

# thirty two° fifty five

newcastle cruising  
yacht club journal

Melbourne Cup 12

Elliott Racing Leagues 16

She Sails Open Regatta 20

summer 2020







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# Corporate Sailing

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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



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**A quarterly publication**

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Editor: Ethan Tucker

Cover Image: She Sails Open Regatta - Team REG  
 (Rayshele Martin, Emma Spiers, Georgia Peard)  
 Photo by Salty Dingo

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NEWCASTLE CRUISING  
 YACHT CLUB

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.

## Commodore's Message



Welcome to all our readers. I hope you all enjoy this Summer Edition of our NCYC Journal 'Thirty-Two Fifty-Five'. Thanks to everyone who has contributed with updates, stories, and photos across a wide range of activities that our club and members are involved in, and to Ethan for editing this into a great read.

This year COVID-19 has impacted us all... and again I would like to thank of our management and staff for working with us through the difficult period when the club was closed, and during our various stages of restricted opening. Also, to our COVID Marshalls for ensuring our compliance, keeping us safe at all times, and enabling the club to continue to operate responsibly. Thanks also to our members for your on-going support, helping us to trade through these tough times, and for your co-operation and compliance with the changing rules that we have all needed to adhere to.

The iconic Rolex Sydney to Hobart Race is going ahead this year with a fleet of 100 boats entered, although there will be a number of new guidelines and regulations in place for competitors, as well as restrictions on spectators to ensure the health and safety of all concerned. NCYC will be represented by 'She's The Culprit', 'Dare Devil', and 'Mako', and we wish each of them a fast and safe ride to Hobart, and comfortable journey home.

We have lots to look forward to next year (besides a vaccine!). We are ready to go to tender for the Phase 2 building extension of our club house, and we hope to have this open for your use before the end of 2021. If you haven't seen the plans, they are posted in the Trophy Room. We have already announced our new lease of Port Stephens Sailing and Aquatic Club, which is another exciting opportunity for our club. This will enable us to expand our Sailing Academy program to Port Stephens. Our members will have use of our new club facilities at Port Stephens, and we plan to install a number of swing moorings for our members use.

I am very pleased that we can now provide an opportunity for our laser fleet to race again, now they have a facility to stack/store and launch their boats down on the marina (Arm F). Thank you to our laser sailors for their patience and understanding, but rest assured that we have been trying our best to secure a great end game solution for you, it has just taken much longer than we expected.



Let's hope we see lots of Santa Sailors in the harbour this year to celebrate!

We will be holding our Members Christmas Party on December 13th this year, so be sure to book your tickets through 'Sticky Tickets'. No doubt we will all be keen to celebrate the festive season especially given the year we have had.

On behalf of the Board I would like to wish all our members and your family's the very best for Christmas and New Year!

Have fun on the water and keep safe!



Steve Rae, Commodore

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## WANTED Boat Profiles

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

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

**Subject:** Boat Profile

## Rear Commodore's Report



Three months ago, Australia was in the grip of a pandemic that is still not resolved but we are seeing some 'normality' return in recent months. This can change in a moment as we have all seen recently with the Victorian and South Australian experience. There are two silent enemies

here – COVID-19 and complacency. None of us should forget three simple things:

- the disease is still in the community,
- the disease is highly contagious, and
- the disease is fatal for the vulnerable among our community and can cause a lifetime of disability for previously healthy people

When we sail, we have a responsibility to each other to abide by the COVIDSafe practises.

Firstly, I need to make special mention of our Sailing Manager, Jack Buchan, who has been honoured with Australian Sailing's 2020 Yachting Professional of the Year. What an accolade for Jack and our club!

The NCYC board met in our new home at Port Stephens, the NCYC Bay Sailing Centre in November. We have been discussing its usage at both the Board and Sailing Committee. It will be running sailing training and small boat/dinghy regattas in the short term, but we are also discussing plans for Keel Boat use. The first major small boat event will be the A-Class Catamaran Nationals 30 January – 5 February 2021.

Our 'Tackers', Force 24, Elliott, Keel Boat are all back out on the water and in greater numbers. We have increased the Optimist 'Tackers' fleet by four to sixteen

by necessity with all our courses oversubscribed. It is a great problem to have. In November, we held the NCYC conceived, and now national, women's sailing program 'SheSails' Open Regatta. Sailing was conducted right in front of the crowd in the Honeysuckle Hotel.

I'd like to apologise to our Laser sailors for the protracted delay in securing the necessary agreements from all the relevant parties to enable us to sail after our previous facility agreement was not renewed. I am quite frustrated as well; trust me, it's like "herding cats" for Paul and Jack. Anyway, we have become sick of waiting for the needed Thales site permissions. We are constructing a temporary base using the newly purchased hardware within our Marina adjacent to 'F' arm. This will be moved when the approvals are finalised. We hope to be sailing from it within a few weeks – thanks for your patience. Maybe you can lend me some?

As I said above, the Elliott Leagues and Match Racing have started again and are well attended. Be aware that Elliott sails will need to be stored on the boats from March when the clubhouse extensions commence. We have also fitted covers for the boats to protect them.

The keelboat Spring Short Ocean Series has been particularly well attended with 15 regular participants. Both the Twilight and the longer Ocean Pointscore races are also enjoying races with 10-12 boats. All three series are tightly contested.

The Rolex Sydney Hobart looms once again for 'Dare Devil', 'Mako' and 'She's the Culprit'. It's officially a La Niña for December which typically brings cooler temperatures and unsettled weather... good luck to all and stay safe.

"You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it." - Margaret Thatcher.



Barry Kelly, Rear Commodore

# ENTERTAINMENT

**SUNDAY  
AFTERNOONS  
LIVE MUSIC  
@NCYC**





**NCYC IS AN ACCREDITED  
DISCOVER SAILING CENTRE**



## Chief Executive Officer's Report



As life starts to return to (relatively) normal, it will be a great summer to visit your club.

We have a great balance of sailing, social events, and activities on the calendar. Make sure you are receiving the weekly newsletter to keep up with what's going on.

Twilight racing has been fantastic with a great fleet and a variety of conditions. Most crews have been staying on for dinner. The Laser fleet didn't get much of a Spring Pointscore in, but the new storage racks and rigging area should be great for summer. The Newcastle Sailing League conducted on the Elliott 6's has continued to be popular. It produces very competitive sailing which is great to watch from the Honeysuckle foreshore. The cruising fleet are looking forward to some summer escapes, while the offshore fleet have enjoyed a great Short Ocean Pointscore, with second division growing with new arrivals.

This year, NCYC will be represented by three boats in the Rolex Sydney To Hobart, 'Dare Devil', 'She's The Culprit', and 'Mako'. The club will be open Boxing Day and will have the race start on all the big screens. It's a been a great atmosphere over the past few years.

The Sailing Academy has seen unprecedented demand, all courses have been fully booked and we have had to source additional training boats to get the waitlist on the water. The new initiative of member masterclass series has been well received and attended.

Special events continue to be important to our club. We have The Summer Breakout Series in late January, A-Class Catamaran National Titles in February, The

Asia Pacific Champions Sailing League in March, and our major annual regatta, SailFest, in April.

We now have a new base for boating activities in Port Stephens. NCYC has secured a five-year lease over the sailing shed at Soldiers Point. Our focus will be growing the current dinghy racing on Sundays, expanding our Sailing Academy activities, hosting major flatwater regattas, and providing a destination for our cruising and sailing fleets to visit.

The licenced club continues to trade at levels well above last year. Our revised wine list, changing variety of beers, and cocktail specials have been very popular. Nor East Bistro have been producing great food and are so busy, bookings have become essential. It's nice to have some limited live music back in the beer garden. We look forward to 2021 when we can reintroduce members draw, raffles, bands, and big functions!

I would like to thank all the staff here at NCYC for their commitment and effort over a very challenging off season. I hope all our members can enjoy sailing and boating activities over the summer and I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe festive season.

Paul O'Rourke, CEO

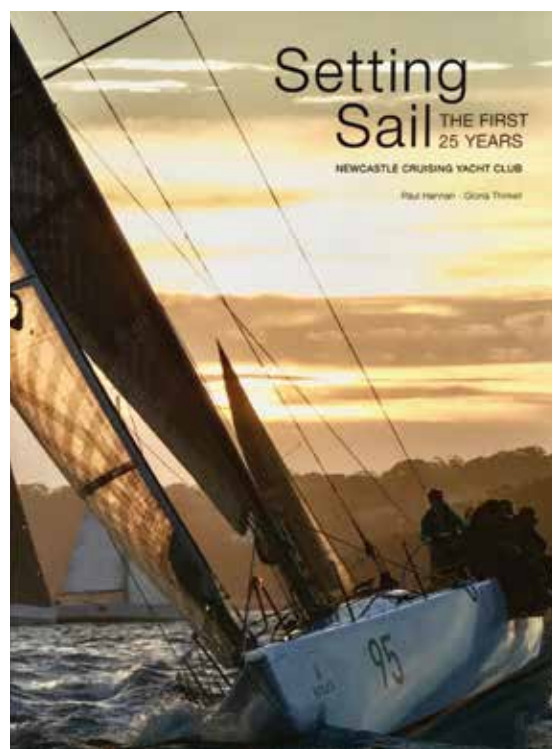
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# Marina & Assets Manager's Report



Welcome to the Summer edition from the Marina team.

The time has again gone so quickly as this article goes to print. It certainly has been an interesting few month and I hope you enjoy reading the news and interesting bits from the Marina team.

With travel restrictions and limitations for many who may usually venture overseas, the boat sales and turnover has been unprecedented. Boat brokers are reporting that they are finding it a challenge to keep boat stock to satisfy the demand. It seems people are buying boats (and caravans) as a means to escape the 'lockdowns' that have kept them in Australia. Of course, this impacts on marina occupancy, with some sold vessels going to new home ports and a handful remaining in Newcastle with new owners.

The 'Blessing of the Fleet' certainly had a different look and feel this year. The global pandemic has impacted events that we have somewhat taken for granted of being 'normal'. All-in-all all participants and marina occupants have been 'blessed'.



The Port of Newcastle has again welcomed delivery shipping from USA and Europe bringing private vessels to Australia. During October, a heavy lift ship, 'Happy Buccaneer', delivered some 245m collectively of vessels. For those that NCYC could accommodate with suitable length berth lengths, for clearances into the country, stayed for at least 4 nights and some longer into the coming summer months. As this goes to print,

we are expecting 3 more delivery ships to offload in Newcastle before the end of December 2020.

For a changeup to this shipping movement, boats arrive from elsewhere to be loaded onto these delivery ships. Often they undergo a quick clean and anti-foul at MidCoast Boatyard before being loaded and leaving Newcastle. Recently one of these small boats arrived with the name 'Enforcer' and left us called 'Sundance Kid'. The story goes that the new owner's partner wasn't fond of the old name. When 'Sundance Kid' left Newcastle enroute to New Zealand, it had some further signwriting done along the Starboard topside. If its not obvious , it was a marriage proposal with the new owner changing the boat name to suit his partner's taste prompting him to ask her to change her name as well. Here's hoping she said yes and he should be commended for his imagination!



On behalf of myself and my valued Marina and Maintenance crew, we wish you all the best for the holidays and festive season.

Sandy Hapgood

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Community Organization

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<https://www.facebook.com/MarineRescueNewcastle>





**W**hat a Spring! The Clubhouse has truly been 'the place to be' as the weather warms up and restrictions ease. We are seeing a lot of new faces in the Clubhouse with almost 100 new members having signed up and joined us during Spring alone. This has been a reflection of the great

service and atmosphere that the clubhouse is constantly providing to its members and guests.

Since reopening, staff have been highly invested in raising the quality of service within the Clubhouse, an ever-evolving task that staff are eager to fulfill. We have introduced numerous award-winning products to our beer and wine lists, including: the GABS Hottest 100 Craft Beer Awards highest rated Pale Ale & IPA with Young Henry's Newtowner and Crankshaft by Bentspoke Brewing Co. respectively. As well as our new 'House Shiraz' the 2018 Wildflower Shiraz which won the trophy for 'Best Value Dry Red Table Wine of the Competition' at the 2020 Sydney International Wine Competition and the Lovable Rogue 'Skin Contact' Vermentino from Carillion Wines that won Top Gold in the Vermentino (fuller-bodied, textural, luscious) Class in the Australian Alternative Varieties Wine Show 2020.

Our live music schedule has seen a sharp rise in the quality of artists we now have performing with our Friday entertainment (5 - 8pm) making a successful return, the mood and atmosphere sets the perfect summer afternoon environment, ideal for afternoon drinks and alfresco dining in the evening.

It has been also great to see our sailing members and community back enjoying the clubhouse after coming off the water several times a week now that restrictions have eased.

We are excited to announce that NCYC will be introducing a new system to manage our NSW Health Digital COVID-19 Register as well as our temporary member and guest of member sign in requirements. This system is being custom built for NCYC with efficiency, safety and security being the leading factors in its development.

We also hope you will come join the fun in one of our Member Master Classes. Hosted by our own Jay Piper, as well as some of the top brand representatives in the industry, these member exclusive classes are fun and educational and just another benefit of being a NCYC Member. Enjoy.

See you in your Clubhouse!

Matt Stamp

# 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)

## NCYC MERCHANDISE



POLO QUICK DRY  
LONG SLEEVE  
RRP \$54  
GENERAL & CREW  
DISCOUNT PRICE  
\$48.60



JACKET  
RRP \$277  
GENERAL & CREW  
DISCOUNT PRICE  
\$249.30



POLO SHORT SLEEVE  
RRP \$54  
GENERAL & CREW  
DISCOUNT PRICE  
\$48.60

CAPS  
RRP \$29  
GENERAL & CREW  
DISCOUNT PRICE  
\$26.10





# Trivia Night

## NCYC's Trivia in the Marquee

EVERY TUESDAY AT 7PM  
IN THE MARQUEE

FREE ENTRY • BUILD A TEAM • WIN PRIZES

Bookings: 4940 8188  
Email: [functions@ncyc.net.au](mailto:functions@ncyc.net.au)

# happy birthday

Visit the club during your birthday month with your membership card to activate your birthday vouchers.

Once your card is activated, you have a further 30 days to redeem your vouchers.

Let the celebrations begin and see you in the club soon!

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS FOR THE FRIDAY NIGHT RAFFLES



VINKEM PACKAGING



Bakery & Kitchen



Fruit & Vegetable Trays



PIES TO THE MAX



*Darrell and Linda Hall*

## happy hours at NCYC

4PM-6PM



Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club Social Committee's

## FRIDAY RAFFLES

BEER & WINE - BBQ TRAYS - PLUS MORE

TIX ON SALE : 6PM - DRAW : 7PM



## Nor East Bistro

Nor East Bistro at NCYC is back and better than ever, serving delicious seafood and providing quality customer service. COVID was difficult for all of us in the hospitality industry but it only made us stronger, we would like to thank all of our wonderful members for supporting us during this time and keeping us alive through our takeaway and delivery services.

Coming back into 'normal' operations we now provide table service, not only to adhere to new regulations, but to offer a new and improved experience for our customers to match our excellent food.

We now provide great banquets for larger groups showing off a range of our menu's best sellers and a few added extras. There's a variety of banquets to choose from ranging in price and different style dishes which you can see on our website at [noreastbistro.com](http://noreastbistro.com)



Booking a table at the bistro is now easier than ever, just head to our website and click 'book now' which allows you to choose your preferred date, time and section of the bistro you would like to sit in, you will then receive a confirmation via text or email.



Coming up to summer we only seem to be getting busier and busier with some great events not to miss so book your table now before you miss out!



We can't wait you see you soon at Nor East Bistro.

## Ali's Christmas Cocktail Specials

### The Nice and Naughty

- 1 nip Raspberry Gin
- Champagne

Serve in Champers glass. Garnish with berries & herb of choice.

•••

### Gingle Bells

- 1 ½ nip Christmas Gin
- ½ nip Butterscotch Schnapps
- ½ nip Vanilla Galliano
- ¼ nip Vanilla syrup
- ¼ nip Caramel syrup

Stir over ice in cocktail beaker with cinnamon and lemon grass spices. Rim 7 oz' glass with cinnamon sugar. Strain over ice into 7 oz' glass. Garnish with smoked cinnamon stick.

•••

### Jack Frost

- 1 nip Jack Daniels
- ½ nip Triple Sec or Cointreau
- 10 ml Agave syrup
- 3 dashes orange bitters
- 1 nip Pineapple Juice
- ½ nip Lemon Juice

Blend cocktail mix with ice to slush. Pour into frosted 7 oz' glass. Top with on-tap cider. Garnish with orange peel.

•••

### The Candy Caned Mojito

- 1 nip Bacardi



# Bay Sailing Centre

NCYC is delighted to become the new custodian of this great sailing asset on behalf of the sailing community.

This will be a community facility that will attract the local community to enjoy and participate in a healthy outdoor environmentally sustainable sport of sailing. It is a great location to grow our regional base for membership.

Salamander Bay is one of the best waterways in Australia / the world for inshore flat-water sailing. This is the ideal complement to our amazing offshore racecourses here in Newcastle. We aim to grow the regatta component to be a nationally recognised centre for running professional events. The goal is to host the biggest and best National and World regattas that will inspire our sailors while showcasing our great sport to the wider community and simultaneously delivering great economic benefit to the club and local economy.

We are committed to also grow their existing fleet of club racers by supporting the local sailors with our professional management team, develop appropriate classes of boats, suitable calendars, and a well-balanced and inclusive social program. We have worked positively with the previous board to ensure a smooth transition and continuation of sailing activities. They



Seaview Room



PSSAC Lasers



Location

currently have 80 members who have been welcomed and offered membership to NCYC. Our current laser sailors will be welcome to sail there on Sundays, just as the current bay sailors will be welcome to join our Friday night fleet. There are 5 club Lasers available to hire – contact our sailing office if interested.

Using our resources and expertise we will extend our nationally accredited Learn to sail Academy. This will include an extensive schools' program, junior community, "She Sails", specialised U3A program for the active elderly, families, and adults.

This will become a great destination for our existing members. There are currently three moorings out the front and we plan to grow this number. Whether cruising to the bay on your own or in company this will be a great spot to pull up. There will be moorings, showers, toilets, and a coffee shop with the best view in town. The moorings can be booked via our Marina Manager. We will develop our offshore race calendar to include more visits to the Bay.

The function room will be an ideal location for special events. Nor East will ensure the catering options are first class to match the view. Members can book the facility through our NCYC functions department.

I invite all members to visit for a cruise, race, or a coffee over the summer.

- 1 nip creme de menthe
- Mint
- Lime
- Soda
- Raw sugar

One whole lime sliced in quarters. Twist raw sugar right around glass. Clap mint. Ice up glass. Pour in Bacardi, creme de menthe, top with soda. Garnish with mint and lime wheel.

• • •

### Ali's Homemade Chrissy Apple Pie

- ½ nip Spiced Rum
- ¾ nip Cinnamon Liqueur or Fireball
- ¼ nip Butterscotch Schnapps
- 1 nip of Egg White

Dry Shake (no ice). Then Wet Shake (with ice).

Smoke 7 oz' glass. Rim 7 oz' glass with cinnamon sugar. ½ fill 7 oz' glass with on-tap apple cider. Strain shaken

cocktail mix over the cider. Garnish with smoked cinnamon stick.

• • •

### Express Yourself

- 1 ½ nip espresso tequila
- 1 nip Vanilla vodka
- 2 shots of fresh pressed espresso
- ½ nip Vanilla syrup

Wet shake. Strain into cocktail glass. Garnish with coffee beans.

• • •

### Mistletoe Kiss

- 2 nips Shiraz Gin
- 3 nips Prosecco
- 1 nip Soda

Serve over 1 large mint ice cube in balloon cocktail glass. Garnish with mint, thyme, rosemary and berries.

## Social Highlights

### Melbourne Cup

What a year it has been! With the first half of the year overrun by restrictions, isolations, shutdowns and COVID marshals, the days of dressing up and enjoying a meal with friends was quickly becoming a distant memory.

As one of the most successful events of our club calendar, we were determined to hold our Annual Melbourne Cup Luncheon by any means possible. Whilst it wouldn't be the same, we felt it important to provide an opportunity for our members and guests to enjoy themselves after unprecedented times faced earlier in the year.

So, our Bar Manager Matt, Head Chef Tony, and Functions Manager Tessa, put their heads together to organise an event that would abide by all the relevant restrictions, keeping people safe, without subtracting all the fun.

With tickets completely selling out in less than two weeks we were certain the day would be a winner.

After long days of preparation and hard work from the amazing staff teams at the Nor East Bistro and Clubhouse Bar, we finally arrived at the special day!

With only a slight shower in the morning, the clouds quickly parted, and the sun came through right on schedule. Getting dressed up on a Tuesday to be wined and dined by the water? Sign me up!



Best Dressed

With flowers, balloons, drinks at the ready and the best-looking staff team in the city, we were ready and raring for our guests to arrive.

With the help of our Marketing Co-Ordinator Ethan, and Functions Manager Tessa, we greeted the guests as they entered the club, full of smiles and looking wonderful – we started to wonder how on earth I'd work out who to pick for our Best Dressed awards!

Once seated and served their drinks to start, the Nor East team began rolling out their four-course spread. Starting with oysters & pintxos on arrival, we were off to a very promising start! Next, Crystal Bay prawns & a croquette of pulled lamb shoulder – is your mouth watering yet?

The main course consisted of a generous Angus beef eye fillet, confit carrot, potatoes & bearnaise, alternatively served with Tasmanian Salmon with cauliflower puree, grilled asparagus & salsa verde.

Finally, as our guests tucked into their desserts, we topped up their drinks ready for the big race to start!

As the race finished, and with the weather on our side, our guests stayed long into the afternoon as our soloist, Tim Harding, serenaded them from the courtyard.

There might have been some tired feet and sore heads the next day, but we think, on behalf of all the guests, it's safe to say we're set for a sell out next year too!

On behalf of NCYC, I would like to extend a massive thanks to the amazing staff we've been blessed with – it wouldn't be possible without you! Thanks also goes out to Scion Audio, Blooms on Darby, Confetti Hire, and Tim Harding for all the finishing touches.

See you next year!



Adrian & Cathy Kiely





## Wine Tasting Masterclass

Monday, 16th of November, saw NCYC's inaugural 'Members Wine Tasting' event.

Monday night may not be everybody's cup of tea when it comes to an evening of wine tasting, but it sure didn't put many members off! Both sessions were at capacity! Hosted by our own in-house Cork Dork, Jay Piper, the evening kicked off with the first session starting at 5.30pm.

Our first masterclass was a focus on aromatic wines, whilst introducing one or two new wines from the new seasons wine list. In the bracket, each guest were given four wines to taste, which were a stunning Riesling from Hentley Farm, SA, a Pinot Gris by Ara, in Marlborough NZ, a Sauvignon Blanc again from Marlborough NZ, and finally a mystery wine to keep everybody on their toes. The mystery wine was in fact a Grand Cru Gewürztraminer 2017 by Dopff, hailing from the Alsace region in France.

Our guests were given a list of descriptors to identify each wine, and guess the correct order, and bonus points for guessing the variety of the mystery wine.

Many of you came very close, with a couple of guesses such as Traminer Riesling (which is still not unusual to see in 4L boxes!), and Muscat. It's understandable, considering wines from this Region Vs Australian styles, are made more in an off dry to almost sweet, whereas Australian Gewürztraminer are often made bone-dry.

Two of the evenings wines, the Riesling and the Gewürz, were paired with some bite sized canapés from the team the wonderful Nor East Bistro, a chilli, garlic, ginger soy scallop with the Riesling, and a red Thai prawn curry shot for the Gewürz. Coconut and this particular variety of wine acts almost like a flavour multiplier and aromatic wines in general, will often pair well with Asian and South East Asian dishes.

Now for the science... Gewürztraminer can be one of the most easily identifiable grape varieties on the planet, due to the Gewürz's aroma. The first thing to say is that it is very powerful. The smell is heady. Its exact characteristics are probably most accurately compared to the smell of lychees with a big dose of pungent rose petals/Turkish Delight, and, in some of the most concentrated examples, a savoury element. Some tasters will tend to describe the unmistakable smell of Gewürztraminer as 'spicy' because the word Gewürz means 'spicy' in German, but in fact there is no single spice that is particularly like the smell of Gewürz. Here, 'spicy' was being used as a synonym for 'aromatic'.



Aromatic white wines are unique because they have higher levels of a volatile compound class called terpenes, which include the very same aromas found in flowers! Specifically, aromatic wines have particularly high levels of a subgroup of terpenes called 'monoterpenes,' And monoterpenes are responsible for all of those wonderful aromas of rose petal, orange blossom and geranium! It's thought that these volatile compounds evolved as a way to promote procreation. They would attract insects for pollination and birds for dispersal of seeds.

That's enough science for today! It's time to prepare for the next event! I hope to see you all there!

Cheers!



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Welcome to Summer of 2020/2021. We've had an enormous start to the sailing season with a surging enthusiasm by members and the Hunter sailing community to get on the water and become engaged with the racing opportunities we're delivering at Newcastle.

Offshore, we're close enough to be calling it 20 yachts on the water in Wednesday Twilight racing as well as a welcome rise in the division 2 fleet on Sundays adding a great comradeship between competitors. The Ocean Pointscore also welcomed a half-dozen yachts from Port Stephens Yacht Club who joined us for our race up to Soldier's Point in November. We've also started to see a steady increase in enquiries from local residents who used to sail somewhere else a lifetime ago and we're now introducing newcomers to a crew each Wednesday for our offshore twilight races.

Inshore, we've been searching for Newcastle's finest aboard our fleet of Elliott 6m yachts. This year, we've delivered the inshore events as four-week series which included the Youth League, Open League, Women's League, and a Member's Match Racing Tournament. These are still running at the time of writing, but congratulations to all who have participated. There is a bigger focus this year on providing observations and feedback to teams after racing each day to assist with skills development – as well as an Umpire Debrief to discuss any rules related scenarios and why a particular penalty decision was made.

Exciting news for any Laser sailors out there – we are nearing completion of our new Laser storage and launching pontoons at their new home directly in front of the Clubhouse. We will launch in 2021 for the remainder of the sailing season as per the Laser schedule in the Sailor's Handbook. This development has had a lot of wheels in motion that has included relocating parts of the marina, re-navigating electrical wiring and plumbing, as well as moving the floating shed bolted to F-arm! The result is now a fully dedicated dinghy pond that will better serve both Lasers and the Tackers learn to sail program.

In the Clubhouse, we've also launched regular Member's Masterclass events with specialists booked in to present topics on Monday nights at the Club. So far these have included ocean racing legend Chris Nicholson on Starting Tactics, International Umpire Damien Boldyrew on an Introduction to Match Racing,

and Youth Academy graduate Emma Jones on Fitness for Sailing. We've got more Masterclass specialists booked in for topics including Weather on the Water, Man Overboard Masterclass, Boat maintenance and rigging and repairs, Blue Water Sailing Preparation, Race Strategy and Tactics, and Diesel Engine Maintenance. There's something for everyone so cross out your Monday Nights and book yourself a seat – Monday Night is Member's Masterclass Night!

And in extraordinary news, we're currently in the process of preparing our newly acquired 'Bay Sailing Centre' to open its doors later in December! Our involvement in taking over the Port Stephens Sailing and Aquatic Club venue at Soldier's Point presents opportunities to have a positive impact on increasing the local participation in racing and learn to sail activities. The venue location offers picturesque views from the Clubhouse straight out between Tomaree and Yakaba Headlands. The sandy beachfront the club is located on provides endless rigging and launching area for dinghy classes racing National and World Championship regattas on Port Stephens – a waterway that is free from the challenges of commercial shipping and ferry traffic. No doubt, you'll start hearing a lot more about our new 'Bay Sailing Centre' in the coming weeks.

As we approach the end of the year, I'd like to take a moment to wish good luck (and congratulations) to all of our members that will depart Sydney on Boxing Day and race south to Hobart this year. We'll be following you here at the club and hope the forecasters offer weather predictions somewhat representative of last year's race.

For those not racing to Hobart, consider getting your offshore racing hit with the Breakout Series event. This was originally planned to be earlier in August until local \*ahem\* 'breakouts' (excuse the pun) caused the event to be postponed. The new schedule will run 18th – 21st January and will hop along the coast from Sydney to Pittwater to Newcastle to Port Stephens – ending with an island passage at Port Stephens on the final day of racing.

In signing off, can we all just give a 'hear-hear' to the entire Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club family. We have a passionate team of staff and volunteers delivering the racing and academy programmes for an enthusiastic family of members and local community. We continue to escalate our ambitions to expand and are constantly rewarded by the enthusiasm and drive of members keen to participate.

Well. Done. Newcastle!



# Laser Sailing

Exciting news for any Laser sailors out there – we launched our new floating Laser storage racks directly in front of the Clubhouse!

We were able to sneak in two Fridays of Laser racing before the Holiday break and then we will relaunch in 2021 for the remainder of the sailing season as per the Laser schedule in the Sailor’s Handbook. This development has had a lot of wheels in motion that has included relocating parts of the marina, re-navigating electrical wiring and plumbing, as well as moving the floating shed bolted to F-arm! The result is now a fully dedicated dinghy pond that will better serve both Lasers and the Tackers learn to sail program.

Members can store their boats on the racks at \$30/month with a 75% participation requirement. If a boat on the racks is not participating regularly, then it will be removed immediately.

We’re looking forward to filling the harbour on Friday nights again – with three races from 5:30pm each week. There are currently sixteen racks available and we can increase that to 24 by adding a third row on top!



Our racing schedule will proceed as follows –

Boats stored on the Laser racks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch from NCYC Clubhouse</li> <li>• Three races in the Basin</li> <li>• Store boats at NCYC</li> </ul>
Boats not stored on the Laser racks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch from Carrington boat ramp</li> <li>• Three races in the Basin</li> <li>• Return to Carrington boat ramp</li> </ul>

## Race Entry

Race entry is now available for the remainder of the Summer sailing season – returning Friday 29th January 2021. Enter online via the event webpage –

<https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/22/profile?tab=entry>





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### Elliott Racing Leagues

This season, we've reshaped and redelivered the Elliott racing league events running on Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout daylight savings. Our new schedule included the Youth League, Open League, Women's League, and a Member's Match Racing Tournament – all raced after 5:30pm during the week!

On Tuesdays in October, the Youth League raced three races each week – finishing the last race only moments before sunset in the first month of daylight savings. This meant that getting on the water early was a priority to ensure we could start the first race on time.

Getting out early had its other benefits – including more time on the water to practice manoeuvres and boat handling. The 'Try Hards 2.0' made good use of this additional time and ultimately the trio of Thomas Steenson, Luke Sullivan, and Darby Jones claimed the first place gold medallions having demonstrated their strong boat handling and tactics throughout the competition where they won ten of the twelve races sailed.

The 'Try Hards 2.0' were followed by 'Full Throttle' (Craig Wright, George Carr, Christian Spencer, Sebastian Spencer) in second place, and 'Damage Report' (Griffin Suters, Lennon Sullivan, Rohan Perceval) in third. Harry Miller, Callum Marsh and Jackson Clare missed out on the podium by just a single point on the scorecard seeing them settle in fourth position and in fifth place, Chelsea Williams joined Waverley Mears and Alice Roberts - after Waverley and Alice completed the recent school holiday OutThere Sailing program. The girls worked together to get their teamwork and boat handling up to speed and happily ended the competition with a 2nd place in the last race the series!



Women's League



Women's League - First place - Tracey Hanson, Sarah Gamble, Natalie Butterworth

On Thursdays throughout October, the Open League was made up of eight top tier teams of members racing one another. Regrettably, we were forced to abandon the last two Thursdays of racing due to a thunderstorm in week 3, and an early thunderstorm leaving us becalmed in week 4.

'Good Form' (Joe de Kock, Julian Clements, Richard Hooper) held onto a convincing lead this series but did happen to tango a few times with second place 'Always on Port' (Blake Robertson, Scott Babbage, Hiroshi Oya). In third was the ambitious 'Making Wickham Great Again' (Jeffrey Robinson, Ken Semple, Paul Beath).

Fourth place overall was 'Anger Management' (Glen Coulam, Richard Arnall, Tim Vooles) followed by fifth placed 'Knot my Yot' (Oliver Riorden, Michael Ovenstone, Luke Dunne) and sixth placed 'TW Woods Construction' (Jamie Woods, Brad Dodds, Lucy Nissen).

In seventh place we had 'Free Cuba' (Kathleen Stroinovskiy, Adrian Kiely, Hannah Bruce) and in eighth place overall was the 'Mako Misfits' (Tim Dodds, Hugh Dodds, Marcus Busch).

As we rolled into November, the Youth League was replaced with the Women's League. This is the area that we observed the greatest skill development throughout the four-week programme. With an umpire on the water helping to police the rules and observers giving feedback and tips at the daily debrief, the quality of racing improved dramatically – with three races each week providing lots of opportunities to 'practice' starts, mark roundings, spinnaker sets, gybes and drops. With an almost perfect scorecard, team 'Sanatra' (Natalie



Butterworth, Tracey Hanson, Sarah Gamble) claimed the series win less than 48hrs after seizing victory at the annual She Sails regatta against teams visiting from around the country.

In second place were 'The Screaming Jets' (Janease Graham, Louise McLaren, Peta Norris) ahead of third placed Lake Macquarie Yacht Club team 'Kasuel' (Susie Wright, Eleanor Cunningham, Kathryn Johnson) and fourth placed 'Pier Review' (Emily Sellens, Valda Johnston, Jane Wilson, Grace Buchan).

The most hotly contested positions of the Women's League were fifth and sixth – separated by just one point. In fifth place was 'Calypso' (Leah Suters, Neroli

Foster, Libby Helinski, Kim Mears) and in sixth was 'Usain Boat' (Jane Hunt, Bea Sawers, Kim Pollock, Belinda Davey).

And finally, starting in November our Elliott programme expanded to include a midweek Member's Match Racing Tournament on Thursday evenings. A match race consists of two identical boats racing against each other. This is a one-on-one duel of strategy and tactics and the objective is simple - to be the first to cross the finish line.

With an umpire on the water focusing on the pre-start manoeuvring, competitors will partake in a 1 vs 1 match racing round robin across four consecutive Thursday evenings. Keeping an eye on the rules is International Umpire and NCYC member, Damien Boldyrew accompanied by Sydney-based, Erica Kirby who is generously joining us for our midweek twilight competition.

The onwater umpires closely observe boats that are Match racing and accurately issue prompt judgement calls and signals pertaining to whether competitors have broken the rules. In this instance, a penalty may be issued to one (or both) of the competitors.

As we begin to conduct more and more Match racing, we will be calling for any interested members to get involved in applying the rules in an Umpire capacity. Please contact the Sailing Office if you're interested in diving in and getting involved in delivering this unique aspect of our sport.



Youth League - First Place - Try Hards 2.0 (Tom Dawson L , Thomas Steenson M , Luke Sullivan R)

An advertisement for Asahi Super Dry Black beer. On the left is a dark glass bottle of beer with a label that reads 'Asahi DRY BLACK'. The bottle is surrounded by a decorative, flame-like or smoke-like effect. On the right, the text reads 'SUPER "DRY" Asahi DRY BLACK'. Below this, a paragraph describes the beer: '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.' At the bottom right, it says '5.5% ALC/VOL SUPER DRY DARK LAGER'. In the top left corner of the ad, there is a small box that says 'PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY'.



We were pleased to be able to recommence Sailing Academy activities in September under our COVID Safety Plan and Participant Health & Safety guidelines... and didn't things take off quickly! We have been so incredibly busy across all our courses as people took full advantage of the release from lock-down!

Our kids October school holidays and term 4 Tackers programs sold out as did both our Thursday night and Friday morning Women's Sailing courses, with six Force 24s on water each week. We ran our first Women's Spinnaker course during this period too which proved popular. We have had strong interest in the Australian Sailing syllabus courses of Start Crewing, Start Helming and Skippering. Our Discover Sailing Experiences continue to be popular, with a growing trend towards four family or friends booking a boat so they can all sail together as an activity.

### PROMOTING SAILING LOCALLY!

To further spread the word about how enjoyable sailing is, we've been working on two promotional programs with the Newcastle City Council – Hometown Holiday and Lean In Newy. Being part of these city-wide promotions will hopefully reach more people and encourage them to 'Discover Sailing' too! We're also working with Destination NSW for some further promotional opportunities.

### AUSTRALIAN SAILING PARTICIPATION FIGURES

Australian Sailing released the results of the first quarter national participation figures in mid-October and I am pleased to report that the NCYC Sailing Academy is the NUMBER 1 Keelboat Centre in Australia! We were



also in the Top 10 Discover Sailing Centre's in Australia overall. This is a fantastic result showing that we are leading the way in promoting sailing in both keelboats & dinghies. We have a dedicated and talented team of instructors that work with the Academy and these results are only achieved through their continued efforts. I am so honoured to constantly receive positive and glowing feedback from our participants.

### INSTRUCTOR TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

We are lucky to have Senior Instructor, Andrew Omotosho lead our team and Andrew is also accredited with Australian Sailing to deliver the National Keelboat Program Instructor courses. Andrew has recently conducted two keelboat instructor courses at the Club and we congratulate the following participants who were successful in gaining their accreditation – Peta Norris, Chelsea Williams, Darby Jones, Harry Miller, Dennis Hume, Griffin Seuters, Markus Tschlemer, Jane Hunt, Stephen Mackay. In further positive news, Andrew will now work with the Academy on a full-time basis allowing us to extend the quality and consistency of our programs through further instructor training and extension sessions.

### ONLINE MARINE TRAINING COURSES

We were pleased to launch a new initiative for the Academy with the introduction of online learning courses through a partnership with Above & Beyond Boating. These courses provide the opportunity for our members to access marine focused training which can be completed from home with self-paced learning. Courses on offer include the Safety & Sea Survival course theory, Essential Navigation & Seamanship, an online Skippers Course as well as the RYA Day Skipper Shore based course. The online course range will be extended to include VHF and HF Radio Operator.



### LEARN TO SAIL COURSES FOR KIDS

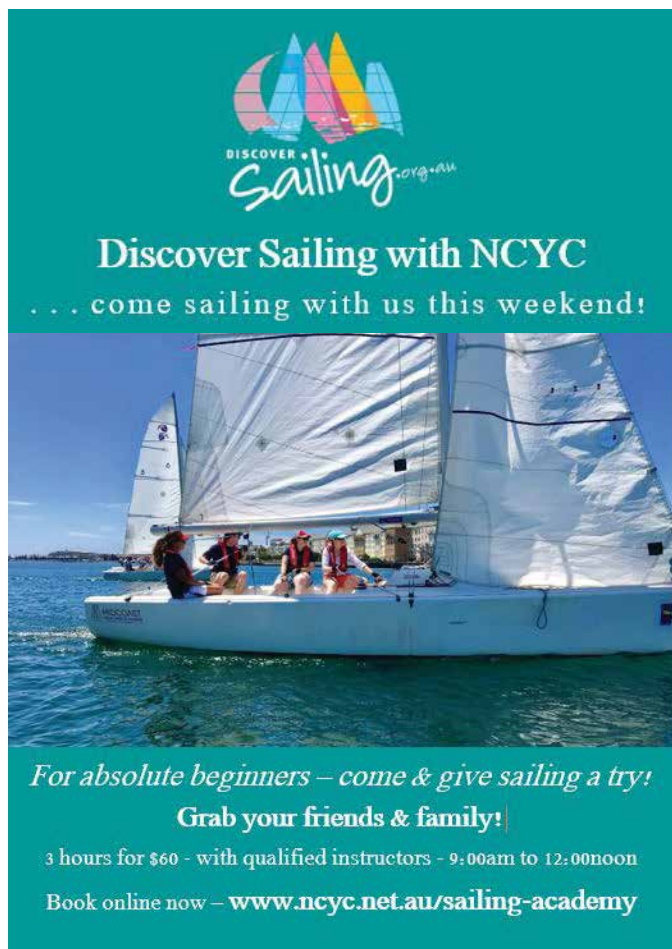
The NCYC Sailing Academy is a registered provider with Service NSW and accepts the \$100 ACTIVE KIDS vouchers.

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



**SO MANY KIDS  
GETTING INTO SAILING!**

Moving into the Summer holidays we will hold three weeks of our Tackers program and two weeks of our teen OutThere Sailing experiences & courses. In order to try and accommodate demand, we have been able to purchase four additional second-hand Tackers dinghies, bringing our fleet to 16, and all three weeks are already sold out! It's going to be busy and fun Summer of Sailing! Moving into Term 1 of 2021, we will be running Tackers on Monday & Wednesday afternoons as well as Saturday mornings with our Green Fleet racing on Sunday mornings. We will also run Tackers in the April school holidays.



**Discover Sailing with NCYC**  
... come sailing with us this weekend!

*For absolute beginners – come & give sailing a try!*  
**Grab your friends & family!**

3 hours for \$60 - with qualified instructors - 9:00am to 12:00noon  
Book online now – [www.ncyc.net.au/sailing-academy](http://www.ncyc.net.au/sailing-academy)

**BAY SAILING CENTRE  
ACADMENY ACTIVITIES**

We are busy getting ready to launch our Sailing Academy offerings at the NCYC Bay Sailing Centre at Port Stephens with 'Discover Sailing' opportunities in the six OpenBICs and six Puffin Pacer dinghies as well as kids 5-day learn to sail courses. This will be a wonderful opportunity to extend the sailing opportunities to both the local and tourist markets in Port Stephens. We look forward to growing our local instructing group and further programs in the coming months.

**SAFETY & SEA SURVIVAL UPDATE**

Another project on the Academy's to-do list is gaining accreditation with Australian Sailing to run SSSC Practical courses here at the Club. There are considerable logistics, risk management, insurances and resources that need to be put in place for this to happen, but we see this as an important option for our members given that currently the only option is to travel to Sydney. We will be focusing on this in the new year. We have been advised by Australian Sailing that a SSSC Instructor course is planned for May 2021.

**MEMBER DISCOUNTS**

Please remember that all General members receive a 10% discount and Crew member a 5% discount on all Academy courses, including online courses. A special 20% discount is offered to all Youth Crew and Junior members for any of the online training courses. Please contact the Sailing Office if you would like further information.



**NEWCASTLE CRUISING  
YACHT CLUB**

*20% Discount for  
Youth Crew & Junior Members*

*On all online Academy courses!*



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Come along to one of our *Discover Sailing Experiences* to get a taste of the wonderful fun and opportunities sailing at the NCYC presents.

Further details including course descriptions and course dates are available on the website or contact the Sailing Office for more information.

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL  
Easy online booking!**

**Come sailing with us!**  
Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club's Sailing Academy offers sailing courses in both our fleet of *Force 24* inshore keelboats and our new fleet of junior *OziOpti* dinghies.

[www.ncyc.net.au/sailing-academy](http://www.ncyc.net.au/sailing-academy)  
**Phone: 4940 8188**  
Email: [sailingacademy@ncyc.net.au](mailto:sailingacademy@ncyc.net.au)  
**Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club**  
95 Hannell Street, Wickham NSW 2293



## She Sails Open Regatta 2020

We've just hosted the third edition of the She Sails Open Regatta. In this event, the term "Open" references the fact that the event is open to entries from all-female teams from clubs around the country.

Our first event was in our older fleet of Force 24 training yachts, while the 2019 and 2020 regattas were contested in our newer fleet of Elliott 6m yachts.

This year, Newcastle was represented by six teams - making up nearly half of the entry list. The other teams competing came to us from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club, Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, Port Macquarie Yacht Club, Mooloolaba Yacht Club, and last year's winners were racing for the Sailing Women's Network.

Also joining us was the Sailing Manager of Darwin Sailing Club, Kelly Dawson. Here to be a part of the She Sails atmosphere and take back some tips to Darwin for when we can send one of our teams to be a part of their annual women's event.

Australian Sailing's newest Club Services Officer, Gemma Burns, was loving the atmosphere at the home of She Sails - stating "She Sails is an awesome nationwide initiative to promote females in sailing. The vibe here, the racing, it's so good, it's been an awesome regatta and Australian Sailing is so excited that we can be behind this regatta and be a part of supporting it in any way that we can."

Saturday began with our volunteer Race Management Team meeting at 8:00am in the Clubhouse - where they were assigned their jobs for the day and went and prepared their various Start Boats, Mark Boats, Changeover Boats and Repair Boat.



She Sails - MHYC\_MYC - (Rhoslyn Humphries, Jenny Sorensen, Michela Clavanzani, Tiffany Schaffter)

By 8:30am, the mercury was beginning to rise, competitors were strolling through the front door, and our Registration Team were busy welcoming sailors to the club and providing them with their regatta packs and sail numbers in time for the 9:00am briefing.

With thirteen teams attending the regatta, we had more teams than we had boats. Those racing in the first race of the day were guided down to the marina to rig their boats and hit the water, while the remaining teams were ferried to Honeysuckle Hotel - to spectate the racing from the balcony until it was their turn to change into an Elliott and take part in the round robin qualifying series.

As boats hit the water and teams started arriving at the race area, the temperature was well into the 30's and the wind was throwing some surprisingly strong gusts exceeding 20knts at times. Crews were doing their best to drink water and find shade whilst not racing.



She Sails - team REG (Rayshelle Martin, Emma Spiers, Georgia Peard)

The qualifying round robin would see each team participate in three of the six races in the qualifying series. The two changeover boats would move teams between Honeysuckle Hotel and the Elliott yachts as quickly as they could, and the Repair Boat was dedicated to making fast work of any maintenance that would be required between races - including a broken spinnaker pole, torn spinnaker, and a bent shackle on a boom vang control line.

The 'Sailing Women's Network' (SWN) team demonstrated a strong defence of their 2019 victory with wins in both Race 1 and Race 2 - and ending with a fourth place in Race 6. With the support SWN's Deb Wallace accompanying the defending champions, Skipper Elizabeth Borberg was again joined by Jess Tavener, Emma Byrne and India Howard.

In Race 3, Team 'Sinatra' claimed a win for their first race of the day as they came back from placing second overall in 2019. 'Sinatra', representing dual clubs LMYC and NCYC, had Natalie Butterworth on the stick, Tracey Hanson on the main, and Sarah Gamble in the bow.



Race 4 saw Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club's 'Alfredsiacs' claim a win - with the newly formed team of Nicole Butcher, Lisa Ratcliff, Gemma Rasdall, and Maike Muff.

In Race 5, we were cheering for a young and enthusiastic team representing dual clubs LMYC and NCYC as Nina Tolhurst, Erin Killey, and Grace Buchan sailed under the team name 'Knot Shore' and claimed first place - strengthening their qualifying scorecard with 2, 2, 1 results.

'Sinatra' returned to the water in Race 6 to claim their second win - bringing their scorecard to 1, 3, 1 for the qualifying series.

After six races of the qualifying round robin, we reset the course and selected the top 8 teams to race a standalone 'Battle for Bubbles' race to end the first day off the regatta. By this stage, the thermostat was sitting on 39°C and the wind was strengthening from the north.

The teams not racing were quickly ferried out to spectator boats generously provided by tenants of the NCYC marina including the homely powerboat 'Home Free' and the stunning Outremer 5X 'Cara Mia' catamaran currently staying in the marina. The two boats provided magnanimous hospitality for the five remaining teams as they followed the action of the 'Battle for Bubbles' race and then returned back to the clubhouse after racing.

The 'Battle for Bubbles' really showed the strength and endurance of the younger teams that were able to continue pushing themselves through the extreme heat as we saw the 'Screaming Jets' come around the first mark in first place ahead of the 'Knot Shore' team and team 'REG' in third. Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club were sitting in first, second and third in the celebratory race of the day - perhaps demonstrating a little bit of local knowledge as well as familiarity with our Elliott 6m yachts.

A number of lead changes downwind with spinnaker mishaps and bottom mark rounding hurdles saw final results favour the race winners on 'Knot Shore' (Nina Tolhurst, Erin Killey, Grace Buchan) with solid boat handling and leading tactics maintain their position ahead of second placed Sailing Women's Network (Liz Borberg, Jess Tavener, Emma Byrne, India Howard) and third placed Mooloolaba Women's Team (Tanya Kelly, Kristie Hatch, Lori Tyrell, Kerri Smith).

Upon returning ashore, both competitors and our volunteer Race Management Team alike were seeking shelter. Shelter from the sun, the heat and the wind. It was now dangerously hot and wasn't getting any better. With everyone invited to come back for dinner, we ordered

some industrial fans from Coates Hire to combat the heat of the night in the marquee and provided enough ice and water to end a drought!

Dinner was accompanied by guest speaker, Olivia Price, recalling her training notes and giving tips on sailing the Elliott 6 yachts - having practiced and raced on our yachts when they debuted in the 2012 London Olympic Games and won a silver medal. The heat was relentless, but Olivia pressed on and was praised by guests who said they were "impressed by Olivia's energy in such extreme conditions..." and the way she "...was able to keep things at just the right technical level that everybody was able to keep up with the tuition."

On Day 2, we were given another extreme day with the thermostat even hotter and the wind even stronger - gusting over 40knts for most of the day.

Our fate had been sealed. At the 9:00am briefing, it was the responsibility of Sailing Manager 'Captain' Jack Buchan to announce that "We are concerned about the safety of sailors... We saw signs of heat exhaustion yesterday and it is only going to be more extreme as the day goes on... There will be no racing today."

Immediately there was a mix of emotions. There was instant comfort in the realisation that we wouldn't be sending teams out to race in the extreme hot sun, while there was also a sense of sorrow that the She Sails Regatta was prematurely coming to an end. The new schedule would now see the briefing brought forward to 10:00am in the marquee - to be finished before the temperature climbs in excess of 40°C in the marquee.

As described by Olympic silver medallist Olivia Price "It's unfortunate today that we're not out on the water again. Yesterday was a great day on the water and the Race Committee were able to get seven races off the bat so each and every team got to race each other at least once which doesn't always happen at regattas. But the Race Committee did a fantastic job - there was shifty, puffy conditions and I think that it was one of the



She Sails - Sailing Women's Network (Elizabeth Borberg, Jess Tavener, Emma Byrne, India Howard)

hardest days I would have seen on the harbour for a very long time.”

Last year’s winner Liz Borberg reported that “It was hotly contested this year... but it would have been good to get some more racing today, but I really respect the decision of the race committee. I know it was a tough one.”

Mooloolaba Yacht Club’s Tanya Kelly recounted that “It was really testing conditions this weekend; it was really hot! There was a hot strong northerly breeze and that gave us some tactical opportunities, but it also made for some really challenging racing.”



SheSails - First Place (Sinatra - Natalie Butterworth, Tracey Hanson, Sarah Gamble)

With Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club’s, She Sails ambassadors Jan Howard and Mary Holley at the podium, the prizegiving ceremony proceeded and they concluded the third annual She Sails Open Regatta.

The only option was to take results from the round robin on Day 1 and the top two teams were tied for first place overall. With both teams dually representing LMYC/NCYC, we proudly watched on as team ‘Sinatra’ (Natalie Butterworth, Tracey Hanson, Sarah Gamble) were presented first prize after claiming the victory on a count-back leaving team ‘Knot Shore’ (Nina Tolhurst, Erin Killey, Grace Buchan) in second place. ‘Hotly Contested’ is the appropriate description here as winning team ‘Sinatra’ had mum Natalie Butterworth only claiming the equal points tiebreaker ahead of daughter Grace Buchan in ‘Knot Shore’.

Sailing Women’s Network (Liz Borberg, Jess Tavener, Emma Byrne, India Howard) held onto third place overall followed by fourth placed ‘Alfredisiaes’ (Nicole Butcher, Lisa Ratcliff, Gemma Rasdall, Maike Muth) tied for points with fifth placed ‘Screaming Jets’ from NCYC (Mieka Wright, Janease Graham, Peta Norris).

In sixth place, NCYC team ‘REG’ (Rayshela Martin, Georgia Peard, Emma Spiers) came in ahead of seventh placed Mooloolaba Women’s Team (Tanya Kelly, Kristie Hatch, Lori Tyrell, Kerri Smith) and Lake Macquarie Yacht Club’s team ‘Bouyancé’ (Susie Wright, Eleanor Cunningham, Kathryn Johnson) in eighth.

The ‘Ladies of the ADF’ (Courtney Smith, Carol Sedgman, Julie Whitwell, Juanita Furney) took ninth place overall, while NCYC’s ‘Calypso’ (Leah Suters, Neroli Foster, Libby Helinski, Kim Mears) got tenth ahead of the eleventh placed ‘Spinnaker Sistas’ from

Port Macquarie Yacht Club (Alison Burke, Beau Roux, Prue Standen).

In twelfth place, Rhoslyn Humphries, Jenny Sorensen, Michela Clavanzani and Tiffany Schaffter dually represented Middle Harbour Yacht Club and Manly Yacht Club and just three points behind in thirteenth place, our very own ‘Usain Boat’ was raced by Belinda Davey, Kim Pollock, Bea Sawers and Jane Wilson.

From the Race Office, “That has to have been one of the toughest days to have been on the water contesting a [national] championship regatta. All of the teams embraced the extreme conditions and raced our nimble yachts around a short and intense racetrack in front of the Honeysuckle Hotel viewing arena”

Jack Buchan continued “the vibe from the water was elating - the “oooh’s” and “woaaaaah’s” when boats were on the edge of rounding up gave us a sense of excitement and the cheers and applause from the onshore crowd when boats crossed the finish line were inspiring for each of the teams finishing after another tough race in the unrelenting heat.”

“I turned to Simon who was in the Repair Boat with me and I remember asking - this just makes your heart feel all warm and fuzzy doesn’t it?!” There was an aura of positive energy and togetherness surrounding everyone both ashore and afloat and I think that this feeling - the passion and warm-hearted atmosphere that the She Sails Regatta creates - is perhaps the MOST universally agreed upon feedback we receive about our She Sails events.

I can’t wait to see the entry list grow over the next 12 months and watch as the list of Clubs (and States) represented by all-female teams continues to expand.”

NCYC’s She Sails ambassador Jan Howard was happy with the call to abandon racing in the extreme heat, saying “Everybody’s a bit disappointed they can’t go sailing, but, I think we out to have some bubbles to celebrate the good time we’ve had!”

In the meantime, our Sailing Academy delivers Women’s Sailing courses on Thursday nights and Friday mornings if you’re ever looking for a good place to start; or our Elliott’s race a Women’s League on Tuesday nights (October and March) if you’ve got yourself a team and are keen to get some racing on the boats - a very convenient way to get some training in before next year’s regatta.



She Sails - Bouyancé vs Screaming Jets



A couple is seen from behind on the deck of a boat, looking out at the ocean during a golden sunset. The man is standing and holding a rope, while the woman is sitting. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, and the water reflects the light. The boat's deck and railings are visible in the foreground.

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## SheSails@NCYC Bound for Hobart on Boxing Day

By Jan Howard

We are proud that seven women from NCYC will be sailing in the 2020 Sydney to Hobart Race. Below are some comments from these sailors, as they prepare for the big event.

**Kris Anderson** 'She's The Culprit', NCYC  
- two previous Sydney - Hobarts

I am really excited to be heading south again, and given the year that we have had, with all its uncertainties, grateful to be able to spend this time doing what we love. This year is different to my last two races, 2015 and 2017, in that I am now a proud co-owner of the boat in its newly expanded syndicate. As a crew member, I have always held Cyril, Tac, and Dave in high regard and this has deepened now that I am fully involved in what it takes to get a boat to the start line of a Sydney to Hobart Race.

It is difficult to know how different this year's race will be, but I am hoping that the changes COVID necessitates, may see a focus on the race as opposed to the spectacle, and maybe even a return to a race that was once all about the little boats.



Kath Hall, Kris Anderson and Richard Hooper

I love the adrenaline of the start line after an evening of excited nerves. Then I enjoy settling into our watch system and working hard to keep the boat at optimum performance. 'The Culprit' has some serious offshore experience onboard, so I always feel I am in good hands and she is a strong little battleship, capable of all conditions. No matter the conditions, I look forward to a safe and happy arrival in Hobart, catching up with our competitors, the tall tales, the 'what-ifs', the laughs and the tears.

**Janease Graham** 'Wings', RPAYC  
- one previous Sydney - Hobart

"'Wings' is a race rigged Dehler 46 with an extensive wardrobe of sails, great race gear and some comfortable features. We are a close-knit team of competitive amateur



Janease Graham

sailors who love offshore racing in good company. I am ridiculously excited about sailing to Hobart with my sailing sister Meika and the 'Wings family'. I'm, equally excited about meeting my offshore sailing friends on the dock in Hobart and cruising back to Sydney with Meika, Jane, Ian and the delivery crew."

**Kath Hall** 'She's The Culprit', NCYC  
- four previous Sydney - Hobarts

"'She's the Culprit' is such a good boat to do this race in. We will have a mix of experienced Hobart racers and those experiencing it for the first time.

I am feeling excited to be doing my fifth Hobart, and this time as a boat co-owner. We will miss the usual hype and spectator participation of previous races due to pandemic restrictions but will enjoy the sailing anyway."

**Sam Hickey** 'She's The Culprit', NCYC  
- first Sydney - Hobart

"This will be my first Hobart race after seven years of sailing at NCYC. I will be sailing on 'She's the Culprit' with an experienced crew of eleven, which includes two other women, Kris Anderson, and Kath Hall.

I have wondered whether I have what it takes to do a Hobart Race. It was however, after talking to Georgie who did her first Hobart on 'The Culprit' last year, that I was convinced that I should believe in myself, and step outside my comfort zone. I did the trip to Lord Howe on 'The Culprit' as a test of my ability to cope with sailing shifts and sailing overnight. Having done Lord Howe, I think I'm ready for the challenge.



Sam Hickey

I'm excited to be doing the race on the 75th anniversary of women sailing in the Sydney to Hobart Race. I still have a level of nervousness but... bring on the adventure!"

**Sibby Ilzhofer** 'Dare Devil', NCYC  
- seven previous Sydney - Hobarts

"In our Sydney to Hobart preparation, we have had to overcome some challenging obstacles due to COVID, the greatest one being that the majority of the crew have been restricted to their states due to border closures and/or limitations imposed on them by their employer. We are all feeling very comfortable with the ability of the crew and the boat preparation. This is very important. I would not leave the dock, unless I knew we all felt totally comfortable with where we are at.



It is nice to see, that irrespective of this year's challenges, at closing of entries, there are 100 boats planning to compete in this year's Sydney to Hobart Race."

**Oonagh O'Donovan** 'Mako' NCYC  
- three previous Sydney - Hobarts



Oonagh O'Donovan

2020 will be my third Hobart Race. My progression has been slow and steady, and even perhaps accidental, starting with 2017 on 'Freyja', a beautiful wooden boat built in 1945. We didn't make NYE but got double our money's worth as we were at sea for approximately six days. The 2019 race was a different trip again. Sailing on a plush Beneteau 473 is a comfortable ride, albeit not fast, but I was delighted to be asked to go and equally thrilled to make NYE 2019.

2020 looks like the fastest ride to date for me. On 'Mako' we will be a crew of eleven, with two Hobart maidens onboard. The level of experience is significant, and I'm just hoping to soak it all up and learn as much as I can. The crew will include stalwarts: Tim Dodds, Adrian Kiely, Steve Robinson, Mark Nugent, Paul O'Rourke, John Searl, Greg Busch, Simon Macks, Marcus Busch, Hugh Dodds, and me! I have sailed on 'Mako' in a number of races now and couldn't ask to be with a better crew both in terms of experience and camaraderie. I'm super excited and will no doubt be nervous the closer we get to Bass Strait. However, I have the utmost confidence in the boat and the decision makers. The 'Mako' folk are fiercely competitive and will race as fast as possible. Above all, the aim will be to arrive safely so we can meet our 30th December dinner deadline.

It is quite special to be racing in the 75th Anniversary of women sailors competing in the Hobart Race. Who Sails? SheSails!"



by  
**Susan Walton** OAM  
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**Meika Wright** 'Wings' RPAYC  
- two previous Sydney - Hobarts

"I have supported 'Wings' as shore crew over the last two years when not racing myself and sailed a few times with them in 2019. Racing to Hobart with Janease will be amazing - bouncing ideas off each other and constantly driving for improvement, without offence. The 'Wings' crew is fantastic, skilled, caring and great fun to be



Meika Wright

around. Ian, the owner, takes pride in maintaining 'Wings', and racing her to full potential.

I'm very grateful to be racing, considering I've been in Darwin and not able to train with the team until December this year. I'm going to need to get my sea legs back after racing on flat Darwin Harbour this year and am wondering what La

Niña will bring this year in terms of rain and storms. I will need to pack my extra cold weather gear, as I'm loving 34 deg every day in Darwin. Not looking forward to my first cold front in a while!"

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HUGO-BL

## 'Dare Devil' Competing in 2020 Sydney to Hobart

What a turbulent year it has been, and irrespective of our political convictions and understanding of this mysterious virus COVID-19, we have all been affected in some way by this year's events. Most of our businesses have taken a hit, and certainly sailing has been affected in more ways than one.

Border closures and infectious disease measures and controls have seen most major races cancelled and other events strictly regulated. This has been hard for those of us who depend on sailing as an 'out', a relief of sorts, especially if business is not going as planned.

In March we started getting excited about the Sydney to Noumea Race. However, by the time May came around, we realised that the restrictions and the health directives would put an end to any plans.

In our Sydney to Hobart preparation, we have had to overcome some challenging obstacles due to COVID, the greatest one being that the majority of the crew have been restricted to their states due to border closures and/or limitations imposed on them by their employers.

Whilst we are very competitive, safety is always the primary concern on 'Dare Devil.' We spend months going over every system and double checking everything on board. One of the primary objectives of 'Dare Devil Racing' is to make ocean racing available to a wider range of people, irrespective of their previous sailing experience. This has posed some special challenges, as not everyone wanting to participate in the project, has sufficient offshore and Cat 1 experience to meet the stringent qualifying criteria.



Dare Devil

This has meant that we have needed to schedule a 500nm Cat 1 qualifying journey, as well as the training sails around the CYCA Audi Sydney Centre Blue Water Pointscore. The aim is to always meet the highest level of safety benchmarks, rather than meet the minimum requirements.

Another objective this year has been to get more women involved in this sailing project: To developing women's sailing skills, resilience, and leadership in a challenging environment. We had planned to spend time training in nighttime helming, down-wind helming and some of the more challenging crew positions, which have been traditionally male roles. This is appropriate as 2020 celebrates the 75th year of women competing in the Sydney to Hobart Race. Again, we had to modify and adapt our plans due to COVID restrictions.

The training sails have also involved races from the NCYC calendar – focusing on such things as reefing procedures, emergency procedures and endurance. The NCYC Bird Island Race proved to be a challenging one, with winds up to 38 kts and close-hauled sailing in sloppy seas with swells up to 4 meters. Sea sickness has been an issue on a number of occasions, and we have worked with crew members on ways to minimize this. The entry numbers were low in the Bird Island Race, and only 3 boats finished, 'Dare Devil' being one of them. The team however embraced the challenges, loved the experience and gained a lot from it.

December, will see 'Dare Devil' in Sydney at the CYCA, doing maintenance and training as well as some corporate activities. This will give others an opportunity to participate.

We have some very experienced crew on board with some of our crew and myself having competed in seven Sydney Hobarts as well as other challenging races. We

have the two Peters and Karl, each with two Hobart races. We have another crew member, who competed in the CYCA Bird Island Race with us, who has also completed two Hobart races. We are all feeling very comfortable with the ability of the crew and the boat preparation. This is very important. I would not leave the dock, unless I knew we all felt totally comfortable with where we are at.

It is nice to see, that irrespective of this year's challenges, at closing of entries, there are 100 boats planning to compete in this year's Sydney to Hobart Race.

We wish all competitors a rewarding and speedy race.

Sibby Ilzhofer - 'Dare Devil'



## 'She's The Culprit' Lord Howe Island

### By Culprit number 8

On Friday the 13th, 'She's The Culprit' cast off and headed for Lord Howe Island. Skipper Cyril, never being a terribly suspicious person, initially baulked at beginning a long journey on a Friday and that of the 13th but had no hesitation when the weather looked more favourable than an earlier departure. So, armed with a banana for breakfast 'the Culprit' headed to sea.



For the last 15 years or so, the Lord Howe Island BBQ cruise has been held but this year, the zombie pandemic interrupted the normal schedule. When the island opened its borders earlier than expected, a quick decision was made to sail to the island anyway. Seemed a good excuse to do the qualifying sail for the Hobart race.

Weather? The typical Northerly with a promise of some South as we approached the island. An Easterly current combined to make the first 300 mile fairly uncomfortable, confining a few crew to below.

Late Friday afternoon an impressive storm swept up the coast through Lake Macquarie, Newcastle and Port Stephens meeting us somewhere wide of Seal Rocks. A menacing looking low storm front cloud bore down on the Culprit with the sea below it being whipped white. This clearly was going to be exciting!

With the 3rd reef in, a number 4 headsail and crew prepared to drop the main if required, we ran with the storm for an exciting 20 minutes or so.



Within an hour the breeze was back to the North and an even more uncomfortable sea prevailed.

Two and a half days from departure we picked up our mooring in paradise.

For four days the crew took advantage of what the Island has to offer and on Thursday, planned to meet for breakfast at 0900 and then head down to the beach to ferry gear and crew in the dinghies out to The Culprit in South Passage.

Squeezing the last from the time ashore before breakfast, the crew swam, walked or cruised on the pushbikes. Cyril figured three hours was long enough to run to the top of Mt Gower and back and was rewarded with perfect weather to take in the views offered.

Unfortunately the wind did not allow us to sail around Balls Pyramid but it was clearly visible as we sailed away from the island. Another two and a half day passage and The Culprit was back home and after a good tidy up Sunday morning was ready for her next family adventure.



## New Additions to NCYC

### Scott Knights - 'Ataraxia'

We were looking around over 12 months for a cruiser-racer which was manageable with 2 people and performed well enough to coastal cruise and do some racing. We wanted to get back into a sailing boat after 4 years with a flybridge cruiser. We eventually sold the power boat in February this year and ordered the Sun Odyssey 349 that same month.



'Ataraxia' is a state of mind aspired to by the Epicurean philosophers, which is an absence of fear and stress and most of the time that is how sailing makes us feel. I am sure there will be the odd stressful moment, that's sailing too.

We love how well designed it is from the way all control lines come to the cockpit and helm position, to how

much usable space, light and ventilation is in the cabin. Also, the winged shoal drafted keel opens up many East Coast anchorages.

Eventually we would like to cruise the full length of the East Coast including Tasmania, but to start with lots of shorter cruising trips between Pittwater, Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens/Broughton and Laurieton.

We are planning to do Twilights and Short Ocean point scores at NCYC.



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By Terry Reynolds

Welcome back aboard Marine Rescue Newcastle for this final edition of Thirty-Two Fifty-Five for the year. We can only hope 2021 will be a far better one for everyone effected by this virus. I would also like to give a big thank you to NCYC on behalf of the entire Unit for all that they do for us over the year.

## FLOATING BERTH FOR NC30

For those who read our article each edition will be aware Marine Rescue Newcastle received our new rescue vessel earlier in the year. To date the 10 metre Naiad has served extremely well in all conditions. However, to protect its hull from marine growth and to prevent having to use anti-fouling chemicals to help prolong the life of the vessel, we required a floating berth. As these are a costly bit of kit, Marine Rescue Newcastle started looking for any organisations in the Newcastle area that might be able to assist with sponsoring the purchase.

We are extremely pleased to announce that Port Waratah Coal Services came to our rescue and have been kind enough to not only help with some of the costs but the entire \$27,500.00.

Thank you to PWCS for their kind assistance.

The berth we will be buying is an 11.5 metre Marinescape Dry Berth which will be in place as soon as possible. Hopefully, we can add pics of the new set-up in the next edition.

## UPDATE ON OUR NEW BASE AT STOCKTON

As was mentioned in the last edition of the newsletter, Newcastle Council have provided a parcel of land on the Stockton Foreshore for this building. We were not able to provide a picture of the building last edition, however, we are able to publish the proposed design in this edition.

In addition to this, the NSW Government has advised of a 2-million-dollar fund to build the new Stockton Base, as a part of their COVID stimulus program.

More to come as this exciting process gets up and running.

## ON THE WATER

The period since the last edition has seen several 'assists' made by our unit. Here is a couple of the more recent assists.

NC30 was tasked to the job (Terry Reynolds & Stuart Lawson) and had the two safely back at the Carrington Ramp in time for breakfast.

October 14th saw trainee radio operator Matt Doyle (under supervision of William Johnson) activate NC30 (Terry Reynolds, Ian Morrow & Rick Nevile) to assist a

4.5 runabout that reported engine failure about 3 miles north of the entry to Newcastle and one mile off shore. Rick, training for his Coxswain rating carried out the job very well with the boat and two POB safely returned to South Stockton ramp.

Early Saturday November 14th Radio Operator Warren Brumble received a call to assist a couple of fishermen who had engine trouble with their 4.90 metre runabout. The vessel was located about three miles east of the harbour in the 'spoil ground' area.

## OFF THE WATER

On Friday, 27th November our Unit Commander, Ron Calman, attended an investiture ceremony at Government House in Sydney where the NSW Governor, Margaret Beasley AC QC presented Ron with the Emcy Service Medal. As this is 'hot off the press' I will write more on this investiture next edition with official pictures and a copy of the citation. Well done Ron.

Our November Monthly Meeting was the first meeting where a restricted number of members were permitted to attend in person due to this virus. It also had a ZOOM feed as well.

I'd like to highlight some of our members for receiving rankings and service awards. Dianne Hammond and Alex Fry received their Radio Operator's certificate and slides; Ron Miller received his 10 year service medal; Don Roser, Kerrie Bissett, Wayne Bissett, Christine Roser, Stephen Picton, Jon Dicker and Reg Martin all received their five year service pin; Geraldine Allen her Watch Officers certificate and slides; Graham Silcock his 5 year service pin & NSW Govt Bushfire Citation; Henk De Koff the NSW Govt Bushfire Citation. Well done to all.



Di Radio



Jon Dicker



## Coming Events...

### DECEMBER 2020

- 13 December - Members Christmas Party
- 19 – 20 December - Crackerjack Cup
- 25 December - Clubhouse Closed
- 31 December - New Year's Eve Party

### JANUARY 2021

- 26 January - Australia Day
- 27 January - Twilight Sailing Resumes
- 31 January - Summer Point Score Starts

### FEBRUARY 2021

- 14 February - Valentine's Day
- 20 - 21 February - Pittwater Race
- 22 February - Margarita Day

### EVERY WEEK

- Monday - Friday Happy Hour 4pm - 6pm
- Thursday Night Raffles
- Ticket sales 6pm - Draw 7pm
- Friday Night Live Entertainment from 5pm
- Sunday Afternoon Live Entertainment - 2pm - 5pm

Clubhouse events are currently planned and will be announced subject to COVID-19 restrictions.

## Hannah's Pink Grapefruit Margarita

We've all tried the classic margarita – and it's great, but have you ever tried a pink grapefruit margarita?

The juiciest cocktail to serve at your summer party this summer!

- 1 nip of tequila
- 1 nip of Cointreau or triple sec
- 1 nip of pink grapefruit juice or freshly squeeze with agave nectar
- 1.5 nip of lime juice

Shake your heart out with ice or chuck all together in a blender for a frozen margarita. Rim your fanciest glass with raw sugar (not salt) and garnish with a lime wheel.



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- **Fire Department** – 000
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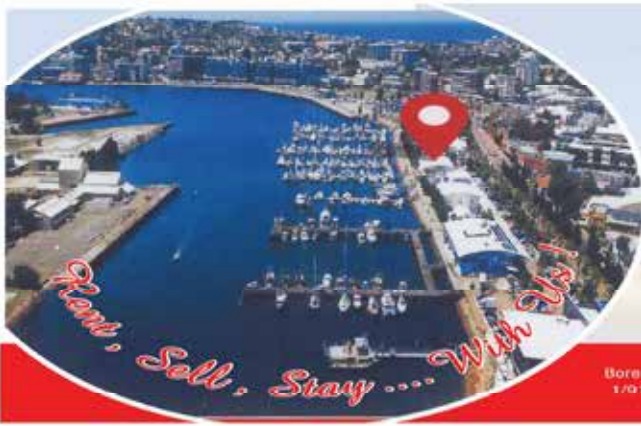
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