



Jonquil gets the birthday treat she deserves

By Dan Renall

I see the appeal of a 5m tinny sitting in the driveway. A squirt with the hose and an annual engine service is about all the maintenance they need. No mooring fees. You can fish, dive and tow screaming kids in mindless circles until one of them turns inside out.

With demands on the modern worker's time being so great, it's a good explanation for the surge in small boat ownership and the erosion of the classic large boat market. Never has there been a better time to buy a New Zealand built timber yacht or launch.

Working a corporate job saw me craving something more hands-on, where the pride in ownership and the active maintenance is as much a source of enjoyment as the actual use of the vessel.



My boat *Jonquil* came about in the blissfully unaware newlywed years with two incomes and no kids. The head count has now doubled and the income streams halved. It would be far too easy to simply whack the boat on the market and fade into the oblivion of nappy valley.

Jonquil is a 32' Herreshoff yacht designed in 1914 for use in the waters of Buzzards Bay Massachusetts. Her amenities are few. During an Easter cruise in 2015, I made a small list of conveniences that would make life on board with children more manageable. First was running water, second was a toilet and third was sun protection to make use of *Jonquil's* good sized cockpit. This and a leaking centreboard case triggered a major winter refit.

Most of the work was

completed by myself, with assistance from generous family and friends. I questioned my sanity when, at the peak of exhaustion, I discovered myself hand sanding by headlamp at 11:00pm with my day job looming only a few short hours away.

The trick to keeping your passion alive is to make it an all-inclusive affair. For me this means less of the classic race circuit and more picnics to McKenzie Bay, or overnight pirate adventures to Waiheke. Destinations

needn't be far flung; to a three-year-old boy there is little difference between Issy Bay and the Bay Of Islands.

As for the maintenance, once the dust settles, the brushes harden and your pride and joy floats happily at her berth, it is all worthwhile. I encourage young families to turn their backs on the Auckland housing market and snap up a true bargain that will provide great family enjoyment while teaching kids skills and values that will shape them into great adults.

Right: Young George Renall gets ready to supervise the refit. Above: After the dust has settled, it is all worthwhile.



Book Review: Beautiful Boats: A selection of Classic New Zealand yacht designs

Robert Brooke has been collecting classic yacht designs for over 50 years. Amongst his collection is work from our most talented and recognized designers, Arch Logan, Chas Bailey, Charlie and Alex Collings, Colin Wild, Bert Woolacott, Bob Stewart, Des Townson, Alan Wright and Robert's father, John Brooke.

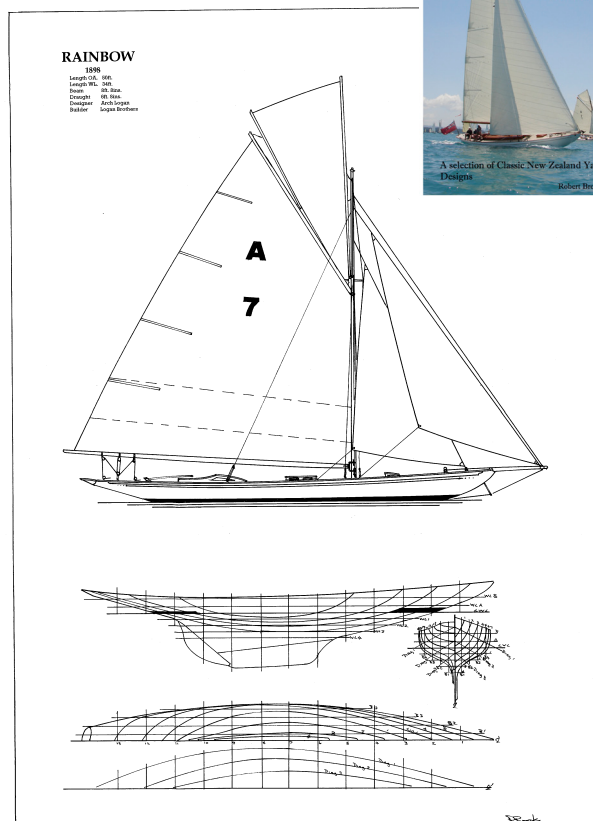
From the collection, Robert has chosen 50 and redrawn each design, tracing off the original drawings to present them in a similar format. To add to the wow factor, Robert used the drawing equipment and ships curves that were once used by either Arch Logan, Charlie and Alex Collings or his father.

The 105 page, A4 size book allocates two pages to each vessel with specs and photos on the left and the drawings, hull lines, profile, half breadths, sections, diagonals and sail plan on the right hand page.

It's a must-have in every classic wooden boat enthusiast's library.

Its a very limited print run and Boat Books Westhaven are the sole outlet so visit them at Westhaven and grab a copy at \$60. Copies are also available on line at boatbooks.co.nz. They also have framed (380x300) copies of the prints for sale, very collectable.

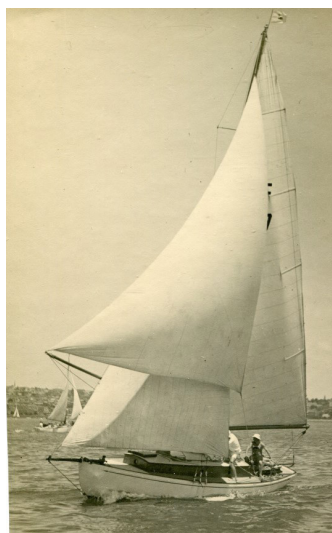
by Alan Houghton



Bringing Reliance back into the family

RELIANCE is a 32 foot yacht built by Lou Tercel in 1933 and owned by my father in the 1940s, with her early history being documented in Sandra Gorter's book *Ranger*.

Last year, while browsing through old photos, I wondered what had happened to her. She was for sale in



Nelson and by chance, my wife and I were going that way for a holiday.

With nothing but nostalgia in mind, we arranged a viewing. She was suffering

from leaks and generally deteriorated.

She has been sailed extensively around New Zealand for 27 years by Peter Foster with many of his trips being published. She was well set up for single handed sailing, which is not my ideal.

After much thought and a survey, which showed the hull was sound, we purchased her and in July sailed her from Nelson to Mana, then trucked her to the factory where I work in Panmure.

The restoration/rebuild is underway aiming to:-

- To create a yacht which is comfortable for a couple to cruise the Hauraki Gulf
- To keep as much of the

traditional look as possible

- To do most of the work myself in spare hours that doesn't interfere with work and family relationships
- No time deadline
- To amass information about the yacht and create a written history

Unfortunately all of my family and my father's friends that sailed on her are not around any more and I would appreciate information from anyone who knows the boat.

Anyone who wants to visit
is welcome to phone me.

by Rob Swan

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