



RICHMOND
YACHT CLUB

Plain Sailing

August 2014



FROM THE FLAG

Shiver me timbers, matey! We've had a great June but July seems to be cooling the glorious autumn down a bit. It was good to see so many of you at the AGM and the Annual Prizegiving.



Congratulations to Steve Horner and the *Pepe* crew for taking out the club championship, as well as to all the other winners. Most of all, thanks to all of you for racing and supporting the club events over the last year.

I would like to thank the outgoing committee for their contribution and effort over the last year managing the club. Welcome to the new committee – who are mostly the old committee! We all appreciate the commitment you have offered to help running the club.

Racing on Sundays seems to have been well synchronised with less rather than more wind. This makes for challenging winter racing but generally the races have been raced in sunshine, which has been great. Only a couple more to go and we will move on the summer racing for 2014.

The Volvo Penta Spring Regatta will be on 20 September, which will be here before we know it, so start getting your crew sorted out! There is a great series entry prize of a heat pump for the Wednesday night series (courtesy of 1st Mechanical).

The pedestrian link down Westhaven Drive is happening quite slowly and XY pier changes have started. Waterfront Auckland is fairly active so we will try to keep up to date with those happenings.

We are very grateful to our sponsors: CRC, New World Birkenhead, Victoria Cruising Club Trust, Orams Marine Services, Harken/Fosters Ship Chandlery, Coolstore Construction, Burnsco, Lidgard Sails and Mount Gay Rum. Please take every opportunity to support them and use their products and services and tell them you are a Richmond member. I wish to thank Orams for their many years of support via the much-relished haul out vouchers.

We are looking for volunteers for helping out with bar duties so please think about offering your services. We have a few members who are long serving and need a break! Kate is starting to build up a 'help' list of members who may wish to help doing odd jobs and tasks as and when the need arises so if you wish to do so please contact her.

John Davies, Commodore

EDITOR'S WELCOME

This issue has sailing yarns galore: RYC winter racing; SSANZ short handed racing; a dream life in the Mediterranean; the Volvo Ocean Race; and a dramatic off-shore adventure... it's been a lot of fun reading all your stories, thank you for sending them in!

Please do keep your contributions coming in. Short is good: it only takes half a page of A4 to fill an entire page in the magazine, so a few paragraphs are ideal as it means I can squeeze more stories into the magazine.

Remember to send me your photos, too: piccies really bring your stories to life. Big file sizes and clear, sharp photos are great. Email them to me at: magazine@richmondyc.org.nz

Happy sailing,

Cornelia Luethi, Plain Sailing Editor & co-skipper of FX



Email your stories and pictures to Cornelia, Editor of Plain Sailing magazine.

Thanks to all of our great sponsors that help us put on our racing!



CALENDAR & NOTICES

For the most up-to-date event information, contact the RYC office.

August	3	Sun	Winter Series Race 7
	9	Sat	SSANZ Triple Series - Race 2
	17	Sun	Winter Series Race 8
	31	Sun	Winter Series Race 9 (Final)
September	6	Sat	SSANZ Triple Series - Race 3
	20	Sat	Spring Regatta (Gold Cup Race 1)
October	1	Wed	Wednesday Night Series Race 1
	12	Sun	Hauraki Singlehanded Series Race 1 (WBC)
	15	Wed	Wednesday Night Series Race 2
	17	Fri	Victoria Friday Night Special Race 1
	24	Fri	Coastal Classic
	29	Wed	Wednesday Night Series Race 3
November	9	Sun	Hauraki Singlehanded Series Race 2 (RYC)
	12	Wed	Wednesday Night Series Race 4
	14	Fri	Victoria Friday Night Special Race 2
	21	Fri	Destination Series Race 1 (Waiheke)
	26	Wed	Wednesday Night Series Race 5
	28	Fri	Victoria Friday Night Special Race 3
	30	Sun	Hauraki Singlehanded Series Race 3 (BBYC)

Upcoming social events

29 August: with Annie Hill, author of 'Voyaging on a Small Income', and who converted the rig of her Raven 26, *Fantail*, to a junk rig in 2011. Read more about Annie on her blog: <http://anniehill.blogspot.co.nz>.

26 September: 'Calm in the face of Storms' with a speaker from Coastguard as well as Georgina Griffiths from MetService.

Welcome to our new members:

General and Family members:

Simon and Phillipa Malpas (Beneteau First 44.7, *Atamai*),
Geoff and Aliza Glanville (Salthouse Corsair MkII, *Reckless*),
Mark Blazey (Beale 11.6, *Danaide*).

Crew members: Daniel Richardson, Nick Webster.

SUMMER RACING PREVIEW

2014-15 Victoria Friday Night Special

Yes, it's time to get organised for summer time racing already! The Victoria Friday Night Special starts on 17 October. This series for those new to sailing (or crew who want to have a go at sailing on different boats) has earned a great reputation and is increasingly popular each year. We also get a lot of repeat crew members wanting to re-join.

If you're keen to crew in the Victoria Friday Night Special, please contact the office now to book your place. The series will be advertised externally soon, and the spots fill up quickly, so confirm your place now.

Wednesday Night Series 2014-15

The Wednesday Night Series starts on 1 October, and if you normally buy a Series Entry, this year it's well worth buying a Sail Pass to be in with a chance of winning the major Skipper's Spot Prize.

The Prize:

A \$3,000 heat pump with installation, courtesy of 1st Mechanical. (Many thanks to Peter Barnard from *Peppermint Planet*.)



How to Win:

Buy a Sail Pass by the first race; race the first race; and be there at the prizegiving of the first race when the prize will be drawn.

What's a Sail Pass?

A Sail Pass provides you with entry to all RYC races, and costs \$220.

So if you're a Richmond member and normally race the Winter Series (\$110 for a Series entry) and the Wednesday Night Series (\$130 for a Series entry), you'll save money with a Sail Pass.

Plus you get to take part in the Spring Regatta, Destination series, and Harbour races at no additional cost. Sail Pass holders also get a discount on their entry to the Route 66.

Just contact the office to purchase your Sail Pass... and be in to win the superb \$3,000 heat pump.

RYC AGM 2014: MARGARET HARVEY

We always seem to strike poor weather when the AGM is held and this year was no exception. However around 25 members braved the forecast and attended the 110th AGM on June 27th.

The usual reports were presented, with Commodore John Davies expressing thanks to the club's very generous sponsors. John also thanked the retiring committee, in particular Hans Swete and Margaret Harvey who are not standing for the new committee. He also spoke about the office and administration, publicity, Waterfront Auckland and Westhaven issues. The Commodore also thanked all the volunteers, including the committee, the race management staff and the patrol boat crew.

Margaret Harvey, Secretary, commented on the membership (an increase of members this year), racing (lots of shortened races), social events and club maintenance.

Audrey Cole, Treasurer, reported on a good financial year and also the proposed increase in subscriptions for the forthcoming year.

The President, all Flag Officers and Treasurer were re-elected for the new committee, and Evelien van Vliet was elected Secretary. With a number of the current committee not standing for the committee three new members were elected, they are Jodie Kirkwood, Peter Locke and Andrew Hall.

The Blake Memorial Shield was presented to Audrey Cole and Margaret Harvey.

At the conclusion there was lucky draw for a free membership won by Chris Ashman. Dinner followed the AGM, a great meal with tasty sweet treats to follow.

The annual prizegiving followed dinner. A full list of prizewinners will be published in the annual handbook, with the major prizewinners being:

Club Champion	Stephen Horner	<i>Pepe</i>
Centennial Cup	Bryon Wright	<i>Revolution Blues</i>
Maurice Livingstone Cup	Gareth Wells	<i>Wandering Star</i>
Alan Wright Trophy	Carey Shelley	<i>Zilch</i>

The Orams haul out prize was won by John Davies, *Crocodile*.

Our club, like many sporting clubs, has challenges to face in the future so we need more help to share the load, If any club member would like to offer their services either at a committee level or for a particular task, please contact one of the flag officers. You will find ample reward in being part of a friendly active yacht club.

WINTER SERIES: MARGARET HARVEY

Richmond's much-anticipated winter racing started with a hiss and a puff this season. A and C are the more popular divisions with a few hardy crews attempting the short-handed spinnaker division. It has been great to see an increased fleet this year.

- Race 1: 5-10 knots from the north so a shortened course was called for the 36 boats racing.
- Race 2: 45 boats took to the water in an 8 knot westerly; another shortened course.
- Race 3: Some wind at last for the 43 boats on the water, with a 15 knot easterly and we got to do a complete course.
- Race 4: This was particularly light with a lot of boats congregated around Torpedo Buoy after taking more than 90 minutes to get there. Word has it that water bombs were employed as a tactic on some boats. The Mount Gay rum cocktail demonstration at the after match function was very well received.

We always get a good crowd at the club after winter racing, please do try the lovely food available. Our thanks to our regular sponsors CRC, New World and Lidgards.

We have some new faces (and some regular ones) in the start tower who are honing their skills with the AP and other flags. Many thanks to you all, and to the crew on *Taipan*, for your help.



A mass mark rounding at Torpedo Buoy in Race 4.
(Photos: PicturesByCornelia.com)



Mount Gay rum cocktail at the RYC clubhouse after Race 4.

A VISITOR FROM A DISTANT SHORE

Visitor From A Distant Shore: By Bill Farmer

A recent family wedding attracted friends and family from near and far. One such person was my cousin, Amber Ugarte, from the American arm of our family. Her extended stay after the wedding provided the family the opportunity to show her many aspects of our country.

My thoughts were for an activity with a difference, so a cheeky request was made to skipper Hans Swete which was met with a rapid response of acceptance for Amber to be part of the *Transformer* crew for Race 3 of the RYC winter series.

Any fears of trepidation were quickly alleviated after discovering that Amber's father owns a well maintained classic designed ketch named *Freedom*. When opportunities arise, Amber spends days of enjoyment sailing on *Freedom* off the coast of Ventura with family and friends.

On the day of the race, the wind gods came to the party by providing 15 to 20 knots from the east and the predicted rain never eventuating. Regardless of the fact that there was a major gender imbalance by a ratio of 12 to 1, Amber was seamlessly accepted as part of the crew. And at long last the average age of the *Transformer* crew had dropped significantly to 55.

Transformer relished the wind conditions with windward beats to Motukorea and then to Illiomama. Leg 3 was a magnificent spinnaker run to Resolution, followed by a tight reach to the finish which bought a smile to everyone's face.

The end result for *Transformer* was a convincing second across the line, which resulted in a fourth on handicap.

And for Amber, our visitor from a distant shore, she was pleased to be part of a most enjoyable day on this great harbour of ours and the memories that were created.



US visitor Amber enjoying a Winter Series race on *Transformer*.

Are you organising an event?

Richmond Yacht Club offers great venue hire with spectacular views of the Harbour and Bridge.

The club is ideal for weddings, parties and 21sts, and it's also the perfect venue for seminars, corporate training events and off site meetings.

Included in the venue hire:

- Use of tables and chairs
- Dance floor
- DVD player
- Wireless microphone system
- White board, projector and screens
- Plenty of free parking for your guests.

The perfect backdrop for your event, day or night...



Hint: As a member of RYC, you are entitled to a significant discount!

More info can be found on the website or by calling the office **(09 376 4332)**.

LINDA'S MEDITERRANEAN DREAM

Whilst we're in the midst of damp and cold winter racing, former RYC Committee member Linda de Vine is living the Mediterranean dream...

After 21 years of selling real estate I wondered what I would remember 2014 for. I decided that I was happiest on the sea on a boat and that I would be able to travel and see the Mediterranean and other parts of the world as Super Yacht crew. After passing my ENG 1 - Seafarers Medical certificate in January, I completed my STCW 2014 course at Mahurangi Technical Institute.

My experience on *Azure* with Peter Strathdee and *A Team* crew racing in the Wednesday Night Series and at the weekends gave me a good idea of boat skills. The experiences working with Margaret and Vera and others in the start tower have also not gone amiss.

On Easter Monday I arrived in Antibes in the South of France and the Super Yacht crew hub in time for the Antibes boat show. The international wharf there has some mighty yachts more the size of cruise ships. There were parties, invites, cocktail launches and a lot of networking.

Since then, I have visited the Yacht Club of Monaco, where as a Member of the Richmond Yacht Club, I have been made very welcome. I was also welcomed at the Club Nautico in Barcelona and was able to take my sister and friends for a pre-dinner cocktail.

My friends from the UK had been invited to spend the Monaco Grand Prix with their friends on a super yacht in Monaco and I was invited to lunch on the Friday. This extended each day to, "would you like to come again tomorrow?" So I was VERY fortunate to experience the Grand Prix; the pinnacle of motor racing. What an amazing experience, with all the boats sounding their horns for about ten minutes at the end of the Grand Prix and partying all night. The atmosphere was like Auckland City after the Rugby World Cup.

The 4-6 June was a Classic Yacht Regatta in Antibes and I was able to see many of the old classic yachts on the dock in Antibes. They had come from all over for the regatta and was a unique collection of such boats

I am looking forward to a summer of experiences in the Mediterranean.



Port Fontvieille in Monaco, where Linda is living.



Massive super yachts with massive parties on board.



A RYC committee member's boat seems to have grown - and lost its sails?!

SSANZ RACE #1

Evelien van Vliet raced with Trish Lewis on her Reactor, Wishbone, in Race One of the SSANZ Safety at Sea two-handed race:

Wishbone's SSANZ race report

The week leading up to the race was very wet and wild - including the morning of 12th July, the first race of SSANZ triple series. The weather forecast was for NE 40-60 knots in the morning with rough seas and the breeze was predicted to drop off. My biggest concern was at 7.30am, the time I arranged to meet Trish, it would be wind against tide. I wondered if we would even get the dinghy out to the piles.

Then the phone rang: the start was delayed by two hours. As soon as I hung up, the wind began to soften. By the time I left my house, the wind had reduced dramatically.

On the Friday afternoon, Trish and I decided with a rough forecast that brooming the bottom of the boat would be not worth our trouble in the rough weather. Rowing out to the boat I was thinking that we should have done so, but never mind.

The Smallboat Division One course was Rangitoto (starboard), Haystack (starboard), Crusoe Rock (starboard), Motuihe (starboard), Illiomama buoy (port), Motukorea (starboard), then to finish at Orakei. In this series there is a prize draw for a spinnaker for one of the entries. The eligibility for this spinnaker draw is to turn up to the briefing; race all races; do all scheds during racing; and go to the prizegiving. This is all standard practice for *Wishbone*.

With a cup of tea down the hatch, we made it out to Northern Leading in just enough time for the start, we were good to go. With a nice breeze on the way to the start we were hopeful of getting that a fair way around the course. Start at 11.20am and we were on our way. No such luck to have the breeze stay with us. Flopped around for a short time and pulled out our secret weapon (well for small boats anyway): the code zero sail. We managed to sneak away from some of the fleet, but before long we were at a stand still again. With breeze in sight we saw other small boats take off, but it took us considerably longer to get the same breeze and we saw *Yotasorus* pull away.

Around Rangi Light we were not pointing high, but weighed up having more sail area and not being able to point to moving along. We stayed further out from coast compared to most of the fleet, and got some lovely breeze out there. When it came to tacking back into shore we changed sails to the genoa as the code zero was too hard to tack. Coming back, we saw that some yachts were standing upright

inshore so we tacked back out to find the nice breeze we had earlier.

Oops, that tack didn't do us any favours and soon we were standing upright going nowhere whilst the fleet inshore pulled away out of sight. There was quite a big swell from the bad weather earlier in the week, pushing us back with tide as well.

The advantage the fleet ahead got was once they rounded Haystack, they had a nice reaching breeze; swell behind them; and tide pushing them along.

We finally rounded Haystack, but soon it was getting dark. We prepared for the evening by getting on our evening attire before having our three-course meal: soup, pasta and ginger kisses.

It was slow going to Crusoe Rock. Reporting in for our sched at Crusoe Rock, the Coastguard assumed we were one hour from finish as were most boats in the series, but alas no.

The breeze picked up again which also lifted our spirits, but not long after that found ourselves in a wind shadow behind Motuihe Island. We muddled our way along to round Illiomama and Motukorea, and once again the breeze kicked in. We finally got the NW breeze we had been waiting for ALL day.

Kicking along nicely, looking at our distance and speed, we decided we were one hour from the finish. I am sure the finish boat were pleased to hear that since we were the last boat on the course.

Not long after that sched, guess what happened? The breeze died AGAIN!! We muddled further along, so close yet so far by this time. With this in mind we persisted until the very end. I admire Trish with her perseverance and it was a privilege to sail with someone so dedicated. See you next race, Trish.



Wishbone (right) with Manawa and Aquaholic.

Photo: Ginger Photography. For great sailing pics, be sure to check out: <https://www.facebook.com/gingermarinephotography>

AT HOME ON THE SEA

Bill Morris is ex 'Tiri Moana' and has been a RYC member since 1980. This is an extract from his off-shore sailing adventures – Ed.

In August 1985 (though it seems just like yesterday), I crewed on *Horizon*, a 36ft Woolacott racing from Auckland to Mooloolaba. There were six of us including the skipper; I noticed there were only four berths. This was going to be fun, I thought. Worse! Two of the crew were violently sea sick in the first few days and had the best berths. I slept sitting up, on off watches.

The weather was extremely unpleasant for most of the trip, with gales and rough seas a regular feature. We were constantly wet, and this went on until just 76 miles from the finish when we were holding second place. In very rough seas and 50 knot winds, we were knocked down. The wooden mast broke off at the spreaders and the main cabin windows smashed in on both sides. The bilges filled up above the floor boards.

I was on watch at the time and was washed into the sea but restrained by my harness. I remember feeling how warm the water felt as I watched the off-watch bailing out the boat.

It was a total mess with mast, sails and rigging all overboard; I noticed this as I climbed back on board. All hands got stuck into tidying up the mess. We soon had what was left of the mast back on board; the sails off the wreckage of it; and rigging rolled up and stowed on deck - all this in big seas and 40 to 50 knot winds. We even got the engine started and were able to head the seas and keep the boat on a steady course.



Aground in Moreton Bay.

After tuning up the emergency aerial we finally got out a Mayday. In just a few hours we were picked up by an 80,000 bulk carrier, the *Fort Duffren*. After some drama getting on board, we landed at Mooloolaba.

With the help of local yacht clubs, local businessmen and friendly members of the public we got organised with accommodation, and eventually the recovery of *Horizon*. This exercise gained me my first helicopter ride and involved being lowered from the S.E.S. helicopter onto the deck of the yacht, now 126 miles out to sea.

The skipper and I managed to bring the boat back into Brisbane which in itself involved much drama, and involved the water police as well as gaggles of local media.

However, we made it, and Warwick arranged for the boat to be sent back to Auckland. You would think that after that I would have had enough of offshore sailing! But no, being a tiger for punishment I had many more adventures, until I finally gave up off-shore sailing ten years ago.



In Brisbane at last.



Bill Morris on a subsequent voyage in the 1990s.

MEET THE GOOD BUGGERS AT LIDGARDS...

Have you seen all the Lidgard Sails flags outside Richmond Yacht Club on Winter Race series race days, and wondered about the club's new(-ish) sponsor?

Plain Sailing editor, Cornelia Luethi, interviewed the new owners of Lidgard Sails, Lewis Callaghan and Grant Ewing...



Lidgard Sails: past and present

Lidgard Sails was founded by Jim Lidgard in 1973, when he was 22 years old. The company went on to be the largest sailmaker in the world, supplying sails to America's Cup competitors and many other prominent regattas.

However, that proud history came to a (temporary) end when Jim died of a heart attack. His wife took over the business, but struggled to maintain the same momentum.

Grant and Lewis purchased Lidgard Sails last year. They are both putting long hours into the business, and they're happy to see that the business is turning around.

"We've got three full-time sailmakers, but we're so busy we'll need more people. Our designs are performing well out on the water, and our customers are winning races. Happy customers and personalised service is what we're all about... and the word is spreading and business is going well," says Lewis.

What's the Lidgard Sails difference?

- **Custom design:** Often sailmakers will use existing moulds and adapt them for the size of your boat. To get the same performance, Lidgard Sails provides every customer with a unique custom-designed sail that's tailored to your boat.
- **NZ-made:** When you buy from Lidgard Sails, you're supporting a 100% kiwi business. To compete on price, other sailmakers will often import complete or semi-complete sails from offshore. It's important you ask your potential sailmaker where your sails are really coming from.
- **Personalised service:** The team at Lidgards will do all they can to go the extra mile and make things easier for you. Whether that means picking up a sail for repair, or going sailing with a client, they'll do it.

Tips on choosing the right sail fabric for your boat:

- First and foremost, it's not just about the fabric the sail is made of; it's the shape that determines how fast (or slow) it goes.
- Some high-end sail fabrics hold their shape well but tend to not to be very durable, whereas traditional fabrics will generally last longer.
- The key factor when buying sails is to decide what you want to achieve from those sails. Are you after extreme performance with minimum extra weight - and be willing to replace those sails more often? Or do you want something super durable? Or something part way between those extremes?
- Whatever you decide, Lidgard Sails has a wide range of fabrics to choose from. Dacron comes in different grades (and some are much better than others); then there's polyester, woven spectra, kevlar and carbon sails - and mixes thereof.
- Lidgard Sails has X-cell for serious racers: that's a membrane sail equivalent to North's 3DL or Doyle's Stratis.
- A small boat can get the same performance out of a cheaper fabric than a high-end fabric, because it will never load up beyond the capabilities of the cheaper fabric. So sail fabric choice also comes down to the size and set-up of your boat.



Co-owner Lewis Callaghan is a regular face at the RYC clubhouse and on club members' boats.



Grant Ewing, now the co-owner of Lidgard Sails, started working there straight out of school.

Lidgard Sails: 23 Barry's Point Road, Takapuna, Auckland
Phone: 09 489 1111 **Email:** sails@lidgardsails.co.nz **Web:** lidgardsails.co.nz

RYC MEMBERS AND THEIR BOATS

Hans Swete: Elliott 12.85 *Transformer*

Hans is one of those lucky kiwis who grew up sailing: his first childhood home was by the Whau River in Te Atatu, where his dad always had a boat. And later his family moved to Henderson Creek, where there was a boat shed at the bottom of the garden. "I lived on the water as a kid - it was a good life," says Hans.

Hans' boats just kept on growing...

"I sailed an OK dinghy in New Plymouth, and I also had a Noelex 22 that I brought back to Auckland with me. That was in 1985/1986, and was when I joined Richmond Yacht Club," says Hans.

"My kids then started sailing with me as well, and we did a lot of cruising and winter racing with RYC. So the Noelex 22 grew into a Noelex 25... and that grew into a Noelex 30... and that grew into a Young 99... and that grew into *Transformer*. I've had *Transformer* for 11 years now. These days, I still enjoy racing and cruising in equal measures"



Hans Swete... not that you need a photo to identify this RYC stalwart!

A life on the water

Hans doesn't just sail for fun, he's also worked on the water professionally. During his time with the former Regional Council, his duties included being Deputy Harbour Master when needed. Hans has also volunteered for RYC for many years. Even though he stood down from the General Committee this year, he's still on the Sailing Committee and is the Club Handicapper. Hans was Commodore of RYC from 1995 to 1997, having previously been Vice and Rear Commodore.

"I really enjoy Richmond Yacht Club: it's a friendly, family-oriented club, and I've made some long-standing friendships, thanks to the club. It's very true that what you get out of a club depends on what you put into it."

When he's not sailing, Hans enjoys being semi-retired, and helps his brother in his air-conditioning business. Hans also enjoys fishing and diving. He has two children: Joanna, who lives and works in Christchurch after completing University there, and David, whom you can read about on the opposite page...

Richmond member in next Volvo Ocean Race

David Swete, a Richmond Yacht Club member, is returning for his second Volvo Ocean Race. This time he is with the young team Alvimedica based out of Newport, Rhode Island.

David started his racing with his family doing Richmond's family cruising races moving onto more serious racing with his dad (*Hans Swete - see facing page - Ed*) in Richmond events.

In the 2011-2012 edition of the Volvo Ocean Race with Team Sanya, Dave competed as race crew and was honoured with the prestigious Hans Horrevoets Award for Young Sailor of the Race.

Dave's recent accomplishments include winning the 2014 Newport Bermuda Race with the Mini Maxi Shockwave. With this team, Dave also won the 2014 Antigua 600 and placed first in Key West 2013. He has been logging ocean-racing miles with four Sydney Hobarts, two Fastnets, the Transatlantic Race, Transpac, and two Middle Sea Races to his credit including a 2009 win on the TP52 *Lucky*. A graduate of the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron's youth program, Dave won the 2009 World Match Racing Championships with Adam Minoprio. He also competed in the 2012 America's Cup World Series events with China Team and Red Bull Racing.

Follow the daily progress of the team with a Richmond component on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TeamAlvimedica>



David with Team Sanya, where he won the Hans Horrevoets Award for Young Sailor of the Race.



David the family man: he has a daughter, Ella, with his partner, Jenny. Ella recently turned two.

WESTHAVEN: THE HEART OF BOATING

Did you know?

- 45% of all racing in New Zealand originates from a Westhaven yacht club.
- Boats race out of Westhaven about 220 days of the year.
- On average, each boat racing out of Westhaven is doing more than twice the number of races compared with boats elsewhere.
- Wednesday night is the most popular race night - about a quarter of all race boats are out.

Our fantastic sport established itself before the turn of the century as a national sport, where yacht clubs were at the centre of local communities, and the focus of families. In the decades that followed, the Westhaven clubs, including the Richmond Yacht Club, were built.

Since then clubs like RYC, have run sailing programs that a solid core of keelboat sailors enjoy and participate in, with Westhaven Marina as the backdrop.

With Westhaven Marina being opened up to the public, we believe we will be providing a more lively, vibrant and visible backdrop for our sport because more people will be visiting the Marina, and it's inevitable that many of them will be inspired by what they see. Some of them will be keen to try boating - whether by doing a sailing course, or taking part in a 'Friday Night Special', or becoming fully fledged club members. Some of those may even go on to enjoy their boating enough that they decide to buy a boat.

We think that there will be opportunities for all of the clubs, especially RYC, which is already proactive and welcoming of new members. Your Victoria Friday Night Specials are already a great example of how clubs can get new people involved in the sport, and we hope that our work on the ground and providing physical infrastructure can compliment your efforts in the clubhouse and on the water, in the area of member recruitment, and keeping sailing alive.

We invite RYC's members to visit the Westhaven website, www.westhaven.co.nz, and to subscribe to the email newsletter, to keep up to date with Waterfront Auckland's projects, and with the spirit of the Westhaven community.

Tom Warren,
General Manager, Waterfront Auckland Marinas



Tom Warren sees Westhaven's opening to the public as an opportunity to increase participation in sailing.

WINTER SERIES RACE PHOTOS

Have you visited the RYC Facebook Page recently? It's at:
<https://www.facebook.com/RichmondYachtClub>

Hint: you don't need to log in or sign up with Facebook to see the RYC Page.

RYC sailors have been posting photos of every Winter Series Race on the Page. (Yes, there might be a cool picture of your boat there... go and have a look!)



Sigma II.

Photo: PicturesByCornelia.com



Revolution Blues.

Photo: Sarah Michel.



A colourful start. (You'll have to go to Facebook to see the brightly-coloured spinnakers!) Photo: [PicturesByCornelia.com](https://www.facebook.com/PicturesByCornelia.com)... your Editor's own photo library.

Have you got sailing photos you'd like to put on the RYC Facebook Page?
Just contact the office, we'd love to see your pics!

BITS AND BOBS: FROM THE OFFICE

RYC burgees

Been cruising, and had flag envy? You can cure that with \$20: just bring your moolah to the office, and we'll give you a lovely RYC burgee you can hoist with pride.



Free RYC stickers

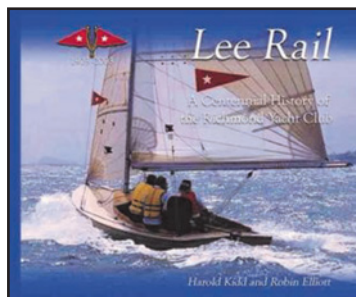
Not the flag flying type? You can still show the world that you're a Richmond Yacht Club supporter! Choose from car bumper stickers or decals for the transom of your boat - free for RYC members, just pop into the office and ask.

Racing flags

Division flags of all colours are available from the RYC office - free for members.

Lee Rail

Discover the rich centennial history of Richmond Yacht Club, as told by Harold Kidd and Robin Elliot in the book 'Lee Rail'. \$35 from the office.



Function bookings

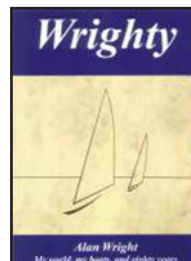
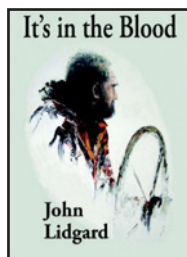
The RYC clubrooms are a fantastic function venue, complete with top quality audio-visual systems and plenty of free car parking... ideal for hosting seminars, corporate training events, weddings and other celebrations. Best of all, the million dollar views come for free! Ask for more info at the office.

ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing Handbook 2013-2016

The ISAF RRS 2013-2016 handbook is available from the Richmond Yacht Club Office for \$25. Or if you like apps, the iPhone app is \$1.29, or Android \$1.27.

'Wrighty' and 'It's in the Blood'

Signed copies of these books by NZ yacht designers Alan Wright and John Lidgard are available from the RYC office - \$40 each.



Got something to sell?

Members' classifieds will be placed free upon request.

Would you like to promote your business to our members?

Please speak to a friendly Committee member about sponsorship.

CLUB INFORMATION

Officers

President	Vera Mummery	<i>Nevenka</i>
Commodore	John Davies	<i>Crocodile</i>
Vice Commodore	Bryon Wright	<i>Revolution Blues</i>
Rear Commodore	Andrew Burr	
Treasurer	Audrey Cole	
Secretary	Evelien van Vliet	<i>Morning Star</i>
Club Manager	Tim Smedley	
Building Manager	Andrew Burr	

General Committee

Mark Becroft	<i>Maggie May</i>
Fleur Cox	
Tony Evans	<i>Grenada & Predator</i>
Hayden Griffiths	<i>Latitude</i>
Andrew Hall	<i>Unitec II</i>
Jodie Kirkwood	
Peter Locke	<i>The Bondi Tram</i>

Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 3pm

Contact

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Magazine

This is your magazine: please do share your stories and photos!

Send your yachting yarns, nautical news and photos to Cornelia, the Editor of Plain Sailing: magazine@richmondyc.org.nz



COVER PHOTOS: Front: *Rainbow V*, Winter Series 2014.

Back: Winter Series 2014 race by No. 16 Buoy.

(Photos: PicturesByCornelia.com).



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