

FORECAST

Newsletter from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club



PHOTO CREDIT: PETER MAYO

WELCOME

SUMMER HAS ENDED, HOWEVER MORE SAILING ADVENTURES AWAIT.

Congratulations Eleanor Cunningham and crew on Equinox winning the final She-Sails race at Wangi on Sunday 3 March and Lateisha Bower and the Ignition crew taking third place. Yes, its all over for another year, except for the 'after-party' that is. It is LMYC's turn to hold the Commodore's Charity Ball on the 13th April. We are looking for a bumper year raising funds for Cancer Council NSW and Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie.

Saturday racing is also now completed. Congratulations to all divisional winners. See details in this Forecast. Get your crew together and get your tickets for our annual presentation night on Saturday 'May The Fourth'

We wouldn't have the great sailing we have without all the work that is carried by so many of our members. I wish to thank our Sailing Committee, handicappers, protest committee, equipment auditors, race administrators and officials as well as those that sit on the various inter-club committees.

Saturday racing maybe over but there is plenty to keep us all busy. Winter racing will start in May, NCYC's Sailfest is on shortly as well as Sail Port Stephens all coming up in the next few weeks.



And of course there is winter cruising. Now the channel is open there will be a few of our members heading off for some long distance cruising or maybe just a couple of short sails. Our Cruising Division held their annual Pittwater cruise for the first time in a number of years. By all accounts they had a great time. They are also looking at a couple of shorter 'outside' trips as well. The CD meet once a month on Monday at the club and an on-water activity. All members are welcome to come along to the general meeting where there is usually an expert giving a presentation.

BY GEOFF EDMAN, COMMODORE

SETTING SAIL

AN UPDATE FROM SAILING COMMITTEE



The end the 2023/24 season ended in seasonal light conditions with some close and exciting racing. Congratulations to all of the podium boats and thanks to all skippers and crew for another enjoyable season of racing at LMYC. In all Divisions the Annual Pointscore was very close and came down to the last few races.

As the current season closes, the Sailing Committee now turns its attention to getting feedback from our skippers and crew and planning for the upcoming 2024/25 season.

We also discussed the upcoming Boat Owners, Skippers and Crew Survey. While much of the survey is the same as previous years there were some areas we would like to explore including:

- Why we have seen a drop off in fleets in the last few months.
- With the Swansea Channel now dredged, what interest is there in offshore racing.
- What support is there for moving from four Division to two Divisions on Saturdays.
 - Division 1 would include all current Division 1 boats, most of the current Division 2 boats and some Division 3 boats.
 - While Division 2 would include some of the smaller boats in Division 2 and 3 and all of the current Division 4 boats.
 - Division 1 would do the current Division 2/3 courses and Division 2 would do the current Division 4 courses.



PHOTO CREDIT: PETER MAYO

We will send out the survey in early April and then have a follow up meeting in early May (Date TBC). However, the survey is now open for responses on line and if you would like to complete this survey please follow the [link](#). Copies of the survey will also be available at reception for manual responses.

Finally, I would like to thank Sarah Gamble for her work on The Forecast every month. Sarah, has recently advised that due to other work and personal commitments she is not able to continue producing The Forecast. Sarah was been instrumental in the re-birth of the The Forecast and her diligence and skill is evident to all at LMYC every month. Thanks Sarah, you will be missed.

BY STEVEN FORD, REAR COMMODORE



PHOTO CREDIT: PETER MAYO

LMYC CRUISING DIVISION

What we do

- Social sailing with the focus on fun!
- Monthly on-water outings exploring Lake Mac
- Organised off-shore cruises
- Meetings 2nd Monday each month 7pm @ LMYC

(Next Meeting 8th April)

**You're very welcome to come along and see
what we're all about!**

(Check out our Cruiseletter on LMYC website)

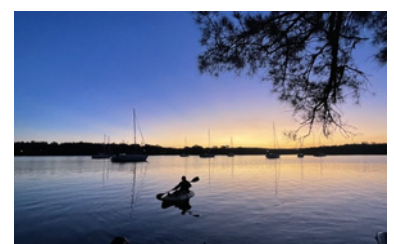




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SAILING RESULTS

ANNUAL POINTSCORE 23-24 SATURDAY RACING

Division 1

1. Dirty Deeds - Ian Humphris
2. Roadrunner - Paul Heyes
3. Squid4Woodsy - Steve Liddell

Division 2

1. Beat to Quarters - Eddie O'Donnell
2. Pogue Mohone - Scott Hamilton
3. Tenacity - David Young

Division 3

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

Division 4

1. Wedgewood - Roger Geary
2. Mirage - David Kelty
3. The Shed - Roger Parker

WEDNESDAY SUMMER 2 POINTSCORE

Division 1

1. Dee One - Chris Wilson
2. Excess - Bruce Dobinson
3. Optimum - Hines/Laybut/MacLeod

Division 2

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

SERIES RESULTS - LADY SKIPPER SERIES

1. Ignition - Lateisha Bower
2. Pentangle - Sarah Petherbridge
3. Flying Colours - Ingrid Souter

LAKE MACQUARIE YACHT CLUB'S
PRESENTATION
NIGHT
04/05/2024
Doors open from 5pm
Club Auditorium

Ticket price includes
Two Course Meal by Crusoe's on the Lake
Wines by Robert Oatley Fine Wine Merchants
Live Music by Gen X

TICKETS - \$85
EARLY BIRD - \$75

Early Bird tickets are limited!
Tickets available via LMYC Reception

May the 4th
Be With You!

 LAKE MACQUARIE
YACHT CLUB

24 April - end of Summer Series 2 Wednesday sailing.

19 May - Sunday Series Commences

[Race results link here](#)

HISTORY LOCKER

RKR ROBERTSON MEMORIAL TROPHY

The RK Robertson series of inter-club races was first sailed in the 1977-78 season and was sailed in 4 divisions 1,2,3 and an open division. The results would suggest the standard of sailing at RMYC was far higher than the other clubs, or perhaps the handicappers got it wrong!

The results for the 1977-78 and first RK Robertson were.

Open Division

1. Omega.- RMYC
2. Tradewinds - LMYC
3. Inca - RMYC

First Division

1. Aprilis - RMYC
2. Lady Cress - RMYC
3. Lakatoi - RMYC

Second Division

1. Aries - RMYC
2. Wombat - RMYC
3. Cooida - RMYC

Third Division

1. Epsilon - RMYC
2. Tianui - RMYC
3. Tusitala - RMYC

But who was RK Robertson?

Prime mover to create a race in the memory of RK (Kel) Robertson was Ralph Cummings who had been a great mate of Kels and a great mate to him. Both Ralph and Kel lived close to each other in Merewether but Kel never owned a car and was reliant on Ralph for transport to Belmont. At other times one can readily imagine how hard and time consuming it would be to service a yacht on a mooring in Belmont from so far away as Merewether using firstly a tram, then a bus or train then walking the rest of the way to the club, perhaps carrying heaps of gear.

In the 1976-77 season Ralph was a member of the LMYC Board and Club-Captain and mooted the idea of a trophy in Kel's memory. This was taken up and expanded to include other clubs sailing on the Lake. Meetings were held at Toronto and Belmont with representatives from Wangi ASC, RMYC, Croudace Bay SC and LMYC attending. The concept was readily accepted and venues, hosting, number of races etc. was agreed on.

It was hoped that after each race competitors would stay at the host club to socialize before returning to their respective clubs. This was only partially successful for a number of reasons. A suggestion that the last race of the series finish at a neutral venue for a barby and beer was not pursued.

Kel was not a Founding Father of LMYC but was an early boat owner. In 1938 Les and Barry Steel built a Tumlarren Class yacht for him and it was launched in the December of that year. It cost about £350 (\$700) plus £36 (\$72) for main, jib, genoa and spinnaker and was named "Kyuma". It has been restored and then moored in the Dora Creek area and was displayed at the Wooden Boat Show at Toronto.



KEL ROBINSON, 1946

Kel was a gentleman and held in high respect by his fellow members but his contribution to LMYC was mainly as a participant although he did serve as Rear-commadore in 1945-46 and 46-47.

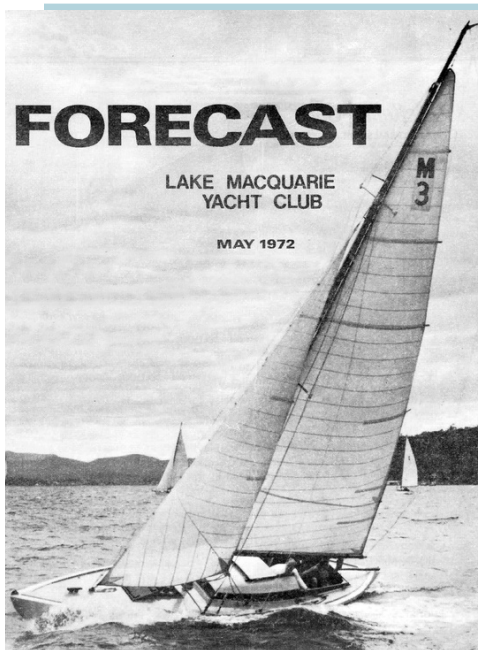
Kel married in 1947 and rather late in life. It is obvious he was held in high esteem by both management and members as it was decided that a dinner be held in his honour and the cost borne by the Club and furthermore "a suitable wedding present be presented to him at the dinner". The suitable present was a cheque for Ten Guineas which in to-days terms would be eight hundred to a thousand dollars.

This was the first and last time such an honour has been bestowed on a member of LMYC. Kel was elected Commodore for the 1947-48 year but was opposed after only one term and defeated. At the AGM the incoming Commodore's first duty was to call for a vote of thanks to the retiring Commodore, and as it had been a successful year it was easy to be sincere in recalling the merits of Kel's year as Commodore. In reply he let loose a barrage of accusations.

If said Kel, if I was such a good bloke, if I produced such a good financial return etc. why did you hypocritical bastards vote me out? Why indeed? After threatening to start a new yacht club at Marmong Point, Kel did a Billy Hughes and stormed out calling on those interested to follow. There were none!

After a few months he returned and in 1958 was made a Life Member.

Kel worked as a fitter and turner at the Railway Workshops at Cardiff, travelling to work each day by tram and train. One of his apprentices was a serious young man by the name of Bob Miller, who later changed his name to Ben Lexcen and became a household name as the designer of "Australia II" winner of the Americas Cup in 1983.



Kel was made a trustee of LMYC in 1946, had a dinner in his honour in 1947, elected Commodore in 1947, deposed as Commodore in 1948, elected a Life Member in 1958 and is the only member to have a series of races named to honour his memory.

Whilst Kel's contribution cannot be denied the RK Robertson Memorial Trophy owes more to the efforts of his mate Ralph Cummings than his own.

BY RAY B KIELY, PAST COMMODORE

PS. I was Rear at the time and was involved in all the meetings and was an attendee at the AGM held in Howard Smith Chambers in Watt Street, Newcastle

KYUMA WAS FEATURED ON THE COVER OF FORECAST MAY 1972. SHE HAD A TALL RIG OF 20 SQ. METRES. AT THE TIME SAIL AREA IN METRES WAS THE NORM.. WE HAD 20, 22 AND 30 SQUARES. HER LOA 27' 8" AND A BEAM OF 6' 3" CARRIED WELL AFT.

THE TUMLAREN CLASS WAS DESIGNED BY KNUD REIMERS AS A SKERRY CRUISER ABOUT 1930 AND THERE WAS A LARGE NUMBER IN THE ST. KILDA YACHT CLUB.

SOCIAL EVENTS

TICKET SAILS FOR COMMODORES CHARITY BALL ENDS 5 APRIL PURCHASE TICKETS AT LMYC RECEPTION

LAKE MACQUARIE YACHT CLUB

EVERYTHING THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD

COMMODORE'S CHARITY BALL

\$120 **13/04/24**

Tickets available now at LMYC Reception





LAKE MACQUARIE YACHT CLUB

DRESS CODE - GLAMOUR

TICKET PRICE INCLUDES

- Champagne on Arrival
- Canapes + Two Course Meal by *Crusoe's on the Lake*
- Live Music by Misbehave

RAFFLES, SILENT AUCTION, & LUCKY DOOR PRIZE

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

 Lake Macquarie Yacht Club
Ada Street, Belmont

PROFITS WILL BE DONATED TO:




WE THANK OUR SPONSORS

