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Sitting pretty at the CYA Silo Heritage Landing, Gypsy is a credit to all involved in her huge restoration – Steve Cranch photo

Gypsy is back in town!

By Steve Cranch

Gypsy is back and has arrived at her new home at the CYA Silo Heritage Landing, less than 18 months after the terrible collision and sinking during the 2012 Auckland Anniversary Regatta.

It's an incredible achievement and an illustration of the determination and courage of the many people and companies who have rallied around to see her not only saved, but fully restored and

returned to how she was when originally conceived by Arch Logan in 1939.

As Arch Logan's last design and such a significant piece of New Zealand maritime heritage, its very heart-warming to see her back

afloat and with such dignity. I'm sure Arch would be very proud.

A welcome back party is scheduled for the 3rd of August – coinciding with Waterfront Auckland's second anniversary.



Terry Randall Photo

Riverhead Invasion

By Alan Houghton

In terms of on-the-water classic boating events, the famed CYA launch cruise to the Riverhead Hotel is the biggest on the calendar.

The launch division has seen spectacular membership growth in the last four years and now makes up approximately half of the CYA classic fleet. They are certainly the most social.

The bi-annual upper harbour cruises are the highlight of the launch cruising season and on Sunday the 19th May, 27 classics carrying over 200 people made the trip up the 'creek' to the hotel.

In addition many chose

to arrive by car and join the group there.

The boat trip is a great opportunity to invite family and friends and show them what this 'classic boating thing' is all about.

I would like to thank the skippers that followed the anchoring and rafting plan. Some of the anchoring and rafting maneuvers were a little amusing and saw several boats 'resting'.

Space was tight, but the turn-out on the day was the most vessels the hotel has seen – so thanks everyone for being so accommodating. Special thanks also to the Tino Rewa Trust tender – *Whistleblower*. Without Tony

Stevenson and Jason Prew providing a shuttle service, the day would have taken twice as long to kick off and I suspect we would have seen

a few cold and wet members.

The pub just keeps getting better and better. We are already planning the next cruise. Will you be there?



Alan Houghton Photo



Old Scottish skiff design goes viral worldwide

New Zealand's first St Ayles skiff is currently under construction at the New Zealand Traditional Boat Building School in Hobsonville.

The St Ayles skiff was conceived in 2009 by Alec Jordon of Jordon boats in Scotland to be used as a boat building course for the Scottish fisheries museum in Fife. Designed by Iain Oughtred, the skiff is based on the traditional Scottish rowing boats raced by local minors in the Fife area up until the 1950's.

Jordon Boats established a kitset for these boats and, by the time the first boat was launched in October 2009, there was a lot of interest

from groups throughout Scotland wanting to revive the traditional rowing races between villages. Since then it has 'gone viral' with over 100 boats being built around the world in countries including America, Scotland, England, Europe, Australia. An inaugural world championships is to be held in Ullapool this July.

Like all good ideas, getting the St Ayles here in New Zealand started off with a casual conversation over a cold beer between myself and Mike Mahoney. Mike jumped at the idea and before we knew what was happening the first kit was ordered and on its way.

This boat is well underway in the careful hands of Mark

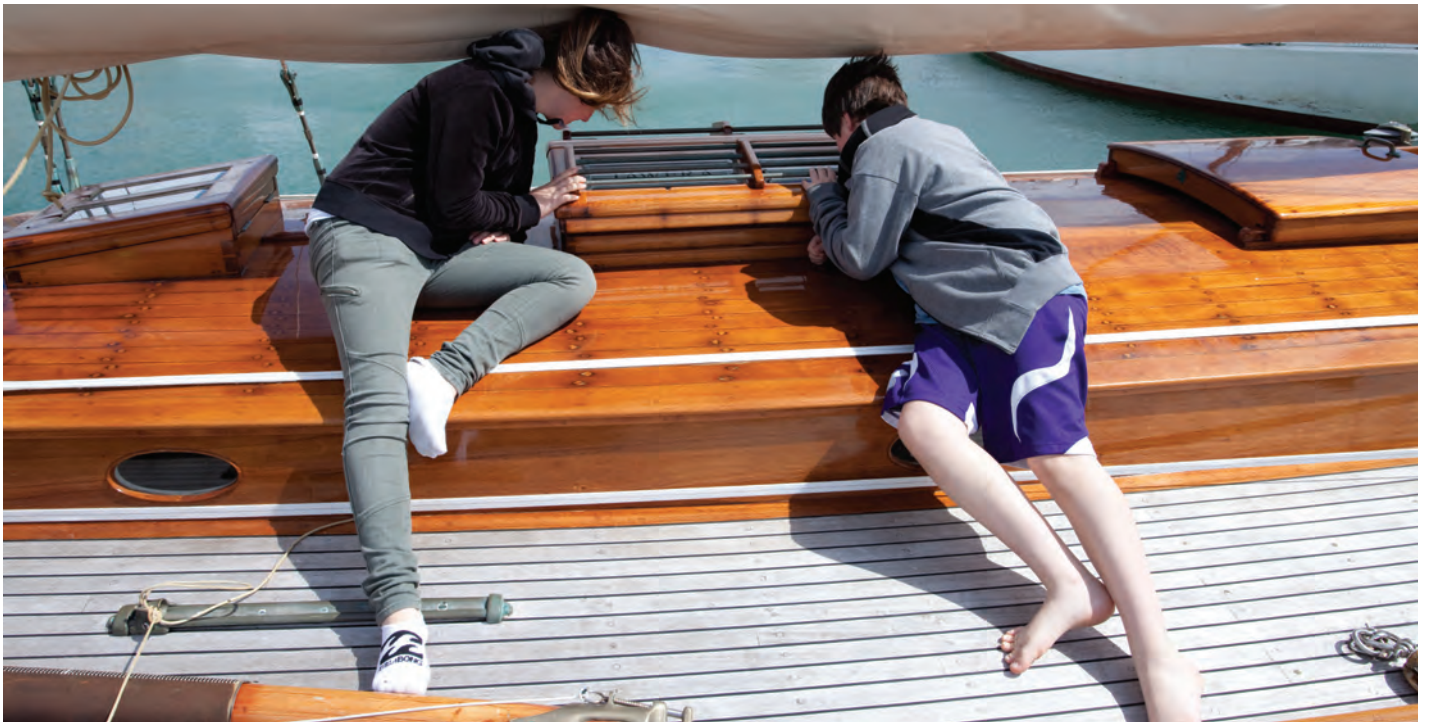
Robinson and is hoped to be launched soon. We have a Kiwi team entered for the world champs in Scotland and another 10 kits on order, one already sold to a small group in Kaikoura.

It is hoped to develop the St Ayles here as a recreational rowing boat that can be used by school groups, community groups and corporates to develop national events. At just over twenty feet long with four rowers and a cox and being such a seaworthy boat opens up fantastic opportunities to hold events and regattas in almost any stretch of water around the country.



Above: NZ's first St Ayles skiff nearing completion. Left: Just after resin coat.

By Steve Cranch



Ivor Wilkins Photos

Classic Yacht & Launch Exhibition

Following last year's successful 'Classic Yacht and Launch Exhibition' which showcased Colin Wild, the Tino Rawa Trust is pleased to announce it is again hosting the event in 2013.

The trust will this year showcase two of New Zealand's most outstanding amateur designers Jack Brooke and Bob Stewart. Tino Rawa trustee Rob Hughes commented: 'With many famous, championship designs from their drawing boards, both Brooke and Stewart's legacy is of critical importance to New Zealand's rich maritime history.'

Launches and yachts from both designers will be on display at the Karanga Plaza Steps, Wynyard Quarter from Friday 4 October to Sunday 6 October. In addition to a

static display, vessel owners and enthusiasts will be on hand to share their stories and vessels will be available for inspection from 10am to 4pm.

The Tino Rawa Trust 'Classic Yacht and Launch Exhibition - Brooke and Stewart Celebration' is part

of the 'Maritime Heritage On The Water'. This is a collaborative approach between the Tino Rawa Trust, Waterfront Auckland, Voyager Maritime Museum, William C Daldy Preservation Society, Kestrel Preservation Society and the Classic Yacht Association of New Zealand.

A variety of events, exhibitions and activities will be showcased alongside the exhibition as part of the Auckland Council's Heritage Festival, from 28 September to 13 October 2013.

• See tinorawatrust.co.nz, or waterfrontauckland.co.nz.

Great New On-Line Resource: waitematawoodys.com

Ever wondered what happened to granddad's boat? A new on-line blog has been created to help keep track of the classic wooden motorboats of yesteryear. The site has been set up as a forum for owners and devotees of classic wooden launches and is dedicated to the study and appreciation of classic Kiwi wooden boats on and around Auckland's Waitemata Harbour. The site is a visual parade of boats, tales and other interesting stuff. One of the most popular features is the ability for people to search by vessel name, previous and current owner's names, designer, location etc. Already the site has attracted over 70,000 views and getting great reviews from anyone with an interest in wooden boats. Check it out today <http://waitematawoodys.com>

Help Needed: If you have any old photos or interesting stories concerning wooden motorboats on or around Auckland's Waitemata Harbour (& beyond) email them to waitematawoodys@gmail.com.

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