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FISHING MASTERCLASSES AT SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW - INCLUDED WITH ENTRY

1 - 5 August, ICC Sydney and Cockle Bay Darling Harbour

For anglers who enjoy either the open waters off the coast or prefer our inland waterways, the Sydney International Boat Show promises new vessels, the latest rods, tackle, accessories and loads of technology designed to make your day on the water even more enjoyable.

Being the Southern Hemisphere's biggest boat show, open from the 1st to the 5th of August at the ICC Sydney and Cockle Bay Darling Harbour, the Sydney International Boat Show is the place to choose and buy your rod and reel combo, as well as fish finders, hard and soft lures, bait buckets, landing nets or even your next boat to go with all your new gear.

Learn how to fish like never before at the show's fishing masterclasses, included with the cost of entry. A massive 60% of people visiting the show express an interest in fishing. The fishing masterclasses reflect that interest, with presentations ranging from inland waterway fishing to the more adventurous offshore competitions, presenting videos, photos and stories to match.

Tim Simpson leads this year's fishing masterclasses, giving tremendous advice and sharing his three key tips to game fishing success. With 6 world records and many tournament wins, Tim knows how to find and catch big fish. Learning from his experience, you'll be able to find and catch tuna, marlin and other gamefish, whether you cast a line off the Australian coast or other hotspots in the world.

Steve 'Starlo' Starling returns to talk about making the most of fishing in estuaries. Tidal estuaries are the most popular recreational fishing waters in Australia. Starlo provides some extremely valuable clues on 'reading' our temperate and sub-tropical estuary systems, and shares a wealth of tips on improving catches, whatever estuary species you're chasing. Turn those sorry sagas of "the one that got away" into tales of victory with Steve's invaluable advice.

Peter Johnson will share the secrets to finding and catching a feed of bream and the great-tasting flathead. Peter's methods have been perfected over 40 years of fishing experience, winning him many competitions in Sydney's estuary systems. He'll also share the lowdown on how to successfully target snapper, everyone's favourite inshore reef species.

Also on stage, **Justin Duggan** is an expert on fish-fighting techniques and the skills required to land bigger fish, even when using light fishing tackle. From the method of setting the reel drag, to fighting tactics and rod angles, Justin will show you how. Understand the fish-fighting skills that put the most pressure on the fish while putting the least strain on you and your tackle.

Paul Burt shares his sneaky techniques for 'fishing the pressure points.' Fish concentrate where water flow delivers their food. Paul will describe how to recognise these hotspots and explains the techniques to fish them most effectively.

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BOATING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION LTD ABN 61 000 618 468

Office: 53 Hume Street CROWS NEST NSW 2065 Australia • PO Box 1204 CROWS NEST NSW 1585 Australia Phone: (02) 9438 2077 • Fax: (02) 9439 3983 • Email: info@bia.org.au





Jo Starling talks about introducing fishing to a child's life, as one of the most enriching gifts you can give. As a fishing parent, learn about coaching your little fishos with a superhero mindset and give them the power to use fishing for all kinds of good. Jo also shares her insights on making family fishing trips more fun and finding fish in new water, so you can easily determine where to start to maximise your fishing fun.

Additionally, YouTube sensation **Rhys Creed** shares his secrets on catching the huge but sometimes elusive Murray cod. Rhys has built an incredible following amongst the internet generation, based around his online videos and engaging style, demonstrating his skill and love of fishing.

The Supertank again makes a welcome return where **Brett Thomson** and **Michael 'Cookie' Cook** present live fish, chasing a variety of lures right in front of your eyes. Learn about the best gear and techniques, while witnessing how well they work. Supertank demonstrations take place at 10.30am and 2.30pm everyday of the show.

Darren Vaux, President of the BIA, said fishing is a major part of the Australian lifestyle of enjoying the outdoors with friends and family. "The Sydney International Boat Show brings together the leading dealers and manufacturers from across Australia and beyond, ready to present the latest in fishing, boating and marine technology," he said. "This is the show where all your questions about spending more time on the water and catching bigger and better fish can be answered."

The Department of Primary Industries can also be found at the Boating Safety Zone presented by Transport for New South Wales, the Show's Partner in Safety. At this zone, you can learn about the regulations governing fishing across NSW, and the ways you can assist in keeping our waterways safe and sustainable.

Tickets and up to date details regarding the show are available at www.sydneyboatshow.com.au. ENDS/...

For further information contact:

Domenic Genua on 0412 642 357 or email genua@bia.org.au

Fishing masterclass speaker images: https://tinyurl.com/SIBSFISH
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The Boating Industry Association Ltd (BIA) is a not-for-profit industry organisation. It was formed through the amalgamation of the state Boating Industry Association bodies in New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory and is the peak body that represents the boating industry in Australia. BIA members adhere to a voluntary Code of Practice and Code of Ethics. Member companies include businesses who manufacture, wholesale or retail products and services within or associated with the boating industry. The BIA's objectives include promoting growth in participation in recreational boating, representing our members interests with government in areas of safety, infrastructure and the reduction of regulatory burden, professional development of our members and developing career pathways for new entrants to the industry, educating the public about boating safety and promoting practices that protect the environment. For more information, please visit www.bia.org.au