

# thirty two° fifty five

newcastle cruising  
yacht club journal

WINTER 2022

Centre of Excellence

On-water safety

REGATTA WRAPS

SailFest Newcastle

Sail Port Stephens



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**A quarterly publication**

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**NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB**  
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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.



**NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB**

Editor: Ethan Tucker  
 Design: Promocean Media

Cover Image: *Ichi Ban*, SailFest Newcastle TP52 Gold Cup  
 Photo by Salty Dingo



Welcome to all our readers, and thank you to all our contributors who've taken the time to write articles for us. It's great to share club news, and updates from our members. Thank you also to our editor Ethan for putting it all together in this very readable format.

I hope you enjoy it!

We have had lots of sailing events on over the past few months, where NCYC has either hosted (SailFest) or been well represented (Sail Port Stephens, Women's Keelboat Regatta Mooloolaba, Australian Women's Keelboat Regatta in Geelong, Keepit Cool Regatta, and more).

It has also been confirmed that NCYC will be hosting the Australian Yachting Championships in 2024 which is great recognition for our club.

Our Cruising Division have a number of their fleet heading north to explore the eastern seaboard in July. We certainly hope they have a great adventure, and we look forward to their updates.

The Lobbs (Paul and Alison) have already left NCYC on their own journey north and are exploring the Queensland coast. Their Facebook page and YouTube Channel have kept us updated and entertained – just as they promised to do!

Our financial year end has closed at the end of March and the audited accounts will be presented to the Board at the end of June. This will be posted on our website early in July.

Australian Sailing has recently rolled out its new Strategic Plan for 2022-2032, and the Board has updated our own Plan to ensure that we are aligned and taking advantages of new initiatives to support the growth of our sport.

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback for us in the last Members' Survey. Highlights of the Strategic Plan, and Survey will be presented at the Annual General Meeting for members in August.

It is great to see our members enjoying the new, 'bigger and better' clubhouse. It's hard to believe that we have had this facility less than a year, because already it feels like it's been there forever. I hope you get more time on the water as we come out the other side of winter.

Keep safe and well.



– Steve Rae

  
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Autumn was a fantastic time at the NCYC with great club sailing, major events, and a busy licensed club.

The Inshore fleets, Laser fleets, RC fleet, and Short Ocean Point Score all had strong participation. The Sailing Academy continues to be very busy, including a new Veterans program.

Restaurant and Function trade was extremely hectic. The clubs signature event, SailFest, was another huge success with the largest fleet of TP52s assembled in Australia.

It was so successful we have been granted hosting rights for the Australian Yachting Championship at SailFest 2024. We also hosted the Farr 40 Nationals, and Laser Masters in the Bay. Our Race Management team and Keelboat Teams also made significant contributions to Sail Port Stephens. The Newcastle Gamefishing Club hosted another great tournament.

Winter has seen a good offshore short ocean pointscore fleet racing every Sunday, a Laser training camp planned in the Bay, and touring teams headed to regattas all around the country.

Our youth team and Women's High-performance team are achieving great results after some quality coaching clinics.

We have four boats lining up for Sydney to Gold Coast Race. *Mako* will continue on the Whitsundays to represent the Club at Airlie Beach Race Week, Hamilton Island Race Week, and Magnetic Island Race week. The Cruising Division also have several boats also headed to North Queensland for the Winter for a few months.



Photo: Salty Dingo

*"It was so successful we have been granted hosting rights for the Australian Yachting Championship at SailFest 2024"*

I look forward to seeing everyone at this year's Annual Presentation Dinner on 23rd July. After two years of cancellation, we plan to make this one extra special. We plan to start the new boating season with Founders Day on Sunday 11th September.

– Paul O'Rourke

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Community Organization

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NEWCASTLE CRUISING  
YACHT CLUB

## Club Captain's Report



The past three months has seen a steady increase in NCYC membership applications.

The new kiosk-style registration machines at Reception allow Social and Crew Members to join 'on the spot', pending Board and Member approval. Applications for General Membership require a paper application with nomination and

seconding by a current General Member.

At 24th May, NCYC had 1223 members, up 406 since July 2020. Sixty five new membership applications were presented at the May Board meeting, 57 of which were for Social Membership.

We would like those folk who use our club regularly, to become Members. Introductory memberships, which cost just \$20, are also popular and approximately one-

third of these convert to permanent Memberships.

The Social Committee has been busy preparing for the Winter Solstice Dinner on June 21st and Presentation Night on July 23rd. They're also arranging to have the framed burgees restored and placed in the bar, restaurant, and The Foredeck. They are also considering options for decorating the walls of the Retreat, and The Regatta Room.

The Cruising Fleet have enjoyed an Easter cruise to Port Stephens, attendance at the Gold Coast Boat Show, and they are looking forward to the annual Luskintyre Flying Week, June 25-26.

The Board has been reviewing the Dress Code for NCYC, and writing a policy around pets on NCYC. These matters will be finalised at the June Board Meeting.

– Jan Howard

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5.5% ALC/VOL  
SUPER DRY DARK LAGER



The clubhouse had a busy autumn this year with strong trade continuing and several key events.

We hosted the annual Newcastle Game Fishing Club tournament while simultaneously hosting the Farr 40 National Championship Regatta this year. Both were successful and it was great to be able to accommodate

dual events as well as regular trade, thanks to our new extensions. Our SailFest regatta was another big hit, which created a buzz around Newcastle.

As we had to cancel our 'Members Christmas Party' in December due to COVID, we made up for it with our 'Members Summer Party'. With over 200 members attending, drinks specials, live music with a full dance floor, and a grand feast put on by Executive Chef Luke Carpenter and his team at Nautica Dining, the event was definitely one to remember.



We participated in Newcastle Food Month during April, with Nautica Dining entering its dish of steamed black mussels with chorizo, garlic, basil, tomato, served with sourdough and a glass of Drayton's wine, which was well received and sought after by the Newcastle community.

Nautica Dining also entered the ClubsNSW Perfect Plate Awards with a dish of Pan-roasted Daintree Barramundi, roast cauliflower, satay spices, peanuts, pomegranate, and herbs. Perfect Plate judge and star of *My Kitchen Rules*, Colin Fassnidge, visited NCYC to taste Luke's barramundi dish. He gave it "a definite five out of five stars". The finalists and winners of the Perfect Plate Competition will be announced late July.

Our Member Master Classes have commenced with BentSpoke Brewing hosting our first class for 2022. The members that attended enjoyed themselves and had a great time learning about BentSpoke and sampling their vast range of craft beers (pictured).

We have also been hosting our NCYC Gold Lounge

Movie Nights, where members and their guests join us in The Retreat to watch a sailing-themed movie or documentary. Many members have enjoyed dinner, drinks and complementary popcorn.

What a time to be a member of NCYC! No wonder over 350 new Members have joined NCYC since we reopened in October last year.

– Matthew Stamp

## Romesco sauce

### Recipe from Nautica Dining

#### Ingredients

- 100g blanched almonds
- 200g roasted capsicum (you can roast yourself, or buy roasted)
- 1 garlic clove
- 1 tbsp rice wine vinegar, plus extra to season (optional)
- 1 tsp smoked paprika
- 50ml olive oil

#### Method

- STEP 1  
Toast the almonds in a frying pan for 3-4 mins, or until golden and smell toasted. Shake the pan often to turn them. Remove from pan and leave to cool.
- STEP 2  
Drain the red peppers, and tip into a blender or food processor with the almonds, garlic, rice wine vinegar, and smoked paprika, then blitz to a chunky paste.
- STEP 3  
With the motor still on, slowly drizzle in the olive oil to emulsify. A bit of texture works well for this rather than blending to a smooth consistency. Season well, adding a little more rice wine vinegar to taste.
- STEP 4  
Enjoy on with a cheese board or with some crackers on a Sunday afternoon.





What a packed few months! I hardly know where to start ...

First, I'd like to welcome Hugo Hamilton to the marina team. Hugo joins us from the Sailing Academy, where he's an instructor, and will work as a part-time dockmaster while he continues at University of Newcastle, studying a Bachelor

of Construction Management (Building) (Honours). SailFest saw the TP52s come to NCYC and stay with us until the race to Port Stephens. They looked great on the marina, and F-arm was a hive of activity with TP52 crew members as well as the ASL competitors all sailing out of the same dock.

Despite the poor weather, many more visitors joined us in the days following as SPS entrants prepared for the lead-in race to Sail Port Stephens. All events were very successful, and the marina was at near-capacity despite large swells.

The NCYC sailing, marketing and function teams did a fantastic job, and the smooth running of the events was a testament to their preparation and organisation.

In other news, a second Seabin has been installed on F-arm following the great success of the first model. For those not aware, the Seabin is like that of a pool skimmer, filtering rubbish debris from our marina. The deposits are collected by volunteers and then analysed, providing research data into the causes and sources of plastic in our waterways.

This data will help governments and organisations eliminate and mitigate pollution from entering our marine environment, hopefully leading to cleaner

oceans. Seabin is a great initiative, as benefitters and enjoyers of the water, we should be thankful. If you'd like to sign up as a volunteer for Seabin, please get in touch.

There has also been some disruptions to fuel operations and parking over the last month, with our regular tank testing indicating a possible internal shell failure of our diesel tank. Remediation works involved the removal of all fuel, cleaning of the tank internals and an investigation into any possible leaks.

Thankfully, no major issues were found. All diesel removed from the tank was polished and returned to the tank, ensuring NCYC can continue to provide top quality fuel. The absence of any major failures was most welcome, and I'd like to thank Loucra Contracting for their vigilant testing and tank maintenance routine.

As we are now truly in Winter – and boy does it feel like it – I suspect marina occupancy and turnover to slow, apart from the usual stopover of travellers heading north for the cooler months. We are also set to see some of our own occupants depart to warmer weather, including competing sailing vessels as well as our cruising fleet.

I'm sure, like me, you send them warm regards for their journey to a nicer climate while we stay here and frostily hold down the fort.

Boothy, Ethan and I will continue to look after and maintain the marina over the coming months as we continue our scheduled works throughout. If you notice anything that needs attention, please drop me an email. A reminder also that all marina cards expired on the 30th of June and can be updated at the front kiosk or marina office.

That's it from me, stay warm.

– 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](http://portauthority.com.au/lookoutnewcastle)
- > Keep monitoring the safety broadcast from Newcastle Harbour VTTIC (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.

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*Above: Action from the Academy Youth Development Regatta, with kids from OutThere and Tackers.*

As temperatures cool and daylight savings ends, Academy activities do slow a little, but not before we hosted two of our annual 'development regattas' for our graduates who have been with us over the summer!

Our Academy Youth Development Regatta, held on Saturday 23rd April, was a great success with our Force 24 keelboats filled with our kids from the OutThere Sailing, and Tackers programs. A great day of learning to race (a first for many) in very varied conditions! We saw some fantastic sailing skills, but most impressively was the sportsmanship, and comradery displayed on-water. Many of the regatta participants have gone on to coaching in our Winter keelboat development squad.

The fourth Academy Graduates Development Regatta was held two weeks later, with again a sell out of participants on the Force 24s. It was so pleasing to see our course participants put their newfound skills and knowledge into practice in an around-the-buoys event. Many took on the challenge of using spinnakers for the first time following a training session by Academy instructors in the morning.

Thank you to all regatta participants, race volunteers, and our instructing team for making these two end of season events so much fun! We already have dates set for 2023 – so mark them in your diaries!

- **2023 SheSAILS@NCYC Development Regatta Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th March**
- **2023 Academy Youth Development Regatta Saturday 22nd April**
- **2023 Academy Graduates Development Regatta – Saturday 6th May**

We were pleased to be able to finally welcome Lily Barlow from 'She Can Fix It' to run a Diesel Maintenance Course for Women after our previous plans were impacted by COVID. From all reports, it was a fantastic course, lots of practical hands-on education to keep a diesel engine running. We are excited to have booked Lily for further courses in August, and we're also offering an open RYA Diesel Engine course on the 20th of August.

Senior Instructor Andrew 'Tosh' Omotosho is kept very busy during Autumn/Winter as we take the opportunity to run several instructor training courses to upskill our current team of awesome instructors as well as train our next generation of team members. We are so fortunate to have someone of Andrews skill and qualifications here at the Club which affords us this opportunity to deliver these courses at NCYC without our team having to go to Sydney.

Sailing is still happening within the Academy with our Friday Women's Sailing, and Start Crewing, and Start Helming courses running all year, and we still host several school sailing programs, and our monthly Veteran's Sailing.

Our 2022/23 course schedule has been planned, and most courses are already open and taking registrations. Please follow links under the 'Academy' tab on our website. We're looking forward to another busy Spring and Summer!

– Jacqueline Ellis



I'm pleased to report that we've now enjoyed an entire Summer sailing season in our new and improved clubhouse.

The location of the old kitchen was cleared out and has effectively become our new home base for all sailing activities in 'The Foredeck.' We've also had countless opportunities to utilise the

upstairs spaces both the Bridge (meeting/training room) and the Retreat (members lounge) for Members Masterclasses.

Since our last magazine, we've gone through our busiest racing period of the annual calendar. In the space of just four weeks from mid-March to mid-April, our volunteer Race Management Team delivered five major regattas here at Newcastle, and six major regattas at Port Stephens and our Bay Sailing Centre.

It all started with the SheSails Development Regatta at Newcastle followed by the Farr 40 Australian Championship. We then strolled straight into SailFest with the TP52 Gold Cup, Transport for NSW Offshore Championship, and the Sailing Champions League Asia Pacific finals series.

Just a week later we had 50 yachts entered for our annual Newcastle to Port Stephens race while simultaneously running a fleet of 30 RS Aeros at the Bay Sailing Centre. Our volunteers stayed with us and helped deliver Sail Port Stephens including the off the beach component at Bay Sailing Centre that included



the NSW Tasar State Championships, the former Olympic Finn class, and the windsurfers and raceboard classes.

We then made it back to Newcastle in time to run both the Youth and the Academy Graduates Development Regattas. These Development Regattas are an opportunity for individuals who have participated in our Sailing Academy courses to come back and take part in a regatta in a team made up of other course graduates and one of our instructors. This is a stepping stone as we start to bridge the gap between learn to sail courses and regular crewing opportunities.

I was enlightened to see us in a position where we were able to bring along instructors and resources to provide free TrySailing for kids at both the SailFest Newcastle Regatta and Sail Port Stephens. The Tackers classes

look fantastic with "masses of laughter and bright colours" being the key descriptive words for the community based activities.

Amidst all the end of season and regatta hype, we also found time to forge a new allegiance that will see our sport of sailing return to the Hunter Academy of Sport. Participation has doubled to 35 this year on last (16), which had doubled on the year before that (8). The partnership has proven to instil confidence in the quality of our program, and offers participants of our Youth Keelboat Squad





opportunities to attend specialist masterclasses and training sessions with specialised professionals in key areas that will help them understand the help available if they choose to pursue an athlete pathway as a high performance sailor.

As we progress through winter and our annual sailing season draws to a close, there's a few things I'm looking forward to...

First of all, we'll see our supersized youth keelboat squad compete in the Interclub Challenge - a combined youth competition between the four major clubs NCYC, CYCA, RPAYC, and RSYS. Essentially, it's a traveling series for four consecutive Sundays where each club sends two teams to each race day contested on the host club's fleet. We are the defending champions having won the Interclub Challenge Cup from the CYCA who have held it since 2017, and we're keen to have back in our trophy cabinet for another year running!

Second, we're nearing completion of our new Sailing Centre of Excellence opposite the Clubhouse at Newcastle. This will present a greater capacity for one design racing and offer fantastic opportunities moving forward.

Third, I'm looking forward to seeing our local offshore keelboat fleet grow to the biggest it has ever been. With strong twilight participation throughout daylight savings, we're now seeing an entry list of 20 yachts for the Winter Short Ocean Pointscore that will promise tonnes of banter and camaraderie between competitors.

I'm also looking forward to what will be our first Sailing Presentation Night since 2019 having missed the past two years due to COVID restrictions. The evening has been locked in for Saturday, 23rd July.

Finally, I'm looking forward to joining many locals in

getting up to Hamilton Island for Race Week this year. While not my first-time racing at Hammo, it will be my first time being there for Race Week – albeit in a Race Management role this time around.

It's with great pleasure that I congratulate you on yet another season on the water and, as always, thank you, Newcastle.

– Jack Buchan | Sailing Manager



## 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](mailto:sailingacademy@ncyc.net.au)

## Centre of Excellence

### Introducing... our soon to be launched Sailing Centre of Excellence!

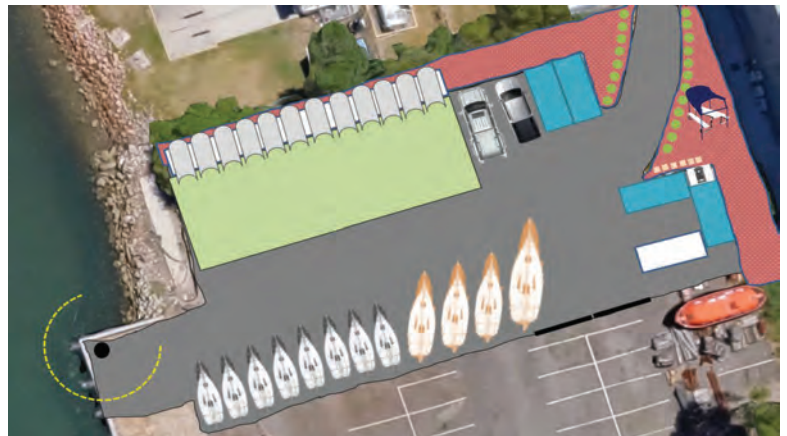
It's been a pipedream for a long time, however, we're now in the final stages of establishing this game-changing hardstand base for our trailable and off-the-beach sailing activities.

For several years now, we've enjoyed a positive relationship with Thales and have utilised their hardstand area to base our fleet of Elliott 6 inshore keelboats. However, with our newfound independence, we will be able to truly take advantage of the waterfront access by developing the waterfront to provide easy pontoon access to launch the Lasers, as well as a permanent crane facility to launch our Elliott 6 fleet rather than the hire cranes we've been forced to use since launching the fleet in 2019.

We'll also have a hardstand home for all our powerboats and their trailers, as well as a purpose-built workshop to complement our comprehensive maintenance program as well as accommodating the newly started Men's Shed team who have been performing weekly maintenance tasks with us.

Our struggle for hardstand space has existed for over a decade since the Etchells raced here in Easter 2010, and then returned again with a 35-boat strong fleet in 2011. Even before that, Newcastle Yachting began importing the Dart SB3 trailer yachts in 2007, and racing them on Thursday afternoons and on Sundays.

The desire for a hardstand was strong. The harbour, and even Stockton Bight in the right conditions, offered great locations for small keelboat racing. The only remaining hurdle was a home for the boats – as for many, a trailer yacht represents an opportunity to own,



"With our newfound independence, we will be able to truly take advantage of the waterfront access ..."

and campaign a small keelboat without the ongoing marina fees, and annual antifoul costs.

The club had acquired a taste for one-design racing. Initially, this began in 2011 with the Laser dinghy racing launching from the Honeysuckle end of the marina. More recently, there has been the acquisition of the Elliott 6 inshore keelboat fleet.

The vision from the club management has always remained the same – an accessible hardstand, and launching area for one design keelboat, and dinghy racing based out of a parcel of unused waterfront hardstand at the Thales (formerly Forgacs) Shipyard at Carrington.





That same waterfront hardstand, directly opposite the Club, will now be the site of our new Sailing Centre of Excellence. It's a big undertaking, and it is a big forward step for the future of one-design racing at our club.

We've been working on this development for some time now. With financial assistance provided by NSW Government, our new site will include a maintenance workshop and sail storage containers, hardstand, and fixed crane to launch our fleet of one-design Elliott 6 inshore keelboats, as well as an artificial grass rigging area, and storage racking for the one-design Laser, and dinghy fleets adjacent to a floating pontoon to launch and retrieve the boats from.

One-design is a form of racing where all boats are virtually identical or similar. The boats race one another without any handicap calculations. All the boats start at the same time, and the winner is the first to cross the finish line.

It becomes a sailing race, rather than a competition of who can afford the biggest or fastest yacht. For this reason, one-design racing forms a big part of our higher performance coaching platform and our in-house member-based League competitions.

As we move through winter, and into spring, you can expect to see, and hear more about activities happening across the water at our new Sailing Centre of Excellence.



*Above: The new Centre of Excellence will provide convenient storage, rigging and launching for NCYC's fleet of Elliott 6 inshore keelboats, Lasers and powerboats.*

The annual SailFest Newcastle Regatta was created in 2019 to be a celebration of all things sail – both on the Harbour, and off our beaches. It rekindles the historic Newcastle Regatta, first held in 1845, and evokes the maritime traditions of Australia’s oldest export port while showcasing modern sailing technology.

The headline act is the TP52 Gold Cup that attracts a star-studded fleet from Sydney ... the hottest TP52 showdown outside Europe’s 52 Super Series. They race offshore alongside our offshore IRC and PHS fleets.

The Sailing Champions League Asia Pacific finals series runs in inshore keelboats at Honeysuckle, and Port Hunter 16ft Sailing Club runs the historic Cock of the Harbour race that crowns the fastest sailing vessel on Newcastle Harbour which remains one of the oldest trophies in Australian sailing.

At the same time, families can also enjoy a Try-Sailing experience in the sheltered waters of Throsby Basin, Carrington. A free initiative, it allows budding sailors (ages 6 – 12years) to learn a new skill aboard a NCYC’s Tackers dinghy.

Day one of SailFest was... slow! A good story is supposed to have what English teachers call a sizzling start, but the wind gods had other ideas for the Race 1 of the SailFest Newcastle Regatta Offshore Series, supported by City of Newcastle, and Transport for NSW. Instead, the nine competing TP52s, and 18 yachts all idled out of Newcastle Harbour in a zephyr, entertaining only a solitary seal that was kicking back on a shipping buoy. The second chapter, however, was completely different as a 15- to 20-knot easterly appeared from thin air and glum skies.

Among the nine TPs however, a lone Farr 31 found its way into the pack. Having started 5 minutes later

than the TP fleet, the hot IRC competitor made like a lightweight and cruised ahead of its own fleet and into the TP fleet. This impressive feat wasn’t to last long though because on the horizon there was a very dark gust edging toward the parked up fleet off Nobbys.

Suddenly, the fleet sprang to life in the offshore passage race, with the crew on *Smuggler* cottoning onto the breeze line first. They popped a chute and rocketed down the reach off Newcastle’s beaches, leaving the others in a cloud of spray.

*Ichi Ban* (Matt Allen) unfurled the Code Zero and headed off in hot pursuit, leading a bunched pack that unleashed speeds of almost 20 knots in the confused seastate. *Ichi Ban* grabbed the lead when *Smuggler’s* spinnaker tore, then Matthew Donald’s *Gweilo* found a passing lane to edge its way in front. Matt Allen’s hardened crew were having none of that, finding an extra gear upwind to cross the Harbour finish line three minutes ahead of *Gweilo*, with David Doherty’s *Matador* third, just 20 seconds ahead of fourth-placed *Celestial*.

The race was close in Division 1. *MWF Woteva* came in ahead of the pack followed by *Anger Management*. *Get it On* came in moments ahead of *SoFarr*, having tussled the whole way around the racetrack. Then there was a tight finish with *Mako*, *51st Project* and *She’s the Culprit* all crossing the finish line within 11 seconds of one another.

Day two brought another three windward/leeward races along with the challenges of variable wind both in terms of strength and direction. Add to that the spotted showers that sent the humidity skyrocketing and the visibility plummeting.

Division 2 ultimately ended with *Ataraxia* taking home the gold, followed by *Pronto*, and *Nyssa*.

## 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



Above: *Marta Jean* was 3rd on IRC.

In Division 1, the series came down to a two-yacht tussle with Queenslander Gary Holt winning PHS aboard his Adams 10 *Get it On*, and the Farr 31 *SoFarr* taking the IRC result.

“We’ve put a new configuration into the boat – a new carbon rig, new sailplan, and a completely new rudder and rudder stock,” Holt said. “Michael Spies and Matt Allen put one together in Thailand and won everything. I bought that boat as well to race over there, which gave me the idea to do this.”

"After a lengthy hearing the committee deemed that *Ichi Ban* had contravened Rule 20.2c for not responding to a hail for room to tack ..."

On PHS, *Anger Management* claimed third, as did *Marta Jean* on IRC.

The TP52 results however saw the results overturned through a protest hearing that delayed their prizegiving ceremony with *Ichi Ban* being disqualified from the fourth and deciding race for a pre-start rule breach. Three protests were lodged by *Matador*, *Gweilo*, and *Ichi Ban*, which were held consecutively as they arose from the same incident just before the start, as the fleet bunched near the pin end of the line.

There was apparently slight contact between *Matador*, and the stern of *Ichi Ban*. After a lengthy hearing the committee deemed that *Ichi Ban* had contravened Rule 20.2c for not responding to a hail for room to tack as soon as possible. The disqualification tipped *Ichi Ban* out of first place in the series, *Gweilo* claiming victory and *Smuggler* moving up to second.



Above: NCYC team in the SCL Asia Pacific finals.

Under the TP52 class’s unique TPR handicap, *Matador* eclipsed *Smuggler* and *KOA* (Andy Kearnan/Peter Wrigley) while Sydney-Hobart combatants *Ichi Ban*, and *Celestial* were 8th and 9th respectively.

The Sailing Champions League Asia Pacific finals also wrapped up, with youth teams dominating. Mornington Yacht Club won the Under-22 series then triumphed in the Open final, bettering Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron on both counts. Race organisers managed 32 qualifying races plus finals. League director Mark Turnbull said the youth sailors were well suited to the format, with their dinghy-style sailing translating well to the keelboat format. “I haven’t seen another venue like this before either,” he added. “The fact that the Honeysuckle Hotel is right there and sailors can be entertained while not sailing makes for a great event.”

Line-honours in Port Hunter 16ft Skiff Club’s mixed-fleet Cock of the Harbour race went to the all-carbon Nacra F20 *Thunderbolt*, with Brett White and Kevin Winchester aboard, from a brace of F18 catamarans and a trio of solo-sailed Taipan 4.9 Sloops. Handicap honours went to the *VS Runaway*.

[www.sailfest.com.au](http://www.sailfest.com.au)

*SailFest Newcastle Regatta* is supported by City of Newcastle, Transport for NSW, and Steel City.









## Sail Port Stephens

The annual trip north to Sail Port Stephens happens just once a year... but when it does happen, we get to see a mammoth celebration of sailing!

It all starts in Newcastle, as the club's race to Port Stephens has consistently attracted an entry list of up to 50 yachts as a fun way to get there ... the concept being to cruise to Newcastle on Saturday, then race to Sail Port Stephens on Sunday.

This year saw a hot reach out the heads and a good breeze from behind to get the whole fleet up to Port Stephens in barely two hours; one of the quickest yet.

That's only the start, as Monday morning marks the official opening of Sail Port Stephens with the "cruisy" Commodore's Cup – three passage races over three days. The intention is that through those passage races we'll get to explore all of what Port Stephens has to offer including the islands, Salamander Bay, and even venture further west of Soldiers Point.

The breeze was light - making it challenging to get around the racetrack. Equally challenging to manage the racetrack for the suite of volunteers and officials participating in the event whose ultimate goal was to ensure that every boat would get a finish place. That meant shortening the course for some fleets and not others - and recording finishes in places that aren't intended to be the finish.

On the first day, there were clusters of 15-30 boats finishing side by side on an impromptu finish line that was more than a kilometer long. To get it right, there were plenty of spotters, plenty of binoculars, a small fleet of powerboats racing around catching sail numbers and sending by radio to the finish team, and some drone coverage to help in the really big clusters. Fortunately, when there is an omission or an error in the results, you can usually rely on the old strategy of publishing the imperfect results and counting on the competitors to come and help you fix it – even if that conversation begins with them telling you that you got it wrong.

Fortunately, the days that followed generally had enough breeze to keep the fleet moving around the racecourse. There were some divisions that were finished earlier around the track, meaning that just about every boat was given the opportunity to finish.

In the Commodore's Cup, Division 1 results saw Julian Bell's *51st Project* took second, and Mako Syndicate's *Mako* took third. In Division 2, Joe de Kock's *KD4* took first place and in Division Non-Spinnaker Making Waves Foundation's *MWF Woteva* took first place.

Friday to Sunday features what is called the Pantaenius

Cup. The weekend is where things got interesting this year. There was short and tall swell running offshore preventing racing from being delivered offshore. Instead, the Race Committee opted to keep the fleets inshore and race with the inshore passage fleets as much as possible.

Putting all the fleets together certainly made for a busy racetrack as competitors looked for gaps through the oncoming traffic as they rounded the top marks and began sailing downwind through all the other fleets.

The TP's managed to get a passage race to Broughton Island on Saturday given that inshore traffic was too congested to share the racetrack with them as well.

On Sunday, a lack of wind saw the final day of Sail Port Stephens abandoned on all courses including offshore, inshore, and off the beach.



In the Pantaenius Cup, NSW IRC Championship Division 3, Dale Sharp's *Sofarr* took second place overall. Meanwhile in Performance Cruising Division 1 Joe de Kock's *KD4* took third, and in Performance Cruising Division 4 Alison Burke and Simon Lund's *Lady A* took third as well.

In amongst all this action, a team of our Instructors towed our Tackers learn-to-sail boats from Bay Sailing Centre to Nelson Bay where they set up on the beach in the marina offering free try sailing for kids.

We also owe a big thanks to our volunteer teams who backed us up yet again having just delivered SailFest Regatta at Newcastle, they helped us deliver the Newcastle Port Stephens Race, Sail Port Stephens inshore and offshore, and off-the-beach regattas at Bay Sailing Centre including the RS Aero class, Finn class, Tasar class, and Windsurfer and raceboard classes.

[www.sailportstephens.com.au](http://www.sailportstephens.com.au)

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 as the sun sets, creating a warm, golden glow. The boat's deck, with various ropes and equipment, is visible in the foreground.

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Recently, Federal Member Sharon Clayton presented Volunteer Service Awards to seven of Marine Rescue Newcastle's members. These awards are issued yearly to many organisations, and we congratulate the recipients.

As seen in the picture, from left to right, are Don Roser, Rob Downie, Helen Carter, Federal Member Sharon Clayton, Wayne Bissett, Stuart Lawson, and Lynette Van Homrigh. The seventh recipient, Geraldine Allen couldn't attend the ceremony.

Many thanks to Ethan Hamilton from the *Newcastle Herald* for allowing the picture to be reproduced.

For those readers who collect your old cans and bottles and use the

'Return & Earn' system, we are pleased to advise that Marine Rescue Newcastle has been added to the number of volunteer organisations where you can donate your return money.

Once you have the app on your phone and registered your details, select 'charities', enter Marine Rescue then select Marine Rescue Newcastle. Your donations will go a long way in helping us to save lives on the water.



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Generally speaking, your judgement as a skipper gets better with experience, but even the most experienced boaters can face unexpected challenges.

As the skipper you are responsible for keeping not only yourself but your passengers safe, this means planning ahead and being prepared.

When we talk about judgement, we're talking about making good decisions regarding safety-related factors on the water that interact with each other – for example, how fast you are going, how much other traffic there is on the waterway, your vessel's capabilities and the weather and sea state conditions.

We're always exercising our judgement – automatically when things feel familiar and sometimes more consciously when we perceive potential risks. Good skippers can recognise common-water risks and manage them safely.

In the days leading up to your trip make sure your vessel is suitable for the conditions, ensuring you have enough safety equipment on board for you and your passengers and that they are in good working order, including lifejackets.

It's also important to regularly check the weather in the lead up to your trip. When you're out on the water always keep a proper lookout and continue to check for weather updates and any changes in the conditions.

Before you head out, Log On with Marine Rescue by calling your Marine Rescue NSW base on VHF Channel 16 or by using the free Marine Rescue App.

As we head into the cooler months, boaters should be aware of the dangers of cold water. Water temperatures below 15 degrees are considered dangerous and if you fall into cold water, cold shock can set in very quickly and you are at a high risk of catching hypothermia.

Wearing a lifejacket helps to manage cold shock, conserve energy and gives you time to get back into your vessel or wait for assistance to arrive.

A lifejacket can only save your life if it's in good working order. As lifejackets are exposed to the elements – heat, sun and salt, they can be easily subject to damage.

Always make sure your lifejackets are properly cared for. Inflatable lifejackets require extra care and must be regularly serviced as well as checked before each boating trip.

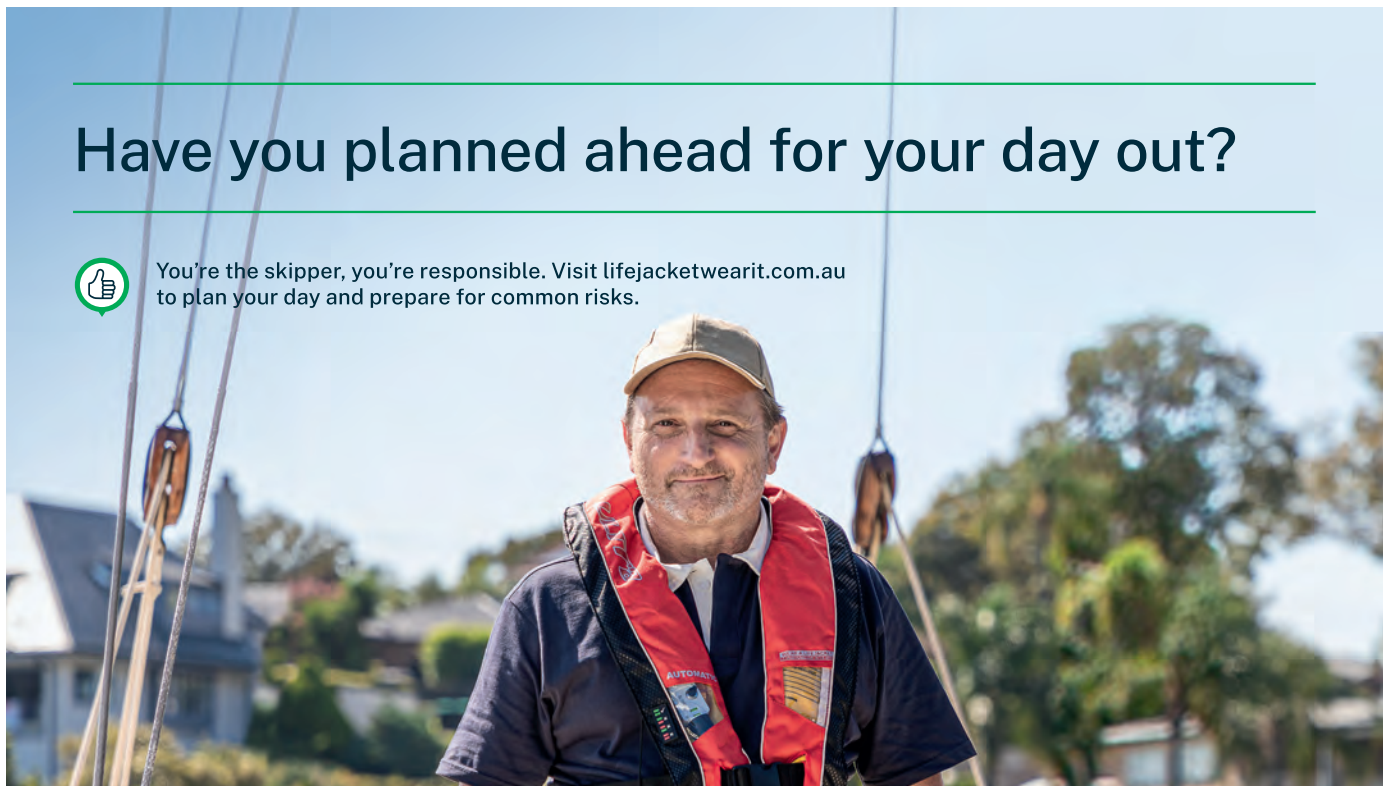
Visit [www.lifejacketwearit.com.au](http://www.lifejacketwearit.com.au) for lifejacket servicing and care tips.

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## Have you planned ahead for your day out?



You're the skipper, you're responsible. Visit [lifejacketwearit.com.au](http://lifejacketwearit.com.au) to plan your day and prepare for common risks.





Following the start of the NCYC Performance Sailing Program we were pleased to select three sailors to represent the club at the Mooloolaba She Sails Regatta on the QLD Sunshine Coast.

I raised my hand for the job of Coach come luggage carrier on hearing how stunning and

warm the location was. So, on Thursday 12th May, Alyson Gearing, Bel Davey, Ann Lindner, and I made our way excitedly down to Sydney to catch our first flight in two years. On arrival to Queensland, we made our way to our accommodation via a small diversion to the Local.

## \*Friday The 13th

The next morning was wet, wet, wet – relentless rain with some strong wind conditions, so the planned training was put on ice as NCYC's trio investigated the fleet of Elliott 6s and sized up the other seven teams, asking some subtle well-placed questions in regards to sailing experience and roles aboard.

The Mooloolaba teams looked like very warm favourites and with 50% of the eight crews sailing in local colours the odds were slightly favoured but not insurmountable.

Unfortunately, the Training Day was resigned to an online yacht racing application as the rain continued all day ... tantamount to a British Summer Bank Holiday, however we were made warm and welcome by MYC.

## Saturday Race Day 1

We awoke to further rain and window rattling winds, however, on arrival to MYC we were pleased to find that the racing was going ahead albeit with storm rigs and nil kites.

Elliott's were rigged and out our trio sailed for Heat 1, after swapping slots with the RSYS team who had a sailor still on route from Gold Coast. The majority of crews had elected to sail four up, so in the strong winds it was always going to be a challenge to keep mast pointing skywards on the uphill legs for Team NCYC.

However, despite this Alyson, Bel and Annie turned out a respectable 3, 2, 3 over the first three heats, before coming ashore to much needed dry towels and hot drinks.

Last two heats for the day saw a sterling performance from the girls, bringing the boat over the line 1st in both races and securing a place in Gold Fleet Final on Sunday. With seven points to the leaders and 10 points apiece to the other Gold Fleet entries racing, was set to be close. With this in mind, an 8.30pm lockdown order was imposed to ensure that we were rested and race ready for Sunday!

## What a Difference a Day Makes

Sunday saw that famous sunshine but zero wind, with a tide running quicker than Usain. The race committee flew the AP once everyone was afloat waiting for the predicted westerly to fill in. With a forecasted 5 knots it was going to prove challenging to remain on the correct side of the start line against the gathering tide.

The Silver Fleet set off around 10am. and teams from MYC (x2), RSYS, and Tweed Valley Sailing Club delicately nursed their boats through the light conditions, enthusiastically cheered on by awaiting Gold Fleet Teams from the balcony of MYC.

By noon we were in the starting sequence for Gold Fleet finals, I held my breath as "She Sails@NCYC" approached the line with good boat speed and Big Ben timing – alas it was the one that got away as the race committee pulled the pin, postponing the race due to the lack of wind.

Finally, we were back in start sequence and our trio sailed admirably through the Race 1 managing a third place, then the same place in Race 2 with

an spectacular drag race under kite to the finish line with a MYC boat.

An altercation between the Elliott's keel and the windward mark caused a limp mode run home in fourth place in Race 3, however, with no pending protest our girls had done enough to be triumphant with third place.

Second went to Townsville Sailing & Yacht Club and that hot favoured team skippered by MYC's Commodore sailed proudly into first place.

Super proud of our team and how they absolutely delivered representing NCYC in Queensland, and I'd be remiss not to credit MYC for creating a wonderful, energy, vibe, and friendship between all eight teams at this She Sails Regatta.

I've penned myself in for luggage duties for the 2023 event.

– Andrew Omotosho



## Coming Events...



### July 2022

- 23rd – Sailing Presentation Night
- 30th – Noakes Sydney-Gold Coast Race

### August 2022

- 4th – Annual General Meeting
- 11-18th – Airlie Beach Race Week
- 21-27th – Hamilton Island Race Week

### Every Week

- Monday-Friday Happy Hour 4-6pm
- Tuesday Night Trivia
- Thursday Night Members Draw & Raffles



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## 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)  
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