

PLAIN SAILING

N O V E M B E R 2 0 2 0



RICHMOND
YACHT CLUB



FROM THE FLAG

BY MARK BECROFT
RYC COMMODORE

Summer is here. We've been waiting for this for ages. How's your tan looking?

Lockdown is over and we are rocking on the water for the start of another great season. It's nice to be able to hang out at the club again.

Spring Regatta showed us a great Auckland day with all four seasons accommodated at some point. Did you use it as a crew shakedown for the Coastal Classic?

Wednesday racing got off to a flying start with some interesting wind conditions. Have you seen the photos on our Facebook page? They are well worth a look.

The Victoria Friday Night Special has taken off again. We all thought the numbers would be down this season due to the restrictions we have been through, but no, our crew numbers are quite stable. Skippers, are you able to donate an occasional Friday evening, or many, to take some keen new faces out sailing?

The single-handed series is off again with consistent fleet sizes. RYC started this series a few years ago and it appears to be thriving under the RYC burgee.

We have shaken the old "His and Hers" series up a bit and created a short-handed series to open the event up to more yachts, whilst still retaining the His and Hers division in Races 2 & 3. Races 1 & 4 are single-handed harbour and Haystack races.

Or, what about the cruising sailors and families? The cruising events



have started, with a chance for the more relaxed sailors to have a comfortable race (or rally), to sail off to a nice bay and join your buddies on a beach for a relaxed barbecue. We have changed the format to allow for more flexibility with selecting the course to suit the wind directions expected for rallies 1 and 4.

You don't even have to join in the race, it's all about cruising, relaxing and meeting up for a barbecue on Saturday evening.

As you can see, we have a little bit of something to suit all types of sailors.

What about your stories? If you do something interesting over the summer break, how about taking a photo or two and penning a short story for the February Plain Sailing Magazine? We all like to read about what our friends are up to on the water.

Isn't this the best time of the year?

Happy sailing. ►

THIS ISSUE

BY CHRIS CRONE
EDITOR

Welcome to the November 2020 issue of Plain Sailing.

First, we look back at this year's prizegiving - congratulations to all winners! - before Paul reports on this year's Spring Regatta. Andrew tells us about Attitude and the growing Auckland multihull fleet, and Richard describes the new Gulf Triangle

concept for our single-handed sailors. Finally, we get to know some more of the generous sponsors who contribute to Richmond's sailing and events program.

We're looking for summer stories and writing 500 words is easier than you think! Send us articles and photos for February's magazine:
magazine@richmondyc.org.nz

Happy sailing, and happy summer! ■

ROUTE 66 - LOCK IT IN!



MARSDEN COVE MARINA
WHANGAREI HARBOUR

WELCOME



New Members

Nick Charles

Quartette, Farr 727
General

Matt Middleton

Crazy Train, Martell 10 (multi)
General

Nick Moloney

Lightning, Elliot 7.9
General

Damon Paling

Ora Rose, J/112E
General

Adam Thompson

Revolution Blues, Ross 830
General

Paul Dobbin & Catherine O'Neill

Chase, Lidgard 40
General Family

Laurie & Paul Wager

Black Hornet, Mini 650
General Family

Terry Barrington

Total Response, Whiting 29
Associate

Peter White & Louise Parker

Associate Family

Jennifer & Oliver Baudains

Associate Family

Daniel & Katherina Borszik

Associate Family

Alexander Scherbakov & Deryn Williams

Associate Family

Victor Pliev & Kate Michelmores

Associate Family

New Crew Members

Alastair Wright

Alice Davidson

Ana Kennedy

Ben Murtagh

Bruce Frith

Claire Joy

David Frost

Debbie Lomax

Dene Busby

Duane Coad

Eddie Beetham

Felicity Champion

Guillaume Abbadi

Hayden Groves

James Houston

Karen Yong

Lorenzo Garcia

Marcel Dauphin

Marine Barthomeuf

Mark Groves

Mark Johnson

Nabeel Ahmed

Olly Ng

Paul Appleyard

Paul Bancroft

Peter Williams

Sara Smith

Sean Peterfreund

Simon Murtagh

Thomas Forsythe

Tracey Turner

Vitaly Zhuravlyov

UPCOMING CALENDAR & EVENTS

November 2020

- 1st Single-handed Series Race 3
& Short-handed Series Race 1
(single-handed)
- 4th Pot Luck Lunch
- 4th Wednesday Night Race 3
- 6th Friday Night Special Race 3
- 7th Cruising Rally 1
- 8th Single-handed Series Race 4
(BBYC)
- 14th Westhaven Triple Race 1
(Round Rangitoto - PCC)
- 18th Wednesday Night Race 4
- 20th Friday Night Special Race 4
- 28th Cruising Event - Sir Peter
Blake Memorial & Single-
handed Series Race 5

December 2020

- 2nd Pot Luck Lunch
- 2nd Wednesday Night Race 5
- 4th Friday Night Special Race 5
- 6th Short-handed Series Race 2
(two-handed)
- 16th Wednesday Night Race 6
- 23rd crew.org race

January 2021

- 22nd Friday Night Special Race 6
- 27th Wednesday Night Race 7
- 29th Cruising Event - Mahurangi
Night Race & Single-handed
Series Race 6

February 2021

- 1st Auckland Anniversary Regatta
- 3rd Pot Luck Lunch
- 5th Westhaven Triple Race 2
(Kawau Night Race - RNZYS)
- 10th Wednesday Night Race 8
- 13th Single-handed Series Race 7
(BBYC)
- 14th Single-handed Series Race 8
(BBYC)
- 19th Friday Night Special Race 7
- 24th Wednesday Night Race 9
- 26th **Route 66 - save the date!**
& Single-handed Series Race 9
& Gulf Triangle (26th-28th)
- 27th Short-handed Series Race 3
(two-handed)



PRIZEGIVING

The Richmond Yacht Club prizegiving for the 2019-20 season was held at the club on 31st July - congratulations to all winners!

Club Champion: Noel Cole Trophy

The Noel Cole Trophy is awarded to the skipper who obtains the best handicap points score for eight races within the club calendar.

Congratulations to this year's Club Champion Peter Osboldstone of Sigma II.



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.



Maurice Livingstone Cup

The Cup is awarded to club members who “go the extra mile” with their sailing. 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 jointly to Nigel Garland and Grant Wakefield of Katana, for finishing every leg of the 2020 Round North Island race.



Alan Wright Trophy

The Trophy is awarded to club members who have shown exceptional determination.

This year it was awarded to Simon Malpas and Bryon Wright who raced Atamai in the 2020 Round North Island.



Blake Memorial Shield

The Shield is awarded to an outstanding committee member. This year it was awarded to Keith Bekker for his dedication as Building Manager. ►



SERIES WINNERS

| | | |
|--|-------|-------------------|
| 2019-20 Cruising Series | C Div | Peppermint Planet |
| | E Div | Predator |
| 2019 CRC, New World Birkenhead & Sailutions Winter Series | A Div | Activator |
| | B Div | Knighthawk |
| | C Div | Hot Gossip |
| | K Div | Extract Digit |
| 2019-20 CRC, New World Birkenhead & Sailutions Wednesday Night Series | A Div | Equilibrium |
| | B Div | Itchy Feet |
| | C Div | Predator |
| | D Div | Crocodile |
| | E Div | MRX 1995 |
| | H Div | Serene |
| | R Div | Fast Company |
| | S Div | Sign It Magic |
| | M Div | Attitude |
| 2019-20 RYC Single-Handed Series | PHRF | Real Deal |
| | A | Cool Change |

SPRING REGATTA 2020

BY PAUL DOBBIN



The RYC Spring Regatta is pitched as an iconic race and perfect shakedown for the Summer season - It certainly proved that way for us and we couldn't have been happier.

As an active member of the RYC in the early 2000s with a little wooden Farr 727 and very little racing since, a recent purchase of a lovely mid-80s Kauri Lidgard 40 is hopefully the ticket to rediscovering the joys of a yachting community.

Our race started a few days out with confirmed crew, forecast checking, and some chart time to refresh patchy memories of Waiheke waters. With only dinghy access at Birkenhead, preparation also included an overnight berth in Westhaven to make race day easier (don't get me started on the city-of-fails lack of loading facilities). Oh, and join the club, buy the sail pass etc. Membership may have lapsed but Richmond has always been home ground and it's good to be back again.

Come Saturday, with one crew member off crook at the last minute, we were only four up with a mix of novice sailors and established but rusty skills. We'd entered the SH Extras division but agreed not to push it with our limited resources. Investing in time paid off right away when a gate code wouldn't work but



we still had time to practice a few moves before the starts. An eerily quiet marina however alerted us to the fact that not all RYC starts are off Westhaven, we were in fact at the wrong end of the harbour! We gunned the engine and blew smoke for Orakei, arriving just in time to drift over the line with the back portion of our division.

It was a tricky start with a drifting fleet, turning tide and watery sun battling to break through banks of low cloud and fog. But break through it did and the wind picked up near



Brown's Island. Motuihe and Rangitoto however remained strangely shrouded in mist that hid Waiheke almost entirely until we had entered the Motuihe channel.

With tide against us everybody tucked tight into the islands to avoid the flood. After a few tacks and some close crossings with our nearest competitors we decided to strike out for the Waiheke coastline. It was risky but we didn't suffer too badly and were relieved to find we weren't the only ones.

Once cracked off and heading for Gannet Rock we appeared to be making ground against the fleet and putting distance on our local rivals. We knew this would change when they popped their kites so every metre helped.

Approaching the turn we watched the descending long haul fleet carefully for clues to conditions ahead as they rounded Gannet Rock and bore away South. By now the breeze was a lovely 14-18kts and the sun had beaten the remaining fog into submission on the nearby peaks of Waiheke.

Sailing down Waiheke's Eastern seaboard we lunched while admiring boats under full kite sailing smoothly past us. Rounding into the passage along Waiheke's bottom end we poled out our headsail to maintain pace. We could easily have carried a kite through there but stuck to the plan and kept it below. With mostly inexperienced crew it wasn't worth risking adversity for the extra pace.

Past Passage Rock and outside the island's lee, bullying gusts coming



off Waiheke's Western bays soon had us furling in some headsail for more consistent control. They say 'the best time for a reef is the first time you think of it but still we held off on shortening the main until we knew what to expect further on. As it turns out the nowcast showed a wind dropping from 19kts, to 16, to almost 14 by the time we shook out the headsail, cracked off and sailed for Orakei in the setting sun. Calmly admiring rich and complex cloudscape was definitely preferable to wrestling the forecast 35kt gusts!

After the line we sailed for the bridge, picking up the mooring in the last of the evening light. The boat had performed beautifully, the crew had all made new friends, everyone was in one piece and we had stayed competitive all the way around. The excited chatter in the uber back to Westhaven was a good indicator of the day's success.

We'll upskill and learn Chase's nuances, with the hope of improving our placings, but the 2020 Spring Regatta was exactly what we had hoped it would be – a perfect kickoff to a wonderful Summer sailing season! ►

ATTITUDE THE MULTI-HULL

BY ANDREW JOHNSON

Attitude is an 8.5m catamaran designed and built by John Tetzlaff (JT) in 2005. She was designed to fit into the NZ 8.5m box rule originating from the GBE.

JT, a sparmaker, part-time designer and boat builder built four hulls at once, forming Attitude and her sister ship Epsom Salts. She is constructed using a 4mm stressed Gaboon Plywood method creating a simple and lightweight vessel. Each hull has a claustrophobic bunk in the bow doubling as a watertight compartment. Sleeping is a novelty and enjoyable for

very short periods of time: any longer trips require a boom tent with camping on the tramps.

I purchased Attitude in 2018 off Ed Ayre, who now owns Lucifer, who has proven to be incredibly stiff competition over the last season. The start of 2019 turned out to be a disaster for us after discovering two broken beams at the conclusion of an RYC Wednesday night race. The boat was hauled out and taken to Kevin Johnson Boatbuilders, my father's yard, in Devonport where the start of an 8-month refit would take place. Being 8.5m by 5.2m you take up a large amount of shed space, so the pressure was on to keep the project moving and get back out sailing. Rent was mainly paid by "allowing" my parents to babysit our one-year old son, Finn, as I worked on the boat. This project was never going to make money for them.





The refit brought together a bunch of my close mates who joined me for countless late nights and weekends of hard work for which I am very grateful. They have all come onboard to form Attitude's core sailing crew.

Attitude was relaunched in August 2019, with three new engineered CTech carbon fibre beams all permanently glassed into bulkheads. Other new editions and modifications included transom steps, access hatches, outboard and throttle controls, tramps and a full exterior repaint. After being locked in a shed for so long we launched on a Thursday, were back racing on the Saturday and haven't stopped since.

The 2019 / 2020 season was extremely rewarding for Attitude with season wins across both clubs' Wednesday nights and RYC winter series. We achieved 2nd at Coastal Classic, Bay of Islands Sailing Week and SSANZ with the year highlight being Route 66. The Route 66 was an epic reach/downwind fast sail from Auckland to Marsden Cove; the battle was tight between the multihulls with Attitude just sneaking

ahead of Lucifer to take the win and a new race record. We didn't quite manage to beat our top boat speed of 25.6 knots set during the Coastal Classic but came very close with constant speeds over 23 knots.

The Auckland multihull fleet is looking up again after a few slow years, some boats have recently changed hands with new owners turning up on the start line. Timberwolf, Crazy Train and Exodus will all be boats to watch for line honours in the 20 / 21 season. Multihull sailing is extremely exciting and rewarding with great value for money given their speeds. There is a certain enjoyment when you sail past the 50 footers who have 10-plus crew all stacked up on the rail looking at you when your campaign costs less than their mainsail.

As a fleet we appreciate that getting onboard a multihull can be challenging but would certainly be happy to try and accommodate any future multihull sailors or owners where we can. Find us at the Attitude Sailing Facebook Page for our latest adventures. ►

WINTER WRAP-UP

A few photos from the 2020 Winter Series!



GULF TRIANGLE: 3 LEGS, 3 DAYS, 1 SAILOR

BY RICHARD LIMBRICK



As a concept this is something that I discussed with many other like-minded sailors for quite a while: the aim being to develop a longer single-handed sailing regatta that would link a number of longer legs to form a more challenging single-handed sailing event.

Initially there appeared to be a little scepticism around the concept with safety issues being to the fore along with a perceived lack of support for such an event from sailors. So for the last six years I have left the idea on the back-burner only discussing it within the group who compete in our club's single-handed series - now in its sixth year, with a fleet of 19 participants.

At a sailing innovations meeting, held at the RYC in mid-2019, this concept was discussed again and got provisional support from the race committee, the proviso being that organisers will address the safety and organisational challenges arising from such an event. To date Cory McLennan, Alan Yardley and Nigel Garland have agreed to be part of the safety review panel. All have much experience in the field of off-shore and coastal short-handed and single-handed sailing.

Although the planning for the event is still to get to the detailed phase, I decided to tentatively put some 'feelers' out on the crew.org website and to my surprise got over 900 views, none of them negative towards the idea and many noting their thinking about participating. Only time will tell.

What we do know going forward is

that we have a supportive sponsor, a great launching leg in an already established race, the Route 66, and a committed bunch of single-handed sailors.

The Route 66 will be the first leg, on Friday 26th February 2021, with the plan being to be home in Westhaven by Monday at the latest. Currently the proposed route is:

Leg 1 - Auckland to Whangarei;

Leg 2 - Whangarei to Great Barrier Island;

Leg 3 - Great Barrier Island to Westhaven.

There will be a compulsory layover at the end of each leg.

Need further convincing? Then this may assist in seeing the future of such events: <http://lasolitaire.com/>

From small seeds do the mighty Kauri grow! ■

For more information, visit richmondyc.org.nz/gulftriangle/



THANK YOU SPONSORS, PART 2

BY CHRIS CRONE & JACKY BUSH



NEW WORLD
Birkenhead

Who are you and what do you do?

New World Birkenhead is locally owned and operated and has been supplying groceries to our customers since 2003. Situated on Mokoia Road we have a stand-alone store with a large dedicated car park in the middle of Birkenhead. We have a great range of fresh foods including produce, service deli, seafood, butchery, and bakery departments. Complementing this we have a florist, café, grocery, chilled/frozen foods, general merchandise and liquor department. We specialise in craft beer with over 130 different craft beers in store. We have a 160 team members working throughout the week to provide our customers with what they want.

How has your business been affected by Covid-19?

As an essential service, we had the privilege of being able to trade through the Level 4 lockdown period. This was a huge responsibility and came with many challenges. We had to make many changes to the way we ran our supermarket to help

protect our team members and our customers. Protection screens, floor decals, limited numbers of people in store, extra cleaning and sanitising programs, organising people to work from home where possible, organising extra security, providing support for vulnerable team members, dealing with a massive change in the online sales channel, and providing reassurance for an unsettled team were just some of the challenges. Moreover, where's the bloody flour when you need it?!

I can say we learnt a hell of a lot after the first lockdown, which resulted in implementing all the measures again within 12 hours of the second Level 3 lockdown being announced.

The biggest learning from this all? How strong our team is and how great our community supported them. We had many people volunteering to come in and help. This included people in the yachting community. For this, we were very grateful.

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

We always have something on the go at New World Birkenhead. From a marketing point of view one of our most successful campaigns last run in 2017 is back. "Little Garden" runs through the months of September and October. We also have the New World Wine Awards launching beginning of October. October sees a change to our produce layout with a cut through to the grocery aisles making it easy for customers to shop, and in November, we are replacing the entire frozen foods cabinet line-up with more efficient, modern cases with easier accessibility for customers. ■



Safety at Sea

Who are you and what do you do?

Kiwi Yachting has been supplying

the Marine Industry with quality equipment since 1988. Representing world-renowned brands such as Lewmar, Wichard and Baltic, it now encompasses a diverse spectrum from manufacturing (AutoAnchor) and boat building (Southern Pacific Inflatables) through to retail (Safety at Sea). The foundations were built by veteran yachtsman Richard Macalister and in more recent years Kiwi Yachting has evolved with America's Cup Skipper Dean Barker coming on board as a Director.

How has your business been affected by Covid-19?

For all businesses operating during these unprecedented times, there have been uncertainties. The marine industry was forced to close for 6

weeks, a restriction that has since been dropped.

The biggest impact we have seen is the lack of international boaties coming ashore with the border restrictions. However, we have seen great support from the local Kiwis as we all prepare for a summer in New Zealand. Many have taken this time to refurbish their boats.

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

Our team has been very busy working on a few new products. We are currently building two new boats: The PerformR which is the ultimate chase boat, and The Prodigy which is unlike anything we have made before.

We have also brought in the newest Furler from Profurl, the NEX II and our Safety at Sea store is now carrying the 6 man Waypoint Compact Lifteraft.

We are ready to kit out your boats for summer. ■



Who are you and what do you do?

Mariner Insurance is a specialist Boat insurer, with experts in underwriting and claims. Our policies are financially backed by Vero Insurance NZ Ltd. The Mariner name has been associated with

boat insurance for over 15 years. We have hundreds of independent verified reviews on "Trustpilot": <https://nz.trustpilot.com/review/marinermarine.co.nz>

How has your business been affected by Covid-19?

We remained open and trading

throughout Covid lockdowns and we got hit with claims throughout the lockdown, with boats sinking and other types of losses but had systems in place to provide assistance where we could.

What have you got planned for 2020-21 that you would like to tell our



Who are you and what do you do?

My name is Peter Morris; with my wife Sue we are

A-Z Marine Services. We started up in 2005: we advertised once in the Squadron Magazine - no response - and have not advertised since, all of our business has been word of mouth which we are extremely happy about and grateful for.

We are a maintenance and management business and do as little or as much as the owner requires, including splicing berthing lines and vessel deliveries.

members about?

For the year ahead, we are positive about boating in New Zealand and are recruiting staff to new positions. We are improving our already excellent tech platforms and we will hopefully be spending more time on the water too. ■

How has your business been affected by Covid-19?

We have been extremely lucky and have regular clients that still want our services. It's been great to come out of the other side of the lockdowns and be busy again!

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

We own Amazing Cleanall and have been the NZ dealer for Ropeye since 2013; we are currently fitting out an Etchell which is coming on really well and supplying Ropeye to a Carrick 45 and Melges 40 - looking forward to seeing them all on the water - and looking forward to sponsoring races for Richmond. Sail well !!



Who are you and what do you do?

Marine Deals is New

Zealand's fishing, boating, diving, watersports, camping and outdoors specialists ... We are all about getting you awesome Marine Deals.

We launched in October 2009 and have grown from a small company working out of our garage to become New Zealand's most popular online

marine retailer. Now we have over 50 staff and over 100,000 products for sale and over 30,000 products in stock, in our warehouse at any time.

How has your business been affected by Covid-19?

During the first lockdown, sales nearly came to a halt, however since then we haven't stopped. With travel restrictions, Kiwis are now getting outdoors and experiencing what our great country has to offer. We are continually meeting new customers

who are getting outdoors and on the water for the first time. It is always a pleasure in assisting Kiwis getting out on the water and experiencing our awesome marine environment.

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

Right now we are expanding the size of our warehouse, allowing us to hold more stock and be able to process orders faster. With this new space, it also means new products. Our product team is currently working on a number of deals with new suppliers; expect to see some exciting products come through in 2021. ■

MUSTO Who are you and what do you do?

Musto offers a full range of top end sailing gear, with a reputation to last, specialising in MPX and HPX gear as used by Volvo Ocean racing. George Hendy is the sole distributor in New Zealand, supplying Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch and has been sponsoring Richmond Yacht Club for a number of years now - and is looking forward to staying involved!

Marine Deals is the only supplier in NZ to stock the full range of Musto and have the ability to get it to you either straight away in-store or delivered overnight.

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

As a way of supporting local yacht clubs and to let the yachting world know that Marine Deals now stocks the complete range of Musto sailing products, we are creating a Musto VIP club and would like to invite the Richmond Yacht Club members to join. Club members will receive a code which will give them 20% off any Musto product, then from any sale made we will also give 5% back to the club.

Musto wishes all the participants in Richmond Yacht Club all the best for the coming season. ■

Thanks again to all of our sponsors for their support!







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 – Time Out
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



Thank you to our generous sponsors.

