



SEAVIEW NOW ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS MARINAS

A recent photo showing the extent of the marina with another 20 berths yet to go in to complete this year's development.

Eighteen years ago, it was a small collection of yachts in an industrial area of Lower Hutt; today, in 2021, Seaview Marina is one of the most prestigious Marinas in New Zealand, with facilities second to none.

The dynamic facility is owned by the Hutt City Council, which in 2003, established the company as a Council Controlled Trading Organisation. This allowed the Marina to operate essentially as a private company. Since then, the management and board have made huge improvements, under Chief Executive Alan McLellan, including an additional 125 floating berths, establishing a marine retail and servicing support on site, a café and upgrades to the boat haul-out facilities. Seaview Marina now has 364 berths, 248 trailer parks and a four-bay trailer boat launching ramp.

This month, another 45 floating berths were completed and next year the final 23 large (16m, 20m and 26m) berths will be built, making a final total of 398 berths.

A quiet achiever, Alan McLellan is proud of the fact the Marina has generated enough cash of its own to fund the work to increase berth numbers.

"That's \$900,000 for new 45 floating berths spent this year and another

\$900,000 next year for the big berths – a total of \$2.5 million over the space of two years."

Seaview Marina has the best haul-out facilities in Wellington, offering a 50-tonne boat haul-out lift which can handle vessels up to 5.2 wide. Also, they have just bought a 38-tonne capacity catamaran trailer, a Roodberg boat hoist from Holland (and a large second-hand tractor to pull it). It is the only one south of Tauranga. With the increasing numbers of catamarans being purchased, which generally have wider beams than 5.2m, there is a market for this type of boat hoist.

An 18m wide by 6m high tunnel house workshop for customers has just been completed on the Hardstand, so boaties can work on their craft in all weathers.

Added to that is the thriving new community built around the Marina - there are now 60 boats (the limit allowed) occupied night and day with 80 people living aboard. Security is now a far cry from it was 18 years ago and on-shore facilities

such as showers and washing facilities are second to none.

In fact, Seaview Marina is now a "destination place" for Hutt people to go to walk (it is part of the Great Harbour Way/Te Aranui Poneke) and cycle through, or simply relax in. With the popular Compass Cafe on site – where you can uniquely tie your boat up to its dedicated mooring pontoons - or browse around the Marine Collectibles at Shipwreck Trading when you visit the Retail Hub along Port Road, there is something of interest to everyone at Seaview Marina.

Alan McLellan set out to put a strategy in place to develop a Marina in Seaview that would "provide industry-leading marina services and facilities all at one site". Eighteen years on, with the team he has gathered around him, he has certainly achieved that. When he steps aside from the Chief Executive's role soon, he will be able to enjoy his retirement, content in the knowledge he has created something superb for the people of the Hutt Valley and local, national and international boaties.