

# thirty two° fifty five

newcastle cruising  
yacht club journal

Meet the Team 14

She Sails Development Regatta 24

Tenacity Award 25

autumn 2021







NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB

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[www.ncyc.net.au/sailing-academy](http://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



Vice Commodore's Report



Bay Sailing Centre



Sailing Academy Report

## In this issue

Autumn 2021 journal

A quarterly publication

## EVERY ISSUE

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Opinions of contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Board or the Club.

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

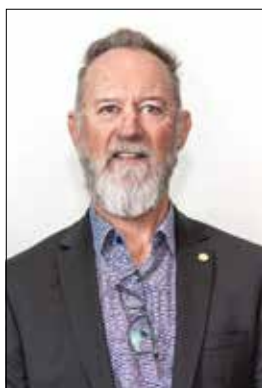


NEWCASTLE CRUISING  
YACHT CLUB

Editor: Ethan Tucker

Cover Image: Nor East Bistro Discovers Sailing  
(Alicia Watt, Paris Wilson, Charleigh Houston,  
Reece French-Lightfoot)  
Photo by Ethan Tucker

## Commodore's Message



Welcome to all our readers! I hope you all enjoy this edition of 'Thirty-Two Fifty-Five'.

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed with updates, articles, and stories to share, and to Ethan for his editing.

We have been extremely lucky in Newcastle to have been

COVID free for many months, but we are constantly reminded not to get complacent as our friends in Sydney and other states have continued to experience the odd outbreak, lockdown, and border closures. At least the governing health bodies have been able to address these recent hotspot issues more effectively, so hopefully COVID will have much less impact on our lives in 2021.

We opened The Bay Sailing Centre at Port Stephens in December, and I would like to thank Paul Booth for his fantastic effort in renovating the clubhouse, our sailing team for re-invigorating skiff sailing at the club, extending our Sailing Academy to The Bay under the stewardship of Felix, and hosting the A-Class Catamaran's NSW Championships, with a big thank you also to our volunteers who supported this event. Welcome to the members of Port Stephens Sailing and Aquatic Centre who have now joined NCYC.

The construction of our clubhouse extension began in March, and we will open the new facility for your use before the end of the year. I will apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused during the construction phase, and we will make every effort to keep you informed of any changes regarding access and parking in this area. This is a very exciting development for our club, and I'm sure our members will welcome this improvement to our clubhouse. I would like to thank Valda Johnston and her Project Team for their excellent work in completing the design and preliminaries, together with our architects and project managers. They have a great team in place to manage this project through to completion.

I hope you have enjoyed the club during the summer months. I assume that is the case as our bar and restaurant sales have been holding up very well considering the reduction in functions that we have been able to host!

Keep safe.



Steve Rae, Commodore

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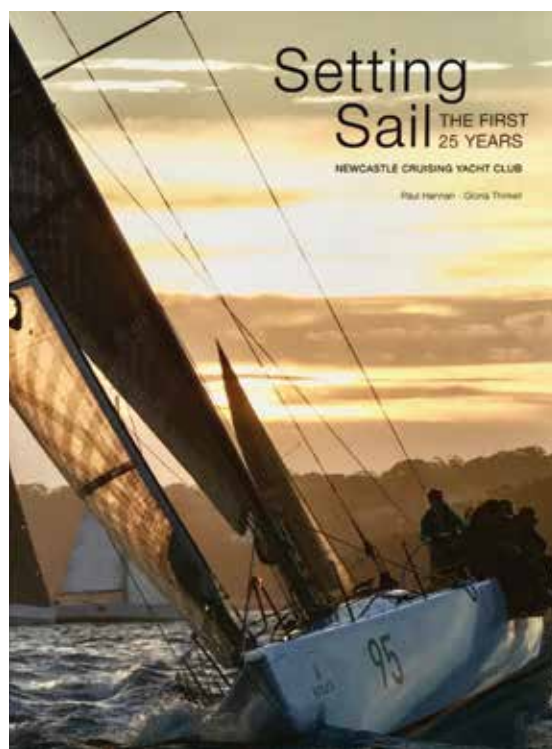
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Well, here we go into another year and it seems there's a light at the end of the tunnel; I just hope it's not a train coming the other way. It's been a year, a December and a January like no other we have had in living memory – limited travel, limited contact with loved ones, no Hobart, limited

sailing, and state border barriers going up and down like yoyos. All the approved vaccines will be able to stop us getting unwell BUT that does not mean we will not pass the disease on to others if we are exposed. The big question that still remains unanswered so far is whether the vaccine will provide sterilising immunity. This type of immunity prevents us passing it on. Because of that, we must keep doing what we are doing regardless of your vaccination status until that question is answered. Keep in mind that there are currently four vaccines (Pfizer/BioNTech, University of Oxford/AstraZeneca, Novavax, and COVAX Facility) contracted for use in Australia and results/immunity status may differ between them. Why is this in my news bulletin? Because we need you all to understand the importance of the measures we are taking during sailing and the seriousness with which we view non-compliance.

Vaccinations – If you're under the age of 50 and generally well, there are 13 million people (26 million doses) ahead of you in the line to receive it, so this is going to take a while. Please hang in there with us and take the preventative measures seriously even after you are vaccinated.

So, what about sailing? The Bay Sailing Centre Learn to Sail jumped off to a big start with 30 participants in the last week of last year. During this Christmas and January school holidays there were periods where our staff at the BSC coffee machine couldn't keep up... On January 17th, the Lasers had 3 'casual' races at the BSC, and the fleet has now grown to 15. Sixteen women from the She Sails team also paid the centre a visit just before Australia Day for some racing on the Puffin Pacers. Of course, being well organised meant that this included champagne, chicken, and prawns in the shade of the trees. Not to be left out, 'Scuffy', 'Woodwind', & 'Perfect Sense' took advantage of the club moorings there.

While I'm talking about the BSC I would like to thank Dennis 'Rhino' Hume, Ted Anderson, and all the volunteers for their involvement so far. Ted (NRO) and his team ran our first event there, the A-Class Catamaran Championships. Ian Michie (Class Vice President) in his letter said "All the sailors appreciated the time and effort afforded to us and as such a very successful

regatta was run. The Bay is a fabulous place to sail and hope to return and sail again."

The Tackers fleet, with 4 newly acquired boats bringing our total to 16, was all but full for the school holidays. The Lasers at Newcastle have just recommenced and from casual comments all those I have asked are happy with the new base on F-Arm.

The keelboats have also just started the summer series with 18 entered in the Twilights and 12 in the Short Ocean Pointscore. The Elliott 'Leagues' kick off a couple of days after I submit this, so more in my May missive.

We have also been working throughout the summer on our on-water assets. We have now acquired two new boats to help with the sail training on the Tackers fleet. Additionally, we have a new anchor windlass and plotter in our 'Mark Boat' while 'The Lizard' carries out all the duties at the BSC.

There are lots of events in the months ahead to look forward to including:

- Ocean Pointscore races to Pittwater and return (27/28 February) followed by the Moon Island race (14 March)
- She Sails Regatta on 6 & 7 March
- SailFest Newcastle on 10 & 11 April, and
- Newcastle to Port Stephens race on 18 April kicking off Sail Port Stephens

Personally, I do hope that all of you are doing OK through this health marathon. There are quite a few faces I have not seen in a while. I look forward to catching up.

"If you get tired, learn to rest, not quit." – Unknown (Banksy painting).



Barry Kelly, Rear Commodore



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## Vice Commodore's Report



As many of you may already know, we held our farewell to the Marquee and Beer Garden (as we knew it) on the 21st of February, 2021. This constituted a sad farewell to many good and exciting times over the years, and I admit that it will be sorely missed.

However, on the bright side we will commence extending the Clubhouse after this to bring new and wonderful areas for the benefit and use of Members.

The new facility is as per displayed in the Clubhouse and website for the past three months. We thank all members that provided

constructive feedback. It will extend our Bar area, dining space and Function Rooms to enable many more patrons to utilise our excellent harbourside facilities. It will incorporate an all-weather building that can be used far more extensively, both on the Ground Floor and First Floor.



We established a working house committee that did an excellent job on review the plans and overseeing the tender process. I would like to thank them for their time and input. Williams River Steel, who built our existing Clubhouse, were the successful tenderer. They will commence Stage 2 in late February with an end date in early Spring.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused but remember the end result and look forward in anticipation to a thrilling, world class Clubhouse.



Valda Johnston, Vice Commodore

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## Chief Executive Officer's Report



**I**t's been another great Summer at the club.

While it was strange having a summer without the Hobart race, our Sailing numbers have increased Offshore on both Wednesdays and Sundays. Inshore it is great to have the Lasers back and active on a

Friday night and the intra-club racing continues Thursday in the Elliott's. We started a new initiative – The Bay Sailing Centre – which has been a success on and off the water. The volunteer Race management team have done a great job conducting races up to five times a week.

Sailing Academy's Learn to Sail programs have continued to grow. Additionally, the school programs have also grown with Islington Primary joining us. The Academy is busy planning the Hunter Youth Keelboat program for Autumn and into competition regattas in Winter, which is hoped to be a gateway program for the next generation of sailors.

The Clubhouse has seen a significant increase in trade despite the restrictions on functions and events. The Social club and Cruising division have remained active and supportive of club initiatives. Special thanks to Trudy Allen and Brian Gardoll for leading these initiatives. The Game Fishing Club have been busy planning for their major annual tournament. The Marina has been very busy with plenty of boats headed up and down the coast over summer.

Autumn is a hectic time of year for regattas with the Aero and Northbridge Senior Nationals, National Sailing League, SailFest and Sail Port Stephens.

The big news and challenge ahead is the Stage Two extension of the Club House facilities. The six months of construction will make for a crowded bar and test the management teams juggling skills. But the new facility will be a world class yacht club. I'm already excited about next Spring and Summer.

Here's to hectic but exciting times!

Paul O'Rourke, CEO

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# Marina & Assets Manager's Report



Welcome to the Autumn edition!

What a ride we've been on again, or maybe still! Thank you to all for the support and ongoing commitment. This edition may seem short and not as eventful as previous – don't be fooled that we haven't been busy chipping away at projects

and maintenance items both old and new.

The marina occupancy has been steady with casual visitation. What has been quite notable is the turnover of boat ownership. With a handful of long-term marina occupants, departing and leaving what looks like a very empty marina. Feedback from Brokers is that stock and demand are hard to keep up with. The market has attracted punters who may usually spend large on overseas trips and adventures. The international ship delivery has seen two arrivals, with Australian owned vessels returning 'home' as the owners are restricted by travel.

The berth numbering has been repainted and the fight with spiders in all the nooks and crannies has been somewhat a battle. These smaller maintenance jobs have been scheduled around other major projects. The Bay Sailing Centre received a major overhaul and paint job, completed by the Marina and Maintenance team. Preferred Contractors to NCYC must get a shoutout for making the short deadline for the doors to open, being Wagner Plumbing and Denholm Electrical – THANK YOU!



In preparation for the Clubhouse extension a mammoth effort from staff and volunteers saw the site cleared in a miraculous three days. Some 360m<sup>2</sup> of pavers were lifted in shifted in three hours – truly remarkable! We had allowed for the five working days and with careful planning and coordination the site was



got filthy, sweated buckets, and finished the job in an unexpected record time.

We welcome Alex McKay and Matt Williams to the Marina and Maintenance team. Alex comes from Job Centre Australia and is subsidised for the ten hours weekly he helps with the maintenance and grounds and getting the site ready and ship-shape for trade on a daily basis. Matt Williams may be a familiar face to the marina customers, having worked in the boatyard. Matt is covering some of the weekend as he goes to Uni studying a Bachelor of Construction during the week. Paul Booth has taken a few weeks of leave and well earned.

We are gearing up for SailFest Newcastle Regatta (10/11 April) which is the creation of NCYC with the City of Newcastle as a major sponsor. Everyone has been busy in getting everything ready for this event which will once

more draw many boats to our marina. Shortly after SailFest, we have Sail Port Stephens feeder races, which will once more contribute to marina occupancy. With the Clubhouse extension under construction, we have had to find creative ways to thank our guests and host these events. Our team came up with a variety of creative solutions that utilises the water and other spaces that will show them how wonderful the City of Newcastle is.

Finally, in between the Bay Sailing Centre, new hires, preparing for the Clubhouse extension, and the many events, I have been busy behind the scenes preparing our Annual Fire Safety Statement in conjunction with the Fire Protection specialist, for compliance with the Newcastle City Council. Further, the annual return EPA License, will get underway shortly. This involves ground water quality testing, fuel line pressure testing and procedures reviewed. NCYC has also engaged a WHS consultant (Commercial Safety Assurance) to create standard operating procedures and necessary documentation and records. As these legislations change and are reviewed, this will then ensure NCYC and its staff are fully covered off.

Stay well, stay safe.  
Sandy Hapgood

ready for handover on the afternoon of day three. A huge THANK YOU to all the staff, those superstar volunteers and marina customers that contributed,





## Bar Manager's Report



It was a great summer in the Clubhouse, despite the unusual summer weather and certain COVID restrictions increasing. It was great to see all of our members enjoying their clubhouse during the festive season.

The Clubhouse has recently upgraded all our TVs to larger 4K smart TVs. We now have the capability to screen past sailing events such as SailFest, Sail Port Stephens, She Sails Regattas, The Asahi Country Champs, Sydney to Hobart as well as watching the America's Cup live in crystal-clear quality. Watching these sailing events playing throughout the day in the Clubhouse is quickly becoming popular amongst members as they watch their fellow members (and sometimes themselves) racing on the big screen.

We also see the return of our member draw and raffles as our 'Thursday Night is Member's Night' launches with member exclusive benefits on the night such as Member's Happy Hour & Member's Only Specials by Nor East Bistro.

With our extensions about to commence, we look forward the bright future ahead for NCYC and our members.

See you in your Clubhouse!

Matt Stamp

## NCYC - Our Club

### THURSDAY NIGHT MEMBER'S NIGHT

*Bigger*  
CLUB RAFFLES  
*Bigger*  
MEMBER'S DRAW JACKPOT  
*Bigger*  
MEMBER'S HAPPY HOUR 6-8PM  
\$5 HOUSE BEER, WINE & SPIRITS  
*Plus*  
\$10 MEMBER'S COCKTAIL ALL NIGHT  
MEMBER'S SPECIALS  
BY NOR EAST BISTRO



## Ali's Cocktail Corner

Keep the memories of summer fresh with these spicy cocktails by Ali (not served at NCYC)

### Mango Chilli Smoked Mezcal Signature Cocktail

1. 60ml Mezcal
2. Topped with Mango Seltzer
3. Garnish with two half chillies and quarter slice of diced mango
4. Serve over ice in large wine glass



### The Classic Spicy Margarita

1. 45ml Tequila
2. 15ml Cointreau
3. 30ml Lime Juice
4. 15ml Agave
5. Dashes of Tobasco to your desired Spice level
6. Glass rimmed with salt and dried lime and chilli flakes
7. Garnish with lime wheel

## Nor East Bistro Report



Welcome readers of Thirty-Two Fifty-Five.

Firstly, I'd like to thank you all for the amazing support and encouragement you've shown Nor East Bistro since we've joined the NCYC. Our success has only been possible from the patronage of all, Members, guest, staff, and the broader public making the Clubhouse a preferred diner's choice.

As you'd be aware, the NCYC Clubhouse has begun construction of the extension which has severely limited our seating capacity. We have maximised the seating available both inside, and in the grassed area at the front of the club so that as many of our members can continue to enjoy the space. Due to the limited capacity, Friday

and Saturdays will be moving to two seatings during lunch and dinner service. We would love to see as many of our members supporting Nor East Bistro during this time and thank you in advance for your understanding and patience.

Great seafood is in abundance for this time of year with great fish varieties, both from the North Coast and south of Sydney with the water remaining warm for this time of year. You can expect amazing specials on the board regularly, and a slight adjustment of the regular menu. As a part of this, we will be increasing what is on offer on both Monday and Sunday nights. Both nights are fantastic dining nights and offer a quieter atmosphere than the busier Friday and Saturday services.

Finally, we offer anything off the menu as take away, so keep us in mind when grabbing dinner for your boats or want a quiet take away meal at home. I would also love to take the opportunity to remind our members that we do breakfast on Saturdays and Sundays. Thank you again for the amazing year, it is clear why the members love the Club so much, and we appreciate the support you have shown to us throughout a trying 2020. We look forward to seeing you at Nor East Bistro soon.

Bon Appetite!



PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY

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Asahi Super Dry Black focuses on the rich, flavoursome nature of a darker brew while still capturing the refreshing, dry taste that Asahi Super Dry is known for. The first extension of the original lager, Dry Black is brewed like a traditional lager and uses the iconic No.318 yeast that Super Dry is known for. The deeper, darker flavour of the beer is derived from roasted malt, while the crispness comes from the addition of rice and corn.

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SUPER DRY DARK LAGER**



## Functions Report



After the rollercoaster of unexpected challenges and events that 2020 threw at us, NCYC was determined to finish the year on a high note.

Despite all restrictions, our Clubhouse was still able to accommodate a great number of end of year celebrations for the hard working local businesses

and groups in our community, as well as our yearly Christmas raffles. Our Clubhouse and Bistro staff worked especially hard to meet the expectations of all our members and guests in these extremely busy months, enforcing a range of unexpected rules and regulations to keep everyone safe in some of our busiest trade and service periods.

December 13th marked our annual NCYC Member's Christmas party. With everyone dressed in their finest festive threads, the drinks were poured and the celebration began. Crowd favourite Reggie Sinclair performed on the night & Santa even popped in for a visit! After a long year it was great to finally give our members a chance to celebrate together.

As the new year quickly approached, despite a lack of dancefloors and rock bands, the NCYC Clubhouse

and Nor East team were still determined to treat our members and guests with an intimate New Year's Eve Celebration. The night featured a four course offering of premium seafood and fresh produce designed by Head Chef Tony Harrison that ensured our guests' last meal of the year was one to remember. Long after plates were cleared, our clubhouse staff made sure glasses were full, faces were smiling and good times were rolling as the clock struck 12.

On Australia Day, Nor East offered an Australian inspired four course meal which received fantastic feedback from our guests, the Nor East style 'Chiko' roll was a crowd favourite! With a day of perfect weather, Tim Harding performed in the courtyard as our guests enjoyed their evening by the water.

For the remainder of 2021 the clubhouse will bid farewell to our waterfront marquee. After many years of celebrations, events and busy trade, our beloved clubhouse is due for update and renewal. Whilst we're saying goodbye to our outdoor space for now, we look forward to unveiling the space with open arms later this year to recommence end of year celebrations, events and functions in upcoming years.

As always we'd like to extend a great big thank you to all of our hard working staff for their efforts, and our members and guests making sure the clubhouse is full of life, smiles and good times – the place quite literally would not be the same without you!

Tessa Bourne

### NOR EAST B I S T R O

**Nor East Bistro is open 7 days a week**

**Monday Lunch & Dinner**

Lunch 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Roast & Pizza Menu 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

**Monday - Saturday**

Lunch 12:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Dinner 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

**Saturday & Sunday**

Breakfast 8:30 am – 10:30 am

**Sunday Lunch & Dinner**

Ala Carte 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Roast & Pizza Menu 3:00 pm – 7:30 pm

**Bookings**

To avoid disappointment, we suggest making a booking online at  
[noreastbistro.com/book](http://noreastbistro.com/book)

## Sailing Manager's Report



Welcome to 2021. We've had an incredible start to the year with a surging enthusiasm from our members and the Hunter sailing community to get on the water and engage with the training and racing opportunities we're delivering at both Newcastle and Port Stephens.

That's right – we've now got our Bay Sailing Centre up and running at Seaview Crescent, Soldiers Point. Our team was up there every day throughout January opening the café and delivering learn to sail courses and discover sailing experiences to the local community. To top it all off, we hosted the A-Class Catamaran National Championship in the first week of February – including an impressive 19 foiling catamarans (flyers)! We're now also supporting the Bay's Laser fleet with three races every Sunday to be counted in a 'Club Championship' Pointscore. To date, we've had 10 to 16 Lasers on the water on any given day – made up of about 20 casual racers on the entry list.

Closer to home, our Laser fleet is also racing with similar numbers to that of the Bay – racing three races after work on Friday afternoons. The Laser fleet is now based directly in front of the clubhouse where we recently installed floating storage racks to accommodate sixteen Lasers adjacent to a large floating rigging area. To maximise rigging area, we purchased an additional floating pontoon in January to use here until we are able to relocate it at a later date.

Our inshore Elliott Leagues are in full swing. At the time of writing this, the Open League is nearing its final race day and about half the fleet still have a chance of taking home the gold medals. In March, we will move on to the Women's League on Tuesday evenings and another Member's Match Racing Tournament on Thursday evenings.

Offshore, our Wednesday Twilight races continue to grow with strong participation in the relaxed style passage race. Compare that to Sundays, where we sailed offshore windward/leeward courses for the first three weeks back after the holiday break. We're also preparing Notice of Race and Entry for upcoming regattas including National Sailing League, SailFest, Newcastle to Port Stephens race, and the TP52 Gold Cup!

There's certainly plenty to do here at the Yacht Club – so we're putting our hand up and asking for help. If you might be interested in giving up some of your time helping us on the water or on the shoreline, please get in touch with one of our team and find out how we might need your help.

Thank. You. Newcastle!

Jack Buchan



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A couple is seen from behind, standing on the deck of a boat. The man is standing and holding a rope, while the woman is sitting next to him. They are looking out at the ocean during a sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, and the water reflects the warm light. In the foreground, the boat's deck is visible, showing various equipment like ropes and a hatch cover.

# buy@boat

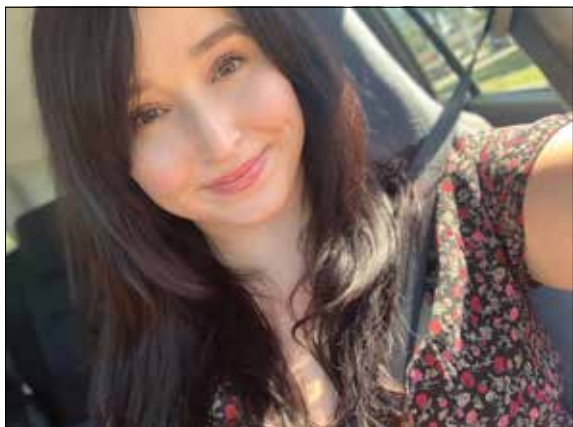
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## Meet the Team

### Kayla Mascord



Kayla was born in Swansea, and has lived there her whole life, and after a long period at home, is seeking to move closer to work and uni. After ten years of working in the hospitality industry at various pubs and clubs in Newcastle, Kayla thought she was finished with the hospitality life, and subsequently resigned from her former position to pursue Open Foundation studies at the University of Newcastle. It was here in her maths class where she met Seb (who recently left NCYC) who encouraged Kayla to send a resume through. He spoke very highly of the Club and Kayla knew she wanted to be a part of the team. Kayla attended an interview and commenced work a couple of days later, and the rest is history!

Kayla found the pandemic was an opportunity for reassessing her life goals and it gave her the necessary push to commit to studying. Considering that overseas travel is off the table for the foreseeable future (though she did manage to sneak in a final trip to Cambodia in March, 2020), so Kayla has found it's time to get a degree. Beginning in 2021, Kayla will be commencing her first year in Bachelor of Nursing at the University of Newcastle. Kayla works regularly in the Clubhouse, so say hello at any time.

### Tahlia West



After completing work experience at Boeing Defence Australia in 2016, Tahlia soon realised that she could combine her passions of aviation and mathematics into a career pathway. She began applying for every opportunity she could find. Not long after, Tahlia was fortunate enough to attend the Honeywell Leadership Challenge Academy at the US Space and Rocket Centre in Huntsville, Alabama in 2018 as a student, and as an ambassador in 2019. Tahlia is now in her 3rd year of Aerospace Systems Engineering at the University of Newcastle.

During her years at UoN, she has worked as an engineering intern with a local consulting company on a transition project in 2020, as well as gaining hands on experience in the aerospace world at the RAAF Base in Williamstown. Additionally, Tahlia has worked with the CSIRO as a mentor for their Science and Technology summer schools.

At the University of Newcastle, Tahlia is a student ambassador who is dedicated to supporting and leading the way for younger students on similar pathways as herself. As a part of this role, Tahlia has been a guest speaker at the RDA Hunter Aviation & Aeroskills event, and local high schools. She is incredibly passionate about sharing her journey in the STEM field and has recently received the highly commended Indigenous Community Engagement Award by the University of Newcastle.

Tahlia joined the club in August, 2020 and has received a warm welcome from staff, members, and guests, and an appreciation for the values and traditions that the club upholds.





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Community Organization

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



## Reece French-Lightfoot



After a ‘tough’ childhood growing up in Sydney’s notorious Northern Beaches, a fresh start in a beautiful new city was all Reece needed. Newcastle – the City of Dreams; waited for him...

and he couldn’t wait for it either. As a fresh 18-year-old with less than \$100 to his name and really not much to bring to the table, Newcastle quickly became his home.

Reece moved onto campus at the University of Newcastle and was ready to give everything he had to his Bachelor of Communications degree. As a non-drinker, it was a difficult transition from a well-behaved and quiet childhood to being engulfed by the party lifestyle left, right, and centre. However, he did what any dedicated gentleman and scholar would do and kept his head down and worked hard to get his degree. There were many distractions, boy oh boy were there distractions, but after four hardworking and devoted years, Reece received his graduation PDF via email in the early months of 2020. That was when he knew it was all worth it.

Reece’s degree has led him to so many incredible places, too many to name, however, the one which stands out to him the most is Nor East Bistro at the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club. Under the guidance of chefs Tony Harrison, Darryl Popp, and Brenton Woods – Reece is starting to see his full potential. He’s loved every minute here with everyone and is grateful to not just call them his colleagues or friends, but family. If you see him around, feel free to come say hi, he’ll be the guy out the front that’s always happy to be there!

## Brenton Woods



Brenton ‘Woodsy’ Woods is the sous chef of the Nor East Bistro. At 21, Woodsy had yet to find his direction and career goals in life and started working as a kitchen hand at the Brewery (now Queens Wharf Hotel). During this time, he met Darryl Popp who was the head chef at the time, and when Darryl left to work at the General Washington Hotel in Stockton, Woodsy went with him.

Not long after, Darryl left for Bistro Lowlands, and Woodsy came along once more. He started his apprenticeship under Tony and Darryl and quickly fell in love with a wide variety of food that had never been considered by him before. Working under Tony and Darryl has broadened Brenton’s food knowledge and world to entirely new levels. In particular, he loves the Daintree Barramundi, and the prawn and chorizo pasta. If you see him around, feel free to say hello and ask any questions you may have.

## Hannah Smith



Growing up in a small country town Hannah spent most of her time training horses and competing in showjumping and eventing. Once finished her HSC, Hannah spent time in Karaka, New Zealand riding and grooming Polo Ponies before making the choice of furthering her education and moving to Newcastle to complete a Bachelor of Business at the University of Newcastle.

Hannah’s been working at Nor East Bistro whilst studying for little over a year and has enjoyed every minute of it. Hannah has met many interesting people and finds providing quality service to customers extremely fulfilling, not to mention working with some great colleagues and enjoying the harbour views of Newcastle.

## Report - Bay Sailing Centre

By Dennis 'Rhino' Hume

Great day from Salamander Bay! NCYC opened the Bay Sailing Centre on 21 Dec 2020, including the Seaview Cafe. It has been a spectacular success. The cafe had a slower start while the word got out, but once it did, patronage increased rapidly. So much so that one staff member has become two, sometimes three. The view is unbeatable, the coffee excellent, with some tasty treats as well. The Discover Sailing/Learn to Sail has been successful. Dennis 'Rhino' Hume instructed



a few of these and saw others from the cafe. The participants enjoyed themselves, learned a lot, and some have expressed interest in sailing more regularly. We used a mix of the Pacer, O'pen Skiffs, and one local keelboat sailor had a stint on a Laser. The vessel/format chosen depended on the participant's perceived capability and weather on the day. We managed to send a few more adventurous children solo on the O'pen Skiff much to their own delight and the amazement of the parents.



Regular Club sailing has a new dynamism. NCYC made it clear that regular sailing was up to the community, which has meant by local sailors for local sailors. The numbers have at least doubled if not tripled. BSC managed a local RO Sunday 17 Jan and conducted 3 races with 12 Lasers & 3 O'pen Skiffs. Jack Buchan came up Sunday 7 Feb to RO for the 1st of 8 Sunday Club Championship Days, 3 races each day, 14 Lasers. The local sailors have thoroughly enjoyed those days - laughter, banter, flapping sails equals a real sailing club.

The Bay Sailing Centre hosted the A Class Catamarans' National Championship with racing conducted 1 - 4 February 2021 on Salamander Bay. NCYC brought up a Steber 34 and two very capable RIBs with BSC using the red ex Surf Rescue boat and Greg Busch's runabout. 3 races were conducted Day 1 with an ENE wind hovering near 19 knots (Class limit 22). There were a few capsizes, mainly during the bearaway at the Top Mark. Buschy had a bird's eye view and described the sailors imitating a one-armed paper hanger as they eased main, vang etc. but also re trimming the foils - some A Class Cats foil, and they are seriously fast! Day 2 brought rain squalls and unstable winds, but racing was underway at midday with a more moderate SSW. 3 races were conducted. Day 3 and a lighter SSE had the Top Mark affected by Wanda Wanda Head before it was relocated halfway to Corlette Point. After 2 races the breeze backed and faded so the AP was raised. Day 4 brought an early ENE and racing got underway early with 4 races conducted in wind strength 14 - 16 knots gusting 19. It was a flood tide, so wind with tide, but even so the wave action was very significant. Waves are significant for the A Class Cats - so much so it is more significant than tide/wind in choosing on which side of the Course to sail. I saw numerous sailors 'crash' off

the foils in waves.

The A Class Cats sail at big angles to the breeze both upwind and downwind so if they choose to 'bang the corners' they use a lot of water - Salamander Bay perfect for that, in addition to which Salamander Bay is not busy. Several sailors made the effort to thank the Officials for great racing. We look forward to many of our members coming up and enjoying the view and coffee for themselves.





# Sailing Academy Report



**W**hat a busy and fun Summer we had in the Sailing Academy!

F-Arm was a hive of activity during the school holidays with three weeks of booked out Tackers, OutThere Sailing, and Start Crewing courses. We continued our Women's Sailing though the holiday period too to

respond to the demand for this very popular program!

We were pleased to engage talented photographer and Academy Instructor Alicia Watt to capture the action during this time and are delighted to feature some of Ali's photos in this report.

## **BAY SAILING CENTRE LEARN TO SAIL**

It was great to see so many kids and families taking advantage of the discover sailing and learn to sail activities at The Bay during the holidays. We saw over 30 kids & adults on-water during the period, sailing on the five O'Pen Bics and three Puffin Pacers.

Our next round of activities started in February with regular weekend sailing courses including a Start Racing course for the kids we hope to progress into an O'Pen Bic Green Fleet then the Sunday afternoon racing fleet in the near future. We have also commenced a Women's Dinghy Sailing course on Friday mornings hoping to generate the same level of interest we enjoy with our Women's programs here on the keelboats.

## **NEW POWERBOATS FOR TACKERS**

Through a grant from NSW Government's Community Building Partnership program, two new polycraft tenders and motors were purchased for the Tackers program. These boats are stable and low to the water making them ideal support boats for our junior learn to sail program. With new branding, these boats look great on-water with the bright Tackers sails all around. Thank you to Sailing Manager Jack for managing the procurement of this new equipment.

## **SCHOOL SAILING IS GROWING**

With the start of the school term, we were pleased to welcome Newcastle Grammar School students back after our regular programs were cancelled due to COVID restrictions last year. The NGS kids have returned in droves with 30 kids in our Tuesday keelboat program (high school) and 27 kids in our Thursday Tackers program (junior school).

We are very pleased to have commenced a regular Friday Tackers program with the kids from Islington Public School. This is a new sport offered at the school and we welcome 30 kids each week.

St. Pius year 10 students will join us in the coming weeks as part of their outdoor activity elective and we are in discussions with Merewether High School for a multi-session program for their students.

## **APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS**

All of our Tackers and OutThere Sailing program s for the April school holidays are scheduled and online registration links are open now for bookings. If you have children or grandchildren from 7 to 17 years who might be interested – please register now as our courses do sell out.

Please remember General and Crew Members receive a 10% and 5% discount on all Academy courses for direct family members and we do accept Active Kids vouchers.

## **WOMEN'S DIESEL MAINTENANCE COURSE**

We were pleased to welcome Lily Barlow of "She Can Fix It" to NCYC and The Bay Sailing Centre to deliver her popular Diesel Maintenance course.

The 2-day course covered both theory and hands-on practical sessions and covered all the basics of engine maintenance and familiarisation with how the engine works. I think participants would agree that they are now much more comfortable in undertaking the all-important yearly service items on a marine diesel engine.

We are planning to offer the course again in the Spring, so keep an eye out for future dates.

## **MEMBERS MASTERCLASSES**

We have enjoyed bringing a variety of topics to you on Monday evenings in the Club for our Members Masterclass Series. We've had a great response with some session attracting upward of 40 members.

These sessions will continue through to Easter. It would be great to receive your feedback on the Series and whether you feel this is something you would like to see continued. We're very happy to take onboard your ideas for new topics, contacts for potential presenters, or sessions you would like repeated or continued... please send your comments through to [sailingacademy@ncyc.net.au](mailto:sailingacademy@ncyc.net.au)

## **DINGHY INSTRUCTOR TRAINING**

NCYC will host Australian Sailing over the weekend of 1st & 2nd May as they conduct both an Assistant Instructor course and a Dinghy Instructor course. We have been liaising with sailing coordinators at Belmont 16s and Toronto to provide this opportunity to the young sailors of our region. We will be scheduling a Powerboat Handling course as well as this is a prerequisite for the Dinghy Instructor qualification.











## Out There Sailing

The OutThere sailing program runs during school holiday and afterschool during term time at NCYC. Participants enjoy the thrill of sailing on the picturesque harbour, while learning new skills in boat handling, navigation, some history of the harbour, and even discussion on the wildlife that live on, in, and around the harbour.

Whether seasoned sailor or complete novice, the OutThere programme is ideal for young sailors from aged 11 upwards, the teaching is informal, fun, and delivered by Australian Sailing Qualified Instructors at relaxed pace.

During a typical program, sailors learn how to sail a boat on all points of sail, turn a boat through tacking & gybing and work on improving boat speed through correct sail trim and boat balance.

Onshore, budding young navigators learn about pilotage via use of a chart, compass and bearings, cumulating in a navigated sail to Stockton Bridge for lunch before cruising back to the Club, on lucky occasion the dolphins come to play alongside the Keelboats during this cruise.

The instructors guide the sailors along the way, but the emphasis is on empowering young sailors to make seamanlike decisions collectively working as a team to achieve each task, from coming alongside, to performing a crew member overboard drill.

The Force 24 inshore Keelboats can carry up to 5 crew members and feature jib, mainsail, and can be rigged for spinnaker training, they are the perfect vehicle for

learning while still being exciting enough to challenge sailors in a progressive fashion.

The OutThere program at Newcastle also features the opportunity to learn to drive the accompanying safety boat as this is often driven by one of NCYC's qualified Powerboat Instructors, needless to say, after learning the slow skill manoeuvres, getting the RIB on the plane has brought a massive grin to the face of many students on the program.

OutThere has proved a sold-out success at NCYC, don't delay, book a place today!



### LEARN TO SAIL COURSES FOR KIDS

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

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



## Nor East Bistro - Discover Sailing

We took some of the Nor East Bistro staff out on a Discover Sailing Experience to show them what NCYC does outside of the Clubhouse. None of them had been sailing before, and it was a constant worry leading up to it whether the weather would suit, but it was fortunate for them that we had a rarity this summer – a sunny day with no clouds threatening a great experience. It was pretty close to being the perfect day for them to experience this side of NCYC (only needed a touch more wind). The Nor East Bistro staff were very appreciative of the opportunity and had an incredible time.





## She Skippers Regatta

After a week of pouring rain, it was with delight that we woke up on Valentine's Day to sunshine. Sunday, 14 February was the day of the inaugural 'She Skippers' regatta hosted by the Royal Motor Yacht Club at Toronto.

Traditionally a day of romance, this year 23 ladies signed up to helm and pursue their other love and passion by competing in a 3-lap buoy course. They were generously supported by mixed crews, boat owners, and volunteers with what turned out to be a fun and challenging day. Spectators were well positioned from the yacht club to see the yachts screaming round the lake, thanks to the southerly that delivered, as predicted, gusts of over 20 knots. The top 3 finishers on handicap went to locals Kimberley Russell on the catamaran 'Foxy', second place Sue Dawes on 'Indigo II' and third place went to the youngest skipper, Emily Fatches on 'Cool Change'.

The regatta was part of LakeFest celebrations, and its aim was twofold; to raise awareness of Women in Sailing, and to raise funds for the Cancer Council. The day raised \$1,240 which will be added to the Heaven Can Wait coffers, the annual fundraiser organised by RMYC Toronto to be held on 19-21 February.

Newcastle was well represented by Kris Anderson helming 'Pacific Breeze', Peta Norris 'For Play', Rhonda Haydon 'Blown Away' and Sarah Gamble 'Emenaar'. Natalie Butterworth, member of NCYC, helmed 'So Farr' representing LMYC.

Others NCYC members who participated in the day included; Kath Hall, Richard Hooper, Julian Clements,



Kris Anderson - Pacific Breeze



Peta Norris - For Play

Ashley Mills, Tracey Hanson, Dale Sharp, Jeff Shute, Bronwen Crosby, and Kirsten Haydon.

Thanks to Wendy Watson, the many volunteers and team from RMYC Toronto for organising a fun regatta which we hope will become an annual event.



Natalie Butterworth - So Farr

### First Time Racers and NCYC Sailing Academy Graduates

Our female crew of 6 women took part in the She Skippers regatta on 'Yarrowonga', a Bavaria 37.

As graduates of the NCYC Sailing Academy, this event provided us with our first opportunity experience racing in a relaxed and friendly environment.

The conditions provided a wonderful atmosphere with a 15-20 knot southerly under clear blue skies.

Gabe Humphries was on the helm and we were fortunate to have on board the experience of tactician, Ian Humphries.

Thank you to RMYC Toronto and SheSAILS for this opportunity.

-Kate Campbell



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<https://www.bowlinewickham.com.au/>

## Development Regatta Develops

For the past four years the first weekend in March has marked our annual SheSAILS Development Regatta and this year, our fifth, it was bigger and better than ever.

Traditionally, this regatta is held for women who have recently graduated from our Sailing Academy. It has been designed to help emerging sailors transition into racing in a fun and supportive environment. Academy Instructors skipper the boats and our more experienced academy graduates take a mentoring role ensuring their crew feel comfortable and able to participate at the level they can.



Without changing the format, this year we added something new. Having been approached by outside clubs interested in sending crews to participate, we decided to run parallel regattas over the two days. The sessions were broken into mornings and afternoons. The Saturday morning training group raced on Sunday morning and the Saturday afternoon training group raced on Sunday afternoon. In all, twelve crews participated on our fleet of six F24s.

The visiting crews, two from Gosford Sailing Club and one each from the Royal Yacht Squadron and Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club raced against two crews of SheSAILS graduates in the afternoon.



Our Race Officer, Ted Anderson, kept the racing rolling and many of the crews, who had not previously flown and spinnaker, did so in a colourful display in the basin area. It was wonderful to see the joy and sense of accomplishment coming from the women.

The spirit of SheSAILS was apparent over the weekend with some fun dress ups. Unsurprisingly, Mardi Gras seemed to be the theme of the day.



Bubbles and nibbles were provided afterwards in the club and the presentation continued in the fun and enjoyment of the day. Prizes were awarded for the Best Team Spirit, The Sharpest Teamwork, Best

Boat Handling, and the individual crew member who developed most over the weekend. As usual who came 1st, 2nd and 3rd was not important.

Bring on March 2022.



## Tenacity Award Winner - Simon Macks

Congratulations to Simon Macks – recipient of the Tenacity for the 2019-2020 sailing season. With COVID restrictions constantly deferring our annual Presentation Night, we missed the opportunity to present our major awards over the winter break.



Sydney to Hobart Race, Australian Yachting Championship Hobart, Festival of Sails in Geelong, Adelaide to Port Lincoln Race, and Port Lincoln Race Week.

On behalf of the Sailing Committee, the Social Committee, and the NCYC members – congratulations Simon!

Simon became heavily involved with volunteering at the club some five years ago. He regularly took on the role of Sailing Academy Instructor, Powerboat Driver, and continues to maintain his status of one of only two accredited National Equipment Auditors within the club. This year, Simon's nomination is for the Tenacious effort demonstrated by his participation in what must have felt like every major regatta on the East Coast of Australia last season including SailFest Newcastle, Sail Port Stephens, Sydney to Southport Race, Brisbane to Hamilton Island Race, Airlie Beach Race Week, Hamilton Island Race Week, Magnetic Island Race Week, GALS Regatta Townsville, Balmain Regatta,



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**By Bernadette Barry –  
Catholic Chaplain for Mission  
to Seafarers Newcastle**

“Our Vision is to provide a warm and loving environment to all, ensuring Seafarers needs are genuinely met”.

COVID has changed all our lives in one way or another. Working from home, children schooling from home, loss of employment, loss of loved ones, special occasions turned upside down just to name a few.

At the Mission we have looked at alternative ideas to assist our Seafarers. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the crews have been unable to get off the ships when in Port. Their contracts have, for the most part, been extended due to not being able to return to their homelands.

To give some comfort and care to the Seafarers, we have introduced care packs for each ship. These contain magazines, chocolates, DVD's, CD's, and beanies all donated by our generous communities. Additionally, we have a Chaplain help line if the Seafarers need to chat. Our regular newsletter now goes out to our volunteers, Port users and our sponsors.

During the Christmas period there were several crew members admitted to hospital. We were able to assist them with care packs, WIFI, and regular visits, for which they were very grateful.

Normally, the crew members when able to get off the ships can enjoy some land time at the Mission as well as replenish their essentials such as toiletries and food stuffs. But all that has stopped due to COVID. During 2020 we were blessed with many donations of toiletries, chocolates, socks, and games just to name a few. At Christmas we were able to pack approx. 1,500 care packs to distribute to the ships coming into Port. For most of the Seafarers this would be the only gift they would have received at Christmas.

We are very grateful for the abundance of support the Mission has received in enabling us to assist and acknowledge the importance of these men and women who bring to our shores so many of our day to day needs.

We will continue to uphold our values for the men and women of the sea with Justice, Kindness, and Humility and be thankful for the great work they do for all of us.

As restrictions due to COVID-19 remain, our Seafarers will still be unable to have shore leave or return to their homeland. Therefore, we would appreciate any donations to help us continue to provide care packs and support to them.

For further information or to donate please go to our website: [mtsnewcastle.org.au](http://mtsnewcastle.org.au)

# Skippers must stay under the 0.05 alcohol limit

Know the Rules. You're Responsible.



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[maritimemanagement.transport.nsw.gov.au](http://maritimemanagement.transport.nsw.gov.au)





## Coming Events...

### APRIL 2021

- 1 April - Easter Raffles
- 2 – 5 April - Northbridge Seniors Nationals
- 10 – 11 April - SailFest
- 10 – 11 April - Newcastle Seafood Festival
- 18 April - Newcastle – Port Stephens Race
- 19 – 25 April - Sail Port Stephens
- 25 April - Australian & New Zealand Specials

### MAY 2021

- 1 – 2 May - TP52 Gold Cup
- 9 May - Mother's Day
- 16 May - Winter Short Ocean Pointscore

### EVERY WEEK

- Tuesday - Trivia 7pm
- Thursday - Members Night  
See Page 9 for details.



NCYC members were out flying our burgee at some key events over the summer.

#### Farr 40's

Joe de Kock and his crew on 'Goodform' achieved third at the State Titles and fourth in the National Title in the highly competitive Farr 40 class.

#### Sydney Harbour Regatta – MHYC

The syndicate of 'She's The Culprit' were second in their division of 25 boats.

#### Marlay Point

Tim Dodds & Mark Nugent (and passenger) sailed 'Mini Mako' into fifth out of 83 boats in the Marlay Point Overnight Race for trailer boats.

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



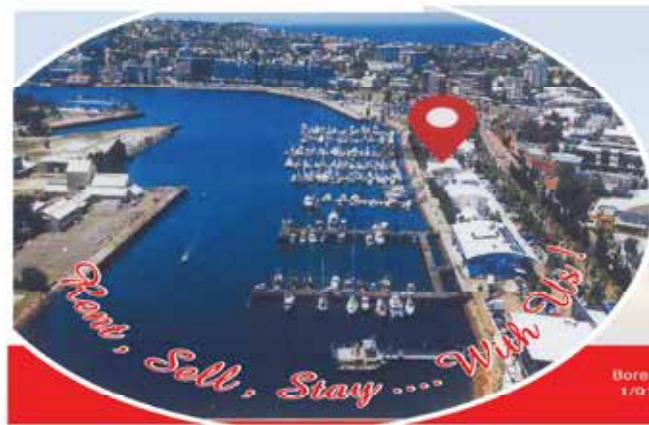
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The Mission to Seafarers provide Care Packs for visiting sailors to Newcastle

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- **Men's Jackets**
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