

FORECAST

Monthly Newsletter from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club



PHOTO CREDIT: PETER MAYO

COMMODORE'S MESSAGE

2024 - 2025 SUMMER SEASON: A NEW SEASON & A NEW RACE COMMITTEE VESSEL

Our Sailing Committee has been busy over the winter period planning and preparing for Spring and Summer sailing season.

There are a few changes regarding sailing instructions that I will leave for others to detail. However, one big change: don't go looking for Calypso at the start line. Calypso has been replaced with a new Race Committee vessel with quite striking livery. The Club's tradition of naming the RCV after yachts on the original yacht register has been maintained, with our new RCV named 'Sirius'.

OPEN DAY SAIL-PAST

Get your crew and boat dressed up for our usual sail-past on the first day of racing. There are great prizes for 'Best Dressed Crew' and 'Best decorated boat'. I have not yet picked a theme yet and happy for suggestions. However, as it is an Olympic year, and this September will be our clubs 95 Anniversary, an Olympic, '95', or any well-presented theme will be appreciated.





NEW MAST CRANE

The new Mast Crane is in position. Although there is still work to be done widening the deck adjacent, it is quite impressive.

SWANSEA CHANNEL UPDATE

Dredging has continued over the last several weeks providing depths suitable for our yachts. I have had several reports of our yachts entering or leaving the lake without requiring assist. Our Cruising division have had two 'outside' events over the winter period, one trip to Broughton Island and the other to Newcastle. 'She's the Culprit' and 'Stampede' left the lake to compete in the Sydney to Southport race.

GEOFF EDMAN, COMMODORE

Email: commodore@lmyc.com.au

SEARCHER Success – SSE Renewables Round Ireland Yacht Race

Congratulations to LMYC sailor Trevor Smyth who just recently competed in the SSE Renewables Round Ireland Yacht Race on board SEARCHER, a Ker 46.

Skipped by Trevor Smyth's brother Pete Smyth, SEARCHER took out the honours of winning 1st place in the IRC Class 1 results, 1st in the Best ICRA Yacht and 1st in the Best ISORA Yacht – a fantastic result amongst the 58 Competitors of a challenging and elementally beautiful yacht race.

It was also intriguing to note that SEARCHER actually sailed 63 miles less than the 824 NM logged by Eric de Turckheim's line honours winner TEASING MACHINE.

Further news stories including full results and other information can be found at <https://roundireland.ie/wp/>



FROM THE CEO'S DESK

SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATION

The Club has signed an agreement for the installation of Solar Panels. Installation has now been completed. Not only will it save money, it will form a key plank in our efforts towards sustainability and corporate social responsibility. It will also reduce our reliance on AUSGRID for power and the impact of volatility in the energy market going forward.

MAST CRANE

The Mast Crane has been installed and deck widening will be completed in the next couple of weeks. The crane will be operational in August. Following the June Board Meeting, pricing for the Mast Crane is as follows:

BOAT SIZE	MEMBER COST	NON-MEMBER	DISCOUNT
UNDER 28 FEET	\$350.00 EACH WAY	\$500.00	30%
28 - 36 FEET	\$450.00 EACH WAY	\$650.00	30%
OVER 36 FEET	\$525.00 EACH WAY	\$750.00	30%

In order to qualify for the Member's Discount, the boat **must** be on the LMYC Boat Register.

BY LAW

The following bylaw regarding elections at the club was adopted at the June Board Meeting, following the update to the constitution.

**LAKE MACQUARIE YACHT CLUB
ACN 000 805 265**

NOTICE TO MEMBERS REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF A NEW BY-LAW

(a) Pursuant to Rules 21.6 and 29.5 of the Constitution of Lake Macquarie Yacht Club, the Board makes the following by-laws:

"The Secretary shall post the following information on the Club's noticeboard at least fourteen (14) days before the commencement of voting in the election of the Board:

- (a) the name of each candidate for election to the Board; and*
- (b) the names of the members who have proposed each candidate for election to the Board;*
- (c) a candidate profile for each candidate who has submitted a candidate profile to the Club".*

(b) Pursuant to Rule 29.5 of the Constitution of Lake Macquarie Yacht Club, the by-law in paragraph (a) above shall come into force immediately upon this notice being posted on the Club's noticeboard.

MARK NORDEN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



SETTING SAIL

2024/2025 SAILING SEASON

The Sailing Program for 2024/245 has been finalised as follows:

- **Divisional Structure on Saturdays** – Subject to the entries we receive for next season, we will move to two divisions in the 2024/25 Season. The changes have some pros and cons, but in the main should continue to provide interesting racing with larger fleets. Two divisions also allows us to align with RMYC and Wangi for the interclub races.
- **Offshore Racing** – We will have a 5 race offshore series in conjunction with NCYC. The series is expected to include races to Port Stephens and return in November, a race in Newcastle and a Bird Island Race in early March and the Newcastle to Port Stephens Race in late March, which is a lead in race fro Sail Port Stephens in April 2025. Sweepstake races will be held by LMYC on the Offshore weekends.
- **Courses** – All courses for the Bay, Pulbah and RKR courses have been reworked. Thank you to Noel Jenkins, Bruce Dobinson and Ross Ahrens for their hard work on this. This rework has improved the courses and made each of the Divisional Courses a more consistent length. The current Division 4 Courses have all been set at around 8.5 to 9 NM and the current Division 2/3 courses at around 11-12 NM.
- **Interclub Racing** – Dates for the RKR and Windward/Leeward series have been agreed by Wangi and Toronto.
- **Sprint Racing** – The Windward Leward series this year will be a sprint style series with three short (20-30 minute) races per day. This will provide a great opportunity to hone racing and regatta skills.
- **IRC Handicap Racing** – From 1st June 24, Australian Sailing (AS) has made a significant change in their policy to IRC rating rules. AS will now be offering a “Standard” Certificate as well as the “Endorsed” Certificate. Standard Certificates are based on owner-declared data, Endorsed Certificates are based on verified data by an AS Measurer. RORC are offering a 25% discount on IRC Standard Certs for new boats or last rated >7 years ago. This will reduce the cost of acquiring and maintaining an IRC Certificate. We are still investigating how LMYC could have IRC handicaps in addition to PHS. It will depend on how many boats are interested in racing under IRC.
- **Starting Handicaps** – The whole of the lake fleet (LMYC, RMYC and WASC) has been re-handicapped due to the move to two divisions. A big thanks to Mick Schoevers and Warren Hodgkins for their work in this area.

- **Invitation to Race** – The annual invitation to race will be sent out shortly. The key dates are –
 - **Sunday 25th August** – Early Bird Registration closes
 - **Thursday 29th August** – Skippers whose divisional nominations is not accepted will be contacted
 - **Sunday 1st September** – Any appeals regarding divisional nomination to be sent to the Sailing Committee
 - **Thursday 5th September** – All boats advised of Division and starting handicap
 - **Saturday 7th September** – Racing starts with Opening Day Sail Past and post-race function



PHOTO CREDIT: PETER MAYO

The Sailing Development Committee met recently to discuss the development of a Sailing Development Plan. While this plan needs to be approved by the board, the committee has discussed what we want to try achieve through this plan and the elements that it will contain. LMYC wants to develop pathways for new members to experience the sport of Sailing in a structured & nurturing environment. At the heart of the plan will be providing accredited Sailing Courses to harness member participation in crewing for existing member boats which will then also transition them into new and additional Boat Owners. The plan will involve a budget for the purchase of at least two training boats and ongoing operational costs.

I look forward to the weather warming up and seeing plenty of boats out on the water in early September.

STEVEN FORD, REAR COMMODORE

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Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race 2024

Congratulations to LMYC yachts and sailors competing in the Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race over the last weekend. The Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race began on Saturday 27th July at 1pm. 51 Yachts entered this year, with two yachts from Lake Macquarie Yacht Club:



She's the Culprit – David Edwards & Crew



Stampede – Jon Lattimore, Michael McDonald & Crew.
Stampede was crewed by sailors from yachts Stampede, Santana and Anarchie.

NOAKES SYDNEY GOLD COAST YACHT RACE RESULTS:

- 'Stampede' came 1st in PHS 27th Line Honours.
- LMYC Member Tom Woods on 'Saltwater Wine' came 7th in IRC Div 3 and 8th in the Double-Handed IRC.
- LMYC Member Tom Braidwood on 'Whisper' came 2nd in Line Honours and 4th in Division.
- 'She's The Culprit' retired due to mast damage, all safe at port.

A fantastic effort – congratulations to all involved!

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

AUSTRALIAN SAILING ONLINE COURSES

Australian Sailing (AS) offers many professional development courses some of which you can do in your own time, which are online and are free of charge.

These are excellent opportunities to not only give back to our Club but to improve one's expertise in the Racing Rules of Sailing and obtain an understanding of what actually happens with the Race Management of our races. There are many courses available and further details can be found at the following link: <https://www.sailingresources.org.au/training/e-learning-courses/>

[VISIT WEBSITE](#)

Courses that we thoroughly recommend for you are:

1. Race Officer – Mark Laying Course: This is a series of modules that shows the structure towards becoming an accredited Mark Layer and the responsibilities that are associated with this role. It covers best practice for equipment selection, course setting techniques and what is expected from our Mark Layers.

2. Race Officer – Committee and Finish Boat: This is a series of modules shows the structure towards becoming accredited as a Race Officer - Committee and Finish Boat and the responsibilities that are associated with this role. It covers best practice, equipment selection and finish line setting techniques.

3. Judge – Protest Committee Member: This series of modules shows the structure towards becoming accredited as a Judge - Protest Committee Member. The course includes education and best practice for being a Protest Committee Member and a Club-level Arbitrator.

4. Club Equipment Auditor Course: The Club Equipment Auditor (CEA) online course is a free safety service provided to help ensure safety standards are consistently met through equipment compliance. The CEA online course reviews the AS Special Regulations Cat 3-7 auditing forms, all category specific updates to the Special Regulations, procedures to be utilised whilst auditing and where to obtain specific auditing information from the Racing Rules of Sailing and AS Special Regulations.

We would like to encourage all of you to complete these online courses – they are free and give you the opportunity to not only learn more about our wonderful Sport of Sailing, but to become officially accredited too.

SIMON TURPIN, SAILING MANAGER
Email: sm@lmyc.com.au

HISTORY LOCKER

TIM OWENS – AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIAN

Many will know the story of Dawn Fraser and two fellow Australian team members allegedly souveniring an Olympic flag in Tokyo in 1964 - and being chased by the local constabulary as a result!

Tim (Thomas) Owens told me he knew the story well, because he was in Tokyo when it happened.



Tim was one of Lake Macquarie Yacht Club's longest serving members. He joined in 1956 (the same year as Peter Rundle and John Bach, preceded only by Ray Kiely and Albert & Shirley Mitchell).

Older LMYC members would remember Tim well. He was a man of cheerful disposition, an engaging smile and vast sailing wisdom. He sailed with Albert Mitchell on 'Helsal II' and on Albert's Diamond in the Australian Championships in Hobart. Tim's own boats included an 11 metre One Design, a 30 Square Metre, a modified Adams 10 and 'Dee One', an Adams 10.6 metre which is still regularly sailed at LMYC.

Tim was honoured to carry the Olympic torch through Belmont for the opening of the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

Today, few would probably know about Tim's incredible sailing achievements in his earlier years, but Star class yachts were a major part of his life for a quarter of a century - they took him to regattas up and down the east coast of Australia as well as internationally.

- Tim crewed for Graham Engert in Chicago, Lake Michigan competing in the 1963 Worlds
- Tim then crewed for Martin Visser in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics
- Tim teamed up with Bob Cox in the 1977 Worlds in Kiel, Germany - (Pam & Roger Parker and Annette & Terry Carruthers were there to cheer them on).
- Tim & Bob also competed in the 1979 Worlds in Marstrand, Sweden
- In 1983, Tim & Terry Carruthers competed in the Worlds & pre-Olympics held in Los Angeles, USA

He got to know and compete against some of the very best yachtsmen in the world.

Tim was a well-known, well-respected and a well-liked Star sailor who was a foundation member of the Lake Macquarie Fleet of District 11 of the ISCYRA. (Chartered in 1960, it was the first fleet of an international class on the Lake). Tim held positions ranging from Fleet Captain to Continental 1st Vice President (Australia).

He was a consistently competitive sailor who gave encouragement to others and provided a good yardstick: if you could mix it with Tim, you were sailing well (but that didn't happen often!). Over the years he was the owner of 5 Star boats ('Valsheda', 'Maryke', 'Starfire' and two 'Boofa'). At various times he was Fleet Champion and NSW Champion.

Tim competed in the Tokyo Olympics in 1964 as crew for Martin Visser on 'Maryke' - they came 10th.

In 1977 he represented Lake Macquarie in the Worlds at Kiel with Bob Cox as crew: he finished a creditable 26th out of 87 qualifiers, including an 11th place – the best result in a world championship by an Australian at that time. He had the good fortune to have been taken sailing by Dennis Connor who said,

"I'm not going to tell you what to do – but you can learn by watching what I do."

In 1983, Tim and Terry Carruthers sailed the pre-Olympic regatta at Long Beach California followed by the Worlds in Los Angeles. In each of these events he was able to sail against the best of the best – the likes of Tom Blackaller, Buddy Melges, Bill Buchan and Dennis Connor. In one race Tim was mixing it with the top ten when he crossed tacks with Dennis Connor who called out,

"Hey Tim, what are you doing up here in this high real estate area?"

Tim was always a strong advocate of class racing and in particular of the Star Class. One of his remarks was:

"If you hear someone knocking the Star, you will know that they have never sailed one."

Alistair Leask who wrote a longer version of this article celebrating Tim's life, concluded by saying :

"It was a pleasure and a privilege Tim to have known you, crewed for you, sailed against you – there are few your equal."

Those who remember Tim will surely agree.

Other Olympic sailors that are well known on Lake Macquarie include Chris Nicholson (Sydney 200, Athens 2004), Gary Boyd (Athens 2004), Iain Jensen & Nathan Outteridge (London 2012), Rhiannon Brown & Brin Liddell (2024 Paris).

ELEANOR CUNNINGHAM, CLUB CAPTAIN

Acknowledgement & References:

Terry Carruthers, https://starclass.org/classic/artman/publish/article_735.shtml.html

WHAT'S ON

#GoAusSailors

Check out the Australian Sailing Team Website for a one-stop shop for all Olympic Sailing information, including athlete profiles, race schedules, info on how to watch the sailing in Paris and much more.

[Click here to visit Website](#)



LIVE @ LMYC

AUGUST 2024

Sunday's 1:30-5pm



SUN 4TH
LUCY
WATSON



SUN 11TH
ANDREW G



SUN 18TH
JAMES
NALDO



SUN 25TH
CONNOR
WINK

LAKE MACQUARIE YACHT CLUB

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