

thirty two° fifty five

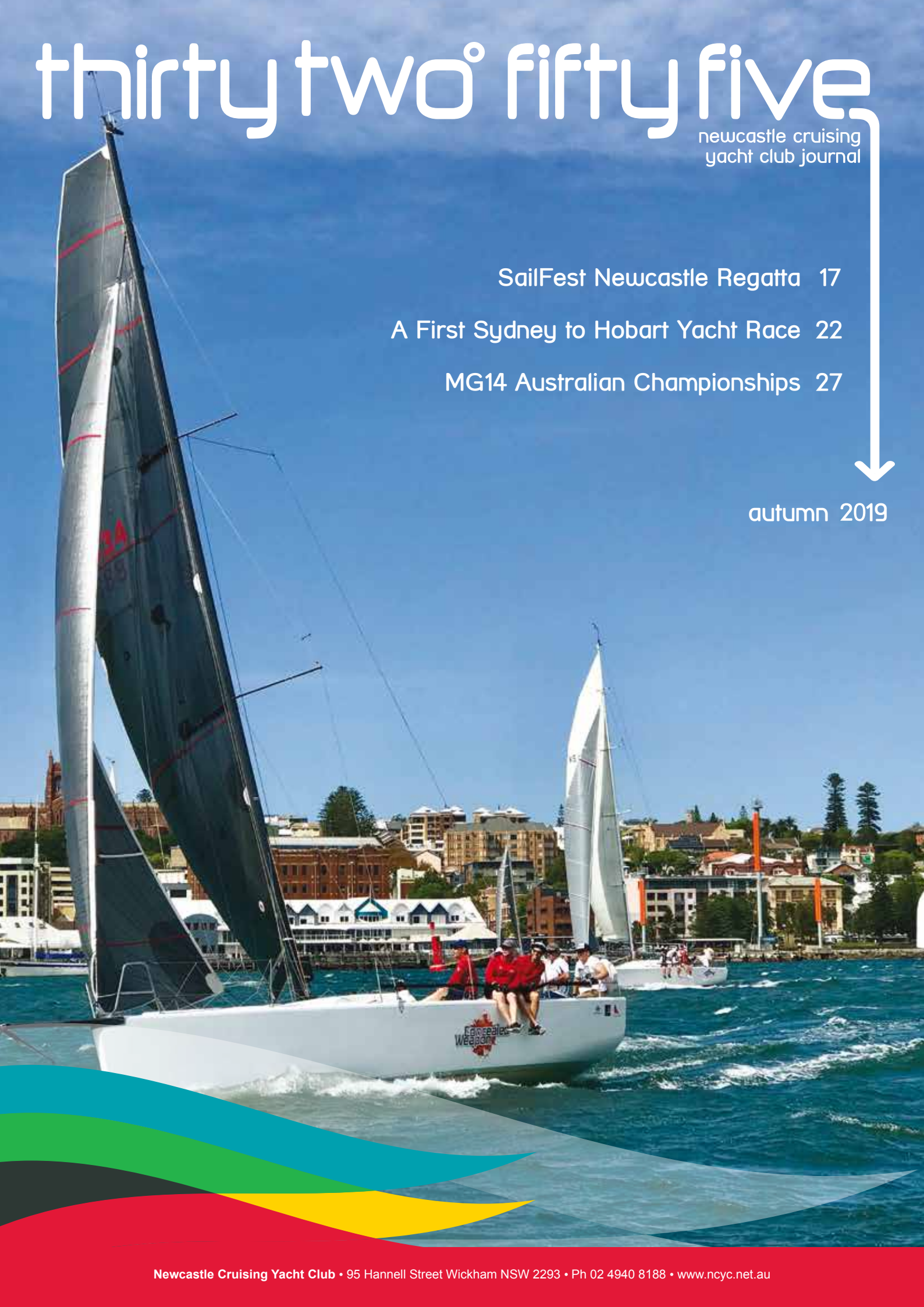
newcastle cruising
yacht club journal

SailFest Newcastle Regatta 17

A First Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race 22

MG14 Australian Championships 27

autumn 2019





NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB

Corporate Sailing

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Force 24 Keelboats



Six boats available - Four crew per boat - 24 guests on-water
Qualified Instructors & all Safety Equipment supplied
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www.ncyc.net.au/sailing-academy

Please be aware that as sailing is an outdoor adventure activity we are governed by the wind and weather. We will do our best to ensure your sailing activities go ahead as planned however please understand that on occasion we may need to cancel, modify or offer alternate activities. Safety of your guests is our primary concern.

Unwind | Share | Laugh | Enjoy



Lisa Blair
Photo Credit: CieloCam



Tavis and Marina Manager Sandy



Marine Rescue -
Stuart Lawson

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Incorporating:

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

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Autumn 2019 journal

A quarterly publication

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Editor: Di Hansen

Cover Image: "Concealed Weapon"
Newcastle to Port Stephens Race
Photo by Jack Buchan

Commodore's Message



Welcome to all our readers, I hope you all enjoy reading this Autumn 2019 edition of Thirty-two Fifty-five. Thanks again to our many contributors who have provided their articles to share.

I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas and New Year festivities.

We had a sellout Christmas Party function after our final race last year on the 16th of December. This was a slightly different format to previous year's, with an evening event (as opposed to a lunch / afternoon timing). It certainly appeared that we had lots of members and their guests having a great time and I'm sure there is plenty of photographic evidence. In any case, if you have any feedback that we should take into account in planning for the 2019 Christmas Party, please let us know.

Our Summer trading was up on last year, so thank you all for enjoying your club, and thanks to our management and staff for the wonderful job that they have all done during this busy period. We also held significantly more functions in the build up to Christmas and were solidly booked throughout November and December.

Congratulations to our boats who competed successfully in the Sydney Hobart race, including "Dare Devil" and "Frantic", our sailors represented on "Ragamuffin" and "Triton", and those who enjoyed the deliveries back to Sydney on board "Wax Lyrical", "Showtime" and "Black Jack". 2019 will be the 75th Hobart race,

and the CYCA are expecting a larger turn out for this celebratory event. Good luck to our skippers and crews who will be preparing for that.

Our eight (as) new Elliott 6's have been assembled at the Thales site, and are now parked on their cradles, with their first launch and Blessing of the Fleet on Newcastle Harbour in March. We are very proud of this investment, as it enables the club to provide more sailing opportunities, with these boats targeting the next step in performance racing beyond our Force 24 training boats. These are fast exciting boats to sail, and you can get information on upcoming regatta's for the Elliotts from the Sailing Office.

We will be co-hosting a Festival of Sailing "SailFest", with Port Hunter 16' Sailing Skiff Club on March 29th - 31st, with great ocean racing, harbour races, and "try sailing" - something for everyone - including the spectators! Many people are involved in making this happen - it will certainly be the biggest weekend sailing event that Newcastle has hosted, and we thank you for your huge behind the scenes effort to get everything planned and organised for a great weekend of sailing.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer sailing season!



Steve Rae, Commodore

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Rear Commodore's Report



There are some big things coming in the near future at NCYC.

The recently announced SailFest Newcastle Regatta fits neatly before the Sail Port Stephens (SPS) lead in race and will be held 29-31 March. With our good friends from the TP 52 class attending as well as lots of shore based activities, we are

hoping for a very enjoyable and busy weekend. <https://www.ncyc.net.au/sailing/offshore-regattas/sail-fest/>

Then comes the Newcastle Port Stephens race on 7 April followed immediately by SPS on the 8th. <https://www.ncyc.net.au/sailing/offshore-regattas/newcastle-to-port-stephens-race/> This race has seen huge growth because it's short (~30 miles), has great scenery and has something for everyone at the destination.

We are also going through an asset renewal and refurbishment process in the sailing part of the club. You will have seen the Elliot 6s but we are also in the process of re-engining Wombat, upgrading George Keegan and replacing our Sygna and Stockton offshore marks. As most of you know, sea is a hostile environment even when it is calm and we ignore maintenance and replacement at our peril.

We saw good attendance to our Spring Short Ocean Point Score Twilights with the honours taken by Greg Bolster's "Gregarious" on count back from Bruce McNair's "Paloma". In the Sunday IRC racing it was a similar story with Phil Arnall driving "Anger Management" to 1st on count back from Steve and Maureen Rae's "Marta Jean". Meanwhile in the Spring PHS series Division 1 went to "Anger Management" as well, with Paul Bertholli's "Nutcracker" taking the D2 series result. Finally, the longer ICOM Ocean Point Score races; it's tight. Races 5 & 6 will happen the weekend after I write this. It may all come down to the Newcastle to Sydney race on 1 March.

In the She Sails @ NCYC we have a development event on our Force 24s on the 16th March and an open event using the Elliott 6s on the 9th November. If there are women out there involved in F24 racing and interested in progressing to an Elliott, please get in touch with the sailing team.

The Lasers Spring results had Jeff Robinson winning the OTB, Tony Van Der Stelt taking PHS and saw Eric Besuijen with the honours in the Class result. Well done to all!

The Rolex Sydney Hobart 2018 saw two of our members' yachts and crews participate. Sibby Ilzhofer's "Dare Devil" finished 12th IRC D2 and

ORCi D3 and 13th in Corinthian. Michael Martin's "Frantic" placed 12th in IRC D1. Hobart is a huge commitment and we should all be proud that we were represented at one of the world's most important blue water events.

Finally, I recently sat through a very inspirational talk by Lisa Blair about her record circumnavigation of Australia and her previous circumnavigation of Antarctica (during which she was dismasted). Quite remarkable; and she grossly understates her achievements! Through Lisa's achievements and those of the women before her, women of all ages can now see the path to achieve their dreams.

"I never regretted the voyage. I was so happy out there; I didn't want to come back. When it ended I felt like I was leaving a really good friend behind." Kay Cottee AO, first Australian woman to circumnavigate the earth, nonstop and unassisted on "Blackmores First Lady",

29 November 1987 – 5 June 1988 (37' Cavalier designed by Laurie Davidson and built by Kay).



Barry Kelly, Rear Commodore

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Chief Executive Officer's Report



The Club has enjoyed a very busy summer both on and off the water.

Club sailing has been well attended over the summer. We have had offshore racing on Sundays, twilights on Fridays, Laser sailing inshore and our Cruising Fleet get-aways. For the first time the

club has started a junior division and it was exciting to see the establishment of a Green fleet for the kids in the Optis. Special thanks to Mark Webb for driving this.

We are currently enjoying a hectic "Regatta Season" with the Pittwater trip, Sydney Harbour, our own new event at the end of March and finishing the season with Sail Port Stephens. The sailing season will conclude with a short sharp Winter series in June/July. The team have also been very busy doing maintenance on all boats – with a major project being the engine replacement on 'Wombat'. The Sailing Academy continues to attract good numbers.

Congratulations to Michael Martin with "Frantic" and Sibby Ilzhofer with "Dare Devil" for their Sydney to Hobart campaigns. It is a big commitment

that helps profile our sport and club in this region. Congratulations to all our members who crewed going south, notably Jack Goluzd on his 35th trip and Karma Randell doing her first.

The licensed club hosted some great member events recently including Melbourne Cup, SOLAS Dinner, Member Xmas Party, The Start of Hobart and New Year's Eve. All sell-out events. The team have been flat out with a big increase in function business and lunch trade is surging along. We are on track for a record year in bar trade. They look forward to a big end of year with SailFest Newcastle Regatta being hosted here 29-31 March.

The Marina, Commercial Centre and fuel continue to trade well. The upcoming regattas will be a tricky juggling act to squeeze everyone in. We have installed security cameras and refurbished the marina amenities which we hope will add to the marina experience.

SailFest Newcastle Regatta will be a major event for the club 29 – 31 March. In conjunction with Port Hunter 16ft Sailing Skiff Club and Newcastle City Council, we hope to fill the Harbour with sails and sailing vessels of all kinds. It is planned to become an annual event showcasing our sport to the community. I encourage all to visit the club and foreshore that weekend. Any volunteer assistance will be appreciated.

A sincere thank you to all the operations team that have put in a huge effort over this hectic Summer.

Paul O'Rourke, CEO

29-31 MARCH

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- Signage opportunities on our boats and walkways
- Naming rights of events

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Marina & Assets Manager's Report



2019 – happy new year!
We've hit the ground running, starting to plug in reservations in good time for expected peak visitations in the early months. February we had a visiting regatta from CYCA and reciprocation of an offshore race to Pittwater by NCYC home-based vessels.

In early March there's a changing of the guard with the Newcastle Game Fishing hosting their annual tournament (8-10 March). This weekend attracts anglers of all ages and denominations to compete in various classes with plenty of prizes and presentations at the Club. Thereafter the return of the sailors, with the launch of SailFest - Newcastle Regatta in late March closely followed by the Newcastle to Port Stephens feeder race and to cap off the season, the NSW Country Yachting Championships in late August. Such events often have the Marina to maximum occupancy and of course, in the mix there's the frequent offloading/unloading of international vessels arriving from delivery ship transport.

At a glance we have a firm enquiry from the Royal Motor Yacht Club (Broken Bay) to visit over the Easter weekend. We anticipate the NCYC Cruising Fleet will host a function, or possibly a day activity, for the flotilla whilst they're in Newcastle and build that relation to strengthen in the future. Every indication is that there may be up to 30+ vessels arriving for the long weekend. General marina occupancy has been steady and the casual transient visitation on target.

Tavis Pierce from Hunter Ozfish approached the Club to trial establishing an Oyster hatchery for the purpose of reef rehabilitation. Tavis had identified oyster reef favourability given the tidal range and movement through the Marina. He identified the potential for the vital native "Angasi" oyster to spat and multiply in the ideal water conditions. Further, a unique, possibly unidentified, breed of oyster specific to the Throsby Creek tidal flow is with Fisheries for identification and naming purposes. His efforts are supported and encouraged as we await the trial.

The marina amenities and laundry are undergoing a much-needed refurbishment and upgrade, which commenced early February. The final configuration will be similar format of 6 x unisex amenities and extended laundry area. It is expected to be completed and re-opened in good time prior to the inaugural SailFest launch late March. The amenities at the Club have been slightly modified to allow 24-hour access during the project.

Grounds and maintenance continue to be improved and maintained. Summer focus will be given to the landscaping which will include tree/hedge maintenance and trimming, garden bed mulching and of course the never-ending painting and beautification.

Similarly to the tide, staff ebb and flow. Casual Dockmaster, James Waldron is focussing on certification in the Maritime industry, undertaking his Master 5 and MED in February and will finish up with the team. James has been onboard for 18 months and we wish him well. Ethan Tucker has joined the team as a Casual Dockmaster for the Summer, bringing a positive and vibrant approach to his role. He has minimal experience in the Marina industry, however his exceptional customer care and focus has been a significant contribution to him turning his hand to the 'sea change'. Paul Booth has taken some annual leave to embark on his annual cruise and will also take long service leave sometime in 2019.

Fair winds, following seas – The Marina Team!

MEET ONE OF THE TEAM Ethan Tucker – Dockmaster



Hi, I'm Ethan, I'm known for my easy-going nature, honesty and warm personality.

To tell you all the truth, I don't know how I ended up here. I applied for the position of 'Dockmaster' without having any previous experience and a few of my friends were humored by the fact that I applied. But I get the last laugh, as here we are two months later, and I am being asked to introduce myself for all the readers of our magazine.

I have loved every moment of this job, what a huge learning curve and not one day has been the same. I started with absolutely no knowledge of boats, sailing and marinas, and slowly that is growing. I was always fascinated by the water and boats, but I never took the time to learn, so this job has been providing me with a lot of enjoyment.

Currently I am studying a Bachelor of Creative Industries and a Bachelor of Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the University of Newcastle. When I'm not working at NCYC, I am either working at my other job, studying or playing games.

Give me a shout-out when you see me doing the dockwalk.

History of the NCYC Social Committee Tenacity Award

By Gloria Thirkell, Life Member

The Tenacity Award is not a trophy nor is it a prize which can be won by competition. During each year, the Social Committee decides on who will be the recipient after considering candidates nominated by current NCYC members. Nominees must be financial members of the club with no restriction as to the category of membership.

Awardees therefore, are not necessarily sailors. Presentation night is a prestigious occasion to recognise and reward excellence and commitment in competition. It is therefore the most appropriate time to present the Tenacity Award.

The Tenacity Award with names of the 17 recipients can be found in the club Trophy Room.

2004 6th Oct – Colin Jordan, skipper of ‘Sienna’

2004 14th Nov - Robin Hillery, skipper of ‘Warrain’

2004 26th Dec - Ivan and Sibby MacFadyen, owners of ‘Funnelweb’

2005 - Glenda Arnall, Lady Skipper ‘Felix Venture’

2006 - Tony Purkiss, skipper of ‘Etosha’

2007 - Robin Hillery, skipper of ‘Warrain’

2008 - Ted De-La-Garde, (volunteer) owner/driver of ‘Alsina’

2009 - Paul Gleeson skipper of Summer Salt’

2010 - Ernie Thirkell, (volunteer) driver of ‘Wombat’

2011 - Len Croft, skipper of ‘Woodstock’

2012- Robin Hillery skipper of ‘Warrain’

2013 - Len Croft skipper of ‘Woodstock’

2014 - Greg Jackson, (Volunteer)

2015 - Mark Richards, (honorary Handicapper)

2016 - Louise Costello (new sailor, volunteer)

2017 - Kris Richard, (volunteer)

2018 - Neal Kibble (volunteer)

In this series of articles we have remembered why” behind the first five names.

The 2007 recipient – Robin Hillery:



Robin Hillery - By Ray Blackburn “Etosha”

Robin was a competitor in the 2006 Cronulla Sailing Club All Ports Regatta. In the second of three races he showed extreme tenacity, continuing with determination and perseverance to achieve his goal. Hours after the rest of the Pittwater to Newcastle fleet had finished, ‘Warrain’ finally crossed the line under sail at 3am. He again demonstrated his tenacity by being on the start line at 9am the next day for the third race.



Warrain - By Michael Eggleston

In our next magazine, Winter Issue 2019 – The Tenacity Award goes to Ted De-La-Garde.

Membership Renewals are now due.

**Please make your payment
by 31 March 2019**



NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB

VALE: Dr Jim Holley

It was with great sadness, love and respect, that we said goodbye to our beloved friend, fellow sailor, life member and past Commodore of NCYC, Dr. Jim Holley. Our thoughts and best wishes have been with Mary and the family during this time of mourning and celebration of the wonderful man we had the privilege of being friends with.

As a founding member Jim had a huge passion for our yacht club in Newcastle, and he worked as a dedicated Director for many years, before retiring as Commodore in 2017. Jim completed a record 25 consecutive Sydney Hobart's, and in the process provided many of our up and coming club sailors their first memorable Sydney Hobart experience. He was always keen to pass on his knowledge, whether that be how to survive the storms en route to Hobart by going out wide, or how to keep your mast up with regular maintenance of the rigging, including the liberal application of 'cocky poo'. Jim was also fastidious with routine maintenance of his winches, as I learned from being his apprentice for the many years that we stripped and re-built our winches together.



Jim was widely known and respected within the broader sailing community as well, and it was heart-warming to read letters of condolence from other Commodore's and senior figures within Australian Sailing who had the greatest respect for Jim, as a gentleman and a sailor.

Jim was a true hero, especially to Mary and his loving family. He will certainly be missed by us all.



Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club Social Committee's

FRIDAY RAFFLES

BEER & WINE - BBQ TRAYS - PLUS MORE
TIX ON SALE : 6PM - DRAW : 7PM

ENTERTAINMENT

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AFTERNOONS
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Supporting the Community

Robin Hillery, assisted by Kris Rickard sell tickets and run the raffle each Friday night at NCYC, with ticket sales beginning around 6pm. The raffle is well supported by sponsors and by members and their guests of the Club. Money raised is allocated to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service, Mission to Seafarers and Port Hunter 16' Sailing Skiff Club Juniors.

WRHS and MTS were presented their cheques in late 2018 and PHSSC was presented with their donation in March 2018.



Milena Hartnett from Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service



Andrew Lund from Mission to Seafarers



PHSSC March 2018

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Start Date: Friday 15th February 2019 Draw Date: Tuesday 23rd April, 2019 @ 10am

Drawn: On site at Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club. LTPM/18/03027

Social Highlights

NCYC Members Christmas Party Photos by Louise Costello



Gloria Ernie and Family



Dick Lees Ernie Thirkell



Nutracker Crew Jack Buchan



Cruising Division Christmas Sing a long



Celebration of 10 Years of the Clubhouse was well attended in early December 2018.



Setting Sail

The First 25 Years

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club - 1994-2019

The NCYC Anniversary book is a beautifully presented record of the first 25 Years of our Club's history, co-authored by Life Members Paul Hannan and Gloria Thirkell. It contains priceless photos of the history of the Club and its important place in the evolution of our modern harbour.

Thanks to Gloria's record keeping and the contributions of many of our members, the book will contain photographs of all stages of construction of the marina and Club buildings. Most yachts that have competed in racing at the Club are pictured along with the Cruising Fleet and its contribution to the Club's enviable spirit of fellowship.

There is a section on the Lasers and the Club's many regattas. We have included a pictorial record and history of the phenomenal success of the NCYC Academy and our unique She Sails group.



The launch of the anniversary book will be held on the 6th July 2019.

NCYC Wishes everyone a Happy & Safe Easter!!



Easter Sunday 21st April
Entertainment "Loko" from 2:30pm



SOLAS Dinner 2018

Thank You to everyone who attended the SOLAS Dinner in November. With your help and support of our generous sponsors, an amazing \$20,860 was raised for the SOLAS Trust.



The Trust assists immediate families, aids search and rescue organisations and foster research & training to improve procedures and equipment for use at sea.

Sailing Managers Report

Jack Buchan, Sailing Manager

I was fortunate to work with National Race Officer Phil Yeomans on the start boat for the second start line on Boxing Day. With Phil sighting the pin end from upstairs and me sighting the boat end from downstairs, together we were able to confirm a clear start for the 2018 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. With a clear start confirmed, we were able to quickly up-anchor and motor down the harbour to follow the leaders out the heads where we watched from the safety of the Start Boat as the Hobart Fleet sailed past on their way South. Congratulations to each of our Club Members who went to Hobart as sailors, or supporters – what an incredible effort by all involved in one of the toughest races on earth!



Rolex Sydney to Hobart - Start Line

As we settle in to 2019, Club Racing remains strong all-round with the support of our sponsors including DFK Crosbie Laser Twilight racing, Club Marine Keelboat Twilight racing, Special Eyes Summer Short Ocean Pointscore, the Icom Ocean Pointscore and Tackers Green Fleet racing.

Nicknamed the 'Blue Brigade' after our brightly coloured shirts, our on-water volunteer team is taking on more than ever before with simultaneous inshore and offshore racecourses on Fridays, conducting Sunday racing without the 'Wombat' while she is down for repairs and successfully delivering high profile offshore regattas. With the addition of inshore racing to our calendar, we will be calling for more help from our volunteers and members to deliver the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club's Sailing Calendar.

Soon to be added to the Club Calendar is a new era of Inshore Racing with the introduction of our new fleet of Elliott 6 Olympic Yachts. These yachts were used in London to contest the Women's Match Racing event of the 2012 Olympics. In as new condition, these yachts will now go on to provide an alternative avenue for

sailors to get on the water here in Newcastle. We are now accepting expressions of interest for four different inshore series including a women's (She Sails) series, an under 30's (20/20) comp, an open series and a day race (2-up) series. More details available on our website (Sailing > Inshore Racing).

The Academy continued to show its success over the summer holiday season with full Tackers courses for kids and a steady influx of adult learn to sail in our Australian Sailing accredited keelboat courses and our social Friday Harbour Sailing and Women's Sailing courses.

In February we towed four of our Force 24s down to Lake Macquarie to contest the Friendship Cup - a teams racing event between the Lake Macquarie Yacht Club and Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club.



Friendship Cup - Swansea

The event was competed in our fleet of Force 24s after an adventurous team of volunteers and staff took the boats down the coast late last week in time for racing on Sunday. With four boats at the Lake, we nominated two NCYC teams led by skippers Andrew Miller and myself. They were up against a strong competition with Ian Bower and Mark Holmes nominated by Lake Macquarie Yacht Club. In a stronger than anticipated breeze, oscillating and influenced by nearby landmark Andersons Headland, spectators were offered tight racing in our evenly matched one design fleet.



Images: Friendship Cup

This year's Friendship Cup format evolved after the season had already begun, yet has rekindled a relationship with our neighbour Club down at the Lake. Lake Macquarie Yacht Club's teams fought hard and have claimed the Friendship Cup for a second year in

a row - granting them the opportunity to host the event again next year. Two of our Force 24s will now remain at Belmont for two weeks where we've organised some youth coaching clinics – targeted at introducing the next generation of sailors to keelboat racing and to our winter-based Youth Development Program.

On the same weekend in February we also picked up the Icom Ocean Pointscore with the Newcastle to Pittwater Race on Saturday and the Pittwater to Newcastle Race on Sunday. With downwind legs in both directions, this could be one of our best weekends on the water to date! Concealed Weapon currently sits in 1st place thanks to a countback on equal points with 'Summer Salt'. Meanwhile 'She's the Culprit', 'Anger Management', 'Marta Jean' and 'Mako' are all within 4 points on the overall series scorecard. With only one race to go in the series, there's significant room for place changes in the Newcastle to Middle Harbour Race for race no. 7 – the final race of the Icom Ocean Pointscore for the 2018-2019 sailing season.



ICOM Ocean Pointscore

As we look ahead over the next six weeks we have the CYCA Blue Water Pointscore Sydney to Newcastle Race, Icom Ocean Pointscore Newcastle to Middle Harbour Race, SailFest Newcastle Regatta, Newcastle to Port Stephens Race and of course – Sail Port Stephens! We will be buzzing with activity each and every weekend from now until April where we hope to come up for a breath of fresh air before we get right back into racing and youth development for winter!

Although a new event, SailFest rekindles the historic Newcastle Regatta which was first staged in 1834, some three years prior to Sydney's Australia Day Regatta – which is touted as the world's oldest continuously-conducted sailing event – and a full decade before Geelong's Australia Day Regatta. Although the exact format for our modern take is still developing, we know that it will feature offshore yacht racing including a TP52 division and PHS and IRC divisions as well as inshore racing including off the beach boats, trailable yachts, sports boats and a Laser event.

I came across an artefact preserved by the Newcastle Museum listed as the Newcastle Regatta Trophy. Constructed in Birmingham (UK), the cup was forged from silver and was sailed to Australia where it was awarded to Clarence Hewson Hannell (eldest son of James Hannell – the first Lord Mayor of Newcastle and Wickham) in recognition for winning the 1857 Newcastle Regatta. You may recognise that these are the same Hannells of Hannell Street that our Club is located. Locals would also recognise the suburb of Smedmore, the area where the family lived, has since been renamed Maryville in honour of Clarence Hannell's mother.

As we move forward, SailFest is our next big challenge here in the Sailing Office and I'm excited to see it come to fruition over the next two months. It will be the single biggest and most challenging event I've been involved with here at the Club and perhaps on par with the biggest and most challenging on-water event in the history of the Club! It'll be all hands on deck for our volunteer 'Blue Brigade' as we simultaneously manage 4 separate race tracks. If you're not sailing March 29-31 and can be available to help us on the water, I'd appreciate your help.

We're Searching for Volunteers

SAILFEST
NEWCASTLE REGATTA

Join the SailFest Volunteer Team

If you are not sailing March 29-31 and are available to help the SailFest Team on the water, call Jack Buchan on (02) 4940 8188.

Thank You to our 2018-2019 Sailing Season Club Sponsors



ICOM – Ocean Pointscore Sponsor



Buyaboat – NCYC Friday Raffles Sponsor



Club Marine – Twilight Series Sponsor



Midcoast Boatyard & Marine – F24s Sponsor



Hooked – NCYC Members Draw Sponsor



DFK Crosbie – Laser Twilight Series Sponsor



Special Eyes By Susan Walton
IRC Summer Short Ocean Pointscore Sponsor

Spring Short Ocean Pointscore Presentation



Anger Management -
Trifector with 1st line
honours IRC and PHS



Paul Bertholli -
Nutcracker PHS Div 2



Rolex Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race

**The Rolex Sydney Hobart 2018
saw two of our members' yachts
and crews participate.**

Hobart is a huge commitment
and NCYC are proud that we were
represented at one of the world's
most important blue water events
and we congratulate you.



Dare Devil Crew



Dare Devil STH 2018

Images: Ocean Patrice Digital Media

**Sibby Ilzhofer's "Dare Devil" finished 12th IRC D2
and ORCi D3 and 13th in Corinthian.**



Frantic - Out of The
Heads by David Knapp



Frantic Crew

Michael Martin's "Frantic" placed 12th in IRC D1.



Newcastle Harbour has been synonymous with sailing for many years, staging the first organised regatta way back in 1834. That is three years prior to Sydney's Australia Day Regatta – which is regarded as the world's oldest continuously-conducted sailing event – and a full decade before Geelong's Australia Day Regatta.

For the inaugural Newcastle Harbour Regatta, butcher boats competed in fun competition and a carnival atmosphere prevailed on the foreshore as the waterway abounded with sails. That vision for a fun, friendly and welcoming event remains today, with a new opportunity arising to embrace this proud past while also showcasing the present and future stars of sailing.

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club invites you to SailFest – Newcastle Regatta 29th - 31st March 2019

Stroll the Foreshore and enjoy SailFest, incorporating the historic Newcastle Harbour Regatta and equally iconic 'Cock of the Harbour' race. Along with Olympic class lasers & keelboats at Honeysuckle, Flying Skiffs at Queens Wharf and TP52 and Ocean Racers off Newcastle Beach. For the Kids we have Try-Sailing for Free at Carrington on Sat-Sun between 10am-2pm.

For more information on SailFest visit <https://www.ncyc.net.au/sailing/offshore-regattas/sail-fest/> or call 4940 8188.

NCYC Audit Day Held 29 June 2019

To Comply with 2017-2020
Sailing Regulation Requirements

Contact the Sailing Office & Book Now
Phone: 02 4940 8188
Email: sailing@ncyc.net.au

NEWCASTLE TO PORT STEPHENS RACE

"A lead in race to Sail Port Stephens"

PHS, IRC
& ORCi
DIVISIONS



SUNDAY 7TH APRIL
10AM

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (NCYC), as the Organising Authority, invites entries from owners of suitable yachts to participate in this lead in event to the Sail Port Stephens event.
This lead in race will include PHS, IRC and ORCi divisions.

VISIT WEBSITE FOR ENTRY, SAILING INSTRUCTIONS AND NOTICE OF RACE
<https://www.ncyc.net.au/sailing/offshore-regattas/newcastle-to-port-stephens-race/>
FOR ENQUIRIES, CONTACT THE SAILING MANAGER, JACK BUCHAN ON (02) 4940 8188



29-31 MARCH 2019

A NEW FESTIVAL OF SAILING
FOR NEWCASTLE HARBOUR

ALL CLASSES WELCOME!

Includes TP52s and ocean racers,
Cock of the Harbour 16ft Skiffs,
catamarans, Lasers, Elliott 6s,
trailer yachts + TrySailing



CO-HOSTED BY NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB
AND PORT HUNTER 16FT SAILING CLUB



ncyc.net.au/sailfest-newcastle

Laser Sailing

Sail a Laser and Win Your Weight in Beer

By Phil Ashley-Brown

Even if you've never sailed a Laser, it is worth entering the SailFest Newcastle regatta at the end of March to have the opportunity to win your weight in beer. It'll be a relaxed regatta in the basin aimed at sailors who want to get out on the water and have some fun with the ultimate winner walking away with their weight in beer. How good is that?

Fleet numbers over summer have been around 15 boats. It has been competitive and loads of fun. The fleet has a good mix of new and experienced sailors which means there are plenty of races happening in the race itself whether you're at the front, back or middle of the fleet.

The DFK Crosbie Laser Twilight Series - Race 3 held on the 1st of February was a gusty southerly which saw a smaller fleet enter the race and those who were out there held on by their fingertips. It was exhilarating sailing, it was challenging and there weren't many people who didn't capsize.

At the time of writing, Tony Van Der Stelt is winning the PHS and Jeff Robinson is leading the series off the beach.

If you'd like to sail a Laser in one of the weekly races it's possible to hire a club boat and get support rigging it, just contact the club.



by
Susan Walton OAM
B Optom FACBO
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Laser Winter Series



Saturday 18 May

dfk crosbie

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SAILFEST
NEWCASTLE REGATTA



Honeysuckle Hotel Laser PUB CHALLENGE

WIN YOUR WEIGHT IN BEER

WINDWARD / LEEWARD RACES

FOLLOWED BY PUB CHALLENGE

REGISTER NOW!

<https://www.ncyc.net.au/sailfest-newcastle>

ENQUIRIES TEL: 4940 8188



NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB

Cruising Fleet

By Neil & Charna Manson "Georgia"



It's been just over a year that Charna and I have been members of Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club and we have enjoyed the experience immensely.

Upon arrival, the office staff helped us with all our enquiries

enabling us to secure a beautiful berth and from there it was a matter of meeting fellow boating enthusiasts.

Fortunately for us, Peter Thornton suggested we attend a Member's Draw on Thursday nights and introduced us to a number of other club members who were all very welcoming from the "get go". Thank God because going from a 15 foot Canadian canoe (twin paddle power) to a 52 foot twin screw cruiser meant this would be a rather steep learning curve and our new friends were going to have numerous questions fired at them!

Within a few months Valda Johnston found out we owned a cruiser boat and suggested we speak with Brian Gardoll regarding the club's "cruising fleet".

When we heard their philosophy was all about enjoying your boat (sail or power), going on excursions and having fun with "likeminded people" it sounded ideal for us newbies so we paid our \$10 joining fee and signed up.



In our wildest dreams Charna and I couldn't have imagined becoming involved with a better group of people. Over the months we have formed new friendships, enjoyed nautical outings and had laughter - the likes of which I have never known.

As word spread throughout NCYC more boats continued to join the cruising fleet and on the Club's presentation evening late last year there were over 30 Cruising vessels involved. This was a particularly monumental day for both Charna and I as Brian presented us with the "Virgins Award".

Personally I thought that "ship had sailed" years ago however, Charna's mom is extremely proud and revels in telling her friends at the retirement village all about it!

If you decide to sign up with the Cruising Fleet I can't promise you'll become a virgin but you will meet some awesome people and have an absolute hoot.

As dear old dad use to say, "We haven't had this much fun since the hogs ate my little brother"!!

Till next time, happy cruising!



Cruise Schedule

Ship Name	Date	Due to Arrive	Due to Depart	LOA	PAX
Viking Orion	Monday 11 March	08:00	18:00	228	930
Seabourn Encore**	Thursday 28 March	07:00	14:00	210	604
Noordam**	Saturday 30 March	10:00	18:00	285	1,916
Noordam	Saturday 6 April	10:00	18:00	285	1,916
Crystal Symphony	Tuesday 9 April	08:00	17:00	238	922

**Maiden Voyage

Sailing Academy Report

By Jacqui Ellis

We've just finished another busy school holiday program and now we're into our term programs and it's looking busy right through to April!

Our courses were full for both weeks of the Tackers school holiday programs and we also had three Force 24s out for our 4-day keelboat Sail & Play holiday program. We are certainly seeing a growth in the popularity of sailing for kids in the Newcastle area. For the April school holidays, we will run a 3-day Sail & Play program – bookings are open now!

Tackers programs are running on Wednesday afternoons (Tackers 1 & 3) and Saturday mornings (Tackers 1 & 2) for this term – there are just a couple of spots left before we are sold out – so contact the sailing office if your young sailor is keen! We also have our Sunday morning Green Fleet which sees our Tackers 3 graduates move into a fun weekend racing program.

Two of our Academy instructors have been coaching the kids at Port Hunter Sailing Club on a Saturday morning. We have been encouraging our Tackers graduates to take up dinghy crewing opportunities at the Club and similarly we have welcomed some of Port Hunters



Tackers - Green Fleet

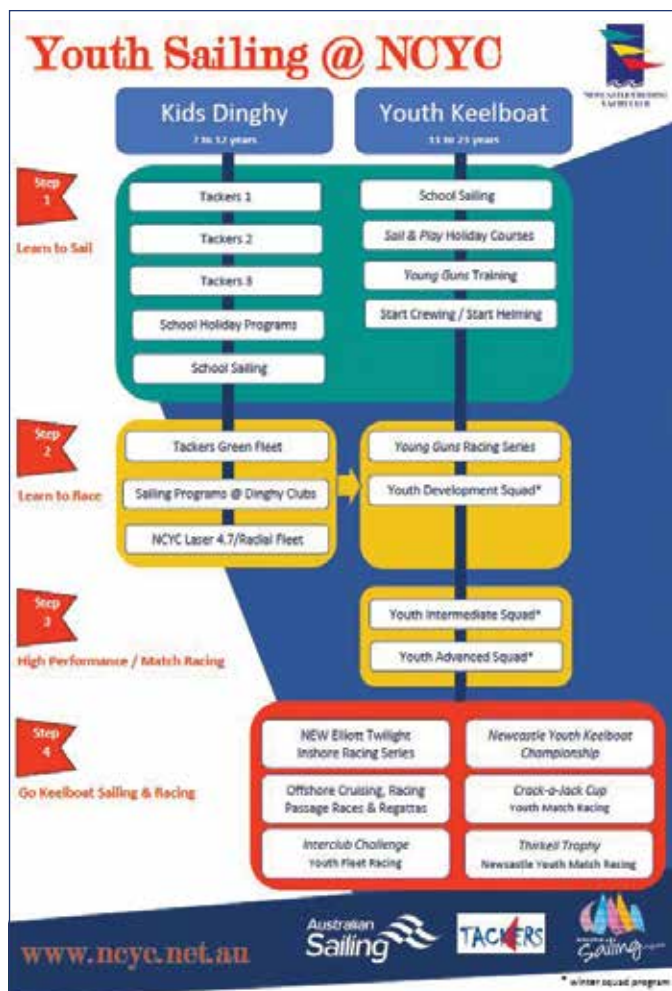
teenage sailors to our Youth Squad Program. By our two clubs working together, we are aiming to provide lots of sailing opportunities to keep the kids involved in our sport.

We have experienced growth in our Young Guns teen keelboat program on Tuesday afternoons. We are hoping these sailors progress into our Winter Youth Squad Program which begins in May. Details are currently being finalized for this growing program so keep an eye on the website in the next week or so - <https://www.ncyc.net.au/youth/>



Instructing Wind and Weather - Keelboats Jan 2019

This term we will host Newcastle East Primary School & Newcastle Grammar (primary) for Tackers school programs and Newcastle Grammar high school kids for the keelboat program. We were very proud of eleven Grammar sailors who worked through the Start Crewing syllabus and achieved their national certification last year. These sailors will now begin the Start Helming syllabus and we also have a new group commencing the Start Crewing.



The NCYC Sailing Academy is a registered provider for the Active Kids voucher program. These vouchers can be used for any youth sailing programs of 8-weeks duration. That's \$100 off the course cost!

Our two most popular adult keelboat programs – Friday Harbour Sailing & Women's Sailing have been attracting large numbers of participants, all keen to enjoy the beautiful spring/summer weather. Our new "One Day at a Time" option is offering participants more flexibility with their attendance as for some a four week block just doesn't fit in with "life"!



Preparing to Sail



Preparing to Sail

graduates have already enrolled to participate in the annual She Sails @ NCYC Development Regatta which will be held on Saturday 16th March. A fantastically fun event that sees most of the ladies sail in their first ever "around the buoys" regatta. The regatta is sailed in our Force 24s with a skilled skipper onboard. Our graduates are organized into crews and we sail a Training Morning on Saturday 9th March to get crew work and boat handling skills polished! All female sailors who have been involved in any course with the Academy are welcomed and encouraged to get involved. This is a fun event with the emphasis on learning and enjoyment. Full details are on the website and online registrations are open now!

<https://www.ncyc.net.au/academy-regattas/she-sails-regattas/>

If you are keen for a bit of after-work sailing fun...get in quick before we lose the benefit of daylight savings! All courses still enrolling now...

Many of our Sailing Academy

Donated Rib

Thank you to Rod Johnson, NCYC Member who donated this RIB to the Club.

The RIB is being used to run our full Tackers course teaching local kids 7-12yrs how to sail.



LEARN TO SAIL COURSES FOR KIDS

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

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

A First Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race

By Karma Randall

The Sydney to Hobart race has a unique rule that prohibits anyone under 18 years from participating. So, the race hasn't been an option for me until this year, as I have just recently turned 18. I sailed the race on a TP52 named "Ragamuffin". Whilst "Ragamuffin" is older than most in the TP52 class, she would still be considered an outside chance of winning the overall title (IRC handicap).



Ragamuffin

We got off to a great start and were amongst the leaders out of the harbour. However, a torn spinnaker on the first night, put us back in the pack and fighting hard to get further enough south before a light wind ridge cut across our path. The leading contenders, just a few miles ahead, stretched their lead within hours to an unassailable gap, as they sailed away in the dying breeze, leaving us completely becalmed for almost the entire second night of the race.

The final day and night down the east coast of Tasmania, gave us a chance to consolidate a respectable position. We had spectacular fast down wind conditions, at times, sailing in excess of 25 knots. Once again, the wind died away on the approach to Tasman island, making for a difficult final night, which become even more difficult when the new breeze ripped across Storm Bay at more 40 knots plus. We were caught off guard and shredded our new No. 4 headsail and then tore the headstay foil from the forestay while sailing up the Derwent River under storm jib and double reefed mainsail. An exciting way to finish the race!!



Ragamuffin Crew

While this resulted in a rather average result, it never the less gave us a taste of everything the Sydney to Hobart Race is famous for, and I can safely say I loved every moment of it.

I now return to the Nacra 17 Olympic class sailing with partner Steve Brewin. We are training hard to catch up with some of the world's best, prior to the start of the European Olympic Class regattas in May, as well as competing in many other regattas including the World Championships in Auckland at the end of the year.



Sydney Heads



Karma and Ragamuffin

NCYC Women Sailors - Delivery Crews After the Sydney to Hobart Race

By Jan Howard

Consistent with the 'She Sails' objective which is to encourage women sailors to develop their skills and experience, five women from NCYC took up opportunities to join delivery crews for the trip home following this year's Sydney to Hobart Race.

Delivery trips provide an opportunity for sailors to experience a long ocean passage, night sailing, navigation, helming, and sailing in a variety of conditions. The crew members further develop their sail trim skills, teamwork and seamanship.

None of these women have participated in the Sydney to Hobart Race and we hope that they will go on to compete as part of a crew in a future event.

This is how they summarised the experience.

Sarah Gamble

Hobart to Sydney - 'Triton', a Lyons 60.

"Wow! What a fabulous and diverse experience. From the picturesque Tasmanian coastline, to the cloudless night skies amassed with twinkling stars, a sunny and calm Bass Strait with a horizon that stretched for miles, driving a rather big yacht, and finishing the journey surfing waves in the pitch black dead of night. What an adventure! I'll be back for more."



Jane Hunt

Hobart to Brisbane - 'Black Jack', a Reichel Pugh 100.

"What a privilege to be at the helm of a 100ft maxi and surfing down the waves. When off watch, it was like being in a torpedo when the southerlies blew! It was a great trip - great wind out of Tassie, and then we stopped over in Eden for 36hrs. We had a great sail out of Eden for a day, flying along at 24kts with only the delivery sails, then motored most of the way back to Brisbane."



Janease Graham

Hobart to Sydney 'Wings', a Dehler 26.

"Boat deliveries with a great skipper and crew give you such a buzz. They are a chance to enjoy the spectacular coastal scenery, in good company, whilst learning new sailing skills."



Sam Hickey

Hobart to Sydney - 'Wax Lyrical', an X Yacht 50.

"Wow! What a privilege to sail on a beautiful yacht with a brilliant crew and enjoy the magnificent scenery and beautiful marine life for 6 days!"



Peta Norris

Hobart to Sydney 'Showtime', a Ker 40.

"Delayed departure from Hobart and strong northerlies from Eden, had us pull up at Bermagui to hand over to a fresh crew for the rest of the trip. Dolphins and albatross joined us around Tasman Island. Bass Strait crossing was brilliant. Steering under the stars and surfing the



swell with 20 – 25 kt SW breeze pushing us to the mainland. Venus rising was so bright it looked lime green. We sailed alongside frolicking seals near Montague Island while we waited for high tide at Bermagui. An awesome experience!!"

The First Woman to Sail Solo Around Antarctica

Lisa Blair visited our Club earlier this year and shared her experiences in sailing and her new world record. Following is a bio on Lisa and her amazing achievements.

Whilst completing her Bachelor of Education and a Bachelor of Visual Arts at Southern Cross University, Lisa Blair secured a job as a hostess on a sailing boat in the Whitsundays on 2005. Once discovering sailing Lisa wanted to learn more and was inspired from books about solo sailors like Kay Cottee, Robin Knox-Johnston and Jessie Martin. Lisa decided to change her course in life and gather the skills to become a solo sailor herself. Lisa since clocked up more than 50,000 nautical miles of ocean sailing before embarking on her record making voyage.

After Circumnavigating the world in the Clipper 2011-12 Round the World Yacht Race Lisa went on to work for Alex Thomson Racing on their 60-foot racing yacht sponsored by Hugo Boss. She then acquired her RYA / MCA Yacht Master Offshore, a Master Class 5 (Australian Skipper ticket) and her MED 3 (Marine Engineering). Lisa worked as skipper of the 68-foot-long, Ex-America's Cup, Racing Yacht "Southern Cross" sailing around the Whitsunday Islands, in 2014 Lisa sailed twice across the Tasman Sea from Australia to New Zealand SOLO clocking up almost 3 000 nm of solo sailing experience in preparation for her Antarctica record.

Following that Lisa is a sailing instructor in Sydney, skipper of Ex-American Cup Yachts "Sprit" and "Kookaburra" and worked for Manly Fast Ferries. Lisa acquired her yacht in November 2015 – previously named "Funnel-Web" - and skippered it in the 2015 Rolex Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. After 3.5 years of planning and gathering funds Lisa set off on January 22 in 2017 from Albany in WA with the goal of becoming the first woman to sail solo, non-stop and unassisted around Antarctica with the secondary goal of breaking the current record of 102 days held by Russia.



Climate Action Now under full sail



Profile Bow Pic Portland
Credit: Dean Coopman

72 days into her solo voyage and $\frac{3}{4}$ the way around Antarctica Lisa suffered a dramatic and life-threatening dismasting in storm conditions more than 1000nm from land. Lisa managed to save her yacht, was rendered fuel from a passing container ship, built a jury rig and motor sailed into Cape Town, SA. 2 months later Lisa restarted her voyage, crossed her track at the position of demasting and continued back to Australia. On July 25, Lisa made history and became the first woman to sail solo and unassisted around Antarctica with one stop.

Lisa was awarded the 'Spirit of Adventure' award by Australian Geographic and the 'Seamanship' Award by the Ocean Cruising Club and finished off the year by partnering with The Magenta Project.org and leading the first all-female team in 16 years to race in the Rolex 2017 Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race on board her yacht "Climate Action Now". Lisa has now sailed over 70,000nm and turns her attention to finishing her first book titled 'Demasted' which is to be published by Australian Geographic.

Following an incredible year in 2017 Lisa set off in the New Year with the goal of becoming the first woman to sail solo, non-stop and unassisted around Australia. Lisa succeeded on the 17th of December when she sailed into Sydney Harbour after facing down storms, drifting as she was becalmed, a near sinking and safely navigated around the many reefs and rocks. Lisa established a new record time of 58 Days, 2 hours, 25 minutes and 29 seconds.

Follow Lisa at <https://lisablairsailstheworld.com>

BQNRE

BORRELLI QUIRK

NEWCASTLE REAL ESTATE

RBA INTEREST RATE % ON HOLD - WHAT DOES THAT REALLY MEAN?

I'm not an investment banker and don't provide financial advice...make your own inquiries.

However, in my personal 47+ years' experience in all facets of real estate property management, sales, construction & development, property maintenance, accommodation servicesit's hard not to notice, even with the highs and lows of any property market... over time, it always become more expensive! (relatively speaking).

With all the 'doom & gloom' readily published as depressing and sometime 'frightening news fodder in most media'... no wonder there is hesitation in the current real estate market... bad news sells!...people don't make decisions when they are uncertain...unfortunately, if you stand still, you're actually going backwards! The market will pass you and you may miss unobserved opportunity. If you are considering investing in real estate, to rent or live in, do it sooner than later.

Stay within your \$ budget, allowing for known costs, such as; stamp duty (yuck... what a rip off, it should be abolished!), solicitors or conveyancing fee's + statute charges, property condition report, strata report if you're buying an apartment, moving cost's, repairs & improvement, if required etc. (We advise, if you're buying a property that needs some work, don't rush in and do it straight away, unless it's a safety issue, your accountant may advise that's seen as a capital improvement. If you leave it for a period after you take possession, you may recoup some of those cost's by claiming it as a repair and maintenance item, again check with you accountant). According to RPData.com.au, realestate.com.au, domain.com.au, which are considered a reasonably reliable source of current real estate data information, used by most agents, the medium price point to buy an 'average' ... 2 bed + 1 car house in our Wickham and local area precinct is now \$650,000 with rents at \$450 per week and an 'average' 2 bed + 1 car apartment is \$638,000 with rents at \$550 per week, unfurnished.

If you're an owner occupier, enjoy and look at 6 to 10 years to get some 'real capital growth benefit', then reassess your requirements. Average residential market return at 3.5% nett, optimized P.A. may be an expectation.

If you're an investor, you have options as to the type of rental returns that are available to you. Dependent upon your appetite to be flexible and your experience in the rental market and what you're trying to achieve.

If you decided to buy now and live in later (when retired etc), then a flexible option to consider could look like this; Many of our clients, past and present, have acquired a property they wish to live in at some time in the future, and enjoy Newcastle's pristine coastal life style (stop the fracking now!) Ideally buy an apartment with a panoramic view and low maintenance, enjoy a rental income to provide some serviceability and move in later. At Borrelli Quirk Newcastle Real Estate we have been instrumental in providing quality accommodation services to our major corporate, industrial and executive clients. From 1996 we found a need to supply a shorter-term accommodation service throughout Newcastle, both at the "blue colour" and executive level, both in high demand.

Our subsidiary business, Newcastle Hunter Tourism and Accommodation Centre evolved as an extension to our

already A grade property BQNRE management department. We have been able to achieve well above market rental expectations for our landlords and provide a quality service to our tenants. Our strong referral base from both landlords and tenants alike, enables us to reduce marketing costs, this saving is passed on to our landlords. Often the owner/landlord will come and stay in their property for their own family holiday, at any time through the year, and when they're not staying, we BQNRE, can provide them with a strong shorter-term rental income, from quality tenant.



Currently in Wickham, we can offer a variety of new apartments with exceptional quality finishes and enviable harbour side location, now under construction, that will ideally suit your apartment living requirements and our corporate accommodation rental demand. i.e. 2 bed + 2 bath + 1 car + views for sale now off plan from \$638,000, Understand that our average 2/3 bed + car, corporate furnished rents at \$950/wk to \$1,200/wk and are achieving an average occupancy of 83% P.A. with the owner visiting regularly. Both developments at Stella and Eaton near the interchange rail link are exceptional in their offering as lifestyle living and long-term investment. Contact me for detail and inspection.

BQNRE also provide a full cleaning and property maintenance service to our landlords

Our local tourism, holiday and event accommodation requirements are rapidly growing, as local and state infrastructure stake holders, at long last, recognise Newcastle as a prime lifestyle destination to live and work.

If you're looking for a property management system that has attention to detail, a qualified experienced team with a real passion and care factor about your property...and are absolutely OARSOME at that job, then come in and have an informative chat with Jessica and Joanne and the crew at Borrelli Quirk Newcastle Real Estate.

You can find us at N.C.Y.C. Commercial Building 1/91 Hannell St, Wickham Tel: 02 4961 5566 W:bqnre.com.au

Oz Fish Hunter's Project at NCYC Marina

By Tavis & Jen "Arkuna"

The awesome folk at the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club are in full support of our little experiment to see if we can collect and study the oysters that live in the Hunter River.

After a crash course in 'everything oysters' with Robbie from the OzFish Unlimited Central Moreton Chapter, we were so inspired to do something similar here in Newcastle's 'not-so-clean' waterway.

We learned that oysters are not only delicious, but amazing water cleaners and filters too. What's more, they provide the perfect fish habitat as they grow into reef and are a key focus of fish habitat restoration around the world.

By putting oyster reefs back to where they once were (or close by) and cleaning the river at the same time, we hope to bring more fish back to the Hunter River for everyone to enjoy.



Oysters in a cloudy tank



One Hour later tank is clean
- oysters are amazing

The Journey

While researching a suitable area on the Hunter river from our big old timber cruiser one weekend, we realised that the answer was right under our noses. Back at dock, and on our berth, we were delighted to see sub-tidal shell-fish and oysters growing healthily right here in the marina!

We had a light-bulb moment and floated the idea with the NCYC (pun intended) to see if we could run an experiment on their already established infrastructure.

The Method

We came up with a rather crude, but unobtrusive design to stimulate spat (baby oysters) collection. Besser blocks (concrete brick with 2 large holes) replicate underwater structures as they have lots of over hangs, rough surfaces for the spat to stick to, and a large surface area providing valuable real-estate for loads of marine life to call home.

Each block has a 'bream-guard' around it to increase chances a spat survival. This is made of cheap chicken wire so it can be discarded later if need be. We used stainless steel wire and crimps to secure a line between two points along the jetty.

Every week for 10 weeks, a new Besser block will be lowered to 1m under the water which will stay there for 12 months.

Every time we install a new block we will record the time, date, salinity, temperature, barometric pressure and moon-phase. With all of this information, after a 12 month period, the blocks will be re-surfaced and studied.



Finished Oyster Spat collection block



Making the Oyster
Spat collection block

The Outcome

After much discussion with scientists, the DPI (fisheries) and other government bodies, it's apparent that there has been no recent study of what oysters live in the Hunter River system.

Therefore, our little experiment will give us a good indication of what oysters are here, when to collect them, and what species they are. We are hoping to collect many, but will get bonus points for the native, almost wiped-out Angasi Oyster (or Dredge oyster) which is a super filterer and apparently a tasty little beast!

What happens next...

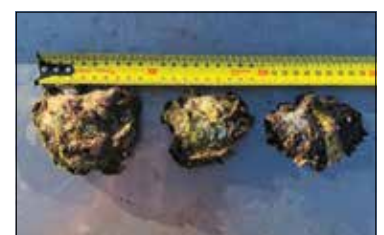
If successful and we find an oyster that happily grows in our areas, we hope that these 'spat nurseries' become a common sight in all Marinas, and with support from 3 more in Port Stephens, we are certainly on a roll!

Once the spat are all grown up, they will be relocated to an artificial reef close by where they will continue to grow and re-populate naturally.

December to February is the time when oyster babies are looking for somewhere to settle, and like good foster parents, we want to give them the best opportunity in life. We constructed approximately 30 blocks with help from volunteers through our construction workshops that ran through the January school holidays.

It takes a community to raise an oyster reef and we appreciate the help received in efforts to restore the Hunter to its former glory.

If you would like to find out more information, visit the OzFish Hunter Chapter Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ozfishhunter/> and you can also check out the Ozfish website <https://ozfish.org.au/>



Sub Title Oysters
Growing Beside Arkuna

MG14 Australian Championships

PORT HUNTER 16' SAILING SKIFF CLUB

By Arran Gore & Alyson Gearing

The 2018-2019 MG14 Australian Championships were held on Newcastle Harbour in early January in predominately light to moderate winds although Huey did manage to sort the fleet with one particularly strong north east and an out going tide.

NCYC member and International Judge Ian Humphries kindly officiated as Race Officer for the series.

'AQUA PEST' sailed by Drew Van Ryn and Joss Dal Vera from Cronulla Sailing Club are the 2018-2019 MG14 National Champions. Some yachties may know Drew who also races his Farr 44, 'Sea Hawk'. Second was St George boat 'PEGASUS', sailed by Gary Reeves and Ross Pollhill and third another St George boat '3 KINGS' sailed by David Aylward and Charlotte Holliday who also had a close battle, just pipping Darling Point (Queensland) boat 'BLOWME' sailed by Katie Bundred and Adam Walsh by a single point for the final podium spot.



Best performing local boat was 'FLAMEBOY' sailed by NCYC Instructor Alyson Gearing and NCYC Volunteer (and former 16' Skiff National champion) Andrew Buchan who were the only boat outside the top two to win a race and finished 6th overall, with 'BEAT ROUTE' 8th (Peter Rothwell and Issac Pace) and 'SCURVY RASCAL' 9th (Arran Gore and Daniel Flood) the other Port Hunter top ten finishers.

In the Handicap Pointscore locals Ben Rigby (also NCYC Laser sailor) and Drew Cowen on 'EXPATRIATE' sailed an incredibly consistent series to claim the title, including finishing 10th over the line in the difficult Race 7 where the strong NE wind and large waves at the top gybe mark off Nobbys caused a third of the fleet to retire with damage to boat or pride.



Although once around, the spinnaker legs to the bottom mark off the cruise ship berth proved quite a spectacular display for spectators.

Second in the Handicap Pointscore was Gosford boat 'CHILLIN' sailed by Mark Murray and Ryan Watt. Third was 'FILTHY FASE' from Cronulla sailed by Shinead Surmon and Hugh Benz who used borrowed sails for the series when they realised they had left their mainsail back at Cronulla.

Thank you to the NCYC for their support in providing the 'George Keegan' as the start boat.

Congratulations goes to NCYC Member, Alyson Gearing and Andrew Buchan at the MG14 National Championship hosted by Port Hunter Skiff Sailing Club and supported by NCYC in early January.

**Alyson won Race 8
which was a
massive achievement!**

By Terry Reynolds

Hello again from aboard Marine Rescue Newcastle. Due to our last article being a bio on our Unit Commander, there's quite a lot to add to this edition.

BOAT OPERATIONS

September was a good month for NC30 as two new Suzuki 250 HP engines were fitted. These engines will ensure the ongoing reliability and performance of our rescue vessel.



Twin New Engines

September also saw a number of 'assists' with two jetski's needing our help over a two day period.

NC30, with Coxn Terry Reynolds, Leading Crew Rick Neville, crewie Steve Randall and trainees Mick Quill and Stuart Lawson, were tasked with a job with a difference. A JetSki operator contacted our radio base stating he had been swamped in the surf about 2km up Stockton beach from the break wall. After stating 'it was flooded'. Not knowing if it had been 'holed' or not, concerns from police, our Unit Commander, Regional Operations Manager and our crew was that after towing it off the beach it might sink. A second JetSki was with the disabled one who came out past the surf line to see us. We explained our concern however Terry & Rick explained if you can give it a go towing it through the surf out to NC30 then it would be ok for us to tow.



That said it was made clear the responsibility was on the owner. They tried getting a 4x4 to drag it up the beach but to no avail so with some difficulty the second JetSki got the disabled one out to NC30. We successfully towed it back to Carrington Ramp (riderless to lessen the weight) with the second JetSki accompanying us.

The following day NC30 tasked to assist another JetSki about 500 metres off Stockton Beach. Coxn Terry Reynolds and Leading Crew Rick Neville proceeded to the area and located the DV with 2 onboard. They were hooked up and towed safely to Carrington ramp.

In October, late one Saturday afternoon NC30 was tasked to just north of the Stockton Bridge to assist an adult and three children in an open tinny that had broken down. M/Coxn Ron Calman, Leading Crew Rick Neville and trainees Stuart Lawson & Mick Quill located the vessel just as a nasty storm was approaching. The vessel and occupants were towed safely to the boat ramp.

The crew was then tasked up the Hunter River to near Raymond Terrace during the storm to check on a couple of jet skis that had called in with motor and fuel problems. Immediately after our radio base's first contact with the disabled jet skis communication was lost.

Contact was eventually made with a confirmation the jet skis had made it home safe under their own steam. It was almost 20:00 before NC30 was put to bed.

Back in the radio room it was an exciting first shift for new member Jasmine Jackson with two jobs happening at once. Wayne Bissett, who was in control of the Radio Room said Jasmine was a great help and had no hesitation in staying back to see the job done, rescue vessel back safely and all the paperwork completed. Well done to all involved.

Late December saw NC30 activated to assist a 4 metre tinnie (1 POB) which broke down about 2 NM up river from the Stockton Bridge. Skipper Ron Calman and crewie Wayne Bissett towed the vessel safely to Kooragang boat ramp.

New Year's Eve is normally a straight forward job for the crew onboard NC30. This year started well with our task to assist Maritime with ensuring the 'no go zone' near the Stockton Ferry Wharf was kept safe and clear for the fireworks. Boaties were getting their best vantage point when the storm hit. The biggest concern was the wind, which forced the fireworks organiser's to postpone the 2100 start as the wind was blowing towards the houses between the launch site and the ocean. NC 30 motored to all vessels advising of the expected weather with quite a few smaller boats wisely heading home.

At about 2140, NC 30 was asked by Maritime to assist clearing the channel past Honeysuckle towards The Basin as a 100 metre cargo chip was entering harbour.

The fireworks was finally put off for the night with a date to be set for a reschedule.

Just on the NYE event, as Coxswain of NC 30 for the night, I'd like to thank all boaties for the way they responded to our requests throughout the night. MR have no 'authority' however are asked by Maritime to assist them from time to time. Thanks for your support.

2019 started quiet but later in the month NC30 was on the water to assist a 5 metre runabout (2 POB) which had broken down and tied up to a structure near Honeysuckle. NC30 departed its berth with Ron Calman and Rick Neville at 2041, hooked up the DV and dropped it off at the Carrington ramp at 2055. Well done crew.

Again in mid-January Radio Operator Joseph Benton received a call from the skipper of a 6 metre cabin cruiser (3POB) that they had engine failure and would like assistance. The vessel was a couple of hundred metres to seaward of the entry to Newcastle Harbour. NC30, with Ron Calman and Wayne Bissett aboard departed NCYC at 1444 and reached the DV soon after. Under very choppy conditions, NC30 towed the vessel to North Stockton ramp arriving safely at 1518. Well done Joseph, Ron and Wayne



Runabout under tow

ADMIN, TRAINING & PEOPLE

Three new members joined the crew of NC 30 for a familiarisation of Newcastle Harbour. Pictured are (L to R) Jasmine Jackson, Greg Millar and Paul Hardie. Welcome to you all.



During late 2018 we saw three trainees successfully pass the assessment for Marine Rescue Competent Crew. We congratulate Steve Randell, Stuart Lawson and Mick Quill for achieving this level as it takes a lot of time and energy to achieve.

During August, September & October 2018 Marine Rescue NSW gave its volunteers the opportunity to undertake 'Professional Development' seminars where various ratings in both boat and radio stream were invited to attend where senior MR officers join members in refreshing current methods and procedures with an open forum for input and general conversation to encourage new ideas.

A number of MR Newcastle members joined the session, including Jo Benton, Reg Martin, Ian Morrow, Graham Silcock, Rick Nevile and Terry Reynolds, which was held at the NCYC and Gosford.



Steve - Crew Certificate



Ian Morrow
Development Certificate



Jo Benton
Development Certificate

Recently Marine Rescue Newcastle Unit Commander, Ron Calman OAM, was presented with his first clasp for a total of 20 years' service with Marine Rescue / Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol. He was also present with his third clasp to his National Medal for 45 years' service. This 45 years is for service in the NSW Police Force and Marine Rescue. I'm sure the people of NSW, and in particular the Newcastle region thank Ron for his service.



Pictured is Ron with our Regional Operations Manager Steve Raymond presenting the clasps and Mat Smith who represented MRNSW Head Office.

Marine Rescue NSW are always involved in better qualifying our trainers and assessors with new talents. In October we saw a Trainer/Assessor qualifications course undertaken in the local area. This is an Australia wide requirement for all organisations involved in training and assessing. Pictured is the one of the Hunter/Central Coast groups in Newcastle with Newcastle's Ian Morrow and Rick Nevile pictured bottom right.





Caring for seafarers
around the world

The port of Newcastle is growing. Already the largest exporter of coal in the World, Newcastle is continually expanding.

More than a Charity. Our aim is to be a warm, loving "home away from home". We are committed to serving seafarers by providing excellent services where they feel wanted, accepted, and well looked after.

We desire to make each person who comes to us, feel like they belong. We seek to do all that we can to make a real difference in their life.

How do we do all this?

The volunteers who come with welcoming hearts and who seek to genuinely care for all who enter our home. These are the real heroes who provide our international friends with smiling faces.

They drive, serve tea and coffee, act as tourist guides, cooks, entertainers and a whole lot more. Most importantly – they generously give of their time, have caring ears to listen and hearts to love.

Other Services

Our core business is serving local Seafarers who enter the Port of Newcastle. Currently there are about 40,000 seafarers who annually enter the port of Newcastle. This will steadily rise as the port expands.

We also seek to serve individuals and organizations who work in the maritime industry – it is for this reason that our chaplains are "Chaplains to the Port of Newcastle".

The Mission also has a community focus and seeks to be involved in activities such as memorial services, blessing of the fleet, festivals, Church, service clubs and other groups to help make our wonderful city even better.



Mission to Seafarers Newcastle work closely with Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) in all that we do to assist Seafarers on many different levels.



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E: functions@ncyc.net.au

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Coming Events...

MARCH 2019

- Friday 8 March - Club Marine Twilight Series, Laser Twilight Series.
- Sunday 10 March - Summer Short Ocean PS Race 6
- Saturday 16 March - She Sails@NCYC Development Regatta
- Sunday 17 March - Summer Short Ocean PS Races 7 & 8
- Sunday 17 March - End of Summer Party
- Friday 29 March - SailFest Newcastle Regatta, TP52 Class
- Sat-Sun March - Sailfest Newcastle Regatta - all events

APRIL 2019

- Sunday 7 April - Newcastle to Port Stephens Port to Port Race
- Sunday 7 April - Daylight Savings Ends
- 8-14 April - Sail Port Stephens
- Happy Easter - The Club is Open
- Thursday 25 April - Anzac Day

MAY 2019

- 4-5 May - Newcastle Youth Keelboat Championships
- Sunday 12 May - Mother's Day
- Saturday 18 May - Laser Winter Series
- Sunday 19 May - Winter Short Ocean PS - Race 1
- Saturday 25 May - Laser Winter Series
- Sunday 26 May - Winter Short Ocean PS - Race 2

JUNE 2019

- Saturday 1 June - Laser Winter Series
- Sunday 2 June - Youth Interclub Challenge
- Sunday 16 June - Female Skipper Series Race 3, Winter SOP - Race 3
- Saturday 22 June - Laser Winter Series
- Saturday 29 June - Equipment Audit Day

EVERY WEEK

- Tuesday Night Trivia - 7pm in the Marquee
- Thursday Night Members Draw [LTPS/19/30980]: 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 BuyaBoat Raffles
Tickets sale 6pm - Draw 7pm
- Sunday Afternoon Live Entertainment from 2:30pm
- Sunday Breakfast - between 8am-10.30am
- Mon-Sun Happy Hours – 4pm to 6pm

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
- **Licensed Club**
(02) 4940 8188 – barmanager@ncyc.net.au
- **Marina Manager** (8am - 4pm 7 days)
0408 299 512 – dockmaster@ncyc.net.au
- **Hooked** (11.30am-3pm, 5.30pm-9pm)
(02) 4940 8188 – bookings@hookedgrill.com.au
- **Administration** (9am - 5pm 5 days)
(02) 4940 8188 – info@ncyc.net.au
- **Functions** (9am - 5pm)
(02) 4940 8188 – functions@ncyc.net.au



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