



**RICHMOND
YACHT CLUB**

**Secretary's Report
Annual General Meeting
30 June 2023**

President, Commodore, Flag Officers, Committee, and members: It is my pleasure to present the Secretary's Report for the 119th AGM of Richmond Yacht Club (Inc.).

Whist I am given the privilege of presenting this report, it is a collation of the various sections within the club which are ably managed by not only your Committee, but also members of the Sailing Sub-Committee. Accordingly, I have included their names under the relevant Sections.

Membership

Our membership data is based on the annual data supplied to Yachting New Zealand together with their affiliation fees.

Membership Type	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
General	52	53	49	46	54
General Family	90 (45 couples)	72 (36 couples)	70 (35 couples)	72 (36 couples)	64 (32 couples)
Veteran	24	25	29	29	27
Veteran Family	18 (9 couples)	16 (8 couples)	16 (8 couples)	14 (7 couples)	14 (7 couples)
Associate	13	16	18	14	15
Associate Family	22 (11 Couples)	26 (13 Couples)	36 (18 Couples)	16 (8 Couples)	18 (9 couples)
Crew	75	64	78	63	57
Junior			1	0	0
Total Paid Members	294	272	297	254	249
Life Members	10 (incl 4 couples)	11 (incl 5 couples)	11 (incl 5 couples)	13 (incl 6 couples)	12
Honorary Members	17 (incl 3 couples)	14 (incl 2 couples)	14 (incl 2 couples)	14 (incl 2 couples)	14
Total Members	321	297	322	281	275

Memberships continue to fall, as with other clubs.

Sailing Committee report (Andrew, Trish and Margaret)

A Big Thank You to all who have helped in the start tower and aboard Taipan over the season.

- CRC & New World Victoria Park Winter Series 2022 was a return to normality from the disruption of Covid 19 with up to 47 boats racing over the 9 race series; we only had one race abandoned due to the lack of wind and the fleet struggling to get to the first mark.

- Musto & Marine Deals Spring Regatta - The start of our 2022-23 race season, we had 43 boats in the fleet of which 23 sailed in the Gold Cup Division. The full course was sailed giving skippers and crew a full day of sailing with the last boat finishing just after 7pm.
- Coolstore Construction Single Handed series - A well supported series with a group of 13 dedicated skippers who are all very competitive. This was a 10 race series with the skippers 5 best results scoring. 2 races were abandoned this season.
- CRC, New World and Sailutions Wednesday Night series - This was well supported in all 9 divisions, involving a total of 63 boats. There was a bigger fleet than last year and we were able to hold all 11 races in the series. This made for good racing on the water and a great atmosphere back at the club house afterwards to share race stories.
- Victoria Friday Night Series - Continues to be a popular event both with skippers and crew and we managed to get most races run.
- Burnsco 3x3 Summer Blast - A new event and concept for this season, a short weekend series of three 3 handed races in one division. Friday no extras, Saturday around Rangitoto, Sunday a Harbour race. We had 19 boats entered. The plan is to look to develop this series so as to give skippers something different from other events.
- Yachtshare Cruising Events - Unfortunately 3 events were blighted by the weather, the night race to Mahurangi by the Auckland Anniversary deluge, the Kawau night race by the now infamous Cyclone Gabrielle and race 3 with very little wind.
- Marsden Cove Marina Route66 - This year the race was run in very light breeze so of the 51 boats which started only 27 finished. A new 2 handed division has been included in place of the single handed no extras division, which got 12 entries. Capacity at Marsden Cove is now a challenge that we need to manage as this race continues to be very popular amongst the smaller boats in the A2 division and the multihull skippers still keen to be involved.
- Excel Gulf Triangle - The first leg of this race is run with the route 66 so suffered the same lack of breeze however most skippers persisted and many finished in the early hours of Saturday morning. Unfortunately leg 2 was abandoned shortly after starting and leg 3 shortened due to lack of wind. This race now includes a two handed division which had 6 entries.
- Single Handed Races - These include the Harbour race, Night Races to Mahurangi and Kawau, and the Haystack race. Typically attended by skippers competing in the Singlehanded series but not exclusively, unfortunately 2 races were abandoned.

Sponsorship (Jacky)

As always, I would like to start this report by acknowledging the incredible on-going generosity and support of our sponsors. Without our sponsors we would not be able to provide our skippers and crews with interesting events, as well as, well earned prizes.

I am pleased to report that we have again had a successful season for sponsorship at Richmond Yacht Club, in that we received sufficient on-going support to enable us to run our events and races, and have meaningful and fun prize giving events.

The main type of sponsorship continues to be in the form of products and vouchers that are used as individual Race and Series prizes. Other sponsorship came in the form of cash, which we were able to use for promotion, event expenses, as well as, the purchase of additional prizes.

Our sponsorship came from long-time club supporters; CRC, New World Victoria Park, and Victoria Cruising Club (for the Victoria Friday Night Special). This year Burnsco increased their sponsorship support and became the named sponsor for the new 3 x 3 Summer Blast, joined as one of the main sponsors for the Winter Series, as well as, continuing to be the first on handicap sponsor for the Route 66, and provide a number of spot prizes which are used throughout the year.

We are also extremely grateful for the ongoing sponsorship support from Sailutions, who this year decided to step away from the Winter Series sponsorship, Mariner Marine Insurance, Coolstore Construction, Excel Refrigeration and Air Conditioning, Floating Dock Service, Harken Fosters, Coastguard Boating Education, Safety at Sea, Musto and Marine Deals, PredictWind, Ropeye, YachtShare and, of course, Mount Gay who again provided sponsorship for the Route 66, as well as, the Friday Night Special; enabling us to continue to provide the skippers bottle of rum spot prizes. In conclusion, I would like to note our appreciation and acknowledgement of all our sponsors' support and look forward to continuing our relationship with them all. We continue to look at ways that we can increase the promotion of our sponsors and the products or services that they provide.

We are always grateful for the support of our sponsors, and I ask that all Club members support them in turn by using their products or services.

Social Events, Venue Hire & Bar (Mark)

After six years as Club Manager, I have again resigned from the position since I now live out of Auckland. I thought we had a replacement for the role last year, but alas that did not work out and so I remained in the position for a further twelve months.

The committee have been unable to find a replacement for me and are currently looking at ways of covering the duties of the position. One of these moves is to cancel all private functions by non-club members.

Covid has ceased to be a barrier to social gatherings and the utilization of the club's bar for the 2022–23 year has improved markedly as has the bar income compared to the past few years.

Our 2022 winter social evenings, with a talk by Lawrie Read on sailing the northwest passage and our annual quiz night were well attended.

We had good numbers back at the club after the winter series, with an average bar turnover of about \$400 per race. The bar was manned throughout the Friday night series by Annah, with an average bar take, again of about \$400. The Wednesday night races saw a healthy number of crews frequent the clubrooms after racing. The average bar take was about \$630. The final Wednesday race and season prize giving saw around two hundred people in the clubrooms with a bar turnover of \$1700.

We had a good year with twenty one private functions being held. These were mainly birthday parties, ranging from 21st to 80th. Five of those functions had a bar turnover of \$3000 or more.

Kate continues to encourage use of the club for day hires by a wide variety of both non-profit and business groups. Many of these groups are using the clubrooms on a regular basis and at least one group has come forward to sponsor some of our race events.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have helped with the bar in the last year. Andrew, Rosy, Liz and Annah have made up my bar team, with several club members stepping in to assist on those days when we were over-taxed behind the bar after racing. I would also like to thank the (mainly) committee members who have helped with the club clean-up after racing. Without these efforts and Kate's constant support, we could not have run a successful club bar.

Promotions (Chris)

Thankfully, this past year we haven't had to endure the COVID restrictions of the 2021-22 season, and so many successful events have been run, both on- and off-water. Not only is it great fun to take part in such events, but also to read about them and see photos afterwards. Our Facebook page continues to be well used for promoting and sharing events, and we've seen an encouraging growth of use of the RYC Crew Finder page, also on Facebook. Our weekly newsletter keeps our members abreast of upcoming events and issues that affect them, and Plain Sailing gives our members a varied dose of club goings-on every quarter.

The committee is sincerely grateful to Rosy and Kate Herstell for their efforts to keep our online presence growing, and to keep our members up-to-date on events around the club. As Plain Sailing editor, I'd also like to thank the wide range of members who have contributed articles and photos over the past year.

Club Captain's Report (Keith)

A very quiet year with only general maintenance being undertaken, with Kate's persistence and several trips down to the club Chorus finally installed fiber and with John Marshall's expertise it was extended from the junction boxes in dingy locker area up and though to the office. A handrail has been fitted to the internal staircase in Lomocean's area. We have done quite a lot of work to the wiring which feeds the lights in the north stairwell but there is still occasional hiccups. The urinal in the men's toilet has it's stops and starts unfortunately more stops than starts and after the plumber fitted a new solenoid with no improvement it was feared that a very costly new censor may need to be purchased, but lucky my friend Roger was able to reprogram the existing unit and fix the problem. As I write this I see the Wind guru is not currently working despite having fitted a power pack and new bearings during the course of the year, another job to be due ASAP. To conclude there will be a working bee tomorrow week Saturday 8th July hoping to see lots of you then.

Correspondence

The Club continues to receive regular communications from Yachting New Zealand and AYBA across a broad spectrum of yachting activities. This has included the request for club's feedback on matters where the club can represent the sailing community on matters potentially impacting on activities both locally and nationally. An increasing amount of concerns present themselves to the yachting community around the Gulf and Harbour, including of note ramp closures, loss of marina space and work to the Seawall.

Further communications have occurred between Panuku Developments and the club over proposed rent increases, which are currently with Panuku for consideration.

Westhaven Marina continues to advise us of substantial changes which have been, and continue to be, made to the marina area. These developments are at times affecting club members location of and access to marina berths.

Conclusion

The club has had another good year of racing, cruising, social events and prize giving's.

Whilst each year the Club recognises and thanks our volunteers for their efforts with a volunteers dinner, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank our army of volunteers, President, Flag Officers, fellow Committee members, and Race Officers, who give freely of their time to ensure our Club runs well. There is much planning and work that goes on behind the scenes to make this Club the success it is, year on year. Often this work is time consuming, and invisible.

Richmond Yacht Club have excelled where other clubs have struggled by being run by its members, for its members. If you the reader have any time spare to help either big or small, there are a variety of tasks you can get involved with, and we encourage you to get in touch with any of the committee.

Thank you.