

thirty two° fifty five

newcastle cruising
yacht club journal

Sailfest 2019 16

Cruising Fleet
– Trinity Point 20

National Sailing
League 14 + 28

winter 2019





NEWCASTLE CRUISING YACHT CLUB

Corporate Sailing

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Six boats available - Four crew per boat - 24 guests on-water
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Why not try your hand at helming your own boat for the first time? Get out on the water under the watchful eye of our NCYC qualified instructors. Sailing our Force 24 keelboats with team mates, you'll be steering your own course on Newcastle Harbour in no time! A sailing session is an excellent event for staff team-building or for corporate entertainment. Our experienced instructors can pitch the session at whatever level is appropriate depending upon the abilities, interests and needs of your guests.

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Enjoy learning the skills of sailing a keelboat with your crew, working up to holding the tiller yourself and being master of the ship! We rotate the crew in all positions on the boat so everyone will come away with a variety of skills.

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Pit your crews newly acquired sailing skills against your fellow sailors and compete for the prestigious "NCYC Conference Cup"! A few hours of intense instruction to learn and hone your skills, then it's into racing for a bit of competitive fun!!

Create your ideal event - Talk to us today! 4940 8188 sailingacademy@NCYC.net.au

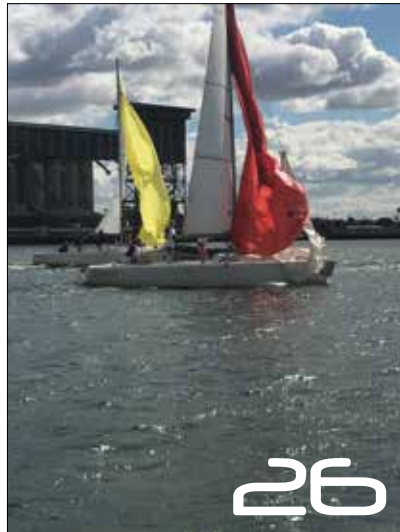
www.ncyc.net.au/sailing-academy

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



SPS - Scuffy



Youth Keelboat Championships



Game Fishing Club

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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.auwww.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**In this issue****Winter 2019 journal****A quarterly publication****EVERY ISSUE**

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Editor: Di Hansen

Cover Image: "Hooligan" SailFest 2019

Photo by Mark Rothfield

Commodore's Message



Welcome to all our readers. I hope you enjoy this Winter Edition of our NCYC Journal 3255. Thanks to our many contributors who have taken the time to write interesting and informative articles, and to our editor who does a wonderful job at transforming our collective input, into this great to read edition.

We wrapped up our 2018/19 trading year at the end of March, with all parts of our business performing well, which reflects the great job that our management and staff have done for us as well as your support and patronage.

In May, we invited our members to "Have your Say" and provide us with feedback on what you like about the club, and what we can do better. We will most certainly use your feedback to shape our plans going forward. Our audited financial results are still being finalised by DFK, and as soon as we have them, they will be posted on our website.

At the end of March we co-hosted our first SailFest Regatta with Port Hunter 16" Sailing Skiff Club. This was hugely successful, and our "word of mouth" marketing has already been very effective at generating

more interest for next year's event. Many thanks to all our organisers, staff and volunteers for their commitment to this event over the regatta weekend.

In April, we held our Port Stephens lead in race, with another impressive fleet of over 40 boats. We were well represented at Sail Port Stephens, and recently at the National Sailing League. More details on these events will follow later in this journal.

The Mayor of Newcastle is also keen to make sailing a high-profile attraction for the city, and she announced that Newcastle is well placed in our bid to be the stop-over on the eastern seaboard for the next Round the World Race in 2021. NCYC have been invited to work with local government, and the Round the World planning team to develop this proposal.

This year we celebrate 25 years since the founding of our club. Paul Hannan and Gloria Thirkell have been working tirelessly to complete the commemoration book, and this will be launched at the end of July. Be sure to get yourself a copy, as it will be the greatest collection of stories and photographs of NCYC members and events ever produced.

I hope you enjoy the winter series of sailing.



Steve Rae, Commodore



NEWCASTLE CRUISING
YACHT CLUB

Annual General Meeting

The 25th Annual General Meeting of the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club Limited will be held on

Thursday, 8 August 2019
Commencing at 6pm

in the Marquee at
Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club,
Hannell Street, Wickham

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Rear Commodore's Report



The lead into winter sailing at NCYC used to be a little more relaxed. This year, there seems to be lots going on! Please excuse me if I edit it down a bit for fear of taking up too much space. May 4 and 5 saw our Force 24s racing in an interclub Youth Championship of 12 races. It was a great event from all reports –

very well done to Nina and her team. Our girls team finished 2nd and the boys 4th in a fantastic result. Our Sailing Academy Manager, Jacqui Ellis has also just let me know that we have had an expression of interest from New Zealand for the November Elliott 6 Open Regatta. This will most likely be a 2-day, 12-14 race event – watch this space.

A warm welcome to Mark Webb as he joins us on the Sailing Committee. Mark has contributed a lot to the Optimist Programs (“Tackers”) and is very involved in running the kids (“corralling the cats”) sailing in “Green Fleet. This is the step up after completing Tackers 1, 2 and 3.

We have purchased an additional RIB to help with the running of all our sailing programs. Speaking of which, the Sailing committee is currently planning next year’s calendar and will be using the Skippers’ Survey feedback to do so.

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a 12% discount on all purchases,
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We have recently sent 3 teams to a National Sailing League (NSL) event with 9 NCYC representatives at a RYCT event in Hobart 25th and 26th May sailing Elliott 6s. This was a great chance for our reps to get a feel for the boats we will be using soon. Additionally, 4 women from NCYC are intending to compete in an Elliott 6 event at Mooloolaba Yacht Club at the end of June.

Closer to home the Keel Boats concluded to the Summer Twilights, Summer Short and the Ocean Pointscores. Just Winter to go and the Presentation Night on July 13th. Mark the date and come along to congratulate, commiserate, masticate and hydrate. The winners so far were Rebecca O'Connor's “Wonderland” (Summer Twilights), Steve and Maureen Rae's “Marta Jean” (Summer Short IRC), my own “Concealed Weapon” (Summer Short PHS D1), Paul Bertholli's “Nutcracker” (Summer Short PHS D2), Phil Arnall's “Anger Management” (Ocean IRC) and Tim Gleeson's “Summer Salt” (Ocean PHS). Congratulations to all!

The winter racing for lasers and yachts kicked off Saturday the 18th May and Sunday the 19th May respectively. A reminder to Skippers that ALL keel boat Equipment Audits expire on 30th June. To that end the club will once again run an “Inspection Day” on 29th June so mark it in your calendar. If you are interested in becoming an auditor, please contact the club Sailing Office – we will be running a course on June 15th.

Enjoy your winter sailing! I wish fair winds and following seas to those going north for Southport and further north.

"All of us have in our veins the exact same percentage of salt in our blood that exists in the ocean, and, therefore, we have salt in our blood, in our sweat, in our tears. We are tied to the ocean. And when we go back to the sea – whether it is to sail or to watch it – we are going back from whence we came." – John F. Kennedy, remarks at the Dinner for the America's Cup Crews, September 14, 1962".



Barry Kelly, Rear Commodore

**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

Chief Executive Officer's Report



We have just completed a great summer of boating.

The Sailing Academy had its busiest season introducing plenty of kids, men, ladies, corporates and families to the joy of sailing. We also conducted several power boat handling courses. The tackers program continues to thrive.

Newcastle Game Fishing Club had a great tournament with record number of competitors. The Cruising Fleet organised some very enjoyable outings on both land and sea.

To quote a famous race administrator "we are a yacht club...therefore we have yacht races..." and what a busy time for racing. Mark and Clare Webb have taken Tackers sailing to the next level by conducting Green Fleet racing. Laser sailing had good consistent numbers over summer and also added a fleet into Sailfest.

The youth keelboat sailing has grown with 5 teams at the Newcastle Youth Keelboat Championship. We look forward to seeing them compete at the highest levels over winter. Our She Sails Development Regatta had 27 competitors and they also sent teams to Melbourne and Sydney. We had over 40 boats complete our Annual Newcastle to Port Stephens race. We had big numbers of our fleet participate at Sail Port Stephens.

As a club we sent three representative teams, a race officer and head judge to the inaugural National Sailing League. This attracted the best sailing clubs in Australia and New Zealand for three days of intense competition.



The inaugural Sailfest was conducted and proved a huge success. We are already fielding enquires for next year's event. The cornerstone of our Sailing is the Sunday Offshore sailing which had good fleets and good racing for the summer point score.

Off-water has been equally busy with another record year in bar trade, and an active social committee hosting and support member functions in the club. The marina continues to enjoy high occupancy. The refurbishment of the Marina amenities and new security cameras have received great feedback. We will look to increase our preventative maintenance over winter.

All of this on and off-water activity relies on a great team of volunteers who we enjoyed hosting for our volunteer's dinner during National Volunteer week.

In celebration of the 25th anniversary of NCYC we look forward to a special lunch and book launch in July.

Here's looking forward to some great winter sailing followed by the Annual Presentation dinner on the 13 July.

Paul O'Rourke, CEO

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

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Marina & Assets Manager's Report



Keeping the Marina precinct and waterways clean has been a focus over the past few months. NCYC participated in the annual Port-Wide Litter Pickup day, an incentive of the Port of Newcastle. It was pleasing to see that the actual litter collected from the rockwall and Marina seabed footprint was significantly minor by comparison to previous 2018 campaign. New pincers and nets were reinstated to all docks where any shortfalls were identified. Its welcoming to see marina guests, members, boat owners and on-water enthusiast use the equipment provided, doing their part to keep the waterways clean and clear.

In tune with the environmental awareness, the 5 Year Review by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was undertaken in February. This major Review is a requirement of the issued EPA Licence with nothing untoward identified. Further, the Annual Return for the EPA Licence was submitted in April. The Annual Return is a summary of all incidents, if any, and test results (eg underground fuel storage, ground water monitoring etc), with no major concerns.

The laundry and amenities refurbishment was completed on time and within budget. The facilities facelift was finished off in crisp white tones, with neutral cabinetry and floor tiles not dissimilar to polished concrete. The laundry area was opened up by removal of a wall allowing an additional washer and dryer to be installed. Like any refurbishment, small teething problems have been identified and seamlessly overcome with positive feedback all-round.

The maintenance crew have undertaken landscaping projects such as the annual trimming of the palms parallel to Hannell Street. Fronds from these palms can be hazardous and dangerous to pedestrians or vehicles parked in the Club carpark. General hedging and branch removal was also completed. Some branches impeded the view of CCTV and also posed difficulty accessing some carparking. Winter projects are underway with the sanding and varnishing of tables and high bars in the Club.

An Electrical Contractor was engaged to complete an audit on Marina safety switches, breakers and walkway lighting. A further audit will be completed on the marina cameras with a view to also installing Wi-Fi.

Marina occupancy continues to be steady with seasonal/transient vessels tending to frequent as the mercury starts to drop. This upward trend will hopefully be repeated when they return 'south for the summer'.

Various events this year have driven occupancy up and include Newcastle Game Fishing Club hosting their annual tournament and the inaugural SailFest with F-dock to capacity with Farr 40s.

Please welcome our newest member to the Marina and Dockmaster Team, Kim Conrades. Kim brings a wealth of marina experience having worked at D'Alboras in Nelson Bay over the recent years. She compliments the team with her friendly customer service skills, accounting strengths and marina functionality. She is a dynamic and valued crew member to NCYC as she can also turn her hand to Bar/Functions having managed major hotels in Sydney.



The Port of Newcastle initiative attracted 87 people from 13 port-related businesses, including Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC), Port Authority NSW, Cargill Australia, Linx Cargo Care, Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group, Kooragang Bulk Facilities/ Tomago Aluminum, Impact Fertiliser, Sims Group Australia, Port of Newcastle, Koppers, Newcastle Stevedores, Custom Transportable Buildings and Newcastle Yacht Club.

Port of Newcastle environment adviser Jackie Spiteri said the Port Litter Pick was an important annual event that formed a part of the Port's overall environmental management and sustainability program.

For the second annual event, a new record was set this year, easily eclipsing the 300 kg collected last year.

All rubbish was collected using biodegradable bags and gloves and will be sorted for proper disposable and recycling where possible.



NCYC Staff Participated in the
2019 Port Wide Litter Pick in May

NCYC - Our Club

Sparkling New Bathrooms and Laundry at NCYC Marina By Jan Howard

Did you know that NCYC can now boast one of the best marina bathroom / laundry facilities on the east coast of Australia?

During February and March there was a complete renovation of the marina bathroom and laundry area. Each of the six ensuite bathrooms was stripped and replaced – new floor and wall tiling, new wall hung vanities, and new glass screened showers, and toilets.

Alternative facilities were needed during the construction. A wall was built, with locking door, so that marina guests could access the toilet and shower facilities in the main club building.

Our Marina & Assets Manager, Sandy Hapgood worked very hard with the builders to arrive at a modern, practical and cost effective design, and to have the work completed in time for the March 'SailFest' Regatta.

The project was undertaken by a local firm, The Contractors NSW. Sandy said, "the builders were excellent to work with and were always mindful of noise, interruptions, and the impact on NCYC clients." They made design suggestions and ideas for cost savings and the whole project was completed on time, in just 5 weeks. The project came in on budget at \$112,560.

The new decor is crisp white, with grey 'polished concrete look' floor tiling and classy modern black bathroom fittings. The new laundry section is functional and clean with brand new washing machines, dryers and a wall hung ironing board. There is a utility / cleaners' room with the required fixtures.

The condition of the 15 years old original wall studs and framing was not known, so it was not easy to fully cost the job before the work began. All were better than expected, so no changes to plumbing were needed. Doors, ceilings and shelving in the cleaners' cupboard were recycled, which kept the costs within budget.

We hope that the new facilities will impress our marina visitors and that NCYC Newcastle will increasingly become a 'must stop over' for the east coast cruising and racing community.

Congratulations Sandy, for project managing the renovations and achieving an excellent outcome.



Bathroom - Before & After



Laundry - Before & After

ENTERTAINMENT

**SUNDAY
AFTERNOONS
LIVE MUSIC
@NCYC**



Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club
on Facebook!

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.

5.5% ALC/VOL
SUPER DRY DARK LAGER

History of the NCYC Social Committee Tenacity Award

By Gloria Thirkell, Life Member

Each year the Social Committee decides the recipient of the prestigious Tenacity Award, after considering candidates nominated by current NCYC members. Nominees are not necessarily sailors but



2004. Ted Presenting the Trans Tasman Masters Games Gold medal for Keel Boats, to Warren 'Wally' Amos, representing Phil Arnall (Felix Ventures).

must be financial members of the club with no restriction as to the category of membership. Since 2005 the successful candidate has been announced at the annual Presentation of Trophies and Prizes evening. The Tenacity Award is on display in the club Trophy Room.

In 2008 the Tenacity Award was presented to Edward (Ted) De La Garde.

Ted began his tenure as an honorary race official in 2004, taking responsibility for both flag and sound signals for NCYC events. Since that time Ted had never missed a scheduled race for harbour starts, usually skippering his own power boat "Alsina", or for offshore starts aboard various other committee vessels better suited for those conditions. He considered his duties weren't completed until the traditional after race barbecues and result announcements were completed.



Harbour Start Committee Vessel Alsina (Ted De La Garde).

In the Spring Issue 2019 - Paul Gleeson.

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Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club Social Committee's

FRIDAY RAFFLES

BEER & WINE - BBQ TRAYS - PLUS MORE

TIX ON SALE : 6PM - DRAW : 7PM



MEET ONE OF THE TEAM

Hannah Johnson



I've been working for NCYC for the past 3 years now and find NCYC is a wonderful environment to work in with such a great team, welcoming members - and have you seen the waterfront view from the bar? Not bad to look onto everyday!

I really enjoy making coffees, setting up and decorating for functions and I can make a mean margarita!

I'm currently studying horticulture at TAFE but I spend most of my spare time at the beach, drawing and tending to my garden at home.

If you see me in the club make sure to say Hi and test out my cocktail skills with 'The Betsy Rose' or a good ol' fashioned margarita!

MEET ONE OF THE TEAM

Dan Southward

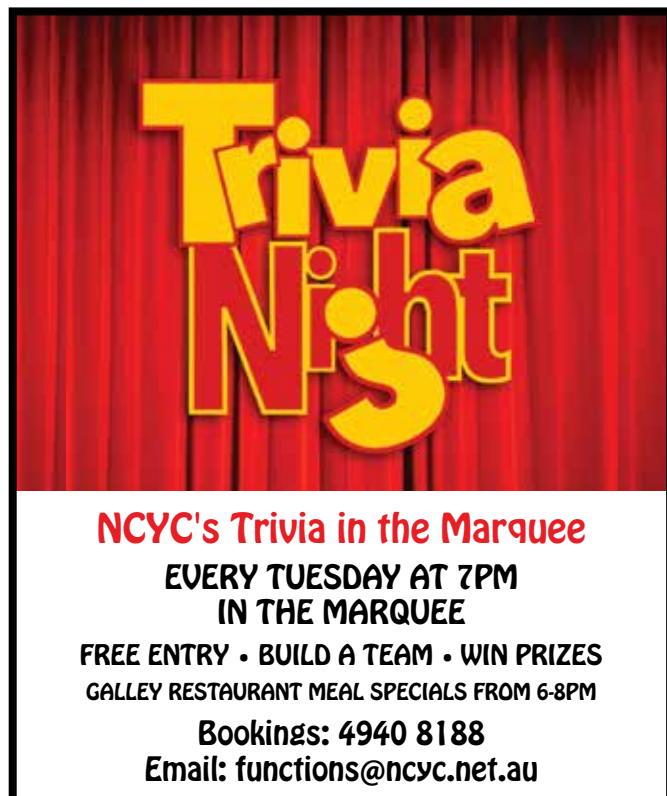
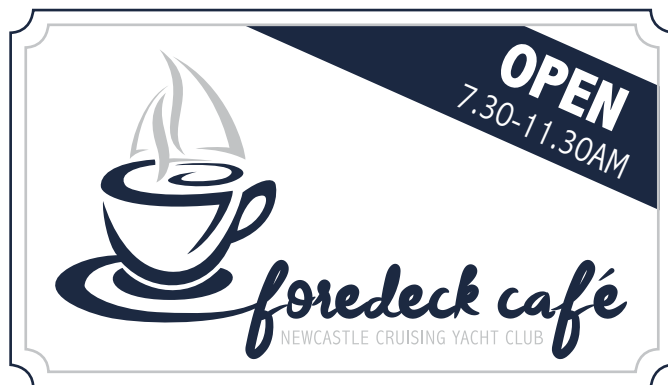


I have been asked to drop a line and introduce myself formally to the club members I have yet to meet. I'm Dan and it has been a pleasure working for the club so far. I joined the team towards the end of last year and have enjoyed getting to know the regulars as the weeks go by.

I'm a Newcastle boy, having lived here most of my life, with a few short stints working in Melbourne and more recently Canada. After almost a decade of bar work in all types of venues, I'd have to say the office view I have now absolutely takes the cake.

If I had to recommend something from the bar it would be the 'T series' shiraz from Taltarni in Vic, The Hunter Valley's Scarborough Chardonnay, and I suppose the affectionate relationship I have with Asahi Black would have to get a mention.

Be sure to say a quick g'day next time you're in the clubhouse and I hope you all enjoy the remainder of 2019.



MEET ONE OF THE TEAM James Perry



My name is James and just in case you don't know me by now or haven't seen my face around the place, I first started working at the club in 2013 across three different departments: barman, race official and dockmaster/ marina maintenance. These roles I currently work between at present.

The biggest thing I have noticed in working at the NCYC is the great culture it has. In some ways it feels like a second home for me and one that I find hard to leave.

When I'm not working, you will find me searching for waves to surf along the stretch of Newcastle beaches. I love keeping fit, playing oztag, rock climbing, tennis, golf, going on road trips or travelling.

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Up to 4 draws per night:
6.15pm, 6.30pm, 6.45pm and 7pm.
Cash prize starts at \$200 - jackpots if not won.

MEET ONE OF THE TEAM Tessa Bourne



I have been working behind the bar at NCYC for 8 months now and I am loving making new friends and serving our beautiful customers.

Having only recently turned 20 I am the baby of the bar and I'm mostly known for breaking a few too many glasses, chatting too much, working hard and having fun.

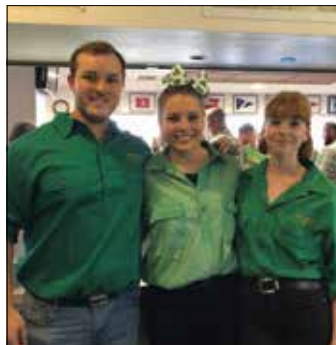
I am currently studying a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Communications majoring in Public Relations at the University of Newcastle. Moving forward at NCYC I hope to continue working behind the bar whilst using my skills to assist with internal administration and keeping our club functions running smoothly.

When I'm not behind the bar I'm either working checkouts at Woolworths, studying hard, making music with friends or finding fun ways to exercise and injure myself like pole fit or aerial silks!

I am super grateful for the team I work with, the customers I serve, and the gorgeous water views the club has to offer. If you see me in the bar don't be afraid to test out my chatting skills – Free drinks on Matt!! ☺

Social Highlights

NCYC End of Summer Party



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.



This book will be available at the 25 year celebration lunch on 20 July 2019.

Mothers Day 2019



NEWCASTLE CRUISING
YACHT CLUB

2019 SAILING PRESENTATION NIGHT



Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club would like to invite our members and their guests to our Sailing Presentation of Trophies and Prizes Evening for the 2018-2019 Season

PLACE: Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club

DATE: Saturday 13th July 2019

**FURTHER DETAILS ON TICKET
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Sponsors, Skippers & Crew receive priority booking

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NVW
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Novacastrians aplenty at National Sailing League – OCEANIA

Jack Buchan, Sailing Manager

In April 2019, the National Sailing League (NSL) conducted the inaugural final to showcase the European concept to the region, and, to select a team which will represent the Australia, New Zealand and South Pacific (Oceania) region at the World Championships in Europe later this year. Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club Teams made an impact in the NSL's inaugural final event over the weekend (April 26-28). Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club, with three teams from the club in the competition, was the most represented club matched only by the host club Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron who also had teams in each of the Open, Women's and Youth divisions – a highly respectful participation for the inaugural 14 team event.

OPEN TEAM –	Richard Howard, Joel Skelton, Joel Castle & Rayshele Martin
WOMEN'S TEAM –	Lucy Nissen, Janease Graham, Peta Norris, Meika Wright & Belinda Davey
YOUTH TEAM –	Joseph Ferguson, Courtney Smith, Harry Miller, Lily Smith & Griffin Suturs
RACE OFFICIALS –	Race Officer Ian Humphries and Chief Umpire Damien Boldyrew



Youth Team



Womens Team

The 2019/2020 season will see the NSL expanded and follow a “conference” model, similar to other league sports. It is expected there will be two Australian conferences and one New Zealand & South Pacific Conference. Each conference will consist of 3-4 events which will determine the entry list to the NSL final.

“It’s an exciting opportunity to compete in fifteen back-to-back races over the three days. That means we get competitive practice at fifteen starts, thirty kite hoists and drops, and some sixty mark rounding! When comparing the format to Club Pointscore sailing, that means that we have gained almost an entire season’s experience in just three days!” Open Team skipper Richard Howard commented.

“We went away after every race and built on our experiences. We feel like we’ve been able to maintain a very steep learning curve after having only stepped in the Elliott 7s the day before the regatta, we’ve come along way improving our mechanics and communication as a team.” Women’s Team skipper Lucy Nissen commented.

“We’ve only come together as a team for this event, so we had to work hard to get the mechanics flowing. The National Sailing League offered us a unique opportunity to race against professional sailors and we’ve learnt a lot just by competing with the other teams and watching the other flights between our races. We always had a clear view of the race course from the Balcony at the Squadron.” Said Youth Team skipper Joseph Ferguson.



Officials Team



Open Team

Also in the spotlight at the event was the participation of Ian Humphries as the Principle Race Officer – delivering all 46 races across the three days battling light and challenging wind conditions all the way



All Sailors

through. Damien Boldyrew was also in his element as the Chief Umpire – his team delivering on water, real time protest decisions in the fast-paced fleet racing environment which eliminated countless hours of time spent in protest hearings ashore.

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club is very much cementing its presence as ‘one of the big clubs’ and the commitment to sailing for all pathways from development right through to high performance is a testament to the positive future of our sport. We thank our sailors for competing on behalf of the Club and the families that helped the sailors to be able to participate.

For next year’s edition of the National Sailing League, we envision hosting a local ‘qualifying series’ which will decide who our representative teams will be for each of the Open, Women’s and Youth divisions.

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Lord Mayor and NCYC Board



Lord Mayor and Legends



Frantic



Celestial 2



F24s



Hooligan



TP52s lined up



MAKO



VS



Tackers

**Thank you to our
volunteers, staff and
competitors for a
successful SailFest 2019.**

Thank you to our
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and Blackmores.

Sail Port Stephens 2019

Jack Buchan, Sailing Manager

Yet another stunning Sail Port Stephens has come and gone. Just like that, we're in to winter and already thinking about our 2020 season campaigns and calendars.



Frantic

The Commodore's Cup started slow with a medical emergency prioritising our on-water teams attention. This meant we missed the opportunity to shorten the course at the heads which, slowed by opposing tide and light wind, saw finish teams collaborating at d'Alboras to identify finishers well into the darkness. Thankfully, conditions did improve with day 2 providing a stellar inshore racecourse showcasing the waters to the West of Soldier's Point. In Division 4, Doug and Valda's "Scots Wha Hae" showcased a freshly unfurled asymmetrical spinnaker as they brought home 11th place having placed 6th in Race 2 while Richard Fleck's "Scuffy" claimed 17th place after finishing on equal points for the place with Sweet Chariot. In Division 3, "Summer Salt" finished in 12th place, just one spot ahead of Trim. Division 2 featured "Schouten Passage" with Jan Howard leading the She Sails crew with results rising from 18th, to 8th and then 6th ending with an overall placing of 10th with the red Farr 31 "So Farr" claiming 6th place after their strong performance penalised them after having scored 1st, then 6th and 12th. In Division 1, the "Mako" campaign showed their colours as their scorecard started with an 18th, rapidly improving to end with 10th and 11th ending the Commodore's Cup in 17th place in their division.

"Summer Salt" kept the vibe alive from the 'Cruisy' Commodore's Cup as they opted to continue in Performance Cruising division for the weekend. The team scored 3rd, 6th and 7th in the three race series ending in 6th place in the strong 26 boat fleet. Racing against familiar boats "JAB", "JForce", "Aeolian" and "Cipriani" – who have all sailed in Newcastle events previously, this would surely have been a great atmosphere in Performance Cruising!

In Performance Racing, "Mako" and "Concealed Weapon" finished 13th and 15th in Division 1, up



Anger Management



Concealed Weapon

against high performance campaigns such as "Little Nico" and "Lightspeed". With Performance Racing squeezing in five races in the light and unpredictable conditions, everyone had a challenging regatta.



Schouten Passage

For the NSW IRC Championships, Division 1 was filled with a high percentage of TP52s. Mic Martin's "Frantic" scored 10th in IRC Div 1 and

claimed 5th with the new TPR rating system after losing on equal points countback with "Hooligan". Still in Div 1, Richard Arnall and the "Anger Management" team sailed away with 9th place. In Division 2, we watched the battle of the Farr 40s with Joe de Kock leading the Farr 40 pack and placing 2nd overall in the division, with rivals on "Double Black" finishing just a few points behind in 3rd place and the Lake Macquarie based "Mojo" in 6th place. In Division 3, Lake Macquarie based "So Farr" strutted around the racetrack with an almost perfect scorecard winning all but one race and claiming the Division 3 trophy. Also, in Division 3, "Schouten Passage" were in the mix in 9th place overall.

The 2020 Sail Port Stephens calendar has now been released and is available on the SPS website – www.sailportstephens.com.au



Scots Wha Hae

Sail Port Stephens Celebration Dinner

Images by Robert Koppelhuber



Scuffy by Ian Humphries

SOLARIS

By John Hardy, NCYC Founding Member

The Nicholson 32 was designed in 1962 by Peter and Charles Nicholson of Camper & Nicholson's, then one of Britain's most prestigious custom boatbuilders, as a good value mid-sized cruising boat. The Nicholson 32 was the first time the company had set up series production, and early boats were completed by an aircraft company under contract, as Nicholson's yard was not set up for mass production.

The Nicholson 32's long-keel hull was a development of the wooden South Coast One Design hull form and was aimed as a cruiser-racer type. The waterline length of 24 ft was at the time the minimum allowed to compete in offshore racing events.

The hulls were all moulded by Halmatic, and from 1966 onwards the boats were both moulded and completed by Halmatics. The design went through many minor modifications over the years from Mk I to Mk VIII, and the last boats built (Mk X and Mk XI from 1972 to 1981), had modified mouldings and a slight increase in hull size. Around 370 Nicholson 32s were built by Halmatic over the years, with a few more made in Australia. Few other yacht designs of this size have remained in production for such a long period.

Nicholson 32

Builder	Camper & Nicholson/Halmatic		
LOA	32' 0"	Sail area	594 sq ft
LWL	24' 0"	Rig	Sloop
Beam	9' 3"	Cabins	saloon + 1
Draught	5' 6"	Berths	4/5
Displacement	13,693 lbs	Engine	various
Ballast	6,834 lbs	BHP	10 - 35
Keel type	Long keel with encapsulated lead ballast		

One of the classic long-keel cruisers, the Nicholson 32 was one of the first boats to be designed from the outset for GRP production. The Nicholson 32 remained in production for almost 20 years, in various Marks ranging from Mk I to Mark XI. The interior is small compared to modern 32-footers, but the boats are greatly loved by many serious sailors for their seaworthiness and strength. One result of this is that many Nicholson 32s have had a hard life of long-distance cruising.

Source: <https://www.yachtsnet.co.uk/archives/nicholson-32/nicholson-32.htm>



Image by John Hardy

"Solaris" is currently sailing in the Port of Horta , Portugal. SOLARIS Is hull number 55, built in 1965 in the UK with original mast and as solid as ever. Great lines from the classic times. The petrol engine, a Ford "water motor" and has been replaced with a diesel.

These old girls are still a handful when it comes to going astern.

Solaris has been seen in Cowes Week ...and has more than a few north Atlantic crossings under her belly competing in the last three Atlantis Cup Regatta's

With more to come!

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Laser Sailing

By Phil Ashley-Brown

It might be cool and crisp but that hasn't stopped a group of 13 Laser sailors from taking part in the winter series which kicked off in mid May. And why not? The mornings are beautiful, and the conditions tend to be light, which makes for good tactical sailing, no matter what your skill or size. And to top that off, there's no one else out on the water. It might be winter but it's perfect! The Laser winter series this year has 3 boats registered from the Belmont 16 Foot Sailing Club, one coming from Port Stephens and the rest from NCYC. The series runs across early winter, so it won't



get too cold. And it's not too late to enter for the last few races of the winter season. So, what are you waiting for? It's a perfect time of year to take up Laser sailing. Yes, it might be a bit cold, but the welcome will be warm and the bar afterwards is a great place to wrap up an exhilarating morning on the harbour.



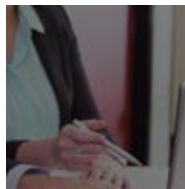
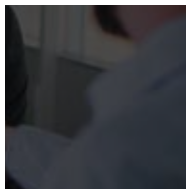
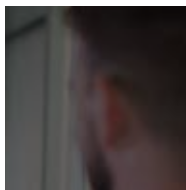
Lasers raced in the Pub to Pub Harbour Challenge in light conditions, close to drifting at times. This meant that tactics and attention to detail were critical, more than usual. Eric Besuijen took out the series followed by Paul Beath, who also won more beer than he's ever seen in the "win your weight in beer" draw. It's hoped this series will become a marquee annual event for Lasers.

Meanwhile, in the post-Christmas Summer season Andy Clark won the series on PHS followed by Phil Ashley-Brown and Ben Rigby. In the overall off the beach results, Phil Ashley-Brown came first narrowly followed by Jeff Robinson and Joe de Kock.

With the Laser compound now closed and boats stored either at the club or in people's yards we hope to have news soon of the new storage and compound arrangements.

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Easter Getaway at Trinity Point

By Neil Manson

Easter Long Weekend saw ENCYC's cruising fleet of 9 boats venture into Lake Macquarie for a scheduled

rendezvous with RMUC Pittwater's 7 cruising fleet boats at the newly opened "Trinity Point Marina".

This was Charna's and my first trip through the opened Swansea bridge and serpentine channel however Ali Lobb came with us supplying a wealth of knowledge, heaps of encouragement and dare I say, reassuring hand holding. Rounding out Georgia's "motley crew" were friends Alasdair and Lisa from the good ship "Kahuna".

The trip down was a little bumpy as we pushed into a southerly (thank god for Ali's motion sick oil) but as soon as we entered the channel things calmed down and we managed to find a vacant mooring while awaiting the 11 am bridge. With half an hour up my sleeve I used the time to make some running repairs on a "wayward" drawer that had crashed onto the aft deck. Note to self,

if going outside the heads, make darn sure everything is securely lashed down!

As the bridge opened, 5 boats from NCYC prepared to make their way through. Although slightly nervous, following "Haven 2" and seeing how much room Teddy had put me at ease. With "Encore" leading the way we formed a conga line and at 4 knots snaked our way through what I am told is an ever-changing course along the channel. I don't think any of us have ever seen "JavMan's" (aka Jason)



Phil showcasing the Trinity Point Bag

boat go so slow! Didn't know it could!

Once in the lake, Ali suggested we go to Styles Point in Kilaben Bay where we dropped anchor then, while seated on the swim platform, enjoyed sensational fresh prawns washed down by a cheeky chilled Rose'. Tucked around the point and out of the wind the water was simply far too inviting so we all jumped in for dip. Amazed at how warm it was we frolicked like school children taking turns 'cannon balling' one another. I think it was a tie between myself and Alasdair for the biggest splash.

In the early hours of the morning, as Ali and I waited for "Champagne on Ice", a thick blanket of fog had settled

in the bay creating a monochromatic, dreamlike world. As if on cue, stage left, Paul rounded the point and a shaft of sunlight penetrated the foggy layer backlighting their



Aaaarrh me cruising mateys

boat magnificently! Once rafted up to "Georgia", Ali hopped ship and we began preparing breakfast. Scrambled eggs, maple flavoured streaky bacon and oven toasted croissants were the order of the day. I must say, this boating life is a little bit all right!

After we cleaned the galley, it was time to make our way south to Trinity Point Marina where our friends from Sydney, Kieran and Desi aboard "Gratitude", were awaiting our arrival. Once underway, Alasdair took the helm while Charna and I sat on the aft deck basking in the sun and watched the world go by. I must admit it was nice having the confidence in Alasdair to "tag team" which meant we all could have the chance to kick back and relax on such a beautiful weekend.



Darrell Hall Keith Johnson and Tony Poke

Arriving at the marina, we were greeted by friendly, attentive staff who directed us to our allocated berth then assisted in tying up "Georgia". After a quick clean-up, we

knocked on our friends' boat and said our hellos. With introductions concluded it was time to "pop" the day's first champagne cork. Sitting on their aft deck, glass in hand, we watched as boats from both NCYC and RMYC Pittwater gradually filled berths on B arm.

Keith Johnson, developer of the marina was thrilled to have both club's cruising fleets meet there for the night, so to celebrate the occasion he literally rolled out the red carpet and hosted an afternoon BBQ for one and all. Through the course of the afternoon there was an amazing table of gourmet foods on offer, free flowing drinks and the opportunity to meet, and get to know, fellow boating enthusiasts.

At one point he told the group it had taken him 20 years



Andrew Chapman speaking to the assembled group

of hard work and dogged determination to get his vision to this stage and from what I could see, once completed it will truly



Georgias first trip through the bridge

be a world class complex. I know every boatie I spoke with was suitably impressed and very appreciative of the generous welcome we all received. Thanks Keith for your warm hospitality!

As afternoon

spilled into night, celebrations shifted to B arm where music, dancing and related activities got underway. After doing the rounds we decided to sit on the aft deck of our friends' boat, relax and watch the gaiety on display. A little later on, unfortunately, Charna demonstrated rather spectacularly that her renowned 'bush ballet' skills are readily transferable to the boating world and an ill-timed slip saw us pull up stumps early. The good news is that the cat scan showed she does have a brain, she was ok, and to prove it she had breakfast on the table by 9:00am. My gal, what a trooper!

Keen to explore more of the lake, we made our way towards Point Woolstoncroft where we found "JavMan" and "Aneta" anchored. Since Keiran had the largest boat we waited until he set his anchor then rafted up beside him. Next, I was shown how to set a stern anchor to help keep us in the same position. There are always things to learn in the boating arena.

Congregating on "Gratitude's" hydraulic swim platform we played with "JavMan's" noodle. Oh, that doesn't sound quite right does it? Using "pool noodles" to help float we became quite adept at sitting in the water, drinks in hand whilst Desi shifted into Margareta making hyper drive. Suitably rehydrated thoughts turned to lunch and a veritable smorgasbord of fine foods materialized from the 3 galleys giving rise to a "long lunch"



NCYC Cruising Fleet Members

As afternoon was so much fun, our location picture perfect, combined with spectacular weather meant it led to a unanimous decision to stay put for the night. Once more, food of all description materialized from seemingly nowhere. Canapés sampled, salads were tossed, snags steaks and marinated chicken sizzled on the BBQ plate, and I managed to uncork another bottle of bubbly. Don't mind this boating life one little bit!

Our last day saw us depart relatively early as we were scheduled to get the 1:00 pm bridge opening. Desperately wanting to see more of the lake, we motored towards Nord's Warf to locate a swing mooring we have access to. It appears to us this southern end of the lake is more subdued, a quieter place to go to get away from it all. From there we made our way north and found "JavMan" and "Aneta" anchored near the "sand islands". He told us it was a great place for a swim, and he wasn't wrong.

Reluctantly we upped anchor and headed for the channel. Being first timers, it was a little interesting finding the entrance for it seemed we were going too far north. Staying the course, we saw a number of boats heading in one direction which we correctly assumed was where we needed to be. After working our way back through the channel, we found Paul and Ali at anchor near the bridge. No sooner did we drop ours when we heard it was time to go.



Red carpet rolled out



The feast

We followed "Champagne on Ice" through the opened bridge, worked our way out the channel and headed for Green Island before turning north to Newcastle. What do you know, we were heading into the wind again. It's a bit like having to walk uphill both ways to school! As luck would have it, a pod of dolphins played in our bow wave for a spell, which seemed a rather fitting end to a sensational Easter Long Weekend.

Back at NCYC everyone I spoke to who went to the lake said they had a wonderful time. I would like to acknowledge the great support from the NCYC club and it's Board in helping make our long weekend a success. A big shout out also goes to Andrew Henderson for liaising with Keith Johnson regarding marina arrangements. For our first major club trip to the lake Charna and I were simply blown away by the fun had and mateship shared.

If this sounds like the sort of thing you would like to do, come out to a "Cruising Fleet" meeting and see what's in the pipeline.

Till next time.
Cheers



Neil being chauffeured

Cruising Fleet visit "Baroona"

By Neil Manson

On Sunday May 5th almost 30 members of the NCYC Cruising fleet had the unique opportunity to experience a private viewing of one of the Hunter Valley's famous grand homesteads, "Baroona" near Singleton. Fleet members Tony and Gaylene Poke invited us for an afternoon BBQ which, apart from being exceptionally yummy, became an entertaining "hands on" history lesson with a twist.



Baroona Express

Departing NCYC a coach delivered the group to "Baroona" just after 11am where Tony greeted everyone and began phase one of our tour. Apparently, construction started in 1829 by John Larnach and it was originally known as "Rosemont". We learned that John wasn't a very nice man and treated the 70 convicts assigned to him appallingly.

At one point a rebellion occurred and 6 convicts escaped, only to be tracked down, recaptured then stood trial. Five were executed but the life of a young boy was spared when a prisoner said he was simply dragged along.



Baroona Basement where convicts were kept

In 1869 Albert Danger took possession of the house, enlarged it, and renamed the new structure "Baroona".

Adding to the folklore of Hunter Valley Thoroughbred breeding, the two-time Melbourne Cup winner "Peter Pan", who is listed in the Australian



Baroona

Racing Hall of Fame, was foaled here. After his racing career ended, he spent the rest of his life at "Baroona" where he is buried. A grave site and plaque mark the location.

Our tour continued by winding its way through dozens of rooms, most containing exquisite plasterwork, beautiful handcrafted cedar woodwork and ornate marble faced fireplaces. The same can't be said about the basement where convicts were locked up in small stark rooms that causes one to ponder what really went on down there.

Assembled on the veranda "Tour guide Tony" recounted the convict uprising and escape accompanied with a few old "black powder" weapons which helped set the mood. Some in attendance had the rare opportunity to use them and try their aim at the imaginary escaping convicts but alas, we didn't seem to have any "crack" shots in our midst. I must say though, the way Valda handled the firearm, Doug had better be on his best behaviour!



Inside Baroona

"Cruising Fleet Caterers" put together a great mix of nibbles which was followed by hot and cold side dishes accompanied by lamb roasts, baked chickens and a superbly cooked suckling pig on a spit.

To settle our food before the dessert course, Tony lead a few people up to the top of the tower where you have a magnificent 360-degree view of the grounds. Whilst hoisting our NCYC burgee up the flagpole, the cruising fleet theme song "Elephant Elevator Operator", led by none other than "Flying Phil Unicomb", could be



The Feast

heard in all its glory. I reckon from that elevated position the good folk 7 kilometres away in Singleton would be wondering what the heck was going on!

The bit of exercise helped settle tummies making room for a plethora of amazing desserts.

Homemade apple and banoffee pies, pavlova, tarts, cakes and ice cream were all on offer, creating quite a queue at the insulin dispensing truck!

A short time later we received word that our transport was near so we all pitched in to help clean up the carnage that remained from an afternoon of indulgence. Waddling out towards the coach, bellies stretched to the limit, we bid our gracious hosts farewell then made for NCYC. Initially everyone was abuzz with excitement over what a terrific afternoon we had experienced however, "full fat and happy", one by one people began to nod off.

As quiet gradually took over the coach I reflected upon the day. It's my personal belief that historically significant buildings have caretakers, rather than owners, who hopefully preserve them for future generations to admire. Witnessing firsthand Tony and Gaylene's passion and commitment to detail regarding their restoration work leaves me with no doubt that "Baroona's" current custodians are tailor made for the job. For those of you who couldn't make the trip, here is a link to a short video giving you some idea as to the grandeur of the place.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4y5CgLHG1sM>

As always, I would like to thank NCYC and its board for the ongoing support of their Cruising Fleet.

Till next time!

Sailing Academy

By Jacqui Ellis

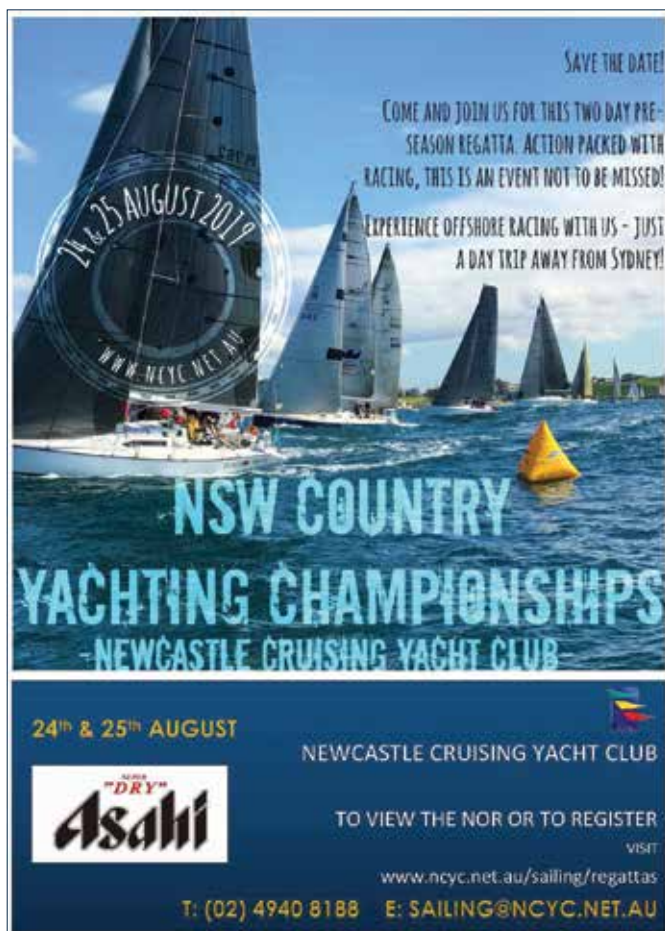
Following on from a very busy Spring & Summer, activity continues for the Sailing Academy.

Our popular Women's Friday Sailing is running right through the year with another 4-week course beginning this month. Dedicated volunteer instructors Jan Howard & Mary Holley, who began the women's sailing course back in 2014, will be there to train our next group of developing women sailors. Absolute beginners are their speciality! We cater for all skill levels. All dates are listed on the website with online registration links.

We are busy Monday & Tuesdays afternoons with school sailing activities for Newcastle East Primary and Newcastle Grammar schools.

Saturday's continue to be busy with a new Saturday Harbour Program running, Discover Sailing Experiences as well as our regular Australian Sailing Keelboat Program courses. Skilled instructor Felix Prince has just recently completed a very successful and well received "Start Racing" course for graduates who have worked their way through the Keelboat Program having started at the Start Crewing level. It just goes to show how you can go from rank beginner to sailor with racing skills though your involvement with the NCYC Sailing Academy!

All courses dates, right through until January 2020, have been listed on the website with links to enrol – so jump in now to book your spot on our next course...



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2k Teams Racing Hobart, Tasmania

By Jack Buchan

2K Team Racing is two on two team racing, in keelboats, without spinnakers. It's raced on short, match race style courses with umpires. The sport is fun, fast, social, and spectator friendly. In just four years since its development, an exciting international club competition circuit already operates with events in China the USA and around Europe. This event in Hobart was the first ever 2k Teams Race event to go down-under!

From the safety and warmth of home, I'm happy to report that our club was represented by three crews at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania's first ever 2k Teams Racing event sailed in their fleet of Elliott 6s. Setting out with a goal to start using their one design fleet more actively, the RYCT was intrigued to try the friendly and fun 2k Teams Race format which (in my opinion) was a successful endeavour.

In what began as a low key Hobart regatta, resulted in a fun and competitive event represented by twelve crews from Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Royal Perth Yacht Club, Sorrento Sailing and Couta Boat Club, and Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club.



Team (Youth) NCYC in changeover boat

The format was simple,

1. Enter as a team of 2 crews
2. Race team vs team (2 boats vs 2 boats)
3. If one of your team places last, your team loses that race

The strategy was seemingly straight forward

- place 1st and 2nd – WIN
- place 1st and 3rd – WIN
- place 2nd and 3rd – WIN
- any of your team place 4th - LOSE

The NCYC Burgee was flown for two of the six teams competing in the event. International Judge and Umpire Damien Boldyrew, an experienced team racer already, headed a team with members Ken and Dale Semple



Team NCYC

(experienced as sailors and race officials) as they paired with another experienced Team Race crew from Sorrento to form a NCYC/SSCBC team for the event. Additionally, in an 'all NCYC' team, we saw a group of youngsters put their fleet and match racing skills to the test as they participated in their first ever teams racing event. On our team, including myself, was Thomas Steenson, Felix Prince, Lucy Nissen, Nina Long and Tahníe Caldecoat – as predominantly young high school graduates, this team remains actively engaged with the club and the sport through instructing and coaching at NCYC and there are limited opportunities for them to race under our burgee. With matching race bibs, our teams looked the part with coincidentally matching wet weather gear and the NCYC branded sailing bibs – they certainly looked FAST!

In just two days, the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania race committee conducted some 40 races, providing ample opportunities our Newcastle teams to get their heads around the 2k Teams Racing format and 'play the game.' With the strategy being to not let any of your team place last, it meant that even if you are in first place you may need to give the lead away to sail



NCYC Jack Tahníe Thomas

back to your teammates and disturb the competitors enough to slow them down and let your team through – pushing one of the other team’s boats into last place. Each race had two short windward/leeward legs with an overall race time of just 10 minutes. Throughout that 10 minutes places would change rapidly with 1st place often turning around and putting themselves in 3rd and 4th position in order to help their teammate through and would then work with their team to ensure that one of the opposition’s boats were pushed back to last place.

After an early race on day 1, Lucy was on camera “it was a close mark-rounding and I missed the hiking strap as we headed back upwind – I fell off.” After a momentary swim in the Derwent River, in winter, Lucy was straight back on her boat and racing to catch up to the fleet – and spent the next 6hrs trying to warm up between races before she could get ashore to dry clothes. I was comforted by a LOT of wet-weather gear, however in the small yachts I traded in my offshore boots for my runners for more agility getting around the boat. It didn’t take long to get wet feet – but as cold as wet shoes all day can be, it really can’t be compared to soaking that Lucy endured for the remainder of a cold and windy day.

The weather was cold and the breeze was gusty ranging from 8knts to 20knts. Thomas Steenson summed up the short course format with “You’ve really got to pay attention before going around a mark to see which side of the course the wind will be on for the next leg. The legs are so short that you only have one opportunity to get it right.” He reflected that “in match racing the theory is a bit simpler, you’ve just got to get out front and stay in front, but in teams racing you sometimes have to stop the boat and wait for the other teams to catch up or even go back to them to disturb the competitors and give your team-mate an opportunity to catch up or to get out of a tight spot”. . . “the Tasmanian teams are hard to beat – they’re well practiced at team racing and are more familiar with the boats.”

We were forced to catch on to ‘the game’ very quickly. We quickly caught on that if we are approaching the finish in first place, but our teammate is in last place, then there’s no point us finishing – because in that order (1st and 4th) our team still loses the race. It’s an odd tactic to choose to turn away from a winning



Team (Youth) NCYC

finish to go charging back in on starboard tack against a pack of three boats on just the right angle to send your opposition retreating away and leaving you and your teammate with a split-second opportunity to turn back to the finish to cross the line. It was exciting for a whole number of reasons:

- a) to be in the game, you had to have strong boat handling skills
- b) to be in the game, you had to have the strength and agility to put the boat wherever you want it
- c) to be in the game, you had to have a strong understanding of the racing rules of sailing
- d) to be in the game, you had to understand and use the rules to maintain control over the opponents

We were certainly ‘in the game’ and ultimately our Newcastle Teams were satisfied placing 4th and 5th on the leaderboard overall competing against Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Royal Perth Yacht Club, Sorrento Sailing and Couta Boat Club, and Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club. As a dedicated group of sailing enthusiasts.

Nina Long

Performance Sailing Coordinator



Apart from Instructing, Nina also works two days a week in the NCYC Sailing Office, coordinating the overall Youth Keelboat Program for 2019, which includes the Youth Development, Intermediate and Advanced Squad.

Nina’s role also includes scheduling and sourcing of professional coaches and instructors, scheduling training, boat maintenance and support for away regattas. She is involved in high performance sailing, including preparing the Elliot 6’s for their official launch (Date TBA).

Nina also coordinates and supports NCYC regattas in organisation for Inshore fleet/match racing regattas, She Sails and away regattas. This includes preparation of race documents and liaising with Yacht Clubs around Australia and Oceania.

You will also still see Nina instructing school sailing, Tackers, Australian Sailing accredited Keelboat courses throughout the week with the NCYC Sailing Academy.

Newcastle Youth Keelboat Championships

By Jack Buchan

This weekend we host five youth teams for the second instalment of the Newcastle Youth Keelboat Championship. In light conditions we got 8 races completed yesterday - leaving just 4 races remaining for this morning before we get blown out by the Southerly Buster this afternoon!



With a strong start to yesterday's racing, Mannering Park Sailing Club's James Henderson is well and truly in the lead in the overall pointscore as we enter today's racing - despite some difficulties early in the series after altercations with other boats in the series.

Second place is tied for points with Belmont 16ft Sailing Club's Darby Jones claiming the second-place provisional placing after the countback with our very own Lucy Nissen's Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club team leaving them sitting in third as we enter Day 2 of racing today.

Also contesting is another Newcastle team as well as a Port Hunter Sailing Skiff Club team lead by Griffin Suters - a Flying Ant sailor who is becoming increasingly familiar with the Force 24s.





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Sail Port Stephens

Article by Mary Holley, Images by Mark Rothfield

This year marks the fifth consecutive year that Jan Howard has skippered “Schouten Passage” in the Sail Port Stephens Commodore’s Cup. Together with her SheSAILS crew they competed in the largest fleet in the 12-year history of the event finishing 10th from 23 in EHC Division 2.



Schouten Passage



RACE OFFICIAL SEMINAR FREE

OCTOBER 4 2019 @ 7PM

ATTEND THE RACE OFFICIALS SEMINAR BEFORE THE 2019 NSW YOUTHS

LATEST TRENDS
RACE OFFICIAL SCENARIOS
RACE OFFICIAL Q & A

PRESENTED BY PETER MERRITT - CHAIR OF THE RACE OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

POINT WOLSTONCROFT
KANANGRA DRIVE, GWANDALAN NSW 2259
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
LESLEY FASALA - LESLEY.FASALA@SAILING.ORG.AU

As usual the weather for the event threw up some challenges. Day 1 was a beautiful sunny day and created a picture-perfect start for 100 yachts for the first race of the regatta, however, the winds proved to be very light and shifty and the whole fleet seemed to sail from one hole to another all day. The course set was around the offshore islands, Cabbage Tree, Little and Boondlebah. This is usually a testing race negotiating changing winds around the islands but this year it proved to be very long and frustrating. In the end the Race Committee extended the time limit to allow most of the fleet to finish.

Day 2 was a vastly different race offering everything from strong gusty to light and fluky winds, rain squalls and lightning. By chance we managed to sail between 2 storm cells, one to the northwest and one to the south, and make it to the finish line before the southerly change.

The inshore race on day 3 was a spectacular sight in the bay. Gusty southerly winds on spinnaker runs made for good spectator sport. Our crew worked exceptionally hard keeping “Schouten Passage” sailing fast. This was reflected in our best result of the regatta, 6th. Needless to say, this was celebrated by many bubbles at the end of the day.

Sail Port Stephens has proved to be one of the best regattas on the east coast with record fleets each year and SheSAILS@NCYC is becoming well represented on many competing boats. NCYC’s “Scots Wha Hae” was skippered once again by Valda Johnston.

Not only is SheSAILS@NCYC well represented on the water but on the dance floor. For us, regattas are great fun. We sail well and party well. Thank you to Jan and Rob for giving the opportunity to race each year on “Schouten Passage”.



Schouten Passage crew

Congratulations to the Sail Port Stephens organisers for another successful regatta.

Who sails? SheSAILS!!

NCYC at the Inaugural National Sailing League

By Peta Norris, Images by National Sailing League – Darcie Collington)

Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club was well represented at the inaugural National Sailing League (NSL) final held at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron from the 26th to the 28th April.

The NSL was created by Howard Elliott and Mark Turnbull with the intention of bringing Europe's Sailing Champions League concept to Oceania. The inaugural final showcased the concept and selected a team to represent the Oceania region at the World Championships in Europe later this year.

The invitational event saw teams from NSW, Victoria,



Womens team. Left to right: Lucy Nissen, Peta Norris, Janease Graham, Meika Wright and Belinda Davey

WA and New Zealand across three divisions: open, youth and women's. Our club was represented in all three divisions as well as providing the PRO, Ian Humphries, Chief Umpire,

Damien Boldyew, and our Sailing Manager, Jack Buchan, as media boat driver.

The regatta format was brilliant, with 45 short races held over three days on Elliott 7s. Teams from the open, youth and women's divisions raced against each other in 15 flights of three races. On water umpires kept the teams honest and provided decisive resolution to protests and infringements, even whipping out the black flag on occasion. The umpires were generous with their knowledge after each day of racing, debriefing with teams regarding their decisions. The top four teams on point score progressed to the final.



NCYC Umpire Damien Boldyew



Youth team in action



Ian Humphries

The NCYC open team, skippered by Richard Howard, with Joel Skelton on main, Joel Castle on tactics/trim and Rayshele Martin on bow, achieved 6th place overall. An exceptional achievement in a fleet that included its fair share of Olympians and world champions.

Our women's team, skippered by Lucy Nissen, with Meika Wright on

main, Belinda Davey and Peta Norris on trim, and Janease Graham on bow and tactics, placed third in their division behind the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club (WA) and Sandringham Yacht Club (Vic).

Our youth team, skippered by Joe Ferguson, with Lily Smith on main, Griffin Sutters and Harry Miller on trim, and Courtney Smith on bow, had some stiff competition in their division with two of the four youth teams making it into the top four. They kept the NCYC women honest with some tight racing and should be proud of how they represented our club.



Open Team



Youth Team

The RSYS open team took the win in the NSL final and are off to Europe later this year to compete in the Sailing Champions League and the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron open team earned a wild card entry into the European event.

NCYC's Performance Sailing Coordinator, Nina Long, provided brilliant support, ensuring our teams were best dressed on the water and at the presentation, and arranging training on the Elliott 7s in Sydney. Nina also

managed to convince NSL organiser, Howard Elliott, who none of us had met, to provide his boat for NCYC crew accommodation. We later learned that Howard is originally from Newcastle, so it is only natural that he would support us!

Ahead of next season's NSL qualifiers, the NCYC women's team are off to Moolooaba Yacht Club's SheSails winter regatta on the last weekend in June, minus Lucy who will be overseas competing in the F18 worlds. Mooloolaba YC sent two super competitive teams to the NCYC SheSails regatta last November. They were great sports, embracing the fun yet



NCYC Teams at the Presentation

competitive spirit of the NCYC SheSails regatta, as well as achieving first and second place. This is a great opportunity for our club to



Open Youth and Womens Teams

return the support the Mooloolaba teams have shown to our SheSails program, as well as a chance for our team to develop Elliott 6 experience ahead of the fast and fun one design racing NCYC will host when the club's new Elliott 6s hit the water later this year.

Next season, NSL organisers are planning a series of qualifying events hosted by participating clubs. With a bit of luck, we might even host a qualifier in Newcastle.



**Caring for seafarers
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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.

By Terry Reynolds

For those interested in statistics, here are the 2018 stats for our Unit. We are a small unit however as you can see, our dedicated team in the radio room are often kept busy. What isn't in the stats are the number of phone calls that are received on any number of topics and of course the hours spent on training to ensure that when a call for help is received, our operators are ready to help.

As for the rescue boat stats, similarly to the radio operators, a huge emphasis is placed on training with hours spent getting our crews up to the level where we can assist when needed.

Radio calls – 2824

Local logons – 897

Off shore transits logons – 490

Assists/rescues – 32

ON WATER

One evening in July 2018 NC 30 was tasked to assist a runabout with battery issues near Morpeth. NC 30 started the long night run to the area however just before the crew arrived on scene, the DV crew called MR to advise they had paddled to the boat ramp.

Around 1730, Saturday 20th October, 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, L/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.

At 1425 on Sunday 3rd February, Marine Rescue Newcastle Radio Room received a call on behalf of a stranded vessel by another boatie that had unsuccessfully tried to tow the boat off the mud. A tinny with two adults and two children had run aground

on an ebbing tide.

NC30, with Ron Calman and Wayne Bissett on-board arrived at the south side of the north arm of the Hunter River to find the boat high and dry.

Our crew, never to turn down assisting people in tough situations, saw crewie Wayne crawl 50 metres through the mud to pass the tow line. Once back on-board, Ron's talent came to the fore and was able to re-float the boat.

NC30 returned to its pen where Wayne and the boat had a good wash down.

Without the dedicated efforts from our crew, this family would have been stranded until about 2200. Well done.

A job with a difference, NC 30 towed a vessel from North Reef to Stockton Ramp when near the new Stockton Marina they came across four teenagers in the water with their canoe overturned. As they were having difficulty with the tide and couldn't land due to oysters covered rocks, the crew recovered the teenagers and canoe and took them to the marina.



Saturday evening 23rd March NC 30 was tasked to assist a yacht stranded on mud near Stockton channel. NC 30 'crawled' close

to the yacht and was able to tow the vessel free.

On Easter Saturday NC 30 was tasked to assist a 4.9m runabout with engine problems near North Reef. The vessel, with 2 POB were towed to Carrington Ramp.

Plus there were a number of other small assists throughout the period.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

The following presentations were handed out late last year and early this year. Our Unit Commander, Ron Calman, achieved a couple of milestones. He 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.



Presented with their Marine Rescue Crew promotion was Steve Randell, Stuart Lawson and Mick Michael Quill. Well done to all three.



A number of members received certificates for undertaking the Marine Rescue Watch Officer Professional Development Day. Recipients were, Jo Benton, Ian Morrow, Graham Silcock, Rick Neville and Reg Marin.



Lyn Van Homrigh was presented with her Deputy Unit Commanders epaulets. Terry Reynolds received his Marine Rescue 10 year service medal.



Stuart Lawson received his Radio Operator promotion.



Port Hunter 16ft Sailing Skiff Club - Sailfest 2019

By Arran Gore & Alyson Gearing

In March this year, Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club and Port Hunter 16' Sailing Skiff Club partnered to hold Port Hunter's season finishing race, the Cock O' Harbour in conjunction with the first Newcastle Sailfest weekend. The traditional Newcastle Regatta Trophy was held on the Sunday.

Strong and building winds did not deter any of the 27 registered boats rigged and ready for the annual Cock O' Harbour race but the powerful Nor-Westerly wind decimated the fleet with only 2 boats managing to complete the course.

The 16ft Skiff crew of Rob Flanagan, Anthony Johnson and Graham Roberson put on a masterful display to get "Kilos" around the course to win both the scratch and yardstick results. The only other boat to finish was the MG14 "Scurvy Rascal" sailed by Arran Gore and Daniel Flood who finished about a minute too slow to beat the other finisher on yardstick.

Spectacular drone footage can be found on Sailfest's Facebook page.

Credit to our junior starters in the Flying Ants skiffs. While some boats made it further than others before retiring or being towed home due to breakage, all agreed it was a memorable race with gust of 37 knots recorded. Spectators



COH outside Honeysuckle Hotel

were given many a display of "how to right a boat after capsize".

On Sunday's revitalised Newcastle Trophy, 13 boats lined up, including a good collection of Flying Ants who all turned out again after Saturday's difficult conditions (which they described as "fun!!!"). Sunday's conditions were much calmer and at times a little frustrating trying to find wind direction. The course covered most of the excellent vantage points spectators on offer along the Newcastle and Stockton foreshore.

Two laps starting from PHSSC toward Kooragang's Walsh Point, around Dyke Point past the Honeysuckle Hotel (where it got a little fickle in the light winds and tide!), back out and up to the Pilot Station then back to Port Hunter club.

The Nacra 5.8 "Business Time" sailed by Dave Culip and Dean Nissen pulled away for a good win over the line followed by the Hobie 18 "Dug" sailed by John Burrows and Janease Graham. Third home was the Force 24 sailed by Justin Mitchell and crew of Alistair, Amanda and Glen who did more than enough to win the race on yardstick, from "Business Time" and the Ketch-Rigged Trailer-Sailer "Cygnet" sailed by Will Hardcastle, James Christie and another.

Many thanks to the crews who travelled to join in the fun and volunteers and spectators who were on hand to give support. We hope to see you all back next year.



Transfer by Doms whale watch rib from Port Hunter to Honeysuckle Hotel for the COH Presentation



Winners are Grinners - COH

Australian Historic Sailing Skiff Association

10' Historic Sailing Skiff 2019 Nationals at Teralba Amateur Sailing Club 3, 4 and 5 May

By Alyson Gearing

The following extract is taken from the Newcastle Herald of 11 March 1900 reporting on the February Stockton Sailing Club regatta...

"Never since the formation of the club were the steamers and wharves so densely thronged. The wharf from Newcommen Street to Perkins Street as packed with sightseers. Also, at last Saturday afternoon there were 9 for the 18 footers and 16 for the 10 footer classes. The snowy white sails in the distance reminded one of a patch of tents on the goldfields. Three steamers followed the race, including the GOSFORD, on board was a band which discoursed some excellent music during the afternoon."



Recovering from a Nose Dive - Blue Peter 1930s
Credit AHSSA Website

The wooden, sail heavy sailing skiffs reported upon above have long since been replaced with fibreglass, carbon and stainless speed machines. Whilst the band laden steamers might be gone some 10' historic skiffs are still cranking.

The 10 Footers evolved from the workboats of Sydney Harbour and were a class that first appeared in the 1880's. They had their heyday in the first fifteen years of the 20th century. They were smaller versions of the more famous 18-footers and similarly were unrestricted in crew numbers, beam and sail area. Like the Eighteens they had small side decks, foredecks and used lee cloths to keep the water out. They carried all of the sails that the Eighteen Footers carried, including ringtails, ballooners, and early on even topsails. In 1990 a

small group of ex-skiff sailors formed the Australian Historical Sailing Skiff Association and selected the 10 Footers as a good-sized boat to revive.
(Thanks to AHSSA website).

One of several Lake Macquarie 10 historical skiff owners is Grant Sheldon who I first had the fortune to meet on a weeklong voyage on the HMB Endeavour. Grant owns and sails alongside old mate Craig Hunter on 10' "Ramona II" and I was invited to sail with them.



Co-incidentally, another NCYC instructor Courtney was also invited to sheet on Teralba's Dale Jacobson's skiff "Miss Marlena" and Tim Dodds of NCYC Mako, was on "Kismet" owned and skippered by Mick Northam.

Congratulations goes to Courtney's skiff, "Miss Marlena" who took out the National Title by managing a clean sweep with 4 firsts, clawing back a win on the last leg from my "Ramona II" in the 2nd race, much to the author's dismay. "Ramona II" had four seconds and first overall on Handicap.

This year boats and crews were made up of a good balance of male/female mix and crews travelled from Queensland and NSW. One north Sydney all lady crew sailed exceptionally well (and were wonderful sports).



The 3-day regatta saw no racing Friday due to complete lack of wind, 3 races Saturday in light to medium breeze and one final race Sunday in fresher southerly breezes. Several crews

managed to have a swim enjoying the extended time in the water.

As rookies Courtney and I quickly learnt about something about these beautiful skiffs of the days of black and white.

If you are unlucky enough to capsize you are blessed with several more hours of water time waiting for a tow to the closest shore or better still, a tow back to the club. With no buoyancy tanks the skiffs quickly disappear under the water with only the crew's heads bobbing above the water line. It was suggested that apart from your life jacket, these boats only safety gear is a flask



of rum to keep crew warm whilst waiting to be rescued. I thought a very sensible idea and one that could be looked at in the next club safety audit. They do have a venturi which only works when sailing fast enough so a lot of bailing goes on when and if time permits.

The standing rig consists of a wooden mast, 2 side stays, 2 back stays and a bowsprit approximately 8-10' long on a 10' "bath tub". The boom extends some 3-4' over the stern. The cleats are horn style and the main and kite blocks have no ratchets!

Rigging: As sail track has yet to be invented, the main is laid out on the ground and lash around the gaff and boom. The gaff is attached to the mast with a U-shaped fitting and more rope and then hauled up the mast. Then more lashing of the lower mainsail luff around the mast. The jib is attached via a halyard. Spinnaker packed and the 3-piece pole is secured in the boat. A wooden knob at each end fit into a rope loop tied into the brace near the tack and a rope tied onto the mast. Now, pull on your matching footy jumpers and you're ready to go!

The start: Apparently its wasn't uncommon for your stem to catch a mainsheet while another stem behind catches your main. Remember, the name of the game is NOT TO SWIM!

The work and top mark: Once the niceties of the start line are over it's a beat to the top mark and then what I was dreading most (one of many actually). No matter how many times you rehearse this manoeuvre in your head on shore, sitting in your little 1 x 1 foot of space including 3 horn cleats wrapped in rope (jib, spinnaker and kicker) and 30 yards or so of 3 different lines the same diameter and all RED, I had every reason to be concerned. (Maybe



they only had red rope back in the olden days?)

The downwind drill: "Go the kite, go the kite" goes the call. Up goes the kite, wha'hoo that was easy! (that was Craig's job). "Go the pole!" First piece, (a wooden knob into a very tight rope loop so it stays in place), middle section! ("Yes in!!!") Last piece!! (Yes, go go go!!!!) "Brace!!!" (Oh ****! At least that was blue and the cleats behind me on the side) "That's enough wrap on the brace Alyson!!!" (Ok ok ok! I was just finishing!) "Kicker, kicker!" (oh, which one's the b**** kicker? "yep on!") "Alyson, brace is sliding!!!" (Now which one was the b*** brace again?) "we've overlayed it!!! quick gotta gybe!!!, (nooo!!) "Drop the jib halyard" (the which, what, oh yes the 1/4" red one next to the other 1/4" red spinnaker halyard which now has the 1/4' red kicker tangled in it, S***) Jib down, halyard unclipped and passed over the pole and reattached to the jib head. "Jib up, go go go" (of course, the red one!!!) "brace!! kicker!!".

Yep it's lots of fun and I was lucky to be with a very capable crew. Definitely worthy to be on any sailor's bucket list.

Yours in sailing Alyson Gearing

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2019 East Coast Classic Report

By Scott Morris

The 2019 Newcastle East Coast Classic was held on the 9th & 10th March 2019 & was a huge success !! We had 58 boats with over 250 Anglers competing for cash & prizes in excess of \$70,000 !! There were heaps of lucky boat draws & give-aways with every boat going home with something.

Congratulations goes to our major prize category winners !!

1. Largest Marlin over 150kg - \$5,000 cash prize sponsored by MMM Sheet Metal was not won.
2. Champion Boat Tag & Release - \$5,000 Cash, Sponsored by Marmong Point & Koolewong Marinas - was won by "Born Free".
3. Overall Champion Junior Angler, Tag & Release - Trophy & \$1000 Voucher to Tackle Power Charlestown, sponsored by Champagne Developments & Tackle Power Charlestown + 15kg Game Rod & Reel with 15kg Line - sponsored by PENN Fishing) was won by Rhys Jolly from "Zanzibar".
4. Highest Point Score Team - OGF - Tag & Release - Trophy & \$750 Cash, sponsored by South West Rocks Fishing Adventures was won by "Engagement".
5. Highest Point Score Team Shark - Tag & Release - Trophy + \$500 Cash sponsored by sponsored by Newcastle Gamefishing Club & 15kg Game Rod & Reel with 15kg Line sponsored by Penn Fishing & 1 Midi Chiller Bag sponsored by Blue Bottle Marine & 150kg Hanging Scales sponsored by Wedderburn was won by "Reel Crazy".
6. Heaviest Shark 350+ - Trophy & \$5000 Cash sponsored by Newcastle Gamefishing Club was won by "Reel Crazy" with a 483.40kg Tiger Shark on 37KG Line.
7. Heaviest OGF : Trophy & \$750 Cash sponsored by South West Rocks Fishing Adventures was won

by Jason Nunn from "FIFI" with 70.30KG Yellowfin on 37KG Line.



NSWGFA Juniors 2019

NGFC were selected to host the 2019 NSWGFA Junior Team in conjunction with our tournament. NSWGFA select 2 x juniors



NSWGFA Juniors 2019

(Northern, Central & Southern) to learn / compete on a 40ft boat supplied by NSWGFA (see photos). The guys had a great time & learnt heaps off Skipper Harry, Grahame Williams (NSWGFA) & team. (see photos)

We can't thank Paul, Sandy, Candice, Matt & all the staff from NCYC enough for making this tournament run smooth !!

Thanks also goes to all the NGFC Executive, committee & helpers for their tireless work !!

We would also like to thank all the boats that came from Game Fishing Clubs from North & South of us for competing & filling the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club throughout the weekend !!! The feedback suggests that everyone was happy with the hospitality shown by us & all the staff of NCYC Marina & Yacht Club throughout the weekend !!

We can't wait to have you all back next year !!!

TOURNAMENT STATISTICS

TAG & RELEASE

Marlin - 14 Black Marlin, 11 Blue Marlin & 2 Striped Marlin = 27 Total

Shark - 2 Blue Sharks, 2 Mako Sharks & 1 Whaler Shark = 5 Total

OGF - 5 Mahi Mahi, 6 Short Billed Spearfish & 5 Striped Tuna = 16 Total

CAPTURE

Marlin - 2 Blue Marlin

Shark - 1 Tiger Shark

OGF - 1 Yellowfin Tuna

Congratulations to all who competed & look forward to seeing you all next year !!

See you on the water.



Coming Events...

JUNE 2019

- Friday 14 June
Women's Friday Sailing Course (4 weeks)
- Saturday 15 June
Saturday Harbour Sailing Course (F24s)
- Saturday 15 June - Laser Winter Series
- Saturday 15 June - Bubbles & Troubles
- Sunday 16 June - Female Skipper Series
Race 3, Winter SOP - Race 3
- Friday 21 June - Start Powerboating Course
- Saturday 22 June - Laser Winter Series
- Sunday 23 June - Winter SOP Race 4
- Saturday 29 June - Equipment Audit Day
- Sunday 30 June - Winter SOP Races 5 & 6

JULY 2019

- Friday 5 July - Start Powerboating Course
- Saturday 13 July - Sailing Presentation Night
- Saturday 20 July - Celebrating 25 Years at NCYC
- Friday 26 July
Women's Friday Sailing Course (4 weeks)
- 27 & 28 July - Cracker-Jack Cup
(Youth Match Racing Regatta)

AUGUST 2019

- Thursday 8 August - Annual General Meeting
- 17 & 18 August - Thirkell Trophy
Newcastle Youth Match Racing Championships
- 24 & 25 August
NSW Country Yachting Championships
- Saturday 31 August - Start Crewing,
Start Helming, Start Skippering Courses

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)
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