

The Devonport Yacht Club News

Auckland New Zealand

(Established 1905)

MARCH 2019

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36° 49'.87 S

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HOME OF THE DUDER CUP



FROM THE QUARTERDECK

A REPORT FROM COMMODORE

Geoff Evans

What amazing cruising conditions this year! Jane and I set off on Renown the day after the DYC Christmas Dinner and anchored for the first night in North Cove Kawanu.

Aiming for Tutukaka we set off at the crack of dawn and had to motor sail up to Sail Rock before a decent breeze arrived, and that was on the nose. We emailed ahead to book a marina berth and managed to get in before the office closed to pick up swipe card and shower tokens. That night we ate fish and chips in the game fish Club (actually not as good as our usual fare at DYC!). We had dreams of breakfasting at the Snapper Rock café the next day but decided to head off early as light headwinds were forecast for the trip up to the Bay of Islands. We left in really thick fog which meant for some anxious coasting because the AIS wasn't working. And then we experienced the heaviest rain imaginable and became concerned about being hit by lightning. Thinking back to a lesson from my school physics teacher I put the phones and iPads in the oven (faraday cage!). We rounded Cape Brett and anchored with nearby some friends on Explorer in Paradise Bay, Urupukapuka.

We had booked Renown in for a couple of days in Bay of Islands marina so we could stay with the family in Keri Keri over Christmas and enjoyed a very social time before heading out into the Bay again. This season we had a two inflatable stand-up paddle boards (SUPs) with us so we enjoyed exploring the anchorages, the caves, the creeks, playing with the dolphins and even circumnavigating Okahu Island! They are great fun.



After New Year we sailed further north and anchored overnight in the Cavallis. The next day was excellent sailing up to Whangaroa Harbour (where more of our far-flung family live). We didn't realise until we'd anchored up in the Western Arm that we had lost both of our SUP paddles over the side - disaster! Realising our loss, we got straight onto the supplier in Auckland and managed to get a good price for replacements and then arranged for my brother Howard to bring them up a few days later when he and sister in law Luda came up to join us aboard Renown.



So the two couples aboard enjoyed more excellent sailing and exploring more of the Bay of Islands, meeting up with friends, particularly when there was a good feed of fish to be had. Us Evans' are not good at fishing! We then we sailed down the coast, enjoyed some spectacular walks around Whangarei Heads, and onto Great Barrier for the walk up to the remains of the kauri dams (these had been washed away in a storm in 2014) and back to Auckland via Waiheke. All in all, a wonderful cruise and a month at sea!

DYC works manager Ken Smith and his wife Lee probably get the gong for the most adventurous DYC cruise this summer. With son Haddon they sailed their boat Matarii down to South Island and then onto Stewart Island. I've seen some of their lovely shots on their Facebook page and am really hoping we can persuade them to write a feature article for next month's newsletter and also give a DYC Seataks later in the year!

Meanwhile, I'm back at work teaching my Economics and Geography classes. Jane retired at the end of last year and this week returned from a 3 week visit to back to the UK to see her folks in Hampshire, and enjoy some quality time with our daughter and son in law Emily and Chris and our grandson Miles (now 14 months old) in London. While she was away our eldest daughter Melissa and boyfriend Nick volunteered for the Ladies helm race. Even though 30 knot winds meant that the race was postponed, quite a few boats ventured out and Melissa helmed Renown down to Owhanake. There was a friendly fleet of DYC boats in the bay that evening and we all enjoyed great food and company at the BBQ on the beach.

As we reported in last month's Newsletter the DYC yachts did exceptionally well in the Auckland Anniversary Day Regatta Mahurangi Passage race from Mahurangi to Westhaven race, with a clean sweep of prizes. The prize giving clashed with the date for the first management committee meeting of the year, so we postponed the meeting for a week. As I had another engagement daughter Melissa and friend Nick picked up prize but as you'll see below missed out featuring in the photo!



Because our management committee meeting was delayed a week the minutes haven't yet arrived, there hasn't been an opportunity for Mark Clough to put his regular Flying the Flag, a Word or Two from Your Committee report so we'll aim to get this to you next month. At the time of writing the Round New Zealand Race fleet is on their lay-over in Stewart Island. DYC's Sally Garrett and Rob Croft on Coppelias Expeditions are lying 3rd on PHRF handicap and 4th in Line Honours. We wish them well for the next leg to Napier, and then back to Auckland!

As you might have read already the Back to Rocky Bay Ball is on later in the month. This (sort of) formal social event follows the race down to the bay of the same name. We're looking forward to this!



DYC Seataks got off to a good start earlier in February. University of Auckland marine scientist and lecturer Dr Andrew Jeffs spoke really well about the state of the marine environment of the Hauraki Gulf and what we can do to help improve this. DYC associate member William Atkinson has written an excellent article about the talk (see later in this newsletter).

Andrew Jeffs has sent the following information to pass onto our members:



As part of Seaweek 2019 the Institute of Marine Studies is hosting the annual Bill Ballantine Memorial Lecture on March 7th from 7-9 pm on the city campus (OGGB Lecture theatre 4 - (OGGB4/260-073). We are lucky to have two visiting international experts who will be speaking on how climate change is affecting

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rocky shore and kelp forest ecosystems (see below), and I will follow up with a talk on warming trends and marine heatwaves in NZ.

Bill Ballantine Memorial lecture: Changing ecology in a changing ocean

Understanding the impacts of environmental change has become one of the key challenges of our time. Long-term ecological and environmental data is crucial in understanding how much our natural world has changed, and why. This year's Bill Ballantine Memorial lecture will involve presentations from three marine ecologists on long-term changes in coastal ecosystems from Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

“The changing ecology of rocky shorelines, from Canada to New Zealand” Professor Chris Harley (University of British Columbia) Using historical and long-term ecological data Dr Harley will describe how rocky shores on the Pacific coast of North America have been impacted by climate change. He will also discuss ongoing ecological change on New Zealand rocky shores by comparing data collected in the last few months to older studies, including work done by Bill Ballantine himself.

“Species on the move and the tropicalisation of Australia’s Great Southern Reef” Associate Professor Adriana Verges (University of New South Wales)

Dr Verges will explain the large-scale changes occurring as a result of climate change in temperate Australia, and specifically how the arrival of tropical species is changing the ecology of the Great Southern Reef.

“Long-term warming and heatwaves in New Zealand waters: tropicalisation or homogenisation?” Associate Professor Nick Shears (University of Auckland)

Using long-term seawater temperature data collected from the Leigh and Portobello marine laboratories Dr Shears will explain how warming trends and the occurrence of heatwaves varies around New Zealand and what this might mean for our coastal ecosystems.



Like most boating people we're keen to help. Attempting to find out more this morning we stumbled on a really interesting podcast about the Hauraki Gulf, our only marine national park:

<https://soundcloud.com/university-of-auckland/rochelle-constantine-aucklands?in=university-of-auckland/sets/raising-the-bar-auckland-2018>

We're planning ahead for a good season of DYC Seatalks. Later this month we feature Tamsin Worsley and her bid to be the first woman to sail the coastal classic, solo (see the promo material later in the newsletter). And we're very keen to hear your ideas for future speakers / topics for DYC Seatalks. Please email your suggestions to commodore@dyc.org.nz

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The management committee have a wide range of projects underway. Here are a few that come to mind: Vice Commodore Hugh Pollock is working on Health and Safety and security issues; Rear commodore Blair Cliffe is busy advising on flags; Sailing Master Andy Mason is fine tuning an excellent sailing programme; Clubhouse Captain Tony Bullard is coordinating improvements to the kitchen, Wi-Fi, music and digital projector; Bar Manager Tim Ridge will be introducing new plastic membership swipe cards that will ensure members continue to get drinks at the bar at discounted prices; Mark Clough and I will be working on a strategy to improve the Clubs website, etc. The Club is in good heart. According to the Treasurer Grant Daniel the membership and finances are 'VERY healthy'. He's also suggesting we consider an 'Offshore division' so those of us who may be considering sailing further afield can share ideas, etc.

Jane and I are regulars at the Clubhouse for the Friday night meals and enjoy the convivial atmosphere. As there are no fixtures this weekend we're heading off on Renown overnight and relax.

Best wishes and fair sailing!

Geoff Evans
2nd March 2019



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DIRECTORY UPDATE



A warm welcome to our newest members.

DYC NEW MEMBERSHIP

| New Member | Member Type | Proposed | Seconded |
|--|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Jay James | Family Member | ?? | ?? |
| Guilherme Teixeira & Alessandra Ferreira | Family Member | ?? | ?? |
| Jenny McMillian & Mano McMillian | Family Associate | Geoff Evans | Grant Daniel |
| Dane Huxford & Glen Hawes | Family Associate | Geoff Evans | Grant Daniel |
| Nicholas Reeves | Youth Membership | Hugh Pollock | Grant Daniel |

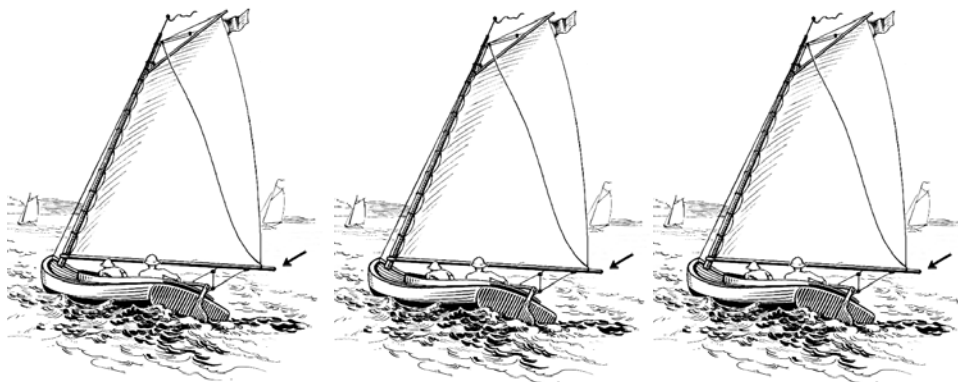
FROM THE HISTORY CORNER

D.Y.C. Weona Medallion

With reference to the item in the October 2018 issue of the Club News entitled D.Y.C. Medallion, I have researched Papers Past and have found that Weona received the Atkin Medal at the Club's 1930/31 Prize Giving on 28 August 1931 at the Clubhouse. The previous year the annual presentation of prizes was held in the Masonic Hall. It was reported that the championship flag for the fastest time in the 7 foot class was won by M. Pelham in Weona.

This does not necessarily mean that Pelham was the skipper of Weona a year later.

Colin Tubbs



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Feature articles

A HELPING HAND FOR THE HAURAKI GULF

A “Seatalk” full of take-to-sea messages for yachties is not so common. Dr Andrew Jeffs, Professor in Marine Sciences had an engaged audience for a serious topic delivered by a master communicator. He also made it clear that yachties need to take up the cause of giving the Gulf a helping hand not only when they are at sea but also in daily life ashore and when political processes need input.

He covered numerous issues with telling facts and carefully selected illustrations, giving us a very well thought out “to do” list.

His quick recent history pointed out the 15year old Hauraki Gulf Forum has produced numerous “State of our Gulf” reports, showing negative results for many critical indicators, but none of the responsible agencies show willingness to commit resources to address issues.

So, what can we do to help? The issues and opportunities were not set out in a priority order, but any action will help.

1. Fishing has led to drastic reductions in fish and crays since the 1960's. Snapper and crays love kina but fewer fish have allowed kina numbers to greatly increase leading to decimated kelp forests startlingly documented in aerial photos going back to the 1940's. Less kelp means less habitat for many juvenile fish and many other smaller animals, all important parts of the Gulf's interdependent ecosystem. Daily catch limits perhaps should be changed.
2. Mediterranean Fan Worm was notified in 2008 and efforts have been made to restrict its spread and the plea was for us all to check our hulls regularly and keep them clean.
3. Cleaning chemicals used on the boat, and particularly at home, often means lots of detergent going into the drains and out into the Gulf. Try washing vehicles on the lawn instead of on hard-sealed surfaces.
4. Plastics; 70% of recently sampled Parore caught in the Gulf had pieces of plastic in their gut!!
5. Mussel beds once occupied 500 square kilometres of the Gulf's seabed. The ecological changes following the dredging to destruction of much of these beds has led to clearly measurable decreases in water clarity, (mussels exude a mucus that binds clay particles and holds them within the bed), and great decreases in habitat for juvenile fish. Re-seeding of appropriate sea-bed areas by volunteer groups is showing great promise. Boaties of all kinds are needed for this work.
6. Reduce our personal carbon foot prints with more bicycles, buses and electric cars and fewer fires. A significant chunk of the carbon dioxide from burning gets dissolved in the oceans and makes them more acidic, killing corals and dissolving shellfish exoskeletons. Other CO2 adds to the greenhouse effect raising atmospheric and sea water temperatures also killing corals, melting ice, raising sea levels and encouraging our

ALMOST ARRESTED FOR FINISHING A YACHT RACE ON DEVONPORT WHARF HARBOUR RACE ? MARCH 1978?

Starting and finishing a yacht race was traditionally achieved by firing a gun of some sort.

DYC was no different, always using a shot gun firing blanks, it had the benefit of a puff of smoke in addition to the sound.

One Saturday in 1978 I had the task of starting and finishing a harbour race from Devonport wharf. Pamela and I parked our Hillman Hunter in the appropriate place and jammed a couple of flags between the front bumper and the bodywork, (something you couldn't do now). We started the race using the shotgun for a sound signal in the usual 10 minute sequence.

I finished the race on my own as the expected help did not arrive. Once again the car was parked with the flags in place and I warned the people on the wharf that I was going to fire the shot gun to finish the race.

A bunch of yachts were finishing together, I was really busy firing the gun, identifying the boats and taking times. I was sitting in the car with the shotgun on the seat beside me writing furiously the yacht names or numbers and the finish times which were needed for the handicap results. Suddenly the car door was flung open and a voice said "get out of the car". My response was, "no, I'm too busy I'm finishing a yacht race" and kept on writing. A few moments later I looked around to see the car surrounded by policemen.

I remained seated in the car and assured the Sergeant that I only had blanks for the shotgun and had warned the public before firing the gun, no I did not think I needed a licence to fire blanks into the air. Whilst all this was going on I continued to record the results as the yachts crossed the finish line.

The sergeant told me I was going to be charged with discharging a firearm in a public place and possession of a firearm without a licence. He took all my details and after some discussion said he'd be in touch (rather than arrest me).

After the race finished I advised the Club of what had happened. Most thought it was a joke, I had a job convincing them that I had nearly been arrested and taken to Takapuna Police station.

It was only the intervention of our patron and local Member of Parliament the late Honourable George Gair and Martin Foster and maybe the prospect of 30 people turning up to obtain a fire arms licence that saved me from being charged.

Six weeks later a Constable came to our house to warn me not to do it again and that I would not be charged and no further action would be taken. Fortunately I was not at home as I may have told him to stop wasting everyone's time.

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At the DYC prize giving later that year I was presented with a blue shirt covered in arrows, everyone had a good laugh.

Most members did not appreciate how close to being charged, with all its implications, I had been. It was not long after this incident that the use of firearms stopped.

Written by Pamela and Allan Harper





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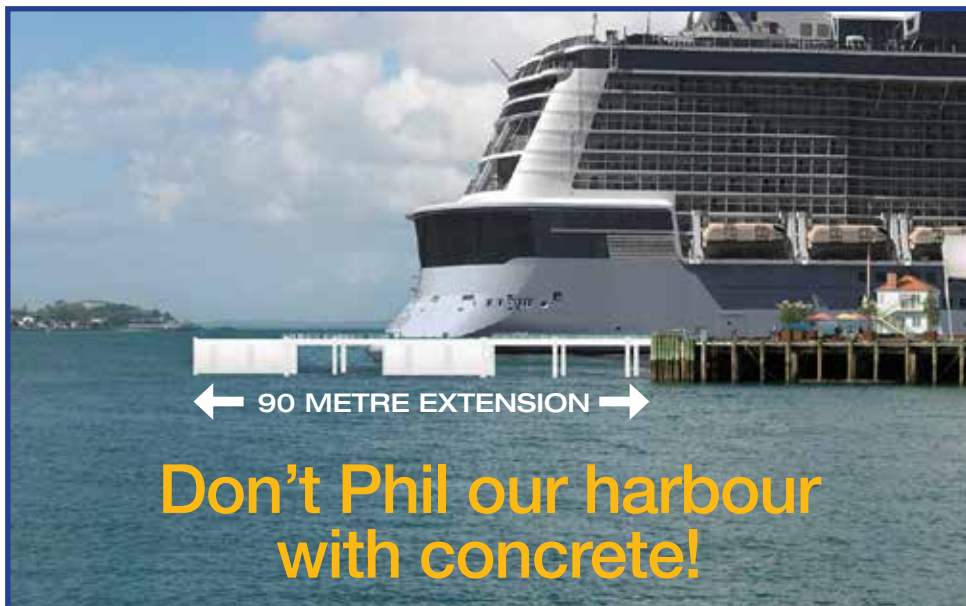
 **DAVE**

(09) 445 7229

A/Hrs 021 752387

19 WYNARD STREET, DEVONPORT

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Join the protest against Phil's 90m extension!

In 2015 we all helped stop the Port's 90m wharf extensions. Mayor Phil Goff said *not one more metre* of concrete in the harbour, but now he has done a massive U-turn and we've got to stop his Council from adding 90m to Queens Wharf. They're about to spend \$14 million of your money pouring more concrete into our harbour to create two massive structures with connecting gangways just to dock a few oversized, foreign-owned cruise ships that arrive in the morning and are gone by the afternoon.

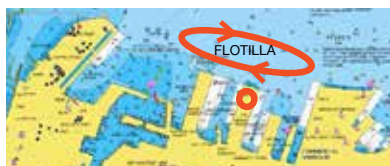
Come and help save our harbour for future generations and stop Phil Goff selling it off for a few extra dollars, most of which will end up in the pockets of foreign-owned shipping corporations.

Phil's forgotten that a promise is a promise.

Join us for the rally to stop this 90m extension to Queens Wharf.

Let's tell Phil Goff to Stop Stealing Our Harbour!
Rally: Sunday 10 March @ 3.00 pm

By land: Meet north end of Queens Wharf. By sea: Boats muster off Queens Wharf



www.stopstealingourharbour.co.nz www.facebook.com/StopStealingOurHarbour

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Devonport
Yacht Club Inc.

2019 3-Handed Gulf Rally

**Te
Kouma**

Friday 8th
March

Leg 1

**Kawau
Island**

Saturday 9th
March

Leg 2

Devonport

Sunday 10th
March

Leg 3



Orange

Division 1 Start 0900hrs

Trevithic Cup



Green

Division 2 Start 0900hrs

North Shore Regatta Trophy

Informal BBQ on the beach or on board a boat **Friday and Saturday** evenings as conditions permit. Prize giving will be held at **1830hrs** on **Friday 15th March** in the Club.

For notice of race and sailing instructions visit dyc.org.nz

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DYC SAILING COMMITTEE PRESENTS

THE 'BACK TO THE'
ROCKY
BAY BALL



*Dress: formal
(from the waist up)*



**SATURDAY 23 MARCH FROM 6PM @ THE ROCKY
BAY HALL, ROCKY BAY, WAIHEKE.
TICKETS \$30 INCLUDES DINNER & ENTERTAINMENT.
BYO DRINKS & GLASSES. LIMIT 4 PER BOAT/ FAMILY.
FOR TICKETS EMAIL: LAURA@THEMAGUIRES.INFO.**

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AMENDMENT TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



Devonport Yacht Club (Inc)
King Edward Parade
PO Box 32 036
Devonport
Auckland

Amendment to the Sailing Instructions: 17th January 2019

The following amendments apply to the race instructions and details as published in the Devonport Yacht Club Yearbook 2018 - 2019 as follows:

- Short Handed Series - Two Handed Round Waiheke -

Saturday 1st December 2018

The Two handed round Waiheke has been postponed from its published date of Saturday 1st December & will now be run on Saturday 30th March 2019. All course details & instructions as detailed in the DYC Year Book remain valid.

Note: Tidal information noted in the Year Book will now be incorrect.



Andy Mason
Devonport Yacht Club - Sailing Master

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DYC – Seataalks



Tamsin Worsley - first woman to sail the Coastal Classic solo!

Find out what motivated Devonport Yacht Club's Tamsin Worsley to be the first woman to sail the coastal classic, solo. She will also talk about race preparation, the challenges of racing solo and about the event itself. Should be fascinating!

SEATALKS Devonport Yacht Club

7.30pm Thursday 21st March 2019

All welcome. The club bar will be open

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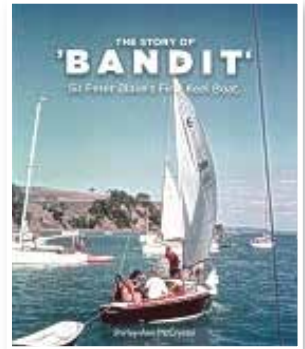
Book Review

THE STORY OF BANDIT

Bandit - Sir Peter Blake's First Keel Boat

Author Shirley - Ann McCrystal.

Published 2019. 10 pages. Black & White / Colour Photographs



This is a small, but delightful account of the building of Bandit on the front lawn, in a temporary shed, at Peter Blake's family home in Bayswater in the 1960's.

The Van de Stadt hard chine design of 24 feet began life in Peter Blake's family home in Bayswater on Auckland's North Shore in the 1960's. The Blake brothers (and friend and crew member Crawford Duncan) would spend all their spare time, rain or hail, on creating and building Peter's dream

On January 20 1968, on completion, the boat was launched at Devonport Yacht Club, although not all went according to plan. The high tide was missed, the cable on the slipway too short, which prevented her from sliding all the way off the cradle. Only her bottom got wet! An inauspicious beginning...

However, The next day, all came right, Bandit was christened by Joyce Blake and Peter's dream became reality...

This is the story, and photographic history, of the building of little Bandit, anecdotes, her racing career, her restoration, and then her final resting place at Auckland's Maritime Museum.

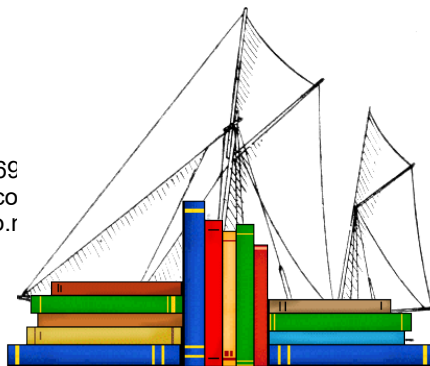
Bandit may never sail again but she will remain within the sound of the lapping wave. Proof that anyone can achieve a dream with determination, passion and the will to succeed.

\$25.00 Retail

Cheers,

Marianne Bosman

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w: www.boatbooks.co.i



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