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February 2020

FROM THE QUARTERDECK

A REPORT FROM THE REAR COMMODORE BLAIR CLIFFE



Well Happy New Year everyone and I hope that you all managed to find time for a break over the Christmas holiday period. Like me you are no doubt thinking where did that go and why am I back at work so soon! Despite that there is still that summer feel and I am afraid that Geoff had to remind me twice that I was on duty for this month's letter, apologies again Geoff. I flew to the UK for two weeks over Christmas to visit my Mother. As always, I was reminded forcibly by the weather why although I came to NZ in 1995 with the intention to stay for only three years I am still here. Grey, drizzly, dark and cold was the main impression of the UK weather except for Christmas Day itself which was beautiful with crisp blue skies but still cold. It was of course lovely to catch up with friends and family.

Meanwhile I understand back here in NZ the weather had reverted to Spring and although warm it was very windy. So I did not miss much classic sailing but I did apparently miss two weeks of great surf on the East Coast. The first weekend back in NZ Emma and I took note of the windy forecast, decided to go anyway and headed for Oneroa in Hautere. Well heck it was windy with the whole boat shaking at times particularly on Friday night. We anchored in about 6m of water and I initially put out 30m of chain then just before dark put out another 10m. That and the Rocna anchor (which I really rate,



it has never felt like dragging) did the trick. Seems excessive but checking with other DYC boats the next day we had all done similar. Nobody dragged and we had a reasonable sleep. The trip home on Sunday was straight into the teeth of a 20kn SW so I am afraid our trusty old Captain Newage BMC diesel took us home.

Last weekend the sailing programme kicked off again with the fantastic Mahurangi Regatta. Friday saw two classes heading up to Mahurangi and as usual we also started the Classics just prior to the Div B start, all quite exciting.



Emma and I had invited the previous owners of Hautere to come with us for the weekend, so we were on our toes and hoping to do well. Light conditions to Tiri did us no favours and although we felt we had done well from then on it proved not to be enough as we found at the prizegiving on Sunday.



Saturday is the day of the Mahurangi Regatta and if you have never been I can highly recommend it whether you attend by boat or by car. The estuary is chock full of boats of every shape and size. The event is run from Sullivan's Beach where there are events for kids of all ages, rowing, swimming, sack racing etc. Whilst on the water a launch parade has in recent years become a fixture during the morning and the racing gets underway just after lunch. The course is out to sea around Te Haupa / Saddle Is and back up the harbour to Scott's Landing before returning to the start line. Twice round for the big guys and once for the tiddlers. It is an opportunity to see classics big and small and a selection of all sorts of interesting boats up close. In the evening around the Marquee at Scott's landing sailors and friends gather to BBQ, lie about their racing prowess and dance to the big band in the tent. It was the first NZ sailing event I ever attended, and I think would stand up in any company, make sure it is in your diary for next year; the Saturday of Auckland Anniversary Weekend.

Sunday saw the classics heading home whilst DYC boats took part in our Round the Islands Race. A good breeze was favouring the bigger heavier boats at the start and despite an appalling start which was entirely my fault (listen to the crew Blair!) we were doing pretty well. Then the wind faded away and we were left looking at the sterns of the smaller boats as they sailed away from us.



That evening we held our BBQ on the beach back at Sullivan's and we had a good turnout and a fun evening. The prize-giving had us last and second to last in the two races, so not the hoped-for result to show our guests.



Monday saw most of the DYC boats heading home, some in the passage race as part of Auckland Regatta but due to the again light conditions we decided to have a later start and motor sailed home. Hopefully those who took part did as well as the DYC boats did last year, practically cleaning up in the prizes for the Mahurangi race.

Waitangi weekend sees us taking advantage of taking Friday off for a long weekend and we are off to the East End of Waiheke for racing and fun again. There is a club visit to Man O'War Winery on Friday and any club members without boats are welcome to join us there.

Other future events of note are the Ladies Helm Race (Sponsored by Pilates with Emma) on Sat 15th Feb and as always members who do not sail are welcome to join us on the beach for Bubbles and BBQ. Tickets for the Rocky Bay Ball on Sat 7th March are now on sale, this year they are \$35pp.

I am writing this at a bach in Ruakaka whilst having a weekend away from home and the boat with Emma. Sailing last weekend, surfing this and more sailing and great company to look forward to over Waitangi weekend. There are times when it feels as if we are truly blessed to be living in NZ and right now this is one of those times.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the club and out on the water and hope that you all have a happy and peaceful 2020.



DIRECTORY UPDATE

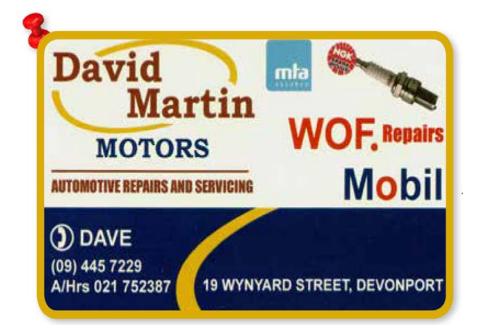
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A warm welcome to our newest members.

New Member	Member Type	Proposed	Seconded
John Brook	Family	Chris Barton	Paul Barton
Sue Loughlin	Associate Individual	Karen Webster	Kaaren Rosser
Leon Sefton & Jodie Molloy	Family	Peter Montgomery	Claudia Montgomery
John & Deborah Horwood	Family	Scott Richardson	Warwick Squire
Martha & Tim Clarke	Family	Scott Richardson	Warwick Squire
Mark & Shirley Longstaff	Associate Family	Cliffe	Mason

Membership Changes	Current	Change to
Guilherme Teixeira	Ordinary	Out-of-Town
Colleen Petricevich	Family	Associate Individual
Simon Baxter	Ordinary	Out-of-Town
Desiree Coleman	Ordinary	Associate Individual





Tall Ships Race 2020

(Words by Mike Hall, photos by Jeffery Sta-Ines & June Hall)



For more than 45 years the Russell Boating Club has run this event in which 100s of yachts, of all shapes and sizes, both from NZ and overseas arrive here to participate. Within the Tall ship & Classics invitational race the DYC had 2 entries: Northerner & Renown. The conditions were idyllic with northerlies 10 - 15 knots and a wide start line from the committee boat at Russell end across to the port can of the shipping channel. I was fortunate to be there on Sereno and to be invited to crew on Northerner.



Prior to the start there was much discussion on which end to start as the Russell end was softer, in the end it was decided to start at the Russell end as we would have starboard rights through the fleet of 45. Mike Webster [hidden] was busy eyeing up the opposition, Longfellow [old rival] was decided as our target, 65 ft vs 49ft Northerner for line honours. Mike had assembled a very experienced team of his son and old sailing mates.

And away we went, never thought we would be racing with junks, huge ketches and super yachts, certainly not our normal DYC starts.

Northerner got away to a great start and soon was heading up into the northerly breeze at 7 knots, climbing all the way.



Northerner fully loaded up showing off her new paint work, sails perfectly set by Mike, the helmsman had his eyes glued to the luff of the headsail whilst the rest of us looked for the next mark which was elusive. A great shot of her new ultra-light rig which has transformed her sailing performance.

THE DEVONPORT YACHT CLUB NEWS



Silvertip the largest super yacht of the day just coming into view. [overall all comers winner]

Our movable ballast [ladies] were not always co-operative putting their legs over the side however they did do a great job moving from side to side.

Longfellow was within reach, not far ahead, both of us were leading the fleet, we just couldn't quite get there.



On our way to the finish line in front of Russell, finishing 3 minutes behind Longfellow in second place, closely followed by some of the larger ketches. What a fantastic day celebrated by bacon & egg & bubbles in the cockpit. Prize giving was at the RBC that night along with their famous Hangi & music. Northerner came 2nd on corrected time beating Longfellow by a good margin.



Some highlights from Renown's summer cruise 2020



Here's a view of the sky above Bayswater marina that came from Australian bushfire smoke the day before we left.

Despite gale force SW winds we set off on Monday 6th January anchored the first night in Bon Accord, which lived up to its name. With the mains'l well reefed and stays'l set off the following morning and made excellent progress north surfing along!



We had emailed ahead to book a berth overnight at Tutukaka marina. However, we were already off the entrance before 2pm and it seemed a pity not to use these great passage making conditions so opted to carry on north and got into Whangamumu about 5pm.

In moderating conditions we set off with full sail round Cape Brett





and onto Whangaroa, firstly anchoring with some cruising friends in the Eastern Arm. The next day, after an interesting paddle round Milford Island, we watered up at the Coastguard watering buoy (there's excellent water available!) and then motored up to the western arm where we met some of our DYC friends from Northerner, Serena and Temua. They had just been up the Duke's Nose, so we followed suit.

THE DEVONPORT YACHT CLUB NEWS



We then sailed down to the Bay of Islands for the Tall Ships race. It was a fabulous race and we were pleased with our performance. As you will have seen in Mike Hall's article (above) Northerner did exceptionally well, coming in second on handicap. Well done Mike!



This is our cousin Magnus O'Grady on the help of Renown.

We then had a week of lazy cruising in the Bay of Islands, lots of paddles, walks and fun with family and friends.



Here's Jan Beydals and Jeffery Sta-Ines aboard Temua.



We cruised south via Whangaruru, took a lovely walk with DYC friends at Mimiwhangata







We then had a night at Tutukaka marina. During the cruise we had been conducting market research on yacht club food offerings. After meals at Opua, Kerikeri and Tutukaka, we can now say with confidence that the fish and chips offering at DYC from our wonderful caterers from Platters the very best!

We then sailed to Great Barrier, with the first night in Stony Bay Port Fitzroy, then out to the Broken Islands.



Next stop onto Kawau with a much more gentle night in Bon Accord and paddled up to

the headwaters of the harbour at the top of the tide and then onto Mahurangi.

This year's Mahurangi Regatta was stunning with a huge gathering of beautiful craft and crowds of people. In the race both Northerner and Renown were outclassed at the start by the classic yachts.



Here's an image of Sally Teasdale and Jeff Cooke getting the silverware at prizegiving.

Blair wrote about the DYC round the Islands race and BBQ.

Andy and Lyn on Sea Biscuit were start boat for the Auckland Anniversary Day Keeler Passage Race Mahurangi to Westhaven.. This was a great way to get home quickly. As you can see in the screen shot below, the DYC boats did exceptionally well.



Passage Rac	e Results	-						
Sail	Boat	Handicap	Start Time	Finish Time	Elapsed	Corrected	Line	Handicap
					Time	Time		
H1-H28's								
4018	Rusty Scupper		9:00:00				1	1
M1 - no extr	as							
5001	Renown	0.749	9:05:00	16:34:30	7:29:30	5:36:41	2	
9747	Checkmate	0.890	9:05:00	16:03:54	6:58:54	6:12:49	1	
236	Polaris	0.825	9:05:00	16:59:59	7:54:59	6:31:52	3	3
1880	Precedent	0.775	9:05:00	DSQ				
2170	Hautere	0.635	9:05:00	DNS				
5343	Comfortably Numb	0.640	9:05:00	DNS				
2441	Kristen	0.629	9:05:00	DNF				
5303	Arbitrator	0.755	9:05:00	DNS				
M2 - extras								
6628	Calypso IV	0.761	9:10:00	16:17:22	7:07:22	5:25:14	2	
3246	Kudos	0.719	9:10:00	16:59:13	7:49:13	5:37:22	3	
43	Northerner	0.897	9:10:00	15:56:39	6:46:39	6:04:46	1	3
9776	Floki	0.752	9:10:00	DNF				
5716	Mercenary	0.769	9:10:00	DNF				

Mahurangi Regatta 2020

Below are some excellent images of DYC boats from Waitematawoody's wonderful blog:

https://waitematawoodys.com/2020/01/28/mah urangi-weekend-biggest-on-the-water-woodenboating-event-down-under-200-classic-woodenboat-photos/#jp-carousel-44766



Prize – Chad Thompson



Seafarer - Richard and Femke Darke



THE DEVONPORT YACHT CLUB NEWS

Offshore - Frank and Janet



Ebb Tide – Jeff Cooke and Sally Teasdale



Northerner – Mike Webster

Feedback DYC Seatalks

For those who came to Graeme Lay's DYC Seatalks last week, you'd have been impressed. It was an excellent and enjoyable talk. Thanks Graeme!



Book reviews from DYC Library

Many thanks to our club librarian, Colin Tubbs. We have a double helping this month!

Modern Sailing Catamarans Robert B. Harris

Following a brief historical review, the author compares catamaran and cruising possibilities augmented with numerous photographs, diagrams and special computations.

Racing Your Boat Right Arthur Knapp Jnr.

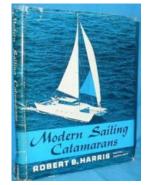
'The Gospel According to Knapp' sets down virtually everything a racing skipper needs to know to make his boat come in first with any consistency and everything a wise skipper wants his crew to know too.

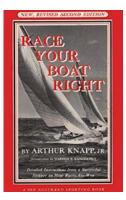
Yarns Tristan Jones

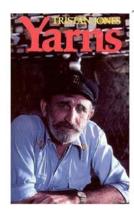
The author draws on his many adventures to evoke some of the memorable people he has met and describes some of the most beautiful cruising grounds of the world.

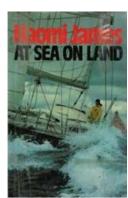
On Sea On Land Naomi James

Naomi writes vividly and with refreshing directness of her life on land and sea through two eventful years. It is a fascinating, candid and highly individual commentary on the consequences of fame, an exciting account of competing in one of the world s most testing races











Landmarks From The Spirits Iris Nolan

This book is a collection of informative and humorous stories collected from many sources both written and oral, that will assist the reader to understand the origins and names of many places and give him or her an appreciation of a small part of New Zealand s maritime history.

Tommy Andrews a Titanic Cricketer J. Clarence Hiles

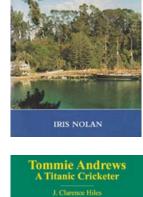
The author has cleverly linked Thomas s great passion for cricket with a very detailed history of his family s involvement in the development of Ireland s linen and corn mill industries along with those who have made their mark in law, government and shipbuilding culminating in the story of R.M.S. Titanic.

ANZ SAILING AND BOATING JEFF TOGHILL

This book explains the art of sailing from the basics to the complexities of navigation and skilled seamanship. Starting with all about sailing, art of sailing, , maintenance and a glossary of sailing terms and expressions.

TO THE ICE AND BEYOND GRAHAM KENDALL

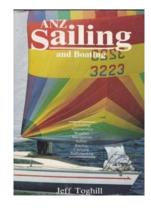
There are no records of anyone having sailed the North West passage solo, even sailing it non-stop would be a first. This socalled record had no bearing on his ambition to attempt it. This was a personal thing, a challenge, a dream, an adventure.



Landmarks

from the Spirits







THE BRENDAN VOYAGE TIM SEVERIN

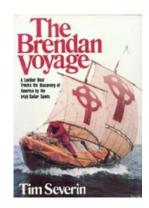
This is a story of absorbing historical and archaeological interest. In planning the voyage he returned to first principles, to materials which had to be rediscovered and methods which had to be relearned. The success of the voyage depended on natural materials which were available in Brendan's day.

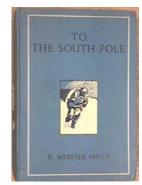
TO THE SOUTH POLE B. WEBSTER SMITH

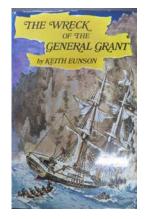
The author describes the struggles and trials of the first voyagers towards Antarctica, D'Arville, Ross and others. He then gives account of the first voyage of the discovery and the expeditions of the Antarctic and Scotia and finally the Quest.

THE WRECK OF THE GENERAL GRANT KEITH EUNSON

The vessel foundered, wedged halfway into a cavern in the Auckland Islands. The survivors, marooned for 18 months, only survived the ordeal through the indomitable courage and resource of Irishman James Tear.







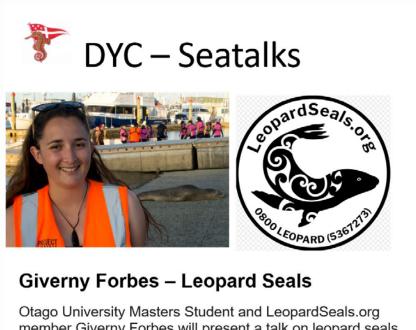


For your diaries

Sailing events from the Yearbook:

February 2020

9	Thursday 6th	Waitangi Day Passage Race	Non Series Race	1000 hrs
10	Friday 7th Saturday Sunday 8	Club outing to Man O War 8th Cruising Series Race 6	Winery - See Notice For Details Ponui Round the Islands	1000hrs
11 12 13	Saturday 15th Sunday 16th Saturday 22nd	Ladies Helm Race Cruising Series Race 7 Open Regatta	Non Series Race Owhanake to Devonport Duder Cup Regatta	1000 hrs 1300 hrs 1000 hrs



Otago University Masters Student and LeopardSeals.org member Giverny Forbes will present a talk on leopard seals, their presence in New Zealand, and their behaviour around people.

Giverny is currently studying human-leopard seal interactions in New Zealand and is particularly focused on assessing the behaviour of Auckland's resident seal, Owha. She has also helped to study leopard seals around the country and has encountered almost 30 individuals to date.

Her talk will give you up to date information about leopard seals in New Zealand and insight into their behaviour. The presentation will last around 45 minutes followed by a Q&A session.

7.30pm Thursday 20th February 2020 All welcome. The club bar will be open



DYC PRESENTS THE 2020

ROCKY BAY BALL



Dress: formal (from the waist up)

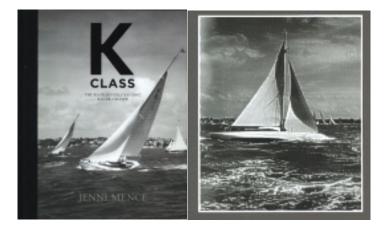


TICKETS \$35 INCLUDES DINNER BY 'URBAN ESCARGOT' & LIVE MUSIC BY THE 'BUZZ BARS'. BYO DRINKS & GLASSES.

SATURDAY 7TH MARCH, 6PM FOR 7PM DINNER, @ ROCKY BAY HALL, WAIHEKE.

TICKETS FROM DYC BAR OR EMAIL LAURA@THEMAGUIRES.INFO





K CLASS

The Hauraki Gulf's Iconic Racer-Cruiser

By Jenni Mence. Hardback, 2.03kg, 242mm x 295mm, 359 pages, Colour, black & white, sepia photographs, plans and drawings. Published December 2019.

Emerging from the drawing boards of some of the most talented local and international yacht designers, the K Class fleet has graced the sparkling waters of the Hauraki Gulf for the past seventy years. Although the fleet is small in numbers, their reputation for competitive racing and comfortable cruising has endeared them to many sailors. Amply illustrated with images from professional photographers and family albums, this book highlights the joys of sailing these beautiful boats and captures the spirit and history of the class; offering a glimpse into what it was like for those lucky few who raced and cruised on them.

Following is from the foreword by Ian Cook, Commodore of the RNZYS:

Jenni has captured the background, lineage, history and ownership of the K Class vessels referred to as the aristocrats of the Waitemata. Her research has allowed us to get an introduction to personal reflections on some fun sailing dwelling on a history that has not been recorded in such detail across one class of boat. The assortment of photos Jenni has compiled give us a real view of our great sailing history and the opportunity to reflect also on how far we have advanced in sailing and socially in the last century.

This is a seriously stylish book NZ\$70.00

