

## **CYA Annual Meeting 7 August 2018 – Chairman's report**

Good evening and welcome to the Annual Meeting of the Classic Yacht Association.

The couple of years have past by in what seems to be only about 4 months and it is time that I handed over the chair to someone new. James, sincere thanks for putting your hand up.

Firstly and most importantly, I wish to confirm thanks personally and on behalf of the CYA to all those who have so ably assisted the Association in many ways to further our aspirations and goals, and to conceive, administer and manage the events.

Thanks to Joyce Talbot, as an officer has worked tirelessly to make me look better than I deserve. To the office bearers Michele Khan as deputy chair who has had to stand in for me on a number occasions at least one of which was on very short notice, James Mortimer as yacht captain, and Angus Rogers as launch captain – who bowed under pressure staying a year longer than he promised us. Michele and Angus join me in retiring at this meeting. Thanks for your wonderful contribution. To committee members Jason Prew, Bruce Dunlop, Rachel Orr, Nathan Herbert and Paige Marie Cook. Thanks for the commitment and contribution – and thanks for staying on. Thanks also to those who have volunteered for the committee this year. Spare a thought for the committee - time that is spent on the CYA is time not spent on the water or on the boat in general.

Membership remains stable at 317 and has increased over the last 3 years. It is pleasing to see more younger members joining the ranks.

The last year has seen a good number of very successful events including a great Classic Yacht Regatta, albeit Jenanne managed to sail only 2 races and completed only 1. I am not sure how, - but I did escape the obligatory mocking from the MC!

The regatta may be in a different form next year with long term organiser and more than slightly lippy MC Tony Stevenson, I think Tony and Michele are perhaps looking forward to sailing rather than organising in the future. Tony - Thanks for all your efforts in this and in the many other ways you have contributed. In particular thanks for ensuring the break even on the Regatta.

There has been a good number of successful sailing, launch, and social events in particular the passage race to Mahurangi and the Round Rangitoto were personal highlights. There was of course also an extremely frustrating (and for me futile) attempt to sail out of the harbour against the tide and what little wind there was on the ultimately abandoned Man-o-War race.

We have benefited from fruitful associations with other boating clubs who have assisted with race administration and complementary events, and our solid relationship with the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron who have hosted the

Classic Yacht Regatta, many of our functions and all of our committee meetings. Thanks for this assistance.

Club nights have been successfully reintroduced and very recently thanks to Rachel and Michele, have been extended to include a presentation – for which we needed more chairs brought in.

There is a team also to be thanked for producing the Register which is and is a “must have” resource. Michele, Nathan, Tony and Steve Horsley – thanks for an excellent job. This is one of the few things that we do that reaches all members, and I suggest that like me, a number of your bookshelves still carry editions from prior years.

It has been a privilege for me to have joined a terrific team serving this association and to have met and grown to better appreciate those who contribute so strongly. I ask members to remember that this is a volunteer organisation, and while we can’t possibly always please everyone, the good and great bits are well worth the effort.

We will not always see things the same way and we will offend the odd ego, but it is easy to forgive errors made with good intent, and we ought celebrate what goes well, rather than grizzle about what does not. If we can focus on the best bits, the rest will surely follow. I feel sure that those associated with classic vessels have earned an easier path to the pearly gates – we have already survived the trials.

The CYA is a great association of lovely boats and wonderful people. I am confident that your new chair and committee will do a magnificent job and will take the organisation on to greater heights.

Thanks for the energy, comradery, wisdom and friendship.

***Peter Mence***