

THE NEW ZEALAND CLASSIC YACHT JOURNAL



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

P.O. Box 69-172 GLENDENE, AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.

ISSN 1175-804X

www.classicyacht.org.nz

Issue 54 – September 2007

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A healthy record of progress and activity in 2006-2007

I am pleased to report on our past season's activities. In particular I refer to:

Practical Guidelines for the Restoration and Use of Classic Boats:

Not only are we receiving interest in this document from New Zealand owners, but a number of copies have been sold to overseas classic vessel enthusiasts. The guidelines are considered a living document and thus will be continually updated as needs arise.

Baden Pascoe is to be thanked for his leadership in assembling and updating the document.

Restorations: It is wonderful to see the increasing numbers of restorations that are underway and especially



Loloma

we look forward to a big increase in the gaff rigged yachting division when *Ngatira*, *Rainbow*, *Rawhiti*, *Gloriana* and *Thelma* are relaunched.

Auckland Traditional Boat Building School:

Now in its first year of operation, the school is progressing extremely well and is cash flow positive,

which is a tribute to the dedication, enthusiasm and hard work put in by the trustees, Robert Brooke, Ron Jamieson, Bruce Tantrum, Harold Kidd, Ian McRobie and David Glenn.

Library: Under Harold Kidd's enthusiastic guidance, a wonderful collection of nautical memorabilia, books and magazines is being

assembled and catalogued at the premises of the Auckland Traditional Boat Building School and will be available for members' use in the near future.

Crew Resource: Whilst our approaches to various Sea Scouting organisations have not provided many crew for our classic vessels, we have now made contact

Interest in classic yachting on the rise

with the youth division of the Spirit of Adventure Trust.

They are keen to provide a crew resource of teenagers that have undergone cruises on the Spirit of New Zealand and are keen to crew on our boats. So if any of our members require crew, they should contact Joyce.

International contacts:

During our 2007 Lindauer Classic Yacht Regatta, we had 16 members from the Classic Yacht Association of Australia and the President of the Irish Branch of the Old Gaffers Association join us. In return, our members have been invited to a Classic Yacht Association of Australia regatta to be held on Melbourne's Port Philip Bay this November.

By encouraging contacts with overseas classic associations, we are able to further the interest in classic vessels on a worldwide basis as well as experience classic boating in different countries.

Lindauer Classic Yacht

Regatta: Once again we had a fabulous event for both launches and yachts with thanks to our Sponsorship Manager, Tony Stevenson, Secretary Joyce Talbot and Race Officer Chris Collins. Special thanks are also due to Dick and Colleen Fisher for the use of their beautiful *Akarana* as mothership.

Launch/Yacht Activities:

Under the guidance of Ian Gavin, our Club Captain Launches, we have had a very successful launching season, with the introduction of a log rally series, similar to the yachting series.

A race for the Rudder Cup, last held in 1908, the course for which is around Sail Rock and return, is now in the planning stages and will be a major event for the Association in 2008.

After a proposal by John Street and championed by Baden Pascoe, the Auckland Anniversary Regatta included a race for tugs, which became a highlight of the regatta and will become a regatta fixture in future years.

On the yachting front, it was very pleasing to see the increase in the number of yachts racing in the "B" Division. This was due in no small part to the leadership of our Club Captain Yachts, Jason Prew.

In response to members' support at the Boat Owners meeting, we have now divided the race series into

two sections, a Harbour Race Series and a Passage Race Series. Both series will consist of six races and this new format will be instituted this coming season.

Tank Farm Proposal:

Your association is involved in a submission, very ably led by Baden Pascoe, to the Tank Farm development and if successful will give us a marina area in the new development for a permanent 'on the water' public display of some of our classic vessels.

Social Nights:

Our members' evenings have been well attended this year. Highlights for me have been the talks by John Lidgard, Frank Warnock and the 'classic' talk by Andrew Fagan on his single handed exploits.

Membership:

Our membership has remained

steady, with 227 members.

Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron:

I would like to thank John Crawford, the Commodore of the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron, for their continuing support of our Association and for providing a wonderful venue for the Association's meetings and social events.

Executive Committee:

It has been my pleasure working with the members of the executive committee this past season. I would like to thank them for their enthusiasm and hard work in making our association a success.

In particular I would like to thank:

- Joyce, without whose help our ship would sink;
- Chad, for all matters pertaining to the successful operation of the



Florence Dawn – part of the classic launch fleet, which had a very successful series during the past year

outside Auckland

Association;

- Tony Stevenson for sponsorship;
- Jeremy Mace, our honorary accountant;
- Jason Prew for the website and handicaps.

Ron Jamieson, John McFarlane and Dick Coughlan will not be standing for re-election to the committee for the next season and I would like to thank them for their considerable input over the past years. Ron, as a great supporter of the launches and for championing the cause of the Traditional Boatbuilding School and seeing it become a success, John for his organisational abilities with the speakers for our social nights and for his extensive knowledge

in all aspects of boating, Dick for his longtime support of the launches and organisation of the Mahurangi Log Rally plus his musical talents.

In conclusion I would like to thank all members for their interest and camaraderie over the past season. I look forward to seeing you all out on the Auckland Harbour and Gulf, enjoying our Association's activities over the next season. I am delighted too with the blossoming growth of interest in the Association and in Classic Yachting activity in the other ports of New Zealand besides Auckland.

Tony Blake
Chairman

Tawera makes a graceful silhouette against the late afternoon sky



Season's winners celebrate

The Classic Yacht Association of New Zealand congratulated the winners of the season after increased numbers of competitors saw some great racing throughout the summer.

Warren Tuohey and his crew on *Katrina II* won the Logan Cup for the A Division, the second year in a row. She is the first classic to win the Points Series back to back; a great tribute to Bob Stewart, the designer and Warren and his band of merry men.

In the B Division, Jason Prew, now the proud new owner of *Loloma*, has turned this small gaffer into a rocketship flying a new topsail, a water sail (on occasions) and anything else that can propel this little ship.

She was a well-deserving winner of the Robert Logan Trophy.

In the Modern Classic Division, Michael Good in *Sequoiah* (pictured below), a 1969 40ft John Spencer designed and built flyer, proved to be the most



consistent performer this season, winning the Bob Stewart Cup.

The launches enjoyed their second season of rallying with *Florence Dawn*, owned by Ian and Kathy Gavin, taking the Viking Clock prize.

The #8 Buoy Trophy for the most memorable navigational error went to *Spray II*, which took a major diversion on the way to Te Kouma, flying the spinnaker from the masthead, with the crew wondering how to retrieve it before landfall at Great Barrier. And this year's winner of the Prize Tiller for the most wins went to *Tawera*.

Chairman Tony Blake was unable to be with us and gave his speech via a DVD. In doing so the highlights

of the season, namely the launch rally to Riverhead, the hospitality of the Woolcotts at the Patio Bay Rally, the spectacle of the Mahurangi Festival, the first Tug Boat Race during the Anniversary Day Regatta, the contrasts of the sailing conditions in the Lindauer Regatta, the sunset at Te Kouma and the camaraderie at Islington Bay were recalled.

As the format and style of classic yachting in New Zealand is changing, the Association is growing from strength to strength. We are all enjoying the companionship of like-minded yachties everywhere and of every persuasion.

Chad Thompson

Tugs away!

By *Baden Pascoe*

One could hardly call these beasts of burden launches, however they did call them 'towing launches' in the early days. What a great day we all had! Heaps of fun and people enjoying showing off their pride and joys.

Just how did this all start? John Street the owner of the classic 1920's ex Harbour Board towing launch *Te Hauraki* mentioned in passing that he was thinking of having a duel with the 1935 ex AHB steam tug *William C. Daldy* at the next Auckland Anniversary Regatta. My response was, "Why not include all the other retired and operating tugs around the harbour?" I had this image of a line-up of tugs and towboats from the early ages through to the very latest in tug technology. In my mind I could see the likes of *Puke* and *Romo* at one end and the Ports of Auckland's *Wakakume* at the other. I knew most people love tugboats and many have no access to the water, so why not combine a tugboat race with a parade of tugboats through the ages in the Viaduct Basin after the race.

After a phone conversation with Joyce Talbot, the heart and soul of the AAR, the event was born. She and her



team loved the idea. Another call to Tony Blake our Classic Yacht Association of New Zealand Chairman, as I intended the CYA to be the host and owner of the event. He too loved the idea! Now the real hard work started, with hundreds of phone calls just to make sure the idea would not be a flop.

The response was simply overwhelming. Once the word got out about the proposal my phone was running hot. I recall Mike Thompson of Thompson Towing calling and asking if he could enter his whole fleet! Five minutes later Brent Shipman called and then Gregg Kroff also confirmed his interest.

As well as having a passion for older craft through my involvement with the CYA, I also wanted to develop an event for professional skippers and owners. My next call was to Keith Ingram of *Professional Skipper* magazine. Admittedly he was a bit quiet at first and

then the idea grabbed him like a shark feeding. Keith later became the race director for the event as well as addressing the safety issues, a job I was dreading.

Monday 29 January rolled up and the weather looked as if it was going to be kind to us, and one by one the boats assembled at the entrance to the Viaduct. Around 9am, I climbed up from one of the inner marina fingers to the outer wharf/breakwater. The fleet looked huge. I had this lump in my throat when I saw the pioneers like *Bondi Belle*, *Ferro* and *Glyn Bird*, just to name a few, mixing and mingling with the new girls like *Christine Mary* and *Wakakume*.

The scene was topped off by *Puke* steaming past with paying passengers and giving me and the film crew, Bill and Linda Hohepa, a resounding "TOOT TOOT!"

To be continued in the next issue ...

RESCUE TRUST

Another CYA initiative is now off the ground with the formation of a subsidiary of the Auckland Traditional Boatbuilding School being registered as a Charitable Trust, the New Zealand Classic Yacht & Launch Rescue Trust. The Chairman is Ian McRobie. The other trustees are John Street, Robert Brooke, Harold Kidd, Ron Copeland, Jason Prew and Andrew Pollard.

The aim of the Rescue Trust is to find and rescue classic boats in danger of destruction or serious modification from original, then find owners for them, or find sponsors for their restoration. In terminal cases, lines and photographs will be taken to record details for posterity.

If you want to help, call Ian McRobie at ph 09 5291585 or Harold Kidd at 09 4441279 (home).

CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

GENERAL ENQUIRIES:
CLUB CAPTAIN YACHTS:
CLUB CAPTAIN LAUNCHES:
www.classicyacht.org.nz

Joyce Talbot (09) 836 4747 or joycetalbot@classicyacht.org.nz
Jason Prew (09) 846 4721
Ian Gavin (09) 846 1828