

The Cutlass



February 2020

From the Commodore



I hope that many of you had a chance to get out on the water over the holiday period. There is a sense of excitement to see LBYC boats when heading into a bay to anchor for the night. We had one such occasion where we found Obsession, Fantasia and Rose tucked up for the night in Deep Bay off Tory.

At the time of writing there was a buzz of anticipation at the club with the start of the Sailability National Regatta. This will create lots of activity in and around the club, and many of our members are involved in organising and helping.

Over the last month or so, maintenance work has been carried out on the club moorings. This is largely completed now except for Scorching Bay which will be ready soon. The moorings are jointly owned by RPNYC and LBYC and maintained with help from Seaview Marina. The rules for use are on the website <https://www.lbyc.org.nz/club-moorings>. Thanks to Grahame Eathorne, Rick Reeves and the Spring Chickens for managing this very worthy project.

Our 24-hour endurance yacht race is only a month away, on 14 and 15 March 2020. Members are encouraged to give this race a go. From personal experience, it's a different kind of challenge and a lot of fun. The teamwork and planning are key elements, so working out a strategy with your crew is paramount to getting through the night. It's not all about winning either as we can't all win, however you will feel a huge sense of accomplishment just by competing.

This is a heads up for our catering survey. Please take the time to give us your feedback to enable us to adapt to what members prefer.

You may have noticed that What's On has taken on a bit of different look and feel. We hope this is keeping you up to date with activities. As this has most of our immediate and upcoming activities, The Cutlass will now be a quarterly publication more focussed on past events and recording what members have been doing. Your photos and contributions are most welcome.

With the sailing programme in full swing, I hope you will take advantage of the events on the calendar by getting out on the water. For those less confident about the racing, there is a cruising division without spinnakers. If you would like to have an experienced skipper join you on your boat, this can be arranged.

Happy boating everyone!
Max Meyers
Commodore

Racing

Check out the full results available on the website:

<https://www.lbyc.org.nz/results-19-20>

Sail Wellington Regatta

A most enjoyable event and a good chance to get out on the water in perfect sailing conditions. Some very close racing over four races, particularly in the cruising division.

Well done to **Amnesty** taking out first place on handicap in Division 1 and **Crewcut** winning the Cruising Division.

Friday night pursuit races

After a windy start to the series in December, settled conditions are now more prevalent. Friday nights are back to their best with the number of boats on the water in the 20's.

A great opportunity to get novices skilled up for the racing season and for members to wind down at the end of busy week.

Summer series

The Summer series got off to a good start on 26 January with twelve boats in Division 1 and two boats in the Cruising Division. **Celebrity** and **Crewcut** took out Race 1 in their respective divisions.

Single-handed series

Well done **Kaea** finding form in Race 1 to edge out Celebrity and Minika for first place on handicap.

Gallant effort from all skippers, showing their capabilities in sailing single-handed.

From the executive committee

Decision from meetings on November, December, January and February meetings:

- Eight new membership applications were approved.
- The offer of three-months' free membership to new Seaview Marina licensees has been discontinued as it has not been effective and is causing confusion, and a lot of work to maintain.
- An agreement has been made between LBYC, RPNYC and SML (Seaview Marina) to share the cost of repairing the moorings and ongoing maintenance.
- The Cutlass has changed to a quarterly publication.
- 'What's On' is to be made available to a wider audience via a subscriber button on the website.
- Approval was given to proceed with the grease trap on the basis of 50/50 shared costs of installation and maintenance with SML subject to the commodore and treasurer checking costings.
- Cleaning services are to be carried out by bar staff.
- Max Meyers was appointed as arbitrator for LBYC under the lease agreement for the rent review for the period to 1/11/2021.
- Approval was given to pass a list of contact emails for members to Theo Muller for the purpose of the catering survey.
- Alternative solutions and various quotes are being considered for replacement of the club heating system.

New members

A very warm welcome to:

James Matthews

John Mills

Jennifer Free

Brian Stewart

Max and Di Cooper

Welcome back to:

John Rainey-Smith

Graeme Burgess

Round North Island Race 2020

Katie Mathison and Geoff Thorn are competing in the RNI race in Am Meer

LBYC wish them good luck and fair sailing conditions for this epic challenge



Have a go!

One of the skippers who sailed in all previous 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Races quoted Sir Edmund Hillary when he was asked why he climbed Mt Everest. 'Because it was there' was Sir Ed's response. The 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race will certainly 'be there' again this year and all you skippers and crew will again have the opportunity to 'knock the bastard off'. (Thanks Gareth, for drawing those analogies).

The planning is in place for this year's race on 14 and 15 March 2020. We have a wonderful group of sponsors on board – their continued support is very valuable for staging an event like the 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race. It allows us to promote the race without causing an unnecessary drain on the club's money coffers and provide attractive prizes for those that complete the race. Posters and flyers have been printed for distribution to all the yacht clubs, marina offices and nautical product suppliers around Wellington Harbour and those in the upper region of the South Island.

You and your crew need to be ready. To avoid disappointment, I strongly advise all skippers to get a commitment from your crew now. This is not a short-handed race – you need to be able to count on enough numbers to safely complete the race.

Your boat needs to be ready too. Fix whatever needs fixing and don't leave it till the last moment. Race Officer, Bob Rowell, has prepared a safety inspection plan based on YNZ's Safety Regulations and he and his helpers will inspect all yachts that enter the 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race.

Practice makes perfect. If you haven't sailed during the hours of darkness, here is an opportunity to get acquainted with it.

What is so attractive about sailing in the 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race? When talking to skippers and crew who have competed in this race, invariably they answer that question around three reasons – adventure, challenge and fun.

It's an adventure because it's something completely different from what they have experienced in yacht racing thus far. Skippers set up a watch system, so that everyone on board gets some rest. They prepare meals while the boat is heeling over, even though it's only warming up some pre-cooked concoction. Sailing through the night and watching the sun rise over the horizon provides an unforgettable experience.

It's a challenge, something new, requiring a completely different focus. Much more preparation and planning involved. Navigating the yacht during the hours of darkness with the familiar Wellington Harbour looking and feeling quite different. It's a bit like a pilot flying their plane on instruments only.

It's a whole heap of fun, going by the ear-to-ear smiles and the animated buzz in the capacity-filled clubhouse at the prize-giving. There are excited high-fives and happy back slaps while bottle meets bottle in celebratory toasts of achievement and satisfaction. Exhausted? Absolutely! Will I do it again? That's a no-brainer.

So, what about you? In for an adventure? Not afraid of a challenge? Want some fun of a kind that you may not have experienced before? Have a go. Just do it.

Theo Muller
Race Director 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race

Sponsors of the 24-Hour Endurance Yacht Race in 2020



Find all the details on the website <https://www.lbyc.org.nz/24-hour-endurance-race>

Club Cruising

Waitangi cruise event to Queen Charlotte Sound

Off across the strait almost bright and early on Wednesday 5th. Some had been listening to too many speculations about the weather and state of the sea. . .but we finally persuaded all that today was the day and now the hour! We - Smile (Nova 28) with David, Lynn and Brent, Step Ahead (Raven 31) with Russell and Crewcut (Beale 9.5) with John and Barbie - left just after 11. Timing to the rip - what rip? - was perfect and we proceeded on our merry way. Well - some of us - Lynn slept - John was sick and Russell and Barbie might have wished they were. David was delighted he wasn't at all upset by the motion.

Overall a pretty uneventful crossing- only 3 dolphins kept Crewcut company for a while. Once into Tory Channel Smile led the way to the lovely Tawa Bay where we rafted up and settled into the best night's sleep.

Thursday - a leisurely start and off to Endeavour inlet to Miners' camp. Gorgeous sail over - broad reach most of the way with Smile romping ahead of the others. Graham met us as the other two arrived and settled us all on a mooring on the east side of the bay. Russell unwrapped his new inflatable and, in the absence of a motor or seat to row from, he and Lynn were towed around by either one of the other dinghies. Lynn might relate how she had to "assume the position", but that's her story!



Great to see what Graham and Gillian have done with their place - amazing in 3 years. They have a wonderful orchard, kitchen garden, camping area, cabins and rooms by the house but best of all a massive deck from which there's a fabulous view of the inlet. This is all sheltered by a big hedge on one side - complete with rampant kiwi vines.

We went our own ways for dinner that night - hoping to dine at Furneaux Lodge but both they and Punga Cove were closed for weddings. It was a very unsettled night with Smile and Step Ahead fighting each other in the raft up. Crewcut was sitting nicely but it was still uncomfortable.

Friday, we went separate ways - David and Russell went to Furneaux for coffee, internet and to admire visitors - Lynn, Brent, Barbie and John took Crewcut out to play and lunch at Puketoi and then to the head of Endeavour Inlet to catch some coverage. Then up went the spinnaker - never before seen on Crewcut - super light wind but enough to fill the baby :) exciting and more work to be done to get everything set up well.

A lovely day and finished with a magnificent meal at Miners Camp. We dined with them on Friday night as the southerly forecast for Saturday would have been dreadful at that end of the inlet.

Gillian is the most amazing cook and presents their food beautifully. We had their own incredible pork rissoles, yummy local sausages, potato salad and green salad. I don't think I've ever seen anyone take so much care arranging a salad - it looked fantastic - finished with apple cucumber wedges and nasturtiums. All homegrown. Gillian had made perfect focaccia bread, fabulous fig cake with fig compote and chocolate cake - I know I'm raving - but it was all soooooo good.

You guys who never registered/made it really missed a treat. A great night all round sitting out on the deck at huge tables and chatting with other guests who had been walking the track. One lady was very nearly tempted to be sailed round to Punga Cove rather than walk another inch.

Back to the boats- this time Russell took a Furneaux mooring - and we all had a more settled night.

Saturday dawned fine and we sailed across to Ship's Cove for lunch - such a lovely spot - another wedding party bound for Furneaux were having their photographs taken there. The promised high wind - a Southerly - filled in. Two reefs in the Crewcut's main but never hoisted - so we all motored round Long Island to Coopers Cove where we moored for the night - Smile and Step Ahead on one mooring and Crewcut the other. Quite squally picking up the moorings which was challenging but we settled in and all had pre dinner drinks on Step Ahead - thank you Russell.



Sunday morning - looking good- heard from Keith that he and Rose were leaving Alligator head at 10.00 bound for Seaview and the plan was Smile and Step Ahead would leave at 10.30 and possibly rendezvous.

Meanwhile Crewcut- with some more leave - headed north, bound for Durville Island - passing Rose en route and pausing for a chat.

We stopped at Punt Rails a bit disappointed at lack of useful wind, ate lunch, dozed and then had a really lovely sail on to Homestead Bay where we settled for the night. Texts flying in as coverage improved and good to hear that all others home to Seaview safe and sound.

By Barbara Mavor

Other events

Cruising events are posted on Facebook, What's On, as well as at the clubhouse.

The next cruise to the Sounds will be at Easter.

Other stuff



Club volunteers at work laying race marks

Big thanks to Ollie and his crew on Trader for an amazing effort out on the water in 30 knots of breeze laying marks for the Shipwreck Trading and Black Spot Rum Regatta.



Spring Chickens Christmas lunch

Wow, this group know how to celebrate with amazing food, wine, Christmas crackers and hats, and lots of Christmas cheer.

The club is eternally grateful for the time and effort the spring chickens put into the club during the year.

Race management at the top

Well done Ray Manning for getting more international race management experience at the recent 49er 49erX and Nacra 17 Worlds Championship in Auckland.

Some of the new tools and techniques acquired will be very useful for Ray in running the upcoming Hansa Nationals to be held at Seaview in February 2020.



Club members who want to get involved in race management should contact the club at info@lbyc.org.nz



Cruising in Endeavour Inlet or walking the Queen Charlotte Track?

If you are visiting Endeavour Inlet pop in and see one of our club members, Graham McMillan and his lovely partner Jillian. They are the owners of Miners Camp and quite a few animals. The camp is located opposite Furneaux Lodge and accessible on the Queen Charlotte Track. For more information go to their website: <https://www.minerscamp.co.nz/>

Looking at buying an Autohelm? ...

Read one member's recent experience.

"Please take note of the following

1/ My new unit failed due to over use caused by its failure to maintain a proper course, As advised it started to "oscillate " in increasing amounts until it was going from maximum Port to maximum Starboard, this would have no doubt caused excessive wear to the drive mechanism and overloading & heating of the motor. This problem I believe was caused by the ingress of water affecting the electronics and causing this initial fault. I am aware of the mention in the handbook regarding "Weather Helm"

2/ I previously steered the boat with an 800 series Tiller pilot, which worked fine for many years (8 since I purchased the boat and an unknown number by the previous owner).

I only replaced the 800 because when I was caught off balance, I stepped on the 800 and bent the internal shaft. The choice of the ST1000 was an upgrade.

3/ Nowhere does your handbook advise that these are "Fair weather" sailing aids nor does it give any indication of "Duty Cycle". Trailer yachts are generally comfortable in winds up to 20 knots, whether in the harbour or along the coast. I would suggest that most Tiller Pilots are in fact used by single-handed sailors.

4/ On careful inspection, I note the control buttons sit in a recess and very effectively hold water in the cavity just waiting to work its way down into the unit

As a design engineer I find this astonishing to have a design in a leak for the 6 buttons. Even if the boat doesn't get a splash of sea water, rain does fall from the sky.

5/ If I purchase a product in the vicinity of \$1,000, I expect it to be fit for purpose, which you now confirm is not the case for normal yachting use. Being five miles from the nearest coast does not constitute "OFFSHORE SAILING".

6/ I would be pleased to view or conduct a survey via social media and/or yachting publications to get the feedback on just how many owners have replaced their Tiller pilots after they have been "wetted"

Again, thank you for replacing my unit and I hope to have at least 8 years of use from the ST2000 as I enjoyed from my 800 series"

Wayne McEwen

General notices



Port Nicholson Regatta 5 – 8 March

Note received from the Regatta Director ...

We are delighted to announce entries in the **2020 Port Nicholson Regatta** (Wellington, 5-8 March 2020) are open, and invite entries from all keelboats, trailer yachts, multihulls, sports boats and sport multihulls.

More information is available at www.portnicholsonregatta.org.nz, including our [Notice of Race](#) and the [boat entry form](#) (crew enter online separately). An early entry discount for boat entries is available until Christmas!

There are more trophies than ever and loads of prizes, thanks to terrific support from sponsors. In 2020, there's something for everyone, with three racing programmes to choose from:

- **'The Full Monty'** (racing Friday, Saturday and Sunday)
- **'The Weekender'** (racing Saturday and Sunday) with spinnaker and non-spinnaker divisions
- **'The Harbour Races'** (racing Saturday and/or Sunday) with a *Classic Yachts Race* and the *Wellington Harbour Rally*.

The **Charity Cup Invitation Race** opens the Regatta in style and is an opportunity for us to support our local community through sailing. Skippers entered in "**The Full Monty**" or "**The Weekender**" will receive a generous **Sponsors Gift Pack** at registration, and a bottle of *Lawson's Dry Hills Wine*.

Visiting boats to Wellington also get priority booking at *Chaffers Marina*; a case of *Steinlager* beer; and the opportunity to enjoy Port Nic's famous 'boat shed experience' (courtesy of local skippers) to provide visitors somewhere to call 'home', leave gear, change your sea boots, and re-hydrate.

We'd be very grateful if you could share this information with your members, and anyone else who may be interested. A copy of the **2020 Port Nicholson Regatta** poster is also attached.

Warm regards

Ash Owers

Regatta Director

2020 Port Nicholson Regatta - You Should Be Here!

From the editor

Send me your stories and photos to share with members here.

My email is:
marymeyers100@icloud.com

The next Cutlass will be early May.
Deadline for articles is 15 April 2020.

Club contact details

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