

PLAIN SAILING

AUGUST 2022



RICHMOND
YACHT CLUB



FROM THE FLAG

BY RICHARD LIMBRICK
RYC COMMODORE



Winter has certainly arrived with the more unpredictable weather and rain, rain and more rain.

Whatever the weather it hasn't had too much of an impact on our winter racing with good-sized fleets competing on what have been a broad range of conditions. A huge thank you to Andrew and his tower team for race management and great course selection.

Our annual meeting was well attended this year with a scrumptious meal and the prizegiving to follow. Congratulations to all of our prize winners, especially to Rodney and his crew on Peppermint Planet for winning the Noel Cole Trophy. A very successful season of racing for them.

At the annual meeting, the proposed updates to our club's constitution were accepted. As soon as the document is updated it will be lodged with the Incorporated Societies register. The committee has now built a biennial review of the constitution into its structure in order to assure members that our constitution is always current.

For this season we have two new members on our management committee. Peter Locke, a regular competitor in club events on The Entertainer and John Marshall also a regular competitor on the Dream Machine. Both have skills and experience that will add to the capability of our committee.

In July the committee also hosted the club's annual volunteers dinner. This is our way of recognising the importance of volunteers within our club's organisational structure and

operation and the huge contribution that our volunteers make in ensuring the success of the Richmond Yacht Club. Thank you to all of you who contribute to the success of the Richmond Yacht Club.

In recent weeks the Sailing Committee has also reviewed the club's racing calendar for the 2022-2023 season. This coming season will have plenty on offer for all of our competitors, racing and cruising.

The first of our new events will be the 3x3 Summer Blast! Three races over three days with a crew of three. This will complement our club's short-handed racing programme. Racing will begin with a three-handed rum race on Friday afternoon, 9th December, followed by a three-handed race around Rangitoto Island on Saturday 10th. There will then be a harbour course on Sunday 11th, followed of course with the prizegiving and good cheer back at our clubrooms.

This year we have also added a two-handed division to the Route 66 and to our Gulf Triangle Race and have brought back the Night race to Kawau and the club's beach barbecue in Mansion House Bay. An exciting season of racing ahead.

In the meantime though we have the winter series to complete, with the ever popular 'lucky skipper's draw' of a range of DeWalt tools, a Friday night session with Lawrie Mead, where he will share his adventures in the Northwest Passage, and a quiz night.

Join us. It will be fun. ▶

THIS ISSUE

BY CHRIS CRONE
EDITOR

Welcome to the August 2022 issue of Plain Sailing.

This issue features a round-up of June's Annual General Meeting and Prizegiving - hearty congratulations to all winners - before Nigel takes us through Katana's 2022 Yates Cup race and Hayley introduces us to the beautiful classic Rawene.

Jeremy rambles (his words, not mine!)

about an instrument upgrade on Time Out, before Metbob sums up the weather in the first half of 2022.

Thanks go out to all contributors to this issue of Plain Sailing - winter can be a difficult time to fill an entire issue! We're always on the lookout for articles or photos: send them to magazine@richmondyc.org.nz.

Happy reading! ■

MERCHANDISE

Richmond Yacht Club merchandise is now available online!

Check out <https://richmondyc.org.nz/merchandise-2022/> for jackets, T-shirts, hats and more. ■



WELCOME



New Members

John Muir

General

Georgia One

Quintin Fowler

General

Rum Bucket

Phillip Cashmore

General

Lori Tyrrell & Ken Ormandy

General Family

Gale Force

Ian Swinton & Josephine Stanton

Veteran Family

Tutahi, Pogo 12.50

David Hennessy

Associate

New Crew Members

Abigale Brodrick

Jo Clarke



UPCOMING CALENDAR & EVENTS

Aug 2022

- 3rd Pot Luck Lunch
- 7th Winter Series Race 7
- 19th Quiz Night (see poster)
- 21st Winter Series Race 8

Sep 2022

- 4th Winter Series Race 9 - Motuihe race (early start!)
- 7th Pot Luck Lunch
- 16th Winter Social TBD

Oct 2022

- 5th Pot Luck Lunch
- 5th Wednesday Night Series Race 1
- 7th Friday Night Special Intro
- 8th/9th Singlehanded Series Race 1 & 2 (PCC)
- 14th Friday Night Special Race 1
- 19th Wednesday Night Series Race 2
- 28th Friday Night Special Race 2
- 30th RYC Singlehanded Race & Singlehanded Series Race 3

Nov 2022

- 2nd Pot Luck Lunch
- 2nd Wednesday Night Series Race 3
- 6th Singlehanded Series Race 1 & 2 (PCC)
- 11th Friday Night Special Race 3
- 16th Wednesday Night Series Race 4
- 19th Westhaven Triple Race 1 (Round Rangitoto, PCC)
- 25th Friday Night Special Race 4
- 30th Wednesday Night Series Race 5

... and save the dates!

- 9th-11th Dec for the new 3x3 Summer Blast!



AGM 2022

The 118th Annual General Meeting of the Richmond Yacht Club was held at the clubrooms on Friday 17th June.

Reports from the Commodore, Secretary and Treasurer were presented to the club members in attendance.

Updates to the club constitution were discussed and voted upon. The officers and committee for the 2022-23 year were also voted upon: welcome to

John Marshall and Peter Locke who are joining the committee this season.

Presentations were made to Rodney and Kate Janes, Chris Crone, Margaret Harvey, Trish Beken and Andrew Burr to acknowledge the time and effort they have dedicated to the club in the past year.

Reports and minutes are available from:

<https://richmondyc.org.nz/agm-2022/> ■

PRIZEGIVING

At the conclusion of the AGM, dinner was served - after which the prizegiving for the 2022-23 season got underway. The silverware was gleaming and Commodore Richard Limbrick took great pleasure in awarding the trophies to the worthy recipients.

This year saw new trophies being awarded for division winners in the Wednesday Night and Winter Series.

Congratulations to all winners! Details will be published in the upcoming 2022-23 Handbook.

Club Champion: Noel Cole Trophy

The trophy was first presented in 1947 by the club's longtime patron and benefactor, Sir Noel Cole. For 2021-22, the Noel Cole trophy was awarded to the skipper who obtained the best handicap points score for nine races listed in the club race calendar, according to conditions listed in the Handbook (see article overleaf).

Congratulations to Rodney Janes of Peppermint Planet.



Centennial Cup

The Cup is awarded to the club member who takes part in the most races over a year, running from the Winter Series through to the last summer race.

Congratulations to Ken Kok of Roadrunner.



Blake Memorial Shield

The Shield is awarded to an outstanding committee member. This year it was awarded to Chris Crone for his work, time and commitment given to the club over the past year.



Maurice Livingstone Cup

The Cup is awarded to club members who “go the extra mile” for the club. It was presented to the club by the Livingstone family in memory of Maurice, who was lost overboard in a Spring Regatta in the 1980s.

This year, the committee awarded the Cup to Mark Becroft, who as a steadfast committee member and club manager has certainly “gone the extra mile” both figuratively and literally for the club. Mark is stepping down from the committee for the 2022-23 season however we are immensely grateful for his hard work and dedication over the past years: there are many Richmond events that would simply have not been possible without Mark.



Alan Wright Trophy Trish Lewis Trophy

These were not awarded this 2021-22 season, however the committee looks forward to presenting these in coming years! 🏴

THE NOEL COLE TROPHY

Every June at the annual prizegiving, RYC crowns a new club champion who is awarded the Noel Cole trophy for best performance across nine races throughout the winter, Wednesday nights and summer weekends.

Just like a season of premier league football it is not essential that you win every race - far from it, the key is consistency week in, week out. Holding your nerve and getting the podium results when the heat is on.

Sail fast, sail smart, no mistakes.

Each year there are a dozen-plus boats capable of winning club champion

but only one can reign supreme next June. In early running this winter the charge is being led by Georgia One and Sudden Impulse (4), closely followed by Manawa (5), Crocodile & Fast Company (6) and Chain Reaction, Extract Digit & Gale Force (7).

With four races remaining in the Winter Series, it's not too late to accumulate some top results and put yourself in a strong position heading into the Spring Regatta, Wednesday Series and beyond...

You can find out more about Club Champion from the RYC website or the handbook. ■

MEMBERSHIP MATHS

OR: "WHY YOUR MATES SHOULD JOIN RYC"

If you're reading this, there's a good chance you're a Richmond member. We want you to tell your mates why it makes sense to sign up for a Richmond membership, even if they're a member of another club.

The key is Richmond's fantastic annual Sail Pass for members, which gives free (or reduced) entry fees to our biggest series and races.

Let's say a non-member wants to compete in the 2022 Spring Regatta, the 2022-23 Wednesday Night Series and the 2023 Winter Series. Without membership and without a Sail Pass,

the entry fees will be:

Spring Regatta: \$40
Wednesday Night Series: \$275
Winter Series: \$220
Total: \$535

However, if they join Richmond and get a Sail Pass, they're looking at:

General Membership: \$270
Sail Pass: \$240
Spring Regatta: FREE
Wednesday Night Series: FREE
Winter Series: FREE
Total: \$510

... but wait, there's more! The Sail Pass also includes free entry into a bunch *more* races such as the Westhaven Triple and Cruising Events, and half-price entry into the Route 66. It's a great deal, so tell your mates to get amongst!

For further information (and membership forms!), please talk to Kate in the office, or email info@richmondyc.org.nz ■



Wahoo!

It's quiz night!

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

Friday 19th August 2022

bar open 1730 hrs | dinner 1800 hrs

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

quiz 1900 hrs | \$20 per team of 6

KATANA AND THE YATES CUP

BY NIGEL GARLAND

The Yates Cup is a 230nm Royal Akarana yacht race starting at Orakei, Rangitoto and Channel Island to starboard, Cuvier, Great Barrier and Poor Knights Islands to port, Sail Rock to Port finishing back at Orakei.

Our crew:

- Nigel Garland – me
- Bryon Wright – RYC ex-commodore (pennant proudly flown), SSANZ and 3 Kings two-handed crewmate
- Stephanie Haydon – winter series crew
- David Vallance – winter series crew
- Grant Wakefield – SSANZ RNI crewmate over from Sydney

This was the first overnight race I'd done with more than one other crewmate – concessions were made with 3 squabs, a few bean bags and 1 of the toilet doors. Luxury.

Fleet – in handicap order:

V5 (TP 52), Vixen (Class 40), Serena (Thompson 38), Ma Te Wa (XP44), Drinks Trolley (Thompson 30), Katana (Sunfast 3600), Indis (Sunfast 3300)

Serena and Ma Te Wa sailed two-handed.



Fortunately the strong westerlies forecasted earlier in the week passed through the night before and we started at 4.05pm, Friday 15th, in a light SW for a lovely spinnaker run down to Channel Island. Starboard pole off the start, a gybe in the Rangitoto channel trying to avoid as much of the incoming tide as possible and then another gybe (no mentioning the small wrap) outside Tiri.

Our six competitors were flying asymmetrical spinnakers and generally sailing hotter angles. We were the northerly boat heading across to Coromandel and a southerly shift meant we were on lay line while others had to gybe back on the unfavourable shift. Katana can be a little sticky downwind so it was great to see Vixen and Serena not too far ahead as we rounded Channel Island.

A full moon meant a relatively easy drop of the S2 and hoist of the A5 for the reach out to Cuvier.

An outside gybe of the A5 at Cuvier and we were heading north up the outside of Barrier. It was a tight reach for the kite and it wasn't long before Serena's stern light disappeared ahead of us. The breeze built as we reached the north end of the Island with Steph getting the top speed of 13+kn. With some leftover swells from a couple of directions meant it wasn't easy sailing or easy on the stomach. We were running low on course for the Poor Knights and higher winds at Mokohinau Islands (via VHF Nowcasting) let us know it was time to get the kite down quickly, just before daybreak.

In retrospect we had hung on to the kite too long and Drinks Trolley were sailing through a few miles inside us powered up with a fractional code zero. Ma Te Wa and Indis also closed in on a more direct course.

Poor Knights was looking stunning as

we rounded about lunchtime Saturday and Drinks Trolley were nice enough to wait 5 minutes for us having sailed into a hole at its NE corner. It was nice to round in good breeze and tack back heading for Whangarei Heads. It looked like we had over stood but the breeze knocked a little south and nice to be able to lay through comfortably.

On the wind is Katana's happy place though the breeze started to lighten off coming up to the Hen and Chicks. Small code zero was set up but kept on the deck as an ominous cloud approached. We then had a 10min 30+kn squall with pelting rain that flattened the sea. We feathered our way through without reefing and were back to normal before long. Happy to see Drinks Trolley had lost a lot of time and gauge and tacked well behind us.

It was pretty much follow-the-leader from Sail Rock with reasonable speeds up til Kawau with the little code zero. A light patch we all had to go through and then the same again until Tiri channel with another light



BRYON AND STEPH - A GREAT
FRIDAY EVENING HEADING
OUT OF AUCKLAND

patch. It was a relief to get going again as Ma Te Wa were now the closest boat behind coming in from 3 miles back to 1-ish.

Another squall as we approached Rangitoto had us hoping for a midnight arrival as we put in our second tack of the race. The breeze was very welcome with the tide starting to come out. We got as far as Cheltenham before the breeze died completely and we drifted back 500m or so. Finally a little something out of the nor-west to get us past North Head and heading for the finish only to die again and have pointing to Orakei but heading to Bean Rock.

Just missing a port channel marker we finally got some tide relief close to Bastion Point Buoy. Katana has on multiple occasions snatched defeat from the jaws of a reasonable placing in these conditions so I watched in horror as the three boats behind looked like that they would catch some breeze and sail across in front of us... but they suffered the same fate.

We managed to sneak up the shore though lost steerage by the old sewer marker post and had to deploy the anchor off the side of the boat. This helped us tack around at the same time a little west then SW breeze kicked in. Never had 2-3kn of boat speed felt so sweet. We stayed in close to shore, Orakei wharf and the piles to sneak across the finish line about 2.06am Sunday morning to finish 4th on line and handicap.

We did win the coveted skippers finish time guess competition - not far off the 2 am guess.

Thanks to RAYC for a great event - they have got some exciting blue water races coming up.

For the record:

On Line: V5, Vixen, Serena, Katana, Ma Te Wa, Drinks Trolley, Indis

On Handicap: Vixen, Serena, V5, Katana, Indis, Drinks Trolley, Ma Te Wa. ▶



HEADING TO HEN AND
CHICKS IN ABOUT 12-14 KN



spring regatta

SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2022

RUNNING IN CONJUNCTION WITH RAYC GOLD CUP SERIES

CONTACT EITHER CLUB FOR MORE DETAILS.

FOR BOATS RACING IN THE SPRING REGATTA
ENTER ONLINE VIA RICHMONDYC.ORG.NZ

FOR BOATS RACING IN THE GOLD CUP
ENTER ONLINE VIA WWW.RAYC.CO.NZ



RAWENE TAKES THE STAGE

BY HAYLEY GILLESPIE



Picture soaring across the Hauraki gulf in a 20-knot easterly, sun shining, boat nodding, kauri hull slipping through the swell, and all-female crew mastering their craft over a four-hour journey when Skipper Bob hands the helm over to one of the talented female crew putting her in charge of the rest of the race and ultimately winning the leg up to Mahurangi.

To say this boat has been life-changing for her crew and all that step foot on her, would be an understatement.

Meet Rawene, the A-Class Gaff Cutter built in 1908 and the last major commission by the Logan Brothers before closing their yard. Known affectionately as the Smiling Seductress on the water, she's brought endless joy

to many sailors over the past 114 years including her current skipper Bob and her crew members who are committed to preserving and racing her, while upskilling more women new to the sport.

This unique racing yacht was built in a time when race boats were only ever intended to be crewed by men, yet her now all-female crew and male skipper Bob, are surpassing expectations. In recent years Rawene has taken on a series of incredible races, many of which have seen the crew taking away wins such as the Night Race to Mahurangi, the Auckland Anniversary Regatta and winning the George Winston Trophy in the Duder Cup race during the most recent summer series (21-22).

This is a yacht so full of history that even the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Phillip himself has sailed on Rawene back in the 1950s. Rawene has had just three owners and is set to be preserved for many years of racing to come. Since 2012 Rawene has been owned by the Tino Rawa Trust who, alongside her crew, continue to keep Rawene maintained in her beautiful original condition, free from the modern upgrades that so many of her sister ships have acquired over the years. Imagine sailing 100 years ago with no winches, no modifications, and an incredibly valuable boat to protect -

Well, sailing Rawene in 2022 is much the same!

Rawene's crew have proven time and time again that teamwork and technique can surpass winches and other modern modifications, and that women are just as good as men when it comes to doing the heavy lifting (and listening!). Skipper Bob Still says having a female crew makes all the difference: "The women who sail Rawene all bring their own unique skills and perspectives, but the best thing about them is that they all want to learn more





about sailing and work hard as a team.”


Rawene and her crew are frequently showcased through their Instagram account @sailingrawene, where videos and interaction from the crew have attracted hundreds of followers and post engagements from across the globe. The posts are designed to keep followers updated and educate them about Rawene, a boat very close to their hearts. Through this platform the crew hope to continue growing interest in A-class sailing while supporting our country's beautiful classic yachts.

The next step for the Rawene crew is to ramp up support from individuals and businesses who want to help preserve the boat and give women the opportunity to continue sailing and learning on classic yachts.

“We would love to speak to anyone interested in supporting the Tino Rawa Trust and our Crew who sail and maintain Rawene. We can even take you out for a sail!”

“Being an older boat, she requires a bit more love and attention so we want to ensure we can do everything possible to keep her in great condition for sailing,” says Still.

To enquire about supporting Rawene and her dedicated crew, contact Tino Rawa Trust via info@tinorawatrust.co.nz or call Bob Still on 027 516 4700

You can learn more about Rawene at tinorawatrust.co.nz 



NONSENSICAL RAMBLINGS OF A BOAT OWNER - PART 2

BY JEREMY COPE

I've written a few articles for Plain Sailing over the last three years: seven to be precise, including such timeless classics as "How to buy your first real yacht", "Lessons learnt racing, year one", "Maintenance tips" and the most recent pearler "Sailboat maintenance - marine instruments". I'm sure you remember them all fondly..

I always struggle with how to pitch the message, as I assume Plain Sailing is read by a mixed audience ranging from crusty old sea dogs to complete puppies. And so, I write what I find interesting which is basically some DIY, a sprinkle of dry humour and a dribble of nonsensical rambling, hence the title and content of this episode.

Continuing my last doodle on marine instruments; I ripped out the old Navman gear and sold it to Murray in Ruakaka for 68 New Zealand dollars, the lucky man. After doing some research on various logs including the Neptune Log which, according to the manual, "has been designed to register accurately at high rates of speed from 18 knots upwards and is comprised of a rotator being towed in the water connected by means of a long log line with flywheel governor close to the registering apparatus. The ball bearings, with eye, cap and spindle, two necklaces of balls rolling in two pairs of V grooves, the outer pair to receive the pull of the rotator, and

the inner for the purpose of adjusting and to prevent side shake. It is most important that all working parts would be kept well oiled." You get the picture - contact me if you're interested in more details on the Neptune.

After careful consideration I went with the Garmin Depth/Wind/Sound bundle for \$2399 NZD from Nav Station, it just seemed less complicated than the Neptune and well, less oily. Installation was fairly straightforward. I had a boat builder install the single transducer which does depth and speed in one unit and is Bluetooth-enabled so you can talk to it from your device of choice. I spent a lovely afternoon sitting at the top of the mast installing the wind vane and cable. It all runs off a single NMEA 2000 backbone and it's basically plug-and-play. I had to buy an extra NMEA backbone cable: shop around if you have to buy one of these as there's a huge price range. I paid about \$35 from Sailors.

So now I have two pretty screens and I'm thinking a chartplotter would be nice and wouldn't it be cool to capture all the data from the NMEA 2000 network and store it and mine it and graph it and have some more pretty pictures however the cost of a chartplotter is ridiculous and well out of my budget. I came across the wonderful world of Raspberry Pi and open source software including chartplotters and NMEA 2000 plug-ins for considerably less dollars. Has anyone else explored this? I feel this is the start of a whole new adventure, watch this space.

Finally, I saw an article in the Herald recently where the Wellington Harbourmaster rescued a guy in a sinking dinghy who was going out to his recent purchase, a \$1 yacht. The Harbourmaster remarked 'there's no such thing as a cheap boat, you either pay now or pay later'. So, so true.

Happy Sailing..▶

WEATHER ROUNDUP: JAN-JUN 2022

BY BOB "METBOB" MCDAVITT



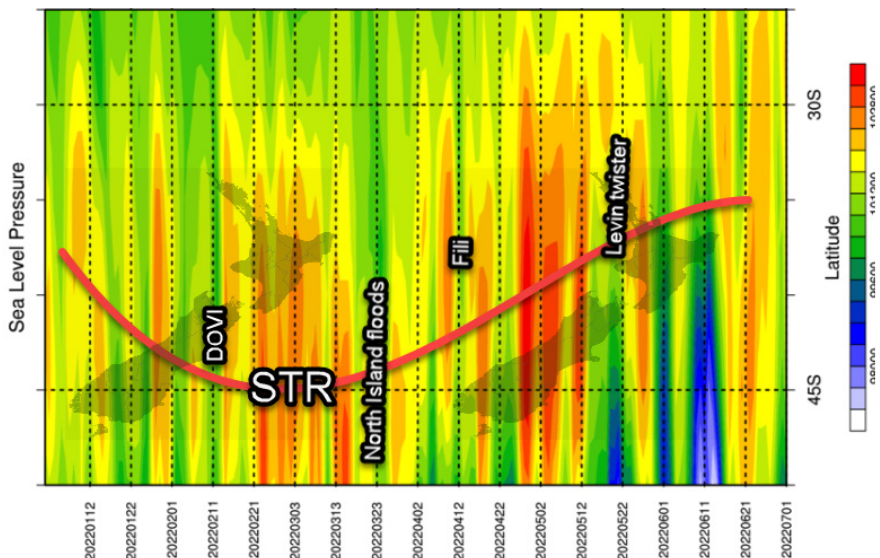
The first few months of 2022 brought several flooding episodes along the North Island East coast: first with the remnants of Ruby in December, then with Cyclone Dovi in February, a tropical intrusion in March and again with Cyclone Fifi in April.

This time-latitude diagram for the New Zealand area has been constructed using NOAA data and shows the isobaric pressure for each day from January to the end of June, with Highs appearing as yellow/orange areas and Lows as blue/white. The pressure is averaged across the longitudes 165E to 175W and latitudes for 25 South to 50 South displayed with a background map of NZ to help viewer orientation.

The main damaging events have been labelled, but generally occur in the green zone. The intense anticyclones of May and the dramatic drawn-out depressions of early June stand out.

The red line shows the latitude used by passing highs. This shifted south until end of February and then north. This zone, called the subtropical ridge or STR is an important parameter to follow. It is the zone on the weather map found between the tropical trade winds and the disturbed westerly flow of the "roaring forties". The STR is susceptible to variation from its average behaviour from many influences and if we could predict its future we would.

This time-latitude plot shows the weather in a colourful and interesting new way. This helps illustrate my contention that "weather is a mix of pattern and chaos". 🌪️







Officers

PRESIDENT **Hans Swete** – Transformer
COMMODORE **Richard Limbrick** – Cool Change
VICE COMMODORE **Chris Crone** – Taitua
REAR COMMODORE **Jacky Bush**
TREASURER **Steve Morriss** – Belle
SECRETARY **Liz Henderson**
CLUB MANAGER **Mark Becroft** – Maggie May
BUILDING MANAGER **Keith Bekker** – Manawa
SPONSORSHIP **Jacky Bush**



General Committee

Andy Bevan – Atamai
David Cashmore – Georgia Rae
Jeremy Cope – Time Out
Tony Evans - Predator
Peter Locke - The Entertainer
John Marshall - Dream Machine
Gregory Thwaite

Office Hours

ADMINISTRATOR **Kate Herstell**

Winter: Tues – Fri. 10am – 3pm

Summer: Tues – Fri. 10am – 4pm

Richmond Yacht Club, Inc
Westhaven Seawall
173 Westhaven Drive
PO Box 46 324
Herne Bay, Auckland 1147

RYC Mobile: +64 21 276 4332
Office: +64 9 376 4332

Email: info@richmondyc.org.nz
Web: www.richmondyc.org.nz

Magazine

We would like to hear your stories and feedback! To submit news, stories or photos email us at: magazine@richmondyc.org.nz



Thank you to our generous sponsors.

