

BILGEWATER

September 2023




BLACK SAILS MATTER !!



COMMITTEE DIRECTORY 2023-2024

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*Our first and foremost objective is to encourage and support
safe family sailing – both cruising and racing*

Commodore's Comment

Welcome to our first edition of the full BILGEWATER for the season. We are still looking for a fresh faced editor to take on this role, but in the meantime, it will be a committee role, with your commodore putting the wording together.

I can report from our last committee meeting that we have completed the handbook for the new season, and this has gone to the publisher, to be readied for distribution at our next Nog N Natter. Many thanks to Tim for preparing this important document, ably assisted by Flip and Anton, who have been very instrumental in designing new course options for the Trailer Yacht fleet. I am encouraged by their initiatives and urge all skippers to get out on the water this season and give these new course options a go.

We received recent notice that the Waikato Thames Yachting Association (WTYA) has been wound up and its assets transferred to Youth Sailing. For your information, this WTYA was the regional grouping of Waikato Sailing clubs, that advocated to YNZ on behalf of these regional clubs. Support and usefulness had fallen away in recent years, with most clubs now dealing directly with YNZ through the Regional officer role they provide. It had more of a role to dinghy sailing clubs, than a Squadron like ours. Hence the decision to transfer any assets to Waikato Youth sailing is a logical move.

Membership renewals are now complete, with a squadron membership of 19 keel boat, 58 Trailer yacht, 6 Associate, and 3 life members. Our KK bay compound is effectively full, and we have a waiting list of members wanting a space. We are in great shape for the new season.

My last comment is directed to the compound members, reminding you that we require all boats to be kept in a tidy and seaworthy condition. More importantly your trailer should, at all times, be in a roadworthy condition. Flat tyres and rusted out frames are not acceptable, and I urge you all to keep the collective condition of our boat storage area in top condition. The last thing on this matter is that we are a community of helpers, so if you are having trouble keeping your boat/trailer up to scratch, then, in the first instance give Flip or myself a call, and we can get help to you.

Upcoming Events

- Tuesday 26th September – Nog n Natter - is the key exchange for compound members, and handbook/programme distribution
- 4th-8th October – School holiday cruise for all yachts in and around the Waiheke Island sailing area.
- 21st October – Labour weekend – Kawau passage race/cruise for Keeler fleet ; Rocky Bay passage race/cruise for Trailer Yacht and ‘have a go’ event on the Sunday

SEPTEMBER NOG n NATTER

Date: Tuesday 26th 2023, from 7.30 pm.

Venue: The usual place – Hamilton Yacht Club

Topics:

- Compound key exchange and handbook distribution
- Presentation by Nigel Lancaster on safely gybing your boat (see separate promotion)

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

- We welcome Simon Yates as a new Auckland-based associate member. He probably won't buy a boat for a couple of seasons, but he is keen to get out for races and cruises. He is a third-generation yachtsman, and has plenty of sailing experience with RNZYS and on Logan gaff cutters - he should become sought-after crew! He is busy renovating a family bach,(future WYS clubhouse ;-) at Kawakawa Bay so is likely to be very handy to our events over the summer.
- We welcome Glen, Karen, Joella, Ryan, Troy, and Kyla McIntosh with their Noelex 22 *Taipan*. Glen grew up sailing a range of trailer sailers, keelers and multihulls in Northland, and they are now exploring sailing as a family.

- **Harry Croucher (and his young family) plus his dad Tim have joined with their Sabre 22 *Melody*. Anton knows Harry through their kids' school, and *Melody* came out sailing with the Perpetual Motion and Escargot over Matariki. Judging by their performance that weekend they could be expecting a few podium finishes!**



Harry from "Melody" about to go rescue an errant umbrella

- **We welcome Sven Ladewig, with family Levon, Henning and Esther on their Merlin 20, *Clear Water* (previously owned by Anton). They previously sailed a Hartley 16 around the Raglan harbour, and upgraded to *Clear Water* last year. They have sailed on the Lakes and the Inner Hauraki, and with the squadron they are looking to explore further around Waiheke and out to Great Barrier and beyond.**



Sven's "new" boat, the Merlin 6.1 - "Clear Water"

- **Luke and Phoebe Feldmann have recently joined the squadron in July. They have a Catalina 7 called *Hue & Cry*. They have already been for a number of sailing trips in it. Originally Phoebe was contemplating a new watersport hobby and considered jetskiing - before, very wisely, choosing sailing. They are looking to join us in a number of regattas and cruises.**



Spinnaker up on one of Hue & Cry's first outings with new owners Luke and Phoebe Feldmann



Luke and Phoebe Feldmann on one of their early adventures on “Hue & Cry”

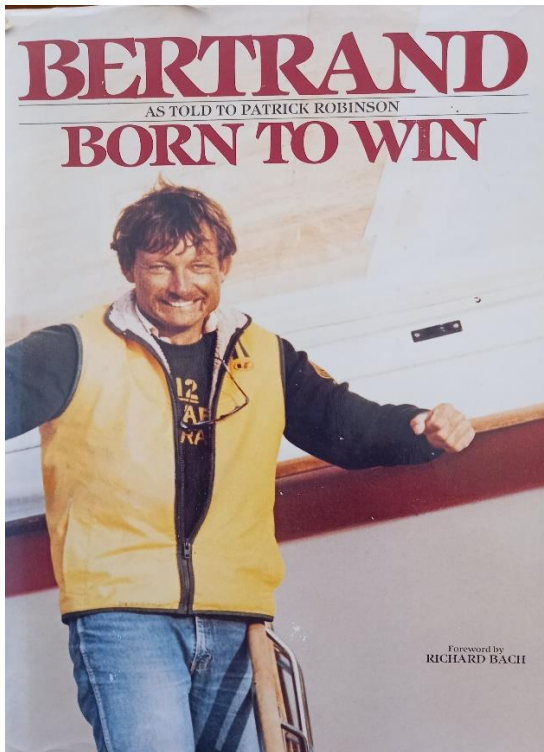
- **Bruce Harrison is a former member who has returned. Bruce was a member 20 years ago, and currently has his Noeleda *Missee Lee* at home. He's looking to fire up and prove that the diesel inboard engine is working well, before getting a compound spot and moving *Missee Lee* up to Kawakawa Bay.**
- **Nick Epsom and Andrea Fulton have their trailer sailer *lil' Monty* which is an Alan Wright (Catalina 7). Nick is Principal at Paparimu School, and Andrea is the DP at Ngakoroa school in Drury. Nick has completed his Boatmaster and Launchmaster as part of his superyacht qualifications. Both he and Andrea enjoy sailing their yacht in the Bay of Islands and in the Hauraki Gulf, and are looking forward to meeting up with like-minded people. They are also looking to learn a bit more about sailing too.**
- **Grant Birnie knows squadron members Jim and Mark Pasco. His boat *Kimiora* (a Farr 7500) is already familiar to the squadron and Grant is looking to have *Kimiora* out at a number of sailing meets.**
- **Doug McLachlin is also no stranger to the squadron - he has sailed his Farr 6000 *Fulmar* in the Gulf Classic twice. Doug hails from Raglan, and is looking to expand his horizons and sail the vast waters of the Hauraki Gulf with the squadron. He aims to have his new body "sea fit" by early in the new year.**

Nigel's Presentation on Gybing your boat safely

"26 September 1983, Australia 2 wins the final race of 7 to win the Americas Cup. The significant issue is the win brings the cup to our country neighbours and presents an opportunity to challenge in 1987.

The series also had an interesting series of events which need sharing, and those events are a pre-cursor to my next account of gybing in strong winds, the damage control, the on board action to make the move safe and free of damage. Sailing is a hazardous pastime and we all need to take heed of any advice provided by the club, my days in a P class yacht on Hamilton Lake Rotoroa, thru trailer yacht years and off shore voyages.

Be there and take home some advice on going from crash/bang gybe to fully controlled gybe"



The finish line and gun.

A good personal account of the sailors life and the 1983 America's Cup. A good read for any sailor...

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT ON AUTO TRAIL

Jeremy and his team at Autotrail have been a squadron sponsor over the 9 years, with particular emphasis on the Gulf Classic event. They stock the biggest range of TROJAN trailer parts in the Waikato, as well as a brilliant range of tools, stainless steel screw and bolt, Trailer lighting components, and a wide range of automotive lubricants.

If you need trailer parts, we urge you all to support our top line sponsors AUTOTRAIL located on EMPIRE ST FRANKTON. Support our sponsors!!





And our last article from Julie – co-skipper with Greg on that highly competitive Joker 820 named APERITIF

She's in! Everything has been moved out of the garage and now time to pull the trailer out. Aperitif is now sitting on blocks secured and steadied by the strops attached to the rafters.

After a few encounters with rocks, we know we have a bit of work to do to seal the hull. Actually, it's not too bad but Aperitif is going to look a bit patchy for the coming seasons. We know there is a small soft spot on the port back corner and after a bit of an investigation it ends up beginning a major refit of ply. Erk!

Here we go! Fibreglass, epoxy, sanding, more epoxy, sanding, undercoat, and painting. Once we were on a roll the job didn't seem so daunting, but we needed to keep on task. The weeks have quickly snuck by, and summer feels like it is just around the corner. We are certainly glad to be finished and ready to pull her outside and take for a test run at Lake Tarawera, during the school holidays.



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All proceeds went to the Mercury Bay Boating Club clubhouse relocation (cyclone recovery)

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