

# PLAIN SAILING

A U G U S T 2 0 2 0



RICHMOND  
YACHT CLUB



# FROM THE FLAG

BY MARK BECROFT  
RYC COMMODORE

## Summer, come back...we miss you!

The winter racing season has been kind to us, with comfortable breezes and good camaraderie back at the club after.

Earlier this year, we asked a variety of our members to come along to a "Sailing Innovations" evening. We were looking for ideas to improve our offering to members and we have used some of these in the planning of the race calendar for the coming year.

We are using the current volunteer hours better by adding more single-handed and short-handed divisions to many of our harbour races. We have taken some of the longer cruising races out and replaced them with shorter rallies with a variety of courses to better suit comfortable sailing for the weather conditions on the day. We are working on launching a "Gulf Alone" race. This is a singlehanded series with three legs in one weekend:

Leg 1, Route 66 to Marsden Cove,  
Leg 2, Marsden Cove to Great Barrier,  
Leg 3, Great Barrier to Westhaven.

Next winter, we will start the season with a bang and send the fleet around Rangitoto with the Flap Martinengo race as Race 1 of the winter series. We have even delayed the start of Wednesday racing slightly to give people more time to fight with downtown traffic.

At our recent AGM we awarded a Lifetime Membership to Murray Walbran, as a small appreciation for the support he has given to RYC over



many years.

Thank you, Dagmar, for your efforts as RYC Secretary over the last few years. Dagmar stepped down at our AGM and has been replaced by Liz.

Three new members stepped up to join the committee. These all came from our "Friday Night Special" series.

Are you able to help promote the FNS? Can you put a poster up at work to help us get new members? Posters are available from the office or bar. Let's spread the word!

Don't forget our social evenings. Quiz night is just around the corner, 28 August. On September 25 we will be hearing from Lawrie Mead, a seasoned local sailor, with tales of his trip through the North West Passage. This is an area which until recently was ice-bound. Then it's our Spring Social on 17 October.

Happy sailing. ►

# THIS ISSUE

BY CHRIS CRONE  
EDITOR

Welcome to the August 2020 issue of Plain Sailing!

After a brief round-up of this year's club AGM, Gordon reports on the Flap Martinengo race around Rangitoto and Parizad introduces the races we

can look forward to over the 2020-21 season. Richard reminds us of the exclusion zone on the south side of the Waitemata and Tony gives us an introduction to virtual racing during lockdown.

Afterwards, we say a huge "Thanks!" to two of groups of people who contribute immensely to our club: our volunteers and our sponsors. We also find out more about our sponsors and what they're up to in the coming year. ■

## NEW CLUB T-SHIRTS

**The results are in for the T-shirt design competition run in April!**

Four designs were received and presented anonymously to the committee at their April meeting.

After debate and a final decision made, the winning design turned out to be that of club administrator (and member!) Kate Herstell. The committee agreed that John Davies' design was a strong second.

The new T-shirt is available in various sizes for \$25 at the bar or office. ↑



## WEDNESDAY RACING...

**...49 years ago!**

Thanks to RYC President Hans Swete for submitting a little slice of Richmond history he found in the February 1971 issue of Boating World. ▶

**T**WO aspects of racing have captured the imagination of Auckland keel boat crews the past couple of years. First it was the Royal Akarana Yacht Club's fortnightly winter series. Now it is the Richmond Yacht Club's fortnightly mid-week evening series.

Starting at 6 p.m., the sun is still shining when the first boat finishes, and up to 50 yachts are regularly turning out.

The big fellows, *Fidelis* and *Innismara*, have been regular starters and the One Tonners have been rolling up in force. The short eight-mile course with short legs keeps crews hard at it and is ideal for tuning.

For spectator appeal it is yacht racing at its very best,

FEBRUARY, 1971

as a drive round the vantage points will prove.

At the informal prize giving after the last race before the Christmas recess, George Lavery, the advertising manager of Consolidated Chemicals Ltd handed over the Richmond Epiglass trophy to Richmond Commodore Barry Griffith. The cup will go to the overall points winner at the end of the series.

Consolidated Chemicals are also chipping in with the prizes for both divisions after each race.



# WELCOME



## New Members

**Andrew Johnson**  
Attitude, 8.5 multi-hull  
General

**Craig Davidson**  
General

**Laurie Lowther**  
General

**Sam Tucker**  
Stealth Mission, 8.5 multi-hull  
General

**Nicola Waite**  
General Family

**Lana Mihelcic**  
Associate

## New Crew Members

Alla Rull

Matt Green

Paul Murray

Raewyn Peart

Ryan Datson



# UPCOMING CALENDAR & EVENTS

## August 2020

- 5<sup>th</sup> Pot Luck Lunch
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Winter Series Race 8
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> Winter Series Race 9 (final)
  - 28<sup>th</sup> Quiz Night (see poster)
- 

## September 2020

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Pot Luck Lunch
- 25<sup>th</sup> Lawrie Mead -  
Northwest Passage Talk
- 26<sup>th</sup> Spring Regatta / Gold Cup  
Race 1

## October 2020

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Night Special Intro
- 3<sup>rd/4<sup>th</sup></sup> Singlehanded Series  
Race 1 & 2 (PCC)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Pot Luck Lunch
- 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Night Race 1
- 9<sup>th</sup> Friday Night Special Race 1
- 17<sup>th</sup> Spring Social
- 21<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Night Race 2
- 30<sup>th</sup> Friday Night Special Race 2



# AGM ROUNDUP

**The 116<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Richmond Yacht Club was held at the clubrooms on Friday 26 June.**

Our Commodore, Secretary and Treasurer reported on the past year's events.

Presentations of thanks were made to outgoing secretary Dagmar Bellamy, principal race officer Margaret Harvey and handbook editors Rodney and Kate Janes. Committee elections were held - welcome to new committee members Lana Mihelcic, David Cashmore, Gregory Thwaite and Louise Stodart. A minute's silence was observed for Vera Mummery QSM (see end of article) and life membership was awarded to Murray Walbran.

An abridged version of the Secretary's Report follows.

## Membership

2020 saw an increase in veteran membership but an overall decline in numbers. This year we farewelled Vera Mummery who was recognised with the Queen's Service Medal for her contributions to sailing.

## Racing

The winter series 2019 was very successful. An average of 31 boats raced each race day with most of these being RYC boats.

The Flap Martinengo 2019 was the victim of some very light winds with one boat finishing the course.

The Spring Regatta 2019 was once again held in conjunction with the Gold Cup Series. 27 entrants raced in the Gold Cup divisions, with 19 racing in the Spring Regatta divisions. 16 RYC entrants.

The 2019/2020 Wednesday series got off to a very unusual start with the first 2 races being abandoned



due to the high winds - a further race was abandoned due to a lack of wind! We did complete the remainder of the series with an average of 52 boats per race day (32 of these RYC entrants). "A" Division had a disappointing number of entrants.

18 solo sailors competed for the Singlehanded Series, managed by RYC, utilising some races from other clubs. The RYC singlehanded race had 12 competitors, only one of which was not in the singlehanded series.

The Friday Night Special continues to be very popular with an average fleet size of 14. RYC couldn't offer this program without the generosity and support of the skippers.

The Gulf (Westhaven Triple) races, His n Hers races, and the Cruising series have all been affected by small fleets. One Gulf race and one Cruise race were cancelled due to Covid-19. The Mahurangi Night race (Cruise series) did attract a good fleet due to the inclusion of a singlehanded division.

The Route 66 in 2020 was a huge success. 40 (11 solo and 7 multihull) boats started from Auckland and 12 from Gulf Harbour. Two (Gulf Harbour entrants) withdrew at Kawai and the rest were all finished by 2000 hours - couldn't have been better. Thanks to Marsden Cove for hosting the boats overnight.

The current winter series has so far abandoned one race due to Covid-19. Races 2 and 3 experienced some good breezes.

RYC is facing challenges in attracting good-sized fleets and interest in some of the events offered. Some new ideas will be offered in the new

season.

Thanks to the people who man the tower - Andrew, Bob E, Tim, Stuart, Trish, Caroline, Jeremy, Peter, John, Bob C, Lesley and Margaret. Thanks also to Roger, Bill and David on Taipan and to Kate for her photos and helping sailors to master the entry system.

## **Sponsorship**

The club acknowledges the amazing generosity and support of our sponsors, without whom we would not be able to provide our members interesting racing, events and prizes.

As a club, we recognise the potential impact of Covid-19 on our sponsors, and we will continue to look at ways in which we can promote our sponsors and their products.

## **Social events, venue hire and bar**

Our winter dinners were well supported. The quiz night was a winner as was the RNZ Katana talk.

We started the summer social season with a band at the club for a Spring Dance. We had quite a busy function season, with weddings, Christmas and birthday parties - with ample staff. Unfortunately, Covid-19 caused us to cancel several functions at the end of the season.

Many groups hiring the club are marine-related. Coastguard Education uses the venue for many of their training courses. Due to the construction-related shortage of non-permitted parking, we have lost a long term booking on Tuesday evenings.

The biggest social event of the cruising calendar was again the breakfast at Mahurangi over



Anniversary weekend. Sadly, we lost the Tug'o'War, as Panmure Yacht and Boating Club had a lot more members in their line-up than normal and even appeared to have a plan of attack!

The Sir Peter Blake Memorial cruising race also led to a large social gathering on the shores of Rakino Island.

### **Publicity**

We continue to reach out to our members via Facebook, our website, weekly newsletter and magazine. We are now starting work on an app for mobile devices.

### **Facilities**

The lighting on the top floor of the club and in both stairwells has been replaced with new LED fittings along with the lights in both stairwells.

Virtually all old pipes that had been

causing leaks in the locker areas have been replaced. Re-roofing was carried out before the Covid-19 shutdown - new signage was also fitted.

Please keep an eye out for future working bees as the list of things to do remains long.

### **Correspondence**

The Club continues to receive communications from YNZ and AYBA regarding yachting, Panuku and Westhaven regarding development and RNZYS regarding dinghy launching access.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, another good year of racing, cruising, social events and prize giving, together with considerable maintenance of our lovely clubrooms. ►

## **IN MEMORIAM VERA MUMMERY**

**Vera was a huge part of the Richmond Yacht Club for many years, along with her husband Ted.**

They became members of the club in 1968. Vera was elected Secretary in 1981 and held that position for 23 years, after which she was elected to President for a number of years. She finally stood down in 2018 to retire to Taupo after over 50 years with the club. Her activities with the club covered everything from making the tea (in the days before women were involved in race management), to managing the club race program in its entirety, as well as all the other duties as Secretary. Vera was awarded the Queens Service Medal in recognition to her services to yachting.

Vera and Ted owned first Caress and then Nevenka which is still raced by their son Peter.

Vera was an extraordinary woman from her wartime employment, to moving the family half way round the world, to her voluntary role with Richmond. She will be sadly missed. The Richmond Yacht Club owes a huge debt of gratitude to Vera. ►





# It's quiz night!

Join us for a night of fun and wide-ranging questions!

**Friday 28th August 2020**

**bar open 1730 hrs | dinner 1800 hrs**

Dinner will be authentic Indian food catering for milder appetites, followed by good old Kiwi chocolate brownie with ice cream. \$25 pp.

**quiz 1900 hrs | \$20 per table**



# THE 'FLAP MARTINENGO' ON APPARITION

BY GORDON DYER



**This year's event was a very poignant one, as it followed only a few days after the death of Jim Young, the legendary designer of Flap's yacht, Namu (and also a smattering of others).**

But just a little background first. When I was still at high school, I was confronted with the dilemma of having outgrown my Flying Ant and faced with: do I buy a Cherub or a motorbike? Well a Cherub was not

much use when chasing the opposite sex, so I went for the safe choice of the motorbike and continued my racing crewing on keelers.

I was most fortunate one day, in that I met Brian Heron on the dinghy ramp at Orakei. He owned Natasha, a sister ship to Namu. Lord knows what he saw in this ill-mannered teenage petrol head and I started my keel boat racing in earnest with Brian and family. The following winter series Brian called in to check I was good for the series and announced we were not going to be sailing on Natasha, but with Flap on Namu!..... It would have been 1975 & 76.

At the time, I was too young to really appreciate what an extraordinary sailor Flap was, other than beating yachts considerably larger than us, and on occasions passing in close proximity to leeward. I think I was probably more





impressed by him sailing out of his berth (the most inner one where “J” is now.... (next to the dairy that was) and then, later reversing under sail back in.

As a 16 year old, I was further impressed at just old how this Ancient Mariner (about, just middle aged by my current reckoning!) would reject his advancing years and take the piss out of his mates on “Death Row”, referencing a group of old stalwarts holding up the bar at the Pon’s.

I digress.... Now about the boat race.

I will admit at this early stage, that when Chris our editor asked me to do an article on the race ... thoughts of “the victor gets to tell the truth” crossed my mind, but for a change we had no real cock-ups that needed to be fudged.

A dozen starters in our division including the go fast 40 Anarchy and a decent 12-15 knot easterly. An upwind start is always nice. The course taking Rangī, Rakino and Motukorea to starboard.

Nailed the start but to leeward of Peppermint Planet, crossing tacks out the harbour and now with the true wind angle around to 70 degrees , popped the FRO for the leg out past

Rangī light, with Peppermint Planet on our heels. Fortunately (for us) Peppermint Planet hardened up a bit too soon and into the counter current immediately north of Rangī Light; we continued north for a bit and we extended from there.

We tacked a slack handful of metres from the Haystack, to lay down the eastern shore of Rakino.

At this stage, with the breeze lightening and freeing up a bit, we cracked the FRO again before setting a kite with the wind now just aft of the beam approaching the Motuihe Channel, for completing the leg through to Motukorea. We could see the boats behind us, carrying big gennakers, start to reel us in.

A gybe at Motukorea saw us running deep angles all the way to the finish, with the big gennakers behind us, now forced into taking the scenic route, but getting no closer.

After a 4.5hr boat race we were pretty happy, finishing just 30mins behind Anarchy and 16mins behind the Ross 12 The Big Don’t Argue, and 3 mins behind Atamai. No complaints at that, a great day all-round. Finishing with a drink to Jim and Flap. ►

# **RYC 2020-21 SAILING SERIES**

**BY PARIZAD DANTRA**



**Our next sailing season 2020 – 2021 is almost upon us. Soon the Winter Series will be over and we will all be looking forward to being on the water during Spring and Summer.**

So, what will it be this year? It's always a tough choice; with so much on offer what should or shouldn't you do?

Well I say do them all – then you will be in the running for Club Champion.

But if you do have to decide on a series (or two or three) or an individual race (or two or a dozen), here is what we have on offer for you to choose from:

## **Spring Regatta**

As part of our 40-year tradition we continue to offer this race as the first one to get you into the spirit of summer racing. You can get rid of the winter blues and go around Waiheke. Use it to welcome spring or as a shake-out race to prepare for the longer races like Coastal Classic and our very own Route 66.

## **Wednesday Night Series**

*Sponsored by CRC, New World Birkenhead and Sailutions*

What better way to get rid of hump-day blues than by getting out there on our sparkling Waitemata Harbour. We run the series on alternate Wednesdays starting in October.

## **Singlehanded Series**

*Sponsored by Coolstore Construction*

If you don't have friends or crew mates and don't know how to use our Crew

Finder Facebook page – then join a great bunch of sailors who like to brave the elements by themselves and share their stories when they get to their destination – it's almost like a second family. Join those going at it alone and join the only singlehanded series of its kind on offer.

## **Gulf Alone**

Going at it alone is fun you say but you want a longer race? We have just the thing for you. Introducing the very first Gulf Alone race this year – you start off with Route 66 – do it yourself and then join the rest of the singlehanded fleet and battle it out to the Barrier and then home. You might need the Monday off.

## **Route 66**

What's better than competing with your fellow sailors in a 66 nm race to Marsden Cove? Did we say party? You didn't hear it from us but that's what happens when there are great sailing stories to share. Join the party the next morning for a big breakfast and prizegiving and then make your way to Kawau for an impromptu get-together.

## **Richmond Specials**

Some races are just special enough to fit in this category. We have on offer:

### *Shorthanded Races*

Formerly known as His & Hers; you need 2 of any human species and have a great day sail. We co-host these with Ponsonby Cruising Club. It's a great way to test your skills and your boat setup.

### *Harbour Singlehanded and Haystack Singlehanded races*

You want to go at it alone but don't want to do the entire singlehanded series then these 2 races are for you. Get your toes wet and try out a singlehanded race or two – who knows, you may like discussing tactics with yourself and continue on to do the entire Singlehanded Series.



There's also the Haystack race as part of the Westhaven Triple!

### **Cruising Series**

#### *Sir Peter Blake Memorial Race*

It's a cruiser of a race in memory of our one and only legend Sir Peter Blake – we organize a beach clean-up or similar event – watch our website for the details. There is a gathering on a beach with food and drink as a given.

#### *Mahurangi Night Race*

Come to Mahurangi with us and enjoy the best on offer over the Auckland Anniversary weekend. Beach, party, rum – in no particular order. There is a breakfast to be had and loads of fun and games; it's a family event. We always have a tug of war which gets really competitive with Panmure Sailing Club – so come join our side and help us win.

#### *Cruising Rallies*

Do all of these races seem too competitive and you would just rather enjoy an easy sail somewhere followed

by a nice beach party? Join us this year for our cruising rallies – we will decide where we anchor based on the wind and there is a beach party guaranteed.

### **Winter Series**

If you are a brave soul and like the unpredictability of Auckland weather – either light winds or blowing a gale; this series is for you. You spend your Sunday on the water and condition your body for the cold weather. The series runs on alternate Sundays starting in May. This year we have made the first race a long one in memory of Flap Martinengo so come along and get stuck in.

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Don't forget you get to participate in any of these by getting a sailing pass or you can enter individual races.

We always have prize giving and loads of great prizes to giveaway – thanks to our awesome sponsors and volunteers. ■

## **AN EXCLUSION ZONE? WHERE? WHY? OUR HARBOUR?**

BY RICHARD LIMBRICK

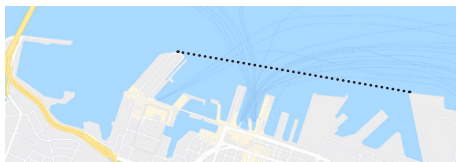
**Yes, that's right - and no matter how indignant you might feel, it applies to all of us.**

No more short-tacking up the wharfs trying to escape the clutches of the tide as you beat away from the start line toward North Head Buoy, or the reverse as you're trying to consolidate your lead back up the harbour to the finishing line.

We will all have experienced that feeling of being gripped by the tide, as those boats that have been well inside the south side of the harbour pace away from the fleet. No more! Now we are all to learn to sail into the tide, no exceptions, and watch for the red flag if a boat nearby thinks you have

transgressed.

The 'line', which we must stay on the harbour side of, is an imaginary one, running from the 'Tank Farm' point at the Westhaven Marina entry to the western end of the container wharf. It is designed to keep yachts away from the ferries and general vessel traffic taking place in the harbour. Not ideal for most boats but we will all be in the same one - so to speak. ■



# LOCKED DOWN, BUT VIRTUALLY SAILING

BY TONY MCALWEE

**The end of the summer sailing season stopped abruptly and we were plunged into strange times.**

Like most people, once the shock wore off thoughts returned to sailing and the feeling of missing out became more pronounced. Although happy to be safe and well, I wanted to go racing, or just sailing, or maybe even work on the boat.

I had looked at some online options (and even undertaken a course through YNZ) when RYC asked me to get something underway for the club. It turned out that there were numerous ways we could do an online race series, and there were also some really good learning opportunities too. In the end the decision was to use Virtual Regatta for a fun and inclusive set of

races (mini-series) that was open to members and others that wanted to join us. The virtual sailors were a mix of club members with different levels of gaming skills and experience. I was happy to see that on water skills did transfer to the screen and that the IT requirements were not too daunting – but mostly it was fun.

We had 25 people join in the racing, and used three race evenings (with multiple races per night) to find a champion. The series was won by T-REX – well done Reg Sparry! Runner up was Timberwooly – well sailed Liz Alonzi. Reg went on to represent the club in a wider YNZ competition.

A very big thanks to all participants, but especially to Reg and Liz for running races as virtual race officers, and to Christel for collecting and calculating the results.

Finally, one of the programmes I evaluated for lockdown sail training needs a mention. E Sail Yacht Simulator is an amazing way to develop sailing skills off the water. This sim covers basic to intermediate sailing, motoring, docking, anchoring, and even some racing. ■



# THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

BY CHRIS CRONE



**Question: How is Richmond with 0.8 employees able to offer the racing and events it does, when Ponsonby has 5 employees and Squadron 55?**

**Answer: Volunteers!**

The club recently held its annual dinner to thank the many volunteers who enable the smooth running of the club. As the Commodore stated in his thank-you speech, "[volunteers] are the backbone of our club .. and make the RYC possible."

Thanks to all those involved, including... bar staff, committee, flags and officers, FNS skippers, honorary auditor/solicitor, handbook contributors, IT support, magazine contributors, working bees, race paparazzi, patrol boat owners/crew, president, promotional helpers, protest committee, race managers, start tower staff... and many more! ■



COMMODORE MARK BECROFT  
THANKS THE CLUB'S VOLUNTEERS



SOME OF THE MANY VOLUNTEERS WHO  
KEEP RICHMOND YACHT CLUB GOING

# THANK YOU SPONSORS!

BY CHRIS CRONE & JACKY BUSH



**At every prizegiving, we thank our sponsors for their generous support which allows us to keep racing and running events for our members.**

It's been a tough year for most Kiwi businesses so the club's particularly grateful to those who have kept up their support. We reached out to our 2020-21 sponsors to find out more about them and what they're up to...



## **Who are you and what do you do?**

CRC is a supplier of specialty products and formulations, manufacturing hundreds of items and developing specialized formulas to meet the unique needs of the Marine, Automotive, Heavy Truck, Hardware, Electrical, Industrial and Aviation markets. With an office and manufacturing facilities based in New Zealand for over 4 decades, CRC has truly become a part of the fabric of New Zealand.

## **How has your business been affected by Covid-19?**

While there were inevitable effects from the lock down period, our New Zealand based manufacturing and customer service team allow us to continue to support New Zealand businesses as the country bounces back. Notably we were able to launch

a range of surface-sanitising products during lock down, which helped ensure those essential businesses were able to operate safely.

## **What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our members about?**

We have an exciting schedule for the remainder of 2020 with the recently relaunched 5-56 range now on shelves, as well as a selection

**NZ's favourite lubricants have a new look.**



of new products including; Oil Eater, an oil stain remover that works on concrete, Leak Stop Spray Seal, an easy-to-use long-lasting solution to leaks and 121 Concrete Filler, a permanent repair for damaged concrete, all available in store now. 2021 will follow a similar trajectory with wide variety of promotions and more innovative products hitting the market. ■

[crc.co.nz](http://crc.co.nz)



## **Who are you and what do you do?**

The Victoria Cruising Club has been associated with the Westhaven area since 1900. The club ran successfully until the early 2000s, when a declining membership necessitated a change to the way the club operated. The membership decided to vacate the club premises which is currently leased by Coastguard Boating Education. In the



Club's current format, the membership supports Junior Sailors and events for Junior/Youth Sailing by way of grants.

The 'Friday Night Special' run by the Richmond Yacht Club, was one of the very first grants gifted by the VCC back in 2010. Other grants over the years have provided support for the running of National Junior/Youth regattas, Equipment for Learn-to-Sail and water safety programs as well as assistance to individual Junior/Youth sailors and Teams to attend events both locally and Internationally.

### **How have you been affected by Covid-19?**

Covid-19 has had no direct effect on the Victoria Cruising Club, other than

seeing a decline in applications from sailors wishing to compete in both local and overseas events. This has been due to 'Lockdown' within New Zealand which impeded the end of the 2019-2020 Summer Sailing season, as well as international travel restrictions and the cancellation of events across the Northern Hemisphere.

### **What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our members about?**

The VCC hopes to see an increase in applications moving through the remainder of 2020 and into 2021. It is expected that applications will be for more local-based events, as travel for international events is still difficult for people wanting to compete overseas. ■



### **Who are you and what do you do?**

Sailutions is your one-stop shop for all

mast, spar, deck hardware and rigging requirements. We provide service throughout New Zealand and the entire South Pacific. We have imported and distributed a broad range of Seldén, Furlex and Rutgerson marine hardware since 1990.

Both Seldén and Rutgerson are high quality Swedish sailing brands. Seldén being the biggest mast manufacturer in the world and Rutgerson an industry leader in sail-making hardware.

Together with these brands Sailutions can offer a solution to an upgrade your yachts sailing systems.

### **How has your business been affected by Covid-19?**

Like every business in NZ, Covid-19 hasn't been the best start to the new decade. Having the marine industry shut down for six weeks, and world

cruises stuck with nowhere to go, things have slowed. However after kiwis started getting back on the water, things are starting to get back to normal - well as normal as winter is in our industry.

### **What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our members about?**

Here at Sailutions we are looking forward to be able to showcase what Seldén and Rutgerson have to offer at the New Zealand marine industry on water boat show. We are very excited to show off Seldén's new E40i electric winch.

A reminder to all Richmond Yacht Club members that we have a special discount instore over our full product range. ■

*[sailutions.co.nz](http://sailutions.co.nz)*



**HARKEN**

**FOSTERS**  
SHIP CHANDLERY  
SINCE 1907
**Who are you and what do you do?**

Fosters is a stalwart of the NZ marine industry providing chandlery needs to boaties from our Westhaven store and throughout NZ via our online store. Having started trading in 1907 as A. Fosters & Co., Fosters became a Harken distributor in 1978, and was then acquired by Harken in 2006 and renamed Fosters Chandlery.

Today we sell a huge range of products from traditional teak and brass through to the most innovative Harken sailing solutions. The majority of our team of 12 staff are sailors themselves and can offer expert advice to help find the perfect solution to meet your needs.

**How has your business been affected by Covid-19?**

Harken/Fosters had a full store shut down for 7 weeks during the Level-4 and Level-3 lockdown period, and staff who could work from home did so. This was a unique situation in the company's more-than-100-year history - shutting the doors for so many weeks was a first for us all. We definitely saw a big shift to online shopping during May and are now enjoying see all of our customers back in store.

**What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our members about?**

The 2020/21 season will be HUGE for Harken/Fosters, kicking off with a move to the new Westhaven Marine Village in October. The store will be more than 3x the size of the current premises and will give sailors unprecedented access to chandlery needs right from the marina. There will also be plenty of parking right outside the door!

We are also very excited about the 36th America's Cup. As official suppliers to all the teams, you can expect to see plenty of Harken product flying out on the water.

Keep up to date with the latest Harken/Fosters news on Facebook. ■

**Who are you and what do you do?**

Mount Gay Rum has been produced on Barbados with passion and excellence since

1703 - making it the world's oldest rum brand. For over three centuries, Mount Gay Rum has been intimately linked to the sailing world. From 17th century navigation to present-day regattas, Mount Gay is for all those who love the sea.

**How has your business been affected by Covid-19?**

There were many thirsty Mount Gay

drinkers during lockdown which has meant that stock has run short during June and July. All should be back to normal in August.

**What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our members about?**

Mount Gay has recently undergone a new look with new labelling for the Eclipse (Gold) "Heritage Blend" and a new blend for Mount Gay Black Barrel and Mount Gay XO. ■



[mountgayrum.com](http://mountgayrum.com)



## **Who are you and what do you do?**

Coastguard Boating Education has been teaching New Zealand's recreational boaties since the 1970s. We teach beginners right up to those wanting a commercial qualification for vessels up to 12m.

We teach Beginning Boating for those with no experience on a boat; Day Skipper, an introductory course for those who take out in the day; Boatmaster, for those who go a bit further afield and may travel at night or in restricted visibility.

We teach Radio courses from VHF - which every user of VHF radio should have - to Maritime Short Range, required in Europe, especially if you charter a boat!

We have speciality courses on engine maintenance and electronics; and courses for those gaining Category 1 Certificates to go off shore such as the Advanced Sea Survival where the best part is inflating a life raft and then trying to enter it in a pool with wet weather gear on - a good lesson in how hard it can be! We also offer Medic courses for Cat 1.

## **How has your business been affected**

## **by Covid-19?**

Covid was an interesting experience! We were swamped with Online and Home Study orders - interestingly Maritime VHF Operator certificate in particular! It came to a grinding halt as soon as we entered level 3. Now we are busy with our classroom courses and people are really getting into their learning - great to see. CBE offers differing study options: we've started offering the Boatmaster course as a Virtual course, taught via Zoom and our online learning platform Moodle, with teaching sessions alongside self-directed activity learning. This was valuable during lockdown but is also for our more distant and rural students.

## **What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our members about?**

We are looking forward to offering more of our classes on virtual platforms and as people get more comfortable with this style of learning.

We appreciate the support the Richmond Yacht Club gives us and enjoy working with the team at the RYC and supporting the club as often as we can. ■

*[boatingeducation.org.nz](http://boatingeducation.org.nz)*



## **Who are you and what do you do?**

PredictWind was started by Owner/Director Jon Bilger, former Olympian and America's Cup weather guru. 12 years on, PredictWind has a team of 25 people mainly based in NZ working in support, development and marketing. PredictWind provides world-leading marine weather around the globe.

We are constantly working to improve forecasts, develop new tools, and make the PredictWind experience easier and more convenient.

## **How has your business been affected by Covid-19?**

When Covid really hit and borders closed, we saw an immediate downturn in new sign-ups. However

as the world is adjusting to living with Covid we have seen the number of new registrations slowly climb back to within 10% of this time last year.

## **What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our members about?**

We are currently in the middle of a new weather router upgrade: 5 years of development have gone into the new router which is now the best in the world - it has some unique features that will change the way people look at and use weather routing. We are also adding in some more very high-quality weather models that are not commonly seen in other weather packages to further bolster the models we offer. ■

*[predictwind.com](http://predictwind.com)*



## **Who are you and what do you do?**

Lidgard Sails and Shades have been in business since 1973.

Our motto of "Good Fellows, Great Sails" says it all: we've become known for outstanding service and for producing New Zealand-made, quality yacht sails which prove to be tough and durable. Mix that with great performance and you're on to a Lidgard winner.

Over our near 50 years of history, we have a pedigree for top-of-the-line sail-making for everything from weekend racers, to ocean cruisers, through to classic super yachts.

If you're considering new sails for your yacht, sensible people would recommend you talk to us.

## **How has your business been affected by Covid-19?**

All small business has had it tough this year.

We are a true kiwi company, employing kiwis to make an iconic kiwi product.

We have consciously not cut our sponsorship of clubs and causes and we hope that people who we support will support us. If you need another reason then support us because we are good fellows and we make great NZ made sails! ■

*lidgardsails.com*



## **Who are you and what do you do?**

Floating Dock Services has been located in the Westhaven area since 1979 and has always provided friendly services to the wider boating community. We continue to offer our customers efficient and cost-effective underwater and general boat maintenance, such as: Lift & Cleans, Survey Lift & Holds, Overnight/Weekend Lifts, Antifouling and Prop speed services and Anode replacements. We also offer Berth Collection/Delivery, Outboard Servicing, Hull Polishing and we're happy to accommodate any special requests.

We have faced some recent challenges: tornadoes destroying our office, the Covid-19 pandemic and Auckland water restrictions - however we continue to adapt, and remain humbled by the support of the boating community.

## **How has your business been affected by Covid-19?**

Covid-19 lockdown affected our peak season however our customers remained supportive - and for that

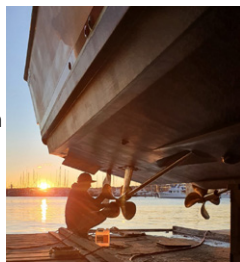
we thank you! During lockdown we implemented our online booking system and Facebook page so customers can now create an account, log in and request/manage bookings.

Recent water restrictions required Kiwi ingenuity to overcome. Our strict water quality policies that protect our marine environment made water recycling impossible. While salt water is tougher on our machinery it is our most viable option.

## **What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our members about?**

We'd like to assure our customers - existing and new - you can expect the same great service under Covid-19 guidelines and Auckland water restrictions. We would like to develop our online presence to keep in touch with our customers and would like to team up with local organisations and events to promote caring for our oceans. ■

*floatingdockservices.co.nz*







**Who are you  
and what do  
you do?**

Burnsco is 100% NZ owned and has been serving New Zealander boaties since 1882. We have 15 stores from the Bay of Islands to Christchurch plus a webstore.

We stock over 10,000 products from marine electronics, safety gear, fishing tackle, kayaks and anchoring, to clothing, marine paint, plumbing, electrical & lighting, yacht fittings and much more. We're particularly known for our friendly, helpful and knowledgeable staff.

### **How has your business been affected by Covid-19?**

As with most retailers, we had to close our stores during the lockdown period however we sold essential goods online during Level 4, and online and via Click-and-Collect during Level 3. But we were glad we could open up our stores again when we dropped down to Level 2 in May. We've seen a strong number of customers through our doors since we re-opened, particularly as many Kiwis are



staycating and travelling local.

### **What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our members about?**

We're always on the lookout for new and innovative products - we launched over 150 new products this year, with more to come for summer. We're expanding our Mount Maunganui store (finishing in August) and we're opening in Westgate next year. We're also launching a brand new website soon which will be easier to use, have more products, and features like order tracking, improved search, better imagery and more content such as blog posts. ■

*[burnsco.co.nz](http://burnsco.co.nz)*



**Who are you  
and what do  
you do?**

We've been building coolrooms and freezers for over 30 years: commercial/industrial, for fruit and vege shops, pharmaceuticals, liquor stores, and many more.

### **How has your business been affected by Covid-19?**

For the first two weeks of lockdown, we weren't able to work at all, however we were able to start up again afterward since our products are necessary for essential businesses providing food to hospitals and

resthomes. For now, things are OK but there is a lot of uncertainty in the hospitality industry we supply, so we don't know what's coming in 2021.

### **What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our members about?**

Keep going cruising! I (Kevin Murphy) have been a member of Richmond for 30 years, including 8 years on the committee and a stint as Commodore and it's all about supporting the club and giving back to RYC. Take part in the Cruising Series and remember to put your burgee up! ■

*[coolstoreconstruction.co.nz](http://coolstoreconstruction.co.nz)*

Editor's note: Some of our sponsors weren't able to make this issue's print deadline - we'll aim to include them in a future issue!



# RICHMOND YACHT CLUB



## Officers



PRESIDENT **Hans Swete** – Transformer  
COMMODORE **Mark Becroft** – Maggie May  
VICE COMMODORE **Richard Limbrick** – Cool Change  
REAR COMMODORE **Parizad Dantra** – Hydraulink MRX  
TREASURER **Steve Morriss** – Belle  
SECRETARY **Liz Henderson**  
CLUB MANAGER **Mark Becroft** – Maggie May  
BUILDING MANAGER **Keith Bekker** – Manawa

## General Committee

**Jacky Bush**  
**Jeremy Cope** – Revolution Blues  
**Chris Crone**  
**Jo Dooley**  
**Gordon Dyer** – Apparition  
**Tony Evans** – Predator  
**Lana Mihelchic**  
**Louise Stodart**  
**Gregory Thwaite**

## Office Hours

ADMINISTRATOR **Kate Herstell** – Mintaka

Winter: Tues – Fri. 10am – 3pm.

Summer: Tues – Fri. 10am – 4pm

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## Magazine

We would like to hear your stories and feedback! To submit news, stories or photos email us at: [magazine@richmondyc.org.nz](mailto:magazine@richmondyc.org.nz)  
Thanks to Kate Herstell and Pedro Lang for photos in this issue.



Thank you to our generous sponsors.

