



NEWCASTLE
CRUISING
YACHT
CLUB

NCYC

NEWSLETTER

April 2011

Etchells
@
NCYC.

Story P 13



NCYC

95 Hannell St Wickham NSW 2293 - Ph 02 4940 8188 - Fax 02 4940 8138 - www.ncyc.net.au



NCYC

The Galley

Open Seven Days

Lunch 12.00 noon to 2.30 pm

and

Dinner 6.00 pm to 8.30 pm

Breakfast Sunday only

9.30 am to 11.00 am

**The Social Committee's \$6
Bacon & egg roll, hash brown & OJ**

02 4940 8188

info@ncyc.net.au

functions@ncyc.net.au

**New hours for coffee sales at the Bar
8.30 am until late**



Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club

Newsletter Advertising Policy As at March 2011

Please phone 02 4940 8188 to make inquiries about advertising in the newsletter

Advertising material must be submitted in digital format to info@ncyc.net.au by the cut off day, 20th of the month preceding publication.

Bi-monthly issues are due for publication in the first week of: February, April, June, August, October and December each year.

While advertisements are welcomed, club management, reserves the right to decline to accept or publish at any time.

1. Advertisements smaller than ¼ page will not be accepted.

2. Prices for advertisement in NCYC bi-monthly newsletters are as follows:

a. For an individual issue:

- ¼ page \$ 150
- ½ page \$ 250
- 1 page \$ 450

b. For a 3 issue block (covers 6 months):

- ¼ page \$ 300
- ½ page \$ 500
- 1 page \$ 900

c. For a 6 issue block (covers 12 months):

- ¼ page \$ 500
- ½ page \$ 900
- 1 page \$ 1 500

3. NCYC Tenants, and current season Sponsors will be charged at a rate of 50% of the normal rate for advertisements in the newsletter.

Michael Titow
Chief Executive Officer

Safety Information

**FOR RECREATIONAL BOATING
WHEN OPERATING
IN PROXIMITY TO
COMMERCIAL SHIPPING
AT THE PORT OF NEWCASTLE**



**NCYC Promoting On-water Safety
Booklet sponsored by NSW Maritime and
Newcastle Port
Corporatio was prepared at NCYC using
information
provided by these two organisations.
Available from NCYC Office,
also in electronic form from NCYC website**

Unwind, Share; Laugh, Enjoy



Cover image by Kylie Wilson

- MARINA
- LICENSED PREMISES
- LEASED BOATYARD
- COMMERCIAL CENTRE

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club
95 Hannell St, Wickham NSW 2293
Ph: 02 4940 8188 Fax: 02 4940 8138
Email: info@ncyc.net.au
www.ncyc.net.au
Full directory: p 15 of this edition

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.

April 2011 Newsletter

A bi-monthly publication

Every month

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Image by Mike Eggleston



Image by Mike



Image by Mike Eggleston



Chief Executive Officer's Report

What a great club!

I'm delighted to introduce myself as the new Chief Executive Office of Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club.

It is with great enthusiasm that I write my first piece for the NCYC newsletter. Firstly, I would like to thank the Board, Staff and Members (those that I have met) for the warm welcome I have received since my commencement.

The club's greatest strength lies in what we do differently to our competitors, and as a group, working together we will make the correct decisions and make our club the envy of all those around it.

I look forward to meeting more members and I urge you all to come and say hi and introduce yourself, and please provide me with any feed back as your input is always welcome.

I am very much looking forward to becoming part of this great team. It would also be remiss of me not to mention the great work the founding CEO Roy Baker has done. Roy will continue on with NCYC and take a more active hands on approach with the clubhouse and sailing.

Until next time,

Michael Titow
CEO

Commodore's Message

"During March we welcomed Michael Titow to the Club as Chief Executive Officer. Michael will be responsible for all operations of the Club and will report to the Board in that respect.

Michael comes well credentialed in the area of general management with specific experience in the Club and hospitality sectors. <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/michael-titow/16/986/961> a link for those inclined to read more detail on his professional background. Please introduce yourself to Michael when you visit the Club.

I am pleased to advise that, through the good graces of member Dick Lees (Freyja) and Club Captain Ernie Thirkell we have secured reciprocal rights with the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Marieville Esplanade, Sandy Bay, a beautiful location on the Derwent river a couple of kms from Constitution dock, Hobart. This is a club with a grand tradition having recently celebrated it's centenary. The Officers of the club made our wooden boat festival team most welcome as they would any member traveling to Tasmania who carries a letter of introduction from NCYC. This can be arranged through our administration office.

We are planning to commence a maintenance and refurbishment program on our buildings and marina. This will involve some cost; however it is our responsibility to ensure these assets are maintained in good order for members and tenants.

Our financial year finishes at the end of March and indications are that we have continued our strong financial performance. The report to members on our results and advice on the date of the Annual General Meeting will follow in the coming months"

Phil Arnall,
Commodore

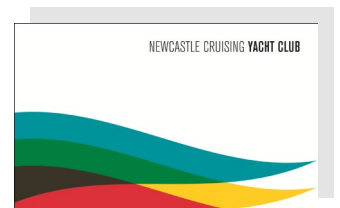
February 2011 at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania

Below:

*Past Commodore of RYCT, Bill Cooper,
NCYC member, Dr Richard (Dick) Lees and
Past Commodore of RYCT, David Boyes.*



On behalf of the Board of Directors and Members of NCYC, Club Captain Ernie Thirkell presented a Club burgee to Graham Taplin, Commodore of The Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania. In a reciprocal presentation, Ernie also accepted a RYCT burgee on your behalf. This will soon be on display in the Club.



Membership Cards

We have a new design for our 2011—2012 membership cards.

Your new card will be sent to you as soon as it is available.

NCYC — Our Club

Jason Winn

ONE OF OUR PEOPLE



Most NCYC patrons will have seen and perhaps spoken with Chef Jason during the past twelve months. While accustomed to his warm smile and energetic enthusiasm as he goes about his duties, few would have any idea of Jason's working experience in both the food and entertainment industries.

At 16, while living at the Gold Coast, Jason started his cooking apprenticeship at Seagulls Rugby League Football Club, finishing it at SeaWorld Nara Resort. Apprenticeship completed, Jason worked for Christopher Skase, in the kitchen of the Sheraton Mirage Gold Coast. Then it was off to Sydney to study guitar. With a certificate in music in hand, his career in music was launched.

Hard work and interesting times followed as Jason gigged with various people including Phil Emmanuel, Renee Gayer and Powderfinger, before moving back to the Gold Coast where he kept gigging on weekends whilst working on TV and movie sets at Movieworld. Inevitably the music took over, resulting in a lot of travel with various bands including a duo which took him all over the Pacific.

During the Olympics Jason moved to Sydney and worked as a chef for the TV crew, and ran a duo. around this time. He also worked cheffing running the Balmoral Beach Club kitchen, moving on to the Middle Harbour Yacht Club.

Having moved to Newcastle in 2001, the music, the beach and the easy going atmosphere kept him here. In Newcastle, Jason has been teaching guitar privately for eight years, his busy life including gigging in various solo /duo and six to ten piece bands. He does it all: rock, easy listening, funk, acoustic, reggae, gypsy, jazz and yes even a little country.

Fundraising Raffles

Ticket sales
start 6.00 pm Fridays.
Raffles drawn 7.00 pm

Anzac Day 2011



NCYC Service personnel, families and friends are invited to an informal get together over lunch at the Club.

Normal menu and prices apply.
Contact the Club to book a table:
02 4940 8188

NCYC was a gathering point for members, among them Dr Keith Brennan, and Ray Blackburn, on their way to an Anzac luncheon 2010 (held prior to Anzac Day)

Friday 20 May 2011

A Luncheon to be held in aid of
John Hunter Hospital Children's Ward

- **Speaker: Phil Kearns**
- Auction & Raffles
- There will be limited tickets available.

You will need to keep an eye on the website or notices in club for more information as it becomes available.

If you are able to assist
by offering sponsorship for raffles or prizes,
please contact NCYC Functions
Co-ordinator Nina on **02 4940 8188** or
functions@ncyc.net.au

NEW—Live entertainment

courtesy of your
Social Committee.

Details of each gig will be
posted on the website
and notices displayed
in Club

Mother's Day Sunday 8 May 2011

Book early to be sure of a table

Social highlights - from Vice Commodore Jim Holley and the Social Committee

Welcome Party for Etchells



CV 'George Keegan' skipper Paul Slattery (centre) and NCYC Sponsors Rod and Geoff Johnson of Thrifty Car and Truck Rentals



NCYC Sponsor Lance Young of 'Yellow Door fruit & Vegetables, Warren Amos & Paul Doyle



NCYC volunteers when you need them—Linda Hall & Lizzie Masey

Getting to know You

Kris Rickard Started her working career at a Newsagency at Adamstown, 44 years ago. Then went on to a family business (Newsagency) at Cardiff. Two lovely daughters, plus three gorgeous Granddaughters later she now works as Sales Consultant for Stuart & Dunn Office Choice at Beresfield.



Kris' brother Len bought himself a yacht (*Woodstock*) in October 2007. Kris joined on as crew at the same time. Since then they have become a couple of well known members of the Sailing Fraternity at Newcastle.

Kris is an active member and Secretary of the Social Committee at NCYC. She frequently helps out with the Friday night raffles, and does a great job on the mornings when she is rostered on as part of the Sunday breakfast barbecue crew.

Throughout the seasons Len, Kris and the rest of their fun loving crew have raced *Woodstock* to the North (Port Stephens) and to the South (Pittwater). These trips have been great experiences for the crew and skipper alike, especially when *Woodstock* has been escorted by the many Dolphins, Whales, Seals and Penguins that travel up and down the coast.

Kris acknowledges that the four years as forward hand on *Woodstock*, (a very successful competitor during this time), have taught her a lot about what is expected of her as part of a team. Their Motto is "Fun and Safety first and a dry boat until the race is finished."

Kris says she learnt her sailing skills and duties the hard way, and goes on to cite some of her learning experiences.

"In our early sailing days, Len allowed another crew member to take the helm. The boom decided to test our rescue procedure resulting in me falling backwards into the Hunter River. In true spirit I didn't go into the water until we first went over the finish line."

"Once when we were short on crew in a race I was bringing the spinnaker in before getting to the last mark, and Len was yelling at me 'don't let the spinnaker go in the water Sis'. I didn't hear the forward hatch being opened. Len said I did a David Copperfield act when I disappeared through the opened hatch down to his Stateroom, two meters below - with the spinnaker in tow. Because Len was about to round the mark and couldn't leave the helm, he sent Jennina, a trained nurse, to check on me. The best part of that situation was I didn't wet the spinnaker."

So to my dear brother Len, a very special 'Thank You' from me, for giving me the opportunity to be able to enjoy the highs and lows; ins and outs of sailing. If you hadn't made a decision to buy Woodstock, I wouldn't have been part of this great sport..... SAILING.?"

Friday Nights



Robin Hillery giving Rae Hassell the sales pitch

Raffles in support of Westpac Rescue Helicopter Appeal and Port Hunter Sailing Skiff Juniors (The Flying Ants Division).



Some Friday night regulars



Volunteers Kris & Gael

SAILING

From the Sailing Office

NCYC is a proud supporter of the Hunter Medical Research Institute, assisting by conducting the HMRI Cup Race. Corporations and individuals are offered the opportunity to crew on an NCYC yacht in the Race. Prospective sailors experience a competitive yacht race as a crew member, setting sails, etcetera and providing ballast where necessary.

The NCYC fleet has a broad range of competitive yachts including: Farr 40s; Beneteau First & 40; Grand Soleil 40; J122; Archambault 40, M34 & 32; Roberts 52; Bull 9000; Arrends 33; Brooker 365 and; Hereschoff 28. Although the speed of the yachts varies the race is decided on the handicapped finish time. That means that all the boats and crew have the chance to take out the HMRI Cup.

NCYC will be on duty at the Newcastle Finish line for the Audi Sydney Offshore Newcastle Yacht Race conducted by CYCA, the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia and for the Blue Water Pointscore Series conducted by The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club RPAYC on the weekend of 9/10 April. This could be a possible 48 hours. The 2009 race record for the Audi 213nm race saw the first finisher at 4am on the morning of 9 April. Both fleets are expected to finish over 9 April with possible late finishers into the morning of 10 April. The Finish Line Committee Vessel, will be anchored in the vicinity of Queens Wharf. Jim and Mary Holley's *Aurora* is the Relay Vessel, anchored in Pirate Cove in the vicinity of the Stockton Breakwall.

On 10 April NCYC will conduct its annual Lead In Race, Newcastle to Port Stephens starting at 10am in the vicinity of Scratchleys Restaurant. We are expecting up to 30 yachts competing in two Divisions.

In the final Summer Short Ocean race 3 April the top positions eagerly contested are as follows: In PHS Div 1, *PT73*, *The Raging Bull*, *Anger Management*, *Summer Salt*, *Marta Jean*, *Blu Notte*. *One For the Road* will be trying to capture the top three positions. In PHS Div 2 *Tamarillo* & *Winifred* will battle to take 1st ahead of *Warrain* in 3rd place and in IRC Div *The Raging Bull* will be attempting to hold her lead over *Anger Management* and *PT73*.

From the Rear Commodore

It is getting close to the end of the summer season and the next couple of races will be crucial in determining the podium finishers (special subject – the bleeding obvious!).

The Combined Ocean Pointscore (with LMYC) concluded with LMYC taking the top three places – congratulations to *Xstatic*, *Rhumb* & *Escapade*. Modesty prevents me from mentioning that *Summer Salt* was next home, followed by *Anger Management*, *Raging Bull*, *Blue Notte* & *One For The Road*.

The HMRI Cup will be sailed on Saturday 2nd April. This is a great fun day which results in substantial fundraising

Sail Port Stephens is coming up, commencing with the lead in races on the 9th & 10th April. Those of us who participated last year had a great time and vowed to return this year.

The Innerspring Regatta will be sailed after the end of the winter season before the start of the summer season. It is planned to offer free berths to visiting competitors and give them a taste of the kind of racing we enjoy every weekend.

A number of the skippers have expressed interest in our organising a few longer ocean races i.e. overnight. Any input/suggestions would be appreciated

Paul Gleeson,
Rear Commodore

The Ocean Pointscore Series finished with the Pittwater to Newcastle Race on 27 February 2011. The day's race conditions were not ideal with the yachts experiencing hours of calm. Some crew said that they were going backward. Needless to say that those that endured seized the day with *Blu Notte* and *One For the Road* recording Finish Times. Congratulations on your stamina and places in the Pointscore. PHS Division 1 winner is *Blu Notte* with *One For the Road* in 2nd place and *Summer Salt* in 3rd place. In Division 2 the winner of the pointscore is *Black Bird* with *Winifred* in 2nd place followed by *Woodstock* and *Warrain*. In the IRC division Congratulations to the winner *The Raging Bull*, 2nd *Anger Management* and 3rd *One For the Road*.

Dianne Fitzgerald
Sailing Secretary

FROM THE CLUB CAPTAIN

On water Incidents

These must be reported. to the sailing office, and to NSW Maritime.

Analysis of NCYC website use shows that the pages in the 'On water Safety' section have not been visited as much as I had hoped.

They contain a large amount of information needed by both skippers and crew. In 'C. On water incidents' there are two sections. These are: 'Precautions that all boat skippers and crew should familiarise themselves with' and; 'After an Accident / Incident'. All really worthwhile reading.

The first of these has direct links to vital information like: 'NCYC Emergency Management Plan', 'NSW Maritime Requirements in case of accident', 'Relevant Collision Regulations', 'NSW Maritime Policy for handling Incidents Occurring in Aquatic Events' (eg our races)

The second has downloadable forms for vessel incident reports and for witness statements both of which you should be using.

2011 Offshore Race Directors' Forum

During April, NCYC Rear Commodore Paul Gleeson, Club Captain Ernie Thirkell and General Manager Operations Roy Baker will be participating in this forum run by Yachting Australia and hosted by Cruising Yacht Club of Australia.

The focus will be on matters such as risk management and other safety issues affecting offshore yacht races.

This forum is aimed at those clubs involved in the administration of Category 1, 2 or 3 offshore yacht races. It has been instigated following consideration of the Flinders islet incident Report, and its references to matters of club and event administration.

Noakes Newcastle
NCYC Tennant and long term Sponsor, is in new hands: **Joe & Belinda de Kock**

Mission to Seafarers

Looking for volunteers:

- ♦ Drivers for mini bus (normal drivers license);
- ♦ Serve in small canteen;
- ♦ Administrative help (filing, typing etc);
- ♦ Scanning.

Contact: Garry 0409033558

Shared Thoroughfare

Members should be aware that the area between the Marina and the Commercial Centre/ Club is shared by pedestrian and cycle use.

After another incident involving a cycle and one of our members, NCYC and Honeysuckle Development representatives met to discuss appropriate measures to be taken to increase safety in this area.

New signage and education of the public were some options discussed.

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club



Black Tie Dinner
Saturday 1 October 2011

Limited number of tickets
\$110.00 p/p

Time: 6 for 6.30 pm

Included in Ticket:

- * Three course meal
- * Beer/ wine
- * soft drinks
- * Tea/ coffee



Three piece band / raffles

ON THE BRIDGE

With Paul McGrath

Problem:

The time to be wary is when all seems plain sailing. Can you spot the danger, lurking below the surface in the following problem. South becomes declarer in 6S and receives the lead of the diamond king. Takeover the helm, look only at the North/South hands and decide how you will steer the ship to avoid any nasty currents that might drag you off course.

NORTH

♠AKQ9
♥AQ32
♦432
♣K6

WEST

♠52
♥J754
♦KQ8
♣T875

EAST

♠43
♥T8
♦T765
♣QJ942

SOUTH

♠JT876
♥K96
♦AJ9
♣A3

Solution: p10



News from **NEWCASTLE PORT CORPORATION**

ENTRANCE TO THE PORT — INTERESTING FACTS

From its early beginnings as an isolated island, Nobbys has changed significantly over the past 200 years.

The headland was joined to the mainland and then had its height reduced to the current 27.5 metres as rock was used to help build Macquarie Pier to provide a permanent link between the mainland and island.

Historical thinking was that Nobbys was twice the height of what it is today (about 62 metres). Original references to Nobbys height were based on the work of British naval officer, Ensign Francis Barrallier, who estimated the height at about 62 metres (203 feet) in 1801.

Research just completed by the Coal River Working Party has shown the maximum height of Nobbys to have been about 43 metres.

The Working Party based its findings on 1828 survey fieldbooks by Sir Thomas Mitchell who made detailed observations around Newcastle and Nobbys.

The Working Party also used early colonial paintings and sketches to confirm Mitchell's survey results. The 43 metres is about the height of the current Signal Station (the taller of the buildings on the headland).

Going for a stroll?

Do you know how far you walk or jog when you go out along the southern breakwater past Nobbys?

The breakwater is a popular site these days for early morning walkers or joggers as they try to keep fit while trying to take in the stunning views of Newcastle harbour and the city.

The distance from Nobbys carpark to the fork in the road that leads up to Nobbys headland is about 550 metres. If you continue to the end of the southern breakwater it's about another 800 metres – a return trip of approaching three kilometres

And just for interest, Governor Macquarie ordered the start of what we now call Macquarie Pier (between Nobbys Beach and the headland) in 1818 to help create the port. After a number of stops and starts, it was completed in 1846. The breakwater beyond Nobbys was started in 1875 and extended a number of times before being finished in 1915.

For those of you on the north side of the harbour, the northern breakwater was built between 1898 and 1912 and runs a distance of 530 metres from the highwater mark on Stockton Beach.



NSW Maritime Media contact: Neil Patchett

Boating Safety Highlighted in 'Blue Water'

Failure to comply with essential boating safety equipment requirements was the most common infringement issued during Operation Blue Water during February 2011.

NSW Maritime Chief Executive Steve Dunn said Boating Safety Officers had carried out more than 500 on-water safety checks of boats during this offshore boating compliance campaign.

"While overall compliance was reasonable, it is important for all involved in the boating community to always be safe and responsible," he said.

"NSW Maritime patrols the waterways statewide in an on-going bid to promote a safety culture," he said.



"On-the-spot safety checks are part of this work. The most important safety item is the lifejacket and there must be one for every person on board, it must be of appropriate size and in good condition."

"New safety rules introduced last year have also increased the times when it is necessary to wear a lifejacket."

Lifejackets must now be worn in a range of 'heightened risk' situations which include the following:

Children under the age of 12 in a boat less than 4.8m;
Anyone boating alone, or at night, or on alpine waters, in a boat less than 4.8m; and
All on board when offshore in a boat less than 4.8m.
NSW Maritime issued 33 infringements and 34 formal warnings statewide during Operation Blue Water.

In total, 12 infringements and 15 formal warnings were related to safety equipment.

NSW Maritime safety ambassadors Andrew "ET" Ettingshausen (re., trailerboat fishing) and ocean adventurer Pete Goss (offshore voyaging) offer safety advice for skippers at www.boatforlife.com.au

www.maritime.nsw.gov.au

ON THE BRIDGE

With Paul McGrath

Solution:

Did you take a rosy view of the conditions ahead and rely on a favourable break in the heart suit (a 3-3 division of the outstanding hearts, although less likely than a 4-2 split, would see you home) and so win trick one with the ace?

If you did the undercurrent will prove too strong and your chances will be dashed on the rocks of poor bridge probability! No, it is essential to your survival that you duck at trick one.

Now if West continues with another diamond you will win two diamond tricks (this is known as the Bath Coup in bridge terminology) and your contract is secure.

If West switches to another suit you can squeeze West in the red suits. Simply draw trumps and play off all of your remaining black suit winners.

On the seventh black winner West must release a heart or diamond. Cash the diamond ace, if the diamond queen falls you have the rest of the tricks, if not, run the hearts – you must hope that either hearts were originally 3-3 or West had to pitch a heart to protect his diamond queen. That way you will have combined all of your chances and you can be confident that you have navigated in the best way possible.

Problem: p8

NCYC in support of Junior Sailing

Junior Sailor Day

This event can only take place with the enthusiastic support of NCYC and our Skippers.

Harvey Plumstead of PHSSC expressed a big thank you to NCYC and to the following yachts which participated in the Twilight race on Wednesday 2 March: *Aurora*; *Long Time Dead*, *Marta Jean*, *Schouten Passage*, *Summer Salt*, *Winifred*.

Harvey reported that the Junior Sailors look forward to this event every year, and once again the racing and after party were thoroughly enjoyed by all.



Winning Yacht, *Aurora* owned by Jim & Mary Holley



Winning Juniors Greta Rigby and Sophie Anderson holding the Ric Bowker Memorial Shield, photographed with

PHSSC Juniors who competed were: Sophie Anderson, Teah Castle, Greta Rigby, Cameron Rae, David Parsons, Kimberley Dingle, Chelsea Gilbert, Jessica Plumstead, Kionee Box, Ellie Anderson, Shaumani Tuckwell, Zoe Dingle, Casey Parsons, Samantha Abbott, Emma Gearing, Samantha Hedges, Mel Dingle.

NCYC Trophy

This Perpetual Trophy was donated by NCYC Social Committee to Port Hunter Juniors Flying Ants Division.

The Port Hunter Junior Flying Ant Sailors raced for the NCYC Trophy on Saturday 12/3/11.

Calm winds ensured a challenging race for the 8 starters in the Handicap event.

PHSSC offers thanks to NCYC Flag Officers who came along to support our junior sailors

2011 Placings:

1st Pure & Simple Greta Rigby, Samantha Hedges.

2nd Venom: Kane Mills and Lucas Mills

3rd Hunter ; Sophie Anderson and Teah Castle

Harvey Plumstead, PHSSC Juniors

NSW State Flying Ants Championship at PHSS



Image by Greg Jackson taken from NCYC's Committee Vessel, George Keegan. Boat and crew supported PHSSC for the weekend Championship.

Cheques Presentation

NCYC extends thanks to members and guests who support our raffles to raise the funds which we present to PHSSC Flying Ants Division, and to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Appeal.

Sailors with disAbilities

*"This third visit of the **Kayle** was an outstanding success. We had magnificent weather and wonderful support from the club and staff members. Amazingly we continue to have more requests than we have places available—and this without advertising!"*

Guest ages varied from 7 years to approximately 50. Our guest were overwhelmed with their sailing on the harbour and outside the heads.

The Sydney crew component enjoyed NCYC hospitality while the Newcastle crew were welcoming and supportive for all.

We hope to be back in June and definitely in September."

Carole Powell Event Organiser



NCYC Supporting
Community



Image by John Curnow

Extracts from 2011 Etchells NSW State Championships official media reports by John Curnow.

The following links will take you to the full articles:

www.ncyc.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/fr-John-Curnow.pdf

www.ncyc.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/last-day-text.pdf

Sunshine, strong, predominantly Nor'easterly breezes and a good swell greeted the 35-boat fleet in the Thrifty 2011 Etchells NSW State Championships on Friday 11 February.



Image by John Curnow

It was a tough day and that breeze certainly came in. The 1.2nm course stretched from just offshore of Merewether to adjacent to Nobbys Beach and had a lot of sailors really working hard in the up to 2m swell.

Making the journey up from Melbourne for the event, Fleet Captain Jake Gunther said, 'Typical seabreeze stuff and a great warm-up for Sydney (Worlds) next year.' Two other Victorian crews came up to join *The Boat*. Also from Brighton were Jake's brother, Steve with *Dawn Raid*, and Noel 'Nitro' Drennan (*Jack's Hut*) from Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron on the Mornington Peninsula. Also making the journey to the titles from further afield were *Concubine* from Adelaide, *This will make her Shout* from Brisbane, and *Addiction* from New Zealand.

Most of the regatta had been very close racing indeed and after Race Five, just seven points separated first from second. You would not have been alone in thinking that this would have been a winning position, but a very consistent day from Sydney's Mark Johnson on *Roulette* with a second, sixth and first place, saw he and crew of Nick Burfoot and Peter Conde take it by one point.

In second place was Melbourne Fleet member, Steve Gunther and crew of Gin Gibson and John Collingwood. Five points astern of them was Sydney Fleet member David Clark with Andrew Smith and Alan Smith, themselves just point clear of Melbourne Fleet Captain, Jake Gunther, Stuart Skeggs and Tony McPhail on, *The Boat*. Local Lake Macquarie sailors, Gary Boyd and Kane Sinclair, took the other positions in the top six.

Mark Johnson said of it all, 'Great regatta, great racing, great venue and obviously a great result for us!' Steve Gunther who just got pipped at the post, said 'It's good to relegate my brother (Jake) to fourth place.' So clearly there's some fantastic sibling rivalry alive and kicking there.

Crews, officials and volunteers all enjoyed some hospitality in the afternoon before presentations and then a lot began their journeys home.



Image by John Curnow



Image by John Curnow



Image by John Curnow



Image by Roy Baker



Image by Roy Baker

Some Sailed—Some Flew—NCYC was there!



Hobart February 2011 Australian Wooden Boat Festival

Many stories to tell.

This event was the instigator of so much. About 30 Novocastrians caught up with each other in Hobart over the long weekend. Not all could stay for photo.

There are many stories to tell about the different aspects of the trip.

People considering making a similar cruise, perhaps to this festival in 2013, will be keen to hear of the preparations, Creature comforts as well as the safety of the boat on the passage from Newcastle to Hobart all needed to be taken into account.

The cruise from Newcastle was the first experience of this type for some of our crews. The sea miles, the stop-overs, the weather and the photos - the experiences of the trip were different on each of the five vessels which left Newcastle in a very loosely connected cruising company.

One of our racing skippers had his first experience as a lone sailor during the return passage from the Festival.

Another of our owner/skippers who has completed many long ocean passages in higher latitudes made a first circumnavigation of Tasmania at the end of the festival.

Some people crewed for the whole trip in both directions. Some flew either to or from various staging points along the way.

There were those of us there with a preference for air instead of sea travel, or with time restraints, who were able to make time to join in the excitement of the February weekend in Hobart.

Others took advantage of being in Tasmania and hired vehicles to do some exploring by land before they departed.

Every effort will be made to persuade those with this rich history of experience to share it with you. Some of these stories will appear in subsequent issues of this newsletter.



When NCYC's 'Freyja' pulled alongside at Constitution Dock, she was greeted by Bill Cooper, Past Commodore of the Royal Hobart Yacht Club—with a welcome that left the crew speechless. A wheelbarrow full of seafood on ice, beer and of course, rum.

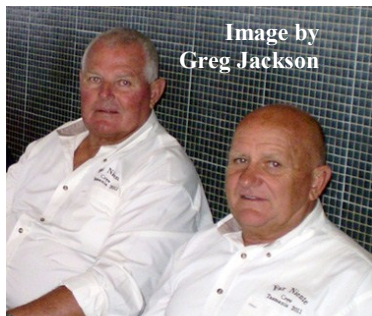


Image by
Greg Jackson

Geoff Dawson and Hugh Williams



Image by Gloria Thirkell

Some sailed. The others Flew.



Boats entered in the Festival. Image by Tori Carr.

NCYC Coming Events

HMRI Cup

Saturday 2 April 2011

14 NCYC skippers have confirmed use of their yachts
in support of this fundraising event

Final SSOP Race for 2010—2011 Season

Sunday 3 April 2011

Audi Offshore Newcastle Race

Run by CYCA with NCYC race finishing partners
Friday 8 April 2011

Pittwater to Newcastle Race

Saturday 9 April
Feeder to Sail Port Stephens Regatta

Newcastle to Port Stephens Race

Sunday 10 April 2011
Feeder to Sail Port Stephens Regatta

Charity Luncheon

Friday 20 May 2011
Speaker: Phil Kearns
See p 5 for more information

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Thursday 26 May
10.30 am \$20 per head
functions@ncyc.net.au or Ph 4940 8188

Black Tie Dinner

Saturday 1 October 2011
See advertisement p8

Live Music

Brought to you by your Social Committee
Details of gigs will be advertised on the website, and
on notices in the club.

Friday night raffles

Ticket sales start 6.00 pm
Draw starts 7.00 pm

Sundaybreakfasts

An NCYC Social Committee initiative
\$6 Bacon & Egg Roll, Hash brown and orange juice
9.30 am—11.00 am

Essential Information

Emergency

Police
49190760

Water Police
4984 9012

Ambulance
000

Fire Department
000

Marina Power failure
Dockmaster
0408 299 512

Club Directory

General Inquiries
9 am – 4.45 pm
02 4940 8188
info@ncyc.net.au

Licensed Club
10 am – 10 pm
02 4940 8188
info@ncyc.net.au

Marina
Dockmaster
8 am – 4 pm 7 days
0408 299 512
dockmaster@ncyc.net.au

The Galley
Noon – 2.30 pm
6 pm – 8.30 pm
02 4940 8188
info@ncyc.net.au

Administration
9 am – 4.45 pm 5 days
02 4940 8188
admin@ncyc.net.au

Functions
9 am – 4.45 pm
02 4940 8188
functions@ncyc.net.au

NCYC Members Concessions

NCYC Bar —with membership card
When purchasing cold beverages:

- * 10% for Full Members
- * 5% for Social and Crew members

Cote D Azur

Excluding any pre-advertised item:

- * 10% discount to any NCYC member staying with them,
www.cotedazurnelsonbay.com.au

East Coast Marine and Sail

- * 10% discount on selected items.
- * www.ecmarinesail.com.au/

Cherry Lane Cottage, Gulgong

- * 10% accommodation discount to NCYC members.
www.cherrylanecottage.com.au/

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