

FORECAST

Monthly Newsletter from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club



COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

Forecast – July 2026

With July behind us we have only a one more winter race to go. We are all looking forward to, and planning, for the upcoming spring/ summer season.

Our sailing committee led by Rear Commodore Phil Cunningham and assistant d by Sailing Manager Simon Turpin have reviewed previous white books and programs, consulted with other clubs and are putting the final touches to the racing program.

Our Cruising Division committee lead by the Skipper, Tony Austin, have been very active coming up with interesting speakers for their general meetings and organising on water activities for all their members. I found last months speaker Akin from Ala Diving Services very interesting.

He gave a very comprehensive account of underwater cleaning and maintenance of your boat.

We will open the sailing season on Saturday 4th September with the usual Sail Past. The theme for this year is your favourite Superhero. There are great prizes for **'best dressedboat'** and **'best dressed crew'**, so get your crew organised, come up with a plan, decorate your boat and crew and show everyone what *Super Hero's* you really are!

In the following pages is a copy of the original minutes and whilst the flowery wording is there the beautiful copperplate handwriting in the original minutes is not available to us. It was a delight to read Hunter St. They were Tobacconists and Hairdressers and the shop was on the southern side, between Bolton and Newcommen Streets.

Minutes of the inaugural meeting.

Minutes of meeting of proposed amateur sailing club at the shop of G. Campbell at 83 Hunter Street, Newcastle on Wednesday 25th. September, 1929 at 8pm.

Present: Messrs A.V.Toll, G.Campbell, W.Campbell, A.Young, R..Gardiner, J.Bennett, J.F.Biddlecombe, and J.G.Biddlecombe, Dr.G. Blumer and Dr.R. Pittar.

Chair: Mr. A.V.Toll was unanimously elected to the chair.

Secretary : Mr. J.G.Biddlecombe was elected Secretary pro-tem.

Proposal to form Amateur Sailing Club: The Chairman reported having convened the meeting at the request of several boat owners, and a full discussion took place as to the advisability of forming an amateur sailing club for yachts. It was recorded on the motion of Mr.J.F.Biddlecomb, seconded by Mr. J. Bennett and carried unanimously that a club be formed to be called " Lake Macquarie Yacht Club"

Rules: The matter of Rules for the running of the club and regulations governing the races was fully discussed. It was moved by G.Campbell, seconded by Mr.R.Gardiner and carried that the Secretary obtain a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Sydney Amateur Sailing Club and the British Yacht Racing Association for submission to the next meeting of members.

Membership: It was moved by Mr.J.F.Biddlecomb seconded by Dr.G.Blumer and carried that the membership fee be fixed at five shillings (5/-) per member and that those present be registered as members on payment of the fee fixed. All future members to be duly proposed and seconded by members of the club and elected at a meeting for members. It was subsequently moved by Mr.G.Campbell and seconded by Mr.A.Young that boys and youths up to 18 years of age be admitted as Junior Members at an annual subscription of two shillings and sixpence and that the annual subscription of all lady members be two shillings and sixpence. Carried.

The membership subscription of all those present was duly received by the Secretary and they were declared elected.

Election of Officers: A full discussion took place as to the advisability of electing all the officers of the club and it was resolved that only those offices necessary for the conducting of the club's affairs be filled, the remainder to be held over to a later meeting. The following officers were then duly elected.

President: Mr.A.V.Toll

Commodore: Mr.R.Gardiner

Vice-Commodore: Dr. G.Blumer

Secretary: Mr.J.G.Biddlecombe

Treasurer: Mr.J.G.Biddlecombe pro-tem

Handicapper: Mr.J.F. Biddlecombe

It was also resolved that the gentlemen present form a committee for the time being with Mr.A.V.Toll as Chairman.**Quorum:** business.

It was resolved on the motion of Mr.J.F.Biddlecombe seconded by Mr.G.Campbell and carried that five (5) members of the committee personally present form a quorum for the transaction of all **Meeting Place:** and it was decided that his offer be availed of.

Mr.W.Campbell kindly offered the use of his shop as a meeting place for the club

Registration of Boats: It was recorded on the motion of Mr.G.Campbell and seconded by Mr.A.Young that the acceptance of all boats to be placed on the Club's register be left in the hands of the Committee, but that all 16ft.skiffs registered with a recognized 16ft.Sailing Club be excluded and that for the time being no "extras" be allowed in races. Carried. The following boats were then accepted and placed on the Club's register.

Boat Owner or Owners

"Rover" Messrs W& G.Campbell

"Sirius" DR.G.Blumer

"Geraldine" Mr.R.Gardiner

"Thelma" Mr.A.Young

"Frolic" Mr.A.V.Toll

"Flibbittigibbet" Mr.J.Bennett

"Jago" Mr.J.G.Biddlecombe

It was also resolved that no fee for the registration of boats with the Club be charged.

Programme for Races: It was resolved on the motion of Mr.R.Gardiner seconded by Dr.G.Blumer that a race be held every third week-end with the club cruises during the intervening week ends.

A full discussion took place as to the date of the commencement of the season and it was decided that the matter

be left over to the next meeting.

Trophy: he was thanked for his offer.

Mr.AV.Toll stated that he would donate a cup for a Handicap Point Score competition and

Burgee of the Club: The matter of the selection of a Burgee design for the Club was discussed and it was resolved that designs be submitted by the members at the next meeting.

Selection of Course for Races: The matter of the selection of a course for races to be held by the club was fully discussed and it was resolved on the motion of Mr. G. Campbell seconded by Mr. R Gardiner and carried that the matter be left in the hands of the committee.

Date of next meeting: It was resolved on the Motion of Dr. G. Blumer seconded by Mr. A Young that that the next meeting be held at the Mr.G. Campbell's shop on Wednesday 2nd.October 1929 at 8 p.m.

General Business: The Clubs affairs generally were discussed and the meeting then terminated.

Click here to read Ray's full story on the *beginning*

<https://www.lmyc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/LMYC-The-Begining-1-002.pdf>

Centenary celebrations

The board is planning for our 100th Anniversary and are calling for our members to tell us what events you would like included. I am suggesting that there are various activities over several months. If you have an idea that you think would be great for the celebration, please contact one of our directors.

Vale Tubby Reid (Doug)

Members are advised of the recent passing of Tubby Reid(Doug). Tubby better known for his time racing skiffs where he was a legend having won a World Championship and several Australian and State Championships also raced at LMYC up till the mid-Nighties. His last yacht, a Farr 1104, bore the name Gazeway like all his boats. The Skiff Gazeway is a feature in the Boat-shed Bar at Belmont 16's Boat-shed. Doug's funeral service will be held on Friday 7 August followed by a gathering at Belmont 16' where Doug was a life member.

See you around the Club.

Geoff Edman

Commodore

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REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT JULY 2026



Sunday Winter Series

If you remember last year's LMYC Sunday Winter Series got "exciting" (possibly not) towards the end.

My "Ship Mate", Richard Martin, 'Nefertiti' won with 21 points ahead of 'Dulci Bella' on 28 points.

Last year they had four races abandoned so no drops. 'Dulci Bella' had missed a race and was scored 16 for that race. On the other hand 'Nefertiti' had raced every race. A lead of 7 looked good but should a drop have happened, 'Dulci Bella' on 28 and dropping a 16, the result would have been very different.

The Sunday Winter Series has been designed with a lot of drops due to the weather being quite different to summer. Usually very little wind one week and blowing your socks off the next, like last year. This year has been quite good with only two blowy days.

This year our boat 'Equinox' has been competing in the Sunday Winter Series.

Two weeks ago we had a very pleasant day of 9 to 13 knots which was terrific for 'Equinox'.

Edward Rigby, 'Windy Point' an Adams 8 with a very nice yellow assy is well in the lead, you might say "unassailable" as the journalist do say, being 9 points ahead with one race to go.

By the time you read this it will be history.

Congratulations Ed and team on a job well done.

At the start of the series Tom Dawson, 'Intoxic8' also an Adams 8 was going extremely well but Tom decided to work on his recently acquired house.

Brett Lewis, 'JAM' a J24 has sailed the series single handed.

Last Sunday 'JAM' came first which lifted him to third for the series, one point behind 'Equinox' 32 points in 2nd. Tim Litchfield's 'Dulci Bella' is 4th on 35 points with Derek and Rusty Reed, 'Flying Colours' coming 5th, 38 points. Jeff Payne has missed a few races and so 'Capè Diem' has seized 6th on 43 points. The other boats have missed a lot of races and so next is on 83 points.

Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race 2026

Touted to be the coldest race on the "local" sailing calendar though the crew of 'Santana' might disagree. The Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race got under way on Saturday the 25th July at 13:00.

Good coverage of the start on the CYCA Channel on YouTube was live but if you missed it, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKRMeS7u07c>



Photo: Tom Dawson (helm), 'Smuggler' leading the fleet out of Sydney Harbour (YouTube)



Glen Picasso (co-owner/skipper), co-owner Glenn Bulmer, Trent Butler (navigator), Glenn Brown, Joshua Cornford, Mark Graham, Kath Hall, Matthew Hill, Sarah Howard, Patrick Tanner, Mark Virtue.



New White Book (LMYC Sailing Instructions)

The LMYC Sailing Committee has decided on a few changes to the Sailing Instruction this coming season.

1. Wednesday, Friday etc pay for race at the bar but report POB, sail # via VHF when on the water. This tests your VHF and provides an accurate number of POB. Exception to this is if the Race Committee Vessel (RCV) is being used (Wednesday and Saturday) you can sail past the stern of the RCV on starboard tack and hail the information. This is a DPI (discretionary penalty imposed) and the penalty is scored DNC (did not compete).
2. As much as we like the challenge of single handed sailing the repercussions for LMYC have to be considered. It has been decided that a minimum of 2 crew is required.

'Smuggler' a JV TP52 owned by Sebastian Bohm has claimed line honours. Tom Dawson as well as sailing 'Intoxic8' in the LMYC Sunday Winter Series (a few races) and Friday Twilights is also a crew member of 'Smuggler', helm in fact. Tom also skippers 16 foot skiffs 'MTM Signage' and 'Infinity Rigging' at St George 16s. Tom has also become a member of LMYC's Sailing Committee of late. It's great to have youth and a person with Tom's sailing experience on the committee. Local boats with crew I know of are:

'Saltwater Wine'

Tom Woods (owner/skipper, 1985-505 World Champion), Kingsley Piesse (navigator, 42 Hobarts), Peter McNeill (2004 Etchells world champion), Clyde Freeman, David O'dowd.

'She's The Culprit'

'Challenge' Richard Lalor (navigator) Caoimhe (Keaver) Lalor

'Frantic' Mick Martin (owner/skipper, Wallaby), David Blakemore (president of the Police and Emergency Services Sailing Club), Tony Gango and others.

I'm sure there are other LMYC sailors like Damien Parer on 'Mako' I haven't mentioned.



LMYC Cruising Division

Recently the CD had it's monthly outing at the "Duck Hole". If you don't know where the "Duck Hole" is, you may well be confused if on looking at a chart or Google Earth when it turns out to be a small land locked lagoon. The un-named bay next it is known as the "Duck Hole". It's generally about

3.1m deep until you get in really close to the western side. Bird Cage Point can be easily be found on charts, Maps etc.

The "**Duck Hole**" is not that far past the Trinity Point Marina and west of Wyee Point.

The LMYC CD had their monthly outing there, a Fire Pit which is a bowl out of a washing machine or dryer to retain the ashes. The bowl is one of Fred Seysener's many great ideas. Toasting marshmallows was the done thing. Not as easy as one might think. The novice toasters managed to drop quite a few into the fire or on the ground. Seems they stick to wood better. They slide off steel skewers.

Ultimately a can of Carlton 3.5 was a better thing to consume.

Melted marshmallows between two chocolate coated biscuits is very sweet.

It was a great outing for a winter's night.

LMYC 2026-27 Racing Season

July is over and so we only have one month to the start of the new season. Equipment Audits are due and since November 2025 CAT 7 requires a VHF either fixed or hand held. The LMYC Sailing Instructions have required a VHF for some years now but VHF wasn't part of the CAT 7 audit this year it is.

Why aren't you wearing a life jacket?
That's all folks.





SHE SAILS@NCYC OPEN REGATTA

29-30 August, 2026



Join us where it all
started 10 years ago



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DRAWN
EVERY
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COCKTAILS! ON THE WATER!

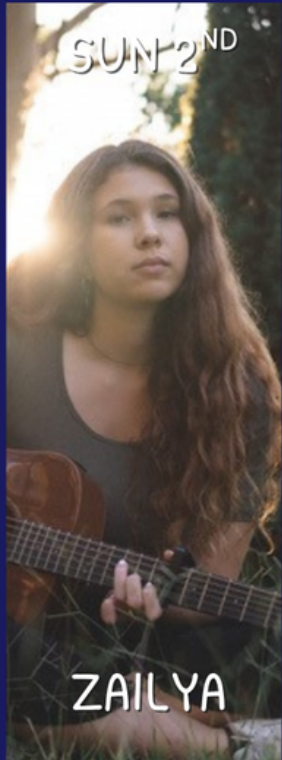
LIVE MUSIC



AUGUST 2026



Every Friday 5:30-8:30pm & Sunday 12:30-4pm



Lake Macquarie Yacht Club's Wedding Open Day



FREE
ENTRY

SUNDAY AUGUST
16TH

10am - 2pm

Lakeside Pavilion
& our Bridgedeck Space
We can't wait to see you!

Photo by Shani Wegner Photography



love you! 11

AUGUST COCKTAIL OF THE MONTH

*French
Martini*

\$18

CHAMBORD
VODKA
PINEAPPLE



LAKE MACQUARIE
YACHT CLUB