



FORECAST

Newsletter from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club



Photo credit: Peter Mayo - 11 February 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE REAR COMMODORE

Welcome to the latest edition of the Forecast.

Sailing is in full swing at LMYC with good fleets Wednesday, Friday, Twilights and Saturday. Following a very wet start to the 1st half of the 2022/23 season, we have been blessed with some spectacular summer days with very reliable East/North East winds. We seem to have returned to a more normal summer weather pattern and hopefully that continues.

Lake Fest commenced in mid-January with the She Sails race and will continue until the end of February. The She Sail Regatta was again a great day with thirteen boats from the local Yacht Clubs. A big thanks to Club Captain, Eleanor Cunningham and her team of volunteers who organised this excellent day's sailing.

We are now about 2/3 through the 2022/23 Saturday Racing and each divisional point score is very close with many boats still in contention for the Annual Point Score. After 4 completed races in the RKR Interclub we have LMYC boats leading each Division and the overall point score. Good luck to all boats for the next two races.

As we move toward the end of the summer season at the end of March, the Sailing Committee has started to work on the program and structure of the 2023/24 Season. We will contact all boat owners at the end of the season and seek some feedback.

While we will be canvassing your view on the current season, we also want to look forward and get views on some initiatives under consideration including:

- **The current length and structure of the Saturday Racing season.** Currently, the Saturday season runs for approximately seven months, from September to the end of March. The first month crosses over with the traditional winter sports season, and September can be anything from no wind to gale force. One option being considered is to start the Summer Season after the October Long Weekend for approximately 20 races until Easter and run a short Spring point score from mid-August to the end of September.
- **The length of the current winter Season.** Currently, the winter season starts in mid May and finishes at the end of July. One option being considered would be to start the winter Series straight after Easter and finish at the end of July or early August.
- **The number of boats in Saturday Division 1.** This year the number of boats in Division 1 has been as low as 3 and averaged around 5. We are looking at some options in conjunction with RMYC and WASC to increase participation in Division 1 by running combined fleets every week.
- **Introduction of an additional fixed handicapping system.** Many yacht clubs have introduced the ORC Club handicapping system in addition to their traditional PHS and IRC systems. ORC Club is a fixed handicapping system based on theoretical comparative performance. Unlike PHS it doesn't move with ups and downs in performance. We are considering how we might introduce this and whether there is any interest from boat owners to participate.

I hope the weather gods treat you well and we have a great end to the season.

Steven Ford
Rear Commodore
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LMYC WIND WARRIERS & WASC DF65s

The LMYC Wind Warriors and Wangi Wangi Dragon Force fleet held a promotional event as part of LakeFest on 5 February.

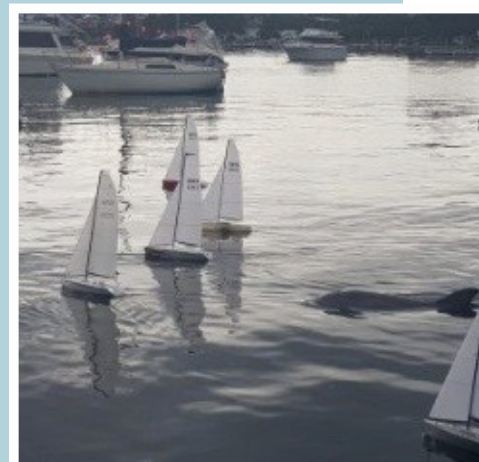
The event was held at LMYC on the north side and is the first time the mixed fleet have raced together. The event showed the two classes are very similar in speed, with sailors from both fleets taking out the top 4 placings.

Congratulations to

1. Brad Quiggin (LMYC)
2. Chris Darby (WASC)
3. Chad Fitzpatrick (WASC)
4. Paul Morrish (LMYC)

The fleet will return to Wangi Wangi on 5 March 2023 for a second promotional event.

LMYC Wind Warriors sail Thursdays in Summer commencing at 5pm. Keen to know more? Contact Reception for more information.





RMYCT - TORONTO SHE SAILS REGATTA

Contributors - Eleanor Cunningham, Sarah Gamble

Hosted by the RMYCT, the second race of the She Sails Tri-series regatta was held on Sunday 12 February.

12 boats braved challenging conditions with gusts hitting 24 knots on occasion from the SSE. Despite the challenging conditions there was grins all round back at the clubhouse.

Well done to all LMYC Skippers and crew.

Congratulations to Eleanor Cunningham on Equinox who finished 3rd.

Mandy Maddock on Sheer Pleasure finished 5th

Sarah Gamble on Stampede finished 6th

Suzie Brown on Flying Colours finished 9th.



Equinox crew - Phil Cunningham, Julie Edman, Antonia Patterson (tactician), Eleanor Cunningham (helm), Ollie Fulmer, Geoff Edman.

A big thanks to the boat owners and our coaches for their support.

The final race in the Tri-Series hosted by Wang Wangi is on 12 March 2023.



Photos by Peter Mayo



RACING RULES OF SAILING

By Steven Ford

Last month we introduced a YouTube series that covers the Racing Rules of Sailing. Episode 1 & 2 covered off on Introduction to Racing and The Start.

Here is episode 3 & 4.

Episode 3 – The Windward Leg <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyOx5TAahw4>

Episode 4 – The Marks Part 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzmP5BMkVgE>

The full series can be watched by searching YouTube - RYA Racing Rules of Sailing.



2023 ADAMS 10 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Dave Young

On the weekend of the 3rd to 5th of February, LMYC sailors Dave Young (Tenacity) and Tom Braidwood (Backchat) took their boats and crew to Pittwater, RPAYC to represent the club by competing in the 2023 Adams 10 Australian Championships. Another two LMYC sailors, Tony May and Peter McNeil also competed on a local Pittwater boat Gezzabelle.

Day 1 on the water saw some pretty tricky conditions on Towlers Bay, which is adjacent to Scotland Island. The wind used nearly every direction on the compass before it settled enough to set a course. 3 races were sailed after multiple course amendments, that set the scene for the coming days. The results for Day 1 saw Back chat in the lead, Organised Chaos in second with Gezzabelle in third and Tenacity in 5th placing.

Day 2 was another tricky day with a westerly breeze gusting to 20+ knots and swinging in typical Pittwater fashion. The conditions were tough, however produced some very close and competitive racing, sometimes too close with a couple of on-water penalties applied! Two races were held with Backchat remaining in first place, and the minor placings remaining unchanged.

Day 3 was a beautiful day with a light easterly blowing providing great flat water conditions for the fleet. Once again the day started under AP but eventually we got two fair races in. In the first Race, once again it was backchat with the win, this also secured their Australian Championships. Organised Chaos managed a fourth which set them up for an almost certain second placing, Gezzabelle scored a 5th and Tenacity a third. This left Tenacity in 5th place going into the last race.

The last race was extremely close and saw plenty of position changes, ultimately deciding the minor placings with Tenacity finishing the Championships in 4th place.



Images by Bow Caddy media



Images by Bow Caddy media - Backchat crew

FINAL PLACINGS

1. Backchat - Tom Braidwood (LMYC)
2. Organised Chaos - Garry Gudmunson
3. Gezzabelle - Allen Stormon
4. Tenacity - David Young (LMYC)

AWESOME NEWS!

At the Adams 10 Annual General Meeting (AGM), it was resolved that the 2024 Australian Championships would be hosted by LMYC (date TBA).

ANNUAL POINTSCORE 22-23

SATURDAY RACING 2022-23

Division 1

1. Dirty Deeds - Ian Humphris
2. Mojo - Mark Benson
3. Fathom - David Berryman

Division 2

1. Pogue Mohone - Scott Hamilton
2. Anarchie - Paul Hannan
3. Excess - Bruce Dobinson

Division 3

1. Pugsley - Len Lavers
2. Ross Street - Noel Jenkins
3. Excessive - David Nicols

Division 4

1. Even Keel - Peter Shaddock
2. The Shed - Roger Parker
3. The Apple - Warren Hodgkins



Photos by Peter Mayo - Saturday 11 February

WEDNESDAY SUMMER SWEEPSTAKES

Results for 15 February 2023

Division 1

1. Next Step - Laybut/Blanch Hines/McLeod
2. Puglsey - Len Lavers
3. Dreadnaught - Ed Hillier

Division 2

1. Another Promise - Jeff Qurk
2. Yes Dear - Michael Paull
3. Scaramouche - John Skillicorn



WEDNESDAY SUMMER SERIES POINTSCORE

Results for 15 February 2023 up to Race 6

Division 1

1. Squid4Woodsy - Steve Liddell
2. Ross Street - Noel Jenkins
3. 2xcess - Steve McCloy

Division 2

1. Tereshenko - Frank Cordingley
2. Scaramouche - John Skillicorn
3. Lucille - Stephen Manhood

FRIDAY SAILING

FRIDAY SWEEPSTAKE/TWILIGHT

Race results for 3 February 2022

1. Flying Colours - Derek Reed
2. 2xcess - Dave Anstey
3. Roadrunner - Paul Heyes



HISTORY LOCKER - THE 'FIRST FLEET' OF LMYC

By Jan Cummings

In the 15 years that LMYC conducted Heron Class Racing (1961-1976) seventy five – YES 75 Herons registered to race with the Club!

As a pathway into yachting the Heron Class was an outstanding success.

Some of the former owners of Herons at LMYC include the still familiar names of Carruthers, Coulin, Cummings, Dobinson, Dorman, Hannan, Villa, Rundle, Long, Lowe, Snape, Peschar, Kiely, Toll, Morgan and Brown.

The Heron dinghy first appeared in the 1950's designed by Jack Hall of the UK. Designed to be built by the home handyman out of marine ply over a timber frame, it was designed to be mainly used as an adult/child racing dinghy. It became a very popular entry level sailing dinghy with it's high level of stability due to its hard chine design.

Heron class sailing hit its popularity in Australia in the 1960's with a long history of family sailing to present day. Two divisions Senior and Junior (under 18) sailed from LMYC each weekend for 15 years assisted by starters Ron and Yvonne Brown.

LMYC proudly hosted the 53 rd National Heron Championships in January 2012. Sixty two (62) starters competed, surpassed only by the 10th National Championships held in Sydney in 1969 with 98 starters.

The 63 rd National Championships held this year in South Australia started 33 boats, proving it still has appeal after 70 years.

Our History Locker memorabilia this month is provided with thanks from Alan Dorman who sailed forward hand on "Southerly" (1961-1962) before owning his own boat "Leo" (1963-1967).



LMYC members who have interesting memorabilia (with a brief story of its history) or photos (preferably with names and date) they would like to share would be greatly appreciated by the LMYC History Group.
Items could be scanned or photographed and returned after they are catalogued.



EOI VOLUNTEERS WINDS OF CHANGE PROGRAM

The MWF are seeking EOI for volunteers who would like to share their love of sailing with young people for their Winds of Change program.

This is an 8 week term based program where sailing is the mechanism for learning and personal growth. Young people, predominately in Year 11 and 12 who have diverse learning abilities and challenging behaviours join our yacht 'Joy', a Sayer 45 at the NCYC for 1 day a week.

We welcome EOI from sailors, and in particular those with a background in education and or experience in mentoring young people. Please contact Sarah Gamble for more information.

sgamble@makingwavesfoundation.com.au

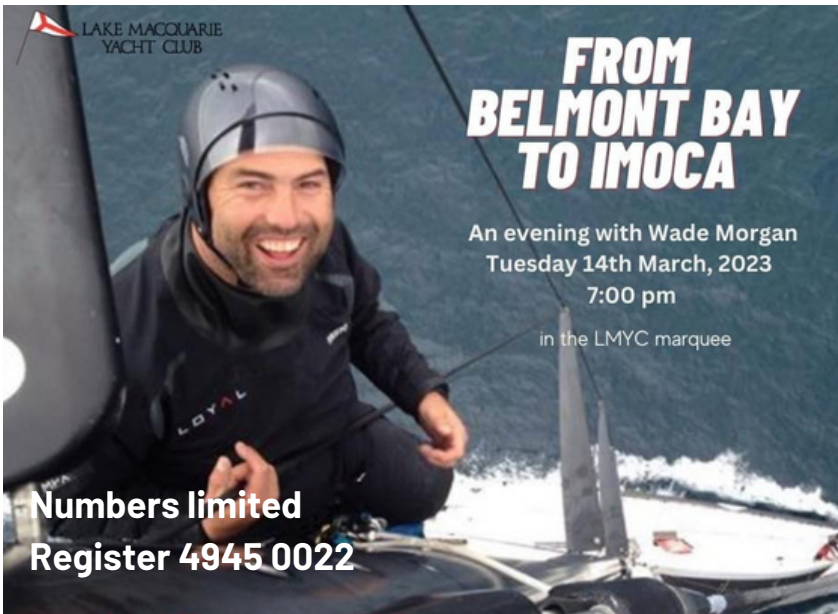


Photo provided by Wade Morgan

TALK MODERNISING OCEAN SAFETY

Join Lauren Sanderman from Sea Shepherd Australia and Emilia Michael from Action for Dolphins to learn about modern ocean safety in Lake Macquarie.

When: 26 February 2023

Time: 2pm

Where: The Bridgedeck, LMYC



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