

# FORECAST

Monthly Newsletter from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club



## COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

### LMYC Yachts at away championships

November has been a busy month for our sailors racing in regattas away from home, with podium finishes for LMYC yachts. Congratulations to all our members on their results and thanks to all for representing LMYC in these highly competitive regattas:

Kane Sinclair entered his Etchells *GEN XY* representing LMYC in the 2024 Etchells Australia championship held at Metung Yacht Club Victoria in early November. Kane handing the tiller over to Peter McNeill and with Andrew Smith completing the crew finished 1st in the Grand Masters and 4th overall.



L to R:

Kane Sinclair, Peter McNeill, Andrew Smith

Mark Holmes towed his Flying Fifteen *Up Ship Creek* to Canberra for the ACT Titles in November, finishing 3rd overall. Backing up from the ACT Titles, Mark and Chris Villa headed up to Tin Can Bay to race *Up Ship Creek* in the Queensland Titles held on 23/24 November, and again finished 3rd overall.

Congratulations to our SheSails sailors competing in the NCYC SheSails regatta in identical Elliot 6m keel yachts. LMYC entrant *Ta-keel-la* and crew of Nina, Natalie and Grace coming first and combined LMYC/WASC entrant LakeMac Combo finishing fourth overall.

### **WIND WARRIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

Read in this month's Forecast the report on the world's best Wind Warrior sailors competing in the bi-annual World Championship held early in November.

### **ADVENTURERS OFFSHORE**

Our members have been enjoying the benefits of being able to navigate freely though Swansea Channel. Five of our Cruising Division yachts had an extended cruise south to Jervis Bay, with stop-overs at Pittwater, Sydney Harbour, Shell Harbour and several days exploring Jervis Bay. For anyone venturing south, the CD yachts highly recommend the new Shell Harbour marina.

LMYC yachts *Santana*, *Lucille*, and *Spellcaster* joined with NCYC for a race to Port Stephen on Saturday 9 November and returned on Sunday 10 November.



*Santana*



*Lucille*



*Spellcaster III*



*Crews heading through the Swansea Channel Bridge*



Venturing further afield was *Santana* and *Carpe Diem*, both sailing to Lord Howe Island for a CYCA organised BBQ on 19 November. This was not a race, but I understand all safety protocols for a Cat1 are observed, and very serious quarantine measures must be taken. Michael Graham from *Santana* presented \$500 to the local school on behalf of LMYC.

### SWANSEA CHANNEL UPDATE

Great news this month! I was invited by Federal MP Pat Conroy and State MP Yasmin Catley to be part of their media releases regarding the Swansea Channel. The announcements were reported in all media including NBN News, ABC Radio news and Newcastle Herald.

Friday 8 November - Pat Conroy and Dan Repacholi announced that the \$10m that the Federal government had promised to Lake Macquarie City was confirmed and that a tender for the design, supply of a dredge and sand transfer system, ie a pipeline, to Blacksmiths Beach was currently being prepared by LMCC. Tenders will be called in early 2025 and it is expected that will be in service by mid-2027.

Monday 11 November - Yasmin Catley and Lake Macquarie Mayor Adam Shultz announced at our Club that NSW government will provide \$6m to TfNSW to operate and maintain the dredge and sand transfer pipeline for five years. Yasmin also confirmed the preparation of a 10-year plan for the management of dredging.



*Photo sourced from the Facebook Page of Adam Schultz - Mayor of Lake Macquarie*

### LMYC DISCOVER SAILING CENTRE

The sail training is going well, with students from Belmont High regularly sailing on Thursdays. Friday Twilight experiences have started and we have the first sign ups for the SheSails training & racing.

LMYC has had the tradition of naming our race control boats after the yachts on the early yacht register. I personally think this has been a great tradition. *Geraldine*, followed by *Calypso*, and now *Sirius* have been our start boats since I joined the board. With this in mind, we needed to name our new training boats. It was decided at the last Board Meeting to name these first two boats after the first LMYC winners of the Sydney to Hobart race. I am pleased to announce that the two yachts will be named *Rival* and *Piccolo* - more information about *Piccolo* can be found in this month's History Locker article.

We do intend to get more yachts for the sail training and I hope names for those boats will be chosen from historical wins by LMYC yachts of major races. However, we must leave that choice for future boards to decide.

See you 'round the Club.

GEOFF EDMAN, COMMODORE  
Email: commodore@lmyc.com.au

## SETTING SAIL

# NOVEMBER SAILING

The 2024/25 Sailing Season is now in full swing and we had a great turnout on Wednesdays, Fridays Twilights and Saturdays. The spring weather, as always, throws up a bit of everything but the racing is very competitive.

For this season we have asked skippers to login with the start boat and advise the people on board before the commencement of the starting sequence. This information is necessary so we know how many people are on the water, particularly if there is an emergency. Could all boats please comply with this request.



From Friday the 8th November to Sunday 10th November LMYC Windwarrior's hosted the World Championship Regatta and the results can be found in this Forecast.

Our LMYC Discover Sailing Centre is now fully accredited with Australian Sailing which enables us to deliver a variety of Learn to Sail courses, from our Friday Twilight Sailing Experiences through to our Start Racing Keelboat courses. Courses and additional information can be found online on our website at [www.lmyc.com.au/sc/](http://www.lmyc.com.au/sc/)

Just a reminder about this season's program-

- **Offshore Racing** - We will have a 5-race offshore series in conjunction with NCYC. The first race was 9 November with a race from Newcastle to Port Stephens and returning to Newcastle on 10 November. Santana (Michael Graham), Spellcaster 111 (Scott Ferguson) and Lucille (Stephen Manhood) represented LMYC. Thanks to NCYC for organising this series.
- **Sweepstake Races** - Will be held at LMYC on the Offshore weekends. The racing on 9th November was abandoned due to lack of entries.
- **Interclub Racing** - The RKR Series kicked off on 28th September, and we have had two races.
- **Sprint Racing** - This series kicked off on 12th October. This is a great opportunity to hone racing & regatta skills.
- **Australia Day Regatta** - The Annual WASC Australia Day Regatta will be on Sunday 26th January, 2025. This will be the first Lakefest Race.
- **Lakefest** - Lakefest will again be on in February 2025 with events across all Lake yacht clubs.
- **Heaven Can Wait** - Will be held Saturday 15th February, 2025.
- **She Sails** - The She Sails series will kick off at LMYC on Sunday 12th January followed by WASC on Sunday 23rd February and RMYC on Sunday 16th March.

On a personal note, I am back from my 6 week holiday. However, I have not been able to get back to sailing as our new boat is still undergoing a major refit. Hopefully, I will see you out on the water before the Christmas break but that still depends on several variables outside our control.

STEVEN FORD, REAR COMMODORE  
Email: rearcommodore@lmyc.com.au

## REGATTA REPORT

# WIND WARRIOR CHAMPIONSHIP 2024 & AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2024

The Wind Warrior World Championship was held on the 9th and 10th of November with a welcome dinner on Friday 8th. Twenty competitors entered with fifteen local sailors, one Victorian and four from New Zealand. The regatta was sailed in the multi fleet format with a process of promotion and relegation of four competitors between A and B heats. Two completed heats constituted a race.

After registration on Saturday morning the seeding heats were sailed in a light south westerly. The breeze then moved to a steadier light south to south easterly allowing five races to be completed before lunch. Local sailors Paul Jones and Brad Quiggin showed early form in these races with Kiwi Paul Ayers nearby. After lunch the breeze was still light but had swung to east to south easterly. Six races were sailed in the afternoon session which saw Paul Jones establish his dominance with three 1st and three 2nd places. A close contest was occurring for 2nd to 5th positions between Brad Quiggin, Ben Taylor, Paul Morrish and Dave Anstey.

After waiting for the breeze to establish on Sunday morning four races were sailed in a moderate south to south easterly before lunch. Again, Paul Jones continued his dominance of the fleet with the same four sailors Brad Quiggin, Ben Taylor, Paul Morrish and Dave Anstey still in the running for 2nd and 3rd positions. The breeze strengthened to a 20+ knot southerly for the four afternoon races. Some skilful and spectacular racing occurred which was appreciated by the large crowd that had gathered to watch. A popular win by local Belmont sailor Eric Law, in the first of these races.

After a total of nineteen races completed (thirty eight heats) with three discards Paul Jones (AU) 1st giving a masterclass to the rest of the fleet with Paul Morrish (AU) 2nd and Dave Anstey (AU) 3rd. The Australian Championship results were Paul Jones 1st, Paul Morrish 2nd and Dave Anstey 3rd. The Trans Tasman Championship Shield was won by Australia and the Trans Tasman Club Series Shield was won by Lake Macquarie Yacht Club.

At the presentation trophies for the top three competitors, World and Australian, and the Championship Shield and Club Series Shield were presented by Club Captain Eleanor Cunningham. A special thank you to Phil Cunningham for running the races and to Brad Quiggin, Paul Morrish, Adam Cooke and Markus Schumi for course laying and boat rescue. Thanks to Eleanor Cunningham who did some filming during the regatta and was able to show an eight minute video at the start of the presentation, to the enjoyment of those present.

Thanks to the Lake Macquarie Yacht Club for the use of the club facilities especially the marquee on Sunday. A big thanks to our Kiwi and Victorian competitors for travelling a considerable distance to compete. The next international regatta will be in New Zealand, November 2025.

Full results can be found at: [www.lmyc.com.au/windwarriors/](http://www.lmyc.com.au/windwarriors/)

MARSHALL HARPER  
Regatta Report written 13/11/24

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## REGATTA REPORT

# WIND WARRIOR CHAMPIONSHIP 2024 & AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2024



Dave Anstey 3rd (LMYC)



Paul Morrish 2nd (Honorary Kiwi)



Paul Jones 1st (Lake Macquarie)



Adam Cook, Dave Anstey & Brad Quiggin (LMYC)  
Trans Tasman Shield



Twenty entrants from LMYC, Victoria, and New Zealand



## REGATTA REPORT

### NCYC SHESAILS OPEN 2024

The NCYC SheSails Open 2024 was held on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th of November 2024.

The organisation of the regatta was impeccable, the conditions ideal & the camaraderie both during & after the racing made for a very enjoyable event.

The regatta was hotly contested with very close racing over two days. After 12 windward/leeward races, the winners were Natalie Butterworth's crew, 'Ta-keel-a' representing LMYC.

Congratulations to all of the competitors who came from NCYC, LMYC & WASC & as far away as Mooloolaba & Wynnum-Manly.

Congratulations SheSails NCYC on your 8th annual regatta.

Full regatta results here: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/22/results/series/3880/races>

ELEANOR CUNNINGHAM  
CLUB CAPTAIN & SHESAILS REPRESENTATIVE



The winning crew of  
*Ta-keel-a* (L to R):  
Nina Tolhurst,  
Natalie Butterworth, and  
Grace Buchan



Photographs supplied by  
Jack Buchan, NCYC

## HISTORY LOCKER

# PICCOLO – LMYC SYDNEY TO HOBART WINNER

In 1976, PICCOLO M46 became only the second boat in the History of Lake Macquarie Yacht Club to win the prestigious Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race.

The Crew consisted of John Pickles (Owner/Skipper), Albert Mitchell (Sailing Master), Bob Brenac (Navigator), David Powys, Roy Baker, Stephen Lamb & John Rowe.

An interesting article in Newcastle Herald dated 14th January 1972 by Boy Messenger reads.

### **“HOBART WINNER CAN’T GO HOME.**

**The crew of Piccolo went flat out from Sydney to Hobart to win the 1976 yacht classic.  
But today they are killing time.**

They had very little sleep in the four days, five hours, 30 minutes and 15 seconds it took them to sail the 635 miles to Hobart.

But today time is crawling past them like a lead-footed centipede as Winston Churchill once said. They sleep, take showers, shave and look at Kings Cross, just up from the Cruising yacht Club where they are moored

Piccolo got back to Sydney at midnight on Tuesday. But that was too early for the people at Lake Macquarie Yacht Club, where they are based. The Lake Macquarie Yacht Club sent an urgent message asking them to tarry in Sydney - because a hero's welcome had been planned for them at 2pm on Sunday. A band would play on the jetty and a short speech of welcome would be made by the club Commodore, Mr Bob Powys as the flag-decked Piccolo moved to her berth”



*Sydney Hobart yacht race winner Piccolo (arrowed) moves into Belmont Bay flanked by a flotilla of Lake Macquarie yachts and power craft in a spectacular welcome home yesterday.*

*Image taken by Herald Photographer David Wicks from Mr J. Lenaghan's Lake Buchaneer seaplane  
(Herald Monday January 17, 1977)*



Piccolo is a Bruce Farr design one ton class yacht produced by Compass yachts with an LOA of 36ft, Beam of 12ft and a draft of 6ft. For those keen to sail on Piccolo, according to Google, she has been fully restored and now operates as a charter race yacht, owned by Sail in Asia.



# LMYC CLOSED ON 10/12/24

**Please be advised that the Club will be CLOSED on  
Tuesday 10th December 2024.**



Both LMYC and Crusoe's on the  
Lake staff members will be  
having their Christmas Parties  
on this date.

Thank you for your understanding  
of this closure, as we celebrate  
another fantastic year together.



# Lake Macquarie



# ***SHE SAILS REGATTA***

# ***2025***

January 12th (LMYC), February 23rd (WASC) & March 16th (RMYCT)

Enter the tri-series or individual races

## **FIRST RACE**

Hosted by LMYC Belmont

Sunday

12th January, 2025



**RACE ENTRY HERE**




NoR & SI's on the link below

<https://www.lmyc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/SheSAILS-Regatta-NOR-2025-V1-300724.pdf>



# WHAT'S ON @ LMYC



## Christmas Ham Raffles



THURS 28TH NOV.....	20 HAMS
THURS 5TH DEC.....	20 HAMS
THURS 12TH DEC.....	20 HAMS
THURS 19TH DEC.....	30 HAMS

**Ticket sales begin at 5:30pm**  
**Drawn at 7:00pm**

## LIVE @ LMYC

### DECEMBER 2024

Friday's 6:30-9:30pm  
Sunday's 1:30-5pm



SUN 1ST  
KELLY  
HOPE



FRI 6TH  
BOBBY  
SAN JUAN



SUN 8TH  
CLAUDIA  
MACKAY



FRI 13TH  
BRYCE  
HUTCHINGS



SUN 15TH  
CONNOR  
WINK



FRI 20TH  
CHLOE  
GILL



SUN 22ND  
LOUIS  
BURT



FRI 27TH  
COTTON  
SAX & STRINGS



SUN 29TH  
JAVIER'S  
MUSIC



## THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 - 2025 SAILING SEASON SPONSORS



Quick Quiz Answers: 1) Fluke 2) Skag 3) Ketch 4) Compass 5) Bight