



The Boat Owners Association of NSW Inc

Consumer Action in Boating

BOA Alert, June 2018

Good afternoon,

The first chill of winter has hit NSW and already the waterways are much quieter - great for those who don't mind a brisk run across bay or harbour!

Several things this month:

- **Membership renewals are coming!**

You will receive your membership renewal this week via email (or mail if we don't have an email address.

We hope that you will renew your membership, thus enabling the Association to continue to work on behalf of members and the boating community.

If you don't receive a renewal by 20 June please contact Joann on 9960 1859 or admin@boatowners.org.au

- **Club membership**

In our drive to enhance the BOA membership, the committee has been talking with boating clubs regarding corporate membership for both motor and sailing. If you belong to a club and feel your club could benefit from membership, please let us know. It is not a great cost outlay for any club to become a member. We offer benefits for the members of member clubs which could make it quite attractive. Simply contact Joann on 9960 1859 or admin@boatowners.org.au

- **RANSA information night** - RANSA is holding “Information Nights” on the third Wednesday of the month from May to September, and the next one on 20th June will be entitled “Australia’s Maritime and Heritage Flags”
The Guest Speaker will be John Vaughan, Australia’s leading vexillographer. If you are interested in attending there are more details and a reply contact [here](#)
- **Moorings review progress** - as reported in earlier newsletters, RMS is in the process of reviewing the moorings situation around NSW. As part of that review, they are looking at the certification of mooring contractors and the establishment of guidelines for mooring servicing.
Through our Vice President Chris de Jong the BOA has been closely involved in these discussions - and we have to say that at this point they are looking to be most productive. We will hopefully have more details for you in the next few months.
- **There's always another view** - from the latest edition of *RecFisher*

Trailer boat owner hits back

A letter from a Mr Albert Habib from Rose Bay to the editor in the *Wentworth Courier*, the local newspaper for Sydney's Eastern Suburbs, made a few good points on behalf of boat owners:

We have rights: You don't own the road

I have been embroiled in the issue of boat-trailer parking with people in my district too but from the other end of the spectrum, as a trailer boat owner. And can I say it got heated.

There seems to be absolute refusal to appreciate that the road in front of a residence is not part of the of the residence, and that parking there is

not the resident's exclusive right. The roads are public thoroughfares. Boat trailer owners pay for their right to have their trailers on the road and provided they meet size restrictions and don't position trailers dangerously or obstruct access into/ out of a drive way then they have as much right to the roadside as anyone else to said roadside.

No law says there is a time restriction on how long a trailer can be parked in one position. If the council wishes to take boat trailers off the roads then let it provide parking areas exclusively for such trailers because it its otherwise denying trailer boat owners their right to park on roads that their taxes pay for. The council has an obligation to meet everyone's needs - even boat trailer owners.

Let's get reasonable people - live and let live!

(And to answer the unspoken question - I would have no objection to anyone parking their boat-trailer in front of my residence because I don't own the road).

Albert Habib, Rose Bay

- **Vivid Sydney is back** and better than ever for boaters



This year's Vivid Sydney will be lighting up the city from Friday 25 May until Saturday 16 June. With the waterfront displays increasing each year, viewing Vivid from the water is becoming very popular for both commercial and recreational vessels.

Those planning to enjoy the show from the water need to be mindful of vessel traffic, especially considering the high number of vessels expected on the water for this year's event. Safe navigation practices are vital, so be sure to slow down, keep a proper lookout at all times and display the correct navigation lights to stay bright

when boating at night.

Boaters are also reminded that entry into both Darling Harbour and Sydney Cove will be restricted for recreational and commercial vessels during the event.

For more information on vessel operations around Vivid see <http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/about/news-events/vivid-2018-maritime/index.html>

- **Common but deadly - crossing bars**



Each year boats are damaged and people killed or injured when coastal bar crossings go wrong.

This is why knowledge and preparation are vital. As the skipper, it is important you have both the experience and temperament to handle any

situation when crossing a bar.

For instructional videos on bar crossings

see <http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/maritime/using-waterways/navigation-communication/coastal-bars.html>

And I think that is about all for this month.

Enjoy the cooler weather and extra space on the water!

Regards

Andrew McKinnon

President
