

Lucky escape

Two men aboard a leisure craft in the North Sea (rather chilly that time of the year) had



an “extraordinarily lucky” escape after their boat sank within 45 seconds, reported Laura Nineham in YBW Magazine on June 28.

Only one of the men was wearing a life jacket.

Not only did another boat happen upon them but with just one life jacket between them they managed to stay afloat for 90 minutes.

Reminder: Life jacket rules will be enforced

NSW Maritime in November 2010 notified of new life jacket rules, applicable immediately, but with a one-year ‘prosecution amnesty’ for anyone found not to be in compliance.

From 1 November 2011, compliance will be enforced, with ‘Citation and Fine’.

The rules were extensively covered in BOA September 2010 newsletter and can also be found on the NSW Maritime website.



Photo Andrew Soesan

Glimpses from NSW Marine Rescue

‘Iluka Yamba 30’, the new offshore rescue vessel at Marine Rescue Iluka Yamba, had a baptism of fire when arriving at a burning trawler 4 nautical miles offshore at 1:45 am on 29 August.

The wooden trawler ‘Wave Rider’ was engulfed in thick smoke, with another trawler, the ‘L-Margo’, standing by after taking the stricken vessel’s crew to safety.

At around 11:30am ‘Wave Rider’ erupted in a huge explosion that sent flames high into the air. The fire burned to the waterline and the vessel sank.

Unit Commander Barry Storey commented: “This was a very serious emergency and it is very fortunate that no-one was injured. From our perspective, however, Iluka Yamba 30 performed beautifully. She is powerful, fast and a brilliant platform for our work.”

The vessel had only been commissioned 3 days earlier.

A \$680,000 Steber 38 offshore rescue vessel was commissioned for Shoalhaven Marine Rescue at Greenwell Point on the Illawarra coast on 27 August.

Marine Rescue NSW Commissioner Stacey Tannos, said at the ceremony: “This is one of four new vessels of its kind that will be purpose-built in 2011 by NSW boat builder, Steber International. Shoalhaven 30 will be a valuable addition to marine search and rescue capability on the South Coast, boosting safety for the local boating community.”



‘Iluka Yamba’, newest addition to the Marine Rescue NSW



‘Shoalhaven 30’, the new Steber 38 offshore rescue vessel