



BIA

LOGBOOK

NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of the Boating Industry Association of NSW Ltd

December 2008

Empire Marina

Bobbin Head

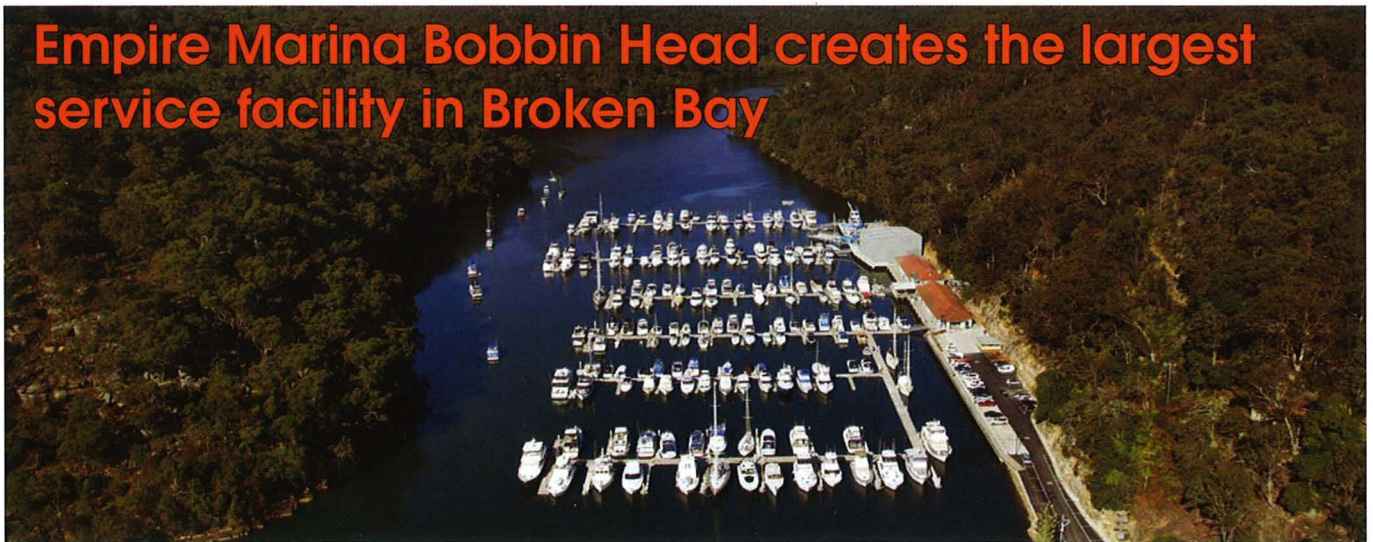
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Damn the economy

Maritimo onslaught

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Empire Marina Bobbin Head creates the largest service facility in Broken Bay



With boat servicing facilities under increasing pressure from environmental and safety authorities, Empire Marina Bobbin Head has risen to the challenge and invested millions of dollars in creating the largest state-of-the-art service facility in Broken Bay.

Located 24km from Sydney CBD, Empire Marina Bobbin Head is Sydney's gateway to 600 nautical miles of cruising coastline from Pittwater to the Hawkesbury and is positioned to offer superior vessel maintenance at their world-class facility.

The redevelopment has transformed the former Halvorsen Boatshed into a modern floating marina with 199 berths and 10 swing moorings, extended car parking, a refurbished boatshed and a large hardstand and refit shed.

Empire Marina Bobbin Head can now service well over a thousand boats a year and can deliver time and cost effective outcomes for their clients due to the superior design and efficiency of the facility.

Darren Vaux, director of Empire Marinas, explained the company's commitment to their clients' expectations of service in the 21st Century.

"Our experience is that boat owners are typically informed, experienced, cost-conscious, and passionate about the handling and servicing of their vessels."

"Our focus has been to create a facility that maximizes the opportunity for delivering the highest level of service through technology, efficiency, safety, education, and environmental management."

"This investment has enabled us to deliver high quality cost effective outcomes for clients and a time efficient, safe working environment for contractors and tradesmen," he said.

The recently constructed hardstand is a spacious 1600m² and replaces the redundant slipway system. The refit and paint shed is large enough to accommodate two 60ft flybridge cruisers.

Both the shed and hardstand have full environmental containment and an on-site water treatment plant, making this one of the most advanced marine service facilities in Australia.

"We can accommodate a range of vessels from 20ft runabouts to 65ft yachts. The 50 tonne travelift and three tonne crane are state-of-the-art," he said.

"We offer a wide range of associated services including all shipwright, mechanical, painting, rigging, boat trimming, and electrical work."

"Given the capacity of our facility, we also welcome accredited outside contractors and support the BIA's Marine Card System*."

... General Manager's Catch-Up

I can announce that there will be **no increase in exhibition rates in 2009**. BIA will be absorbing all cost increases from venues, suppliers and media. We are also searching for other cost savings to pass on. **Exhibition hall space** is being reduced and we expect the marina to considerably reduce in size. **Operational days** will also be reduced by closing on the Monday (reduced to a five day show).

BIA is totally aware of our continuing obligation to promote the boating lifestyle and invest in the future of our industry. We need to continue promoting the industry as a career of choice for the better times. In July we released a "NSW Marine Industry Careers Guide" and have now joined other state BIAs in sponsoring "alife" which is a free computer based resource featuring 100 career profiles, interactive videos, industry links and mobile phone connectivity. Our sponsorship promotes three boating profiles, namely boat

building, marine mechanics and marine sales. An "alife" DVD is included in this Logbook and you can visit the site at www.alife.com.au

Enough of this serious stuff and on a lighter note we have produced a **2009 Diary** which will be posted to all members. As we approach the festive season on behalf of the BIA Board of Directors and staff may we extend to all our members and readers of Logbook a **safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year**. To our members we hope you have an improved trading period over this summer.

Hope you can find some time for family and friends and of course get out there on the water.

Cheers,

↓ Roy Privett,
General Manager

Empire Marina Bobbin Head operates under the Clean Marinas Program**, the voluntary code of practice which specifically outlines the marina's commitment to the environment, safe work practices and compliance with environmental and government legislation.

As every boat owner knows, liaison with several trades people can be a time consuming and frustrating process so Empire Marinas also offers a one-stop shopping service to their clients.

"Our hardstand team offer Project Management to meet our clients' needs where multiple trades are involved and we are pleased to coordinate nominated trades people on behalf of our customers," he said.

"We are here to take the stress out of vessel maintenance as well as reduce the stress on the environment."

To compliment its hardstand and vessel maintenance operations, the marina also has a café, fuel wharf and boat brokerage.



Aerial view showing the new hardstand area.



State-of-the-art 50-tonne travelift.



Sixty five footer in slings.



Working on Mirror Image.

* For more information on the Marine Card – Occupational Health & Safety course contact the BIA 02 9438 2077.

** For more information about the Clean Marinas program contact the MIAA 02 9439 5806.

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