

June 2020

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FROM THE QUARTERDECK



A Report from The Rear Commodore Blair Cliffe

Well there have been some different events since I last wrote for the newsletter. I trust everyone managed to find some enjoyment in the quietness and the change of pace which most of us have experienced. Committee meetings held online, shopping for and checking on elder members, an online quiz, keeping the flags flying all helped to keep some focus on the club and now hopefully we can look to the future.

Here we are in the middle of Queen's Birthday Weekend and Emma and I have

just returned from an overnight at Waiheke. We motored out on Saturday morning into what was an almost empty harbour, apart from the ferries there seemed to be only a handful of other boats.



(Photo – Blair Cliffe)

It was a glorious trip, blue skies, fluffy white clouds and quite warm. No wind to speak of but that was alright we gave the freezer and engine a good wake up.



Anchoring in the NE corner of Huruhi Bay we met up with Mark and Jude Clough and went out for a very enjoyable lunch at The Batch. It must have one of the best views on the whole of Waiheke and was looking particularly fantastic in the sunshine.



(Photo – Blair Cliffe)

Mark and Jude decided to head home on Saturday night to avoid the incoming weather but we stayed where we were and had a very peaceful night sheltered by the cliffs. We had a rather bumpy ride home on Sunday morning racing the grey clouds and 30+kt winds that were forecast. Under $\frac{3}{4}$ of our jib we rolled home at between 5 and 7 kts. The wind obligingly dropped as we approached the marina making berthing easy. All in all a cracking couple of days on the water.

So what is there to look forward to?

The club is opening this week on Thursday and will initially be following normal hours other than not opening on Saturday, we will assess this as the rules change and having seen what attendance is like on the other days. Platters will be serving meals on Friday and you are urged to book a table through Kirsty if you are planning to attend to help the caterers' in their planning. Please remember that everyone will need to be seated and service will be at your table so please follow the guidance from the Staff and the rules that are in force.

A good turnout at the working bee heralded the start of Winter Haulage and boats are starting to appear, Moana being the first in her usual spot.

Andy Mason, the Sailing Master has decided that it is too late in the season to try to resurrect the missing races of the calendar and so the club racing is finished. There will not be formal prize-giving event this year but there will be recognition of the events we did manage to run. This will probably be combined with the Fitting Out Supper, but the Social Committee are still working on that one. There is a interest amongst members to organise some sailing events through the winter to make up for what we have missed. The dates would have to be flexible so as to avoid bad weather but something that has been proposed is for a weekend away in company, taking the BBQ and perhaps having a lunchtime party on the beach rather than the evening when things start to cool down. Andy has also proposed that it is timely to take a look at the sailing programme for next year as a whole to decide if the events we are currently running are meeting the wishes of the members. So please anyone who has any comments to make about the sailing programme whether you sail with the club now or perhaps more importantly if you currently don't, please present them either to Andy or any of the other members of the sailing committee.

I look forward to seeing you all at the club soon and hopefully some of the sailors out on the water.



VIRTUAL QUIZ NIGHT IN LOCKDOWN

"With the advent of Lockdown at midnight on Wednesday 25 March, the clubhouse was closed and put into mothballs for the duration. The first few weeks were very strange for all of us, as we acclimatised to this odd world of no aeroplanes, few cars and social distancing. There was certainly a gap in the lives of the club members as we were forbidden to sail our boats to complete the season and congregate at the club to socialise over the weekends.

However, not to be outdone, The Social Committee organised a Virtual Quiz night with the invaluable help of our excellent Quizmaster, the one and only Murray Forbes.



On Saturday 9th May, 18 teams gathered virtually online through the Zoom platform (that has become an everyday word in many people's lives) and we had quite an evening of fun, hilarity and competition. These are the final results:



The winner: Team Hello Sailor - Anne & Richard McMillan

Runner up: Team Covid Operations - Grant & Sarah Daniels
Best name: Team Stockholm Syndrome - Andy & Lyn Mason & family

The prizes were vouchers to spend at the club when we open in the hopefully not too distant future. I am sure I am not alone in wishing to get back to 'the way things were' and having a good yarn, a wholesome Platters meal and a few be vies on Friday night!"

WORKING BEE LAST MONTH

The weather co-operated brilliantly so we had a highly productive working bee in spite of all the viral challenges. Thanks to Emma who fronted the Covid 19 response and to all the many others who got stuck into the jobs. Emma also softened the blow of no morning tea with some yummy home-baked cake topped with lemon icing!



(Photo – Geoff Evans)

A willing helper and new club member Kiti Suomalainen is pictured above.



As the organiser of the working bee I am always fascinated by the way people will undertake a task and then by applying their own experience and intelligence come up with solutions that I had never thought of (Richard D would say that, in my case, that is not all that difficult).



(Photo – Geoff Evans)

Once again many thanks for a most enjoyable morning.



(Photo – Geoff Evans)

P.S. Derek S and Bob J looked at the wheelchair lift which is water mains pressure powered and had developed

leaks from the hydraulic rams. The rams have been removed and Derek is sourcing seal replacements. The stainless-steel ram cylinder bores are approx. 1m long and 100mm diameter and have some light track marks along their length and may need a light hone. I would be pleased to hear from any member with engineering experience who can help with this.

Ken Smith (Works Master)



(Photo – Geoff Evans)

DYC Winter Haulage 2020

Haulage started last week with Moana first up. What beautiful lines!



(Photo – Geoff Evans)



(Photo – Geoff Evans)

DYC CLUBHOUSE REOPENING

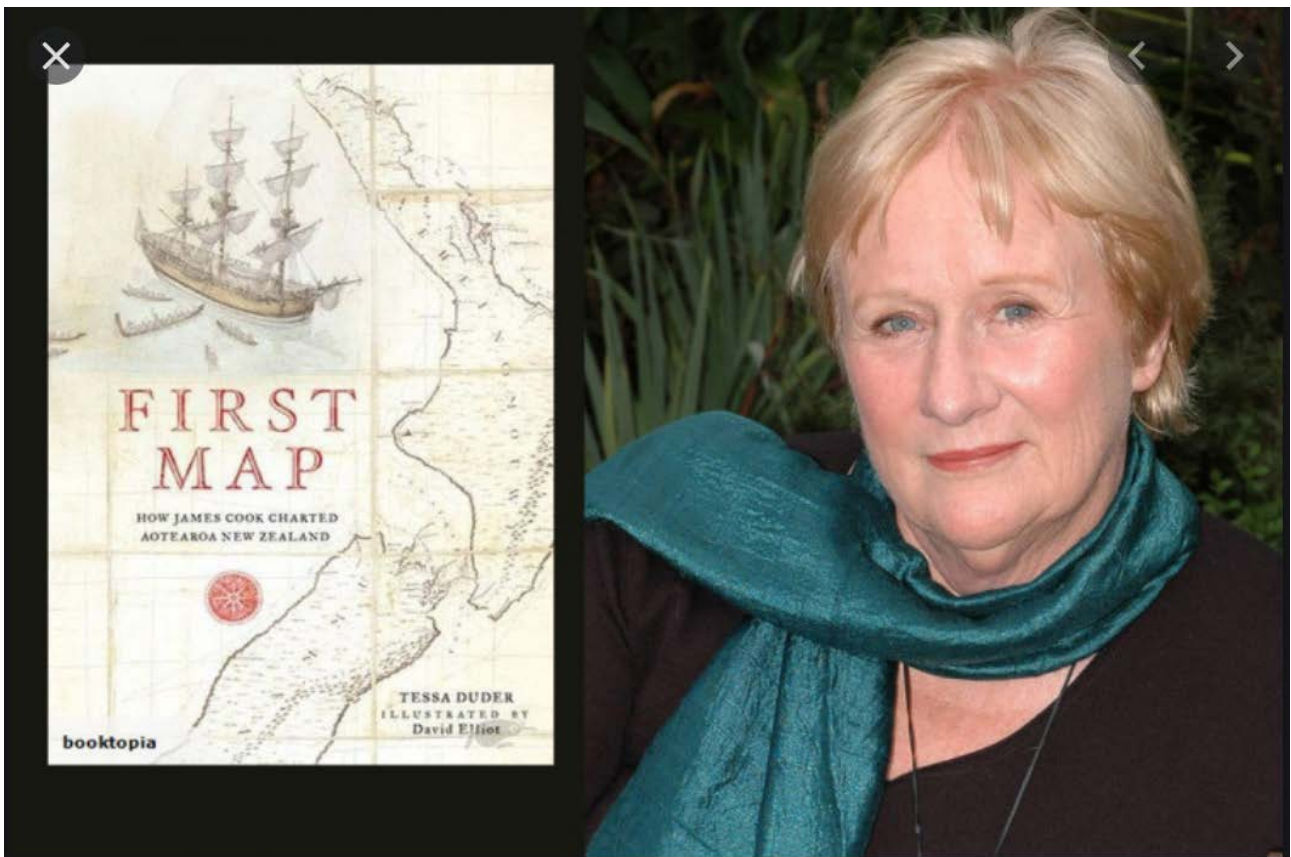
The club is reopening on Thursday 4 June for our usual Thursday, Friday, and Sunday sessions. At this stage we won't reopen on Saturdays but we will review this in a few weeks' time.

Friday meals courtesy of Platters will resume and snack options for Thurs and Sunday will be available albeit with some minor changes to meet regulations.

Further details on reopening will be sent out in a Latest News email before we reopen this Thursday 4th June. Looking forward to seeing you all then.



Stop Press



Queen's Birthday Honours - Congratulations

Hearty congratulations go to DYC's Dr Tessa Duder OBE on receiving her Queen's Birthday Honours! She received the Companion of The New Zealand Order of Merit for services to literature. Incidentally, she is our speaker at DYC Seataks next month, 30 July. We'll include more details in next month's newsletter.





DYC – Seataalks



Roy Swan – on Tenacious to the Falklands

Roy Swan is a master mariner, currently skipper of the historic tug William C. Daldy, and in the past skipper of Spirit of Adventure and Spirit of New Zealand. He's also tutor and senior examiner at the New Zealand Maritime School. Quite a CV!

Roy's talk will focus on his six-week non-stop voyage from Auckland to Falkland Islands aboard Tenacious (pictured) in 2018. He will also talk about the William C. Daldy, which could soon be return to Devonport wharf as its home.

7.30pm Thursday 18th July 2020

All welcome. The club bar will be open



Stories from the Cockpit

Over the coming months I will include some humorous old nautical sayings, which will intrigue all and offer an explanation as to their origin.

Chock - Sudden and usually unpleasant surprise suffered by Spanish seaman.

Circuit Breaker - An electromechanical switching unit intended to prevent the flow of electricity under normal operating conditions and, in the case of a short circuit, to permit the electrification of all conductive metal fittings throughout the boat. Available at most novelty shops.

Clew - an indication from the skipper as to what he might do next.

Companionway - a double berth.

Course - The direction in which a skipper wishes to steer his boat and from which the wind is blowing. Also, the language that results by not being able to.

Crew - Heavy, stationary objects used on shipboard to hold down charts, anchor cushions in place and dampen sudden movements of the boom.

Cruising - Fixing your boat in exotic locations.

CR Leech ED*

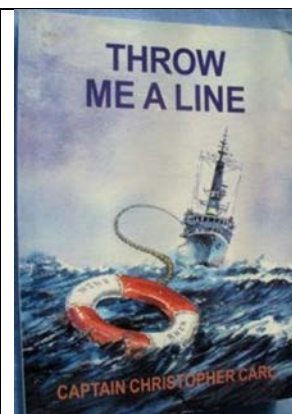
Past Commodore

DYC library

The books reviews shown below have been supplied by our club librarian, Colin Tubbs. We will be back in business from Thursday!

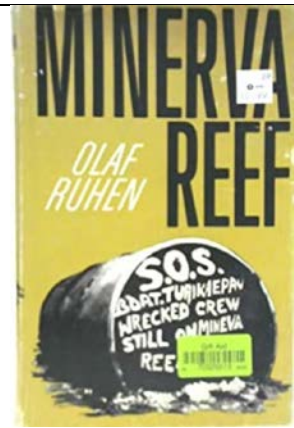
THROW ME A LINE
CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER CARL

With humour and insight, the author traces his journey from lowly officer cadet to captain of two New Zealand navy frigates. He describes naval training methods, student pranks, honours the traditions which still inspire the navy and the way the service has reflected the gathering pace of global social change. He pays tribute to the sacrifices made by those who choose to serve their country at sea and finally acknowledges "the sailor, those who officers lead and without whom there is no navy.



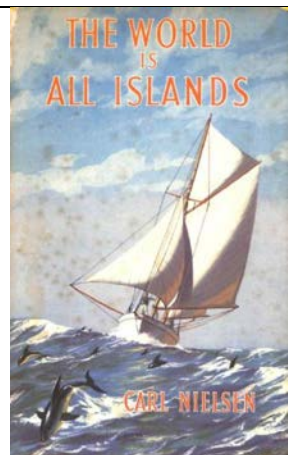
MINERVA REEF
OLAF RUHEN

This is a profoundly moving document of human faith and endurance. Stranded on a reef that was totally submerged except during the few hours of low tide each day and devoid of food and water, their only shelter the hulk of a Japanese trawler that had earlier wrecked on the reef. They did not survive without quarrels and occasional lapses of discipline, but in the final count they showed how men, divided by temperament and character, forged a united bond to answer disaster with magnificent integrity and resourcefulness.



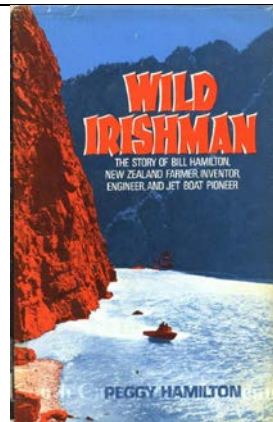
THE WORLD IS ALL ISLANDS
CARL NIELSEN

Throughout their journey around the world the author and his two companions seemed to have an infinite capacity for attracting the most exciting adventures. Only navigation of a really high order and a modicum of luck ensured their survival.



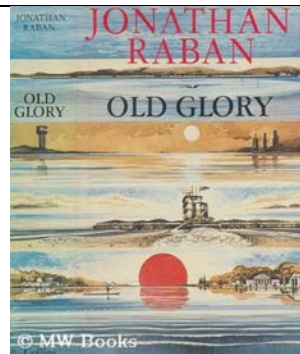
WILD IRISHMAN
PEGGY HAMILTON

The story of Bill Hamilton. The author's husband's talent for invention and love of boats developed at an early age. He grew up to become a high-country farmer, a racing car driver, engineer, and almost by accident the first man to make the jet propulsion of watercraft a practicality. Through this family narrative runs a sense of a devoted partnership, adventurous, humorous, quietly devoted and unassumingly idealistic.



OLD GLORY
JONATHAN RABAN

This is a delightful story, full of humour, fulfilling a childhood dream of riding the Mississippi River. In fact, he sets off from Minneapolis in a sixteen-foot aluminium dinghy powered by an outboard motor and oars. Raban is a born writer, His eyes and ears are extraordinarily acute, describing the features of the river, the countryside, the people and their townships. It is a story of courage verging on foolhardiness, endeavouring to avoid floating logs, underwater obstacles, whirlpools, stumpfields, man-made dams and the other river navigators least the huge tows.





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Book review

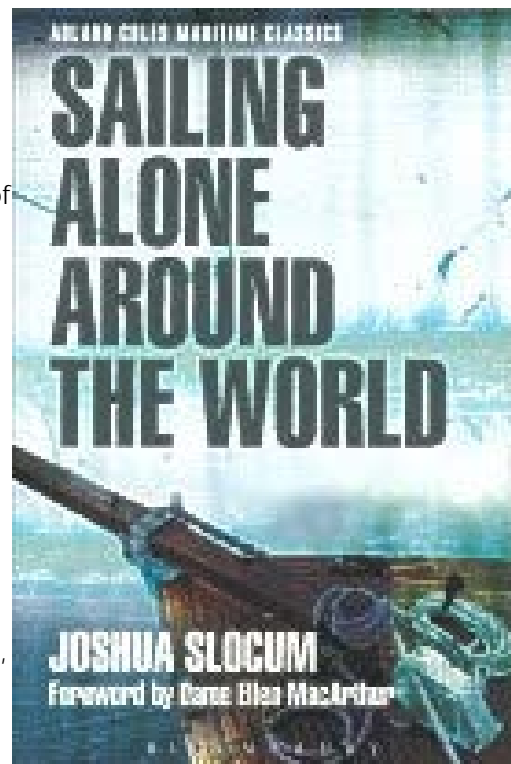
SAILING ALONE AROUND THE WORLD.

By Captain Joshua Slocum. Paperback.

Joshua Slocum's epic solo voyage around the world in 1895 in the 37 foot sloop *Spray* stands as one of the greatest sea adventures of all time. It remains one of the major feats of single-handed voyaging, and has since been the inspiration for the many who have gone to sea in small boats.

Starting from Boston on 24 April 1895, Slocum crossed the Atlantic to Gibraltar, only to discover he would have to change his route. He then re-crossed the Atlantic and followed Magellan's course south-westwards, sailing through the Strait, traversing the Pacific and Indian Oceans, rounding the Cape of Good Hope, and crossing the Atlantic a third time, dropping anchor at Newport, Rhode Island on 27 June 1898. He had covered some 46,000 miles entirely under sail and entirely alone - much of the time with the wheel lashed while he sat below reading, cooking or mending his clothes.

Slocum's account of his epic voyage is a classic of sailing literature, acclaimed as an unequalled masterpiece of vital yet disciplined prose. It will be welcomed by admirers of Slocum's legendary achievement.



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