

# BILGEWATER

December 2024




*Louisa hotly pursued in the Tamaki Race*



## COMMITTEE DIRECTORY 2024-2025

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Murray Pearce	Commodore Halsail Handicap Administrator Gulf Classic, Sponsorship	027 495 1223
Flip Rayner	Vice Commodore Race Officer TY YNZ and NZTYA Liaison	021 354 773
Chris Martin	Treasurer Gulf Classic KKBC Liaison	021 137 8205
Andrew Jones	Secretary Membership Manager	022 326 1993
Anton Post	TY Representative New Members Communications Bilgewater, Handbook	021 296 9346
Rodger Bonnett	Keeler Representative Quartermaster	021 423 457
Luke Feldman	Compound Member Liaison Safety Coordinator	021 0811 5015
Mark Bang	Social Convenor TY Handicap Administrator	027 238 5148
	<b>Non-Committee Portfolios</b>	
Hugh Beecroft	Compound Convenor	027 496 7033
David Whitburn	Compound Site Manager	027 384 1014

Website: [www.waikatoyachtsquadron.org.nz](http://www.waikatoyachtsquadron.org.nz)  
 Email: [waikatoyachtsquadron@gmail.com](mailto:waikatoyachtsquadron@gmail.com)  
 : [www.facebook.com/groups/waikatoyachtsquadron/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/waikatoyachtsquadron/)  
 Postal: PO Box 4263, HAMILTON 3247

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

## Commodore's Comment

We have a short Bilgewater turn around this month due to getting our programme for 2024 complete by Christmas. With our last Passage series on the 7th December and the squadron Xmas party on Tuesday 10th December, this will bring a very busy and successful conclusion to our pre-Xmas events.

On Saturday 23rd November we had a very well attended Ponui race event, with 19 trailer yachts sailing across two divisions, a few other TY members out sailing, and four keelers completing a very competitive race fleet.

On the Sunday we had our first round of the RTB series with 8 starters lining up for Race 1 of 3 races held under challenging wind conditions. Special thanks to Bryan and June for making their keelboat **Audrey** available as the committee boat and also for their help along with Sheryl, assisting me with race control for the series. Well done all skippers, crew, and race officials.

The Barrier cruise was another success, with 18 boats making the voyage out. Special commendation to Anton and Flip for managing the trailer yacht fleet. The off-the-wind sail up to Kawau on the Sunday, followed by the run out to Barrier on the SW proved to be an excellent decision. Well done team.

Although it was a bit of a battle getting out to Barrier for those that went on the Sunday in the Northerly, the run back on the Thursday again in a Northerly was some relief. Note that your committee will be making our annual donation to the Smokehouse Bay Trustees to help with costs associated with maintaining facilities there.

My last comment is about the Xmas party on Tuesday 10th at Hamilton Yacht club. This is always a great social event, and I encourage all members to make the effort to attend. See details re time and food later in this Bilgewater. A special thanks goes out to Tracy Lee Perry and her band of elves for organising this event. And not forgetting Mark Bang, our social convenor, for his input.

Hope to see you all there.

Wishing you all a Merry Xmas and the very best of wishes for a successful 2025.

(Commodore) Murray

## Upcoming Events


### December

<b>Passage Event 3</b>	<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup></b>
Trailer Yachts – Course TBC (North Waiheke Channel finish) Keelers – Hook’s Bay Beach Gathering – North Waiheke Channel	
<b>Christmas BBQ</b>	<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup></b>
Dinner at Hamilton Yacht Club 6pm Please bring: a \$5 Secret Santa Gift or \$5 re-gift (adults only – kids will receive a small gift) Meat for the BBQ Salad or Dessert to share Let’s get into the Christmas Spirit and wear something Christmassy	

### January

<b>SailGP Auckland</b>	<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b>
Not a Squadron event, but should be lots of fun in our backyard	
<b>Passage Race 4 – Motuihe</b>	<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup></b>
Trailer Yachts – Motuihe Keelers – Motuihe Beach Gathering – Islington Bay or Motuihe or Owhanake	
<b>Sail a Noelex Fun Race</b>	<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b>
We aim to get a crew of 3-4 on each participating Noelex, and sail a short course (i.e. round Motuihe) allowing everybody to have a go at helming and trimming. All welcome	

**MERRY**  
**CHRISTMAS**



*Christmas*

at the Hamilton Yacht Club  
Tuesday 10 December  
6pm

**Please bring:**  
A \$5 Secret Santa Gift or \$5 re-gift  
Meat for the BBQ  
A Salad or Dessert to share

**Lets get into the Christmas Spirit**  
and wear something Christmasy.  
(Check out ideas at your local \$2 shop)



## Save the Date – Gulf Classic 2025

Gulf Classic 2025 will be held on the weekend of 15-16th March 2025

## Positions Vacant – Gulf Classic Committee

We are looking for assistance with organising the Gulf Classic Endurance Regatta, to be held on the weekend of 15th March 2025.

At present, Chris Martin and Murray Pearce are the committee tasked with organising the Gulf Classic. They would like a further 2 or 3 people involved, and preferably outside of existing committee, so as to spread the load and get more members experienced in organising a big open regatta like this.

If anyone would like to volunteer then please call Murray on 0274 951 223.



*The crew of Orca sharing a relaxing moment*



# Christmas RACE

Experience the excitement of a Christmas Race hosted by RNZYS

**THE ITINERARY**  
Wednesday 18th December 2024  
Departing Auckland Viaduct at 3pm



NZ SAILING TRUST

## CHRISTMAS RACE

Join us for a special Christmas Race hosted by the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron!

This is your chance to experience the thrill of sailing aboard two of New Zealand's most iconic yachts Steinlager 2 and Lion New Zealand.

After the racing celebrate with us at the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron Prizegiving Ceremony.

### COST :

\$200 per person

### TO BOOK GO TO:

[www.nzsailingtrust.com](http://www.nzsailingtrust.com)

### CALL :

Nicola +64-204-080-8386

### FOR MORE INFO:

<https://mzys.org.nz/cal/the-christmas-race-party/>

## Notice of Event for Passage Event 3 – Saturday 7 December

### Trailer Yachts

**Course:** TBC, Cruising division 9:30am start, racing division 10:30am start

**Event coordinator:** Luke & Phoebe Feldman (021 0811 5015)

**Entries:** To the Event Coordinator by WhatsApp or VHF channel 77 by 0900 (cruising) or 1000 (racing) advising name of yacht, number of crew on board.

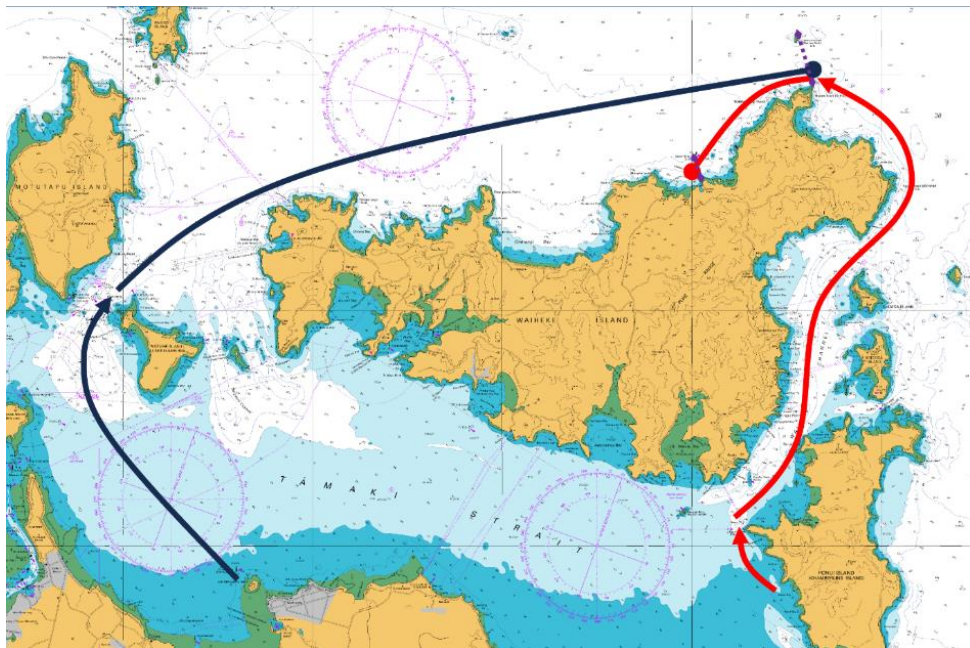
### Keelers

**Course:** Course 8 – Hooks Bay, 10.30am start

**Event coordinator:** Time Hayward (027 444 5902)

**Instructions:** From the start line at Pine Harbour – to the Motuihe Channel keeping Motuihe Island to STARBOARD and Browns Island to PORT – out through the Motuihe Channel keeping Waiheke Island to STARBOARD – to the finish line between Gannet Rock and Thumb Point at the north-eastern tip of Waiheke Island

See **Black Line** below for indication of course (written instructions take precedence):



Note: The RO reserves the right to modify the course depending on conditions. Updated advice will be given at the briefing (at 0930 hrs for TYs and 1000 hrs for Keelers).

As usual we plan to anchor in a sheltered bay (perhaps Manowar Bay) on Saturday evening for prize giving and a beach gathering. The club BBQ will be running.

Any skippers only wanting to cruise to the destination are most welcome to join the cruising division or meet us at the beach gathering. Listen on VHF CH 77 for any updates on the day.



## New Members

We welcome **Andrew North**, son of existing member Robert North, with his Coronet **Rosie**. Andrew is the third generation of Norths to be members of the Squadron.

**Kevin Mann** from Tauranga is another recent new member. He has been sailing for many years, from dinghies to ocean racing. He currently owns various vessels – a keeler in Westhaven, another in Tauranga marina, and a British one design Sportsboat SB20 named **Spider Pig**.

We also welcome **Michael Kaplan** and **Feng Liu** for an associate family membership. Some of you would have met them at the Workingman's Club dinner or at a Nog 'n Natter.

**John Mulder** is another new associate member who is keen to crew while he is exploring different boat options.

Finally we welcome **Scotty Hewetson** and **Harata Carlson** with their Sabre 22 **Sabre Dancer**. Some of you would have met them during our King's Birthday cruise on Lake Tarawera, and Scotty also came along to the Barrier Cruise on an epic single-handing mission. Scotty is also an adventurer in other ways, sometimes spending 4 days or more spelunking deep in the bowels of the earth.



*Sabre Dancer under spinnaker, heading back from Great Barrier Island*

## Great Barrier Trip 2024

*The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails. – William Arthur Ward*

There are sailors of many different temperaments. However many of us also share common attributes; a notable example being the flexibility to adapt and change plans... when something breaks, when a fellow sailor requires assistance, or, most commonly, when the weather doesn't play ball!

Another common attribute of our skippers is independence and self-reliance, and when the day of the cruise offered us a steady wind blowing directly from our destination, there were bound to be different opinions and approaches taken.

Many of the keelers opted for the iron sail – “it is a Barrier Cruise after all!”, and with many of them powerful enough to do 6-8kts into the swell, they made good time from from our Huse Bay gathering point to arrive in Smokehouse Bay by mid-afternoon.

A couple of hardy skippers (***Orca*** and ***Kingfisher II***) decided to tack up all the way, and eventually arrived in Smokehouse Bay around nightfall. Some others

(***Clearwater*** and ***E Type 2***) postponed a day, waiting for the southwesterly shift on Monday. Some keelers with retired skippers (***La Di Da*** and ***Passing Fancy***) had decided to arrive a day or two early.



*Kingfisher II and Escargot depart Huse Bay on Sunday morning*



*A very peaceful Bostaquet raft in a light drizzle (Falkor behind)*

And the majority of the trailer yachts simply decided to reroute – “it is a sailing holiday after all!”. From the eastern side of Waiheke we were able to almost lay Bostaquet Bay in the south of Kawau Island. This bay is excellent in a northerly, and ***Bella Rose***, ***Suzie***, ***Perpetual Motion***, ***Escargot*** and ***Sabre Dancer*** did not even bother to unraft that night, all our boats were lying so still.

During breakfast on Monday morning, the wind swung round to the southwest, as forecast, giving us a spinnaker run past Little Barrier Island and all the way to the Manowar Passage. Unfortunately the dramatic cliffs of Little Barrier Island were somewhat obscured by cloud, but we still had some fun with a pod of dolphins and an enjoyable sail all the way to Smokehouse Bay.



*First night (for some) in Smokehouse Bay – pizza for Roy's 88th birthday!*

The next few days were an enjoyable pick-your-own adventure, whether cruising the different arms of the harbour, walking up through the pest-free sanctuary to the “treehouse”, or collecting firewood by dinghy. It was great to see the Kingfisher Kids off on their dinghy day after day, bringing home snapper and kahawai for the evening meal.

Our time passed mostly without incident, apart from some things going bump one night due to a wind shift and some unfortunate anchoring issues. Walks were had, bbqs and pizza were consumed, and at the end of the day there was always the tempting option of a hot freshwater shower.

The weather may not have been perfect, but it seldom restricted our adventures. Although maybe next year Nigel will get more enthusiasm for his kauri dam walk!

However, with the optimal weather window changing we were again forced to make some decisions. Most of us were definitely not ready to return home, but Thursday did seem like the optimal day to make the crossing. Eventually many of us decided to hug the west coast of the Coromandel, aiming for Te Kouma Harbour that night. For most it was a particularly memorable and enjoyable sail, with the following sea and favourable winds making for hours' long spinnaker runs with sustained speeds of 7 and 8kts, peaking above 10!





*Louisa north of Colville*



*Apparently the red-legged ones are protected, so I don't even get to throw things at them!*



*View over Port Fitzroy*



*Kingfisher 2 heading to Port Fitzroy*



*Retrieving firewood for the rest of the community*



After a quick lunch stop for **Sabre Dancer**, **Suzie**, **Escargot** and **Perpetual Motion** in Elephant Cove we pressed on to Te Kouma and invaded **Acushla** for a slightly early celebration of Jim's birthday.

Although we had anticipated Friday to be a reading day, some of us woke up and spotted a window to cross back towards Home Bay Rotorua, arriving there just as the wind and rain set in. A pleasant afternoon reading and chatting, followed by a walk for some across to Ladies Bay and then up to the Chris Booth sculpture. Some other boats in Te Kouma headed up to Woolshed Bay and returned home a day or two later.

There were the odd electrical and outboard motor issue during the week (**Soolaimon**, **Falkor** and **Sabre Dancer** all being affected). **Perpetual Motion** had very few equipment failures for the week, just the failure of a corroded block, and the ripping of an overloaded spinnaker. Apart from the aforementioned anchor failure, the biggest failure I was aware of was **Suzie's** rudder pintle. However, although there is never a great time to lose your rudder, it certainly was a lot easier to deal with in the Ruthe Passage than it would have been coming across from Great Barrier or crossing from the Coromandel!

If you were sad to miss out on this year's cruise, start planning your leave for mid-November 2025!

Thank you to all who participated and contributed to making this cruise an unforgettable experience. We look forward to many more adventures together on the open water.



## Report on Passage Series 2 – Ponui

No trip report contributions were received at time of going to press. However it was easily the largest passage race event in the past three years, with at least 27 yachts participating in some way. At least 3 were members sailing with us for the first time – great to have ***Dream On, Witch Way*** and ***Mungo Jerry*** along, and also great to see ***High Time*** out on the water with us again!



*Sails sails everywhere! Start line at Sandspit lighthouse*



*Saturday night beach gathering at Chamberlain's Bay*





*Mungo Jerry departs Chamberlain's Bay*



*Kingfisher nears the finish line*



*Dream On on the way to the start*



*Perpetual Motion as seen from the deck of Bella Rose*



## Results for Passage Series 2 – Ponui

### TY Handicap

Place	Sail	Type	Hcap	Name	Owner	Finish	Elapsed	Corr-ected	Points	Next Hcap
1	T3613	Noelex 25	0.811	Portfolio	Andrew King	13:34:10	3:04:10	2:29:22	1	0.825
2	T588	Catalina 7	0.835	Hue and Cry	Luke and Phoebe Feldman	13:34:55	3:04:55	2:34:24	2	0.844
3	T3247	Gazelle Mk	0.907	Escargot	Flip Rayner	13:20:26	2:50:26	2:34:35	3	0.916
4	T1065	Noelex 25	0.918	Suzie	Chris Martin	13:20:24	2:50:24	2:36:26	4	0.925
5	T3028	Noelex 25	0.886	Orca	Karl McGaughran	13:26:49	2:56:49	2:36:40	5	0.892
6	T4211	XS8	0.933	INXS	Angus Jones	13:19:20	2:49:20	2:37:59	6	0.938
7	T3702	Elliot 7.4	0.965	E Type 2	Hugh Beecroft	13:18:17	2:48:17	2:42:24	7	0.965
8	T1579	Gazelle Mk	0.820	Kinaboys	Ken Thomas	13:51:25	3:21:25	2:45:10	8	0.817
9	T3545	Noelex 22	0.849	Panga Ban	James Hepburn	13:47:40	3:17:40	2:47:49	9	0.843
10	6525	FARR 1020	0.901	Perpetual Motion	Anton Post	13:43:10	3:13:10	2:54:03	10	0.889
11	T719	Noelex 25	0.873	Scimitar	Geoff Tompson	13:53:00	3:23:00	2:57:13	11	0.858
12	T4162	Bonito Aqu	0.765	Hold-On II	Mark Bang-Pip Edwards	14:25:00	3:55:00	2:59:46	12	0.750

### TY Open

Place	Sail	Type	Hcap	Name	Owner	Finish	Elapsed	Corr-ected	Points
1	T3247	Gazelle Mk	0.8200	Escargot	Flip Rayner	13:20:26	2:50:26	2:19:45	1
2	T1065	Noelex 25	0.8450	Suzie	Chris Martin	13:20:24	2:50:24	2:23:59	2
3	T588	Catalina 7	0.7950	Hue and Cry	Luke and Phoebe Feldman	13:34:55	3:04:55	2:27:01	3
4	T3702	Elliot 7.4	0.8850	E Type 2	Hugh Beecroft	13:18:17	2:48:17	2:28:56	4
5	T3028	Noelex 25	0.8450	Orca	Karl McGaughran	13:26:49	2:56:49	2:29:25	5
6	T4211	XS8	0.8890	INXS	Angus Jones	13:19:20	2:49:20	2:30:32	6
7	T3613	Noelex 25	0.8450	Portfolio	Andrew King	13:34:10	3:04:10	2:35:37	7
8	T3545	Noelex 22	0.8110	Panga Ban	James Hepburn	13:47:40	3:17:40	2:40:18	8
9	T1579	Gazelle Mk	0.8200	Kinaboys	Ken Thomas	13:51:25	3:21:25	2:45:10	9
10	T719	Noelex 25	0.8450	Scimitar	Geoff Tompson	13:53:00	3:23:00	2:51:32	10
11	T4162	Bonito Aqu	0.7600	Hold-On II	Mark Bang-Pip Edwards	14:25:00	3:55:00	2:58:36	11

### TY Cruising

Place	Sail	Type	Hcap	Name	Owner	Finish	Elapsed	Corr-ected	Points	Next Hcap
1	T4036	Noelex 25	0.877	Shangri La	Jed Vallings	12:38:15	2:03:15	1:48:05	1	0.897
2	T939	FARR 7500	0.781	Swashbucker	Russel Osbourne	13:02:00	2:27:00	1:54:48	2	0.790
3	T1065	Noelex 25	0.822	High Time	Nigel McCarter	12:55:00	2:20:00	1:55:05	3	0.831
4	T2963	Merlin 6.1	0.703	Clearwater	Sven Ladewig & Esther Schoenberger	13:26:21	2:51:21	2:00:28	4	0.706
5	T4237	Young 7.7	0.968	Barometer Soup	Dave Reffin	12:39:35	2:04:35	2:00:36	5	0.972
6	T388	Noelex 22	0.811	Dream On	Robert Paine	13:14:00	2:39:00	2:08:57	6	0.805
7	T3490	Ross 780	0.905	Skywalker	Peter Klinkhamer	12:59:00	2:24:00	2:10:19	7	0.897
8	T820	Joker 820	0.794	Falkor	Wayne Johnstone	14:02:00	3:27:00	2:44:21	8	0.762
DNF	T600	Noelex 25	0.843	Indulgence	Bruce Gordon				9	0.843

### Keeler Handicap

Place	Sail	Type	Hcap	Name	Owner	Finish	Elapsed	Corr-ected	Points
1	9120	HANSE 350	0.7430	Louisa	Tim and Jo Hayward	13:35:45	3:15:45	2:25:27	1
2	6730	Lotus 10.6	0.7230	Kingfisher II	Greg Reeve	14:07:08	3:47:08	2:44:13	2
3	9898	HANSE 370	0.8110	Audrey	Bryan O'Brien	13:44:56	3:24:56	2:46:12	3
4	6590	FARR 1020	0.7720	Acushla	Jim Pasco	14:06:59	3:46:59	2:55:14	4

### Keeler Open

Place	Sail	Type	Hcap	Name	Owner	Finish	Elapsed	Corr-ected	Points
1	9120	HANSE 350	0.7280	Louisa	Tim and Jo Hayward	13:35:45	3:15:45	2:22:30	1
2	9898	HANSE 370	0.7800	Audrey	Bryan O'Brien	13:44:56	3:24:56	2:39:51	2
3	6730	Lotus 10.6	0.7300	Kingfisher II	Greg Reeve	14:07:08	3:47:08	2:45:48	3
4	6590	FARR 1020	0.7420	Acushla	Jim Pasco	14:06:59	3:46:59	2:48:25	4



## Report on Round the Buoys 1

No trip report contributions were received at time of going to press. Thanks to the crew of Audrey (Bryan and June, Murray and Sheryl) for running a great racing series for the 8 trailer yachts!



*Escargot and Barometer Soup cross the finish line in the Round the Buoys Race*

## Results for Round the Buoys 1

Rank	Sail	Type	Hcap	Name	Owner	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Score
1	T1065	Noelex 25	0.8450	Suzie	Chris Martin	(3)	1	1	2
2	T3247	Gazelle Mk	0.8200	Escargot	Flip Rayner	1.5	(3)	2	3.5
3	T4036	Noelex 25	0.8450	Shangri La	Jed Vallings	1.5	2	(3)	3.5
4	T3702	Elliot 7.4	0.8850	E Type 2	Hugh Beecroft	4	4	(7/DNS)	8
5	T588	Catalina 7	0.7950	Hue and Cry	Luke and Phoebe Feldman	(7)	5	4	9
6	T4237	Young 7.7	0.8800	Barometer Soup	Dave Reffin	6	(7)	5	11
7	T719	Noelex 25	0.8450	Scimitar	Geoff Tompson	5	(6)	6	11
8	T4062	Joker 820	0.8500	Jurys Rig	Hinrich Voges	(8)	8	7/DNS	15

## Around the Fleet

A bit of unwanted excitement for **Suzie** at the tail end of the Barrier Cruise, when her rudder suddenly came adrift at the bottom pintle on the last leg from Ruthe Passage to Kawakawa Bay.

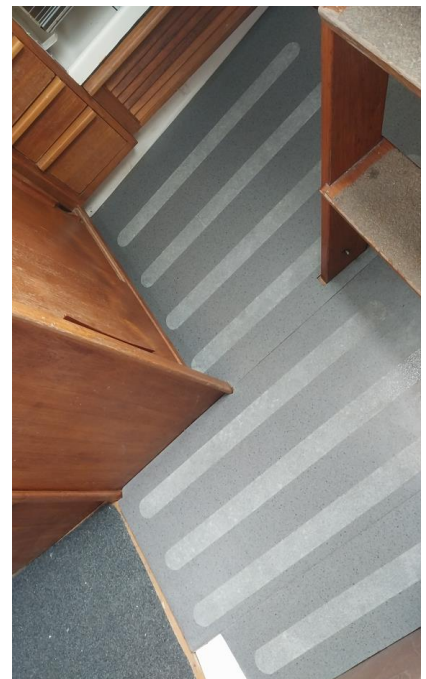
A quick down-sails and jury-rig and she was gingerly motoring back underway to the ramp, kindly escorted by **Escargot**. Just one of many examples of our thriving Squadron community.

Given less than a week until Passage Race 2, Chris had to abandon his Sunday plans in order to execute a fast repair and be back on the water to place second in the TY Open.



**Witch Way**, one of our newly joined Merlins, was out with us on the weekend of Passage Race 2, but unfortunately snapped the wire that would allow them to wind up their swing keel. Thankfully they decided to sail anyway, and I heard that they received plenty of support from other Squadron members when they arrived back at the ramp. They still need to place **Witch Way** onto a hoist to check her out and hopefully complete repairs.

After a couple of slips on the heeling wet galley floor during the Barrier cruise, (one leading to a broken toe!) **Perpetual Motion** has installed 3M Safety Walk antislip tape. Hopefully there will be no more injuries in the future!



Not from within our Squadron, thankfully, but our member **Tim Hayward** sent in the following images of a Noelex 30 up on the hard at Half Moon Bay with some damage to her lifting keel.

Apparently the skipper was coming inside Browns Island, had a choice of two channels and decided to go between them. Moral of the story – don't do that!





## For Sale – Joker 820 - Falkor



From Wayne Johnstone:

“Falkor is for sale. She is a Joker 820. She well known within the Waikato Yacht Squadron to be a great boat in excellent condition.

Please pass the word around, and if anyone is interested, please ask them to contact Wayne Johnstone (027 623 6366) for further information.”



## Our Squadron and Gulf Classic Sponsors



## Sponsors of our 2024 Gulf Classic

North Sails

Kiwi Yachting – Safety at Sea

Auto-Trail

Pine Harbour Electrical

Burnsco

Hancock Wines and Spirits

Alpha Electrical

Fineline Marine

Captain Compost (Landscape Supplies)

Pine Harbour Marina

**Please Support our Sponsors!**