

# THE NEW ZEALAND CLASSIC YACHT JOURNAL

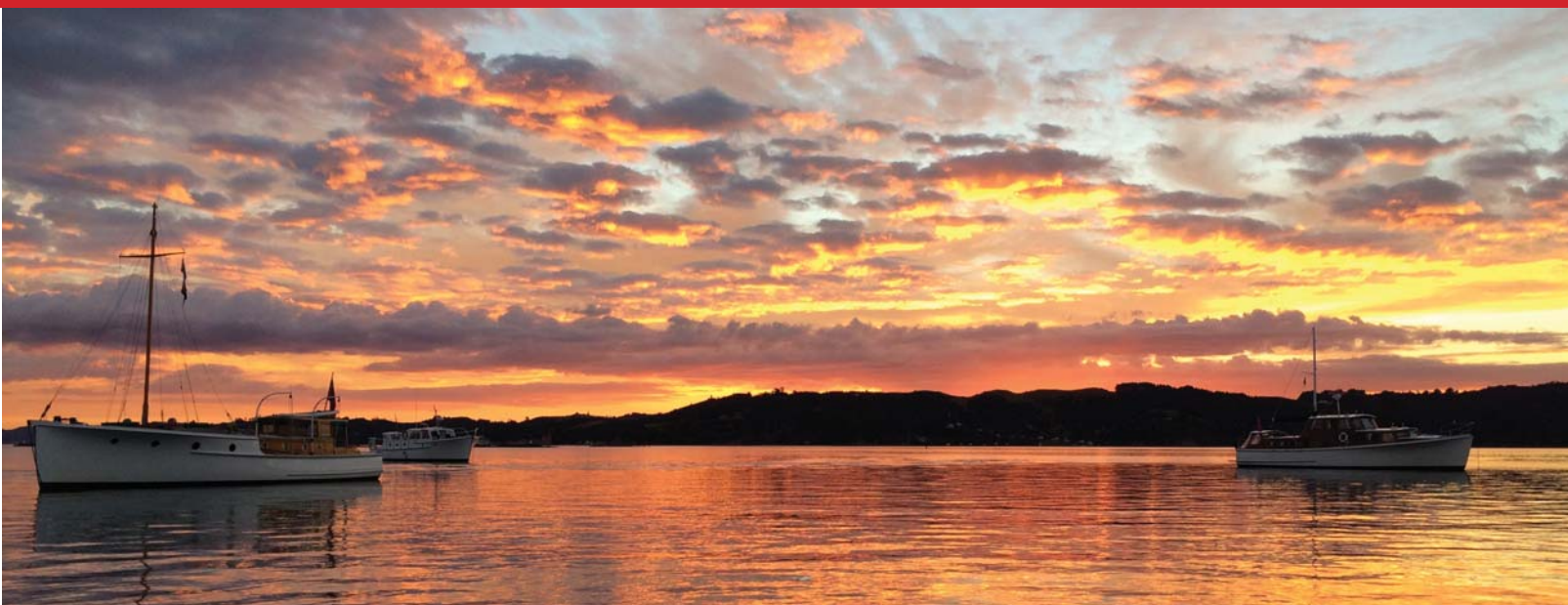
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Brian Fulton Photo

## Classic Launch Cruise

By Alan Houghton

The weekend of March 22-23 saw a collection of the classic launch fleet make the trip to the bottom end of Waiheke to enjoy a stunning weekend of fun, friendship and fraternity. The weekend started for some with drinks hosted aboard Barbara and David Cooke's recently refurbished *Trinidad*. The rest of the fleet arrived early Saturday morning.

Hardy souls did the Stoney Batter walk and certainly earned the ice cold beer that greeted them back at the beachfront Man O' War Winery. The group joined several tables together and enjoyed a 'long' lunch.

On the subject of MOW, the Spencer family have

done Auckland proud with their contribution to the total Island experience. The farm is beautiful (if you can say that about a working farm) and the winery has added another gem to the boaties' things-to-do-at-the-bottom-end list. It was great to see some of our new members joining in: *Seagull* (Lyndsay & Paul Burton), *Manapouri* (Suzie & Mark Sorrenson) and *Ngaio* (Lancia & Ian Kohler).

Saturday afternoon saw the flotilla move to Rotoroa Island for a BBQ. Again another of Auckland's old families, the Plowmans, need to be thanked for their generosity. The island and facilities are amazing.

En route to Rotoroa,

the fleet had one of those wow on the water moments when the 100m superyacht *Nahlin* cruised by. Most saw her berthed at the Viaduct, but up close in our Gulf, a breathtaking sight.

I used to say *Rawhiti* had the best bum in the fleet

(technically she still does), but the stern on *Nahlin* is a work of art.

As Barbara Cooke commented, "I think she's the most beautiful thing that ever floated on water. Hauntingly and nostalgically romantic".



Alan Houghton Photo

# K-Class Rally

By Peter Mence

A great turnout of K's assembled in March, with *Sapphire*, *Thelma*, *Kiariki*, *Katrina*, *Jenanne* and the adopted "reformed" Ks *Gypsy* and *Ngatira* all joining in.

The die-hards rafted up late on Friday afternoon at the Viaduct for a few sundowners before the dinner at 'Jones The Grocer'. A powerpoint slide show including each boat (even *Dolita*) elicited a lot of noise from Team *Thelma* whenever K3 came on the screen.

Saturday morning saw the race to Kawau Island start at 10:00am off Orakei Wharf. *Sapphire* was first to North Head followed by *Kiariki*, with the rest of the fleet – *Gypsy*, *Thelma*, *Katrina*, and *Jenanne* fighting out the rest.

The wind deserted the fleet by the time they reached Rangitoto Light. By consensus (except *Thelma* who turned the radio off because it kept making a noise!) the race was abandoned shortly thereafter. The conditions made it almost impossible to have a 'winner', but it should be noted *Jenanne* was in front of *Thelma* at the time of abandoning the race.

John Pryor's Kawau home was the venue for the evening's festivities, which continued late into the night.

Morning swims were rare on Sunday, but after a slightly slower breakfast, each K made gentle passage for home ports.



From left: Doug Reid, Michelle Seigrist, Robert Leyden, Steve Horsley, Gary Vincent, Graham Russell, Jo Horsley, Ron Mence and Anne Leyden crowd the *Sapphire* cockpit.

Peter Mence Photo

## Vintage and Veterans Regatta

By Daniel Renall

The last race of the CYA season, with the harbour series up for grabs saw one of the largest classic fleets of the season assemble for the annual Ponsonby Cruising Club, Fosters Vintage and Veterans Regatta.

With the breeze forecast to build from the north east, those that got away swiftly would capitalise further down the track. But the slickest sail handling can be undone by failing to read the Sailing Instructions, as the vast majority of B division learned by sailing a few extra

marks. This caused a bunch of head scratching, but thankfully not much lost ground.

Note to B division: If *Gleam* is sailing a different course, you're probably sailing the wrong course!

True to the forecast, the breeze stiffened and the lead changed throughout all divisions.

And the harbour series results? All will be revealed at the CYA prize giving on May 21. A big thanks to our host club and a special welcome back to the crew of *Gloriana*.



Waitangi at the Vintage and Veterans Regatta

Alan Houghton Photo

### CLASSIC YACHT ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

CLUB CAPTAIN YACHTS: Daniel Renall 021 189 1676 • CLUB CAPTAIN LAUNCHES: Alan Houghton 027 660 9999  
EDITOR: Harold Kidd harold@hklaw.co.nz • GENERAL ENQUIRIES: Tanya Ankersmit, admin@classicyacht.org.nz