

# thirty two° fifty five

newcastle cruising  
yacht club journal

Sydney to Hobart 11

sailing academy 12

Newcastle game fishing club tournament 15

autumn 2015



# NCYC Member's Discounts & Benefits

## NCYC Members' Club & Fuel Discounts

<b>NCYC Bar</b>	10% discount for Full Members 5% discount for Social / Crew Members (Membership card must be shown at the Bar)
<b>NCYC Marquee Hire</b>	10% discount for Full Members 5% discount for Social / Crew Members
<b>Fuel (Diesel + PULP)</b>	<b>Full Members &amp; NGFC Members:</b> 15¢ per litre off the list price on total purchase <b>Non Full Members:</b> 1000 to 1999 litres - 10¢ per litre off listed price 2000 + litres - 15¢ per litre off listed price



## NCYC Members' Benefits

<b>Auto Advantage</b>	For any NCYC member who purchases a vehicle through Auto Advantage, Auto Advantage will pay for that member's next NCYC annual membership subscription
-----------------------	--

Phone: 1300 653 119  
[www.autoadvantage.com.au](http://www.autoadvantage.com.au)



## NCYC Members' Non-Club Discounts

<b>East Coast Marine &amp; Sail</b>	10% discount to NCYC Members on selected items
-------------------------------------	--

Phone: 02 4961 1663  
[www.ecmarinesail.com.au](http://www.ecmarinesail.com.au)



<b>Rocksalt</b>	Complimentary glass of wine for each guest who is a member of NCYC when dining
-----------------	--

Phone: 02 4961 1676



<b>Heliservices</b>	10% discount for NCYC Members
---------------------	-------------------------------

Phone: 02 4962 5188  
[www.heliservices.com.au](http://www.heliservices.com.au)



<b>Cote D Azur Accommodation</b>	10% discount on accommodation to NCYC Members
----------------------------------	---

Phone: 02 4984 9595  
[www.cotedazurnelsonbay.com.au](http://www.cotedazurnelsonbay.com.au)



<b>Cheery Lane Cottage – Gulgong</b>	10% discount on accommodation to NCYC Members
--------------------------------------	---

Phone: 02 6374 2289  
[www.cherrylanecottage.com.au](http://www.cherrylanecottage.com.au)



<b>Mercure Resort Hunter Valley Gardens</b>	10% discount off best rate available advertised by Mercure Resort Hunter Valley Gardens
---	---

Tel: 02 4998 2000

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



Subject to change without notice. Memberships cards may need to be shown to get a discount or benefit



Unwind | Share | Laugh | Enjoy



Sydney to Hobart  
– Dare Devil  
Photo taken by  
Tony McKendrick



10



12

Sailing Academy  
Image by Ray  
Blackburn

Mission to  
Seafarers Christmas



17

## In this issue

Autumn 2015 journal

A quarterly publication

## EVERY ISSUE

Commodore's Message .....	4
Rear Commodore's Report .....	5
CEO's Report .....	6
Our Club .....	7
Social Highlights .....	9
Sailing .....	12
Docklines .....	14
The Mission to Seafarers .....	17
Where in the World is Our Burgee Competition .....	18

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Member Discounts and Benefits .....	2
Security Phone Numbers .....	19
Coming Events .....	19

## FEATURE ARTICLES

Dare Devil's Day .....	10
Sydney to Hobart Images .....	11
Sail Training .....	14
Newcastle Game Fishing Club .....	16

Editor: Di Hansen

Sub-Editor: Bronwyn Hoffman

Cover Photo: She's the Culprit, Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race  
Photo taken by Glen Picasso

### NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB

Incorporating:

MARINA; LICENSED PREMISES;

LEASED BOATYARD; COMMERCIAL CENTRE

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club

95 Hannell Street, Wickham NSW 2293

Ph: 02 4940 8188 Fax: 02 4940 8138

Email: [info@ncyc.net.au](mailto:info@ncyc.net.au)

[www.ncyc.net.au](http://www.ncyc.net.au)

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

## WANTED Boat Profiles

Email an image and a specification  
profile of your boat to be featured in  
upcoming editions of this magazine.

**Email:** [info@ncyc.net.au](mailto:info@ncyc.net.au)

**Subject:** Boat Profile

## Commodore's Message



A happy 2015 to all our members, families and friends. This year is shaping up to be yet again a busy and rewarding one around your Club.

The Club and its members have been busy over the past few months and I would like to outline some of the activities that the Club has hosted and events our members have been

involved in.

I would like to personally congratulate all yachts and crew from NCYC who participated in the 70th Sydney to Hobart. Of course a special note should be made of *She's the Culprit* on winning the inaugural Corinthian Cup ahead of 39 other participants. We are also very proud of the achievement of Sibby Ilzhofer and the crew of *Dare Devil* in winning the trophy for the first female skipper to finish this year. The Rear Commodore hosted a lovely welcome home drinks for all crews which was a great success and hopefully becomes part of our annual calendar. On a personal note, this was my first Hobart race and I now have new found respect for those skippers and crews who participate!

The first weekend in February saw the inaugural NGFC game fishing competition out of Newcastle. The event saw our marina and club facilities enjoyed by competitors and a great atmosphere was evident throughout the weekend.

NCYC's Sailing Academy has been busy hosting school sailing activities, school holiday sailing courses, member sailing courses and our inaugural regattas over the past three months. I was delighted to see members supporting our "Force 24 Harbour Dash Regatta" that was held just prior to Christmas and congratulate Joe de Kock and his all-female crew on winning the finals series of the event - Well done! The Academy will be busy throughout 2015 with a variety of courses so please make use of this unique opportunity in Newcastle and let your non-sailing colleagues know that they can now learn to sail on Newcastle Harbour.

Your Club was busy over the festive period and trading was pleasing having regard to the continued tougher economic climate. The marina enjoyed almost full occupancy over the holiday period and the Commercial Centre is now fully tenanted going into 2015.

Management have been busy on a number of projects including the installation of the long awaited fixed marks (from a sailors perspective) in the Harbour and in the Stockton Bight. These fixed marks will provide greater flexibility in respect to our sailing activities and assist in the conduct of NCYC's dinghy and Force 24 activities. NCYC is proceeding with an upgrade of its marina fuelling facilities with the installation of an all

hours credit card system at the bowser and a high flow diesel pump which will provide greater convenience for motor vessels. The Laser hardstand was opened just prior to the Christmas break, providing our dinghy sailors with secure storage adjacent to the launching facilities on A Arm. This project has been well received by NCYC's Laser fleet which is now getting 15 to 20 boats out on the water most Friday evenings.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank and acknowledge our Series and Sailing Academy sponsors for their ongoing assistance this season.

They are:

- Port Waratah Coal Services
- Auto Advantage
- Club Marine
- Bibina
- Laser PSA
- EnviroPacific Services
- Port of Newcastle
- Mid Coast Boatyard and Marine
- Mercure Resort Hunter Valley Gardens

All the best to our sailors competing in the summer keel boat and Laser series at NCYC and also good luck to those crews who are representing NCYC in the Sydney to Newcastle and Newcastle to Port Stephens Yacht Races and Sail Port Stephens Regatta at the end of the summer sailing season.



Phil Arnall, Commodore

Time to drop in to the club  
to try on some new NCYC / Gill gear?



Gill Cotton T-shirts (M & F)  
\$60



Gill Long Sleeve Race Shirts  
(Unisex / UV) \$65



Gill Hats \$25



## Rear Commodore's Report



On the evening of 22 January the club held a well-attended function at the NCYC primarily to celebrate the success of *She's the Culprit* being the first NCYC boat to bring to the club a trophy from the Rolex Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. This year's Hobart for the first time included a Corinthian division. A

Corinthian plays sport purely for the love it. This trophy was won by *She's the Culprit*. *She's the Culprit* also won the PHS division of the 2014 race. The function was also to congratulate the crews of *Anger Management*, *Dare Devil*, *Frantic*, *Inner Circle* and *Let's Go* on their successful completion of this great race. All the above boats have connections with our club and it is pleasing that as a small new club, we are again definitely punching above our weight.

The evening was enhanced by the attendance of Roger Hickman, the skipper and owner of *Wild Rose*. Roger is a member of our club. "Hicko" as known in sailing circles regaled and entertained all in attendance with his responses to a question and answer session. Hopefully we can make a RSHYR function a regular event.

*Wild Rose* is in my view the real winner of the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race being the Tattersall's Cup winner. This trophy is for the overall handicap winner. With all the razzamatazz that is normally associated with the event with the maxi yachts, it is easy to forget the true history and character of the race. In my view, the win by *Wild Rose* and the addition of the Corinthian division won by *She's the Culprit* in its 70th year, restores tradition and integrity to the race. Hopefully the participation of boats such as *Wild Rose* and our boats will slowly bring back this race, its connection with the regular club racing boats and prevent its overdevelopment into a commercial spectacular.

Our club sailing season at the time of writing is well advanced with the Twilight Series being led by *Long Time Dead* (M Fenson) followed by *Nutcracker* (P Bertholli). It is good to see some eight boats racing in our twilight division. Also with our fixed marks we are able to race on more interesting courses than were previously available.

The Summer Short Ocean pointscore IRC division is currently being led by *Schouten Passage* (J Howard) 4 points ahead of *Anger Management* (P Arnall). The Short Ocean Point Score Division 1 is being led by *Long Time Dead* (M Fenson) ahead of *Aurora* (M Holley). PH Division 2 being led by *Nutcracker* (P Bertholli) ahead of *Scots Wha Hae* (V Johnston). The Short Ocean Pointscore Division 1 PHS is being led by *Summersalt* (T Gleeson) ahead of *Anger Management*

(P Arnall) with the Division 2 of the Short Ocean Pointscore being led by *Nutcracker* (P Bertholli) ahead of perennial *Warrrain* (R Hillery).

The Ocean Pointscore IRC is being led by *Anger Management* (P Arnall) ahead of *Summersalt* (T Gleeson).

In our longer offshore series of races known as the Cross, Lion, Bird and Cabbage, the leader of the IRC division is *Schouten Passage* (R Howard) followed by *Anger Management* (P Arnall).

The PHS Division of this series is being led by *Summer Salt* (T Gleeson) followed by *Schouten Passage* (R Howard).

At the other end of the spectrum we have lasers with the OTB division led by *Ruthless* (M Babbage) followed by *Ohio* (P Beath) with the lasers PHS division being led by *Stormy Weather* (J De Kock) ahead of *Ohio* (P Beath).

The Friendship Cup which is a competition run over a few races between our club and the Lake Macquarie Yacht Club was won this year by us with our first three boats being: *Nutcracker* (P Bertholli), *Summersalt* (T Gleeson) and *Schouten Passage* (J Howard).

All is looking good at this stage for a very successful 2014-2015 series.



Kym Butler, Rear Commodore

## Trusted to protect your boating lifestyle

Australia's No. 1 provider of boat insurance for more than 40 years

1300 00 CLUB (2582)

[clubmarine.com.au](http://clubmarine.com.au)



Insurance is issued by Club Marine Limited (Club Marine) ABN 12 007 588 347 AFSL No. 236916 as agent of the insurer Allianz Australia Insurance Limited (Allianz) ABN 115 000 122 850 AFSL No. 234708. Club Marine is a related body corporate of Allianz. Before making a decision, please consider the Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) available by phoning 1300 00 2582.



## Chief Executive Officer's Report



**D**ear Members  
As many of you are probably aware this is my last hoorah writing in NCYC's fabulous thirty-two fifty-five journal as I will be finishing up at the Club at the end of April 2015.

The past three and a half years working at NCYC have been both challenging and rewarding and I am incredibly proud to have had the opportunity to support the Board, members and staff in achieving some really good outcomes for the Club. Hosting the Audi IRC Championships, supporting the development of the Laser fleet and assisting with the establishment of NCYC's Sailing Academy are just a few of the high points of my time at NCYC.

NCYC has a great Club culture, a very dedicated, hardworking and professional team of staff and a phenomenally committed volunteer base which have cumulatively made working at NCYC all the more fulfilling. The friendships that I have made within the Club with members and staff and the networks I have established when representing the Club in wider yachting circles are relationships which I will treasure forever.

Sailing is a fantastic sport and one for which we all share a common passion. I believe NCYC's continued development and promotion of sailing is really important for Newcastle and a responsibility bestowed on the Club as a result our common enthusiasm for the sport. I hope I can assist the Club to continue to work toward achieving this outcome in the future as a member rather than an employee.

Lastly, I would like to pass on to all the members and staff of NCYC my very best wishes for the future, fair winds and good sailing.

Richard Howard  
Chief Executive Officer

facebook

Marine Rescue Newcastle  
Community Organization

Like Us On facebook

To receive up-to-date information on weather warnings, safety tips, boating tips and more.  
<https://www.facebook.com/NewcastleMarineRescue>



NEWCASTLE CRUISING  
YACHT CLUB

## 2015 SAILING PROGRAMS

NCYC successfully conducted Youth Development, Friday Night & Start Skippering Sailing Programs during the summer season.

The following programs  
are still being held:

- **Start Helming**
- **Overnight Offshore**

For further information regarding these programs and to be included on the mailing list contact the Administration Office on

**Ph:** 4940 8188 or  
**Email:** [info@ncyc.net.au](mailto:info@ncyc.net.au)



[www.ncyc.net.au](http://www.ncyc.net.au)

## NCYC - Our Club



Welcome to 2015!  
I hope the New Year brings everyone all good health and new adventures.

With the silly season behind us for another year we can reflect on the efforts of the team who worked tirelessly over the festive period. The Club was yet again a favoured venue for a variety of Christmas

celebrations and family gatherings to which we are thankful for the patronage of all our members and guests.

In the closing stages of 2014 we sadly farewelled our Head Chef of 2 years, Amanda Laird. Amanda had been an integral part of our kitchen team prior to assuming the role of Head Chef in 2012. Amanda's influence and mentoring approach to her team of chefs assisted in transforming the Clubs catering operation into a light and modern cuisine style which we enjoy today.

As they say however, one door closes and another opens. To which I extend my warm welcome to NCYC's new Head Chef, Ian Farnsworth. Ian comes from an extensive culinary background which has seen him in numerous Australian cities and parts of his origin in the UK. Ian's background and skills will be of great value to his team and his influence and style will be reflected in our new Club menu. Please join me in welcoming Ian to our Club.

I hope to see you all around the Club soon.

Michael Thrift, Club Hospitality Manager



*Looking for a way to show mum you really care this Mother's Day?*

NCYC is the perfect location...

**Mother's Day**  
**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May**

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (02) 4940 8188



**Gift Vouchers**  
**are now available**  
**from the Club**  
**or Administration Office**  
**Ph: 4940 8188**



## Thursday Night Members Draw

Permit LTPS/14/10233

Up to 4 draws per night:

6.15pm, 6.30pm, 6.45pm and 7pm.

Cash prize starts at \$200 - jackpots if not won.



## ENTERTAINMENT

**SUNDAY**  
**AFTERNOONS**  
**LIVE MUSIC**  
**@**  
**NCYC**



'Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club'  
on Facebook!







### STAFF PROFILE Ian Farnsworth NCYC's Head Chef

For those who haven't met me yet, my name is Ian Farnsworth and I am the Head Chef here at NCYC.

Prior to joining the Club in December 2014, I have gained a great deal of experience during my many years as a chef.

I have been fortunate to work alongside experienced, professional and culturally diverse chefs, absorbing influences, techniques and styles of cuisine from across the globe.

My past roles involved managing kitchens ranging from large scale functions and off-site catering, to cafes and bistros, as well as fine dining and corporate boardroom.

I am enjoying the challenge of the role and I am looking forward to hearing the feedback from the new menu that was launched mid-February.

## NEW GALLEY MENU

BOOKINGS: 4940 8188

# happy birthday

**Keep an eye out for your special  
Birthday letter to receive your free gifts**



### MEMBER PROFILE Mark Richards

Mark was born in Sydney but considers himself a local lad, having grown up in Merewether, attended Marist Brothers and played school boy Rugby League and Rugby Union in Newcastle. Mark proudly states:

"I was the first Mark Richards surfing at Merewether Beach. (although not the most famous one!)"

NCYC has featured heavily in Mark's life since he joined to become a crew member on Stephen Mackay's Archambault, "*Cab Sav*" (Cabernet Sauvignon to the uninitiated). At the time when Newcastle Yachting was promoting the Archambaults Australia wide, the boat was entered in all the major regattas in Australia, with the exception of the Sydney to Hobart, Mark: "got to do all the good stuff!"

Having completed Yachting Australia's Club Race Officer course, Mark is a YA accredited Protest Judge, Equipment Auditor and Race Official, which makes him a particularly valuable volunteer to our Club. Mark is however, more widely known to Club members as NCYC's Race Handicapper, having taken on that position from the Club's original Handicapper Gloria Thirkell early in 2007.

Mark quickly became interested in finding out more about the software program we were using for handicapping and the principles it was based on. Delving into what was behind it enabled him to provide feedback and enjoy many technical discussions with Rod McCubbin, Project Co-ordinator of Top Yacht software. This has enabled fine tuning of the parameters behind TY, resulting in publishing to the web based entry system. To quote Mark: "Probably the best thing we ever did."

On most Sunday evenings, Mark can be heard (loudly) to state: "We are a Yacht Club, and we have Sailing Races." before he goes on to announce the winners of the day's racing and the Series scores. As Handicapper, Mark became a member of NCYC's Sailing Committee.

Mark, your ongoing support and humour around the Club is appreciated.





## Social Highlights

### NCYC Members Christmas Party

Photos by Gloria Thirkell and Craig Wakefield



1.



2.



3.



5.



4.



6.



8.



7.

1. Gloria Thirkell and Santa
2. Doug & Valda Johnston,  
Andrew Miller & Mat Sheedy
3. Santa & Baby Wakefield
4. Bevan Box & Crewmate
5. A Pirate looking for a ship to plunder
6. Xmas Face Painting for the kids
7. Spencer Enjoying Christmas lunch
8. NCYC Members in the Xmas Spirit

# Dare Devils Day Sydney To Hobart

## Article by Sibby Ilzhofer

I was unsure what was going to be more difficult, having a yacht turn up on a truck in April and repairing her for Hobart, never having seen or sailed her before, or getting a brand new crew together, or both. Time would tell. One thing was for sure, I was going to need a strategy and a plan and very little deviation.

Yacht maintenance and reliability was going to be the most important thing, I knew that from the start, and no matter how hard people pushed me to go out and sail, enter races etc, she needed going over and everything was going to need to be double checked and triple checked. The boat was going to be the biggest hurdle.

I had some great supporters and believers cheering me on in the background, approving of my strategy along the way, even though some of the early team members may not have agreed.

Half the crew was finalised by the time we tackled the 24 hour qualifier; the object was to get to know the boat, her limitations and capabilities, and believe it or not, to break things. And that we did, but, given we tackled 24 hours of 37 knots and above, squalls, no visibility and unknown crew, we felt we already had the Hobart behind us. One thing was for sure, the boat was tough, and capable of much more.

As always, there are heads to butt, opinions, last minute repairs and crew to substitute at a moment's notice. Nothing was different here. I felt additional pressure; as all eyes were on the female skippers and female crew this Hobart. No one is a born superstar and I was no different. Some of the interviews were more nerve racking than doing a solo delivery, battling with taking sails down in the middle of the night at 25 knot breeze in a busy Sydney Harbour.



When we eventually pulled it together, international crew and new boat, hoping we had ironed out all the unknowns. We ended up on the start line on time, with plenty of sailing practice under our belt. Surprisingly so, nerves were no longer an issue, I think the hardest part was behind us.

We ended up with a 'cracker' of a start, only to get squeezed out by nearly T-boning the start boat, right of way or not. Were we really going to argue with a bigger boat? So, a quick 360 jibe was in order, which we managed gracefully and almost silently, still managing to round the outer marker not long after the maxis, to make the Chanel 7 news. Bonus!

In sailing, there are always disagreements about what to do, and what could have been done better. That's life. The important thing was to keep the team functioning, have the finish line in mind and not break the boat.



*Dare Devil Crew in action*

'To finish first, first you must finish'. Number one rule in ocean racing. This was no different. The key was to read the boat, read the weather and prevent, even if that meant putting my foot down sometimes with crew, that often wanted bigger and faster. Sea miles out there give you a knowing, that you cannot get from books.

We got slammed a couple of times. Storm Bay is what it is, every time. The incident with the plane is an all too real reminder of that. Whilst some vessels broke their boom and mainsails, we managed to hold it together, despite of puncture wounds to the main.

As with everything, experiences are there to learn from and this venture and race was no different. The timing, new boat and new crew may have presented a challenge, without a doubt, but focus, dedication and commitment goes a long way towards achieving the dream.

Never lose sight of the dream.

What's next? More sailing of course!

Images in this article was taken by:

Photomakers

Photography by Tony McKendrick

93 Liverpool St

Hobart 7000





1. *Wild Rose* - Overall IRC winner of the 2014 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race
2. *She's The Culprit* - fantastic victory in the PHS & Corinthian Divisions of the 2014 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race
3. *She's the Culprit* coming back to Newcastle
4. *Dare Devil* - 37th to claim the Jane Tate trophy
5. NCYC's *Frantic* & crew at the end of the 2014 Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. 19th on Line Honours & 48th on IRC



# NCYC Sailing Academy

## Great Sailing on the Force 24's

### Article by John Searl

2015 has seen a wide range of sailing activities across all age groups.

#### School programs

Our school programs have welcomed several new schools including Hunter Valley Grammar, Linuwel School from East Maitland and Newcastle East Primary School.

Our first venture in primary school sailing with Newcastle East has been a great success. With fantastic support from parents and staff we have been able to utilise the Force 24's for younger age groups with the kids enjoying the experience.

#### Sailing Courses

We have commenced our **Start Crewing** courses with close to 30 participants across the Saturday and Tuesday courses. All participants are having a great time and are hopefully learning the fundamentals of sailing in a fun, relaxed atmosphere.

We are also running a **Discover Sailing Experience** on Friday mornings which has also been well supported. These sessions are designed as an introduction to sailing before commencing to the Discover Sailing pathway accreditation courses (ie Start Crewing).

**Off Shore Overnight Experience** in conjunction with Master Class Sail Training is also up and running with good support from those who want to experience a night at sea in an ocean going yacht.



#### Up Coming

We have also commenced our Youth Development Program aimed at kids who wish to improve their sailing in our Force 24's leading into our Winter Performance Program. Participants from our School Holiday Camps and local sailing clubs are involved and are benefitting from some expert tuition from our instructors.



#### STAFF PROFILE

**John Searl**  
Sailing & Training  
Co-ordinator

I was originally trained as a PE teacher and after working a few seasons in Australia and the UK as a lifeguard, I eventually commenced a short stint as a PE teacher in regional NSW.

Realising teaching wasn't my "calling" I went back to University and studied Sports Management eventually working in university sport at the University of New England in Armidale.

I have recently finished work with Australian Rugby after 20 years in the coaching and development area, with this experience being invaluable in my role at NCYC.

I have 'messed around' in boats all my life commencing sailing at an early age, sailing in dinghies then inshore keel boats and more recently off-shore sailing.

I am enjoying the role as Sailing and Training Co-ordinator immensely with a great support team of staff and volunteers, with plenty more yet to accomplish!!!

#### STAFF PROFILE

**Emily Carstairs**  
Sailing Instructor



Hey everyone, I'm Emily Carstairs & I've just recently moved here from the Sunshine state. I have been instructing & coaching up in Queensland for the past 6 years teaching everything from optimists and lasers to keelboats.

I have been lucky enough to sail and compete in the Women's Laser Radial class taking my sailing throughout Australia and Internationally. From my love of sailing, a passion for all water sports and frankly just being by the ocean has manifested into somewhat of an obsession.

This year will see my 19th birthday and the beginning of a degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Newcastle. I'm always up for a chat so hopefully I'll get to know everyone in little to no time.

## Laser Sailing at NCYC

By Phil Ashley-Brown

### Lasers, Balmy Nights and Burgers

Balmy nights and delicious burgers have been luring more and more sailors to the Friday night Laser fleet.

Since Christmas most fleets have been above 20 boats which is a far cry from the original three that started only a few years ago.

The sailing programs run on the Force 24's and the Club Lasers has helped to increase the number of new sailors and has given the fleet a group of brand new members who are racing for the very first time.

At the more experienced end of the fleet there has been some close racing and an increasing level of competitiveness. But the big news from the Laser fleet is the launch of the "Laser Burger" available only on Friday nights back at the Clubhouse. As one sailor mentioned, "It's tastier than beating John Searl."



### MERCURE RESORT HUNTER VALLEY GARDENS

Located in the heart of the Hunter Valley Wine Country, Mercure Resort boast 72 beautifully appointed guest rooms, well equipped conference meeting facilities, stunning wedding reception options & leisure facilities such as pool, spa, sauna, health club, tennis courts & library / bar area.

Situated in walking distance to five cellar doors, four restaurants, two concert venues & the spectacular Hunter Valley Gardens, making Mercure Resort Hunter Valley Gardens the perfect escape for your family holiday, that important meeting or your special day.



**Mercure Resort Hunter Valley Gardens invites NCYC Members to a 10% discount off best available rate advertised by Mercure Resort Hunter Valley Gardens on accommodation bookings.**



2090 Broke Rd Pokolbin NSW 2320

Tel: 02 4998 2000

[www.mercurehuntervalley.com.au](http://www.mercurehuntervalley.com.au)  
[reservations@mercurehuntervalley.com.au](mailto:reservations@mercurehuntervalley.com.au)



# SAVE THE DATE

## Laser Long Lunch (Fundraiser)

## Friday 1 May 2015





## Article by Mary Holly

With the recent acquisition of the Force 24 keelboat fleet Newcastle and Lake Macquarie now offer a wider range of complimentary sailing courses to cater for both racing and cruising.

Since the very successful Discover Sailing Day in October, NCYC has commenced running some short sailing experience courses in the lead up to Christmas with plans to offer a fully accredited Yachting Australia Keelboat Program in the near future.


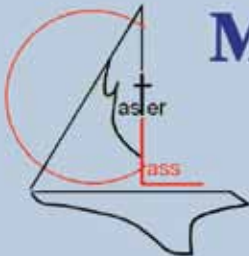
The courses, Start Crewing, Start Helming and Start Skippering, are designed to take the participant from basic sailing through to safely skippering a keelboat in protected waters. Participants will learn how each person's role on the boat will lead to being a part of an effective crew. The skills and knowledge learned through these courses are readily transferable to yacht racing.

Lake Macquarie's Chris Griffiths of Master Class offers a wide range of RYA and YA accredited sail training courses for yachts. The courses range from basic sailing to Yachtmaster. Many of his courses are designed to cater for cruising. They include Coastal Navigation, Marine Radio and Day Skipper. He has also held a Sea Safety Survival Course.


**Need an International Certificate of Competence  
for sailing in European waters?**

**Master Class is an ICC Test Centre**

**Master Class**

- \* Sail training - basic to Ocean Yachtmaster
- \* Safety & Sea Survival Courses
- \* Marine Radio Licence
- \* Power Boat training
- \* On line Training
- \* Navigation



**Mob: 0418 442 755**  
**email: Sea.G@bigpond.com**  
**web: www.masterclass-sailing.com**

## By Howard Keegan

Capacity on the marina over summer was stretched to its limits numerous times with many visiting vessels from Australia Day weekend followed by the Newcastle Game Fishing Clubs inaugural fishing tournament. We hosted 70 NGFC vessels on the 7th Feb, greeted yachts from the CYCA Sydney /Newcastle race on 21st Feb as well as Croudace Bay Sailing Club fleet on 28th Feb.

With a very busy flow of boats through the marina, it is crucial that we keep all walkways clear as well as maintain easy access to marina cleats so all bikes, hoses, boxes, dinghies, kayaks etc must be kept on your boat at all times. I've noticed a number of boats are not securely tied up and not using appropriate lines. Many boats are using sailing lines which have no give thus putting stress on the boat & marina cleats—it is better to use a rope that has some elasticity as a mooring line as there is less stress on your boat and the jetty. You can contact the marina chandler if you need assistance with purchasing line.

Besides the implementation of our new software package which has been of great assistance over the busy period, I am pleased to advise that we will be installing a new marina key card system using a proximity card (your membership card) in a wireless real time system which will have an online updating hotspot and stand-alone electronic locks. The new system will be fully sealed to handle the harsh salt environment and will be a vast improvement on our current card system incorporating the latest in technology. Installation will take place in conjunction with the Club's new financial year.

The marina barrows will be given a birthday with pneumatic tyres being installed plus we are adding four more barrows to cater for the extra needs of the marina business.

Another enhancement for the marina will be the installation of new fuel bowsers incorporating fast & slow flow pumps on the diesel and regular flow on the PULP as detailed in our Commodore's report. We have also engaged Pacific Pontoon & Pier to install a new pontoon in berth A 25/26 thus allowing us to use the berth again to handle the extra needs of the marina.

There may be some short term inconvenience with the installation of some of these enhancements. Please be considerate that they are all for the long term improvement of our facility.

## Safe Boating!



### STAFF PROFILE

#### Ben Herington Dockmaster



**If you see Ben, come and say hello,  
he loves to talk about boats!**

**M**y passion is boating, especially sailing, I've tried to spend as much of my life as I could on the water. I was truly hooked after sailing to New Zealand from Newcastle at 14. It was just the introduction to an adventure lifestyle at sea I needed.

I have recently returned home with my partner after living and working overseas for 11 years. During that time I mostly worked in the superyacht industry, where I started as a deckhand and gradually worked my way through the ranks to Bosun, on to first mate, and then after some acting captain roles, finally got the chance to fulfill an ambition and take charge as captain of a 130ft modern classic ketch.

I have covered some 60,000 miles at sea, first with a job in the Whitsundays and then overseas to the Mediterranean, Caribbean, eastern seaboard of USA, 8 Transatlantic trips. With a focus on sailing yachts, but some time on motor yachts thrown in and even a few regattas on a couple of the famous J-class yachts, I have a fairly broad range of maritime experience acquired.

I also found time to buy my own 30ft yacht during my time off and cruised the east coast of America, the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos, Virgin Islands and down into the Caribbean. It would be fair to say my heart lies in the cruising and exploration on sailing boats!

Another passion of mine is marine conservation. I spent almost 2 years in Seychelles, volunteering for a non-profit NGO doing coral reef research and conservation work. After being there for 6 months, I got a chance to move to a new island as head of a team to start from scratch, build and then manage a whole new coral reef research and conservation expedition, a project of which I am quite proud, and is still having scientific data published in annual journals!



## NCYC MARQUEE HIRE SPECIAL

**Are you celebrating a special event  
between May & August 2015?**

### Non Members

Book your event for May, June, July or August 2015 for 40 guests or more and receive half price marquee room hire!

This means, NCYC's Marquee, the rear half of the courtyard and grassed area - overlooking NCYC's marina, all setup, furniture, gas heaters (if required), linen, cutlery and glassware for your event is only \$250 for 4 hours use!

### Members

Book your event for May, June, July or August 2015 for 40 guests or more and we'll waive the marquee room hire fee completely!

This means, NCYC's Marquee, the rear half of the courtyard and grassed area - overlooking NCYC's marina, all setup, furniture, gas heaters (if required), linen, cutlery and glassware for your event is complimentary for 4 hours use!



To book your event  
P 02 4940 8188 • E [functions@ncyc.net.au](mailto:functions@ncyc.net.au)

**BIRTHDAYS • WEDDINGS • ENGAGEMENT PARTIES  
CHRISTENINGS • CORPORATE FUNCTIONS • RETIREMENTS**

**NOW  
AVAILABLE**



## BOATING HANDBOOK



By Scott Morris



The inaugural 2015 East Coast Classic was a great success with 311 anglers participating in the event.

## Congratulations to our winners

### Overall Champion Team Capture

#### *Black Jack*

John BUXTON(c), Troy DUNN & Chris HARRIS

### Overall Champion Team - Tag & Release

#### *Freedom*

Scott THORINGTON(c), Jay HOUSEMAN, Ken CHANDLER, Wes CHANDLER, Luke ERIQUEZ, Adam ENRIQUEZ

### Largest Marlin (over 150kg)

#### *Screaming Hoff*

Anglers: Gary HOFF(c), Gavin KELLY, Aaron REDDING

### Champion Anglers

Male T & R – Damian Rafter (Rush Hour)

Female T & R – Denise Duignan (Little Audrey)

Junior T & R – Joshua Deaves (Holy Mackerel)

Small Fry T & R – Rhys Jolly (Seababy IV)



A very successful sailing and fishing weekend at NCYC!!!

## Congratulations

**Male Capture** - Troy Dunn (Black Jack)

**Female Capture** – Melissa Currie (Mojo)

**Small Fry Capture** – Corey Radford (Climax)

## Tournament Statistics

6 x Marlin Captured

3 x Sharks Captured (1 x 349.2 kg Tiger Shark)

2 x Mahi Mahi

53 Marlin Tagged & Released

8 x Sharks Tagged & Released

79 Mahi Mahi Tagged & Released

4 x Striped Tuna Tagged & Released

1 x Yellowfin Tuna Tagged & Released

## Thank you to our sponsors

Carzoos

Ocean Tech Tackle

MG Prestige Tiles

Triple M Sheet Metal Pty Ltd

Penn

Magic Boat

Endeavour Marine

Cummins

Blue Bottle Fishing

Marmong Point Marina

ScafflinkAustralia

Marmong Point Marina

Club Marine Insurance

Wellsys Tackle

Iona

Vues on the Bay

Stren

East Coast Marine & Sail

Tackle World

Game Tackle Online

The East Coast Classic Tournament full results and further statistics can be downloaded from the NGFC website at:

<http://www.newcastlegamefishingclub.com.au>

We would like to thank the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club for looking after all of the 70 boats that received the 2 nights free berthing.

I hope you all had a great time and can't wait until we do it all bigger and better in 2016!





# The Mission to Seafarers

Article & images by Rick McCosker

Happy New Year to all members.

The year just finished had its quota of tragic events, including the Maritime Industry, as we received news of two separate tragic deaths of seafarers off the coast of Australia in the last three months of 2014. In both instances we liaised with the various relevant Authorities to provide much needed practical and pastoral support for each of the crews involved. These incidents remind us that the life of the seafarer is not an easy one.

On a brighter note, due to the generosity of the people of Newcastle and the Hunter, we were able to deliver three hundred individual gift packs to all seafarers visiting our Port in the few days leading up to Christmas. On Christmas Day our team provided special meals, guided tours of the city and spread good cheer for those seafarers lucky enough to be able to come ashore. Regardless of culture or faith, they all like to celebrate that special day.



Seafarers receiving gift packs

During our on-board ship visits we occasionally meet up with a Ship's Master or Officer who has a few minutes to chat. At times they become reflective of their life as a seafarer. As well as the difficulties of life at sea they share feelings of the difficulties of going home after their contract of at least ten months has finished.

They have to re-adjust to their family lifestyle, so different from their work life at sea – getting to know their children again or, for some, seeing them for the first time. Then there is the re-learning to live with their wives again, both having lived virtual separate lives for most of the year. Just as they all begin to re-adjust, it's time to sign up for another contract and so the cycle begins again. Those who can't manage this continual emotional roller-coaster can fall into depression, a scourge of all seafarers.

During a recent Apostleship of the Sea National Conference, an Indian seafarer shared with us many stories of hardship of a life at sea and how vital it was for him to be able to come ashore to a place where he could feel safe, where there was no bullying or racial or cultural discrimination, a place where he could communicate with his family, a place that felt like a home away from home. This is the very place we try to provide, through the love and generosity of our team of volunteers and the support of many people and businesses of Newcastle.

Occasionally we witness a “feel good” story in our ministry that brightens our day. Just after Christmas we were visited by two Korean brothers who had driven up from Sydney that morning to meet up with their Chief Engineer brother who had just arrived in a vessel berthed at Kooragang. The two brothers had not seen their seafarer brother for fifteen years for one and twenty three years for the other. We were able to transport the very excited Chief Engineer to our Mission Centre, where there was a very joyful, and even tearful reunion – all part of the service!



We hope you were able to participate in the LUNAR (Light up Newcastle and Rotary) event. This was a major undertaking by the Rotary Clubs of Newcastle, celebrating Chinese New Year held on 21st February and raising funds for a replacement bus to assist us in transporting seafarers from the various berths to our Mission Centre, Marketown and return.

There has been a lot of hard work gone into organising this event, including the co-operation of your Club, and we at the Mission are appreciative of being the financial beneficiaries.

We have already spent some time in planning on ways to improve how we can provide that home-away-from-home for the visiting seafarers.

The Chaplains and Volunteers of the Mission to Seafarers wish members and staff safe sailing and an enjoyable 2015.





## Where in the world is our burgee?

A competition for members only.



**To Enter:** Four simple steps.

1. Collect an entry form from the bar.
2. Select the correct answer from the four options:
  - a. Beaufort, Florida
  - b. Key West, Florida
  - c. Santa Monica, California
  - d. Cape May, New Jersey



### “Where in the world WAS our burgee?”

The Louvre, Paris

Photograph by  
Howard Keegan

Summer 2014 Winner:  
**Morrie Morgan**

**The Prize:** \$100 Dinner voucher for two at the “Galley”.

**The Task:** Select the correct locations from the options.

**The Winner:** The first correct entry drawn from the barrel.

3. Fill in your membership and contact numbers.

4. Put the form in the box provided.

**Closing Date:** Friday 1 May 2015.

To submit a photo of our burgee flying:  
info@ncyc.net.au - subject “burgee competition”.

## ENVIROPACIFIC SERVICES



### Petroleum services and engineered environmental solutions

Enviropacific is a dynamic and diversified business, leading the industry in the provision of petroleum services and engineered environmental solutions to solid and liquid contamination problems throughout Australia.

We apply leading edge science, engineering and sustainability principles to our remediation design. Our applied research and implementation of emerging technologies provides us with the tools to create innovative, efficient, high-value solutions to our clients' immediate and ongoing environmental challenges.

- Site remediation
- Demolition and civil engineering
- Petroleum services
- Water and vapour treatment
- Asbestos management
- Thermal treatment
- Hazardous waste management and treatment

enviropacific.com.au



## Coming Events...

### MARCH 2015

- Tuesday 17 March – St Patrick's Day

### APRIL 2015

- Sunday 12 April – Sail Port Stephens
- Saturday 25 April – Anzac Day
- Sunday 26 April – Up the Creek BBQ

### MAY 2015

- Friday 1 May – Laser Long Lunch
- Sunday 10 May – Mother's Day

### JUNE 2015

- Monday 8 June – Queens Birthday

### EVERY WEEK

- Monday and Tuesday Night Galley Specials  
6pm-8pm
- Thursday Night Members Draw [LTPS/14/10233]
- Up to 4 draws per night:  
6.15pm, 6.30pm, 6.45pm & 7pm  
Cash prize starts at \$200 and jackpots if not won
- Friday Night Raffles  
Tickets sale 6pm - Draw 7pm
- Sunday Breakfast - between 8am-10.30am



NEWCASTLE CRUISING  
YACHT CLUB

**WE HAVE A NUMBER OF  
PRIVATE LEASED BERTHS  
ON THE MARKET  
AT THE MOMENT**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE MARINA  
MANAGER FOR DETAILS**

**MOBILE: 0408 299 512**

**EMAIL: [dockmaster@ncyc.net.au](mailto:dockmaster@ncyc.net.au)**

## Security Phone Numbers

### Emergency

- Police – (02) 4929 0999
- Water Police – (02) 4984 9012
- Fire Department – 000
- Marina Power Failure – Dockmaster 0408 299 512
- 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 – [info@ncyc.net.au](mailto:info@ncyc.net.au)
- Marina Manager (8am - 4pm 7 days)  
0408 299 512 – [dockmaster@ncyc.net.au](mailto:dockmaster@ncyc.net.au)
- The Galley (Noon - 2.30pm, 6pm - 8.30pm)  
(02) 4940 8188 – [info@ncyc.net.au](mailto:info@ncyc.net.au)
- Administration (9am - 5pm 5 days)  
(02) 4940 8188 – [admin@ncyc.net.au](mailto:admin@ncyc.net.au)
- Functions (9am - 5pm)  
(02) 4940 8188 – [functions@ncyc.net.au](mailto:functions@ncyc.net.au)

## AVAILABLE NOW!

# Safety Information

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



**Pick up your free copy  
from the NCYC office**

**AT LAST!**  
**What Charlestown has been waiting for...**  
**IS HERE!**

## **EASTSIDE APARTMENTS**

**FIRST HOME  
BUYERS  
BONUS**



**FINANCE  
PACKAGE  
AVAILABLE  
(95%) T.A.P**

**6-8 CHARLES STREET, CHARLESTOWN**

**CONSTRUCTION STARTING NOW!**

**1 Bed from \$330,000 \* 2 Bed from \$380,000 \* 3 Bed from \$450,000**

*Most with security parking.*

For full details contact

**Bill Quirk 0402 957 055**

[billquirk@bqnre.com.au](mailto:billquirk@bqnre.com.au)

1/91 Hannell St, Wickham

Ph 02 4961 5566

***Borrelli* QUIRK**  
**NEWCASTLE REAL ESTATE**