

**SOVEREIGN SHINES – JOIN THE LIGHT SPECTACLE**

**AND HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR LOCAL RNLI AND DEFIANT SPORTS**

Now in its fifth year, Sovereign Shines marks the beginning of the Christmas festivities and this year we want to make it the brightest spectacle yet – with extra categories to celebrate ‘small and pretty’ displays and originality!

**Pick up your FREE 10 kilowatt card from the Marina Reception.**

**DECORATING TIPS AND TRICKS FOR A STELLAR DISPLAY**

* A motorboat is longer than it is tall, so it lends itself well to a horizontal design.
* A sailboat works better with designs with some height.
* Remember that both sides of the boat will be seen.
* A display can be as simple as a strand of lights run along the toe rails or a lighted wreath positioned on the stern.
* Inflatables on the foredeck can be viewed equally well from all sides of the boat, while words written in lights may be seen best from the port or starboard side.
* Consider using spotlights to illuminate un-lit items like large ribbons, bows, baubles and wreaths.
* Multicolour lights can be used, however limiting your colours is most effective.
* Rope lights make an effective border for a design and are relatively easy to work with.
* Test all the decorations and their power source on land during the day. It's easier to replace faulty bulbs, correct overloaded circuits, and add more lights to a sparse display before you hang them on the boat.

**Whether you own a sail or motorboat it’s important to consider electrical safety when creating your layout.**

* In lighting your boat, never mount your lights so close to the water they’ll become submerged.
* Keep lights at least a foot above the water to allow for wakes and waves.
* Use LED lights for their energy efficiency and greater safety.
* Make sure lighting is fit for outdoor purposes.
* Test lights the night before switch on and judging.
* Decorations cannot obstruct or prevent the deployment of any safety device aboard your vessel, including ring buoys, life rafts, life jackets and fire extinguishers.
* Make sure all decorations are firmly attached.
* Have fire extinguishers and flashlights operational and easily accessible
* Ensure you don’t overload the capacity of your light circuit.

**WORDS OF WISDOM**

“You are not building a watch – spare the detail – it’ll look great from 50 yards away”