

## March 2021

King Edward Parade,  
P.O. Box 32-036, Devonport,  
Auckland 0744  
Telephone: 445-0048  
Website: [www.dyc.org.nz](http://www.dyc.org.nz)  
Email: [webmaster@dyc.org.nz](mailto:webmaster@dyc.org.nz)  
Location:  
174° 48'.18 E  
36° 49'.87 S

## FROM THE QUARTERDECK



**A Report from the  
Vice Commodore  
Blair Cliffe**

It always surprises me when it is my turn to write for the Newsletter. Surely, I only wrote one the other month, but no as always time has flown and here we are four months further down the road. Since writing my last 'From the Quarterdeck' I have had a significant birthday, which quite by chance I managed to stretch out for more than a week. My actual Birthday was on a Monday this year and I was due to go to sea in HMNZS MANAWANUI for some trials. In typical lastminute.com fashion

we had a few friends pop in on the Sunday evening, the weather played its part and a fun time was had. I joined the ship in the morning and the Captain wished me Happy Birthday and in the following conversation he realised the number associated with it, (60 Sssh). That evening the ship's company were mustered in the dining room and it turned out to be for me. The Chefs had baked a cake, and everyone sang Happy Birthday. I was very moved and had a tear in my eye as I expressed my thanks to them all. The trials all went very well, which was a bonus and then we were back alongside just in time to take part in the Ladies Helm Race. We finished up at Te Wharau Bay where the usual BBQ and party took place on the beach and Lyn Mason and I celebrated our birthdays. A successful Birthday week!

The Ladies Helm race took place in very light conditions, so light in fact that none of the division B boats finished. Emma had invited two friends onboard for the event and after we rounded the first mark, I left them to it and went below to read my book for an hour. When I came back up on deck, we were still right next to the mark in company with Lidar! The light winds being just strong enough to allow us to stem the outgoing tide but not strong enough to allow us to make headway. Some 'Lady Driver' comments



crossed my mind but as I was outnumbered, I wisely kept my thoughts to myself! Shortly afterwards Emma pulled the pin followed by Lidar and we motored to Te Wharau Bay. The division A boats had managed to escape the clutches of the tidal stream and all finished. Unfortunately, there was a communications breakdown with some boats carrying on to Owhanake Bay as they were unaware of the change to the BBQ location. Lyn had something else to celebrate that evening other than her Birthday as after many years of trying she eventually won the Ladies Helm Race. Congratulations for your dedication! The results were 1<sup>st</sup> Lyn Mason, Sea Biscuit; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jude Clough, Kiss; 3<sup>rd</sup> Jane Evans, Renown. Congratulations. Te Wharau Bay is a nice spot with a lovely grassy area above the beach and it is situated on the path which runs from Oneroa to the end of Park Point and then back via Matiatia Bay. Emma and I keep promising each other we will walk the loop but we have not got round to it yet, perhaps this winter?

I don't really want to mention Lockdown, but it has of course affected the club and its opening. As I write Auckland is due to go back to Level 2 tomorrow morning so we will once again be able to open up and welcome members to the club. The America's Cup is due to start next week and the club will be open on race days for people to view the races on our new television. (Thanks again to Mark Clough for organising this great asset to the club). We did manage to hold our City of Sails Ball, which sadly I missed due to being away at sea. I understand it was a very enjoyable evening which went off very well and all reports I have received were very positive. The announcement in the middle of the evening that Auckland was going to be at Level 3 from the next

morning did not dampen the event, rather from what I hear stimulated people to enjoy themselves even more knowing there were going to be no more parties for a time! A big thank you and well done to the Social Committee for their efforts in organising the event and to those who stayed behind to help with the tidying up.

Significant Birthdays always form a suitable time to consider the past and look to the future. It goes without saying that looking to the future at the moment requires even more tea leaves than usual. I have however been enthused by all those club members that have circumnavigated the North Island recently and am thinking that Hautere should follow in their steps sooner rather than later. I have suggested to Geoff that we should ask all those with recent experience to present a Seataks and perhaps we could even collate some hints and tips in some sort of simplified Pilot. Anyway, all good stuff to think about and plan for.

Meanwhile we have the rest of the sailing programme to enjoy. I am very pleased that due to a change at work we will be able to take part in the Three Handed Gulf Rally, always a highlight of the season for me.



# DIRECTORY UPDATE



A warm welcome to our newest members.

New Member	Member Type
Giles Brooke-Hollidge & Niamh O'Reilly	Family
Judith Block	Associate Individual
Geraldine Booth	Associate Individual
Jill & Michael Cahill	Associate Family
Wade & Lisa Lewis	Family
Cheton and Olga Sawyer	Family
Matt and Clare Von Tiel	Associate Family
Patrick McCarthy and Nikki	Associate Family

## DYC city of sails ball

Oh, what a night! The City of Sails Ball was quite an evening with great food from Platters and live music from a fantastic local band, Freight, who's Chicago Jazz Blues got everyone dancing their (red) socks off, plus the added amazement at the announcement by Jacinda halfway through the evening that we were heading into Level 3 Lockdown at dawn - thank goodness we made it just in time! Jeff Sta-ines was our official photographer for the evening, please click on this link below to view them. If you would like to purchase a copy at only \$15 each, please contact Jeff direct on [jeff@merwood.studio](mailto:jeff@merwood.studio) [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TpA9riLL4jKjr2jNieNU48Z95qj\\_EXn0?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TpA9riLL4jKjr2jNieNU48Z95qj_EXn0?usp=sharing)

Please watch this space for further social activities, lockdown permitting, in the coming months. Finally, a huge thank you to the bar staff and social committee for making it not only possible, but great fun!



(Photo Geoff Evans)

Pictured above is Moana Nunn with a particularly impressive facial tattoo!





(Photo Jeff Sta-Ines)

Pictured above is Mike Webster - what a handsome pic!



(Photo Jeff Sta-Ines)

The social committee would like to thank the following Devonport Businesses for their generous donations of prizes for the hugely successful City of Sails Ball raffle.

**Miller Road Fragrance Studio** for their beautifully presented prize of candles and room fragrance. 2D Queens Parade, Devonport  
Phone: (09) 218

7511 [www.millerroad.co.nz](http://www.millerroad.co.nz)

**Chiasso** for their locally roasted coffee beans and other delicious treats. 20 Wynyard Street, Devonport [09-445](tel:09-4451816)

[1816 www.chiasso.co.nz](http://www.chiasso.co.nz)

**Glengarry** for a bottle of their Italian Prosecco, very appropriate for the Italian themed raffle basket. 11 Clarence Street,

Devonport [09-445 2989](tel:09-4452989) [www.glengarrywines.co.nz](http://www.glengarrywines.co.nz)

### The Responsible Drink

**Company** products for their delicious, regenerating, Black sparkling mineral waters. Available from Chateaubriand. 87 Vauxhall Road. Or 021 974 446

### Edmund

**Hillary** products [www.edmundhillary.com](http://www.edmundhillary.com)

Please support these lovely local businesses next time you are shopping

### Information on the band - Freight Blues

Freight or FreightBluesNZ is one of the Auckland Blues groups, and dates back to 2007. Marcus Wilson and Nigel Bioletti have kept the band going since then, but Lloyd Macomber, drummer, has been with the group since 2015, Ian Kettle, bassist, since 2017, and Kevin Harty, guitarist, since 2018. Nigel was born at Pentlands; Kevin and Ian live in Devonport, Lloyd works in Devonport, so there are good connections with this local community.

The group has a diverse repertoire of Blues numbers, centred on a Chicago blues style, with the two guitarists offering different styles, Nigel Bioletti adding the horn sound on alto and tenor sax, Marcus able to double on harp, all driven along by Lloyd and Ian. Marcus, Nigel, Kevin, and Lloyd share the vocals.

The band can play quieter laid back blues instrumentals and tunes, but then gradually crank things up to a full-on boogie. All of the tunes are great dance numbers. The band notices that people often start grooving from the first songs of a night.

The band has featured at the Bay of Islands Jazz and Blues festival. It's more a case of where the group has not played



in Devonport, because over the years, their gigs include The Masonic; The Vic; Hemingways; The Patriot; The Sportsman's Bar; the Golf Club for a private function; Tiny Triumphs, and at the end of last year, the Clarence Street

Fest. The band has also recorded at The Depot.

The band delivers good value. Call Nigel on 0274 576 330 if you wish to discuss a gig.

## Obituary - Robert Upton



After a short illness Robert Upton died on 17<sup>th</sup> February at Ryman's William Sanders at age 83.

Robert arrived in Devonport three years ago having moved from Wellington to be near two of his four sons who live locally. While temporarily staying at the Captain's Landing he was fascinated by our haulage operations. He was invited to our Friday meal and became a member. He was keen to be involved in the community and joined the Folk Music Club, Devonport Walkers, U3A and the film group. He also joined the Croquet Club of which he was a top-level player. He had held a number of national championship trophies. At U3A Robert met Laurel who became his companion and accepted into his family which had expanded by several new grandchildren.

He was born in Bristol and was evacuated as a child to rural Wales during the War and was persuaded by his father to join the Royal Navy at age 16. After graduating from Dartmouth Naval College he served in Light Cruisers with a particular interest in gunnery. On one occasion he was in Malta and was offered the chance to jump ship and for a modest sum was offered his very own Pub. Before long he found out that five other shipmates had been offered the same deal. He retired from the Navy in 1968 with the rank of Lieutenant Commander and then worked as a computer salesman for ICL in London. In 1972 he emigrated to New Zealand where he was Comptroller for Gear Meat Works after which he became a small business owner in the plastics and screen-printing industries. He completed his working career as CEO of the Wellington Free Ambulance.

Robert was active in the Wellington community through the Masonic Lodge, Citizens Advice, Lions and Rotary and Rugby Club together with service on the school's Board of Governors for St Marks.

He is survived by his four sons and eight mischievous and energetic grandchildren.

Good sailing Robert.

(Words from Graham Pettersen)



## Letters to the editor

### Changing from m/v to M.V.



An update on us: We have sold m/v Melody and have bought a Motorhome. It is said that it is a small world. The day we sold her we meet Mark Clough at Pier 21 haul out and then Mike Webster (who is on the marina next to ours) and Karen Webster crew or the day preparing Northerner to do the Mahurangi race.



In the meantime, we are continuing with our DYC membership and would like to thank everyone who said hello to us and stops for a chat. A special thanks to those who have invited us onboard their vessel, you will know who you are. Now to say thank you to anyone who took the time to make our grandchildren Monique, Megan and Albie (who were often our crew) feel welcome and especially to the apple crumble lady.

Memories we have so many good ones.

The weeklong events during the Millennium 2000 The Ball were awesome. Sometimes starting or finishing a yacht race with BBQs on the beach, loved the picnics and social events great memories we are lucky to retain. Adrienne felt especially honoured when occasionally called upon to present prizes loved being a part of acknowledging the skills and competitive side of sailing. Royce enjoys being a club member and helping others. Once again thank you.  
Royce and Adrienne Cox

### Opportunity Knocks



Hi my name is Ian Kirkland, My father Keith Kirkland built and launched the yacht Bluewater (sail number 112) labour weekend 1950, it is a 31foot Woolacott and he used it for the last sixty years, racing extensively in just about everything there was to race. Unfortunately, the last ten years he was not able to even get on the boat, he passed on the 20-12-2020 and I am looking to find Bluewater a new home. The boat is in need of restoring and



repowering as the motor is seized. I am available to be contacted by phone on 021 270 4504 and would seek any help I can get in finding a new owner who would take this challenge on.  
Kind regards.  
Ian Kirkland

## Membership has its privileges

A Devonport local coming back from up North (after the latest lockdown had been declared) when stopped at a checkpoint only had her DYC membership card to prove residency. The police took this as proof and waved her through!!!

Tony McNeight

## From the sailing master Andy Mason

Duder Cup Regatta Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> of March will proceed as programmed. However due to the scheduled Americas cup racing the attached amendment will apply (see below). Note: there will be no post-race BBQ or beach prize giving for this event but the DYC club will be open for a post-race drink & watching of any Americas Cup racing

### Amendment to the Sailing Instructions: Duder Cup Regatta 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Due to the Americas Cup Harbour operating restrictions this amendment to the courses for the Duder Cup Regatta on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021 apply.

### Race 13: Devonport Duder Cup Regatta

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021

HW 0826hrs 3.2

#### Divisions 1 & 2

Division 1 Start 1030hrs

Division 2 Start 1035hrs

- Start in an easterly direction between the start boat & Illiomama buoy
- Rakino Island Starboard
- Orapapa Island (The Haystack) Starboard
- Finish in a southerly direction between the finish boat & the Easterly Cardinal marker on the eastern side of Motuihe Island 18 miles

#### Division 3 1040hrs

Start

- Start in an easterly direction between the start boat & Illiomama buoy
- Rakino Island Starboard
- Finish in a southerly direction between the finish boat & the Easterly Cardinal marker on the eastern side of Motuihe Island 15 miles

#### Divisions 4 & 5

Start 1045hrs

- Start in an easterly direction between the start boat & Illiomama buoy
- Rakino Island Starboard
- Finish in a southerly direction between the finish boat & the Easterly Cardinal marker on the eastern side of Motuihe Island 15 miles

**The General Sailing Instructions & Notice of race remain unchanged**





(Tony McNeight - Posted on Facebook)



**Saltwater in his veins... Chad Thompson has been sailing on his yacht Prize since he was a nine-year-old** Pictures Liz Waters

You may have seen the two-page feature on DYC's Chad Thompson in the Feb 26 edition of the Flagstaff. If not here's a link

<https://devonportflagstaff.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/feb26devflag.pdf>

Chad will feature in this month's DYC Seatales (see promo below)





# DYC – Seataalks



## **Classic Yacht Association New Zealand**

The CYA has celebrated its 25th Anniversary. Back in the early 1990s few would have imagined that it would be the organization it is today. Back then, the “old clunkers” were changing hands for very little. Wannabe custodians were viewed as if they had lost their marbles and their friends suggested they enjoy recreational sailing on some other vessel, any vessel other than a tired old yacht. Today the CYANZ consists of 320 members and 250 of their yachts.

Devonport Yacht Club’s Chad Thompson, one of the founders, and Rachel Orr, the Association's Chairperson, will be talking about the founding of the Association.

**7.30pm Thursday 18 March 2021**

**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.

**Flashlight** - Tubular metal container used on shipboard for storing dead batteries prior to their disposal

**Fluke** - The portion of an anchor that digs securely into the bottom, holding the boat in place; also, any occasion when this occurs on the first try.

**Foul Wind** - breeze produced by flying turkey.

**Freeboard** - food and liquor supplied by the owner.

**Fuel** - Sailboats without auxiliary engines do not require fuel as such, but an adequate supply of a pale-yellow carbonated beverage with a 10 percent to 12 percent alcohol content is essential to the operation of all recreational craft.

**Galley** -

1. Ancient - Aspect of seafaring associated with slavery
2. Modern - Aspect of seafaring associated with slavery

CR Leech ED\* Past Commodore

## CLUB NOTICES



(Photo – Geoff Evans)

## For the diaries

Prizegiving: Saturday 29th May

Laying Up Supper: POSTPONED from Saturday 1 May to Saturday 3 July

## Devonport Yacht Club Latest News emails

If for some reason you're not receiving the weekly emails, then you can easily self-enrol (read on). Some members may have unsubscribed because of too much email traffic, or whatever. The problem is that if you have unsubscribed in the past, we are unable to re-subscribe you. However, all is not lost. You are able to subscribe again on our website. Just click on this link: <https://dyc.org.nz/contact> Scroll down to the bottom of the page and you will see a section for you to complete and just press subscribe and, voila!

(Below is a static image of what it looks like.)

### Subscribe below to receive our regular 'Latest News' email

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#### DEVONPORT YACHT CLUB

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**Dear members,**

The committee have recently reviewed the condition of the club piano and have decided that it is time that we got rid of it to free up space.

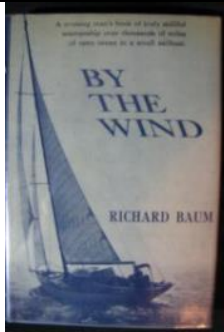

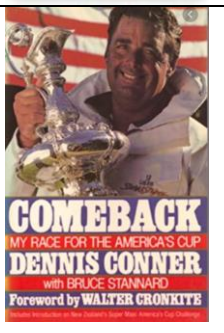
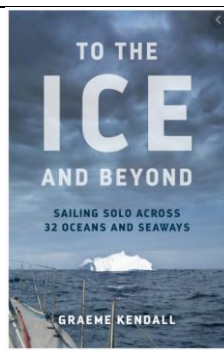
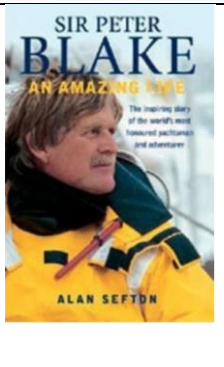
Two years ago we had the piano professionally tuned and at that stage were advised that it wasn't worth spending any more money on.

If any member has a strong opinion on this or would like to take the piano off our hands then please discuss with one of the flags or **email [secretary@dyc.org.nz](mailto:secretary@dyc.org.nz)**



## DEVONPORT YACHT CLUB LIBRARY

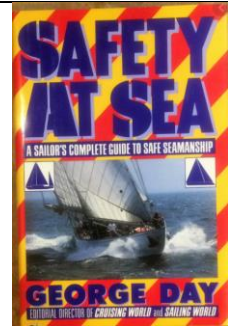
The books reviews below have been supplied by our club librarian, Colin Tubbs.

<p>BY THE WIND RICHARD BAUM</p> <p>This is truly a great cruising book-varied, informative, fresh as an ocean breeze. The author makes his zest for ocean sailing contagious and suggests a philosophy of cruising many a sailor will be glad to see in print. It belongs in every sailor's locker and gives every landsman a strong urge of sea fever.</p>	
<p>SALT BENEATH THE SKIN TESSA DUDER</p> <p>The author has collected true stories in a book guaranteed to enthrall even the most determined land lubber.</p>	
<p>COME BACK DENNIS CONNER</p> <p>Conner takes us behind the scenes in the bitter struggle, first against the Australians in 1983 and then with the New York Yacht Club and the heavyweight Texas money, which came to be dominant and take control of the Club's own challenge.</p>	
<p>TO THE ICE AND BEYOND GRAEME KENDALL</p> <p>The author was the first person to sail the Northwest Passage solo non-stop, the fastest recorded as part of his extraordinary 193 days solo circumnavigation of the globe. This is a story of meticulous planning and rugged courage. He crossed 28,000 miles of 32 ocean seaways, facing some of Earth's most terrifying seas.</p>	
<p>SIR PETER BLAKE, AN AMAZING LIFE ALAN SEFTON</p> <p>In his first ever biography the author traces Blake's extraordinary life from the small boy crazy about the sea, to rigors of ocean sailing and the high dramas of American Cup racing and the controversial aftermath to the decision to devote his life to saving the world's oceans and finally to his tragic death on the Amazon river.</p>	

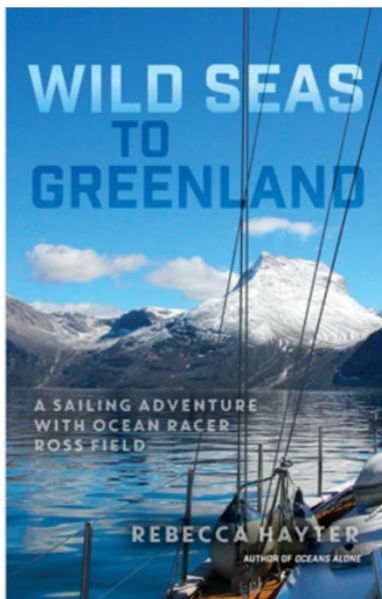


**SAFETY AT SEA**  
**GEORGE DAY**

Day has written a highly personal and authoritative book based on his own extensive sailing experience. In this appealingly written manual, he makes sound recommendations about keeping out of trouble, always focusing on the needs of the average family cruise. He tells how to evaluate boats and organize gear to reach destinations safely.



## Book review from Boat Books



### **WILD SEAS TO GREENLAND**

By Rebecca Hayter. Softback Published 2021.

A Sailing Adventure with Ocean Racer Ross Field.

When New Zealand ocean racing skipper Ross Field retired from professional sailing, he was already looking for his next, unusual adventure. In a dusty boatyard in France, he bought a 20-year-old aluminium yacht. She was a mess, but he knew the yacht was immensely strong. Ross named her *Rosemary*, refitted her for the high latitudes and set his sights on the Northwest Passage.

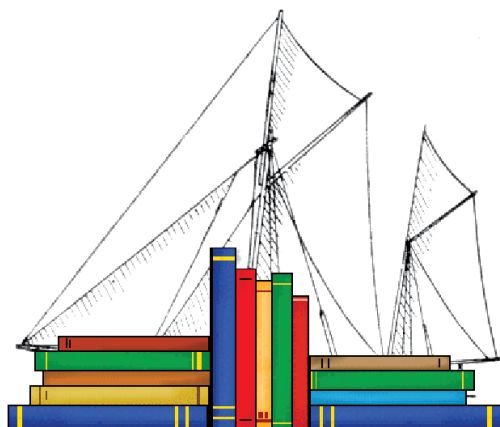
Yachting journalist Rebecca Hayter followed his refit in detail, and then she signed on as crew.

In this book, Rebecca recounts life on board, the highs and lows of ocean cruising, and her own personal challenges.

She shares Ross's war stories from famous yacht races, laughs at his jokes and observes his boat handling skills in the storms of the North Atlantic.

The central part of the story is set in the chilling vastness of Greenland Fjords: icebergs, whales and 'fishing boats that munch growlers for breakfast'

\$40.00 In stock



Boat Books Ltd  
22 Westhaven Drive  
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Auckland 1010  
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