

Bilgewater

June 2020





Bilgewater June 2020

Committee Members

Committee Member	Portfolio	Contact
Paul Weaver	Commodore	027 288 8554
James Hepburn	Vice Commodore Race Officer Trailer Yachts	021 477 324
Jim Pasco	Treasurer	021 143 1199
Nigel McCarter	Secretary Handbook	027 856 8940
Wayne Johnstone	Compound Convener Quartermaster	027 623 6366
Brett Goddaard	Gulf Classic convener NZTYA and WTYA liaison	021 937 547
Russell Osborne	Webmaster Facebook administrator	021 056 4551
Rob Connor	Social coordinator	0274 873 494
Murray Pearce	Sponsorship liaison Race Officer Keeler	0274 951 223
Keith Paine	Handicap convener	02041905420 027 665 9678

Non Committee Members

Dean Herrmann	Safety, Tuition	0274 374 001
Dave Whitburn	Compound Manager	09 292 2073
Mark Sargent	Bilgewater	021 173 2702 sargent.mark@gmail.com

<http://www.waikatoyachtsquadron.org.nz>
waikatoyachtsquadron@gmail.com

P. O. Box 4263
Hamilton East
Hamilton 3247



Bilgewater June 2020

Commodore's Report

As I write this it's officially the 1st day of winter and looking out the window into a grey rainy day I can certainly believe it.

It's been reassuring to see some folks get out on the water following the restrictions being lifted to level 2.

This pandemic has really been a testing time for everyone but I hope the light at the end of the tunnel will see some return to normality for us.

Special mention must be made to Nigel Lancaster for sharing many of his previous adventures on Facebook. It was the next best thing to sailing while we were confined to our homes.

This week the committee will have its first 'face to face' meeting and we have a lot to discuss, in particular the upcoming AGM.

At this stage we plan to hold the AGM at the Hamilton Yacht club on the 23rd of June but first we need confirmation from the government that large public gatherings will be permitted.

A few members have indicated that they will be stepping down this year from committee positions and I am one of them.

The last two years have been an amazing experience for me and I'm grateful for the opportunity to work alongside a fantastic team of volunteers. I'm confident members of the squadron will step up and support the club going forward.

I've also had a sneak peek at the soon to be released new handbook and I'm sure everyone will be impressed with all the hard work that has gone into putting this together.

Hopefully you have all seen Wayne's email regarding a working bee at the compound. We need to keep the weeds in check and also affect a repair on one of the gates. These maintenance activities are made so easy when we get a good turn out and often result in a sail to a nearby anchorage for a few refreshing and well deserved drinks.

Stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM.

Kind regards,

Paul.





Bilgewater June 2020



Editor's Note

Hello all, can you believe it 12 editions down.

This is a good time to reflect on and give thanks to all of the contributors who have provided the content to make the bilgewater possible. Our star contributor, as Paul has already mentioned has been Nigel Lancaster, a terrific set of adventures that have inspired me to clock up some more hours at the helm.

This will also be my last as editor, I will be stepping down after this issue with the expectation of moving cities in the next year. I appreciate the support of the club and the opportunity to contribute as editor.

As a club we greatly benefit from the natural beauty of the Hauraki Gulf, Waiheke Island and the surrounds. What we might not appreciate is the state of gulf like many of our fisheries are in decline. Sometimes this can be hard to see or appreciate, much of it is hidden for one, but our benchmarks of what is normal are constantly shifting too. What a normal catch today is different to 20, 30 or 40 years ago, but few of us were there to witness it. Instead our normal is what we grew up with, measurement against the generation before isn't possible. In this way our normal drifts with few landmarks to see how far the currents of consumption have taken us.

Earlier this year Auckland Council released their report, which tracks the impact of both Commercial and Recreational Fishing. In their assessment Commercial and Recreational fishing have an almost equal impact on fish stocks within the gulf.

<https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/about-auckland-council/how-auckland-council-works/harbour-forums/docsstateofgulf/state-gulf-full-report.pdf>

For a more accessible read try this one, <https://www.nzgeo.com/stories/how-to-fix-the-hauraki-gulf/>

My only outgoing request is for you to consider what it means to be a good citizen of the gulf. It is a beautiful place, we are lucky to live where we can enjoy it, and it most certainly is worthy of our care.

Cheers

Mark



Bilgewater June 2020



Upcoming Events

18th-19th July Ngaroto Regatta - contact James Heburn or

use this form <https://forms.gle/Yqu27XpPMDnp7Ebg8>





Bilgewater June 2020

Northland on Passing Fancy; part 3

By Nigel Lancaster

Our passage south from Mimiwhangata proceeded without further incident passing Elizabeth reef off Whananaki, Matapouri Bay, Tutukaka, Ngunguru, later rounding Bream Head and on in to the channel leading into Whangarei Harbour where we battled a strong ebb tide and finally anchoring amongst many yachts in Urquharts Bay, a long 40nm sail. The refinery doesn't look much by day but at night is lit up like a small town. A walk around Busby headland the next day and overnight in a bay further along the inner channel to get out of the freshening easterly winds from the approaching depression.



Urquharts Bay from the Busby Head track.



Bilgewater June 2020



Scene from Smugglers Cove, south of Urquharts Bay

Just to be on the safe side I put in a reef as we departed next morning for Kawau Island and in hindsight with headsail on a beam reach this was a good setup. Some yachts had less sail than us and we overhauled them others were going north and we passed by at a distance. Cape Rodney passed by and later Takatu Point we eased sheets for the run in through north channel passing Maori Rock and by 1530 we had the pick down in Poplar Bay, Bon Accord Harbour, back in home territory and another 44nm sailed. Next morning a walk up to the cell phone tower behind the Kawau Boating Club was worthy for the exercise but not for any views of the harbour that I was anticipating, but walking tracks are limited on Kawau and this one did extend further if required. Tried at various spots to pick up some dinner on the rod whilst drifting round to Bosanquet Bay later in the day so although it's a pleasant anchorage there was no fish for dinner. Next morning with the assistance of the chart plotter and depth sounder drifted around Nelsons Rock and then further out to Flat Rock and hauled up 3 good keepers over an hour or so and that helped the fisherwomen's confidence in Kabura Sliders.

By late afternoon the NE was rising so set sails for the Waiheke Chl anchoring after a good afternoons sailing just off the old shed in Waiti bay. After a morning drifting off Tarahiki



Bilgewater June 2020

Island and a long motor eastward we anchor in East Bay, Coromandel Hbr noting a couple of yachts we had seen in the last 3 weeks up north.

An excursion in to Coromandel town was on the agenda but with a high tide of around 1700 we wouldn't get near the wharf until well after midday. *Noted whilst up the creek (with paddle) the water tap, on the western side beside the ramp.* Enjoyed a schooner of Heineken at a local pub before heading back to the mother ship and proceeding to Woolshed Bay for a night and finished our trip with a good sail back across to Opopo Bay late Friday.



Woolshed Bay; Coromandel Harbour



Bilgewater June 2020

Saturday morning with the assistance of a good pair of binoculars observed squadron boats battling up the channel on their trip out to Tarahiki Island, just unfortunate the extreme downpour hit as boats rounded the island. Enjoyed pleasant happy hour or two on Royale Flush and returned back to our berth at Pine Harbour by late morning with boat washed. We were all in good shape, no other problems on board.

Fact sheet: Trip duration 4 weeks, log; 473nm, 2 days sailing requiring 1 reef in the main, 1 two hour burst of exceptional rain on last weekend, No injuries, freezer working now! Returned home with 3 meals of fish as a bonus.

Nigel Lancaster

"Passing Fancy"

While you're towing it or blowing it your pride and joy is fully protected by the **NZTYA Insurance Scheme**

Crombie Lockwood has been managing insurance for the NZTYA for over 30 years and every premium earns funds for your association.

The exclusive Trailer Yachting Package includes:
Wide geographic limits, fishing gear & personal effects, going and on road use, third party liability and Accidental Death Cover.

Go to <http://www.traileryachts.org.nz/nztya-insurance/> for details or for personal report advice contact indie.buller@crombielockwood.co.nz or call Indie on 07 579 7619.

 **crombie lockwood**
AN ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER COMPANY www.crombielockwood.co.nz

NEW ZEALAND'S NATURAL COVER