

thirty two° fifty five

newcastle cruising
yacht club journal

AUTUMN 2023

FULL SAILING WRAP
SHESAILS DEVELOPMENT
YACHT TRANSITION PROGRAM

A couple is seen from behind, sitting on the deck of a boat. The man is standing and holding a rope, while the woman is sitting next to him. They are looking out at the ocean during a sunset. The sky is a mix of orange and blue, and the water reflects the light. In the foreground, the boat's deck is visible, showing a white surface with a blue stripe and some equipment.

buy@boat

buyaboat.com.au

Making dreams a reality,
one boat at a time.

1800 985 911

Unwind | Share | Laugh | Enjoy



EVERY ISSUE

Commodore’s Message 4

CEO's Report 5

Club Captain's Report 6

Club Manager’s Report 7

Chef’s Message 7

Marina Manager’s Report 8

Functions Manager's Report 9

Sailing Manager's Report 10

FEATURE ARTICLES

SheSails Development Regatta 12

Lake Macquarie Tri-Series..... 14

Transport for NSW Safety 16

Yachting Transition Program 17

Marine Rescue Newcastle..... 18

Men's Shed volunteers 19

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Security Phone Numbers..... 19

Coming Events..... 19

NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB

Incorporating:
MARINA; LICENSED PREMISES;
LEASED BOATYARD; COMMERCIAL CENTRE

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club
95 Hannell Street, Wickham NSW 2293
Ph: 02 4940 8188
Email: info@ncyc.net.au
www.ncyc.net.au



NEWCASTLE CRUISING
YACHT CLUB

Opinions of contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Board or the Club.

While articles and correspondence are welcomed, the Editor reserves the right to decline to publish.

Editor: Ethan Tucker
Design: Promocean Media
Cover: Image by Jack Buchan



I hope you enjoy reading our LNCYC journal *Thirty-Two Fifty-Five*. It has been put together with articles from our management and staff, as well as our members, to provide you with an update of what has been happening in our club since the start of the year, along with events that will be coming up soon.

There has never been a better time to be a Member at Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club. We have so much to offer all our Members, whether that be sail training and development opportunities, racing inshore and offshore, great social events that we can all enjoy together, and the opportunity to 'give back' by volunteering your time and skills.

We have been welcoming many new Members, and we hope you all enjoy being part of this great community that we have. We will be holding charity events to support Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service and SOLAS (Saving of Lives at Sea) which will give you the opportunity to contribute to these wonderful organisations.

Details will be sent out in our weekly (email) newsletter.

Making Waves have celebrated *Joy* and their first year in Newcastle, and it is wonderful that we can support them to bring so much Joy through their Winds of Change program.

Thank you also to all our Members who volunteer their time with Making Waves Foundation – you are really making a valuable contribution!

I hope you enjoy our SailFest regatta and Sail Port Stephens, as well as the social events and Masterclasses that are planned over the coming months.

Again, a big thank you to Ethan for his editing/publishing input, which makes this a great read.

I look forward to seeing you at our Club soon. Keep safe, and have fun on the water!



– Steve Rae

"We hope you all enjoy being part of this great community that we have ..."

PANTAENIUS
SAIL & MOTOR YACHT INSURANCE

THE WORLD'S MOST EXPERIENCED PLEASURE CRAFT INSURER

CALL THE TEAM!

Get your quote today!
NSW **02 9936 1670**
QLD **07 5649 6622**
info@pantaenius.com.au

PANTAENIUS.COM.AU

Motor Boat Sailing Yacht RIB Cruiser Catamaran



It has been another great summer at the club.

Our Sailing numbers have increased Offshore on both Wednesdays and Sundays for the summer point score. We included a two-handed division in the Ocean Point score for the first time and look forward to growing this division. It was pleasing to see our club boats do

so well in this year's Rolex Sydney Hobart race.

Inshore, it is great to have the Lasers back and active on a Friday night. The intra-club racing Thursdays in the Elliots produced great competitive racing. January also saw the Hunter Sailing League contested in our Elliots on Newcastle Harbour. The Bay Sailing Centre has been a success on and off the water, including holding championship events for Flying 11s and Laser Masters.

The volunteer race management team have done a great job conducting races up to five times a week and the major regattas. The Game Fishing club conducted its major annual tournament in March. The Marina has been very busy with plenty of boats headed up and down the coast over summer, on and off ships and visiting for Supercars.

The Sailing Academy has continued to grow and diversify the learn-to-sail course offerings. The return of the Monday night masterclass series has seen a strong attendance. The Academy is busy planning the Hunter Youth Keelboat program for Autumn and into competition regattas in Winter, which is hoped to be a gateway program for the next generation of sailors.

The Clubhouse had a record trading summer with a significant increase in functions and events. The Social Committee helped deliver a great Members Christmas party and NYE celebration. They also instigated a New Members night, which was a great initiative to welcome our newest members over a few casual drinks in the Retreat. We also hosted Foundation, Life, and Senior members for a catch-up lunch, which was enjoyed by all. A special St Patricks Day dinner was also organised by the Social Committee, supported with great food, band ... and Guinness. The Members' raffles and Members' badge draw continue to be well supported.

Autumn is a hectic time of year with Easter, SailFest, and Sail Port Stephens. This year's SailFest (15-16 April) will have the biggest fleet of TP52s assembled on a start line in Australia. It will be well worth getting out to watch these grand prix machines racing.

Sail Port Stephens is expected to become Australia's



second biggest regatta this year with the new format spread over three weeks. The Commodores Cup will have a record breaking +100 boats on the start line!

We wish all our NCYC boats and crews the best of luck competing at Sail Port Stephens.

Here's to a great regatta season.

– Paul O'Rourke

24 HOUR FUEL

Located at F-Arm

Diesel & PULP

Mastercard, Visa, or EFTPOS
debit card accepted

12% discount on purchases of fuel >1,000L
to non-members (authorised by onsite Dock Team)

NCYC General Members & Newcastle Game Fishing Club Members
receive a 12% discount on all purchases, when using their discount card.



NEWCASTLE CRUISING
YACHT CLUB



We have continued to see significant growth in membership at NCYC. We now have 1670 members, which represents a 45% increase on the January 2022 figures. It is great to see so many members enjoying the Thursday evening Badge Draw and Raffle and attending other social functions.

About 40 new members attended the second New Members Night in The Retreat on February 9. Our Commodore welcomed everyone and described the offerings of the club, and the opportunities to volunteer. Drinks and canapés were served and many new members stayed for dinner in the Nautica Dining afterwards. Our new members were very interested in the new function spaces available and some follow up function bookings have been made.

About 60 members and guests attended the St Patrick's Day Dinner on March 17. The Regatta Room (and the serving staff) looked colourful in a variety of green decorations. Chef Luke provided a well researched and delicious, traditional Irish meal that included scallop and corned beef sliders, Irish stew, and Colcannon, and Apple Pie with some liqueur flavoured custard. The Irish duo had everyone jigging on the dance floor. A great night of fun, food, and music!

Memberships are due for renewal on April 1 each year, so if you haven't renewed, please do so as soon as possible. There is a 10% discount for paying for a 3-year membership and a 20% discount for renewing for 5 years. We also offer Senior Membership for General Members who have had continuous membership for at least 15 years and are over 65 years.

Please speak to Reception if you are interested in this.

– Jan Howard

PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY.

DRY BLACK
ドライブラック

^{SUPER}
"DRY"
AsahiTM
DRY BLACK

ASAHI BREWERIES LIMITED
^{SUPER}
"DRY"
Asahi
DRY BLACK

Asahi Super Dry Black focuses on the rich, flavoursome nature of a darker brew while still capturing the refreshing, dry taste that Asahi Super Dry is known for. The first extension of the original lager, Dry Black is brewed like a traditional lager and uses the iconic No.318 yeast that Super Dry is known for. The deeper, darker flavour of the beer is derived from roasted malt, while the crispness comes from the addition of rice and corn.

5.5% ALC/VOL
SUPER DRY DARK LAGER



As we transitioned into the Autumn season, there were some fantastic events happening at Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club that we were excited to share with you.

First up, our monthly Member's Master Classes kicked off with Oatley Fine Wine Merchants hosting their Sparkling & Champagne Master Class in

February and Peter Drayton Wines showcasing some of the Hunter Valley's best varietals.

During Autumn we will have Bentspoke Brewing Co., Oatley Fine Wine Merchants' – Red Wine Edition, and Hawkers Brewery hosting our next three Master Classes.

These events provide a unique opportunity to taste some of the finest products in the industry and learn from the experts. All Master Classes are \$15pp and are advertised in our weekly newsletter. These intimate events sell out fast so be sure book your spot early.

Our Sail Away Friday promotions started in March and have been very successful. This promotion is held every Friday and features \$5 happy hour from 3-6 pm, free wine tastings hosted by a different winery each week, and a \$200 bar tab to be won in our business card draw. It is the perfect way to unwind after a busy week, catch up with friends, and enjoy some quality atmosphere and great company.

Our St Patrick's Day Dinner was another highlight of the season. The evening featured the Tim Pringle Duo, with the 2014 World's Fastest Violinist, that had everyone dancing to Irish music. The event also included a three-course Irish dinner and an Irish bar featuring some of the best Ireland-imported drinks available. It was a fantastic evening, full of Irish spirit and celebration.

Finally, we recently held our End of Summer Members Party, which was a huge success. With over 100 members attending, we enjoyed fantastic food and drink specials while the Paparazzi band had everyone dancing into the night. It was a perfect way to bid farewell to Summer and welcome the Autumn season.

We hope you were able to join us for these exciting events and continue to make the most of your Membership at Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club.

– Matthew Stamp

LEARNING THE ROPES!



Discover Sailing Experience

Learn what keelboat sailing is about, without committing to a full program

Start Crewing

The ideal course for participants who wish to begin sailing in a keelboat

Start Helming

This course develops your theory and practical skills to take the helm

Start Skippering

Advance your knowledge to skipper unsupervised in sheltered waters

Spinnakers

Introducing the fun and challenge of using a spinnakers

Transition to Yachting

Learn basic racing rules, skills & tactics, and gain an understanding of what is expected of a yacht racing crew

sailingacademy@ncyc.net.au
(02) 4940 8188



The NCYC Marina in Newcastle had a bustling summer season, with events and activities that kept the marina busy throughout the holiday period. The Christmas season saw a flurry of activity, with ships loading and unloading many vessels, both large and small.

There has been no post-holiday lull, with the weekend of the March 10-12 seeing the NCYC Marina at full capacity, thanks to two exciting events – the Newcastle Supercars Weekend and the Newcastle Game Fishing Club's East Coast Classic.

The marina was a hub of activity, with an impressive display of Riviervas from Sydney and Pittwater, a fleet of cruisers from Lake Macquarie, and F-arm full of fishing boat competitors, all adding to the already bustling atmosphere.

The Supercars event drew in a large crowd, with many spectators making most of the prime position the marina offered. It was an incredible sight to see so many stunning boats docked side by side, with many passers-by taking the opportunity to marvel at an environment we so often take for granted.

Meanwhile, the Newcastle Game Fishing Club's East Coast Classic saw fishing enthusiasts come from far and wide, eager to take part in the annual event. While the fishing wasn't as plentiful as some had hoped, it was still an enjoyable weekend for all involved. The fishing club managed to raise a few thousand dollars for marine rescue, highlighting the important role that such events play in supporting the local community.



"The Supercars drew in a large crowd ... it was an incredible sight to see so many stunning boats docked side by side"

Looking ahead to the future, NCYC is excited for the upcoming SailFest and lead in race to Sail Port Stephens. It's an exciting opportunity for sailors to take part in some of the best sailing events in the region, with the bonus of free berthage for those who choose to participate in SailFest and the lead in race.

– Matthew Williams

ALWAYS LOOKOUT FOR SEAGOING SHIPS

DO NOT pass within 30 metres of the side or stern of a seagoing ship

30m

30m

- > Before heading out check the Daily Vessel Movements at portauthority.com.au/lookoutnewcastle
- > Keep monitoring the safety broadcast from Newcastle Harbour VTC (24/7) VHF Channel 09

STAY FAR AWAY TO BE IN SIGHT

From the ship's bridge it is hard to see smaller boats. Some ships will have blind spots ahead of up to 600 metres. Stay far enough away to be in sight.

Line of vision from bridge

Blind distance ahead

BE AWARE IT'S THE LAW

Under NSW marine legislation you are required to never obstruct, restrict or impede access to:

- > any fairway or channel
- > any wharf or other landing place
- > the safe navigation of a vessel
- > the handling of cargo or movement of passengers
- > launching, removal, securing of a vessel.

It is an offence to:

- > fail to comply with the directions of the harbour master or any person acting under the direction of a harbour master
- > operate a vessel in any navigable waters negligently, recklessly or at a speed or in a manner dangerous to the public.

portauthority.com.au/lookoutnewcastle

Disclaimer: The information in this brochure is provided for general information only and it does not constitute legal or other professional advice.

Club house comes alive with laughter, smiles and good times



Our club was the perfect setting for events this past season, whether it was corporate conference, a lively party, or a romantic wedding. Our staff worked tirelessly to ensure that each event was a success, and we extend our gratitude to them and our members and guests for choosing our club as their preferred event space. It is

always a pleasure to see our clubhouse come alive with laughter, smiles, and good times.

Our experienced event planners work with each client to create a customised plan that meets their specific requirements, from the decor and lighting to the menu and music.

We take great pride in our ability to transform our club into the perfect setting for any occasion, and it is our mission to provide our guests with the highest level of service, quality, and attention to detail.

We are committed to providing our clients with an exceptional experience that they will always remember and cherish. Whether it's a corporate conference, a wedding, or a simple gathering of friends, our club is the perfect venue to create memories that will last a lifetime.

– Bec Frost



Photos by Third Wheelin Co.



STEPS TO STAY SAFE NEAR SEAGOING SHIPS

- > Always **keep a lookout** for seagoing ships.
- > **Determine if the vessel is moving towards you** or away from you.
- > Always **keep a safe distance** away from a large vessel.
- > From the ship's bridge it is hard to see smaller boats. Some ships will have blind spots ahead of up to 600 metres. **Stay far enough away to be in sight.**
- > **Act early** so you can move away from these seagoing ships.
- > **Familiarise yourself** with the shipping channels or fairways.
- > **Stay clear** of the channels or fairways when seagoing ships are entering or departing the port and harbour.
- > **Be aware** of wakes of seagoing ships, particularly when the large vessel is in relatively shallow water and moving at higher speeds.
- > Always have your **navigation lights on at night** so other vessels can clearly see you.




- > You **MUST** stay well clear of the shipping channels and large ships and only cross the channel when it is safe to do so.
- > **DO NOT** anchor in a channel or fairway.
- > **DO NOT** block a channel or fairway.

SAFETY NOTICE TO ALL BOAT OPERATORS

Newcastle Harbour VHF 09

LOOK OUT SHIPS ABOUT
DON'T RISK YOUR LIFE



PORT AUTHORITY
NSW



Ahoy sailors! It's that time of year again where we take a moment to reflect on the exciting racing that has taken place throughout our summer season.

From the Ocean Pointscore to the Summer Short Ocean Pointscore racing, the Pantaenius Offshore Twilight Series, and the inshore

Champions League, the past few months have been packed with competitive sailing events.

Paul Beath and his team on *Satisfaction 2* proved to be the stars of the Ocean Pointscore, clinching victories in both the Ocean Pointscore and the double-handed division. The Summer Short Ocean Pointscore racing on Sundays also saw some great performances, with Barry Kelly's *Concealed Weapon* winning PHS Div 1, John Burrows' *Betty D* winning PHS Div 2, and *Marta Jean* taking the IRC division. The Pantaenius Twilight Series on Wednesday evenings was won by *She's the Culprit* on PHS and *Betty D* on ORC.

Inshore, the Champions League racing on our fleet of Olympic Elliott 6 yachts was fiercely contested, with Michael Babbage, Rayshale Martin, and Joe de Kock finishing first, followed by Dean Nissen, Toby Whittle,



and Mark Alderton in second place. In third position was youth team Banjo Nicholson, Noah Steenson, and Arthur Bell.

Laser racing at Newcastle and Bay Sailing Centre was also hotly contested, with Eric Besuijen taking home the trophy in both PHS and scratch divisions at Newcastle and Tim Peachey winning the PHS division and Dennis Hume coming out on top in scratch at Bay Sailing Centre.

The highlight of our first quarter in 2023 was the Oceania Laser Masters regatta that took place in March at our Bay Sailing Centre. With 150 Lasers participating, it was definitely the biggest event we've conducted there so far. Our volunteer race management team did an excellent job in delivering a fantastic event despite the extreme conditions faced on the first day.

As we look ahead to the coming months, there are several exciting events lined up for us. In April, we're taking our sailing school Force 24 keelboats to Lake Macquarie for a month.

We'll be offering discover sailing experiences, adult learn-to-sail courses, women's learn-to-sail courses, and youth coaching while we're there.

SailFest Newcastle Regatta will take place on 15-16 April and promises to be an action-packed event. The regatta will include offshore divisions, the TP52 Gold Cup, Inshore Elliotts racing in the NSW Sailing Champions League, Inshore Cock of the Harbour at Stockton, and free try sailing for kids at Honeysuckle. There will be plenty of opportunities to get involved, so mark your calendars!

Finally, we're looking forward to delivering the new 2023 edition of Sail Port Stephens, which will take place from 24-29 April. We'll have a full week of the



'Cruisy Commodores Cup' and Port Stephens Trophy to look forward to, where we'll be enjoying the stunning waters of Port Stephens and around the islands. The event is always well attended and highly competitive, and we expect that this will be the biggest one yet! So, if you're interested in participating, be sure to get your registration in soon.

This year, Sail Port Stephens will become the gift that just keeps on giving. After the Passage Series, we return a week later for the NSW IRC Championship, then we return again for the Bay Series which will end Sail Port Stephens with the sportsboats, trailer yachts, off-the-beach dinghies and the Windsurfers!

As always, we encourage all members of the club to get involved in our upcoming events, whether as participants or volunteers. Please contact me if I can help you can get involved or if you have some time to volunteer to help us deliver any of these events. We look forward to seeing you on the water!

Thank. You. Newcastle.

– Jack Buchan



LEARN TO SAIL COURSES FOR KIDS

The NCYC Sailing Academy is a registered provider with Service NSW and accepts the \$100 ACTIVE KIDS vouchers.

For further information,
contact our Sailing Academy
Tel: (02) 4940 8188 or
email: sailingacademy@ncyc.net.au

Development Regatta 2023



In early March, NCYC hosted the 7th annual She SAILS Development Regatta in the club's fleet of Force 24 inshore keelboats. This event is designed to promote and develop women's sailing and provide female academy graduates from our club, as well as graduates from other

clubs, the opportunity to transition into racing in a fun and friendly way.

The event is run over two days, with a training session on Saturday and a racing session on Sunday. This year, 12 teams competed in two groups. The morning group included clubs from Port Macquarie, Port Stephens, Gosford, Jindabyne, and Lake Macquarie. The afternoon group comprised NCYC graduates and included two youth teams.

The training session included theory and practical



training. The teams first gathered in The Bridge for a theory session where they learned the basics of tacking to a mark, start sequence, port and starboard rules from their coaches and mentors.

It was great to see the enthusiasm and passion for sailing among all the participants.

The weather couldn't have been better for the boat handling and teamwork practice on the harbour with



Making business *personal*

Partner with Pitcher Partners Newcastle & Hunter, an accounting and business advice firm that takes the time to understand your needs. With personalised service and expert advice to help you achieve your goals.

Adelaide Brisbane Melbourne Newcastle Perth Sydney | p. +61 2 4923 4000

Pitcher Partners is an association of independent firms. Pitcher Partners is a member of the global network of Baker Tilly International Limited, the members of which are separate and independent legal entities.



www.pitchernewcastle.com.au



a constant 8-knot breeze. It was amazing to see the team come together to sharpen their skills and hone their techniques. The youth teams were particularly impressive with their demonstrations on how to hike. Well done guys!

A big shout out to all of our amazing NCYC volunteers involved over the weekend for their invaluable contribution to the event – race management, powerboat support, mark-laying, photography, social media reports, shore-based organisation, and presentation hosting. Thank you for your investment of time to make the regatta a success.

To our wonderful sponsors - Marine Outlet, Swell Kiosks, Pappa Sven, Burke Marine and our SheSAILS@NCYC Committee – thank you for your ongoing support.



"It was amazing to see the team come together to sharpen their skills ..."

Setting Sail THE FIRST 25 YEARS
NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB
Paul Hannan - Gloria Thirkel

AVAILABLE NOW
for \$30 from the Club
or Marina Administration Office



"An impressive number of women competed in the regatta, with six all-female crews and a majority of teams being at least 50% female"

In January, NCYC sailors had the privilege of sailing on the stunning Lake Macquarie for the first race of the Lake Macquarie Yacht Club Tri-Series Regatta in 2023.

The regatta brought together sailors from three yacht clubs on the lake: Lake Macquarie Yacht Club, Royal Motor Yacht Club Toronto, Wangi Amateur Sailing Club, and NCYC.

The event provided a fantastic opportunity for women to build skills in roles they might not always have the chance to take on and to share their love of the sport of sailing.

The generosity of boat owners and supporters on and off the water contributed immensely to the regatta's spirit of inclusiveness and camaraderie.

An impressive number of women competed in the regatta, with six all-female crews and the majority of teams being at least 50% female. A total of 91 sailors participated in the event, with 63 women and 28 men competing on 13 yachts.

SAILFEST
NEWCASTLE REGATTA

A super celebration of sailing
on Newcastle Harbour

APRIL 15-16

FREE SPECTATING
AND TRYSAILING!

Wear a lifejacket.
Don't risk your life.

AKD774



sailfest.com.au
Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club | p: 4940 8188



Above: The crew of *Stampede* matched the colour of their yacht's hull.

Fathom report

Fathom, helmed by Jan Howard, was one of the six all-female entries in this year's race hosted by Lake Macquarie Yacht Club. We started on the fifth group start and headed south to the Marks Point mark.

The wind was blowing ENE around 15 knots, and as it was a non-spinnaker race, we poled out the number 2 jib. It was fantastic to be sailing with the team again. After rounding the first mark, we criss-crossed the lake several times. Sailing on the lake is quite different from the open water off Merewether or Stockton, the marks are hard to identify unless you're familiar with the courses and local landmarks.

On the second approach to the Coal Point mark rounding, we had an overlap with *Ross Street*. They called for buoy room and then managed to slip around the mark in front of us, maintaining their lead. Congratulations to Peta Norris and the team of *Ross Street* for line honours. We finished third over the line behind *Wallop*.

A big thank you to Lake Macquarie Yacht Club and Eleanor Cunningham for a great day. Special thanks to Steve and David for loaning us their beautiful yacht, *Fathom*, and for their support. The other boat owners also helped make these events possible.

Stampede report

The green machine *Stampede*, an Inglis 39 is well known around the Lake and was once again entered

in the LMYC SheSAILS Regatta. The crew consisted of Sarah, Bronwen, Belinda, Linda, Barbara, Sue, Mary-Anne, and newcomer to sailing, Jennifer, and we were well supported by owners Mick and Jon, who are excellent coaches and mentors. As a new crew we had a little 'organised chaos' in the beginning but as the race went on our teamwork improved. The day was magic with many laughs, and pleasingly the predicted wind didn't eventuate. We had a great run to the finish line.

Ross Street report

A crew of seven NCYC women sailed on *Ross Street*, a beautiful Beneteau First 40, generously loaned and supported by owner, Noel Jenkins, plus two of his regular crew.

The crew enjoyed tight racing with the NCYC all-female crew on *Fathom*, with both boats often jostling in close quarters for position on the course and inside overlap at mark rounding.

In a NE breeze averaging around 13kts and gusting to 17, the *Ross Street* crew were excited to get the gun and record the second fastest time around the course, finishing 6th on handicap.

The NCYC crew on *Ross Street* ranged in age from 15 to 60ish and included mother and daughter Bea (mast) and Lily Sawyers (head sail trim). The rest of the crew were Peta Norris (helm), Emily Sellens (main), Jane Wilson (head sail trim), Kath Hall (pit), and Nicole O'Donnell (bow). We are grateful to LMYC sailor Mel Pollard (head sail trim), for stepping in at short notice to cover for Janease Graham, who was unfortunately unwell on the day.





Yachting Transition Program

The Yachting Transition Program, having just finished its second course over the 22/23 Summer, has proven to be a resounding success in helping sailors make the jump from the Academy's smaller Force 24 keelboats to larger racing yachts.

The program is the brainchild of Mary Holley, who provides the program's flagship vessel, *Aurora*. With approval from Australian Sailing for the program to be run under the Academy's accreditation, this new initiative really strives to provide a supported and guided pathway for sailors wanting to become skilled regular yacht sailors.

Over the course of six weeks, six sailors participated in the transition program and received specialised training from specifically qualified Academy instructors and experienced volunteer crew members. The program emphasised developing the extra skills needed on larger yachts and applying the skills learned in courses offered by the Sailing Academy.

The program also covers the Australian Sailing Start Racing syllabus, which helps the sailors to also develop their racing skills and learn about race starts and tactics. The highlight of the recent course was when the *Aurora* crew led the club fleet to the heads in their first Pantaenius Twilight Series race start!

As an added bonus, the program provided an opportunity for sailors to continue for another few weeks and sail with club members onboard their yachts in the Pantaenius Twilight Series. This helped to further develop the sailors' skills and build relationships within our sailing community.

We are also looking to support the sailors further by offering opportunities to race with members in the Club Winter Series.

"Last night was great. The winds and water were very calm which made everything on deck very calm.

I greatly appreciated that you had allocated extra instructors, which meant we could ask lots of questions before and during manoeuvres and knew exactly what we were required to do.

This course is a great step-up from the Force24 courses and felt like what I had hoped it would be.

It seemed all the students last night were on a similar level of sailing experience which helped to create a positive and supportive learning environment."

2022 Spring course participant

The next Yachting Transition Program is set to begin on October 11, 2023. Registrations are open now!

If you are interested in taking part in the program, now's the time to start preparing for this unique opportunity. The prerequisite is having completed the Start Crewing and Start Helming courses, or completed four Women's Sailing courses or completed the Youth Squad Program.

The Yachting Transition Program is an excellent way to take your skills to the next level and enjoy the thrill of racing on a larger yacht and help develop the skills of those who participate in the course into competent crew members, and hopefully, into skippers and yacht owners in the future.

Lifejackets require care and maintenance to ensure they can work effectively in case of an emergency. Inflatable lifejackets require extra care and attention. Most inflatable lifejackets can be self-serviced, depending on the manufacturer's guidelines.

Along with annual servicing, always complete a pre-wear check of your lifejacket before heading out on the water. This includes checking for wear and tear and, for self-inflating jackets, checking the cylinder is full, the auto cartridge is armed, and both are screwed in hand tight, and the pull cord is clear.

The skipper's job is to make sure that there are enough lifejackets in good working order for all passengers on board their vessel, and that they know how to use them.

NSW Maritime Boating Education Officers run free sessions to promote awareness of lifejacket care and servicing requirements, including step-by-step instructions on how to self-service your inflatable lifejacket as well as general safety advice and information.

You can attend a lifejacket servicing clinic at NSW



Maritime's 'Are You Boat Ready?' Day on April 30 at Pelican Foreshore Reserve, Lake Macquarie.

The event will run from 9 am to 3pm and is a great opportunity for boaters and the community to update their knowledge about lifejackets and servicing and ask local experts any questions they have about boating in the Lake Macquarie area.

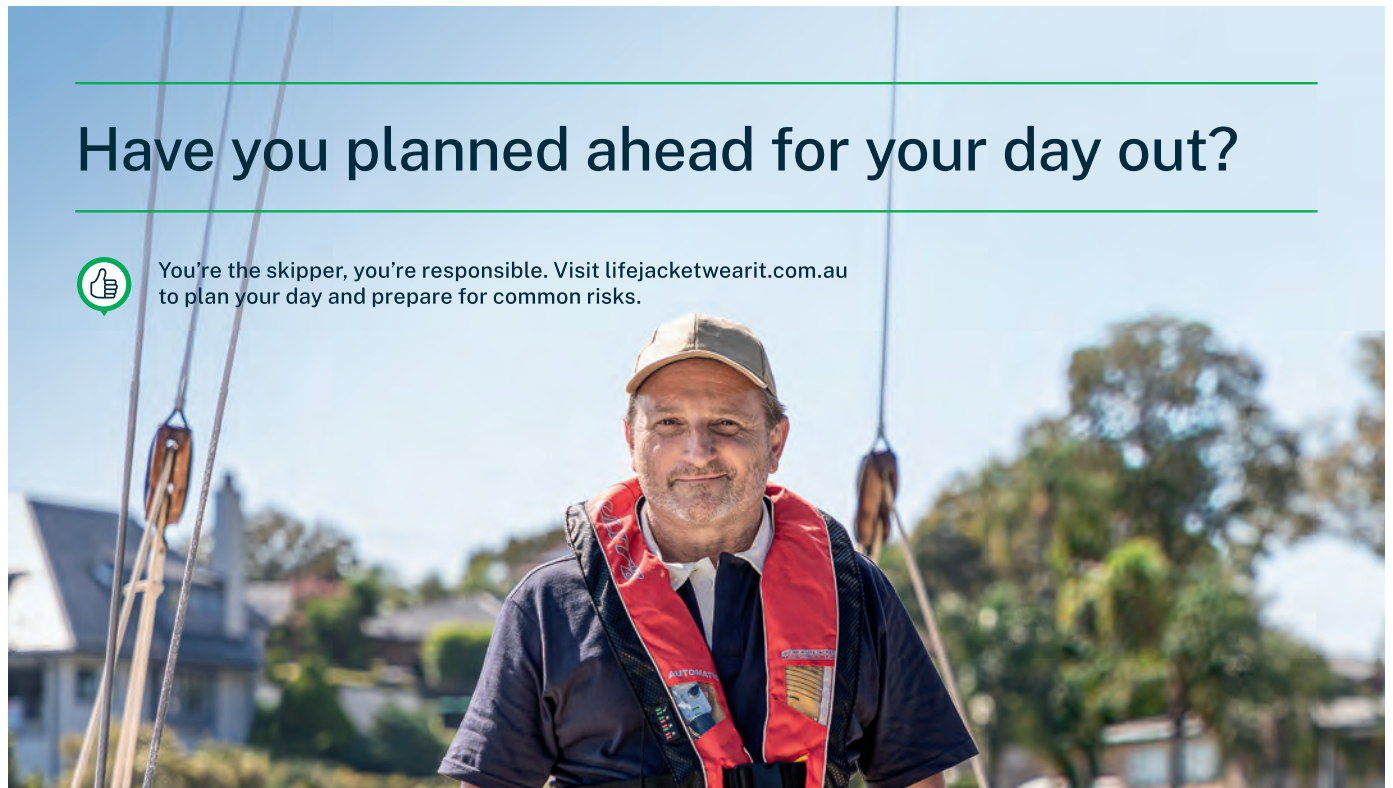
Remember, if you look after your lifejacket, it will look after you.

Visit lifejacketwearit.com.au for more tips on how to stay safe on NSW waterways.

Have you planned ahead for your day out?



You're the skipper, you're responsible. Visit lifejacketwearit.com.au to plan your day and prepare for common risks.



ARE YOU BOAT READY?
PLAN ○ PREPARE ○ PREDICT



New headquarters

There has been a lot happening with our unit over the past six months or so with the commencement of our new 'state-of-the-art' Unit headquarters at Stockton. As you can see from the pictures,

the building is coming along very well, with a current finishing date of late June.



The new headquarters under construction at Stockton, and artist impression (below left)

Rescue vessel duties and information

On the water, our head office has made a second rescue vessel available for our crews to train with. Being a one-boat unit, it is difficult to gain experience for towing vessels and rafting up to place a disabled vessel alongside a jetty etc, as well as search and rescue training and other navigational and various topics that are best handled with more than one vessel.

With this second vessel, our crews have made themselves available to undertake this important training and we hope to have the second vessel available for some time.



For those who may not know ...

One of our vessels was tied up at Stockton North jetty recently. Also tied up was a runabout with a couple of old timers returning from a fish. One of the fishermen asked our coxswain, 'So what do you want to inspect



this time?' Our coxswain informed them that we were not there to inspect anything and explained our duties.

So please remember, Marine Rescue are there to 'rescue/assist' boaters. We are not a 'compliance' organisation such as NSW Police or Maritime. That said, if you have any questions on safety gear etc, please feel free to wave us down or if you see us on the boat alongside at our NCYC berth, we are more than happy to advise.

First Aid/Advanced Resuscitation

A requirement to be members of Marine Rescue is that Advanced First Aid and Advanced Resuscitation qualifications be maintained.

In late February, a number of our members travelled to Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie unit to undertake their three-year recertifications.

All completed the training and mandatory assessments successfully.

Saying 'thank you' to our maintenance volunteers

Every Wednesday morning a small band of skilled and generous maintenance volunteers assist Mark Nugent to undertake small repairs and maintenance or building and landscaping jobs around the club. This work would otherwise cost the club a considerable amount, so we are very grateful for their assistance.

Known endearingly as our Men's Shed, they have assisted with the development of the Thales site, attached fenders around the pontoons where the Force 24s and Elliott 6s are berthed, built shelving in storerooms, and a garden bed along the northern wall of the NCYC building, hung the framed burgees in the Foredeck and Bar area, as well as other projects.

We thank this happy group of volunteers, David Butcher, Paul Slattery, Stephen Treble and Neil McGuire for their valuable assistance and support. If anyone would like to donate their skills and time in this way, please contact Mark Nugent or our CEO.

- Jan Howard

Save the Dates

23 April	Newcastle-Port Stephens Race
24-29 April	Sail Port Stephens Passage Series
5-7 May	Sail Port Stephens W/L Series
12 May	SOLAS Dinner
19-21 May	Sail PS Bay Series (Bay Sailing Centre)
22 June	Winter Solstice Dinner
22 July	Presentation Night



The image shows a screenshot of the Facebook page for Marine Rescue Newcastle. At the top, the word 'facebook' is written in white on a blue background. Below that is a photo of a white boat with 'MARINE RESCUE NSW' and 'RESCUE' written on it. The boat is on the water. In the bottom left corner of the page, there is a circular logo for Marine Rescue Newcastle with an anchor in the center. Below the logo, the text reads 'Marine Rescue Newcastle Community Organization'. At the bottom of the page, there are navigation tabs for 'Timeline', 'About', 'Photos', 'Likes', and 'Videos'. Below the screenshot, there is a text box with the following content:

To receive up-to-date information on weather warnings, safety tips, boating tips and more.
www.facebook.com/MarineRescueNewcastle



CAN YOU HELP?

The Mission to Seafarers provide Care Packs for visiting sailors to Newcastle

- **Books**
- **Men's Clothing**
- **Men's Jackets**
- **CD Music**
- **Souvenirs**
- **Toiletries**



Any donation is appreciated and can be left at NCYC Admin/Marina office or dropped off at 96 Hannell St, Wickham

Security Phone Numbers

Emergency

- **Police** – (02) 4929 0999
- **Water Police** – (02) 4984 9012
- **Fire Department** – 000
- **Dockmaster** – 0408 299 512

Club Directory

- **General Inquiries** (9am - 5pm)
(02) 4940 8188 – info@ncyc.net.au
- **Licensed Club**
(02) 4940 8188 – barmanager@ncyc.net.au
- **Marina Manager** (8am - 4pm 7 days)
0408 299 512 – dockmaster@ncyc.net.au
- **Administration** (9am - 5pm 5 days)
(02) 4940 8188 – info@ncyc.net.au
- **Functions** (9am - 5pm)
(02) 4940 8188 – functions@ncyc.net.au



NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB

95 Hannell Street
Wickham NSW 2293

(02) 4940 8188
www.ncyc.net.au
info@ncyc.net.au

HARBOURFRONT DRINKS, DINING AND FUNCTIONS

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club's renovated clubhouse welcomes members and guests

The venue has a relaxed and contemporary resort-like feel, unique for Newcastle

Call NCYC today to host your next event

We offer a choice of spaces for anything from intimate weddings and Xmas parties, up to gala dinners and corporate events for 300 people, all in an exclusive location

Members receive special discounts

(02) 4940 8188 | functions@ncyc.net.au



NAUTICA DINING

The NCYC's Nautica Dining is a fresh culinary experience in every sense, with award-winning Executive Chef Luke Carpenter leading an eclectic and dynamic kitchen crew

The restaurant offers a superb a la carte menu, bar and lounge classics and a selection of degustation packages for special family and work occasions

Book online at ncyc.net.au



ON THE RIGHT TACK

Looking at getting your kids into sailing? Tackers is the perfect pathway onto the water. We run programs throughout the school terms on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and condensed programs in the school holidays. Bookings are now open, so get in quick as they sell out fast!

sailingacademy@ncyc.net.au

ncyc.net.au/junior-tackers-sailing-7-12yrs