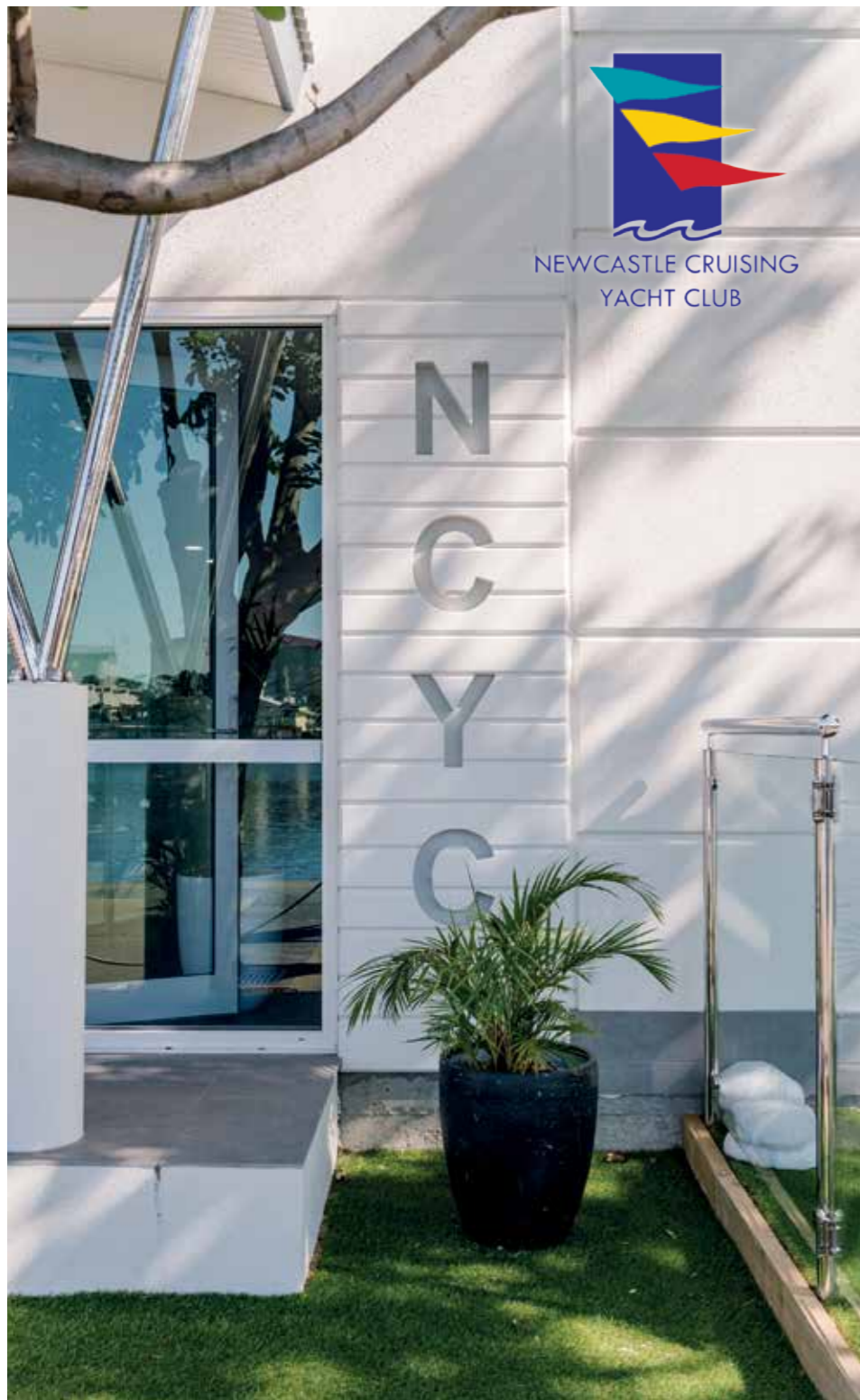


# thirty two° fifty five

newcastle cruising  
yacht club journal

SPRING 2023

Funtastic Founders Day  
Tackling the Transpac Race  
Sydney Gold Coast Success



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reflect those of the Board or the Club.

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





I recently wrote my first monthly report to our General Members to acknowledge their importance as our voting members. Necessarily there will be some repetition in this column due to the wider dissemination of our journal.

I thought it might be interesting to provide an insight into the workings of the Board. NCYC

Board normally meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month and follows a standardised agenda followed by other business, which would typically involve approval of maintenance expenditure and seasonal items – for example, the acceptance of yearly accounts prior to the AGM vote. The agenda goes something like this:

### OPERATIONS

The CEO provides broad information on the previous month's operations including the Clubhouse (bar and restaurant), the marina, sailing, and commercial centre revenue/expenses. He also briefs the Board on capital expenses and total membership. We also discuss Commercial Centre lease arrivals, renewals, and departures. Currently the Centre is fully occupied.

### FINANCE

Like most Australian businesses, NCYC experienced a "soft" quarter April through June in the Clubhouse. The Commercial Centre and Marina are the "engine rooms" of our Club's revenue. Early indications of forward bookings for functions in August through September are promising. The strength of your Club has always been, and remains, its diversity of income sources.

The Board is optimistic as we're seeing some forward function bookings appear and the Marina and Commercial Centre revenue are providing a stronger cash position. This is welcomed, given our Marina Maintenance Program requirements.

Clubhouse revenue in June was below budget due to the relatively high cost of food supplies and slowing sales. As I have said previously, if you're going out to eat or drink, please consider supporting your Club in the bar and restaurant.

### MEMBERSHIP

I'm pleased to say we have increased our membership by approximately 170 during the previous year and that an average of just over 15 new members are approved each month.

### SAILING

The youth Interclub Challenge (NCYC, RPAYC, RSYS, CYCA) is now finished and our youth squad claimed the overall trophy for a third consecutive year. NCYC members Janease Graham and Meika Wright sailed onboard Dehler 46 *Wings* in the Transpac Race from Los Angeles to Hawaii. Presentation night was a big success, with some tweaks for next year already identified.

August is typically a quiet time for Club sailing, however this wasn't the case for the Academy. Powerboat handling and licencing courses are run, the youth performance squad are enrolled, and boat maintenance is undertaken. Additionally, the Board approved expenses relating to moving boats and infrastructure to the Thales site at Carrington where the small keelboat and dinghy base is located.

The efforts of our Members involved in major events is always discussed. These included Wade Morgan sailing aboard *Caro* (1st IRC) and Will Howard on *Ino Noir* (9th IRC) in the British RORC Fastnet Race.

### MARINA

Marina occupancy and income has been up and down approximately 5% month on month through July and August. Expenses will rise as we embark upon our marina repair and maintenance program. We have also received the Marina Asset Maintenance Plan and will be implementing repairs and replacements in accordance with this plan over the months and years to come. Marina occupancy increased in the latter part of winter, leading to a stronger revenue result than previous months.

### PARKING

Right now, your Board is in the process of evaluating the perennial parking problems at the club. We have received several proposals and will be selecting a contractor to implement this. The aim is to enhance the Member experience. Currently, many of the spaces that are taken during normal business hours are neither Members, tenants, nor people using Club facilities. Typically, these vehicles stay the whole business day or longer.

### CLIPPER RACE

Finally, I'm sure you will have heard the exciting news that NCYC will host the 2023-24 Clipper Race from approximately 1-10 January next year. I find it very fitting that the race is starting in Portsmouth at the very time that I am writing this paragraph!



– Barry Kelly



We are excited about a great summer at NCYC!

We have a great balance of sailing and social events and activities on the calendar for 2023/24, so make sure you are receiving the weekly newsletter to keep up with what's going on.

The sailing calendar is jam-packed with inshore racing, Youth Academy Tuesdays,

Twilights Wednesdays, Champions League and Two Handed afternoons on Thursdays, Lasers Fridays and Offshore point score racing Sundays. We have our weekend away to Port Stephens planned for 11-12 November, She Sails Regatta 25-26 November, and our Christmas Sail on 17 December.

We have kept an overnight race – The Hunter 100 – to start 6pm Friday 25th November. We have moved it forward a week to allow boats to also do the Cabbage Tree Island Race. This will be a great opportunity for our Ocean Point Score fleet to extend their skills, for our Hobart fleet to get some training and for us to promote Offshore Sailing to the wider community.

Special Events continue to be important to our club. NCYC will host a stopover of The Clipper Round the World Yacht Race. This will be great for the profile of our sport and activity around the club 1-10 January.

The Hunter Sailing League will be in early January to coincide with the Clipper visit. SailFest will include The Australian Yachting Championship, TP52 Gold Cup, Champions Sailing League, and historic Cock of the Harbour from 5-7 April.

Special congratulations to go to our Youth High Performance Squad which won the Interclub trophy for a third straight year against the much larger three Sydney clubs. Our club instructor Andrew Omotosho and team head coach Thomas Steenson did a great job helping the squad prepare.

The sailors did the real work learning and converting it into "high performance". We really hope the squad stays together, grows and sets their sights on some international trophies. This off season also saw NCYC members represented in the Sydney Southport Race with podium finishes.

The Sailing Academy has continued its unprecedented demand. All courses have been heavily booked and we look to expand our offering.

Our Academy Manager, Jacqui Ellis, and Mary Holley have been working hard on progressing The Transition to Yachting course and expanding our community



sailing offering with the "Front Line" program.

We look forward to hosting some special member events this season including Founders Day in September, SOLAS Dinner Dance in October, Melbourne Cup in November, the Members Christmas Party and New Year's Eve.

I hope all our Members can enjoy sailing and boating activities over the summer and look forward to welcoming you back to the club.

– Paul O'Rourke

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Over the winter months, our Club racing program takes a rest but our staff and Members have sure been busy.

Lots of programs through our Sailing Academy and Members have excelled in some major offshore events – the Sydney Southport Race, the Fastnet Race, the Transpac Race and Hamilton Island Race Week.

Tom Farley has been selected in the Olympic squad for Lasers, which is another outstanding achievement.

Other Members have been enjoying the perfect winter sailing conditions that have been on offer. I want to congratulate and thank all those who have excelled but also those who continue to encourage us all to perhaps try something new, to push ourselves into new adventure, into new achievement.

We often think of heroes as people we admire for their courage, their outstanding achievements or noble qualities. But I think there is something else. Heroes are those who, as Hugh Mackey says, “open new frontiers in our imagination ... they raise our spirits by raising our sights ...”

By this definition, our Members who have excelled over the Winter (and at other times) are unsung heroes and we feel privileged that you are part of NCYC.



– Robert Logan



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

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We have continued to see healthy growth in membership at NCYC. At the time of the Annual General Meeting on 3 August, there were 1521 members.

The two main social occasions during the winter months were the Winter Solstice Dinner and Presentation Night.

To celebrate the winter solstice in late June, Executive Chef Luke prepared three spit-roasted pigs with succulent pork accompanied by roast vegetables. Candelabras, fire pits, and black-themed table settings, plus jukebox music, enhanced the special atmosphere of winter. Over 80 members and guests attended the evening.

Presentation Night in late July was attended by about 150 members. The Club was closed for the evening and was brightly decorated in the NCYC colours of red, yellow, teal and blue. There was great food and a convivial atmosphere with plenty of dancing and fun.

It was a perfect way for us the celebrate the

achievements of our sailors and enjoy some socialising.

A small group of diners experienced an intimate Winter Wine and Dine event in The Bridge in August. Exquisitely presented red meat dishes were prepared by our Executive Chef and paired with wines supplied by Peter Drayton Wines.

In line with our usual practice, NCYC has made donations this year to Marine Rescue and Mission to Seafarers. A special sailing event will be held in late October in support of the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.

We encourage all people who use the Club facilities regularly to join as Members. If you attend the Club regularly with friends, you may like to encourage them to become Social Members.

The process is easy and can be completed at Reception.

As summer approaches, we hope to see more and more of our Members and their friends enjoying opportunities to get out on the water, to sail and to socialise at our wonderful Club.



– Jan Howard

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We've had an eventful Winter this year with many key events within the club.

As winter arrived, our Winter Solstice Party was another great success that brought warmth and cheer to the chilly season. The event featured delicious roast pigs, complemented by a variety of dark beers and red wines.

Laughter and camaraderie filled the air, making it a standout event of the season.

We held our annual Presentation Night. It was an evening of elegance and recognition, where we celebrated the outstanding achievements and contributions of our members and sailors. The atmosphere was filled with pride and camaraderie as we acknowledged their dedication to our beloved Club. It was truly a night to remember.

One of the culinary highlights of the season was our Wine & Dine event featuring the renowned Peter Drayton Wines. The evening was a gastronomic delight, with exquisite wine pairings and delectable dishes that left our Members and guests raving. It was a celebration of beautiful produce and terrific wine, and we're thrilled that it was so well-received.

*"It's the perfect way to unwind midweek and connect with fellow Members"*

With the constant success of our Tuesday Night Trivia, Quiz Masters will now host an additional weekly event with Music Bingo. Wednesday nights at 7pm we'll host this unique twist on the classic game that has taken the local hospitality scene by storm.

Come test your musical knowledge while competing for fantastic prizes. It's the perfect way to unwind midweek and connect with fellow Members and friends while you dine and play. You can book your table for Musical Bingo today through Nautica Dining.

Looking ahead to a warm, dry summer, we have even more great events on the horizon to look forward to, such as Founders' Day, SOLAS Dinner, Westpac Rescue Helicopter Regatta, Melbourne Cup Luncheon, Member's Christmas Party, and New Years Eve.

It's sure to be a very busy Spring season and we look forward to seeing all of you in The Clubhouse.

– Matthew Stamp

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As the days grow longer and the sun graces the horizon with its radiant warmth, it's time to dust off those boat shoes and prepare to embark on a season of elegance, camaraderie, and aquatic adventure. Nestled on the waterfront, the Yacht Club stands as a beacon of refined leisure and maritime culture. As we bid adieu to the chill of winter and

welcome the embrace of spring and summer, the Yacht Club's functions come alive, offering Members a chance to revel in the beauty of the open waters.

### A hub of luxury and leisure

The Club isn't just a marina for docking boats; it's a community of individuals who share a passion for sailing, yachting and the open sea. With its pristine facilities, state-of-the-art docking spaces and luxurious amenities, the Club offers Members an exclusive haven to escape the hustle and bustle of daily life.

### Functions that define the season

As the warmer weather graces us with its presence, the Yacht Club's calendar is brimming with a diverse array of functions that cater to every Member's interests. From regattas that ignite the spirit of competition to Member events that highlight our talented chefs, the Club's events promise a sense of unity and excitement.

### Regattas

The heartbeat of any Yacht Club, regattas bring together sailors of all levels to showcase their skills and compete in a friendly yet spirited environment. These events are a celebration of maritime tradition, camaraderie and the thrill of the open water.

### Themed Parties

With warmer evenings, the Yacht Club transforms into a hub of entertainment and celebration. Themed parties that range from nautical chic to tropical extravaganzas provide the perfect backdrop for Members to socialise, dance, and indulge in gourmet delights.

– Bec Frost

## Chef's Report



As we head out of the depths of winter to the light and warmth of spring, we look forward to new flavours becoming available for our menu items.

Spring will see the return of fruits such as strawberries and blood oranges being added to the menu, while vegetables such as asparagus, leeks, and cauliflower

will find their way onto our plates.

Finally, our Members can expect to see lamb feature as young Spring lamb come of age.

As always, we at Nautica Dining appreciate your support, especially over Winter. Our Café Corsica was a fun experiment that allowed us to challenge ourselves with new ingredients and menu items.

We hate disappointing anyone, especially our loyal Members, so it is necessary to stress the importance of booking, most importantly on weekends and special events.

In order to prepare enough food to the standards that we pride ourselves on, it has been vital to set a firm 'book by' date for our Member events.



Looking ahead again to Spring, I'm looking forward to the SOLAS dinner where we will raise funds for an incredible charity working towards maritime safety. Then we'll be buckled in for a busy Summer season where our annual Melbourne Cup function, Member's Christmas Party, and New Year's Eve will rapidly approach. I look forward to seeing you around the Club!

– Luke Carpenter





A hoy sailors! Winter was eventful here at the Club, delivering more wind than usual and presenting some challenging races offshore for the Winter Short Ocean Pointscore. Our sailors braved round-ups and broaches aplenty, as well as a Man Overboard in Stockton Bight – making it a memorable season.



I'll admit to you here, I always appreciate the show put on by our crews, especially when they push their boats to the limits right next to me. Those daring moments deserve to be celebrated, and I endeavour to capture these thrilling scenes with the camera and share them back in the bar and publish to our social media channels. What better way to go home and show the family what you've been up to than with a photo of the boat on its side and the keel out of the water!

In July, we gathered to celebrate the Club's Annual Awards Night, and I'm thrilled to report that the attendance surpassed previous years' records. It was heartening to see so many groups in attendance, including our offshore crews, youth crews, remote control sailors, Bay Sailing Centre sailors, volunteer groups and social groups. This strong camaraderie between different aspects is what makes our Club community so special and vibrant.



The Annual Awards Night is an opportunity to recognise and honour individuals for their recent achievements and contributions. Congratulations to all the winners for their remarkable performances.

Just a week later, I watched on as *Frantic*, *Mako*, *She's the Culprit*, and *Vérité* contested the CYCA Sydney to Gold Coast Race. It was certainly a slow race from start to finish and took longer than they would have wished, however we congratulate Paul Beath and his team onboard *Vérité* for their 2nd place success in IRC Div 3.

Meanwhile in PHS division, *Mako* claimed first place overall and *She's the Culprit* claimed second place. Having started the race in Sydney on Saturday, *Frantic* finished at the Gold Coast overnight on Monday night followed by the rest of the NCYC fleet finishing later on Tuesday night.

At time of writing, it has just been announced that dredging has commenced in the Swansea Channel, removing some 30,000 cubic metres of sand from the entrance to Lake Macquarie following years of build-up that has effectively trapped boats in (and out of) the



Above: The winter fleet had an exhilarating season.

lake. Reliable access to the lake will certainly offer a cruising destination from Newcastle, as well as enable more yachts to participate in our SailFest and Sail Port Stephens regattas in April.

As we gear up for the new boating season, I'm excited to launch what promises to be another action-filled summer of sailing. On Sunday, 10 September, we had the Blessing of the Fleet right in front of our Clubhouse, marking the official start of the boating season. The first race of the season followed a week later on Sunday, 17 September.

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 become involved or if you have some time to volunteer to help us deliver any of our racing or regattas. We look forward to seeing more members on the water, in more ways, more of the time!

– Jack Buchan



### LEARN TO SAIL COURSES FOR KIDS

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Welcome to the Spring edition of our magazine! It's hard to believe how quickly time has flown by. While Winter started off slowly this year, the marina experienced a tranquil period in May and June. However, the tranquillity was short-lived, as the subsequent months brought a flurry of activity with the loading and

unloading of several Sevenstar ships. Our marina played host to an array of powerboats, including notable vessels like the 80ft Garlington, a couple of Grady Whites, and the impressive 45m superyacht *Big Sky*, berthed at C-Arm on 12 August for biosecurity clearance – you couldn't miss it!

August also marked the return of valued customers, some of whom graced our docks with new additions to their nautical collection. To all our returning patrons and newcomers, a warm welcome to NCYC!

I'm thrilled to introduce Ali Watt, the latest addition to our marina team. Ali is a familiar face around here, having contributed her skills across the Sailing Academy, bar, and restaurant. Her profound ecological understanding, passion for sailing, and love for the outdoors bring a fresh and exciting perspective to our team. When not stationed with us, Ali will be guiding tours in various corners of Australia.

As the last week of August arrived, we welcomed *Windeward Bound* – a vessel commemorating 100 years of Rotary. The ship found its berth in Newcastle and is poised for the next leg of its journey to Eden. *Windeward Bound* is more than a vessel; it's a transformative experience for youth across Australia.



Above: *Windeward Bound* spent time at the marina.

This remarkable ship embarks on sailing adventures, igniting a spirit of exploration, and learning among young individuals as they navigate the stunning waters of Australia's coastline. A great initiative and sight from the Clubhouse.

Turning our gaze to September, anticipation builds for an exciting period ahead. Founders Day brought with it the eagerly awaited fleet blessing. There were awards for the best dressed crew and vessel, raising the anticipation for the boat parade. We welcomed the Cruising Division of RMYC during the same weekend to participate in the festivities.

Wishing you smooth sailing and joyful adventures until our paths cross again – whether on the marina or within the pages of our next edition. If the final weeks of winter were any indication, this spring promises fantastic boating weather ahead.

– Matt Williams

Against the backdrop of a sunny coastal day, the Club held the the annual Opening of the Boating Season event with its customary flair, leaving attendees with a sense of tradition and excitement for the season to come.

A focal point of the event is always the boat parade. Adorned with flags and banners, and dressed in their maritime best, the procession passed the Clubhouse as Reverend Garry Dodd from Mission to Seafarers conducted the Blessing of the Fleet. The ceremony emphasises the strong connections between Members, their boats, and the appeal of being on the water.

VIP guests gathered in The Foredeck boasted a front-row view of the boat parade. Meanwhile, upstairs in The Retreat, the Club's Founding Members celebrated

Founders' Day, a special occasion honouring the Club's early visionaries. Our Founding Members had a unique perspective as they observed the boat parade while reflecting on the legacy they helped to establish.

Adding a touch of style and enjoyment to the event, the *Concealed Weapon* team won the Best Dressed Crew title for their sophisticated 007-inspired attire. Meanwhile, *She's the Culprit* earned the distinction of Best Dressed Boat for their impressive collection of battle flags, showcasing their dedicated participation in a surfeit of regattas and events.

With the Blessing of the Fleet completed, the Regatta Room buzzing with Members and the awards presented, Sailing Manager Jack Buchan officially declared the 2023-2024 boating season open for summer.



### 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 100 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

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We rolled out the red carpet in July for a spectacular night of excellence at Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club's Annual Awards Night!

With the Clubhouse closed to the public, Members were lighting up the dance floor as the band closed yet another unforgettable evening of glitz, glamour, and camaraderie! What a fantastic gathering it was,

honouring the remarkable achievements and outstanding involvement of our passionate Members!

The occasion presents an opportunity to gather Members, sponsors, and special guests for an evening of celebration. It's also an opportunity to recognise the contributions of our volunteers and committees, and the accomplishments of our annual winners.

The Social Committee awarded the Tenacity Award to John Burrows for his unwavering passion for sailing. Additionally, the Sailing Committee awarded annual point-score prizes to some outstanding vessels and their owners, including Steve Rae's *Marta Jean* (IRC), Barry Kelly's *Concealed Weapon* (PHS1), John Burrows' *Betty D* (PHS2), and Joe de Kock's *GoodForm* (Gun Boat Trophy).

The Newcastle Radio Yacht Squadron also presented a 'Clubman of the Year' award to Kevin Abrahamson for his outstanding contributions to remote control sailing. Congratulations to all the winners for their remarkable performances.

Let's raise a glass to all members of the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club family. Together, we form an incredible community, bonded by our love of boating and a shared passion for our sport of sailing.

Cheers to all!







At the 2023 Annual General Meeting, Life Membership was conferred on Steve Rae, Valda Johnston and Mark Richards.

### Steve Rae

Steve Rae's association with NCYC goes back to 2009 when he and his family returned from overseas to live permanently in Newcastle. Steve and Maureen bought a brand new boat and joined NCYC immediately. They started racing *Marta Jean* in Twilight and Sunday racing and have been regular and fierce competitors ever since, winning numerous series in IRC division over the years. Steve and Maureen have keenly participated in social activities and have encouraged new folk, especially women, to try sailing and become active at our Club.

Steve became a Director of NCYC in 2011, Vice Commodore in 2016, and Commodore in 2017, on the resignation of Commodore Jim Holley.

During his time as Commodore, Steve led the Club through a period of considerable growth and

*Above: Pictured left to right, Mark Richards, Steve Rae, Paul Hannan, Mary Holley, Jan Howard, Valda Johnston.*

development, both in onwater activities, Club activities, and infrastructure, the greatest achievement being the successful construction of the new Clubhouse during 2021. Steve also led the Club through the challenging COVID crisis. He has represented NCYC in wider sailing activities and built a strong network of contacts within that community.

Steve worked very hard over 12 years and has given thousands of hours of his time for the benefit of the Club and its Members. He worked quietly and modestly without expecting accolades. His efforts and achievements are highly worthy of recognition. NCYC congratulates and thanks Steve on the occasion of his Life Membership award.

### Valda Johnston

Valda Johnston served as a Director of NCYC for seven years, but more than that, she made an extraordinary contribution during that time. She took on the role of Acting CEO after the departure of the CEO in 2016. As a transition CEO, Valda had a significant impact on turning the Club around and putting it on a good path leading up to the current CEO being appointed in 2017.

Valda had two Flag Officer roles for several years, Treasurer and Vice Commodore, and she put considerable effort into both roles. During this time, Valda took on the time-consuming role of Project Manager for the Clubhouse extension, which was well above the level of input that is expected of a volunteer Director.

She played a key role in the success of the project. It was completed on time, on budget, and our Members have been very happy with the finished product.

The Board is very appreciative of the contribution that Valda has made and congratulates her on her Life Membership.

### Mark Richards

Mark Richards has played significant roles as a volunteer at NCYC. For 20 years he did all the handicapping and results calculation for the sailing activities. He was always on call for handicapping matters and conducted his duties reliably whether he was in Newcastle, elsewhere or even overseas.

As an active sailor, Mark took on the handicapper role when he recognised the need for someone to take ownership of this critical task. He introduced the Top Yacht program for race entry and results. We came to expect his announcement: "This is a yacht club and we do yacht racing"! He conducted his duties diligently and dealt with the inevitable complaints with good humour and consistency.

Mark resigned from his role, when in 2022, the Top Yacht program was discontinued in favour of SailSYS. A number of folk at the club can now process the results and the program does the handicapping for us.

Mark continues to take a great interest in sailing and continues to contribute as a member of the Sailing Committee. The Board thanks Mark for his contribution and congratulates him on his Life Membership.





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## Sydney Gold Coast Race

The lights of the Gold Coast strip are blinding as you head for the finish of the Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race. A ribbon of bright high-rise lights strung out for miles along the beach, and you are looking for two flashing lights against the other flashing lights of the seaway, a laser beam no one has ever seen and presumably someone in slippers in a Main Beach apartment with a stopwatch and a hot drink.

We crossed the line after a tense final 12 hours with a hard-earned second in our IRC division. A position whittled away by the other J99s, bringing up a strengthening southerly breeze. There are ups and downs in any yacht race. Still, given *Vérité's* first outing and rapid prep, it was satisfying to be in front of so many experienced and successful campaigners with numerous Sydney Hobarts under the belt when ours had been so close to not happening at all ... twice!

In April, I bought *Vérité* (formerly Jon Meads' immaculately maintained *Joyride*) after racing my Hanse 34 *Satisfaction* with Ken Semple in last season's Ocean series. We had a fantastic time and won the series on PHS, but I find the vagaries of PHS frustrating. You are never sure how well you are sailing, and time was running out for me to jump into IRC racing. Events like the Hunter 100 were just so exciting; it was a jump I needed to take.

Three weeks into our windy winter series, I didn't think I had the skills to compete, so I called the campaign off. By the end of the series, Kris Anderson, Joe de Kock, Kyle Hancock, Teresa Mitchell and Harry Miller were still available, and I was a little more confident, so the prep began.



One day out from the start, we were a crew member short after the presentation night COVID outbreak. Again, it looked like our race was done until Kyle Liston saved the day and brought his sensational baked goods, and we were away. Sail choices, navigational heroes, zeros, and laughter made a great race.

We had a wonderful and talented crew. Teresa was returning to offshore racing, having previously done the Melbourne to Osaka race. Harry Miller was going on to help *Matador* to a win at Hamilton Island Race Week. In his first offshore race, Kyle was so well organised, and Joe de Kock's vast experience and relishing the role of mentor with his skills, stories, and tank commander impersonation from the front hatch were excellent.

It was a long race in primarily beautiful weather, with whales everywhere and schools of fish seeming to erupt from the water off the Byron coast. Concentration, sailing angles, and hunting for wind were challenging. Somewhere on the far north coast, Joe declared he had run out of stories. Teresa said it didn't matter she hadn't been listening; she'd been concentrating.

NCYC is a true ocean racing club. Even our twilight races are in the ocean, so most people have ocean experience, and there are experts among us. There is experience in the club and a willingness to help anyone along, and I've had great mentors and support. Races like the Hunter 100 are not onerous or expensive to prepare for and may set you on a new path. Thanks for the support, everyone, and now it's time to prepare for the Sydney to Hobart.

– Paul Beath | *Vérité* skipper

## Marina Fire Safety



Something that Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club takes extremely seriously is safety, making sure everyone – Members, crews and visitors – feels secure. Fire safety is at the top of the list, especially on the water where things can go wrong in an instant.

Strict rules are in place to reduce risk and, in the event of fire, to mitigate damage.

With fire safety being a paramount concern on the marina, it's essential to extend our commitment to safety beyond traditional measures. In the context of marina fire safety, one growing area of concern is the safe use and storage of lithium batteries.

Lithium batteries can be found in power tools, vacuums, motorised bikes and scooters, even phones. Addressing this issue proactively can help us maintain a comprehensive approach to safeguarding our community and infrastructure.

The following recommendations will not only prolong the life of your lithium battery products, but also protect those using them:

- Store batteries within manufacturer-recommended temperature ranges and away from flammable materials
- Avoid exposing battery packs to heat, sunlight, or hot vehicles for extended periods
- Use only manufacturer-recommended chargers to charge batteries
- Refrain from charging batteries on flammable surfaces



- Never leave batteries unattended while charging
- Transport and store batteries in non-flammable containers
- Regularly inspect battery conditions; avoid using damaged or swollen batteries
- Immediately stop charging and disconnect a battery that changes shape, swells, smokes or becomes excessively hot
- Consult battery manufacturers' safe work practises and MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet) before use.

Remember that a few simple precautions can make all the difference in keeping our community safe. Regularly review your fire safety plans, be vigilant in your daily activities, and prioritise fire prevention. Stay safe and stay informed with more safety notices to come.

By Meika Wright and Janease Graham

The discussion began several years ago on *Wings*, our beloved Dehler 46 racing yacht. The Transpac race was just a dream we tossed around at first, seemingly unattainable for a small crew from Down Under racing on the other side of the globe.

Transpac, the longest of the world's four major ocean races, covers a daunting 2225 nautical miles from San Pedro, California, to Honolulu, Hawaii. The race's challenging conditions include an upwind leg past Catalina Island, close-hauled sailing, a transition to a beam reach, and finally a downwind run in the trade winds.

Racing across remote ocean areas far from major shipping routes and rescue facilities demands a trustworthy team and a well-prepared boat, with safety as the top priority.

In late 2022, *Wings*' owners Ian and Lindy Edwards committed to racing in Transpac 52 in 2023, making our dream a reality. Ian and Jim Whittle were the driving forces behind this project, tackling numerous challenges:

- Selecting the right crew for a 10-14 day race, considering most had only raced 3-5 days offshore in the Sydney Hobart



- Determining the crew size, factoring in the need for provisions and extra clothing
- Deciding on food choices, given limited refrigeration capacity
- Arranging transportation for the boat to San Pedro, California
- Balancing race gear, cruising gear and delivery gear
- Complying with Transpac sailing safety regulations and adapting personal safety gear
- Expanding the Category 1 first aid kit
- Crafting navigation strategies for a race longer than weather models can accurately predict
- Planning training and accommodations in San Pedro
- Solving logistical challenges for personal gear, showers and clothing changes
- Plotting the return route to Australia and managing visa applications
- Ensuring communication with loved ones during the journey.

Our dedicated team divided tasks, with a treasurer handling finances, and crew members specialising in logistics, food, sails, and delivery planning. With eight crew members, seven of whom were experienced offshore sailors, each brought essential skills to the table. We focused on versatility and had five skilled helmsmen to maintain competitive speed.

We transported *Wings* with its mast still up from Brisbane to Mexico on a float-on ship. In Mexico, a portion of the team prepared the boat for its voyage to San Pedro, California. During the 10 days leading up to the race, rigorous preparations included practice



### See [ncyc.net.au](https://ncyc.net.au) for the full article

sessions, safety drills, role rehearsals, and short-handed racing techniques.

Unfortunately, a cold virus hit the team early in preparations, affecting health and voices, but we persevered. Our meticulous checks included electronics, mast inspections, and preparations for the race, ensuring compliance with Transpac requirements.

All crews had to send their personal gear to Honolulu seven days before the race, so we adapted by privately shipping our items. Lindy ensured we were well fed and provisioned, while Lindy and Ian oversaw the broader logistical aspects.

On race day, we noticed the subdued atmosphere compared to the Sydney Hobart, and the race started with a clear line and no spectator boats. We had a smooth start, crossed the line on port tack, and sailed past Catalina Island efficiently.

Our strategy involved sailing south of the rhumb line initially and then crossing it three-quarters into the race. Early challenges included the loss of wind instruments, forcing us to rely on feel and intuition for sail changes. We navigated bumpy seas and frequent rain squalls while transitioning to lighter winds as we neared the equator.

Wildlife sightings were scarce, with occasional sea birds and passing ships. The absence of moonlight and stars due to heavy cloud cover during the first eight days made night sailing dauntingly dark and challenging. The team managed with a rolling watch system, with David doubling as our cook.

As we entered the Molokai Strait, the excitement of spotting land after 11 days at sea was palpable. We finished 13th out of 55 boats, second among amateur teams, and fifth in our division, just 2 minutes behind *Favonius*, thanks to a solid race strategy.

Upon finishing, we were welcomed with cheers from the Hawaii Yacht Club and celebrated our accomplishment with Mai Tai cocktails.

Reflecting on the 2023 Transpac Race, our team called it a privilege and a joy. The experience exceeded our expectations, and we are immensely grateful to Ian and Lindy Edwards for making our dream a reality.

Currently, we're delivering *Wings* back to Sydney and savoring every moment of this incredible adventure. While some may call it a once-in-a-lifetime experience, we're open to racing again if the opportunity arises. Our dreams extend to participating in the Fastnet and New Port to Bermuda races, representing NCYC in 2025.

In summary, our Transpac journey was a challenging, rewarding, and unforgettable experience, showcasing the capabilities of Australian amateur sailors.

## Youth Keelboat Squad

This year our Youth Keelboat Squad saw 26 young sailors come together for training and racing opportunities, with our program beginning in May. Each athlete brought to the squad their own unique set of skills, experience and talent.

Partnering again with the Hunter Academy of Sport, the first few weeks of the program were spent identifying the skills and strengths of every individual, as well as establishing their goals and areas of improvement.

Hunter Academy spent time at the beginning of the program educating the Squad on nutrition and hydration, and how it affects performance.

From there, both training at Hunter Academy and NCYC was structured around the goals of each athlete. For the majority, the first half of the program focused heavily on basic boat handling, and building communication between squad and team members. For other athletes, the focus was improving boat speed, manoeuvres and tactical sailing.

Closer to the Interclub Challenge Regatta, our attention shifted to preparing for racing. We covered the Racing Rules of Sailing, both in theory and on water. Racing tactics and boat speed became a big focus across the squad. Through fleet racing within the squad at NCYC, all members were able to improve on their starting techniques, racing strategies, teamwork and communication, all while keeping it fun and friendly.

While part of the Squad were away racing in Interclub Challenge events, remaining Squad members continued training at NCYC where we focused on developing skills around symmetrical spinnakers. Squad members had varying levels of experience with using kites but we saw a great camaraderie around sharing knowledge and skill. With help from experienced Squad members sharing knowledge, providing demonstrations and



advice, the entire squad now has confidence when flying a spinnaker.

The Interclub Challenge events were a great opportunity for our squad to build on their racing and further their teamwork skills. Each week, 10-12 sailors were selected to represent NCYC. These sailors travelled to the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, or the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club. After four weekends of great sailing in some tricky conditions, the Squad was able to secure the title and win the series for another year.

More experienced members of the Squad were selected to train for the Youth Match Racing Regatta at the CYCA. This saw our selected athletes being introduced to additional racing rules and more advanced manoeuvres. Our Match Racing members spent their weeks at NCYC working on their teamwork, starting techniques and covering the tactics and skills that are essential in Match Racing.

The Youth Match Racing Regatta saw our team place 6th overall, a great result considering that for many of the team it was their first introduction to competitive match racing. The Squad showed incredible teamwork and resilience throughout the day and learned a lot from their experience. They were then able to bring this back to the Squad at NCYC.

The final week of training in some friendly competition among each other. The Squad was lucky enough to have a race committee join them for their last week and host a mini regatta. It saw five boats racing against one another, dealing with mixed conditions throughout the day. Almost every boat won at least one.

Throughout the program, each one of the Squad members increased their understanding of keelboat handling and became more confident with their sailing.



This year we decided to run our squad training solely from the Elliott 6s, instead of both the Force 24s and Elliotts. It afforded the Squad a more challenging and fast paced experience, while being able to equally compete with one another.

From here, the Squad now has the opportunity to compete in NCYC's Youth League in Spring. The League offers the chance to improve on racing skills, and build teamwork among crews while also improving boat handling and speed.

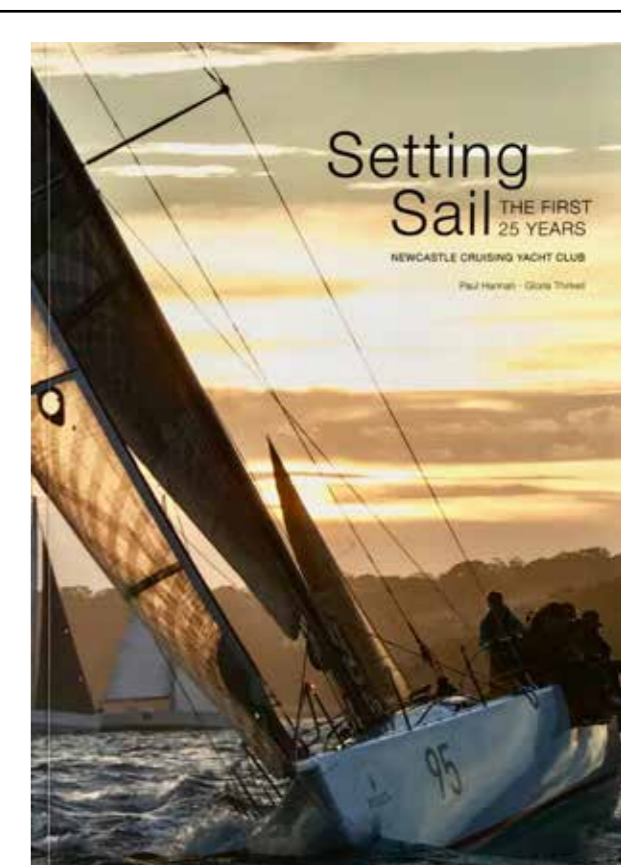
NCYC would like to once again thank the Hunter Academy of Sport for their partnership with us for our 2023 Youth Keelboat Squad.

We are looking forward to welcoming a new group of athletes into our Youth Squad in April 2024.

– Georgia Steenson



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or Marina Administration Office



### George Goodenough

My name is George Goodenough and I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to be in the position I am now here at the NCYC. However, the path to where I am now would be nothing without a little about how I got here, and the strong friendships and experiences I've had through the past 10 years of travelling all over the world.

Travel has always held a special place in my heart, an unquenchable curiosity that propels me to traverse the globe in search of new experiences. From the moment I first stepped onto foreign soil, I was captivated by the intoxicating blend of cultures, landscapes, and flavours that awaited me.

The mere thought of packing a suitcase and embarking on a new adventure sends a surge of excitement coursing through my veins, igniting a sense of anticipation that never wanes. Every journey is an opportunity to delve into the unknown, to peel back the layers of a destination and uncover its hidden gems. I find solace in the unfamiliar, comfort in the chaos of bustling markets, and joy in the spontaneity of exploration.

Whether it's the ancient ruins of a historical site, the bustling energy of a vibrant city, or the serenity of a secluded natural wonder, each destination adds a vibrant hue to the canvas of my travel memories.

As I navigate through bustling streets or hike along untrodden paths, I relish the connections I make with people along the way. The shared laughter with locals, the exchanged stories with fellow travellers, and the fleeting yet meaningful encounters that remind me of our shared humanity – they all contribute to the tapestry of my travel experiences. These interactions not only enrich my adventures but also remind me of the beauty in forging connections across cultures.

My interest in travel isn't just a hobby; it's a deeply ingrained part of who I am. It fuels my desire to step outside my comfort zone, challenge preconceptions, and embrace the beauty of the unfamiliar. With each passport stamp, I am reminded of the vastness of our world and the infinite opportunities for exploration that lie before me.

But beyond the personal fulfillment, my love for travel has kindled a sense of responsibility; a commitment to sustainable and respectful exploration. I aim to tread lightly, leaving behind only footprints and taking with me a profound appreciation for the environments and communities I encounter.



Above: George Goodenough, Clubhouse Duty Manager.  
Below: Zoe Harrison, Junior Sous Chef.

In the end I'm happy to have settled in Newcastle. My interest in travel isn't just about collecting passport stamps, it's about collecting moments, stories and connections that shape the narrative of my life. It's a journey of self-discovery, an odyssey of growth, and a testament to the remarkable power of wanderlust. Although my times travelling from one place to the next every couple of months have come to an end, I look forward to putting everything I have learned and experienced into my role at the Club to help continue to grow and improve the Club.



### Matisse Davey

Growing up in Fremantle, Western Australia, Matisse's fondest memories from her childhood were going out at sunrise with her grandad on their family boat, collecting lobsters and crays from their pots out in the ocean. The early morning wake-ups to do this weren't her favourite thing, however she loved the joy of bringing home fresh seafood and cooking up a storm for her family. This is where Matisse's love for food began.

Matisse would spend her school holidays attending cooking classes where she'd take her new knowledge home and create her own restaurant in her dining room where she'd play the role of hostess, waitress and chef all in one! In 2013, Matisse moved to Newcastle with her Mum and fell in love with Newcastle's food culture! She especially loved how similar Newcastle was to her hometown of Fremantle. Matisse found joy in sharing her food experiences with others and, at 17, started working in the hospitality industry.

Since then, Matisse has had many excellent opportunities to learn new skills to apply to her current work, network with others in her industry, and attend many incredible luncheons that Newcastle and the Hunter have to offer.

Matisse firmly believes that although the food is lovely, it's even better when paired with an excellent customer service experience.

Matisse joined NCYC in late October 2022 and has since been presented with a promotion to Restaurant and Functions Supervisor.

Matisse loves working alongside Rebecca Frost and their team to create beautiful experiences for NCYC guests. Matisse is very passionate about passing her industry knowledge on to her staff and takes pride in spending one-on-one time with her team to further expand their knowledge and training.

When Matisse isn't at work, she's studying a Bachelor of Primary Education at the University of Newcastle or travelling the world to experience food in other cultures. In fact, she's just booked her next adventure to South Korea next year, where she's very excited to try the best food Seoul has to offer.



Matisse Davey, Functions & Restaurant Supervisor.

### Zoe Harrison

At 23 years old, Zoe has dedicated the past seven years of her life to her chef career. Since a young age, she has fond memories of baking cookies and cupcakes with her grandmas, learning old European recipes passed down from her grandparents, and teaching herself recipes found in her parents' magazines and newspapers as she discovered her passion for food.

Not only has the culinary world gifted her knowledge and skills she will hold forever, but her closest friends and fiancé. Zoe has had a passion for competitive cooking since she was an apprentice, and just over a year ago she represented NSW regional at the National Nestlé Golden Chef's Hat final in Melbourne. Unfortunately, she did not bring home a win, but the event strengthened her drive to learn and better herself as a chef.

The opportunity to work her way to Junior Sous Chef at NCYC has been significant to her growth in her career. Over the last year at NCYC, Zoe has been able to work with fresh local seafood and ingredients to evolve her own personal style of cooking while also progressing on her culinary journey, learning new skills and techniques from Executive Chef, Luke Carpenter. Zoe was born and bred in Newcastle but hopes to one day extend her craft and challenge herself overseas, furthering her training and abilities as a professional chef.

## Laser Euro Masters

Well, it was cold in winter last year, and a few Aussies were contemplating their mostly annual trip for the European regatta season. Sailing in the south of Europe, be it on the Med or in the Atlantic, is well worth the time.

The standout event was the European Masters in Spain. Travel from Australia is a 20-hour plane flight (not so inviting) but some time in Europe was a strong incentive.

My wife was keen as she links up with the other wives who attend the event and arranges tourist/shopping adventures while I go sailing. There are quite a number of women who compete in the fleet as well. The event usually attracts around 300 to 400 sailors, so big fleet skills are an advantage.

Travel was to Dubai and then onto Barcelona and finally a trip down the coast to the Costa Brava on the Mediterranean Coast in Spain. We caught a train from the main train station in Barcelona to L'Escala, a little Spanish town close to the yacht club, and then a taxi to the coast.

In Europe, the yacht club makes sure they have accommodation for sailors at the right price close to the event. We arrived a few days early and I picked up my charter boat from Marcon Sailing from a friendly French guy called Poopy who only spoke French and was also sailing in the event. Charter boats are easy in Europe from a number of dealers, at reasonable prices. We investigated the places to buy provisions and local restaurants which were nearby and the usual meeting places. It's a great opportunity to go out with the other sailors and their wives to socialise – it's a very friendly group.

There are a few days for measurement and a practice race to get to know the course area, allowing you to make sure your boat measures and behaves how you prefer. After that, it's six days of racing.

In such a big regatta, the organisation for rigging and getting onto the water is always going to require a lot of tricky manoeuvring. Day 1 was a welcome ceremony and European hospitality in the main building and provided a good chance to get to know everybody.

The first three days of sailing saw 12 to 15 knots of wind where we were able to complete two heats each day. The last three days saw stronger winds and required a bit of a gear change to stay warm on the water. After racing it was an easy walk back to the apartment for



a hot shower and then out for dinner with fellow Euro sailors.

These are big fleets by Australian numbers, but the racing is well organised, and the sailors are the best sailors from all the European countries and US, so the sailors are well behaved. The rules are followed closely, so you need to know the rules well when 20 boats are approaching a mark close alongside each other.

I had fantastic racing against several other sailors who came from Spain, UK and the US. The Spanish sailor had won the gold medal in the 1996 Olympics and was able to coax a lot of speed from his sails. The US sailor was not as fast, but a great tactical sailor and always seemed to be on the right side of the course.

My friend and fellow Aussie sailor was constantly leading the fleet and sailed very well and has gone on to win a number of World Master Championships. Both he and I won our fleets and were awarded the gold medal, but more importantly it was a great regatta and great trip for Australians on the other side of the world.

Footnote: The 2023 Euro Masters was held in France in September. They put me, an Aussie, in the poster ... yikes!



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## Are you 'boat ready'?

As the sailing season approaches, it's important to check your safety equipment and make sure that you and your vessel are Boat Ready.

There are a few things to remember when getting boat ready. It's the skipper's responsibility to ensure they are carrying the required safety equipment, maintained and in good working order, on their vessel when out on the water. It's important for all crew members to ensure that the safety equipment carried is in good condition, is in date, and each item meets the appropriate specifications and standards.

This includes checking that the lifejackets are maintained and serviced regularly in accordance with manufacturer specifications, to ensure you and your crew and passengers can rely on them if you ever need to. If any safety gear has passed its expiry date, it needs to be serviced or replaced before heading out on the water.

The minimum safety equipment you must carry depends on your type of vessel and whether you're planning to spend time on open or enclosed waters. Make sure you are familiar with the safety equipment requirements



for your vessel, and type of trip. You can find a list of the minimum safety equipment requirements at [lifejacketwearit.com.au](http://lifejacketwearit.com.au). Before setting out, make sure you check in with Marine Rescue NSW via their easy-to-use App and ensure that you have a number of ways to make contact if help is required.

We all know there's a lot to organise heading into the sailing season. Make some time to check your equipment, service your lifejackets and refresh your knowledge on minimum safety equipment requirements to ensure that you have a safe and enjoyable time on the water. Enjoy your sailing!

## Are you prepared with lifejackets?

Make sure your lifejacket is serviced and in good working order, remember, it can only save your life if you're wearing it.

PLAN ○ PREPARE ○ PREDICT



Visit [lifejacketwearit.com.au](http://lifejacketwearit.com.au) to plan your day and prepare for common risks



Two major events happened recently – the yearly SAREX (Search & Rescue Exercise), and our move to the new base at Stockton.

Saturday, 29 July, saw SAREX take place. Throughout NSW the Marine Area Command

(MAC) Water Police hold these events to support Marine Rescue's ongoing training to ensure our ability to conduct/assist in searches for missing boats or people. This year, Lake Macquarie hosted the event with six Marine Rescue (offshore) vessels on task and a number of both Marine Rescue and Surf Life Saving NSW jetskis and drones.

MAC has an amazing tracking system and drift measuring devices to aid preparing the onwater searching and help, as far as possible, for us to be looking in the right area for a missing boat and/or person. Keeping to recommended tracks during the search is a priority.

Although the sea conditions were favourable, all deployed devices and dummies retrieved and the Police were very impressed with the outcome. In addition, our radio operators were involved in the support and retrieval of radio and other communication from the public, police, and emergency services to update the situation room, so an ongoing flow of data and input is available for those in command.

On the Sunday, a full debrief was held at the Swansea RSL with briefs from all involved and a very welcome Q&A session.

### NEW MARINE RESCUE NEWCASTLE BASE

About a month ago, our radio base moved from the NCYC Commercial Centre to our amazing new base at Stockton.

Our unit has been somewhat of hermits over the past six or seven years since our base was damaged on Shephards Hill in a serious southerly buster.

The building, as you can see in the picture below, is state of the art, with a modern radio room capable of covering any emergency, and a comprehensively equipped Training Room.

This will be used for regional training for our organisation as well as making the room available to other emergency services for their training and possibly renting the room out to various training for the general public type of organisations.



Above: The new Marine Rescue Newcastle base at Stockton is equipped to tackle any emergency and has purpose-built training facilities.

### ALWAYS LOOKOUT FOR SEAGOING SHIPS

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

Before heading out check the Daily Vessel Movements at [portauthority.com.au/lookoutnewcastle](http://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](http://portauthority.com.au/lookoutnewcastle)



### Kayak Frame

This is the frame of a Canadian Kayak, made of Douglas Fir, more commonly known as Oregon timber in Australia. It is a very light timber and perfect for light weight vessels. This frame appears never to have been covered in canvas, which was traditionally stretched over the frame and painted, though little is known about the history of this particular frame. It was purchased from Curve, a Newcastle art gallery. The gallery owner bought it from someone who picked it up from the side of the road during a council kerbside collection.

It is a beautiful piece of workmanship and looks very attractive hung in The Retreat.

If you know anything more about this type of vessel, or where this frame may have originally come from, please send the information to [janhoward@bigpond.com](mailto:janhoward@bigpond.com)



Newcastle will make its debut as a host of the Clipper 2023-24 Race in early January 2024, featuring as part of Leg 4 from Fremantle and providing crews some well-deserved rest, relaxation and good old NCYC hospitality.

The fleet is expected to arrive between 1-4 January, so crews and supporters will get to celebrate the New Year in the city's bustling metropolis. It's an opportunity to soak up the region's beaches, bars and spectacular Hunter Valley wine region.

Paul O'Rourke, CEO at the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club, said: "We are delighted to host the Clipper Race stopover as it will help showcase both the sport of sailing to our city, and our beautiful harbour city to the world."

After several days of soaking up everything the city and coastline has to offer, the Clipper Race fleet will depart the NCYC on 10 January to take on the final race of Leg 4 up to Airlie Beach, Whitsundays ready to be greeted by tropical waters and beautiful scenery.

### Save the Dates

27 Oct	Westpac Rescue Helicopter Regatta
7 Nov	Melbourne Cup function
11-12 Nov	Port Stephens Weekend
25 Nov	Hunter 100
25-26 Nov	She Sails Regatta
17 Dec	Christmas Sail
1-10 Jan	Clipper Stopover
5-7 April	SailFest (inc Aust Yachting C'ships)
15-20 April	Sail Port Stephens Passage Series
26-28 April	Sail Port Stephens W/L Series
3-5 May	Sail Port Stephens Bay Series

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





# NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB

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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

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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!

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[ncyc.net.au/junior-tackers-sailing-7-12yrs](http://ncyc.net.au/junior-tackers-sailing-7-12yrs)**