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*Right: Racing under
gloomy skies Below:
Zephyr (left), and
Oenone.*

This edition of the journal is a little different – and brings news from the Classic Yacht Association of Australia in Melbourne, and the Classic Yacht Charitable Trust in Wellington, two wooden boat organisations that share the same passion for classics that we do!



CYAA regatta shines despite the weather

**Words by Peter Costolloe,
photos courtesy CYAA**

The beginning of the annual CYAA Classic Cup Regatta revolves around the close ties between CYAA and CYANZ members. The bond of friendship between the members of both Associations is represented by the Trans-Tasman Trophy. This trophy records the visiting Association member who accrues the least points based on the results of the boats they are sailing on during the regatta.

This year was the 13th regatta – and a highlight feature was the representation of all keel boat clubs on Port Phillip and Corio Bay (*Baranne* from Royal Geelong YC). Within the 25 entries there were six

Cup Regatta entrants from previous Sydney to Hobart events. Two of these were also past Southern Cross team members from New South Wales, *Mercedes III* and *Boambillee*.

The regatta saw three days of excellent racing despite the weather conditions thrown up by Port Phillip for the event. The best performing classic on corrected time over the five extended course races came down to a tie break. On

countback the award went to the best performed Tumlarén, *Snow Goose*, helmed by George Low. RYCV had to settle for second placing for *Fair Winds II* helmed by Mark Chew.

The Classic Yacht Handicapper Trophy was awarded to the Tumlarén *Zephyr*. Her consistent racing performance in spite of adversities throughout the preceding year, in all types of Port Phillip conditions, was

deemed by the handicapper to be a worthy recipient of his trophy! The Col Bandy Trophy for the best corrected time performance over the traditional CYAA courses went to the Sandringham boat *Marana* closely followed by the RYCV ex Sydney to Hobarter, *Serifa*.

The glamour end of the fleet saw *Acrospire III* awarded the Concours d'Élegance Trophy. And finally, the Tony Blake trophy for the best performing classic over the 12 months of preceding races went to the 1977 Sydney to Hobart entrant, the S&S 30 *Martini*. (The 'trophy' is in fact a painting donated by Tony Blake which records the significant moment of the 1907 Sayonara Cup Race between Sayonara and Rawhiti off Black Rock.)





*The Bailey Bros
1894 5-rater
Atalanta*

The Wellington Classic Yacht Trust

By Gavin Pascoe

The Wellington Classic Yacht Trust was formed in 2010 by Gavin Pascoe to save the yacht *Lizzie*, which had broken from her moorings in Auckland and sunk. The timing was good, as enough money was raised at the AGM of the Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club to pay the salvage and transport her to her original port. The club manager at the time arranged for her to be put on the slipway (since dismantled) at Clyde Quay at no charge, where she was restored over two years by volunteers using material funded by passing the hat around.

Lizzie was built by Ted Bailey at Balaena Bay and launched in February 1909. Bailey was a younger brother

of Chas Jr and Walter Bailey of Auckland and had operated in Wellington since around the turn of the century, making racing centreboarders and working vessels. *Lizzie* was built for Charles Ward, Commodore of the Port Nicholson Yacht Club. She is the only purely racing yacht Ted Bailey built and is the oldest surviving locally built racing yacht. Only 22' LOA, she is very quick. With eased sheets she will quickly get up to 7-8 knots. With a very low freeboard, she is an exhilarating ride in a Wellington blow.

Our next boat was the Idle Along *Mystery*, purchased from Gary Matthews of Auckland in 2011. The class was designed by Alf Harvey of Petone in 1926 and became the

most popular in New Zealand for several decades running up to the 1960s. *Mystery* was built from kaikawaka by Joff Kroening of Nelson in about 1950, and representing that province came second on the 1956 Moffat Cup. The Trust gave her a new deck, fettled and painted her, and took her back to Auckland to the National Championships where she performed very well.

In 2015 the Trust was donated *Atalanta*, a five-rater built by the Bailey Bros in Auckland in 1894. She came to Wellington in 1895 and remained for the next 80 years. She has a rich racing history. The Trust has straightened a twist in her hull, done some refastening and caulking, and rebuilt the

trimmed counter and rudder. We need to raise \$16,000 for the next stage, which will include re-decking her and building a new cabin to the original configuration. We are seeking help in this area – if you can help please get in touch!

Both *Lizzie* and *Mystery* are sailed regularly in local club events around Wellington, and *Lizzie* regularly takes guests sailing in Friday night rum racing. If you are in Wellington and would like a go, please get in touch, and we'll see if we can make it happen!

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