

PORT CHATTER



WINTER 2021
JUNE

MARINE RESCUE NSW PORT STEPHENS UNIT

'Volunteers Saving Lives on the Water'





MARINE RESCUE NSW – PORT STEPHENS UNIT

Postal Address: PO Box 20, Nelson Bay, NSW 2315

Location: Nelson Head, Nelson Bay, NSW

Email: base.portstephens@marinerescuensw.com.au

Phone: (02) 4981 3585

Fax: (02) 4984 1944

VOLUNTEERS SAVING LIVES ON THE WATER

UNIT APPOINTMENTS - MAY 2021

Patrons: Kate Washington MP, State Member Port Stephens The Hon. Meryl Swanson MP, Federal Member Paterson Stephen Bromhead LLM MP, State Member Myall Lakes The Hon. Dr David Gillespie MP, Federal Member Lyne		Fund Raising Officer Social Media (Facebook) Social Committee: Webmaster Donation Boxes	Peter Young Murray O'Dea Lisa Lodding Vacant Angela Tilling
Unit Commander Welfare / Liaison Assistant Protocol Officer Deputy Unit Commander Emergency Services Liaison Officer Data Management/Network/Comms Brian Richardson, Robert Johnson, Dieter Grieter,	Ben van der Wijngaart Harold Gibson Jenny Fitzsimons Harold Gibson Colin Couper Laurie Nolan Lee Ryman, Howard Faulks	Corporate Services Administration Officer Assistant Clerical Assistance Security Officer WH&S Officer Honours/Awards Providedore Comms Centre Service Data / Stats Supply Membership Property Officer Maintenance Team Electricians	Jenni Fryer Krystyna Winslow Erica Smith John Smith Jenni Fryer Krystyna Winslow Jenny Fitzsimmons and Deb Buckley Julia Lynch Maureen Wheatley Margaret & Andrew Morrison Loris Webster, Erica Smith, Robbie Eather Trevor Brighton Trevor Brighton Jim Christie Doug Craike & Dieter Greiter
Operations Operations Officer Assistant Operations Officer Communications Centre Manager Assistant Manager Rosters Manager Assistant On Call Watch Officer: Duty Callout Officers: Radio Club Manager Rescue Vessels Manager Assistant Manager Ashes Scattering Coordinator Chief Engineer R.F.S. Liaison: Lower Hunter Hunter Valley Coxswains	Laurie Nolan Sue Freeman Nigel Eves Dee Gilliland Will Scott Angela O'Dea Neil Fraser, Dieter Greiter, Frank Van Druten Neil Fraser, Fank Van Druten, Graeme Abberton, Peter Dentrinos Elizabeth Francis Mark Kelly Vacant Harold Gibson Bill Haskell Ross Debenham Colin Couper Sue Freeman, Robert Johnson, Laurie Nolan, Brian Bibbing, Iain Blackadder, Mick Duggan	Nelson Head Reserve Committee Chairman Deputy Chairman Treasurer Secretary Committee Cottage Curator Property Officer Historian Port Stephens Historical Society Tea Rooms Liaison Wedding Events Co-ordinator: Assistant Tours	John Reid Greg Walsh Adrian Hill Ross Debenham Harold Gibson Vacant Trevor Brighton Paul Farnhill Dennis Corr Vacant Jenni Fryer Greg Walsh Kevin Griffey
Unit Training Unit Training Officer Assistant Training Officer Training Systems Officer Rescue Vessels Training Officer Course Presenters: First Aid Presenters:	Ray McLeod Paul Kelly Angela O'Dea, Jan Sami Brian Bibbing Paul Buckley, Colin Couper, Neil Fraser, Ray McLeod, Trevor Moxham, Ben van der Wijngaart Peter Dentrinos, Lisa Lodding,	The Port Chatter is the quarterly publication of Marine Rescue NSW, Port Stephens unit. It is available free to all members of the unit, its advertisers, sponsors, and other interested members of the community. Contributions are most welcome from all members, advertisers, sponsors or other interested community members. They should be accompanied by the author's name, address and phone number, and can be emailed to the editor at editor.portstephens@marinerescuensw.com.au Contributions are subject to review by the Executive Committee prior to publishing. Advertising enquiries are welcomed. Contact the editor at editor.portstephens@marinerescuensw.com.au for more information. Sponsors can make tax-deductible donations to Marine Rescue NSW Port Stephens. All sponsorships will be acknowledged in <i>Port Chatter</i> if requested. Cover Photograph - Colin Couper	
Finance Treasurer Assistant Grants Officer Gift Shop Manager Gift Shop Bookkeeper	Adrian Hill Vacant John Reid Sandra Scheuber Denise Olsen		
Community Relations Community Relations Officer Public Relations/Social Media Editor Port Chatter Assistant Editor	Will Scott Vacant Penelope Highland Geoff Williams		

OUR PRIMARY FOCUS

Saving lives at sea on open and closed waters in and around Port Stephens

MARINE RESCUE NSW – PORT STEPHENS UNIT SERVICES PROVIDED



Category One Marine Search and Rescue Co-ordination Centre (SARCC). Located at the former Inner Light and now Heritage Site at Nelson Head, 32°42.632 S; 152°09.667 E (overlooking Shoal Bay and looking out through the entrance to Port Stephens). Accredited by the State Rescue Board.

Communications Centre, Nelson Head - VMR217. Operated by trained and qualified volunteers, 24 hours a day; 7 days a week; 365 days a year. Monitoring 27MHz, and VHF marine frequencies, emergency and calling channels. Open during each day to the visiting public.

Apart from radio coverage generally to the local boating community, the Communications Centre offers:

- Emergency support to vessels in trouble
- Emergency and routine after hours communications for Rural Fire Service operating in the Lower Hunter and Hunter Valley districts
- A Marine Radio Safety (MRS) service – Boat Register
- A checkpoint and radio coverage for recreational vessels transiting up and down the coastline adjacent to Port Stephens.
- Weather readings and local conditions observations and
- Current Bureau of Meteorology weather forecasts and tidal information. (These can be obtained by contacting the Comms Centre by phone or radio and are also offered in regular radio skeds).

Accredited Rescue Vessels Available on a 24 hr call-out basis, subject to Police tasking. (See 'Rescue Vessels' page).

Weather recording facility Accredited by the Bureau of Meteorology. Regular reports on local conditions are electronically communicated to the Bureau, as well as to Radio, TV and Print media outlets in the local area.

Nelson Head Reserve and Heritage Inner Light Cottage. The Nelson Bay Unit of Marine Rescue NSW is responsible to the State Government for upkeep of this heritage precinct, through its 'Nelson Head Lighthouse and Rescue Station Reserve Trust Management Sub-committee' (which includes a representative of the Port Stephens Historical Society).

A small museum is operated by volunteers and is open to the public, 7 days a week from 10am to 4pm.

A portion of the building is leased to a private operator for morning/afternoon teas/coffee and lunches.

Wedding Ceremonies. Bookings can be made to hold these in the grounds (see Lighthouse Weddings page).

Below the Comms Centre, on the ground floor, is a tourist Gift Shop operated by Marine Rescue Port Stephens. Without profits from the Gift Shop, together with support from the local community, clubs and businesses, the Unit would find it very difficult, if not near impossible, to operate.

NELSON HEAD Inner Light TEA ROOMS

Come for the view, stay for the Food

At Inner Light Tea Rooms, you will "Come for the View, Stay for the Food!"

Our Cafe has spectacular panoramic views of Port Stephens.

Breakfast and lunch

You can savour breakfast, lunch, morning or afternoon tea while enjoying the magnificent view.

Opening hours

We are open **7 days a week** from **9.00am** to **4.00pm** for morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.



NELSON BAY OUTBOARD SERVICES

superior service. quality products. unrivalled experience.

- Service and repair of **ALL makes and models** of outboard, sterndrive and PWC engines
- Sales, service and repair of **trailers and components**;
- Installation of new and used engines, and **all marine accessories**;
- ...and more!

CONTACT: DENNIS SHARPE

PHONE: 4982 7433 MOBILE: 0427 928 061 FAX: 4982 7463

WEBSITE: www.nbos.org

email: nelsonbayoutboards@ozemail.com.au



SALAMANDER BAY BARBER SHOP



When quality counts....

Traditional barbering and quality, expert service you'd expect when you have your hair cut.

TRADING HOURS

8am—5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

9am-5pm Wednesday

7.30am—2pm Saturday

Closed Sunday



Phone: (02) 4919 1640

Shop 2, 267 Soldiers Point Road, Salamander Bay



UNIT COMMANDER'S REPORT

UNIT COMMANDER



24 May 1943 would have seemed just another routine day for wartime flight training to the crew of RAAF Catalina A24-39, of 3 Operational Training Unit (3OTU) Rathmines. The flight plan was to check out Broken Bay and Port Stephens for the more appropriate location for some rough seas landing and

take-off practice. After determining the conditions at Broken Bay unsuitable, the aircraft captain, Flight Lieutenant 'Tubby' Higgins DFC, flew the Catalina to Port Stephens to see if the water was suitable to carry out rough water landings as laid down in No. 3 OTU training. The OTU course had been extended by one week so that the pilots could get training in rough water landings. While practicing water landing circuits, the Catalina crashed at 0915 hours when it struck an unusual wave during a landing in rough seas opposite Wonderrabah Knob, (now called Jimmy's Beach) Port Stephens.



Tragically, seven of the crew on board were killed in the crash and two were injured as follows:-

- Flight Lieutenant Brian Hartley Higgins DFC - Pilot - Killed
- Pilot Officer Max Alexander Larkan - 2nd Pilot - Killed
- Sergeant Alan Fullerton Craddock - 2nd Pilot - Killed
- Pilot Officer Norman John Brown W.A. Gunner - Killed

- Corporal Thomas Henry Poole Fitter 2E - Killed
- LAC Henry George Lovett - Fitter 2A - Killed
- Sergeant John Johnson - W.A. Gunner - Seriously injured
- Corporal Jaffre David James (- Fitter 2E - Killed
- AC1 Kenneth Carlyle Stow (72521) - Armourer - Slight Shock

This was the only war-time loss of a Catalina at Rathmines during training exercises.

The crash is commemorated in a plaque mounted at our Nelson Head Base, where on 24 May 2021 we commemorated the anniversary of those lost in that crash with members of FLTLT Higgin's family, Mr Hartley Higgins (his nephew) with his wife Fiona. The event was



organised by the Tomaree Museum Association. In attendance were the RAAF Williamtown Base Commander, Group Captain Anthony Stainton and

Port Stephens Mayor Ryan Palmer.

The touching commemoration ceremony included a recounting of FLTLT Higgins' wartime experiences by Mr Higgins, our own 'padre' Harold Gibson reciting Alfred Lord Tennyson's 'Crossing the Bar' and a laying of wreaths at the memorial plaque.

We concluded by showing the official party around our Base and presenting Hartley and Fiona a copy of the book 'The Doug Nolan Story' by Pam Bayfield. A wartime biography of our own Laurie Nolan's father who was a Catalina navigator during WWII. A copy of that book has also been donated to the Cottage Museum by Laurie for all to read.

Ben van der Wijngaart





Family owned for 13 years



Do you need toner or ink, or advice on a new printer?

Avoid the pain of Cart-Attack with The Cartridge Family.

Follow our 3 **EASY** ways to get toner and ink...

1. Phone **1300 1 TONER (1300 1 86637)** or email sales@thecartridgefamily.com.au
2. Tell us your printer model number
3. Expect your delivery the next day in most cases.

Free delivery for orders over \$75

We'll look after you®

www.thecartridgefamily.com.au

Proudly supporting "Marine Rescue Port Stephens"



- ★ *Electronic gate and security surveillance*
- ★ *A variety of units for Domestic and Commercial storage including boats and caravans*
- ★ *Single storey facility allowing easy access to your units and carports*
- ★ *Packing Supplies available*
- ★ *See our friendly staff for all your storage needs*

Resident Owner
Access 7 days a week
Office open Mon-Fri and Sat mornings



Taylors Beach
Phone: 4981 9505
www.5starstorage.com.au

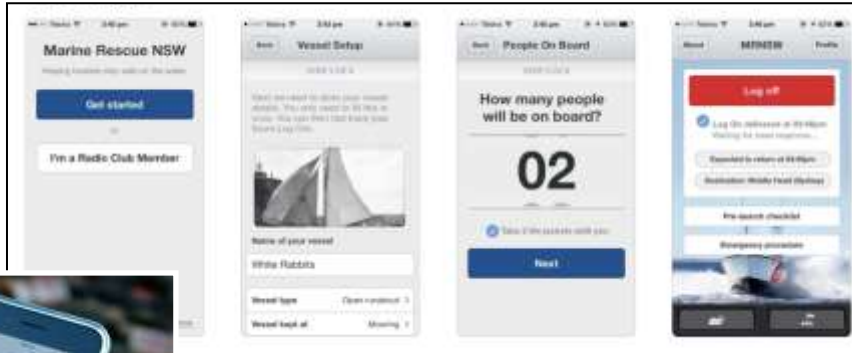


DEPUTY UNIT COMMANDER

DEPUTY UNIT COMMANDER

There is a new version of the Marine Rescue NSW App, which assists skippers to log on and off from their mobile phone. Initial use of the app requires details about their vessel which is then stored in the phone for future logons.

This is the same information that is gathered when using a marine radio or telephoning the Comms Centre to log on. It also allows position updates every 30 minutes which greatly assists our Comms Centre personnel to keep



track of a vessel's movements. It is especially valuable for vessels which may not have Automatic Identification System (AIS)

on board. This latest version is 1.9.5 and all users are encouraged to download / update it from their usual Apple or Android sites to take advantage of the latest features.

The Unit will be hosting the Hunter Central Coast bi-monthly regional meeting of Unit Commanders and Deputy Unit Commanders in June. The HCC region includes the Units from Lemon Tree Passage, Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Norah Head, Tuggerah Lakes, Central Coast and of course ourselves. For those not able to

travel and for personnel from HQ, Zoom teleconferencing is used to connect to the meeting hosted by the HCC Regional Operation Manager. Also in attendance at Nelson Head will be Deputy

Commissioner Alex Barrell, following a visit to the Unit Meeting on the night before.

I recently addressed the members of the Probus Club at Medowie and was able to inform them of the role Marine Rescue NSW and Port Stephens play in Saving Lives on the Water. It included video and audio of recent assists and rescues, which was well received by those present. A similar presentation will be conducted by Greg Walsh for the Fingal Bay Probus club in July.

Col Couper



ADEPT POOLS

PTY LTD

Creative Pool Construction & Tiling

4915 8666

National Award Winning Pool Builders In Port Stephens



CENTURY 21 PARADISE WATERS –
NELSON BAY



CENTURY 21
NELSON BAY
REAL ESTATE

Family run
& owned for

14 years



City:
Nelson Bay -
Corlette NSW

"Professional and enthusiastic"

Michael is a tireless professional. Honest in his appraisal but happy to work with you to make a sale. He worked reliably for a sale with me a long distance away managing all aspects with care and forethought. A cut above and highly recommended. Many thanks.

"Sam is a great property manager who goes above and beyond to get the job done. I cannot recommend Century 21 highly enough."

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL TEAM OF PROFESSIONALS FOR A FREE MARKET APPRAISAL

(02) 4984 4700



Michael Kirby
Principal/
Licensee
0423 792 829



Samantha Kirby
Property Manager
Licensed Agent
4984 4700



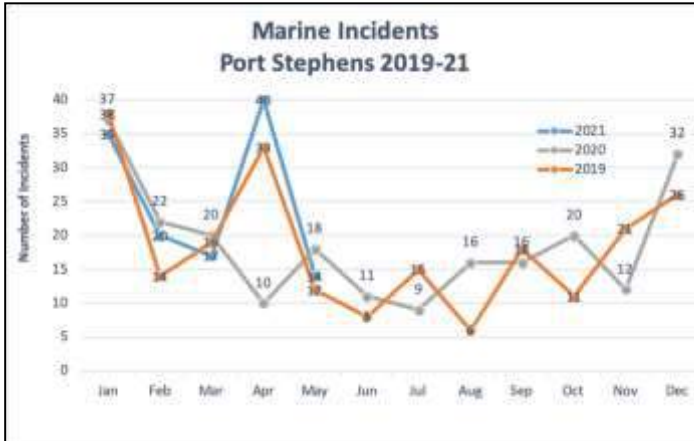
Brody Gertz
Property Manager
Licensed Agent
4984 4700



Tyneale Kendrick
Administration
4984 4700

OPERATIONS

Operations officer



April 2021 has been the busiest month for Marine Incidents handled by the Communications Centre for many years, with 40 incidents as shown in the above graph. It is a clear indication that people are holidaying locally rather than going overseas. You will note the impact of the COVID lockdown last year, when all of the local boat ramps were closed to recreational use. (Note: this was later lifted as fishing was recognised by the Australian Government as an important recreational activity for both physical and mental well-being during a national lockdown).

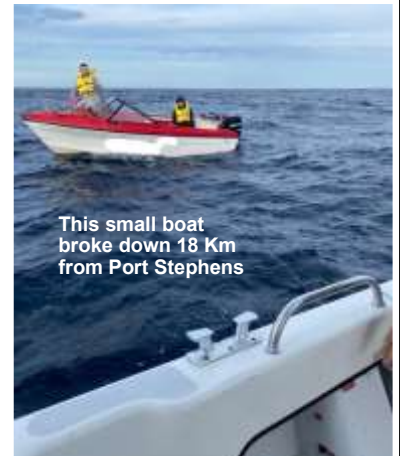
So far this month (May 25th) there have been 14 Marine Incidents handled by the Communications Centre. Many of these incidents do not require a Rescue Vessel to attend and assist – for example, of the 54 incidents handled in the last two months, there were 15 “Overdue Vessels” which, while not requiring a Rescue Vessel, take up considerable time in the Radio Room trying to locate the vessel. Many times, we find that the vessel has safely returned to the ramp or marina, only to forget to Log Off with Marine Rescue. Other incidents “fix themselves” (eg, no longer needing assistance), or the Water Police or Maritime vessels attend.

However, in the last two months, MRPS vessels have been tasked 17 times to respond to assist vessels in distress (DVs), 12 of which have been of a serious nature, that is, either in outside waters or a significant issue on inside waters. There have been 19 “Other Assists” – assists on inside waters where there is no threat to life. These range from vessels “beached or aground”, flat batteries, fuel issues, etc. There were also 15 “Overdue” vessels who had forgotten to Log Off or were still fishing safely, but neglected to advise that they were extending their Log Off time.

The incidents that we get called out to, range from MAYDAYs to the mundane. However, even the most innocuous-seeming incident on the water can turn nasty if

there are contributing factors such as wind, waves, and weather! A simple engine breakdown caused by the most inexpensive part in a motor or gearbox can spell disaster if you are close to land on a windy day, or in heavy seas or a tidal rip. It’s not as simple as a car breakdown where you can park on the side of the road and peacefully wait for assistance to arrive. It’s true... we do attend to some “NRMA-like” incidents, but we know only too well the possible scenarios that can eventuate on the water. That is why we take all calls for assistance very seriously, and are often seen heading out in our vessels at speed with Hazard Lights (Reds’n’Blues) ablaze.

This picture is a good example... a small 4.5m open runabout with two POB broke down 10 nautical miles (about 18 km) from the entrance to Port Stephens. Imagine if a storm came up, or it was close to sunset????



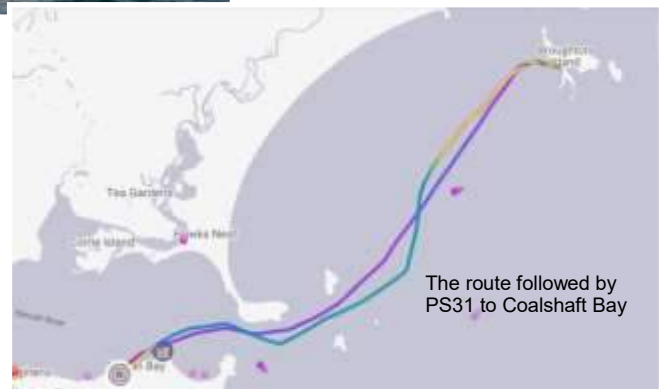
This small boat broke down 18 Km from Port Stephens

When a MAYDAY call is received, our Standard Operating Procedures are rapidly put in place by the Watchkeeper in the radio room, and help is on its way as quickly as we can get Rescue Vessel Crew down to the dock, and the boats readied and under way.



The yacht “Jembe” who sent a MAYDAY call when swept onto rocks in Coalshaft Bay, and the small fishing boat who pulled her to safety.

Such was the case one morning late in April, when around 5.30am our Watchkeeper received a MAYDAY call from an 11-metre mono sail with two people on board. The vessel had stayed overnight in Coal Shaft Bay (Broughton Island), but a wind shift dislodged one of the anchors and the vessel was swept onto the rocks. Port Stephens rescue vessel PS31 responded quickly



The route followed by PS31 to Coalshaft Bay

(within 20 minutes) making it to Broughton Island within 30 minutes of leaving the dock. The Watchkeeper had broadcast a “MAYDAY RELAY” which had been heard by

(Continued on page 11)

Marine Rescue NSW Members...

Your boat Must have a First Aid Kit
Especially if it is Patrol Registered.
Remember, a First Aid Kit is only as good as its contents quality
When was yours last checked?
We will check yours FREE !!
We will give a 5% Cash Back Donation to the Patrol from First Aid Kit Sales.



SALAMANDER CENTRE PHARMACY

Phone: (02) 4982 7644

DUFF'S SALAMANDER BAIT & TACKLE

SINCE 1990



COLES EXPRESS SERVO
1/163 SALAMANDER WAY

(02) 4982 0711



SHIMANO



Mustad



Gamakatsu



WWW.SALAMANDERBAITTACKLE.COM.AU



Keeping your music alive

P (02) 4984 6666

F (02) 4984 6718

OPERATIONS

(Continued from page 9)

another vessel in the vicinity, and when PS31 arrived the distressed yacht had already been pulled off the rocks by the small fishing boat. The yacht had suffered minimal damage, and the two people on board were safe and well. With a little assistance from PS31 to navigate the channel out of the dangerous waters of Coalshaft Bay, the yacht was checked over for seaworthiness, and proceeded back to Port Stephens under its own power. Well done to the comms centre, the crew of PS31, and the assisting vessel for their quick response.

Kayaks have also featured in the last few months, with no fewer than four involved in incidents which all ended safely. One was found high and dry on rocks near Fame Cove (Police and PS30 attended, with no sign of the paddler and no missing person reported – presumed safe). One was washed up on Little Beach (MAC was informed but no further action). Yet another was towed 10 miles offshore by a big fish (yes, 10 miles!), and was returned to safety by a passing vessel. He had concern for his mate who he had last seen struggling to shore near Shark Island (Fingal) – Fingal Bay Life Savers and Maritime both responded and safely returned this one back into Port.



Recently while we were conducting our regular Wednesday morning maintenance on our two Rescue Vessels, a member of the public spotted a person in the water next to his capsized sail/power canoe, just off the rock wall outside D'Albora Marina. They ran down to

the rescue dock to alert the Marine Rescue crew, and within two minutes PS31 had left the dock and was rapidly outside the marina and next to the overturned kayak. The kayak had capsized further up the Bay, and was drifting with the strong tidal rip out towards the Heads, with the owner clinging precariously to the small bow section that was still above water. Fortunately, he was wearing a lifejacket. The crew of PS31 quickly pulled the kayak and its owner to safety on the back deck of PS31, and after retrieving quite a lot of debris including fuel cans, paddles, flotation foam and sail rigging, took them all back inside the Marina. We can't always respond this quickly, but this guy is very lucky that help was close at hand.

On 11-12 April, a SAREX (Search and Rescue Exercise) was conducted for our radio room Watchkeepers and our Boat Crew, with classroom training on the Saturday, and a Search and Rescue operation with our boats and Lemon Tree LT30 participating in the off-shore waters. This type of training is vital to maintain our Operational Readiness, and is conducted a number of times each year. Many congratulations to Ray McLeod (MR Master) and Mick Duggan (MR Coxswain) for the excellent training and organisation.

Last weekend (21-22 May), a more ambitious SAREX was conducted at our sister Marine Rescue base at Forster. Radio Room members and Boat Crews from Port Macquarie, Crowdy-Harrington, Forster, Port Stephens, Lemon Tree Passage, and Newcastle gathered at the Forster base for two separate exercises – a SARDEX (desk exercise) and a SAREX (on-water exercise). Conducted over two days, the Marine Rescue members received presentations and instruction from members of Marine Area Command (MAC – the Water Police), Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), Westpac Rescue Helicopter, Surf Life Saving (SLS), and the professional training and operational staff of Marine



Rescue NSW.

The SARDEX focussed on Incident Control, Communications, Logistics and Navigation, with all participants rotating between the four functional areas. The on-water SAREX was aimed at ensuring that all Boat Crew and the vessels were utilised to best advantage in conducting a formal search over a wide area of the waters off Forster, down past Cape Hawke and almost to Booti Booti. Shown in the picture on the right is the track of PS31 during the exercise, with the AIS returns of the other vessels participating in the SAREX.

One of the key elements of a maritime Search and Rescue response, is to firstly determine the most likely location of the object you are looking for. It may be (say) a person in the water, or wreckage from a plane crash, or an upturned vessel. Then it is important that ALL of the search area is covered by the rescue vessels, with lookouts keeping a keen eye on the water surface all around the vessel. To do this with multiple vessels, they

(Continued on page 13)

Nelson Bay Locksmith

Keys cut while you wait,
Engraving, Trophies and
Name Badges also supplied

Daniel Mackenzie (Locksmith)

Shop 2, 59 Donald Street
NELSON BAY 2315
Phone 24hrs: 4981 3428

Member of the Master Locksmiths Assoc. of Australia



VISIT
MARINE RESCUE PORT
STEPHENS FACEBOOK PAGE

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MRPRTSE

For up-to-date news of activities
and events

Your advertisement
could appear here.

Email the Editor
editor.portstephens@marinerescuensw.com.au
or phone 4981-3585

Sponsored by



Salamander Bay Shopping Centre
(Opposite Target Country)
4982 7788



SHOAL BAY PHARMACY

Pharmacist Advice



Ph: 4981 1247 OPEN 7 DAYS



Don't ignore the snore...

Our Pharmacy offers a simple test for sleep apnea that you can undertake in your own home. Please ask our friendly pharmacist for more information

Did you know that if you have sleep apnea you are:

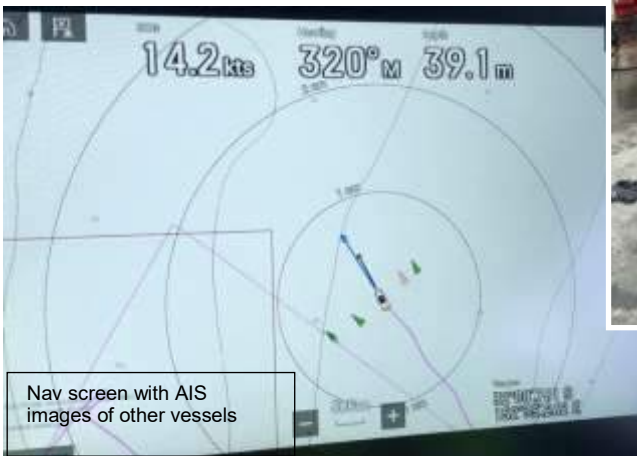
- 7 times more likely to have heart disease
- More likely to have a stroke
- More likely to have a car accident
- More likely to have problems controlling your diabetes.

If you already have a Sleep Apnea machine, it is recommended that it be cleaned every 6 months.

OPERATIONS ... AND BOATS OFFICER

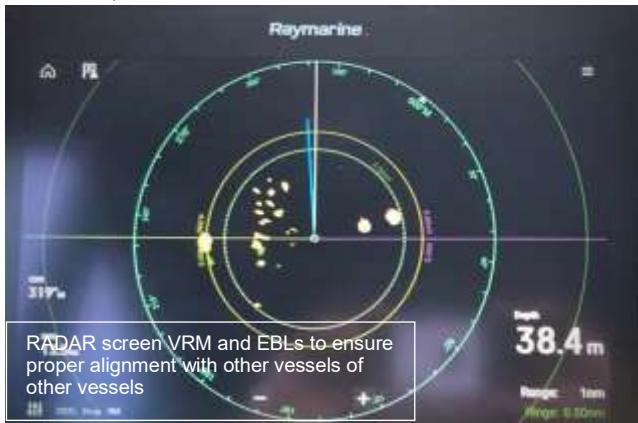
(Continued from page 11)

all have to be perfectly coordinated in the heading they are following, the speed they are travelling, the relative positions (distances apart), and making sure that they don't get ahead of, or behind, the Lead Vessel, known as the On-Scene Controller (OSC). To do this, all Marine rescue vessels are fitted with sophisticated Search and Rescue devices and software, providing real-time updates of vessel position on the navigation and radar screens, and the tracks that have been followed. This helps to ensure we cover all the search territory, **without missing any of the area.**



The two pictures here show:

1. A Navigation Screen with AIS (Automatic Identification System) images of the other vessels, with PS31 in the middle; and



2. A RADAR screen with Variable Range Markers (VRMs) and Extended Bearing Lines (EBLs) - to provide real-time information of the relative positions of other vessels.

BOATS OFFICER

Both Rescue Vessels remain fully operational, and have recently passed their annual inspections with "Flying Colours". All Marine Rescue vessels are "Under Survey", which means there are stringent design, safety, maintenance, and operational requirements to be adhered to. The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) insist that independent auditors attend to the

major milestone inspections, and the interim inspections are carried out by our Regional Operations Manager (ROM - a Marine Rescue NSW Staff Officer).



PS1 *John Thompson* (a Steber 38') recently underwent its five-year Out-of-Water inspection, where the propellers and drive shafts had to be removed for close examination, as well as all other hull and interior checks. The list of items to be "ticked off" is very comprehensive, and the full inspection takes over four hours. Needless to say, PS31 was found to be completely compliant with requirements, and in fact was

complimented as "one of the best maintained vessels I have ever seen" by the Marine Engineer who performed the audit.

PS30 also has recently undergone and passed its annual inspection by the ROM, and aside from a few minor labelling issues (which were immediately corrected), all required conditions were met.

As you would expect, all Marine Rescue vessels are fitted with sophisticated electronics which aid in our very important Search and Rescue (SAR) operations. One of the devices we use frequently when searching for vessels or people (especially at night) is our FLIR, or Forward Looking Infra-Red, camera. These sit atop the cabin of our vessels with clear sight in all directions around the vessel. They are controlled from the cockpit, and can be moved up/down/left/right as required. They provide an image on the screen generated by differences in heat of the objects they see – for example, persons in the water are shown as bright (ie warmer than) the dark water surrounding them.

Recently we had to replace the FLIR on PS30, as the passage of time had caught up with the sensitive electronic equipment inside the outer housing. Sadly it was non-repairable so had to be replaced at a cost of \$6,500 for a reconditioned unit, plus \$2,000 for the work involved in the project.

We are very fortunate to have a regular weekly maintenance team of three members whose sole job in MRPS is to make sure that both our vessels are kept in tip top shape. Each week there are about 80 items on a checklist that need to be looked at – ranging from lubrication of locks and latches, to checking the water

(Continued on page 15)



Port Stephens Tyre Service

Where there is great value for money

FOR ALL YOUR TYRE NEEDS JUST
CALL 4981 1291

FOR PERSONALISED ATTENTION

TYRES AT GREAT PRICES

Avon Michelin Barum Firestone Hancock
Dunlop Goodyear Pirelli Olympic Toyo Yokohama

Experience our GREAT Sales and Service that includes:

Electronic wheel balancing/computer controlled wheel alignments

FINGAL BAY SERVICE STATION

LOW PRICE PETROL AND DIESEL

MECHANICAL REPAIRS, CASTROL OIL AND
LUBES AUTHORISED INSPECTION STATION

We serve you with a smile, so you leave
with a smile.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND GIFT SHOP

(Continued from page 13)

separator in the fuel line and the proper activation of various switches and sensors. Most weeks we get a few of our Boat Crew also attending the Wednesday morning maintenance session, and for sure, we could not keep our vessels on the water without the dedicated assistance provided by all of these guys.

Laurie Nolan



Ian Drummond, Bob Montgomery and

COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER

“Where Are You?”

This is the first and most critical piece of information we will ask any boater who requests assistance. If the call comes to us over the radio, we have radio direction finding equipment that will tell us the vector that the call came from. But the distressed vessel (DV) could be anywhere along that line from our base. The best way for us to determine exactly where the DV is actually located, is if they can give us their GPS coordinates of latitude and longitude. For example our base is located at -32 degrees, 42.62 minutes latitude, and 152 degrees, 09.68 minutes longitude.

Many boaters these days outfit their boats with plotters that display the boat's position on an electronic chart. That position is enabled because the plotter connects to the GPS satellite system to determine your location.



Boaters who don't have this equipment can also quickly and easily provide us with their GPS position by using their Smartphones. Since all such communication devices are factory equipped with GPS receivers, there are number of apps that can be downloaded that will give the user accurate GPS

coordinates.

One app we like to recommend to all boaters is called **Emergency Plus**. The app is available for both iOS and Android Smartphone systems. This app will not only give the user accurate position information, but will also dial 000, SES and the Police with the tap of a finger.



Another simple app that is downloadable for Android and iOS

is named **Coordinates**.

This app will give the user fast coordinate information displayed on a map and can be configured to display degrees, minutes and decimal degrees (dd mm.mmm), the format that is most easy for Marine Rescue to plot. In an emergency the boating public can rest assured that Marine Rescue will be able to assist more accurately if the GPS coordinates are provided as soon as possible.

For more information on the GPS system head to <https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/gps/en/>

Plan Ahead and Stay Safe on the water.

Will Scott

GIFT SHOP

The Port Stephens Unit gift shop continues to be a very pleasant stopover for our visitors. We have a great variety of items with more arriving regularly. Our staff are friendly, helpful and a wealth of information and at your service daily from 0900 to 1500 24/7. Call in and say hello.

Sandra Scheuber
Manager

Colleen Sessions seen recently trout fishing in Harrietteville Vic.



Inner Light Weddings Nelson Head



What an amazing backdrop for incredible memories!

Tomaree and Yacaaba Headlands together with Port Stephens waters form a unique and amazing backdrop for your wedding ceremony.



Let us prepare the perfect venue for you and your guests.

You are able to style your wedding as little or as much as you wish utilising the items listed in our brochure, including set up by our volunteers, at no extra cost.



Plan your dream wedding ceremony in this idyllic and unique setting.

Prepare in the Charming Lightkeeper's cottage. Then make your grand entrance from this Heritage building.

For all wedding ceremony enquiries and to receive a copy of our information brochure, please contact:

Wedding Co-ordinator

Mobile 0419 135 102

E mail

weddings.portstephens@gmail.com

INNER LIGHT WEDDINGS

INNER LIGHT WEDDINGS

Our final wedding for a few months was held on 1 May on a beautiful Autumn afternoon. The wedding was a joyous family occasion with only immediate family present. The couple's young daughter was a beautiful flower girl.

New enquiries and some bookings continue to roll in for 2022.

A highlight at the end of May was setting up for the Catalina memorial service. A few members of the wedding team set up chairs with the white covers, organised the stage including the table for the wreaths to be placed upon, organised parking for the special guests and provided white umbrellas (used for the weddings) for guests during a brief shower at the beginning of the service. It was a privilege to be part of this special moment in our site's history.



The team and I are looking forward to bringing you more wedding news later in the year. Until then take care and stay safe.

Jenni Fryer





Phone: 4984 1244
Fax: 4981 1468

FINGAL BAY BOWLS, SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB

100 Rocky Point Road, Fingal Bay
info@fingalbaysportsclub.com
<http://www.fingalbaysportsclub.com>

Club Operating Hours

Monday – Thursday 11-9pm
 Friday and Saturday 11-10pm
 and Sunday 11-8.30pm

Bistro Operating Hours

Monday - Sunday Lunch 11.30-2pm and dinner 5.30-8.30pm

- ♦ Monday - Chicken or Schnitzel Night \$15.00
- ♦ Tuesday Lamb Shanks Night \$18.00
- ♦ Wednesday - Steak Night \$16.00
- ♦ Thursday - Curry Night \$19.00

Dine in or Takeaway.

Due to Covid restrictions its recommended that you book a table.

FINGAL BAY SPORTS CLUB

MEAT RAFFLES

WEDNESDAY
FRIDAY
SUNDAY

TICKETS ON SALE 5PM

1ST DRAW 6PM

FINGAL BAY RURAL FIRE BRIGADE RAFFLE EVERY FRIDAY

MEMBER BADGE DRAW EVERY SUNDAY STARTS 5.30

THURSDAY
 FISHING CLUB RAFFLES
 CASH Jackpots every week if not claimed



Mens & Womens Bowls

Visitors welcome
 Phone club for details

Also available at the club:
ATM, Keno, TAB Room, Big Screen TV, Children's Playground

Please contact the Club for January 2021 operating hours and What's on - 4984 1244 or the website.

www.fingalbaysportsclub.com.au

Currently there is no Courtesy Bus available



Club Bingo and Trivia nights

Currently not available until further notice

NELSON HEAD RESERVE

NELSON HEAD RESERVE CHAIRMAN

All of the buildings on the Reserve have had a make-over with painting being done across the site. The result is very impressive with a delineation between the Cottage/Museum heritage buildings and the Marine Rescue Command Centre and Communication Centre.

In addition to the painting work a number of other areas have been attended to including repairs to the Bunker path and paving around the Tea Rooms plus an extension of the glass fencing around the front of the Cottage. All of these renovations contribute to the attractive nature of the buildings.

There are a few jobs still to be done and these should be completed within the next few weeks. All of this work was completed with the assistance of a grant from the Crown Lands Reserve Fund and we are very appreciative of this funding assistance which allowed us to improve dramatically the look of all the site buildings.

On 23 April we had a tour of the facility by Year 9 students from St Phillips College. The tour was part of an exercise for the students looking at the WWII history of Port Stephens. Other sites visited were

Tomaree Headland and Fly Point.

At our facility the group of 63 students was split in a smaller groups of around 25 and then split into still smaller groups of eight to show the students the Cottage/Museum, in particular the HMAS Assault Room, the WWII bunker and the Marine Rescue Command Centre.

The students were given a talk by our Protocol Officer, Harold Gibson, on the operations of the Base and a briefing on the importance of Anzac Day to all Australians. The feedback from the students and staff was exceptionally good and we hope to see other school groups doing a similar tour.

On 24 May we participated in a Commemoration Ceremony for the anniversary of the 1943 Catalina crash in Port Stephens during WWII. This training accident resulted in the death of 7 of the crew including the pilot, Flight Lieutenant "Tubby" Higgins. The ceremony was organised by the Tomaree Museum Association and was attended by members of FO Higgin's family and members of a number of local associations. Hartley Higgins, nephew of "Tubby" expressed his appreciation for holding the ceremony and floral tributes were laid on the memorial plaque for all the airman who died in this crash.

Repairs to the Bunker are ongoing with a proposal for underpinning the base of the building to prevent any further slippage of the slab.

The plaque for the Danial Thain memorial at the entrance to the Base has been renewed due to deterioration of the sandstone block. The new block has been installed with

a new plaque which will guarantee a much longer life.

The lawns and gardens around the Reserve continue to look a picture due to the hard work of our grounds maintenance team who are out in all weathers doing mowing and other maintenance around the Base.

John Reid





**TerryWhite
Chemmart**

- Pharmaceutical advice
- Home medication reviews
- Webster packing of medication
- Health services check (Inc. blood pressure and cholesterol check)
- Free home delivery
- Flu vaccinations
- DNA testing
- Impromy weight loss management program
- Hire of medical equipment
- Sleep Apnoea testing
- Open 7 days

18 Stockton Street, Nelson Bay
Phone (02) 4984 2445

NOVUS
AUTO GLASS

- ✔ Windscreen Replacements
- ✔ Stone Chip & Crack Repairs
- ✔ Glass & Perspex Cut to Size
- ✔ Side & Rear Glass
- ✔ Mobile Service

4982 7474

3 George Road Salamander Bay

Soldiers Point Marina

PORT STEPHENS NSW



The Ultimate Resort Marina

This is where you will enjoy marina living at its best. By setting new standards with our luxuriously appointed amenities, world class facilities and services beyond your expectations, we want your stay with us at our prestigious boutique resort marina to be an unforgettable experience.

25 minutes from Newcastle Airport. Award winning restaurant, coffee shop, beauty therapist, marine centre, boat broker, boat hire, sailing school

SCULPTURE WALK

Dotted throughout the Soldiers Point Marina precinct, is an expanding collection of carefully selected vibrant outdoor sculptures by celebrated Australian artists. From eclectic to traditional these pieces will catch your eye and start some interesting conversations



Much more than a place to moor your boat.



SOLDIERS POINT MARINA
Port Stephens • NSW • Australia

Sunset Boulevard, Soldiers Point NSW 2317 P: (02) 4982 7445
E: db@soldiersptmarina.com.au W: www.soldiersptmarina.com.au

RFS LIAISON



LOWER HUNTER RFS LIAISON

As can be seen on the table on page 22, numbers have been down in the last couple of months. This is most probably due to the favourable weather conditions. As per normal there may be an increase in house fires in Winter.

CLARENCE TOWN RURAL FIRE BRIGADE:

Clarence Town is an early nineteenth century town which was the head of navigation on the Williams River. It was originally called Erringhi, in the local aboriginal language which is the name of the pub next door to the RFS station. The station is at 25 Grey Street. Clarence Town was named after the Duke of Clarence, and I must admit I prefer Erringhi.

The brigade has three vehicles:

- Category 1 dual cab tanker with a capacity to carry 3300 litres of water.
- Category 7 dual cab tanker with a capacity to carry 1100 litres of water.



- Hilux utility designed for the Community First Responder team who turn out for medical emergencies until the ambulance arrive.

They also turn out for MVA people trapped incidents as well.

Ross Debenham

Australian Family Owned & Operated

France

FAMILY FUNERALS

“...caring as only a family can...”

NEWCASTLE

209 Maitland Road (cnr Barton St), Mayfield

LAKE MACQUARIE

108 The Boulevard (cnr Cary St), Toronto

PORT STEPHENS

45 Stockton Street (cnr Church St), Nelson Bay

STOCKTON

63 Mitchell Street (cnr King St), Stockton

Specialising in Fixed Price Pre-Paid Funeral Plans
Free, No Obligation Funeral Information & Advisory Service
Payment & Finance Plans Available (Conditions Apply)
Available 24 Hours - 7 Days

ALL AREAS 1800 44 66 53

www.fff.com.au

RFS LIAISON

Marine Rescue Port Stephens takes over the communications role for Lower Hunter and Hunter Valley RFS nightly. From around 4.00pm until 9.00am the following morning all 000 fire calls for the region are

directed to the MRPS Watchkeeper who pages and maintains radio and phone communications with RFS units, duty personnel and Fire and Rescue.

HUNTER VALLEY RFS

The Bushfire Danger Period ended on 31 March which mean that permits are no longer required. However,



Darlington Brigade



SES). Also it should be mentioned that the support of their families is greatly appreciated. Having the household disturbed in the small hours of the morning to attend a callout creates disruption to any family's peaceful night.

Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVA) are regularly attended by RFS brigades, along with Fire and Rescue,

there is still a need to notify neighbours a minimum of 24hrs before lighting a fire and it also must be registered online at <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/fire-permits/burn-notifications>. Local council's outdoor burning policy also needs to be followed (the council's website has more information).



Ambulance and Police. Apart from the assistance to release trapped personnel, hose down fuel on the road, etc. The RFS also helps with traffic control. The incident on the New England Highway near Belford on 2 May

Bushfire Danger Period is expected to come back into effect 1 September 2021 for the Muswellbrook and Singleton Local Government Areas.

National Volunteer Week began on 18 May and of course, the 1200+ volunteers in the Hunter Valley RFS brigades were among the emergency service groups recognised for their selfless contribution to the safety of their community (along with those in Marine Rescue and in the

meant that this very important transport corridor was closed from 0815 to 1530 to northbound traffic.

As well as assisting the SES in the Singleton area during the flood emergency in March, the Hunter Valley RFS sent crews to add to the 200 RFS personnel at Port Macquarie. They help with logistics, hosing out homes and businesses and removing damaged items.

Colin Couper

Prepare Act Survive

The table below reflects the incidents received by MRPS from Hunter Valley and Lower Hunter Districts

Unit	Month	Bush/Grass	Structure	AFA	MVA Car	CFR	Other	Total
HV	February	1	0	0	4	0	7	12
LH		6	1	16	16	8	10	57
HV	March	8	0	0	5	3	2	18
LH		4	2	4	16	10	27	63
HV	April	3	0	1	5	1	2	12
LH		11	3	8	17	9	15	63
	Total	33	6	29	63	31	63	225

BIRDS AROUND PORT STEPHENS

BIRDS AT THE BASE – MASTERS OF OUR SKIES

Bird's adaptation for flight has allowed them to exploit the skies and the forest canopy, to travel rapidly over large distances in search of food and to evade earth bound predators. The adaptation for flight has involved the development of many unique features including the skeleton, muscles, wings, feathers and physiology. Flight is energetically expensive and requires a light, streamlined body and a rigid structure.

The skeleton of birds is made rigid by the fusing together of bones to provide a firm structure for attachment of flight muscles. Bones are lightweight and strong with a hollow, honeycomb-like structure. Further weight reduction is achieved by the use of air sacs instead of lungs, and having a lightweight toothless bill instead of a heavy, bony jaw. There is a single vent for waste elimination and reproductive purposes and female birds have a single ovary.

The breast bone is enlarged with a large keel for flight muscles attachment. The main flight muscle, the pectoral muscle, accounts for about 15% of a bird's mass. Contraction of this muscle produces the downward wing beat and provides the thrust required for flight. Muscles have a high percentage of red muscle fibre that has a high capacity for oxidative metabolism of fat and sugar. Birds have highly efficient respiratory system and circulatory systems which keep tissues well supplied with oxygen and nutrients, supporting a high metabolic rate. Their metabolic rate during flight is the highest of all animals. Body temperature is maintained between 40 and 42°C and enables cells in the muscles to work around 2.2 times faster than mammals. The higher body temperature is maintained through the insulating properties of feathers.

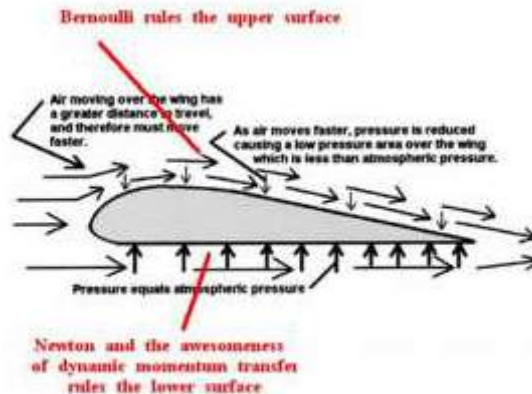
To control flight, birds' brains are proportionately larger than those of reptiles and amphibians, allowing them to perform complex tasks. The eyesight of birds is the best of all vertebrates and excellent eyesight and a large brain is essential to provide the coordination to fly and land safely.

The bones of the bird wing are analogous to the human arm. The humerus, radius and ulna are shortened with their joints provide flexibility for wing movement, while the hand bones and digits are fused to provide the rigidity in the wing.

The most obvious adaptations for flight are bird's wings which produce power for flight and provide lift. Feathers are light and strong with a central hollow shaft and vanes arranged asymmetrically on either side. Wings and feathers are shaped in the form of an aerofoil.

An aerofoil provides lift through a combination of two

physical principles. Air flowing over the upper surface travels faster than air over the lower surface, creating reduced pressure on the upper surface relative to the



lower (Bernoulli's principal), and air deflected downwards from the lower surface produces an opposite upward-directed force (Newton's third law). However the downward deflected air is also the source of drag which is one of the limiting factors of flight. Additional lift is obtained from the tail feathers

and from the inward spiralling vortices created at the wing tips.

Manoeuvrability is achieved by independently changing the orientation of the wings to create variable drag or thrust, and/or by using the feathers at the wing tip to alter the trailing vortices. During take-off birds achieve the initial thrust required for flight by leaping from height and using gravity, or running along the ground and using prevailing wind. The wing beat rate required during the initial period of take-off is much higher and once sustained flight has been achieved the wing beat settle into a natural oscillating frequency which optimises energy use. Birds land by using their wings to create increasing amounts of drag and eventually stall as they land. No aircraft even approaches the average bird's manoeuvrability

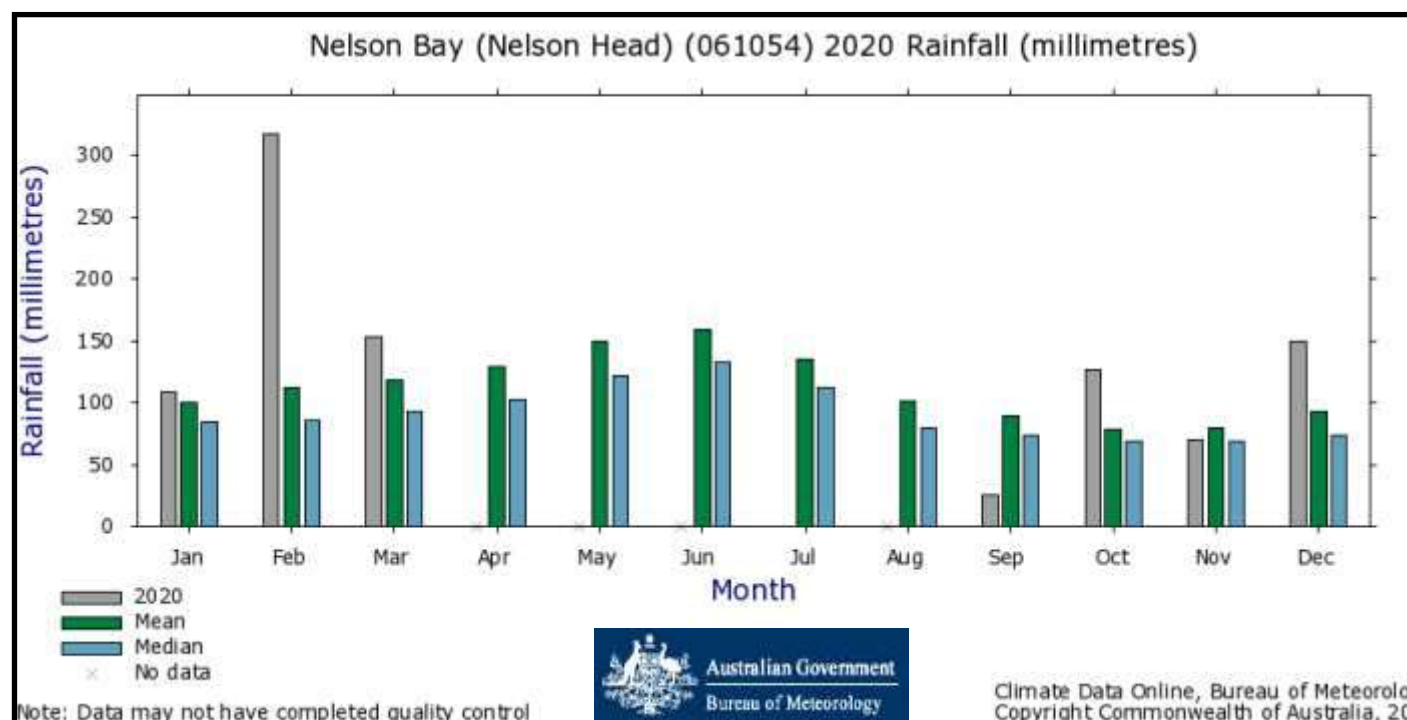
There are two basic types of flight, gliding flight and flapping flight. All birds utilizing varying degrees of these methods. Gliding flight minimises the use of powered thrust to overcome the negative effects of drag while flapping flight provides thrust. Large birds such as hawks, eagles and pelicans which utilise open skies, have long narrow wings with slots at the ends, allowing them to glide efficiently using air currents and thermals. Fast flying birds using open habitats such as falcons have slim un-slotted wings and mainly use flapping flight with some gliding. Small birds that utilise enclosed habitat have short, rounded wings that allow rapid take off and high manoeuvrability. They rely almost entirely on flapping flight. Other moderate sized birds that use a range of habitats tend to have broader wings of intermediate dimensions with slots and use a combination of flapping and gliding.

So the next time you are dismembering the Christmas turkey, have a good look at the structure of its bones and muscles and appreciate the amazing adaptations that have occurred to produce the wonder of bird flight.

**Neil Fraser
Twitcher**

PORT STEPHENS WEATHER

Nelson Bay, NSW - April 2021					Nelson Bay, NSW - May 2021				
Date	Day	Temps °C		Rain	Date	Day	Temps °C		Rain
		Min	Max				Min	Max	
1	Th	15.7	23.5	0	1	Sa	16	24.6	0.8
2	Fr	16.4		0	2	Su	16.5	23.2	0.4
3	Sa		26.7	0	3	Mo	15.7	24.3	0.2
4	Su	16.6	25	0.1	4	Tu	15.5	21	0
5	Mo		27.2	0	5	We	14.5	18.5	1.2
6	Tu	19.9	27.5	7.4	6	Th	15	21	23.9
7	We	19.2	26.1	0	7	Fr	17	22.4	15
8	Th	17	22.5	26.2	8	Sa	16.6	24.6	3.2
9	Fr	16.6	26.9	5.6	9	Su	17.4	21.2	0
10	Sa	19	24.3	0.5	10	Mo	14	23.7	2.2
11	Su	15.4	19.4	0.1	11	Tu	15.9	22.5	0
12	Mo	12	19.2	0	12	We	14.5	20.5	13.4
13	Tu	13.2	22.3	0	13	Th	15.4	21.5	1.4
14	We	13.7	26	0	14	Fr	15	19.8	0
15	Th	16.5	26	0	15	Sa	12.6	18.5	0
16	Fr	17	21	0	16	Su		17	0
17	Sa	15	17.3	5.8	17	Mo	10.3	18.1	0
18	Su	12.2	19.6	16.2	18	Tu	11	18.8	0
19	Mo	12.4	22.5	0.2	19	We	12	20.4	0
20	Tu	13.6	22.5	0	20	Th	12.1	21	0
21	We	14.5	19.4	0	21	Fr	12.3	19.5	0
22	Th	12.4	20.4	0	22	Sa	13	18.8	0
23	Fr	11.8	21.1	0	23	Su	12.6	19.2	0.3
24	Sa	13.2	22.5	0	24	Mo	12.6	18.4	2.8
25	Su	14.5	21.1	0.2	25	Tu	14.1	22.1	4.6
26	Mo	14	23.5	3.2	26	We	13.7	21.6	0
27	Tu	14.4	22.1	0.2	27	Th	11.1	17.9	0
28	We	14.9	22	0	28	Fr	11	17	0
29	Th	14.2	22.5	0.1	29	Sa	9.4	14.9	3.9
30	Fr	15	23.8	0	30	Su	9.9	14.7	41.2
					31	Mo	9.8	17.8	15.8
Statistics for April 2021					Statistics for May 2021				
Mean		15	22.9		Mean		13.6	20.1	
Lowest		11.8	17.3	0	Lowest		9.4	14.7	0
Highest		19.9	27.5	26.2	Highest		17.4	24.6	41.2
Total				65.8	Total				130.3





MARINE RESCUE PORT STEPHENS

“Volunteers doing our jobs professionally”



Our service to Port Stephens 2005-2020

People saved/ assisted	6,300
Rescues and assists	2,718
Rescue Crew volunteer hours	62,658+
Radio Base volunteer hours	311,787+
Radio calls made/received	316,695
Telephone calls made/received	300,431

Every day, Marine Rescue Port Stephens Members give more than 60 volunteer hours to serve our community

Volunteers saving lives on the water

MARINE RESCUE NSW PORT STEPHENS RESCUE VESSELS CURRENTLY IN SERVICE

The unit currently has two purpose built, specialised rescue vessels, crewed by motivated and trained volunteers who can be called upon at anytime, day or night, to head to the assistance of those who call.

A response time of 20 mins or less is estimated from alert to heading to sea. Our vessels boast a comprehensive inventory of the latest navigation, communication, safety and rescue technologies on board.

PORT STEPHENS RESCUE VESSEL *PORT STEPHENS 31* *JOHN THOMPSON*



Specifications

Make / Model:	Steber International 38' - Category 3 SAR Vessel
Length:	11.46m (38ft)
Beam:	3.84m (12.6ft)
Displacement:	11.6 tonne
Draft:	1m
Fuel:	1350L
Engines:	Twin 420hp Yanmar diesel
Top Speed:	30kn
Crew:	Operational - normally 4
VHF:	Sailor 6222
Radar:	Raymarine Q24C Doppler
MFD's (Multifunction Display):	Raymarine Axiom 9 and 5 x Raymarine Axiom Pro 12 Hybrid Touch
AIS:	Raymarine AIS950
RDF:	Taiyo
27Mhz:	GME GX400B
DCN:	Tait TM9300

Rescue Vessel Port Stephens 31 John Thompson was built by Steber International, Taree, NSW and completed in May 2016. Her single hull is made of glass-reinforced plastic.

Port Stephens 31 is fitted with state-of-the-art radar, direction finding and navigation equipment as well as forward looking infra red search equipment.

John Thompson has been prepared to Marine Rescue NSW specifications with minor customisation at the request of Port Stephens Unit and is capable of covering Port Stephens and anywhere along the coast for example Broughton Island, Seal Rocks and 30nm out to sea or further if tasked by MACSAR.

**PORT STEPHENS RESCUE VESSEL *PORT STEPHENS 30*
*CODI-K II***



Specifications:

Make / Model:	Gemini WR-850
Type:	Rigid-Hull Inflatable (RHIB)
Length:	8.5m
Beam:	2.8m
Engines: -	2 x Suzuki four-stroke Outboards 200hp each (150kW)
Fuel Capacity:	2 x 200 litre tanks
Fuel Consumption:	Cruising speed - 50 litres / hour
Displacement:	3.2 tonnes
Survey:	2C
Crew:	4 operational
Speed:	Top speed around 40 knots. Cruising speed 25 to 30 knots.

Rescue Vessel *Port Stephens 30 Codi-K II* was manufactured in South Africa, prepared by Britton Marine of Taren Point NSW, and completed in February 2012. Her single hull is made of glass-reinforced plastic with alloy longitudinal keel reinforcement and her cabin is glass-reinforced plastic. She boasts among her electronic equipment a Raymarine Radar/Plotter, Furuno AIS Class-A and FLIR Thermal Night Vision System.

Codi-K II has been prepared to Port Stephens Unit specifications in consultation with Marine Rescue NSW, and is capable of covering all of the areas of Port Stephens; ie, the Myall River system, Karuah River, and the other shallow areas of our waterways, as well as outside waters as required.

IN APPRECIATION....



Contributors to this issue of *Port Chatter*:

Colin Couper, Ross Debenham, Neil Fraser, Jenni Fryer, Laurie Nolan, John Reid, Will Scott, Ben van der Wijngaart. Other photos by Colin Couper, Ross Debenham, Jenni Fryer, Penelope Highland. You too can become a contributor and you will be most welcome. See inside front cover.

Distributors of the *Port Chatter*: This Monthly newsletter does not arrive in your letter-box via the tooth fairy.

The following people give of their time (and petrol) in making deliveries. Distribution Co-Ordinator: Ross Debenham, Maureen Wheatley, Peter Merlino, Elizabeth Francis, Marian Chappell, and Deb Nolan.

Advertisers in *Port Chatter*: The following advertisers with paid advertisements in the *Port Chatter* help to meet most of the costs of production.

Please show your appreciation by giving them your custom.

Community Clubs		Fingal Bay Bowls Sports and Recreation Club
Hairdresser	Men's Barber Shop	Vince's Salamander Bay Barber Shop
Home/Office	Locksmith	Bay Locksmith Services
	Decorating/Painting	Abode Decorating
	Printer Cartridges	The Cartridge Family
	Pools	Adept Pools
	Storage	5 Star Storage
Health	Chemists	Salamander Centre Pharmacy
		Shoal Bay Pharmacy
		Terry White Chemart Pharmacy, Nelson Bay
	Eye Care	Specsavers
Funeral Services		France Family Funerals
Maritime	Marina	D'Albora Marina and businesses
		Soldiers Point Marina
	Boating Sales and Repairs	Nelson Bay Outboard Services
	Fishing Supplies	Duff's Salamander Bait & Tackle (at Coles Express)
Motor Vehicles	Service Stations/Tyres	Fingal Bay Service Station and Tyres
Windscreen Repairs		Novus Autoglass Shop
Real Estate		Century 21 Paradise Waters, Nelson Bay
Restaurants and Cafes		Inner Light Tea Rooms, Nelson Head
Radio Station		Port Stephens FM 100.9



PREMIUM MARINA BERTHING
 7 Quality Marinas • Wet & Dry Storage, Moorings
 Security & Boat Services • 24 Hour Fuel
 Dockmaster Assistance 7 Days
www.dalboramarinas.com.au



Teramby Road, Nelson Bay
 Phone: 02 4984 1333
 Fax: 02 4984 1390
www.dalboramarinas.com.au



“Have you visited d’Albora Marinas Nelson Bay recently?”

d’Albora Tenant Directory

Artisan Collective		Marina Ice Creamery	02 4984 1788
Blueys Restaurant & Bar	02 4916 2706	Mavericks on the Bay	02 4984 1203
Boat Hire and Cruise Bookings	02 4984 3843	Mid North Marine Eng.	0448 492 221
Boatyard by d'Albora	1800D’ALBORA	Mobile Marine Electrics	0422 782 863
Broughtons at the Bay	02 4981 0865	Moonshadow-TQC Cruises	02 4984 9388
Cafe & Convenience on the Bay	02 4981 0921	Pacific Water Colours	02 4984 1922
Corner Secrets	02 4981 1160	Popeye Laundromat	02 4984 1333
Hogs Breath Cafe	02 4984 2842	R Marine Port Stephens	02 4984 2355
Imagine Cruises	02 4984 9000	Subway	02 4984 4277
Let’s Go Adventures	02 4981 4331	Tin Tin Eatery	02 4981 5883
Lime Mexican	02 4984 4403	The Wood Oven	02 4984 4800