

# FLEETING GLIMPSE OF SAFER WATERWAYS

The Marine Area Command recently launched their new fleet of fast-response multi purpose vessels.

STORY **AINSLIE BLACKSTONE**  
POLICE MEDIA UNIT

**D**eputy Commissioner Catherine Burn and Acting Assistant Commissioner Mark Hutchings unveiled three new purpose-built vessels January as part of an ongoing commitment to provide safer waterways in NSW.

The 9.5m rigid hull inflatable boats (RHIBs) were designed by Naiad Design in New Zealand and built by

Yamba Welding & Engineering on the State's North Coast.

Each vessel has two 250hp four-stroke outboard motors, with a contract speed of 45knots and a range of 200 nautical miles at 25knots, making them highly-manoeuverable and are fitted with the latest navigation and communication equipment.

Deputy Commissioner Burn said the new fleet was purpose-built to the requirements of the NSWPF.

"Officers attached to our Marine Area Command contributed to the design, including the high-visibility markings, to improve manoeuvrability and response times," Deputy

Commissioner Burn said.

"The multi-purpose functionality of these RHIBs allows us to effectively and efficiently undertake proactive patrolling of high-density recreational and commercial boating areas.

"During busy periods on Sydney Harbour these vessels will enable us to provide a safer and more secure environment for all vessels."

To maximise the fast-response area and reduce deployment times, a vessel will be based at each office at Sydney (Balmain), Botany Bay and Broken Bay, with the ability to deploy as far north as Tweed Heads, and Eden to the south.

**BELOW** The Marine Area Command launched three new 9.5m rigid hull inflatable boats (RHIB) last month

