



# Devonport Yacht Club News



March 2016

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## FROM THE QUARTERDECK A Report from Rear Commodore Geoff Evans



We had a lovely summer cruise. As the kids were overseas, we set off on Christmas day and spent the first week cruising the Hauraki Gulf, meeting up with friends in Waiheke, Coromandel, Kawau and Mahurangi. We were all expecting typical El Nino conditions with plenty of westerlies and off-shore breezes, but as we all know, we got predominantly easterly breezes and easterly swell. That made for fast passage-making, but some of our favourite anchorages were uncomfortable. A couple of days of heavy rain drowned our plotter, so we had to navigate with Navionics on the iPhone! We then sailed north to the Bay of Islands, and had one of our best dolphin encounters in Paradise Bay. There was a family wedding up in Totara North, so son Gareth, daughter Melissa, and her partner joined us aboard for some time in the Cavallies and Whangaroa harbour. Bob and Sheila, our boat partners took over the boat in Doves bay and we drove their car back to town. So after a couple of days of jury service, it's been back to work with new classes and responsibilities.

Last night we had the first of our Seatalks (our education talks) for the year. Artist David Barker's talk 'Art of the Sea' was a great success. There was a really good crowd, and because blackout had been installed we could more fully appreciate his beautiful images. He focussed on perspective and succeeded in making his art accessible, providing an insight into the creativity involved; be it yacht design, his photographs, or the composition of his paintings and prints. There was plenty of variety, good pace, and the wide range of stories kept our interest throughout. Among 'the notables' in the audience were: Ralph Roberts early Olympic Flying Dutchman sailor; Chris Smith owner of the yacht Moana that was featured in the publicity poster; John Street, a prime mover in the marine industry, the Classic Yachts Trust (he had donated the Foster's calendar prints of historic NZ vessels and 150th Foster's catalogue showing many of the paintings); Jim Young, designer



and builder of NZ's most inventive power and sailboats; Gordon and Phyllis Miller, builders and owners of C2 'Stratosphere, Phil and Helen Hart owners of C3 'Sundreamer'; Dave Skyrme, owner of the scow 'Owhiti', Peter Sewell, boat designer and builder, son of Ralph Sewell who designed and built the 'Breeze'; Peter Montgomery, the yachting broadcaster; Bruce Tantrum RNZ Squadron yachtsman and model maker; Tony and Fiona Blake, artist and skipper of classic yacht 'Thelma'; and some of David's friends and relatives.

Our next Seatalk is a couple of weeks away. On the 17th March (please note the date in your dairies) we feature Tom and Vicky Jackson, who will be on their way back from New York having just been awarded the Blue Water Medal by the Cruising Club of America (the Nobel prize for cruising sailors!). The Jacksons were cited for their extensive cruising and racing over the past 34 years aboard their 40' Sparkman & Stephens-designed Sunstone. On the now nearly 50-year-old sloop, they covered close to 200,000 miles, including a circumnavigation.

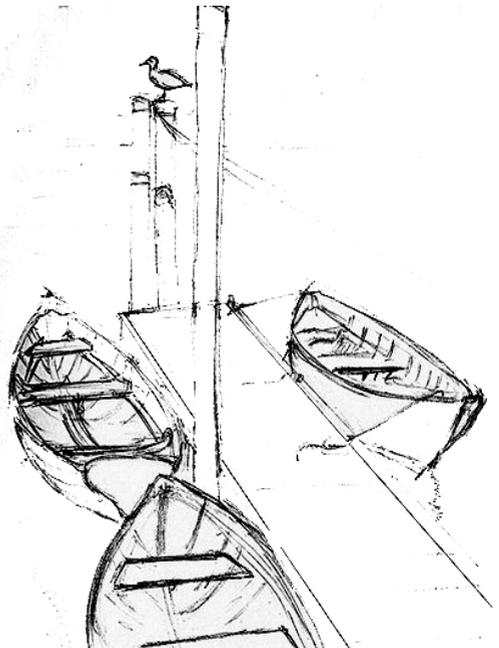
We're aiming to make the Seatalk a monthly event, so do keep a look out for details in the Club newsletters and on the website and come along.

We've enjoyed being able to compete in some of the Club races, but missed out on the night race to Mahurangi and regatta over Anniversary weekend. Renown was still out with the partners. Last weekend we raced around the cans in the Duder Cup, but there was some confusion in our division, as the Flax Point racing buoy was not on station. Of course, I was reminded by the officer of the day, Matt Kemp, that we should have proceeded to the mark's GPS position, then do the rounding. We were like headless chooks for a while! And it looks like we'll miss out on the Easter cruise, as my brother, Howard, will be over from Australia and is planning on taking Renown out to the Barrier.

It was good to meet some of the new members at the Club at this last weekend's meet. I met with Tony McNeight who runs Travel Sketching (he might be persuaded to run a course at Club), as well as Matt and Elizabeth (I didn't get their surname), who have just bought Young Blood, a Young 88. They were just back from their 3 week honeymoon aboard in the Bay of Islands. They're keen to get involved with the Club. And on the theme of membership, we're keen to hear how we can extend the age range of Club membership. If you have any suggestions please email me on [geoff.jane.evans@gmail.com](mailto:geoff.jane.evans@gmail.com).

Enjoy the golden weather and good sailing!

Geoff Evans  
27th Feb 2016



# DIRECTORY UPDATE



A warm welcome to our newest members.

## DYC NEW MEMBERSHIP

Member	Boat Name	Design	Sail#	Call sign
<b>Family Membership</b>				
Jean-Francois & Ronie Richeux	Shantung	Lidgard	2905	
<b>Ordinary Membership</b>				
Lloyd Rees				
<b>Associate Membership</b>				
Colin & Anne Dawson				
Alex & Patricia Starr				
Avril Balmer & Kim Stone				



The Blah Blah Catering Co 16 Ellerslie Park Road, Ellerslie, Auckland  
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# Devonport Yacht Club Notice Board



## NEWSLETTERS

At the January 2016 Committee meeting it was decided to phase out hard copy posted Newsletters. The March 2016 Newsletter will be the last one received by post if you have an email address registered with the Club. This will also be the last hard copy newsletter. From April 2016 there will be no hard copy posted out, with the exception of a handful of members who do not have email and who we will continue to ensure receive the newsletter. There will only be an email notification that the Newsletter has been posted on the web site and where to find it. This has the following advantages:

- It will save the Club the cost of photocopying and postage.
- It dramatically reduces the file size of the email.
- Recipients can choose when and in what environment they choose to download and view it. (Some issues could be quite large in file size if there are a lot of images)

MATT KEMP



## DYC DINGHY LOCKERS

There remain several dinghy lockers that have recently been vacated and are available for hire. They are Nos. 9, 30, 45, and 49.

Dimensions vary slightly but most are a bit over 3 metres in length and with about 1.3 metres width at the doors. Worth a look if you need the storage.

Cost \$80 per year .. but if you buy now we will only charge you \$40 for the balance of this billing period.

Dinghy lockers are not available for rent to associate members.

Email [treasurer@dyc.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@dyc.org.nz) or phone 489 7850





## “”YOU’RE INVITED””

The Tauranga Yacht & Power Boat Club, supported by the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron, would like to invite you to New Zealand's oldest coastal yacht race, Auckland to Tauranga, starting the day before Easter, on 24 March 2016.

Over \$5,000 in prizes to be won!!!!

This year's event is set to attract a spirited array of participants at the start line.

It's all about Sailing

To enter please go to: <http://www.aucklandtotauranga.org.nz>

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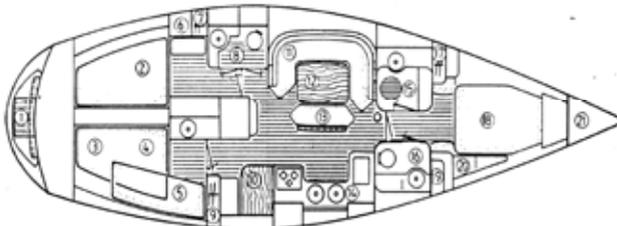


## CARIBBEAN CRUISING AND RACING OPPORTUNITIES

Eduardo Lentz owns a Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 44, based in the island of Antigua, which he charts for cruising, and racing in the Caribbean circuit (Heineken, St. Barth, Antigua Sailing Week, etc.)



Voilactus, has the following layout:



- |   |                       |  |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| 1 Teak-banded transom extension         | 8 After head          | 15 Forward cabin shower compartment      |
| 2 Double berth aft cabin portside       | 9 Hanging locker      | 16 Forward cabin toilet compartment      |
| 3 Double berth aft cabin starboard side | 10 Navigation station | 17 Hanging locker                        |
| 4 Diesel tank compartment               | 11 Saloon settee      | 18 Double berth in owner's cabin forward |
| 5 Single bunk berth                     | 12 Saloon table       | 19 Storage unit                          |
| 6 Storage unit with shelving aft cabin  | 13 Saloon settee      | 20 Storage shelf                         |
| 7 Hanging locker                        | 14 Galley             | 21 Chain locker                          |

Voilactus is very well-outfitted for regattas, with several sail combinations, including spinnaker. She has placed second in Antigua Sailing Week for two years in a row. The skippers (vary with the event) are highly qualified, and very experienced, having sailing to many islands, and in several of the races.

V151003





# Tom and Vicky Jackson

## Blue Water Medalists

The Cruising Club of America (CCA) has selected Tom and Vicky Jackson to receive the Blue Water Medal, established in 1923 to recognize “a meritorious example of seamanship.” The Jacksons were cited for their extensive cruising and racing over the past 34 years aboard their 40’ Sparkman & Stephens-designed *Sunstone*. On the now nearly 50-year-old sloop, they covered close to 200,000 miles, including a circumnavigation. The medal will be presented at the Club’s annual Awards Dinner in New York on March 4, 2016.

Blue Water Medalists have included such luminaries of the sailing world as Rod Stephens, Eric and Susan Hiscock, Sir Francis Chichester, Eric Tabarly, Pete Goss and Bernard Moitessier.



Tom and Vicky Jackson will be giving an illustrated talk at Devonport Yacht Club, 7.30pm 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016. All welcome. The club bar will be open.

Devonport Yacht Club, 7.30pm, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2016





# Marine Protected Areas Consultation Document

## *Protect Our Oceans - Improve Our Marine Protected Areas*

The long-awaited proposed new Marine Protected Areas legislation [public consultation document](#) has been released by the Ministry for the Environment. Public submissions are due 11 March 2016.

### **Have your say. New Zealand's oceans and marine wildlife need your help.**

This may be the one chance in our lifetimes to create legislation that allows meaningful protection of our oceans. Let's make sure the Government gets it right. Together, we have the opportunity to turn the Marine Protected Areas Act proposal into a bill that genuinely protects our marine ecosystems and wildlife.

### **Key Messages**

- Current legislation is 45 years old and only allows Marine Reserves to be established for *scientific* purposes. It also gives extremely high weight to the objections of *all* other users of an area. So we **need new legislation that supports the creation of Marine Reserves for conservation values.**
- Support the proposed legislation's commitment to **delivering a meaningful network of representative Marine Reserves** (fully protected, no-take areas) and other Marine Protected Areas. These areas must contain representative examples of the full range of marine communities and ecosystems, and also outstanding, rare, distinctive or important marine habitats. Marine protected areas need to meet their objectives and achieve conservation outcomes.
- The proposed legislation EXCLUDES ALL OF THE EEZ which is 96% of our marine environment. So say you want to **include the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and Extended Continental Shelf in the new MPA legislation.** We want to have a say in how our marine environment should be fairly and equitably used. **If we can fish, mine and drill in the EEZ, it is essential that we protect parts of it too.**
- The proposed legislation puts a strong emphasis on the economy. We believe that **protection of the marine environment should not be constrained by short-term economic interests**, and that no-take Marine Reserves provide significant opportunities for *sustainable* business ventures in underwater tourism and eco-tourism.
- It is proven that Recreational Fishing Parks do not protect, restore or enhance biodiversity. Recreational fishing parks are not biodiversity conservation tools. This fisheries management tool is *already available* in the Fisheries Act and should remain there along with similar tools. We suggest the category of **recreational fishing parks be removed from the proposed legislation.**
- **If you love diving and snorkeling let them know** you are sick of looking at an empty ocean and want more accessible, fully protected marine reserves so you can see marine life in all its diverse and bountiful nature.



# THE CASTAWAY DOG WHO NEVER GAVE UP

## BY SAIL-WORLD CRUISING

*Sophie Tucker - Castaway dog Sail-World (JPJ)*

When Jan Griffith's much-loved dog, Sophie Tucker, was washed overboard in stormy seas as the family were cruising on their yacht off Mackay on the east coast of Australia, she believed that her pet had drowned.

Despite a frantic search there was no sign of the animal and Mrs Griffiths and her husband, Dave, resigned themselves to never seeing their dog again. Their children bought their parents a new pet — a red cattle dog named Ruby — and life slowly got back to normal.

Unknown to her owners, Sophie Tucker, a black and tan cattle dog, was not a quitter. It seems that the determined pet swam five nautical miles through seas uninhabited by sharks to an island, where she survived for more than four months by eating wild goats.

The story of the canine Robinson Crusoe came to light after park rangers heard reports that a cattle dog had been sighted on St Bees Island, a nature reserve off northeast Queensland renowned for its koalas.

Faced with starvation, the dog reverted to her wild instincts and began hunting and eating feral goats that roam the largely uninhabited island. Reports from the rangers, who believed Sophie to be a wild dog, suggested that she had lost a lot of weight in her first few weeks as a castaway but soon began to look fit and healthy. The carcasses of baby goats were discovered soon afterwards.

Months later Mrs Griffith heard the reports of a cattle dog loose on the island and contacted the

rangers in the hope that Sophie had survived. 'She had become wild and vicious,' Mrs Griffith said. 'She wouldn't let anyone go near her or touch her.'

Mrs Griffith said some locals believed the dog was regularly swimming back and forth several hundred metres between St Bees and Keswick Island to hunt.

She said that Sophie Tucker, named after an American music hall entertainer, had been on deck with the family as they sailed past the Whitsunday Islands in November when winds began to whip up the waves. Suddenly she had disappeared.

'We hit a rough patch and when we turned around the dog was gone,' Mrs Griffith said. 'We were able to backtrack to look for her, but because it was a grey day we just couldn't find her and we searched for well over an hour. We thought that once she had hit the water she would have been gone because the wake from the boat was so big.'

Sophie was returned when the Griffiths arranged to meet rangers who brought the dog to the mainland. Mrs Griffith said: 'We called the dog and she started whimpering and banging the cage and they let her out and she just about flattened us. She wriggled around like a mad thing.'

Viki Lomax, of RSPCA Australia, in Queensland, said that Sophie was lucky not to have drowned or been eaten by a shark. 'If this had been a Pomeranian, I don't think it would have been a happy ending,' she said.



Caroline Bower, of the Veterinary Hospital Group, said that certain types of dogs could summon their wild instincts if their survival depended on it.

'Although all dogs share 95 per cent of their genes with the wolf, there are certain dogs with more predatory instincts,' she said. 'A King Charles cavalier would be poles apart from a collie, a cattle dog or a sheep dog. Herding breeds still have a strong instinct to chase. The only reason they don't catch and kill the animal they're trained to look after is because they're carefully trained. When driven by hunger you would expect them to revert.'

Sophie Tucker has readjusted quickly to the comforts of home, Mrs Griffiths said. 'She surprised us all. She was a house dog and look what she's done. She's swum over five nautical miles, she's managed to live off the land all on her own. We wish she could talk, we truly do.'

As for Ruby, the two canines are now the best of friends.



# STORIES FROM THE PAST



Over the coming months I will include some old naval sayings, which will intrigue all and offer an explanation as to their origin. (Reproduced with kind permission of the RNZN Museum)

## **Show your true colours:**

Reveal where your sympathies lie

A ship's flags were known as 'colours', and flying them made identifying the ship easier from a distance. If the captain of a ship wanted to confuse an enemy, flags of other nations were flown, until just prior to engagement when etiquette ruled that the ship fly its real colours. (See also nail one's colours to the mast and pass with flying colours.)

## **Skylarking:**

Having fun; mucking about

During rest periods, sailors raced up and down the rigging; something encouraged by the officers as it kept the crew fit.

## **Sling your hook:**

Go away

What one sailor might say to another in the next hammock wanting him to move elsewhere, to sling his hammock somewhere else.

## **Slush fund:**

Money that is separate and kept secret from other funds

Slush was the term for waste or surplus fat or grease from fried salt pork, a significant portion of a sailor's diet. The ship's cook collected and sold this slush in port in order to buy little 'luxuries' for the crew. (See also money for old rope.)

## **Son of a gun:**

Person who may have done something to surprise, annoy, disappoint, or be admired

The son of a liaison between a civilian woman, allowed on board whilst ships were in port prior to the 1840s, and an unnamed sailor was recorded in the ship's log as a 'son of a gun', implying that the child was conceived on the gun deck.

## **Sound off:**

Express an opinion forcefully

When a sailor measured the water's depth, he would shout out, or 'sound off' the number of fathoms. (See also plumb the depths and swing the lead.)

CR Leech ED\*

Past Commodore

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## Book Review

# A MANUAL OF SAIL TRIM.

By Stuart H Walker. Paperback, 0.33kg, 135m x 203mm, 251 pages, Line Drawings. Published 1985, but still in print as it has a proven track record.

A guide for racing covers the principles of sail trim, crew movement techniques, manoeuvres, and sail control systems, and gives advice on adjusting to special conditions (Upwind, Reaching, Running) and organisation. All set out in clear chapters with subheadings to cover all aspects of sail trim. It is illustrated with line drawings to further enhance the understanding of the topics.

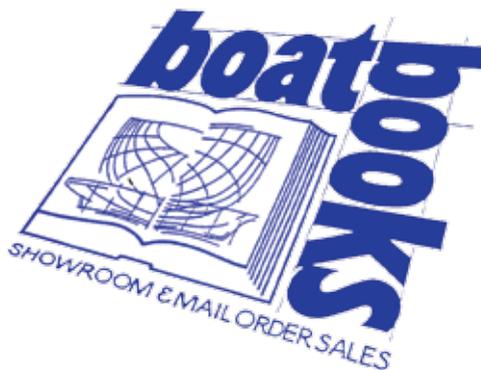
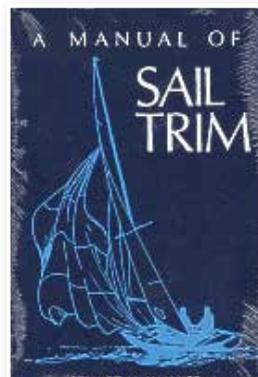
Here is your chance to win all the club races as this book will give you the advantage over the competition.

NZ\$42.00.

Kind regards,

Marianne Bosman

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