

To: Darren Finkelstein

From: Jon Lechte

Date: 28/2/09

Subject: St Kilda Marina Club

gday Darren, i ave tried to log-in and send similar messages to this website but it responds with error messages. finally i got through with the message below. will let you know if i get a response.

boat is fantastic - my only regret is that i didn't buy one years ago!

cheers, jon.

hi, i do not care about the outcome of complaints and criticisms of the marina - i am not affiliated in any way, shape or form. However, i think that a forum such as this should show open dialogue whatever the views of the people involved, so hopefully i will see my views on the website soon. - on "pirates of the caribbean". i have bought two caribbeans (28 and 35) from skilda boat sales and the process and assistance has been first class. no issues at all and a great experience. my last boat, a 35, was bought second hand and yet i was given full warranty, no questions nor discussions had. That said, with my previous boats (i have had a few at Stkilda marina), i have not had a warranty but never had any complaints with Andrew and Sonny at SBS as they have always been fair on quotes and always done a good job. With regard to buying a Caribbean, this last 35 is my fifth Caribbean (a Boston Whaler and new Riviera in between) and I am delighted to be back. the boats are honest, sound, well tested and, in my opinion, very "Aussie" in their presentation. I continue to be impressed by the brand and, if I ever upgrade again, it will probably be another Caribbean. Regarding the marina - again, I have been at the marina for a long time and have never had a problem with the depth. if ONE boat hits bottom every week or so - it says to me that the skipper is incompetent, not that the bottom is too shallow. There are yachts with keels in the marina - and lots of big boats, it is not a problem for most. Also, arguably the most shallow point of Skilda Marina is about 200 mtrs offshore on the bar there - so users need to be MORE careful there than at the mouth of the marina. Is that the marina's problem too?? Finally on security. I have a boat in dry stack and have been to collect it from the water both late at night and very early in the morning during snapper season. The security people are very visible and, in my opinion, do a good job. I am now on F row and while i agree that security could be improved (the door needs to be slammed) I find the security guys to be very visible and I fear not for my boat. I have not had a problem in the past three years. Anyway, hopefully you welcome a different opinion on this website. To give the website credibility as a real "club" and not a complaint section - i hope that mine, an alternative view, is aired. If i see alternative views and real member interaction, i will be excited about the idea and opportunity to be part of the club. If this site is just a whingers way to vent - i have no interest. I hope it is the former because i welcome the opportunity to be part of the club. cheers, jon.