water and allow it to lie against the side of the hull near deck level. An added benefit of this is that the slapping of small waves against the flat entry of the dinghy hull is silenced. It is disappointing that a stainless wire and lock is so often necessary. Although locks are only for honest people, it makes a statement that this property is valued and cared for. Nearly everyone considers themselves as honest. Even a small lock is a way of helping them confirm this.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Bob McClung
Acting Zone Commander

Seaforth Land Development

Two gated estates of multi-million-dollar mansions cascading down to the water in Seaforth are planned for a huge swathe of vacant bush land facing Middle Harbour. The two neighbouring lots, one with access from Sandra Place, the other with access from Rignold St, have been given council approval to subdivide the empty but steep land into 17 large lots with two inclinators. The estates are designed to accommodate homes looking west over the water.

Manly Council has approved the subdivision in principle, but as yet there is no development application approval for specific properties on the site - that would be up to whoever buys the land. However, block sizes have been determined, along with an access road including a suspension bridge, which will need to be built across a steep part of the larger site.

The two parcels are being marketed by different agents, but a developer could buy both lots to create a super estate with each house having 1000sq m of land and spectacular views.

July Afloat Cover Photo

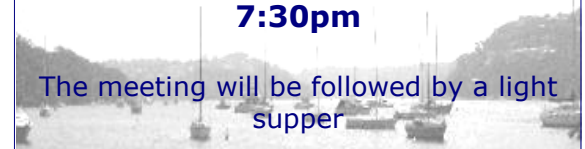
You may have noticed that the cover photo on the July issue of Afloat magazine was taken by Marine Watch member John Vaughn. Congratulations John on capturing and sharing the moment.

Next Meeting

Members, friends and guests are invited to attend the meeting of Marine Watch Middle Harbour

**Monday,
19th July, 2010
Middle Harbour Yacht Club
7:30pm**

The meeting will be followed by a light supper



Reliance on Electronic Navigation Aids

An Examiner/Instructor with Yachting Australia has warned that recreational boaters are being lulled into a false sense of security because of an over reliance on electronic navigation aids.

Even though GPS is accurate within 10 metres 90% of the time, errors can and do occur. The GPS signal from satellites can be degraded by atmospheric effects, a poor alignment of satellites and poor aerial installation.

There have been numerous examples in Australia and overseas where inaccurate electronic navigation aids contributed to accidents, some times with dire consequences.

A tragic case currently being investigated by the Queensland Coroner involved a 7.2 metre vessel that collided with a rock wall at Fisherman Island on the Brisbane River at night on 13 September 2007 which resulted in one fatality and injuries to two passengers. There were several factors involved, including the fact that the GPS on the vessel had a 2002 memory card - the rock wall was completed in 2004.

The main issue regarding electronic navigation is the varying quality of the charts on which the position is displayed and that some parts of charts may be from surveys that are decades old.

How to Use a GPS

- Buy the best quality GPS you can afford.
- Never use your GPS as your only source of information.
- Always carry paper charts and check your course and way points against the charts.
- Update your electronic charts regularly.
- Always keep an eye on the DOP (Dilution of Precision) values. L4 is good, L4-8 is acceptable and > 8 is poor.
- Carry spare batteries.
- Carry a spare hand-held GPS in case your main set fails.

Household Chemical Cleanout

CleanOut is a FREE service for the safe disposal of a range of common household chemicals, many of which could cause harm if not disposed of correctly. In addition, many of these materials can be recycled or reused, so not only are you helping to reduce waste and pollution, you are also helping in resource recovery efforts.

Materials accepted

- Drop-off centres will accept household quantities, up to a maximum 20 litres or 20 kilograms.
- Business-related and commercial quantities are not accepted at CleanOut centres - telephone the Environment Line on 131 555 to find out correct disposal for businesses.

From your home - solvents and household cleaners, floor care products, ammonia based cleaners, fluorescent globes and tubes

From your garage - paint and paint related products, pesticides and herbicides, poisons, gas bottles, fire extinguishers, pool chemicals, hobby chemicals, acids and alkalis

From your car - batteries, motor oils, fuels and fluids.

Storage and Transportation

PLEASE HANDLE AND TRANSPORT CHEMICALS CAREFULLY:

- NEVER MIX CHEMICALS as this may produce dangerous reactions
- Wherever possible keep all chemicals in their original containers
- Ensure containers are clearly labelled and well sealed. If you do not know the contents, label the container 'UNKNOWN CHEMICAL'
- Liquid can leak during transport: wrap containers holding liquids securely in newspaper, place in sturdy plastic bags and then plastic buckets or trays
- Keep household chemicals away from passengers, e.g. in the boot

Other recycling programs

- Return your old and unwanted medicines to any pharmacy for free and safe disposal, visit: returnmed.com.au or call 1300 650 835
- MobileMuster is the official recycling program of the mobile phone industry visit: mobilemuster.com.au or call 1300 730 070
- For oil recycling contact your local council
- Car batteries may be returned to their place of purchase for disposal or contact your local council for more information
- Drop off your used laser and ink jet printer cartridges at participating Australia Post, Harvey Norman, Tandy, Dick Smith Electronics and Powerhouse stores
- Go to recyclingnearyou.com.au to find out where you can drop off televisions, computers or printers for recycling
- To learn about green and natural cleaning for your home please visit: safersolutions.org.au
- For home based businesses visit www.businessrecycling.com.au to find out where you can recycle your business waste.

Household Chemical CleanOut locations and dates

Locations and dates are subject to change, so please check prior to drop-off.

For a full list of locations and dates go to <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/households/cleanoutguide.htm/>

Two local locations are:-

Sat 4, Sun 5 Sept 2010 9am-3:30pm

Hosted by Warringah Council,
Warringah Aquatic Centre car park,
Aquatic Drive, Frenchs Forest

Sat 13, Sun 14 Nov 2010 9am-3:30pm

Hosted by Kuring-gai Council,
St Ives Showground,
Mona Vale Road, St Ives

Marine Watch Website

Bill Grainger Zone Commander for Clareville Marine Watch has taken on the job of maintaining the Marine Watch website. Details have been updated and a copy of the current newsletter will be posted each month.

www.marinewatchnsw.com/mhmw

New PFD Standard for Australian Boaters

From mid this year, you might start to see new types of personal flotation devices being sold in your local chandlery. This is because marine safety authorities have agreed to accept PFDs made to the AS 4758 by 1 July 2010. They are marked as -

- Level 150 - similar to inflatable PFD Type 1 and suitable for offshore use
- Level 100 - similar to PFD Type 1 and the minimum requirement for offshore use
- Level 50 - similar to PFD Type 2
- Level 50 Special Purpose (50S) - to replace PFD Type 3

National Marine Safety Committee CEO Margie O'Tarpey said that boaters will not be adversely affected by this change, as PFDs made to the old Australian standards will continue to be sold after 1 July 2010.

She explained that most PFDs made to the old standards will be recognised for years to come and in the majority of cases people won't need to replace their existing PFDs as long as they are serviceable.

"Some states already recognise PFDs made to AS 4758 and by 1 July 2010, this should be the situation nationally," she said.

"AS 4758 is being introduced to more closely align with international standards and takes into account advances in PFD design and manufacture."

However, some states have applied limits to accepting older existing PFDs based on when they were manufactured. If boaters have an existing PFD made to the old standards, they should contact their local marine safety authority to find out if it is still accepted.

Remember, full market availability of the new product may not be reached until 2011.

Grants for Ramps

\$5 million state-wide to build better boat ramps. Applications are now open for grants to improve boating facilities across the state. Ports and Waterways Minister Paul McLeay called for submissions to fund recreational boating infrastructure projects through NSW Maritime's \$5 million Better Boating Program.

"Boating clubs, community groups, councils and other organisations can apply for grants under the program," Mr McLeay said. "The Better Boating Program supports a range of projects - such as boat ramps, public wharves, jetties, dinghy storage racks, sewage pump-out facilities and public moorings to provide improved access to our waterways.

"Many local communities have already benefited from the program with new or upgraded facilities, improved disability and general access, and modern, practical and aesthetic designs. These grants fund projects which benefit the general boating community across NSW, and make sure everyone has safe access to facilities so they can get out and about on our waterways," Mr McLeay said.

To be eligible, projects need to meet essential criteria such as infrastructure being of a lasting nature, available for use by a broad cross-section of the boating public and supported by Council and the community.

- Information kits and application forms are available:
 - At NSW Maritime website www.maritime.nsw.gov.au
 - By emailing: grants@maritime.nsw.gov.au
 - Or from any NSW Maritime office

APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON FRIDAY 6 AUGUST

Nominations Open to Recognise Unsung Maritime Heroes

Nominations are now open for the public to nominate a person or group who has made a "significant and sustained" contribution to boating and the marine environment in NSW for a prestigious maritime award.

Ports and Waterways Minister Paul McLeay said nominations were now open for 2010 NSW Maritime Medals, which will be awarded later in the year.

"It is timely to reflect on the outstanding achievements of those who serve the boating community in significant ways over a sustained period," Mr McLeay said. "I am asking for nominations of the unsung maritime heroes so their contribution and achievements can be recognised."

Mr McLeay said boaters, marine event organisers and those involved in the maritime industry will be aware of people who tirelessly give of themselves for the love of boating. "Previous recipients have made a worthwhile contribution to the boating community, through promoting boating safety and enhancing the marine environment.

People who have received the NSW Maritime Medal in the past have included Marine Rescue NSW members who conduct many sea rescues and donate hundreds, even thousands, of unpaid hours as well as volunteers at aquatic events and supporters of the Sydney Heritage Fleet.

For more details and nomination forms, visit: <http://www.maritime.nsw.gov.au/wh/medal.html>

Nominations for the 2010 NSW Maritime Medal close at 5pm on Friday, 20 August 2010.

Diary

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|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 18 Jul | NSC Winter Series Race 4 12:00 hours |
| 19 Jul | Marine Watch Meeting 19:30 hours |
| 29 Jul - 2 Aug | Sydney International Boat Show |
| 16 Aug | Marine Watch Meeting 19:30 hours NSC |
| 8 Aug | Winter Series Race 5 12:00 hours |

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