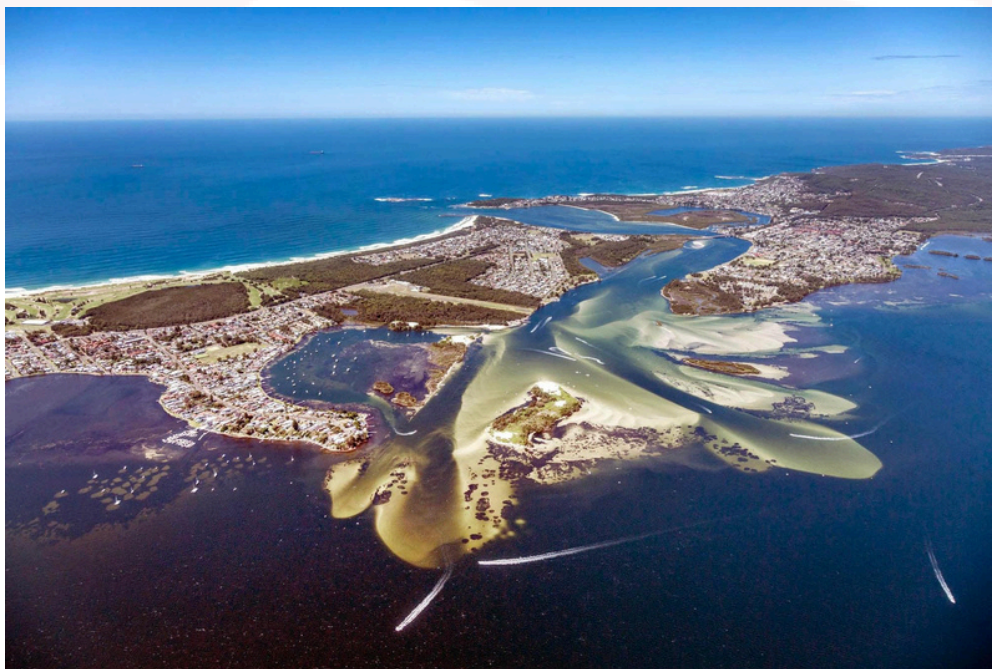


FORECAST

Monthly Newsletter from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club



COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

Forecast – June 2026

Channel dredging.

June is always a quiet time around the club, for news at least, and the same applies this year.

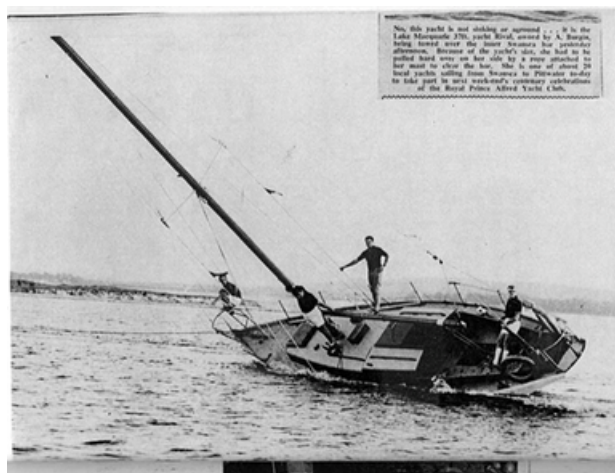
As I don't have much in the way of news I thought I would give a more compressive account of the recent announcement regarding the channel linking Lake Macquarie with the ocean.

I am sure you have heard the recent announcement about the long-term dredging of Swansea channel announced by our local MP and Minister for the Hunter Yasmin Catley I have been asked since then "what it all means" or "what is different" to previous announcements.

So, the following is my personal take on what this means and what has changed to other recent reports.

The channel silting up has been a problem for many decades.

Reviewing old charts will tell you that the sand islands were not there a hundred years ago. In fact, the sand islands were formed from the dredging spoil when the channel was dredged for Wangi and Vale's Point power station. Channel shoaling has sped up since the dredging of Swan Bay and the dredging of the south entranceto Swan Bay. The club has long lobbied for dredging when the channel silted up. Talking with past commodores it has been an issue for just



"Rival being pulled over to clear the sand bar. Believed to be 1967.. Channel shoaling is not a new problem."

about all of them with promise after promise slipping away with changes to government. So, who is responsible? It is up to the State Government to maintain the channel. It is not the council's responsibility, and it is not the federal government's responsibility. In my time as commodore Yasmin Catley has been our representative and has been working on getting a proper solution. Up until very recently the process to get the dredging done was very long winded. There was no plan or schedule in place. When the channel became a problem that could not be ignored and the state government agreed to dredge, it would take around eighteen months to get all the approvals from the several different government departments to get a licence to dredge. None of the previous approvals could be used as they had limits and usually only lasted twelve months. I don't know why and no one could give me a logical reason. Once approvals were in place tenders were called, a contractor selected and engaged. Dredging would start months later. In my experience it took close to two years from the government agreeing to dredge and the dredging taking place. Dredging would be carried out in one go over a few months with the sand usually dumped on Elizabeth Island. Not ideal as it would be blown or washed back into the channel. On one occasion, at least, it was pumped via a temporary pipeline to Nine-Mile Beach with the pipeline removed needed to boost the economy for our area. On the top of their list was a permanent dredge to keep the channel open. In the following budget \$10M was allocated to LMCC for a permanent dredge. This was further detailed, or revised, for a dredge and dredging infrastructure. That is the pipeline and pumping stations to take the sand to Nine-Mile beach. The sand transfer system is quite significant. One of the main problems in getting the environmental approval to dredge has been what to do with the dredged sand and the cost of moving it. Pumping it to Nine-mile beach not only gets it away from the channel it also re-nourishes the sand depleted beach. The funding for the dredge and sand transfer system was not a permanent solution on its own. It needed long-term operational funding and a dredging licence. The importance, and difference, of this recent announcement is icing on the cake. There is now a ten-year approval for the dredging when needed and includes widening the channel to 60m wide and nominally 3.5m deep with a trigger of 2.7m to start dredging again. This development and commitment from all three levels of Government give confidence to Lake Macquarie City Council, lake business including our club to promote Lake Macquarie to visitors and program regattas and off-shore racing. See you around the Club

Geoff Edman
Commodore
Commodore@lmyc.com.au

Three Stooges being pulled over March 2022.



REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT MAY 2026



57TH KEEPIT KOOL REGATTA – KING'S BIRTHDAY LONG WEEKEND, JUNE 6, 7 & 8TH

As in years past, the more hardy sailors ventured to Lake Keepit for the Keepit Kool regatta. Michael Graham who was a feature of my report last year was not available. Mark Graham (Royal Ocean Racing Yacht Club – London) wasn't there either, though his latest vessel, 'Flying High', a Flying Fifteen was entered but didn't sail. Michael's Star boat 'Twinkle' was sailed by Peter Allan (Ginge) Watkins and came third in the Trailer Sailer Fleet.

Jack Buchan, skipper of 'SoFarr' on Saturdays at LMYC was there with his new purchase a Melges 24 'Kool Runnings'. Jack came 3rd in the Sportsboat and Fast Monohull Fleet. Wade Morgan on 'Release the Hounds' won this division.

Alessi Morgan, Nicholas Drummond and Rocco Morgan were the Junior Winners, sailing 'Release the Hounds'.

I assumed that Alessi and Rocco were Wade's children, but I had to ring their grandfather, LMYC Life Member John Morgan to confirm this. John told me that Wade was in New York and flew home to do Keepit Kool, how good is that!

Other names I recognised in the results were:

Justin Mitchell 'Chronic,' a 505 from RMYC-Toronto

Peta Rose 'Buckle Up', a Boatspeed 23 from NCYC

Lucas Geddes 'Hartless,' a Hartley 21 from RMYC -Toronto

Dave Hill 'Leap of Faith', an Adams 21 from LMYC (a regular for this event). Dave Hill 'Leap of Faith', an Adams 21 from LMYC (a regular for this event).



Junior Winners all fleets Alessi Morgan, Nicholas Drummond and Rocco Morgan sailing "Release the Hounds" presented by Race Officer Evan McHugh

Evan McHugh is a busy man. He is well known for his activities at RMYC-Toronto some of them being:

- Sailing Committee member
- Principal Race Officer
- Protest Co-ordinator
- Handicap Committee
- Equipment Auditor

He is also Vice President of Toronto Amateur Sailing Club and, as above, a Race Officer at Keepit Kool.

WADE MORGAN

As previously mentioned, I rang LMYC Life Member John Morgan (Wade’s dad) and we had our old bloke chat about health issues - just have to do it when you get old. John told me why Wade was in New York. Wade had just competed in the New York to Bermuda Race. Wade was on Bill McKinley’s Mills 58, ‘Denali 4’. Wade had previously supervised the construction of this vessel. They came third on line honours.

Wade was an LMYC Junior Champion with Ben Lamb some 28 years ago sailing an Etchells 22 ‘Wings’ that Russell Cummings (‘ARC’), had loaned them. Wade started work as an apprentice Shipwright but after only 6 months thought he would give professional sailing a crack. Wade has been a professional sailor for 25 years.

Wade is still an LMYC member though Ben Lamb isn’t. Like in “Hotel California”, John is a Life Member, so he can never leave. It would be great if Wade’s boys became Junior Members of LMYC.

John Morgan, for those that don’t know, was LMYC Handicap Committee Chair for a long time. Commodore Geoff and I were on the committee with John for a bit and have firsthand knowledge of John’s skill at handicapping. John was awarded Life Membership for his stellar work as handicapper. It should be noted that the Top Yacht Handicap System which is used by LMYC to run our races, was developed by Rod McCubbin with John’s help. When Rod was in town he would stay at John and Gail’s place. I drove Rod to their place one night and luckily Rod knew where they lived.



Ben Lamb sailing with James Mayo on 'Magpie' (AUS 1526) took out the 2026 Etchells World title in San Diego. This is the third winning crew Ben has been in.

Lamb previously won with legendary John Bertand on 'Triad 2' (AUS 1383) in 2016 and last year with Graeme Taylor on 'Magpie' (AUS 1486).

This was James Mayo's third win too, first as skipper.

In 2004 Peter McNeill (LMYC) with Greg Torpy and Paul Turner won the Etchells World title at Mooloolaba.

Peter McNeill still sails at LMYC with Tom Woods (505 World Champion) on 'Saltwater Wine'. Greg Torpy sailed YW Diamonds and Wind Warriors at LMYC.

He is now sailing One Metre remote control boats. Greg was crew on a Star boat with Colin Beashel at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.



James Mayo, Paul Cayard, and Ben Lamb aboard Magpie AUS 1526 win the 2026 Etchells World Championship at San Diego Yacht Club © Mark Albertazzi

History was made off the coast of San Diego this afternoon as James Mayo, Paul Cayard, and Ben Lamb aboard Magpie AUS 1526 won race 9 of the 2026 Etchells World Championship, securing their place as the 2026 Champions.

“AS I LIVE AND BREATHE ...”

Our Vice Commodore, Garry Van Dijk and others were recently holidaying in Tahiti (though not with Adam Troy from “Adventures In Paradise”).

While enjoying fellowship with his travelling companions in the Bora Bora Bar (Papeete), who do you think should walk in but Michael Graham and Richard Lalor. No wonder Michael wasn't sailing 'Twinkle' at Keepit Kool. Richard and Michael are seen here looking very sea-fairing and sporting beards. (More on this story in a future Forecast).



Photo: Fellowship in Bora Bora Bar - Chris and Annie Molloy, Michael Graham and Garry Van Dijk, Richard Lalor, Michael and Joanne Jones. Christie Van Dijk must be taking the photo.

Making Waves

LMYC was recently contacted by a representative from 'Making Waves'- they are looking for volunteers for their Wright of Passage program. I was delegated by the LMYC Sailing Committee (hang on, I thought I was the "delegator", damn) to look into this. Anyway, I set about doing as I was told.

First, I contacted our mate Mark Clement, 'Beyond Cool', who I know is a volunteer in Newcastle with the 'Making Waves Foundation' (as are Ian Murray 'Aruna' and Antonia Patterson 'Alibi'). From information Mark sent, I was able to source a contact, and I received a call whilst I was enjoying a cool beverage in the Ocean View Hotel at Dudley with my mate Paul Orlandi. Shane Greaves who rang, told me about what they do and how they have equipment at Teralba Amateur Sailing Club and Lake Macquarie High School where Caoimhe (Keeva) Lalor is a teacher (the afore mentioned Richard in the Bora Bora Bar is her hubby). Caoimhe (Keeva) is another volunteer with 'Making Waves' and does a heck of a lot of sailing in our area on heaps of different boats, as does Richard. Shane explained that the 'Making Waves Foundations' Wright of Passage program is for young, disadvantaged people between the ages of 15 to 18 who are looking for learning options outside of the classroom. You can learn more from this [link](#).

Participants in the Wright of Passage program build Rainbow sailing boats. They are launching a newly built one next Tuesday the 30th June at around 11:00 a.m. at the Teralba Amateur Sailing Club and will have a sausage sizzle after. Paul Orlandi and I are going to the launch and will then also enjoy another refreshing beverage at the Great Northern Hotel, Teralba. If you're interested in volunteering your mentorship or woodworking skills, you can attend the launch or contact Shane Greaves at sgreaves@makingwaves.au.

If you can't spare the time or whatever to be a volunteer, then maybe you would like to donate to them



Donate

Get On Board

When you donate before June 30, you're not just giving a gift — you're creating opportunity, confidence and belonging for young people who need it most.

Together, we can continue to grow, reach more communities, and change more lives.

WIND WARRIORS 2026 PRESENTATION DAY

Another afternoon of fun and camaraderie as the winners of the 2025-26 season were honoured. This year "World Champion" Brad Quiggin won just about everything:

The Orrell Cup – pursuit series

The Gun Trophy – most firsts

Fleet Scratch Champion

Photo: Marshall, Brad and me with the Orrell Cup



Photo: Marshall, Brad and me with the Gun Trophy



Photo: Marshall, Brad and me with the Fleet Scratch Champion Trophy



Marshal Harper managed to become the Fleet Handicap Champion. Well done Marshall, somebody had to put Brad in his place

Photo: Marshall and me with Fleet Handicap Champion Trophy



THE TASAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Tasar National Championships will be held from the 3rd of January to the 9th January 2027. These sailors have asked if LMYC members might rent out their boat in the marina for accommodation. The Sailing Committee feels this would be unwise. It was suggested that some of the Tasar sailors might be billeted by LMYC members instead. If you are happy to billet a sailor or two, please contact the Race Office 49450022.

WIND WARRIORS ... again

The Wind Warriors have a boat to lay marks and rescue their remote control boats when something happens - like the batteries go flat, rig collapses etc. 'Ando' John Anderson's (RIP) old Skate is the current boat but it has reached its use by date.

Does anyone have an 8 foot or 10 foot tinny they don't want? We would love to help you be rid of this burden. Contact me here rearcommodore@lmyc.com.au

WHY AREN'T YOU WEARING A LIFE JACKET



History Committee



Most members who have been to the club over the past couple of months will have noticed the historical photos displayed on the photo wall and in the restaurant. The response by members and guests has been fantastic. I have seen many people discussing the photos with friends and taking photos for their own memories. We now have a large historical photo of the LMYC, which will be displayed in the foyer very soon. A big thank you to Peter Shaddock for arranging to have the photo enlarged to the size we wanted.

The history committee would like to identify the people featured in these photos so that we can preserve their names in our records for future generations. If you happen to recognise anyone in any of the photos, please let me know, or feel free to contact another board member.

Vice Commodore
Garry van Dijk





Sailing Regatta's in the season we had for 2025 / 2026 @ LMYC

2025 Huntingfield Cup & Jubilee Class National Championships
 King of the Lake Regatta 2025 inc Multihull NSW Champs
 Emergency Services Regatta
 Lake Macquarie SheSails Regatta 2026
 Adams 10 National Championships 2026

October 2025
 November 2025
 November 2025
 Feb 26 (WASC), Mar 26 (RMYCT), Mar 26 (LMYC)
 February 2026





Sailing Regatta's that are now scheduled @ LMYC

J70 NSW State Championships	October 2026
Emergency Services Regatta 2026	November 2026
Tasar National Championships 2026-27	January 2027
Lake Macquarie SheSails Regatta 2027	Jan 27 (LMYC) Jan 27 (WASC), Feb 27 (RMYCT)
Australian International Dragons Regatta's	February 2027
Adams 10 National Championships 2027	February 2027
International Finns NSW Championships	March 2027
Flying Fifteen Nationals 2028	January 2028
Lake Macquarie SheSails Regatta 2028	January 2028

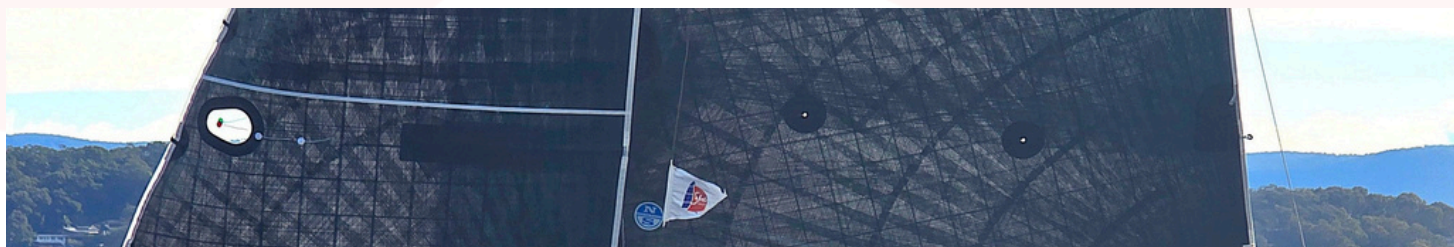




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FROM THE CEO DESK LMYC DISCOVER SAILING CENTRE TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS



As many of you know the club started a Discover Sailing Centre Foundation nearly two years ago. As we approach tax time I just wanted to let members know they can make a fully tax-deductible donation to further the discover sailing Centre using the link below. Any support no matter how big or small goes directly towards helping get new people into sailing.

Campaign details:

LMYC Discover Sailing Centre Foundation - End of financial year donations to support our ongoing investment into our Sport of Sailing @ LMYC

asf.org.au/campaigns/lake-macquarie-yacht-club/lmyc-dsc-2025-26

Follow this link to an on-line Play the Rules Quiz courtesy of Uli and Wolfi Finckh

(<https://game.finckh.net/indexe.htm>).

This offers all levels of difficulty & you can play the game in a number of different ways: by rule number, at different positions around the course, or play it at random but set the difficulty level to suit your needs. It will also provide the rule/s definitions and refer to specific case numbers for further referencing.

This an excellent site, well worth a visit to learn more about the Racing Rules of Sailing and to test your knowledge. It is suitable for both the novice and our expert sailors who think they know the rules (& includes recent updates to 2025-2028 RRS).

The situations by number

Quiz all levels of difficulty

Play the Rules
by Uli and Wolfi Finckh
English by Al Schonborn
Rules update: Jan. 2025

From start to finish

Easy
Medium
Difficult

Racing Rules of Sailing

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JULY COCKTAIL OF THE MONTH

Japanese Slipper \$18

CONTRIEU
MIDORI
LEMON JUICE



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Crusoe's ON THE LAKE

AVAILABLE LUNCH & DINNER

MONDAY
\$15 CHICKEN SCHNITZEL

TUESDAY
\$20 RUMP STEAK

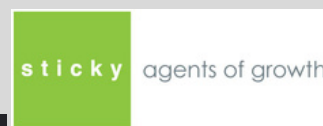
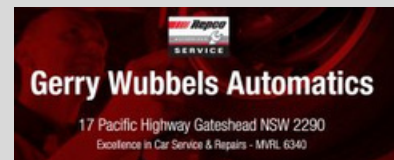
WEDNESDAY
\$20 PASTA

THURSDAY
HOME STYLE CLASSIC

FRIDAY
\$26 BURGER & BEER



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CHRISTMAS IN JULY

INDULGE IN A DECADENT
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ENTERTAINMENT
COMPLIMENTARY DRINK ON
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HOLIDAY CHEER.

JULY
2026

24

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RIVERS**

SUN 5TH



**BRYCE
HUTCHINGS**

FRI 10TH



**TED
NASH**

SUN 12TH



**VERONIKA
LAWSON**

FRI 17TH



**DARREN
ROLLING
KEYS**

SUN 19TH



**EMILY A
SMITH**

FRI 24TH



**ROBB
RYAN**

SUN 26TH



**CLAUDIA
MACKAY**

FRI 31ST



**CHRIS
WILCOX**