MARINA OFFICE AND CHANDLERY RELOCATION.

As most of you would be aware by now the office / boat brokers and chandlery have relocated to new premises adjacent to the travelift /hardstand area.

The new buildings are very comfortable and warm compared to the old premises, and no need for buckets to catch the drips when raining. Our very enthusiastic gardeners Steve and Ros are doing a wonderful job with the planting around the new buildings, and gun rose grower, Gerry, has provided some fine specimens for the entrance to the office.

The old office/ chandlery building will remain and is likely to get a bit of a makeover for a new use. The old fuel jetty will be removed.

KENS PLACE.

After working around it for a very long time we have now decided to keep the little shed known as Kens Place. It has had a facelift and now looks quite good. This was one of a pair of buildings on the site when the marina first opened in 1983. There were 10 boats here then. For those who don’t know, Ken has been living here on his boat for about 16 years and uses this little shed as a workshop to do his rope work. Ken has recently written the story of his early life in the Port Stephens area in NSW. This is all beautifully handwritten complete with illustrations. We have a copy in our office if anyone would like to have a look. It is worth taking time to have a look. This work is also soon to be a feature display in the Henry Kendall Cottage and Historical Museum in Gosford.

CARPARKING

We are doing our best to maximise the car parking areas around our new buildings, but at times it becomes very busy. To help ease the congestion here, when heading off for a day or two on the boat would you please park your car in a less sought after area. If heading off for an extended cruise please park your car in the visitor parking area behind the old yacht club.
**BERTH RENTAL**

If you are heading off on the boat for an extended period, please let Anne know in the office. With the wooden boat festival on this year there is a lot of enquiry for casual berthing. We may be able to rent out your berth. We will take a small book keeping fee and the rest of the funds will be credited to your account.

**NEW FUEL INSTALLATION**

After a frantic week or two before Christmas, our new fuel jetty is now operational. It is located adjacent to the travelift ramps. The new facility is self serve using a credit or debit card and is available for use 24 hrs a day. This is a computer based system and we are hoping will prove to be reliable and simple to use and does not say “no” too often. There have been a couple of minor issues with the system, both user and computer related. Please read the printed instructions on the front of the control unit, as well as the on screen prompts and it should be a simple process. Perhaps bring the female member of the crew along the first time. It has been observed that the ladies are far more diligent when it comes to instruction reading! If you are unsure about the operation of the system, come and see us during office hours and we will be happy to guide you through it.

**DOGGY DOO**

We all love dogs, but increasingly we are finding signs of their visits on the marina and in the car park and hardstand areas. If you are bringing your dogs to the marina please keep a close eye on their whereabouts, or keep them on a lead. And please clean up after them.

**CLUTTER ON THE FINGERS**

For safety reasons please do not use the marina finger piers between boats as a storage area.

**GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING**

If you are aware of anything that is not quite right at the marina, please do not hesitate to let us know. Anything from a sinking boat, to no toilet paper or low water pressure. We appreciate being advised of any problems.

**IS THE END IN SIGHT**

This year should see the end of the major works at the marina. We have quite a bit more concreting to do on the hardstand, car park sealing, footpaths and landscaping. However it is a bit like owning a boat, there will always be something to do. We have been receiving a lot of favourable comments from you, our regular customers, as well as from many visiting cruisers. So THANK YOU. It is always heartening to get positive feedback for the work we have put in to the OCM.