

THE NEW ZEALAND CLASSIC YACHT JOURNAL



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Changes in the wind for 2003-04 season

By Greg Scopas

The 2002/2003 Season concluded with mixed feelings about just what classic yacht and launch owners were wanting to do together. Some who enjoy their racing were saying, "Yes give us more"; some who enjoyed the last single large regatta were keen to do it again, but not necessarily be involved in other racing.

It was difficult to gain a consensus from the cruisers as they tend to not attend the boat owners' meetings in any great numbers. The launch owners

have got themselves together and are perfectly clear as to what they want to do.

The new Committee has put the Events Programme together slightly differently from the past, recognising several key points:

The **Points Series** needs to be run over a much shorter period of time. It will now be held over six races with four to count between 26th January and 4th April.

We will be staging another **Classic Yacht Regatta** from 19th to 22nd February 2004.



Details will be announced in the near future. We see many positives in having a large gathering of classics, quite apart from the fact that it is usually loads of fun. It enables us to get the boats race-ready and gather crew for those few days rather than stretch our racing out too much. We will also aim to include some great food and entertainment. Rather than worrying about the viability of the long race up to Kawau, the regatta will be based somewhere around the beautiful Waiheke Island and/or

Motuihe Islands.

The Association will continue to work with other clubs for racing throughout the season and the extra races throughout the remainder of the season are pretty much as they have been in the past.

A recent point of vigorous discussion is the desire of several owners to race with spinnakers. Chris Smith has agreed that boat owners can nominate whether they will race with or without spinnakers at three stages in

Continued overleaf ...

Events Programme for 2003/2004 Season Classic Yacht Association of New Zealand

C.Y.A. Points Series Races - 6 races with 4 to count
RNZYS Club Champ Series - 8 races with 6 to count
Rally Weekends - 2
Picnic - 1
Launch Events - TBA

Sat. 4 Oct	RNZYS - Gulf Harbour	RNZYS Series
Fri. 24 Oct	NZMYC Coastal Classic	
Sat. 1 Nov	RNZYS Harbour Race	RNZYS Series
Sat. 22 Nov	RNZYS Race from outside Rangī	RNZYS Series
Sat. 29 Nov	DYC Gifford Memorial and Janet Trophy Race	
5 - 7 Dec	CYA Rally to Waiheke Island	

2004

Fri. 23 Jan	DYC Night Race to Mahurangi	
Sat. 24 Jan	Mahurangi Festival	
Mon. 26 Jan	Auck Anniversary Regatta	CYA Points Series
Thurs. 5 Feb	RNZYS Night Race to Kawau	RNZYS Series
Fri. 6 Feb	RNZYS Round Kawau Race	RNZYS Series
Sat. 7 Feb	RNZYS Harbour race @ Kawau	RNZYS Series
*Thurs. 19 Feb	NZ Classic Yacht Regatta - Race #1	CYA Points Series
*Fri. 20 Feb	NZ Classic Yacht Regatta - Race #2	CYA Points Series
*Sat. 21 Feb	CYA Regatta Festival Day	
*Sun. 22 Feb	NZ Classic Yacht Regatta - Race #3	CYA Points Series
Sat. 6 Mar	DYC F. Winstone Memorial Race	CYA Points Series
Sun. 7 Mar	RAYC Classic Race	
Sun. 13 Mar	CYA Picnic	
Sat. 20 Mar	RNZYS Te Kouma	RNZYS Series
Sun. 4 April	PCC V&V	CYA Points Series
9 - 11 April	CYA Easter Rally	
Sat. 17 April	RNZYS Round Rangī	RNZYS Series
Sat. 24 April	PCC Closing Day	

* PLEASE NOTE: The Regatta dates and details are to be confirmed



Changes in the wind for next season ...

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the season: the beginning; immediately prior to the regatta planned for 19th to 22nd Feb; and immediately after the regatta for the remainder of the season. So, for example, if you have difficulty bringing a regular crew together for casual

racing, then you can race without spinnakers up to the regatta, then nominate to race with a spinnaker for the regatta, and after the regatta you may choose to stay racing with a kite or not.

The association will be promoting two **rally weekends**, including Easter.

The **Classic Yacht Association picnic** will be on the 13th March. The picnic is to

have a heavy emphasis on children having fun and inviting "old crew" out for the day.

We really want families to get involved in the affairs of the Association and join in the various events. As you will see from the article relating to the fun and games of last Easter you are missing out on some great camaraderie if you are not participating.

The Big Regatta will not be

all racing. We are planning on plenty of rest and recreation and alternative activities for non-racing members during the time away.

So scrub those old tubs up for some good racing and get out the picnic baskets, it's going to be a beaut season.

Greg Scopas Ph : 837 5136
greg@salumeriafontana.co.nz

Social & solitary Easter cruise

Last Easter started out with a fine patch of weather, but Sunday dawned as an absolute shocker with rain, low cloud, and all of the elements coming at us at once.

By midday, cabin fever had set in on *Lady Gay* and it was time to seek out some good company. Once out of Huruhi Bay (Blackpool), we set a compass course for the bottom end of Waiheke and attempted to find *Moana* and *Ngataringa*. We eventually located them at Apuapu bay on the SW side of Ponui Island, a great spot.

We anchored close in under the steep-sided hill for lunch and were visited by Chris and Jenny and the crew of *Moana* mid-afternoon. After the rough and tumble of the season's racing and the customary ferocious encounters between *Prize* and *Moana*, it was great to be able to relax in their company in *Lady Gay's* large cockpit.

Early evening brought on the urge to sustain ourselves and the decision was taken to tie up alongside *Ngataringa* where Greg Scopas, Kathy and their son Remo were preparing to barbecue their evening meal. As one of the finest sausage manufacturers in the country, Greg was more than capable of doing a loaves and fishes (especially at Easter) and proceeded to cook for the yachties that had congregated on board *Lady Gay*.

By the time all was ready, there were a dozen people sitting around the saloon table. It was one of those nights that were not meant to end. The stories told became increasingly hard to believe. It was one of those special nights in the company of good friends, on a good boat.

Lady Gay took off on a voyage of discovery around the southern side of Ponui, up around Thumb Point to the northern side of Waiheke Island. And on the beautiful afternoon we were

experiencing, why not, for the first time in one's life, actually motor into Garden Cove? If you have never done it before don't attempt it without first exploring the western passage past the rock in the middle of the Cove in a dinghy. It's only about 25 feet wide, but there's plenty of water; and once inside it's a magical place. We had a walk ashore and a picnic on the beach, a great way to spend a late autumn afternoon before setting off for the realities of life in the big city!

Chad Thompson

Main Picture: *Lady Gay* snug in Garden Cove; Inset: Greg Scopas on the counter of *Ngataringa* feeding the multitude in the rain.



Worthy project awaits restoring hands

I spent Easter at Great Barrier, just four-wheel-drive sightseeing, during the course of which I spotted a gem of an early launch hauled out at Okupu. *Maroro* is eminently restorable, but her plight is typical of many launches of her vintage, too many of them, and too few people with the money, space and time to carry out a restoration. In *Maroro*'s case, however, the need is extreme because of her good history and her high degree of external originality.

She is a 32 footer, built by the Matheson brothers in Auckland in 1907 for themselves to an American design (probably out of *Rudder*), and originally fitted with a 15hp Doman installed by the agents, Collings &

Bell. She won the NZPBA Rudder Cup in 1908 and the Brett Cup in 1914. Subsequent owners included W.J. Quelch, Sam Leyland, Wilkie Wilkinson and T. Macindoe. She was fishing out of Okupu for many years.

Externally she is 100% original save for a dodger put on by Lanes in 1920 and the usual beltings needed for the hard life of fishing.

If someone is interested in this worthwhile project, get in touch with me at:

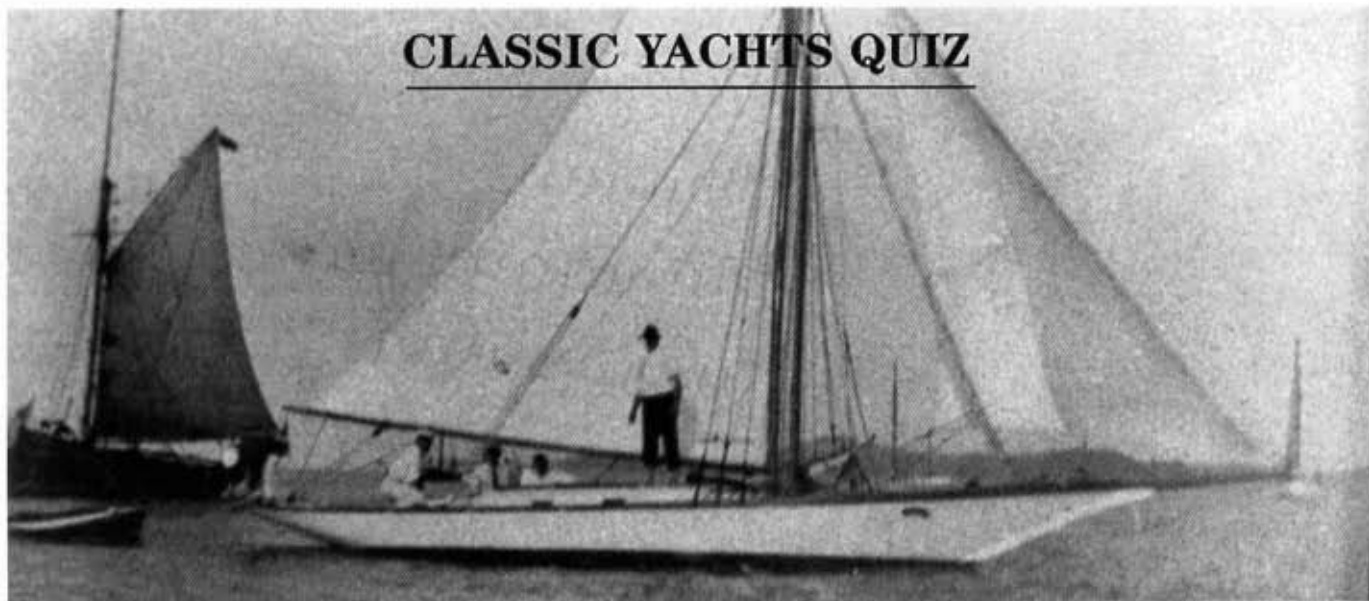
haroldkidd@kiddtattersfield.co.nz
or phone (09) 4180418 after hours

Harold Kidd



Maroro as she is today (above) and as she was in 1914

CLASSIC YACHTS QUIZ



Can you identify this yacht?

Harold Kidd will shout a beer to the first correct reply

contact Harold at haroldkidd@kiddtattersfield.co.nz or phone (09) 4180418 after hours

CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

GENERAL ENQUIRIES: Joyce Talbot (09) 836-4747

HANDICAPPER: Chris Smith (09) 309-4048

RACE ENQUIRIES: Greg Scopas at 837-5136

SOCIAL EVENTS & MONTHLY MEETINGS: Russell Brooke (09) 445-0434