

THE NEW ZEALAND CLASSIC YACHT JOURNAL

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.



www.classicyacht.org.nz

ISSN 1175-804X

Issue 105 – April 2016



Gravin Woodward Photo

A brilliant summer cruise on Tucana

By Tom Bertenshaw

The summer has been full-on; swimming, hiking, fishing, and sailing a classic yacht up the east coast. *Tucana* is a 38ft Cutten design built in 1905; I had the pleasure of practically living aboard for a month over summer.

She belongs to the Tino Rawa Trust, who maintain and restore classic boats such as *Tucana* by covering all costs and allocating a captain to each of their vessels. It is this setup that made my holiday possible.

Tucana left her berth in the Viaduct just before Christmas

and set sail for Tutukaka with three of my family aboard. A lovely few days were spent cruising the Poor Knights, Matapouri and Whale Bay. Next stop was Whangamumu, to the whaling station and the beautiful waterfall above it. I am pleased to confirm the water quality has improved drastically since the 1800's!

Two weeks in the Bay of Islands, enough time for New Years in Russell, exploration of most of the islands (by land and sea) and observing the annual Tall Ships race.

Although *Tucana* is long, she is really not large (as

those of you familiar with classics will know). For this reason it was great to have *Riada*, a Davidson 45 alongside us. Their meals far surpassed the baked beans and noodles on my vessel.

The fishing was far from optimal, a 1.5m mako shark

was the best catch of the summer, not quite making it to the frying pan!

Experiencing the love that people have for older boats was a highlight and I really appreciated all the compliments *Tucana* received during our time away.



Tom Bertenshaw Photo



Chip Dawson Photo

Trans Tasman match race series cements ties

Last October, a group of enthusiastic New Zealand sailors from the CYA arrived at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club to compete in an annual reciprocal match race series over the Melbourne Cup weekend in the changeable waters of the Port Phillip.

The Kiwis provided endless entertainment on the water on Kingurra in some challenging conditions – from almost being becalmed to howling 35 knot winds on the nose. I didn't have to go

to the gym for two weeks! Dodging the large freighters in channel lanes was an interesting interpretation of 'handicapping' for the Kiwis.

A spectacular week of sailing and fellowship was capped off with a prize giving and the traditional Scottish bagpipes welcome, which included a rendition of Pokarekare Ana.

Special recognition goes to Bruce Tantrum for hosting the Australians at his famous seafood chowder night.

Tony Blake inaugurated a perpetual trophy with a brilliant painting of the classic yachts *Sayonara* and *Rawhiti* sailing in the Sayonara Cup in Australia in 1907.

I wish to thank the CYAA and the RVYC for their warm

and gracious reception of our crew and guests. We look forward to challenging the English and the Australians in August 2016 off the Isle of Wight at the Classic Regatta during Cowes Week.

Chip Dawson, Thelma

Let's mix it up a bit

Yacht racing is great, and even more challenging on these old classics. There's always a lot to be done on a CYA yacht with no winches or cam-cleats and simple races like the annual Round Rangi and cake day make for a real event.

But yachts are only half of our fleet. What about the launches and non-racers? This year will welcome some fresh ideas for the cruisers, including informal island walks and fishing competitions.

Let's bring some sport to the non-racers; perhaps largest snapper and largest non-snapper prizes ashore concurrent with the race prizegiving. Boaties love to fish, and what better way to get involved in more events? – *Nathan Herbert*



Top: L-R Chip Dawson, Jane High, Ian MacFarlane, Kingurra skipper, Tony and Fiona Blake, and US guest Rob. Left: The Tony Blake painting.