

FORECAST

Newsletter from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club



She Sails Regatta. Left - "So Farr" (LMYC) 3rd Division 1 & Best Performance of an all Female Crew. (Skipper: Natalie Butterworth). Right - "Pugsley" (LMYC) Skipper: Antonia Patterson.
Credit: Marg's Yacht Photos

From the Commodore - Geoff Edman

Happy new year to all our members. I hope you all had a great time over the break be it family gathering at home or away or out racing or cruising.

BUSY CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR PERIOD

LMYC sailors have had a busy time over the last month. We had LMYC yachts and members racing in several events.

Santana raced in the Melbourne to Hobart 'Westcoaster', She's the Culprit and Millennium Falcon in the Sydney to Hobart as did many of our members as crew on several yachts, Natalie Butterworth and Dale Sharp, as crew, won the J24 Australian Title.

LMYC ran a very successful Flying Fifteens Australia championship regatta with Chris Villa and Mark Holmes on Up Ship Creek and Paul Van Rugge on Split Enz. All our visiting competitors were very happy with the club and regatta, with many saying it was the "best regatta they have had". I must commend the race officials and all our members who volunteered to assist with every aspect of the running of that regatta. In particular Chris Villa and Mark Holmes who did all the pre regatta organising and coordinating during the regatta. See reports in this Forecast for details of the Flying Fifteens Regatta. Reports on the 'Westcoaster' race and J24 win will be in next month's Forecast.

"Breaking News" Local sailors Chris Nicholson and Lucas Chapman were crew on line honours winner Law Connect. We have been busy over the last week organising for Chris and Lucas to give us all an account of the race and being first across the finish line in Hobart. I am sure Chris's match racing experience helped out in the very close duel to the finish. **Chris and Lucas will chat about their Hobart winning experience on Wednesday 28 February @6pm.**

It was not just racing that kept our members and club busy over Christmas and New Year. With the dredging of Swansea channel now complete, there were many visiting yachts in our lake and visiting our club. RPAYC Cruising Division brought a fleet of yachts into the lake and met up with and welcomed to the lake by our Cruising division. There were a few combined activities including the fireworks at Wangi and breakfast on New Year's Day. There were several other groups from other clubs that enjoyed our lake over the holidays with many visiting our club during that time.

TfNSW have published a hydrographic survey of the channel on the project website. Click the link to the website:

<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/swansea-channel-dredging>



LAKEFEST

Now in its 10th year, Lakefest commenced with the first of the She Sails heats hosted by LMYC on Sunday 14 January. It was a well-attended race with 15 of the 18 starters being a minimum of 50% female crew with the remaining having a female skipper.

Next up is WASC Australia Day regatta on 26 January and the first day of the LMYC two-day regatta following on Saturday 27 January with the RKR race with day two on Saturday 17 February with the Windward/leewards.



**2024
Heaven Can Wait**
18th ANNUAL CHARITY SAILING REGATTA
Lake Macquarie, February 3-4

SHORT 1 LAP DASH 1 LAP DASH 12 HOUR 24 HOUR

Open to all classes including:
• One Design • Sports Boats • Cruiser-Racers • Multihulls • Cruisers
• Trailer-Sailers • Skiffs • Off-the-beach craft

Beneficiaries: Cancer Council NSW
Primary Sponsors: Empire, Rotary
Gold Sponsors: origin, Lakeside
Silver Sponsors: Toronto Hotel, Beach 106, Brighton, Lake Macquarie Houseboats
Bronze Sponsors: MEE, Noble, Trophies
Organized & run by: ROYAL MOTOR YACHT CLUB TORONTO

For info, NORs and lots more, go to:
www.heavencanwait.com.au

In its 18th year Heaven Can Wait is on 3rd February with the one lap dash, 12 hour and 24 hour events.

Part of this regatta is the charity virtual regatta where yachts compete by gaining sponsors with the highest fundraising yachts winning.

As of writing this article, LMYC has two yachts in the fundraising virtual race, Noel Borel on Summer Wine and Jeffrey Payne on Carpe Diem.

I encourage all to get behind this great charity event, if not racing then sponsor our members.

Click the link :
<https://www.doitforcancer.com.au/event/heaven-can-wait-regatta/leaderboard>

Again this year we have two combined twilight races. WASC Friday 9th February, LMYC 23rd February. Each race followed by a party back at the host club. Another first for Lakefest this year LMYC are hosting the Adams 10 Australian regatta over the weekend of 9th through 11th February.

Yachts that enter and start in the three yacht events; Australia Day race, HCW one lap dash and the LMYC Lakefest regatta will also be competing for the Lakefest Trophy, which was won by Road Runner last year. For all Lakefest events click on the link.
<http://www.lakefest.com.au/>

MARINA NEWS

There has been quite a bit of movement going on in the marina over the last few weeks. A few boats have left, a few boats have moved to new pens, a couple of boats on swing moorings have moved into the marina, and more importantly several new boats have come in and taken berths. The marina is now effectively full.

Welcome to new boats to the the marina over the last weeks:

John Williams, **Swell**,
Aaron Sainsbury, **Bizzo 4**,
Phillip Joblin, **Stebra**,
Craig Sambrook, **Boheme**,
Mathew Beecham, **Yousei**
Gavin Moss, **Intrigue**,
Rhett Waller, **The Matrix**,
Stephen Macfarlane, **Proper Job**
Mike Gallagher, **Galan**,
Kelvin Faith, **Highland Fling**,
Trevor Hartley, **Storm Dragon**.

Geoff Edman
Commodore
Email Commodore@lmyc.com.au

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday
28 February @6pm

Come & hear from Chris
Nicholson & Lucas Chapman.

Crew on line honours winner,
Law Connect in 2023 Sydney
to Hobart Yacht Race
More details coming

A promotional poster for the Wangi Sailing Club's 188th Australia Day Regatta. The poster features a large Australian flag in the top left corner. The text is centered and includes the event name, date, and details. The background shows a sailboat racing on the water.

Wangi Sailing Club

188th

Australia Day Regatta

Friday 26 January 2024

Open to all yachts, trailer sailors and multihulls.

Racing will start from midday and will be split into three divisions (as for the Interclub RKR series):

- WHITE** for large fast boats
- GREEN** for medium boats
- BLUE** for slower boats

It will be a passage race with course lengths appropriate for each division.

For further information contact Phil Mayo:
Email: philm1@aapt.net.au
Mobile: 0420 855 948

ENTRY FEE:
\$40 per boat
Entries close 6pm,
Wed 24 January 2024

Sailors are invited back to the Wangi RSL Beer Garden after the race for social drinks, a sausage sizzle, music and of course the prizegiving.

Online entries, official Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions available at:
wangisailingclub.yachting.org.au/regatta



LAKE MAC SHE SAILS TRI SERIES - RACE 1

The first race in the Lake Macquarie combined clubs SheSAILS series was held on Sunday 14 January hosted by Lake Macquarie Yacht Club. We had representatives from all clubs on the lake plus NCYC and RANSA.

It was a great day on the water with 18 yachts competing in 2 divisions. There were 15 boats with more than 50% women crewing, with 2 boats having all women crews and a number of others having an owner's representative as the only man on board. A total of 70 women competed, a very impressive number.

The race was sailed under overcast skies with a gentle south easterly breeze providing some challenging racing conditions. The after race lunch and get together provided a great opportunity for networking and swapping stories. Overall, the day was an outstanding success.

Results can be found in this link.
<http://www.lmycraceresults.com.au/results/2023/tyshesails/>

We look forward to Race 2 to be held on 18 February at the Royal Motor Yacht Club, Toronto with Race 3 on 3 March at Wangi RSL Amateur Sailing Club.

Antonia Patterson

MARINA NEWS - MAST CRANE UPDATE

In Late 2022 the club developed a new 5-year strategic plan. One of the commitments was a focus on upgrading the mast crane. The club engaged with Royal Haskoning Engineers, Redfern Flinn and Hunter Wharf and Barge as our preferred contractors.

The design process of both the crane and platform was completed in late 2022.

Work began early in January on LMyc's upgraded Mast Crane.

4 pylons were driven to a depth in soil of 10.5 metres. Precast concrete head stocks are being manufactured at the Hunter Wharf and Barge site, Toronto. The peered foundation should be ready near the NW corner of the Marina by mid-February.

Following this, a 15m-high Mast Crane with a 5m reach will be installed by HWB and Redfern Flinn, the manufacturer. If all goes well, the skyline of the Marina will show a purpose built, state-of-the-art facility very soon.

Dave Nichols & Mark Norden



Credit: Marg's Yacht Photos



60TH AUSTRALIAN FLYING FIFTEEN CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND UP - JANUARY 2024

By Chris Villa

It is Saturday 6th January and 17 Flying Fifteens converge on LMYC from all mainland States and Territories for the Nationals. Consisting of an eclectic group of sailors including two women skippers, five women for'ard hands, three past National Champions and one entrant from GBR, the week ahead is sure to prove entertaining to say the least.

Sunday night, the official welcome to all entrants is held in the marquee with Commodore Geoff making all visitors very welcome for the week ahead.

With measuring, sail registration and weighing complete on Sunday, the Invitation Race is held on Monday 8/1 in a light NW breeze with typical shifts left and right. Following numerous lead changes Ashley Smith and Kim Thumpkin in **FFSake** (ROYS) come out on top with Chris Villa and Mark Holmes in **Up Ship Creek** (LMYC) second. It appears the curse of good performances in the Invitation Race has raised its ugly head yet again as later results will confirm. (See Overall results)

On Tuesday 9/1, Heats 1 & 2 are sailed in 10 knot easterlies on a clear Belmont Bay with the Rainey brothers in **Where The Bloody Hell Are You** from Gippsland Lakes YC posting a 1st and 2nd and all other competitors posting their first discards, much to their disgust.

Wednesday 10/1, Heat 3 & 4 and another day in paradise, light increasing easterlies, and perfect courses from Race Officer Ross and his efficient team set up for another great day on the water. Once again, the Rainey's post a 1st and 2nd with Lewis Davies and John Radnell sailing Freshwater from Davies Bay YC posting a 1st in Heat 4. It appears this will be a one-horse regatta but the fickle finger of fate is set to strike.

Thursday 11/1 rolls up with Heats 5, 6 & 7 to be sailed back-to-back in a good building easterly once again on a clear Belmont Bay. Stand up John Hassen and Kevin Griffiths in **Final Fifteen** from South of Perth YC who clean sheet the scoreboard with wins in all three heats. The Rainey's struggle a little in the front bunch with a 2nd, 4th and a 5th but are still able to retain the overall lead by 3pts with one discard but with a little problem when the two discards come into play on Friday. At the crane, all sailors enjoy the cold beers supplied whilst awaiting the crane exit after a long day on the water.



Photo credit: Peter Mayo

Friday 12/1 arrives with another easterly, best of the week, 12 to 15knts for Heats 8 & 9. It appears this will be a two-boat contest in both heats between John Hassen/Kevin Griffiths (SOPYC) and Craig and Ian Rainey (GLYC) for the Nationals Title. In heat 8, the racing is tight with Hassen 4th and Rainey 7th leaving Hassen in the overall lead. The winner of Heat 8 is Trevor Williams with his daughter, Anna, sailing **Ten Pound Note** from Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club.

Heat 9 starts in a good 12-15knt easterly with Hassen covering every move from the Rainey's on all legs of the course to finish with a 3rd and a 5th for the Rainey's. The winner of Heat 9 convincingly is Dave Tabb and Dave Bennett sailing **Ark** from Christie's Sailing Club SA.

After discards, the winner of the 60TH Australian Flying Fifteen National Title is **FINAL FIFTEEN** sailed by John Hassen and Kevin Griffiths from SOPYC, 2nd is **WHERE THE BLOODY HELL ARE YOU** sailed by Craig and Ian Rainey (GLYC) and 3rd is **ARK** sailed by Dave Tabb and Dave Bennett from CSC SA.

Friday night's presentation is a great night held in the marquee with a great food by Crusoe's and many refreshments consumed by all, whilst commiserating over what could have been and what we all should have done, but didn't, as usual.

Commodore Geoff presented a huge array of trophies to all deserved winners. A big thank you to all volunteers for giving up their time for the week, Simon and Jamie for spectator boats on Friday and LMYC and staff for their help in making this a great week for all the visitors to the event.

Chris Villa



Photo credit: Peter Mayo



Dear Commodore Geoff,

We would like to sincerely thank you for hosting our Flying Fifteen Nationals for 2024. Not only were we made to feel welcome, the regatta was run with the utmost efficiency on and off the water.

Special thanks go to Chris Villa, Mark Holmes, Ross Ahrens and the many volunteers for their input and effort into making this event the success it was.

Great conditions and professionally run races made for one of the best regattas ever experienced. Lake Macquarie Yacht Club has produced a world class sailing event enjoyed by all and we look forward to future opportunities to revisit when next scheduled for NSW.

Thank you again and very kind regards,

Karen Dawes
Secretary Flying Fifteen International Australia
22 January 2024





SETTING SAIL

An update from the sailing committee
By Steven Ford, Rear Commodore

Happy New Year to all.

Saturday racing returned on Saturday 13 January after the Christmas break. The second part of the season is jampacked with Lakefest in January and February, the Wangi Australia Day Race, the annual Heaven Can Wait Regatta, the She Sails Tri Series and the conclusion of the LMYC series.

Racing will finish at the end of March as Easter is relatively early this year. In April there will be Sailfest Newcastle and Sail Port Stephens.

With Swansea Channel dredging completed this is a great opportunity for LMYC boats to venture north for the first time in many years.

We are now entering regatta season, and there are several regattas scheduled or completed over the summer –

- 7 January 2024 - Flying 15s Nationals were held and they were a great success (see the letter we received from The Flying 15 Association)
- She Sails – RMYC 18 February, WASC 3 March (online entry is now available)
- 9-11 February 2024 – Adams 10 Nationals
- 8-12 April 2024 – Multihull Regatta

At the recent Sailing Committee meeting

- Per the Sailing Instructions, Tenacity and Pogue Mahone were granted average points for the weekend they are completing in the Adams 10 Nationals.
- Some course amendments were approved for the Wednesday Division 2 Pulbah Course. The amendment to the SIs will be issued shortly.
- The SLMASC Middle Channel Mark (south side of Pulbah Island) has been painted in LMYC colours and will be used by LMYC instead of the laid mark for Sunken Rock on Pulbah courses. The amendment to the SIs will be issued shortly.
- The Belmont 16s juniors have been invited to sail on LMYC boats in the Sailfest Twilight race on February 23. We will be looking for LMYC boats to take the junior sailors (details are in issue)

With waterways becoming busier over summer, skippers are reminded that under the Aquatic Licence issued by Roads and Maritime Services to LMYC, competitors in LMYC events are not to sail within 30 metres of moored or anchored vessels. All accidents involving serious damage or personal injury are to be reported to RMS. Failure to do so may cause the Club's Aquatic License to be revoked.



Photo credit: Peter Mayo



23-24 RESULTS

SATURDAY RACING

SUMMER POINTSCORE

Division 1

1. Ignition - Ian Bower
2. Dirty Deeds - Ian Humphris
3. Squid4Woodsy - Steve Liddell

Division 2

1. Echo Beach - Phillip Matthews
2. Anarchie - Paul Hannan
3. Tenacity - David Young

Division 3

1. Ross Street - Noel Jenkins
2. Excessive - David Nichols
3. Morticia - Geoff Gardner

Division 4

1. Intrigue - Gavin Moss
2. Even Keel - Peter Shaddock
3. Wedgewood - Roger Geary

ANNUAL POINTSCORE

Division 1

1. Dirty Deeds - Ian Humphris
2. Roadrunner - Paul Heyes
3. Squid4woodsly - Steve Liddell

Division 2

1. Beat to Quarters - Eddie O'Donnell
2. Anarchie - Paul Hannan
3. Excess - Bruce Dobinson

Division 3

1. Ross Street - Noel Jenkins
2. Excessive - David Nichols
3. Puglsey - Len Lavers

Division 4

1. Wedgewood - Roger Geary
2. The Shed - Roger Parker
3. Young n Old - Glen Picasso



Photo credit: Peter Mayo

FRIDAY LADY SKIPPER SERIES RESULTS UP TO RACE 4

1. Ignition - Lateisha Bower
2. Pentangle - Sarah Petherbridge
3. Excessive - Zdenka Dolejska

WEDNESDAY POINTSCORE - SUMMER 2

Division 1

1. Dee One - Chris Wilson
2. Dreadnaught - Ed Hillier
3. Excessive - David Nichols

Division 2

1. Mirage - David Kelty
2. Carpe Diem - Jeffrey Payne
3. The Apple - Warren Hodgkins



HEAVEN CAN WAIT CHARITY DINNER

Friday February 2nd, 2024 at RMYC Toronto

Our special guests will be Wendy Tuck and Tom Addis, internationally recognised sailors but also much, much more. They will be interviewed by women's sport advocate, journalist and commentator Helene O'Neill.



Dinner includes two courses, bubbly on arrival and two bottles of wine per table of 10.

Don't miss out on all the fun and this great opportunity to help the Home Care Section of the Hunter Valley Cancer Council.

PLACES ARE LIMITED, SO GET IN EARLY!



More information and tickets available at: www.HeavenCanWait.com.au

LAKE MACQUARIE YACHT CLUB

LAKEFEST 2024

Adams 10

ADAMS 10 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

9TH, 10TH & 11TH FEBRUARY 2024

EVERYTHING THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD

COMMODORE'S CHARITY BALL

13/04/24 DRESS CODE - GLAMOUR

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

\$120

LAKE MACQUARIE YACHT CLUB

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT LMYC RECEPTION

WE THANK OUR SPONSORS

