

THE MARINA MAILER

A quarterly communication from Nelson Marina
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Marina Team News

During winter, the team at Nelson Marina gets busy on the maintenance side of things and catches up on paperwork.

Marina Supervisor, Bruce Thompson, says a priority is chasing up those who haven't returned their berth-holder licences. Anyone who hasn't signed the new licence should urgently contact the office as they are in default of conditions for having a boat in the Marina. You are also reminded that as a berth holder licence holder, you are required to provide proof of boat insurance. Contact details are: phone 03-546 7768 or email marina@nelmac.co.nz

While a few lucky boaties have headed off for a winter cruise to the North Island or Pacific, many are taking advantage of cooler months to do maintenance.

One item to be aware of is zinc anodes. If yours is eroding unusually quickly, this may be a result of faulty wiring – either on your boat or your neighbour's. Get in contact with an electrician and investigate the cause. It may be a fault that could also result in a fire or electrical shock, or just shorten the life of your batteries. Don't forget that your marine engine probably has internal anodes that also require periodic replacement. Electrolysis never sleeps.

Our Environment: Maintenance the key to avoid biofouling

Nelson City Council, Nelmac and the Marina team are committed to keeping our environment in a healthy state. Part of that is controlling biosecurity and biofoul.

The latter is the accumulation of micro-organisms, plants and animals on surfaces immersed in, or exposed to, the aquatic environment. They can harm wild and farmed shellfish (oysters and mussels), smother native species, and are a nuisance when on boat hulls, marinas and moorings. They impact on activities like fishing, swimming, sailing and diving.

As well as polluting our own waters, boaties in Golden Bay, Marlborough Sounds and Abel Tasman don't want our pests spread to theirs.

Peter Lawless, coordinator of the Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership, says you don't need to worry about spreading pests if your hull is clean; marine pests love a dirty boat bottom and are typically spread by 'hitchhiking' on boats and other marine equipment or in a ship's ballast water.

"If your boat is in the water for an extended time, aquatic creepy-crawlies will grow on the bottom. When this happens, we say the bottom's fouled—nautical-speak for a bad situation. The single most important thing to prevent the spread of marine pests is to get your boat hull checked, cleaned and anti-fouled regularly".

Marine pests can't spread far by themselves, which is what makes recreational boat fouling such a significant

mechanism for pest spread into the top of the south region. Also, even though many boats get colonised by pests on fouled pontoons, some pests can exist on the pilings and seabed. It's simply not feasible to eliminate these organisms from the entire marina or wider port. The most practical solution is to target the mechanisms of spread.

Nelson is not alone in enforcing biosecurity rules. If you visit other regions do your homework e.g. Northland marinas, Seaview marina in Wellington and Fiordland require evidence that your vessel is clean.

Nelson Marina has around 50 boats currently failing the biofoul standards. These boats owners will shortly receive a letter from Nelson City Council advising them of the penalties and enforcement. If you think your boat falls into this category contact Bruce Thompson at the Marina Office to talk through options.



Marine Pests, photo credit to Cawthron Institute

Coastal Pollution: Help keep our precious sea clean

Coastal waters receive land-based water pollutants that include petroleum wastes, pesticides, ocean-based dumping (e.g. from ships) and sewage.

It is this last smelly item that we can control. The thought of raw sewage in our Marina might sound gross, but it is a fact that some boats are discharging directly into it. Please don't release any human waste into the Marina. This is a potential health hazard and increases the rate of biofoul.



Business Profile: Ropetek

You may have seen the Ropetek van around the Marina. The business was started 15 years ago by John and Faye Foulds, and purchased by Adam Bonham-Carter in 2015. It is the local 'go-to' business for yacht rigging.

The van is a mobile workshop with a new Wireteknik hydraulic roll swager (only Lloyds approved machine of its type), Loos professional wire tension gauges, crimping, swaging, straightening, and measurement tools. The workshop carries a good selection of fittings and rope cordage – both conventional yacht braid and hi-modulus Dyneema products.

Adam, supported by his partner Kim Tait, says the company's vision is to provide quality professional services and "the job is not done until the customer is happy".

While Adam is relatively new to the rigging business, he is an experienced offshore sailor, having arrived in Nelson on his 43' yacht "Mighty Quinn" in 2003. He has a Master's degree in engineering and worked in the mining industry for 25 years. He also has training and experience in climbing and rope rescue – all of which help in his job.

John Foulds, founder of the business, continues to work for Ropetek on a part-time basis.

If you want to make contact: email adam@ropetek.co.nz or phone 021 452 268

Marina Advisory Group

Council has convened a Marina Advisory Committee – made up of 10 experienced marina stakeholders and chaired by Roger Gibbons – to review and progress the draft Marina Strategy (developed in 2016). The group has met seven times since March and is working through each recommendation of the Strategy.

In the short term, the Committee has asked Council to install a floating drift pontoon to improve safety and ease of launching at the boat ramp, and support the development of the sea sports facility for rowing, waka ama and the Sea Cadets and Scouts.

The Committee aims to have the strategy fully revised by the end of the year, offering Council more clarity about future development priorities for all its marina assets.

Hardstand Update

The hardstand has recently become a lot easier and safer to use. This is thanks to new handrails, electricity distributed north and south, and water at several taps.

Winter is an ideal time to take your boat out of the water – with water-blasting and antifouling being the best way to prevent biofoul. If you don't want to do this yourself, the Marina Office can recommend local contractors. See rates and other information here: nelson.govt.nz/services/facilities/nelson-marina/marina-fees-and-forms



RopeTek

Rigging Specialists

021 452 268

Marina Noticeboard

- Please be aware that all **pontoons** are an advertising free zone. The Marina is a recreational, not commercial, asset.
- Watch your email for a **user survey** from Nelson City Council to all berth-holders who wants your opinion about facilities, services and operations. As an incentive, all completed surveys will be put into a draw for a free haul-out, waterblast and day in the Council hardstand.
- For your **health and safety**, be careful walking on the pontoons this winter as they get ice on them. Moss in shady spots also leads to slippery conditions. If you come across slippery pontoons please report these to Marina Office and water blasting will be done.
- If you have an **accident** in the Marina and your boat damages another (or another boat damages yours) please tell the Marina Office. They can pass on owner details for insurance purposes and see if there is anything that can be done to reduce the chance of it happening again.

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