

# CATALINA FLEET NEWS

DECEMBER 2008

JANUARY 2009



*Ho! Ho! Ho!*  
**Merry Christmas**

PO Box 210, BOOLAROO NSW 2284

## Management Committee 2008/2009

President	Phillip Sparkes	0414 223654	Treasurer	Russell Wilcox	4960 3751
Vice President	Greg Searles	4938 1116	Race Organiser	Greg Searles	4938 1116
Secretary	Hart Peters	4368 2230	Committee	Andrew Hall	4957 6789
Newsletter Editor	Phillip Sparkes	<i>NHTYA@bigpond.com</i>			

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**Newcastle and Hunter Trailer  
Yacht Association Inc.**

## Non-Executive Responsibilities

Handicapper - Greg Searles - 4938 1116	Historian - Ross Ayre - 4943 0095
Cruising Co-ordinator - Neville Heap - 4332 3529	Equipment Officer – Arnold Broekman – 4975 5718
	Librarian - David Cooper - 4975 1793
Equipment Auditors – Hart Peters 0417 674687 - Ian Nunn 0415458466 - Phillip Sparkes 0414 223654	

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President Phillip Sparkes

## General Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given of a General Meeting of the Newcastle and Hunter Trailer Yacht Association to be held at Club Macquarie, Argenton, on Tuesday 17th February 2009 at 7:30pm

Hi again,

Yes it's that time of the year again (holidays, prawns, long weekends, shopping, parties, sailing, more days off, bla, bla, bla) this is the last news letter till February so just a quick rundown – Club Christmas get together at the Watson's – Christmas day – New Year at the Myalls – Manning River race – Australia Day weekend cruise – race 1 and 2 Autumn early February – so there are no excuses not to be on the water over the next 2 months.

The club purchased an MT400 epirb last month and it has been registered under the club's name for use by club members. It is the new 406 MHz style and will be made available to any member that would like to take it away with them.

Got time, go and look at the latest trailer-sailer Bulletin Board on the web. [www.tscom.org](http://www.tscom.org)  
 Got even more time, look at our site [www.trailersailer.org](http://www.trailersailer.org)

We now have lots of copies of the NEW Blue Book.

Again this year several members are participating in the Manning River Marathon over the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January. If anyone needs an application form or a copy of the NOR for the Manning Marathon I have several copies.

Phillip Sparkes  
 President

# General Meeting Minutes

## Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2008

### Speers Point Scout Hall

Meeting opened at: 1940 hours

Chairperson: President Phillip Sparkes

Attendance: 21 as per Attendance Book.

Apologies: Jan and Eric Waddingham, Greg Searles, Malcolm and Betsy Watson, Ray and Bronwyn Parker.

- **18/11/2008-01 Resolved** – The minutes of the General Meeting held at Club Macquarie on 21/10/2008 (as printed in the November Catalina Fleet News) be adopted.  
Proposed: Derek Tracey                      Seconded: Barbara Jankowiak

#### Matters arising from the Minutes

Derek asked in the invoice system for renewals worked. Yes.

Graham Vivian commented on the fact that he has had small items removed from his trailer while at Styles Point. Again we need to be more vigilant with all our cars and trailers.

#### Correspondence

- Inwards  
Received October Sonata Notes.  
Received November Bilgewater.  
Letter from Yachting NSW.  
Received a Trinity Point concern letter.  
Receive Lake Macquarie Sports Club awards Letter.  
Received Appreciation letter from the Mattara organising committee.
- Outwards NIL

#### Business arising from Correspondence NIL

#### Reports

- **Treasurer** (Russell)  
Income: \$692.88  
Expenditure: \$198.50  
Total at Bank: \$5344.34

ING Balance as at 31/10/2008 \$4199.87

**21/10/2008-02 Resolved** – That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Proposed: Doug Stanfield                      Seconded: Leanne Tracey

**Racing Report** - NIL

#### **Cruise Report**

Graham and Marie will be hosting the Hawkesbury cruise towards the end of November. Look out for more info in the November Newsletter.

New Years' Cruise to be hosted by the Hicks Family. Bungwahl Cup Race will be on again with the Careel's. RSVP Peter Hicks. Bring some firewood.

Manning River Marathon will be on again 10<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> January. Cruise to Manning Point on the Saturday. Evening meal at the Bowling Club and a hot breakfast before the race. Finish will be back at Taree followed by the Presentation at the Taree Aquatic Club. Thanks for the information provided by Doug.

Australia Day cruise to be hosted by Derek and Leanne. Theme will be "Australiana" Club Flag raising ceremony that will be held at Styles Point on the Saturday.



## General Business

Phillip has approached other clubs about sharing in the cost of buying the new YA Blue Books by the box. Mostly the response was indifferent.

Derek moved a motion the club goes ahead and buys a box and tries to sell them all at a discounted price to the members. Motion seconded by David Cooper.

Vote: 20 For                      1 Against.    CARRIED.

YA affiliation Fees. The banding system will be enforced next year. This fee will cover every member. A silver membership card will be available to every member upon request.

NHTYA is in Band 9 - \$500 per Year.



\$150 goes to YA

\$60 goes to Insurance

\$43 goes to Affiliation Fee

\$232 goes to Yachting NSW

There is now an Australian Trailerable Yacht and Sports Boat Rule.

The new CBH is available on the YA website. Handicaps for some boats have changed, but most have stayed the same. There is also a new definition for Trailer Sailors detailed on the website.

Date of next general Meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2009 at Club Macquarie.

Meeting Closed at 2122 hours.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Minutes of the Committee Meeting Held at: Club Macquarie 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2008

Meeting opened at: 2020hrs

Chairman: President Phillip Sparkes.

Committee members present: Phillip Sparkes, Greg Searles, Hart Peters, Andrew Hall

Apologies: Russell Wilcox.



- Minutes of last meeting Approved. Moved: Greg Searles    Seconded: Hart Peters
- Business arising from the minutes    NIL
- Correspondence  
In: Club Epirb Registration confirmation, December Bilgewater, November Sonata Notes, YA Blue Books, Newcastle Permanent Statement, Received Correspondence from the Tender Centre.  
Out: NIL
- Racing  
Sailing Instructions to be amended by Greg to reflect the new YA Blue Book.  
Greg to write up Notice of Race for upcoming Autumn Season to reflect the new YA Blue Book.  
Graham Walkerden has been trialling the Sail Wave Handicap program and is happy with the results.  
Greg to review with Graham and recommend a decision to the executive whether or not to change boat handicaps prior to the autumn season.
- Cruising  
Derek has emailed out to some members Australia Day Cruise flyer.  
Neville has allocated cruise dates to club members. See Calendar in next Newsletter.
- Membership Approvals  
Robyn Parker and Michael Cusiter were approved for membership.
-

- General Business

YA blue books – have arrived and are available for \$30 from Greg or Hart.

25 Year Celebrations:-

Greg to confirm venue details and dates with RMYC at Toronto.

Stan to send out expressions of interest to ex members of club.

Andrew to work on a time line for the celebrations and look into the catering options at RMYC. Also write up a Notice of Race Invitation for the event for mailing out next year.

The executive have purchased an EPIRB for the club which will be available to club Members when travelling to areas where EPIRBs are required by law. Registration papers have been filed with secretary.

Received Correspondence from the Tender Centre that they will not be sponsoring the Club in 2009.

- Date of next Committee meeting TBA.

- Meeting closed: 2120 hrs

## Spring 2008 Series - Race 7 - 15th November 2008

Yacht	Prov	Start Time	This Race TCF	Finish Time	Elapsed Time	Corrected Time	Pos	BCH	% Variation	Adjusted BCH	Penalty	TCF Next Race
ZORRO		12:55	0.739	15:10:59	2:15:59	1:40:30	1	0.769	4.1%	0.769	1.00%	0.752
POSSUM		12:55	0.745	15:11:46	2:16:46	1:41:53	2	0.765	2.7%	0.765	0.50%	0.753
X RATED		12:50	0.673	15:22:04	2:32:04	1:42:20	3	0.688	2.2%	0.688	0.25%	0.678
FARRTHERS TOY		12:50	0.624	15:37:37	2:47:37	1:44:36	4	0.624	0.0%	0.624	0.00%	0.624
PENULTIMATE		12:35	0.584	15:35:27	3:00:27	1:45:23	5	0.580	(0.7%)	0.580	0.00%	0.583
BLUE MOON		12:45	0.595	15:44:23	2:59:23	1:46:44	6	0.583	(2.0%)	0.583	0.00%	0.593
ATANOS		12:45	0.602	15:42:58	2:57:58	1:47:08	7	0.588	(2.4%)	0.588	0.00%	0.599
KINROSS		12:55	0.710	15:27:28	2:32:28	1:48:15	8	0.686	(3.4%)	0.689	0.00%	0.706
BINNAWAY		12:50	0.683	15:34:50	2:44:50	1:52:35	9	0.635	(7.1%)	0.663	0.00%	0.679
WANDERER II		12:50	0.659	15:51:09	3:01:09	1:59:23	10	0.577	(12.4%)	0.639	0.00%	0.655
ARCTIC TERN II		12:35	0.556	16:27:32	3:52:32	2:09:17	11	0.450	(19.1%)	0.539	0.00%	0.553

Husband & Wife: POSSUM

Officer Of The Day: ORANJE

## Spring 2008 Series - Race 8 - 16th November 2008



Yacht	Prov.	Start Time	This Race TCF	Finish Time	Elapsed Time	Corrected Time	Pos	BCH	% Variation	Adjusted BCH	Penalty	TCF Next Race
ARCTIC TERN II		11:35	0.553	14:08:25	2:33:25	1:24:50	1	0.601	8.7%	0.575	1.00%	0.563
ATANOS		11:45	0.599	14:08:25	2:23:25	1:25:54	2	0.643	7.3%	0.623	0.50%	0.607
PENULTIMATE		11:35	0.583	14:10:08	2:35:08	1:30:27	3	0.594	2.0%	0.594	0.25%	0.587
KINROSS		11:55	0.706	14:05:37	2:10:37	1:32:13	4	0.706	0.0%	0.706	0.00%	0.706
X RATED		11:50	0.678	14:06:17	2:16:17	1:32:24	5	0.677	(0.2%)	0.677	0.00%	0.678
ORANJE		11:50	0.669	14:10:26	2:20:26	1:33:57	6	0.657	(1.8%)	0.657	0.00%	0.667
ZORRO		11:55	0.752	14:01:16	2:06:16	1:34:57	7	0.730	(2.9%)	0.730	0.00%	0.748
POSSUM		11:55	0.753	14:04:42	2:09:42	1:37:40	8	0.711	(5.6%)	0.730	0.00%	0.748
WANDERER II		11:50	0.655	14:20:49	2:30:49	1:38:47	9	0.611	(6.7%)	0.635	0.00%	0.651
BLUE MOON		11:45	0.593	14:43:58	2:58:58	1:46:08	10	0.515	(13.1%)	0.575	0.00%	0.589

Husband & Wife: ARCTIC TERN II

Officer Of The Day: FARRTHERS TOY

## Race Report Spring Series Race 8

After a dismal result in race 7 we were determined to redeem ourselves in today's race. However with all the talk of strong winds and rain our excitement turned into anxious anticipation, a quick walk over the hill to view the bay confirmed we were going to be in for a rough ride.

South East Bay course was chosen which would see us hard onto the wind to the first mark "coon". After changing headsail to the smallest jib and preparing a main reef we headed to the start.

David and Hazel "OOD" prepared the starting gate in a slightly protected area near the Bowling club which was good as in this wind we were quickly on the line and to bare away and go back several times, and there is still 15 minutes to go! I'm so anxious I just wish this race would start.

Finally the flag drops, Penultimate and Arctic Tern are off to the first mark "Coon" to port. Haft way across my nerves calm down enough to survey the situation, we are holding Penultimate off, the boat feels good and is pointing well, the cockpit cushions are wet from wave spray over the bow this is great I won't bother with the reef.

Once we spotted the mark it seemed Ralph had it straight on course and we will have to put in one final tack to round it, the question was when!

A quick look behind to see Penultimate tack. Right let's do the same, "O" no Dee's gone below I'll have to do it myself, and what a mess I made of that, over steered, boat at beam, jib is flogging and tying its self into knots, the boats heeling to 35° and everything's on the floor again.

We quickly regained boat speed and made it around in front of them "Yahoo" now we can relax for the run to "Coal Point".

And what a fun ride that was. Penultimate was never more than 20 metres away (once very much closer) they were off our starboard stern and slowly closing. Just off Coal Point cardinal marker the waves picked up and we surfing down them only to notice Ralph had veered off to the east and passed us, where is he going, O look there's the mark we had just lost 50 metres.

Coal Point to Green Point was broad reach and we were way over powered the tiller was heavy and not responding, twice the boat rounded up and stopped. This was our worst leg Penultimate was getting away the rest of the fleet was catching, although we couldn't make who was who it won't be long before they are on us, one thing for sure Oranje was fast catching. Upon arriving at Green Point, Penultimate made a rare mistake and allowed us to pass. It was a nervous leg past the danger boy close to the rocks at lee on a close hauled point, it would take a perfect tack if needed but the wind held and we were round "Slip" and off to Fishing Point on a up wind bumpy road. Arctic Tern was pointing well and it looked like we might be able to clear Coal Point without tacking. Oranje by now was in the lead but off to the East, Penultimate was to the west and needed to tack to clear Coal Point as we did to, just to be safe. Then it was a beam reach to Fishing Point the fleet was right behind Zorro, Possum, X-Rated, Kinross and Penultimate was amongst them as well but they were all bearing down on us.

It looked like Oranje has thrown the towel in and gone for home. Dee said maybe they have changed the course and if so we might win? No we need to back to Coon first. Zorro caught us just before Coon followed by X Rated. The run back home had poles out for the downwind race Possum went past followed by Kinross.

With the finish line in sight the only thing that mattered now was to beat A'tanos across the line. The sails were goose winged and bagged, the keel was singing as we pushed the biggest bow wave I have ever seen from Arctic Tern and yes we did beat you Phil.

Many thanks to the club for a great race weekend, to the OOD Dave and Hazel and we will continue to try and improve as its much more fun at the pointy end.

Andy & Dee  
Arctic Tern

**POINTSCORE up-to and including Hawkesbury Cruise**

<b>SURNAME</b>	<b>KNOWN AS</b>	<b>BOAT TYPE</b>	<b>BOAT NAME</b>	<b>CLUB BOAT</b>	<b>SOCIAL</b>
SPARKES	Phillip & Kim	Sonata 7	<i>A'tanos</i>	19	11
TRACEY	Derek & Leanne	Ross 780	<i>Kinross</i>	18	8
HALL	Andrew & Dee	Farr 6000	<i>Arctic Tern II</i>	16	6
PARKER	Raymond & Bronwyn	Young 7.7	<i>Possum</i>	15	5
PENN	Ralph & Janice	Duncanson 26	<i>Penultimate</i>	14	4
BOOKER	Graham & Maria	Sonata 26	<i>X-Rated</i>	12	2
SEARLES	Greg & Kate	Ross 780	<i>Zorro</i>	12	2
HEAP	Neville & Judy	Sabre 25	<i>Wanderer II</i>	11	6
WALKERDEN	Graham & Debbie	Sabre 22	<i>Gunsmoke</i>	10	2
BROEKMAN	Arnold & Jo	Haynes Tramp	<i>Oranje</i>	10	0
PETERS	Hart & Pam	Farr 7500	<i>Farr &amp; Beyond</i>	9	3
COOPER	David & Hazel	Farr 7500	<i>Farrther's Toy</i>	7	3
STEELE	Stan & Wendy	Farr 6000	<i>Blue Moon</i>	7	2
HOBBS	Bill & Lynda	Haynes Tramp	<i>Trivia</i>	7	0
WATSON	Malcolm & Betsy	Sonata 7	<i>Windsong</i>	6	4
CUSITER	Michael	McGregor	<i>Something</i>	6	2
VIVIAN	Graeme & Heidi	Castle 650	<i>Vivace</i>	6	0
CHALMERS	Garry & Kathy	Sonata 7	<i>Coconut Duck</i>	4	4
WHITE	Barry & Kathy	Clifton 7	<i>Binnaway</i>	4	3
SWAN	Peter & Brenda	Sabre 22	<i>Tamu Ndoto</i>	4	2
STANFIELD	Doug	Adams 21	<i>Roller Coaster</i>	3	2
HECK	Hans & Anita	Austral Clubman	<i>Cross Wind</i>	3	1
NUNN	Ian	Farr 7500	<i>Farr Horizon</i>	3	0
WILCOX	Russell & Michelle	Haynes Tramp	<i>Slippery when Wet</i>	3	0
HEANLY	Peter & Hilary	Sabre 22	<i>Sabre Dancer</i>	2	1
WADDINGHAM	Eric & Janice	Young 6	<i>Blyth Spirit</i>	2	0
NEWMAN	Kevin & Gaylene	Sabre 22	<i>Keanu</i>	2	0
WHATSON	Garry & Cheryl	Sonata 7	<i>No Worries</i>	2	0
JANKAWIAK	Barnard & Barbara	Gazelle	<i>Blew By U</i>	1	1
HICKS	Peter & Noula	Noalex 25	<i>Proteus</i>	1	1
ARKINSTALL	Ben & Karen	Sonata 26	<i>Brontide</i>	1	0



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## Hawkesbury River Cruise – November 2008

Cruise Leaders Graeme and Maria on X-Rated led nine other yachts on a full and fun filled weekend. Roller Coaster and Windsong launched on Thursday, Kinross, Penultimate, A'tanos, Blue Moon, Something & X-Rated launched at varying times through Friday and Binnaway launched 8.30 am Saturday. Coconut Duck arriving much later that evening.

Kinross has been quite happy to discuss their previous premature launching at Styles Point, a metre or so before reaching the waters edge, however on Friday mid-dayish they had some difficulty unhooking the taught winch line with the yacht 70% off the trailer:.... the yacht eager to be afloat but the winch desperate to avoid another premature launch!

By 9.30am Saturday the fleet congregated in America Bay where Roller Coaster, Windsong, Kinross, A'tanos, Blue Moon & Penultimate had over-nighted. The Cruise Leader promptly nominated Penultimate to produce the cruise report then led the fleet out to Lion Island for a Port rounding and returns to Patonga for the obligatory "fish & chips" lunch. This was a great sailing event which started in the sheltered America Bay with 3 knots rising to 15 to 18 knots out in Broken Bay. With a one metre swell gently lifting the yachts, we all had an enjoyable sail. At one stage Roller Coaster and Penultimate, both single handing, furlled their headsails as we worked into the North Easter and unfurled as we rounded Lion Island and ran back to Patonga for 12.30 lunch.

The tide was falling and Something, Windsong, Blue Moon & Penultimate had tucked in to the sheltered water behind the small point at the east end of the bay. The fish & chips were up to the expected high standard and half way through the meal Windsong elected to move to deeper water. They then hailed Penultimate "I think you might be touching the bottom".....Oooo.... yes I am. I had purposely moored stern out to the deep water, could not kedge off the hard and had to reverse drive off. Well by this time Something was hard aground. With Penultimate acting as a Tug at full throttle and many hands rocking and skewing Something to break her free we just had to concede that the low tide was going to win the round.

Something floated off at 6.30 Saturday evening! Michael however completed many important chores that his yacht needed so while the event was a wee bit embarrassing it was not unproductive.

After the lunch break the fleet headed off to round Dangar Island and proceed onwards to later raft up for the night in Castle Lagoon off Yeomans Bay.

A'tanos accompanied X-Rated to Dangar Island, the rest of the fleet went direct to Yeomans Bay.

The later group observed Castle Lagoon to be rather crowded on arrival and moored further up in Yeomans Bay where the water was 14m deep and rose quickly to one metre at the shallows. (Roller Coaster was with this group, but obviously knew the area, and went straight into Castle Lagoon.)



## Sunday lunch at HOUSEBOAT BAY

Having left Roller Coaster to follow the strict instructions of the Cruise Leader and enter Castle Lagoon the others felt more at home at the end of Yeomans Bay where some of the keen ones went for a swim. This “part of the fleet” enjoyed a relaxing time that was to be cut short. You see, the Dangar Island rounders had completed the programmed “mission” and had found fewer day boats in Castle Lagoon and went in to join Roller Coaster tucked deep into the Lagoon in the shallows. X-Rated then called on the radio to enquire “where the hell are you” there is plenty of room in the Lagoon!

So Windsong, Blue Moon, Binnaway, Kinross & Penultimate up-anchored and proceeded to the Lagoon. Oooops...with 14m of water depth, Leanne was beaten by the total weight of chain and anchor so Derek had to do the foredeck chores. Windsong and Blue Moon had moored in shallower water and up-anchored quite easily.

With assistants waiting in the shallows we all entered Castle Lagoon and anchored stern-to shore. What a delightful location. Geez I’m glad Graeme summoned us to the Lagoon. Never been here before and it is a snug little hole in the wall. X-Rated, Binnaway and Penultimate skippers were observed paddling in the shallows with cameras capturing the tranquillity of the Lagoon in the late afternoon sun.

Oooops, Barry lost one of his Crock shoes in the squishy sand where the reeds were proliferating and rather than overbalance and drown the camera he chose to donate the shoe to the Lagoon.

Time for more swimming followed by the obligatory Happy Hour then evening meal preparations. Penultimate fired up the 25 year old home made Bar-B-Q, with basic “Heat Beads” as fuel; did not start the potatoes early enough, they were inedible but the meat was perfect with a plate of salad. Nearly finished the meal and at 7.30 the heavens opened up with a significant rain event accompanied with pea size hail.

How fortuitous was that! Good swim, great happy hour, fulfilling meal and we then get the salt washed off the decks without having to exert ourselves. Well that is what happened on Penultimate. We were then immediately entertained by the rushing of water cascading down the gully at the head of the Lagoon. The surrounding sandstone cliffs and gullies don’t absorb the rain and it is channelled into the gully feeding the Lagoon bringing with it eroded sandstone that forms the shallows that we were anchored in. A magic location, and Graeme on X-Rated somehow arranged the rain event to punctuate the occasion.

Coconut Duck arrived late Saturday evening and set off from Parsley Bay for America Bay only to turn back because of darkness and a heavy rain squall. (There were many such squalls on Friday and Saturday and some were supported with 30 knot winds that only lasted as the front passed by.) On approaching the breakwater pontoon, Kathy was ready at the bow to step off with the mooring line but the approach was a bit wide so Garry leaped onto the pontoon.....throw me the line Kathy.....Oooooops.....it fell short....Coconut Duck, with Kathy now in command, drifted into the centre of Parsley Bay with much animated discussion between them on what was the best way to correct the situation. They over nighted on the pontoon and were entertained (kept awake) throughout the pm & am with the arrival and departure of fishing enthusiasts in their tinnies.

Sunday dawned blue sky and sunshine so the Cruise Leader set off in true leadership fashion, sails raised and led the fleet up Cowan Creek, tacking,... tacking.... tacking.... tacking.... while Penultimate and Binnaway motored straight into the wind. All the other yachts followed X-Rated’s lead with a neat set of sails hoisted.

We pass by Cottage Point with the Coast Guard prominently located, houses anchored into the steep sandstone cliffs, some up to 4 stories as they ramp up the hill side, and cars parked in every available nook and cranny along the winding hillside road. Oh of course there were a significant number of yachts and motor cruisers to compliment the mansions.

I casually glance at the depth sounder.....28 metres!!!!....I hope the engine does not stop because I won’t be able to anchor out here in the middle. From then on a depth of 20 metres was typical.

Cruisers motoring, Tinnies scurrying, Skidoos rocketing by, people fishing from the shore and one walker observed on the shore-side track just as we near Bobbin Head and the Marina. Some of our fleet venture through the Marina, mesmerised by a couple of Multi-Million dollar Cruisers and a marina full to the brim with all manner of craft. At 12.00 mid-day Graeme leads us back a few hundred metres to Houseboat Bay, another hole in the wall fed by a gully and silted up with a delightfully shallow headwater just right for anchoring Trailer Sailers in the sandy bottom. Hot day demands a swim; Garry on Coconut Duck accidentally jettisons his reading glasses to be retrieved

from the bottom by some guy who thinks the water is too cold and is wearing a wet suit and goggles. Well don't laugh, I feel the cold! A Yellow ball is produced and the swimmers set up a play group.

Lunch is over by 1.00 pm and congestion at Parsley Bay Ramp is high on the mind of Kinross who heads off as does A'tanos. A'tanos had dutifully installed new bearings on the trailer before the trip but on arrival at Parsley Bay on Friday found the rear axle bearings were a bit loose and could not be tightened up as the nut was bottoming on the axle thread. It seems that the hubs were of an "old" design that used wider taper roller bearings and the newer, and narrower, bearings were for new style hubs. So with help from delivery man Hart Peters a new set of hubs and new bearings set the trailer up in perfect condition for the trip home.

The Cruise Leader then summoned the remaining fleet for a trip to ...quote

*"Waratah Bay where lies the wreck of the "General Gordon" the only stern wheel paddle steamer to operate on the Hawkesbury River. Built in Terrigal in 1886 she ferried rail passengers across the river until the Brooklyn Bridge was opened in 1889. For the next 20 years she carried tourists along the river from Brooklyn. Mr Windybank, the owner, cut her in half, and later into quarters, to serve as houseboats in Cowan-hence the name of nearby "Houseboat Bay". The remains of one of these sections lays in Waratah Bay. Extract from "Cruising Guide to the Hawkesbury River and Cowan, Broken Bay, Pittwater, by John and Jocelyn Powell. held by Betsy Watson.*

After viewing the wreck we headed off up Smith Creek to another "shallow and sandy bottomed hole in the wall" where X-Rated, Something, Coconut Duck and Roller Coaster were left at 2.30 pm to spend their afternoon while Penultimate bade them farewell and headed back to overnight again in Castle Lagoon arriving at 4 pm. Half an hour later Windsong rafts up to Penultimate. Later on Roller Coaster and Coconut Duck arrive and raft up. The afternoon rolls on, Coconut Duck departs for Parsley Bay and Roller Coaster picks up a mooring. Penultimate is invited to Windsong for happy hour followed by Pasta Bolognese and Red Wine!!!!

Thank you Betsy and Malcolm you were good company, provided good food and I appreciated your perfect hospitality.

Monday morning 6.15am, Penultimate disturbs the tranquil anchorage of Castle Lagoon and leaves for Parsley Bay, arriving there at 7.15am in time to see Coconut Duck drive away from the ramp, I assume, having just retrieved. While de-rigging Penultimate at the outer Pontoon, Roller Coaster arrives and retrieves quickly with her mast still up. 8.30am Penultimate is retrieved and Doug's offer to assist was both welcome and accepted, thanks Doug.

Other than some rain events on the Friday, the weather was just right, the Lion Island rounding, venturing near to the ocean (mini) swell was a "Rollicking Good Ride" the anchorages were perfect for shallow water swimming and Penultimate had a ripper good time.

Well done Graeme and Maria, an enjoyable cruise.

*Unfortunately Penultimate did not advise X-Rated of its intended Monday retrieval and X-Rated observed my Truck & Trailer still there on Sunday evening. Assuming I was in some trouble Graeme took his responsibilities as Cruise Leader quite seriously and went to considerable effort to contact me, but with no phone or radio transmission possible out from Castle Lagoon I could not respond to his enquiries. My sincere apology goes to the Cruise Leader for my misdemeanour and my appreciation to Philip Sparkes for suitably allaying Graeme's concerns as Philip knew I was extending my stay.*

## Ralph Penn, Penultimate



### IN STOCK

We now have in stock lots of copies of the new "Yachting Australia. Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012"

All boats that race need to carry one on the boat whilst racing and it's not a bad idea for cruising boats too.

The cost to club members is \$30 (in shops \$37.95)

Contact Greg and Hart when you want one (or two).



Watson Residence - 41 Boyd Street, Swansea  
Come by car or boat !

## **NHTYA CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Saturday December 13, 6.30 pm**

Come along & join in a 3 course meal, Xmas Cheer & live  
entertainment

*Bring along a \$5.00 wrapped gift per person*

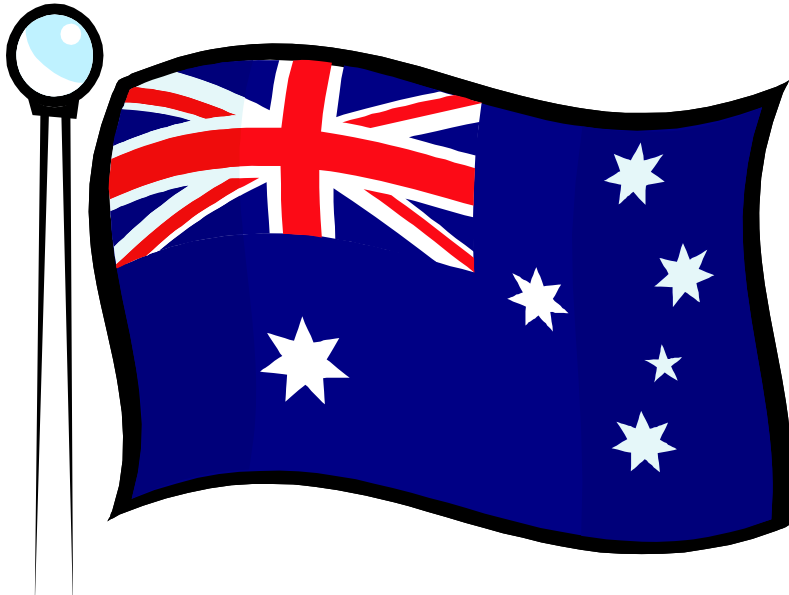
\$20.00 per head  
\$10.00 children aged 6 to 12  
\$5.00 children aged 5 & under

BYO : drinks, chairs & picnic set (plates, glasses, cutlery etc)

Please R.S.V.P. by December 9  
Betsy on 49 714430



# Our Australia Day Cruise



**Meet at Styles Point at 10.00am for our flag raising ceremony.**

**We will be leaving our boat trailer at Marmong Marina Ramp for a late retrieval Monday Night.**

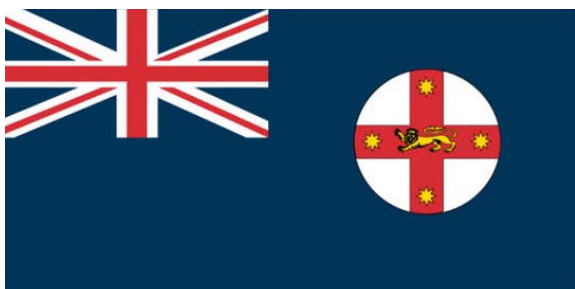
**A trip to Australian sites around the lake by way of a circumnavigation of the lake. Using the Map provided. Prizes awarded for their discovery. The more prizes collected the less chance of writing the cruise report.**

**Points of interest will include overnight at Bondi Beach, Lunch at Ayers Rock, Overnight at Fraser Island and even a Beer and Prawns dinner on Saturday Night. Sheila's are requested to bring a Salad or a Pav for the table.**



**Sheila's and Bloke's Dress up for Sunday Arvo Drinkies . We will stopping near a BBQ on Sunday night so bring some meat or snags so we can throw another one on.**

**For those who will stay for the fire works at 8.45pm Monday night you will be pleased to know that the food vans have been moved to the other side of the park so we get full view of the days activities.**



# Chocolate Crackle Christmas Tree

You will need 2 x 30cm round boards to support the trees. Heavy cardboard covered with gift paper, a large plate or a foil-covered upturned tray could be used. Any remaining chocolate crackle mixture can be spooned into paper patty cases. Recipe can be prepared a week ahead. Assemble trees up to 3 days before serving; keep trees refrigerated.

## Ingredients :

½ cup dark chocolate Melts, melted  
coloured cachous  
½ cup white chocolate Melts melted  
sweets  
icing sugar mixture

## Chocolate Crackle Mixture:

1½ cups (240g) icing sugar mixture  
¼ cup (25g) cocoa powder  
4 cups (140g) Rice Bubbles  
¾ cup (65g) coconut  
100g packet Mallow Bakes  
250g Copha, melted  
1 1/3 cups (200g) dark chocolate Melts, melted



## Method :

- Mark 12 crosses on sheets of baking paper; you need 2 of each size: 18cm, 16cm, 14cm, 13cm, 9cm, and 7cm. Place paper onto trays.
- Press 2 teaspoons of the chocolate crackle mixture into a greased 5cm star cutter; refrigerate until set. Remove the cutter carefully, repeat process to make 2 stars.
- Drop teaspoonfuls of remaining chocolate crackle mixture along marked crosses, press mixture together lightly; refrigerate until set.
- Spread one side of each star shape with a little dark chocolate; press on some of the cachous, allow to set.
- To assemble trees, place a small amount of dark chocolate in centre of prepared boards, press the 18cm crosses onto chocolate. Repeat process with remaining crosses and chocolate, from largest to smallest to form 2 trees. It is important each layer is set before topping with another cross. If crosses are uneven, support underneath until chocolate has set. Secure stars to tops of trees with a little more chocolate; refrigerate until set.
- Drizzle white chocolate over the branches. Cut the candles into 2cm pieces; secure candles to branches with more white chocolate. Attach sweets and remaining cachous to branches with a little more white chocolate.

Just before serving, dust trees with sifted icing sugar.

\*\*\*\*\*

## NAUTICAL ORIGINS OF EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS

### Above Board

Literally the wooden boards of planking which make up the deck. Any activity which went on “above boards” would be in the open for everyone to see. Thus it has come to mean honest and fair dealing.

### Heavy Weather

To make heavy weather or heavy going of something is to make unnecessary hard work. To meet heavy weather is to suffer unexpected difficulty. Each compares with a ship labouring in heavy seas.

### Spic and Span

In pristine condition. Is referred originally to a newly built ship. A *spic* was a spike or a nail, a *span* a length of timber – both primary items of ship construction.

### Taken Aback

A ship is said to be *taken aback* when through a dramatic shift in the wind or careless steering, her sails suddenly billow out in reverse. The helmsman is then taken aback in more senses than one.

More from the *old salt* next newsletter!

ARGH!! **Hart**





# Mad Hatters New Years Eve Party

At Beautiful Myall Lakes

Prizes for the best, most original and funniest hat.

Bring a hat or create it with one of your sun hats while you are there.

Weather permitting it will be at Neranie Sands old camp site,  
if not it will be somewhere nearby.

BYO Nibblies and drinks.

Start Time 7.00pm.

Fun and Games before we welcome in the New Year.

New Years Day  
we will have a fun race with the Careels (Cringes) and try to win back the Bungwahl Bucket  
we lost to them a few years ago.

**Please let Peter or Noula Hicks (Proteus)  
know if you are able to come by phoning them at  
49478327 or Mobile 0418497733**





**Question: How do I tell which is my No 1, No 2 or No 3 headsail?**

**Answer:** A lot of people are confused about this one, particularly new sailors. To determine headsail sizes you need to know your boats J measurement. This is the distance from the front of the mast at deck level forward to where the forestay connects to the bow. If you know this measurement, say 3 metres, multiply it by 150% and you end up with a length of 4.5 metres. This is called the LP and is the distance from the luff at right angles back to the clew. See Diagram A No 1 typically has an LP length of 150% making it the biggest headsail on the boat. A No 2 has an LP of approx 130%, and No3 has an LP of around 98 – 100%. There is a complex method of calculating luff length but in basic terms a No. 1 has a luff length approximately 95% of the forestay length. The No 2 and No 3 are normally made just under this length.

If you ever have your boat rated for handicap purposes for example CHS or IMS handicapping the maximum sail size you can have without incurring a penalty is an LP of 150%

*Extracted from "Eastwinds Sails" Newsletter*



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*Boating Insurance*  
*Specialists Since 1984.*

**Call Greg**  
**Or Angie**

**Today On: 02-49624888**

**R & M group**

**OOD Roster**

**2009**

**Race 1 Autumn**  
*Zorro*

**Race 2 Autumn**  
*Farr & Beyond*

**Race 5 Autumn**  
*Blue Moon*

**Race 6 Autumn**  
*Farr Horizon*

**Race 3 Autumn**  
*Trivia*

**Race 4 Autumn**  
*Wanderer II*

**Race 7 Autumn**  
*Binnaway*

**Race 8 Autumn**  
*Windsong*

**If you can't do it on your allocated date swap with someone else and let Greg know**

# Newcastle & Hunter Trailer Yacht Assoc.

## Program 2008 - 2009

Day	Date	Activity	Venue	Time	Contact	Ph number	Points
Next newsletter closing date 1/2/09							
Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup> December	Xmas get together	Watson Residence	1830	Betsy Watson	49714430	
Wednesday	31 <sup>st</sup> December	Cruise	Myall Lakes	2359	Peter Hicks	49478327	2
Sat/Sun	10 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> January	Cruise / Race	Manning River	1000	Doug Stanfield	49974792	
Sat/Mon	24 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> January	Cruise Australia Day	Lake Macquarie		Derek Tracey	49501133	2
Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup> February	Race 1 Autumn	Styles Point	1130	Greg Searles	49381116	1
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup> February	Race 2 Autumn	Styles Point	1030	Greg Searles	49381116	1
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup> February	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	1930	Hart Peters	43682230	
Sat/Sun	21 <sup>st</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Cruise	Wallis Lakes	1000	Phillip Sparkes	0414223654	2
Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup> March	Race 3 Autumn	Styles Point	1130	Greg Searles	49381116	1
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup> March	Race 4 Autumn	Styles Point	1030	Greg Searles	49381116	1

Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup> March	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	1930	Hart Peters	43682230	
Sat/Sun	21 <sup>st</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Cruise	Lake Macquarie	1000	Hart Peters	43682230	2
Saturday	4 <sup>th</sup> April	Race 5 Autumn	F-Jetty	1130	Greg Searles	49381116	1
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> April	Race 6 Autumn	F-Jetty	1030	Greg Searles	49381116	1
Sat/Sun	10 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Cruise Easter	Myall Lakes	1000	Neville Heap	43323529	2
Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup> April	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	1930	Hart Peters	43682230	
	25 <sup>th</sup> April		Anzac Day				
Saturday	2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Race 7 Autumn	F-Jetty	1130	Greg Searles	49381116	1
Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Race 8 Autumn	F-Jetty	1030	Greg Searles	49381116	1
Sat/Sun	16 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Cruise					2
Tuesday	19 <sup>th</sup> May	AGM Meeting	Club Macquarie	1930	Hart Peters	43682230	
Sat/Sun	6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Cruise	Queens B/Day				2
Tuesday	16 <sup>th</sup> June	General Meeting	Club Macquarie				
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup> June	Presentation Night	Club Macquarie		Phillip Sparkes	0414223654	
Sat/Sun	11 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Cruise	On shore				2
Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup> July	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	1930			
Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup> July	Reg'o Day	Sailaway Belmont	1000	Hart Peters	43682230	
Sat/Sun	8 <sup>th</sup> - 9 <sup>th</sup> August	Cruise					2
Tuesday	18 <sup>th</sup> August	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	1930			
Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup> August	Race 1 Spring	F-Jetty	1130	Greg Searles	49381116	1
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup> August	Race 2 Spring	F-Jetty	1030	Greg Searles	49381116	1
Sat/Sun	5 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Cruise	Dads day				2

### MEMBERS

Having their birthday in

#### *December*

Debbie Walkerden  
Kate Searles  
Pam Peters  
Graeme Booker.

#### *January*

Phillip Sparkes  
Arnold Broekman  
Brenda Swan  
Stan Steele  
Ralph Penn  
Hilary Heanly



## Program 2009

10-11	January	Invitation Race	Manning River Race	Manning River
24-26	January	Cruise	Australia Day	Lake Macquarie
7-8	February	Autumn Race 1-2	Styles Point	
17	February	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	
21-22	February	Cruise		Wallis Lakes
7-8	March	Autumn Race 3-4	Styles Point	
17	March	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	
21-22	March	Cruise		Lake Macquarie
4-5	April	Autumn Race 5-6	F Jetty	
10-13	April	Cruise	Easter	Myall Lakes
18-19	April	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	
25-26	April		Anzac Day	
2-3	May	Autumn Race 7-8	F Jetty	
9-10	May	Mums day		
16-17	May	Cruise		
19	May	AGM Meeting	Club Macquarie	
6-8	June	Cruise	Queens B/Day	
16	June	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	
27	June	Presentation Night		
11-12	July	Cruise	On shore	
21	July	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	
25	July	Rego day		Sailaway Belmont
8-9	August	Cruise		
18	August	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	
22-23	August	Spring Race 1-2	F Jetty	
5-6	September	Cruise	Dads day	
15	September	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	
19-20	September	Spring Race 3-4	F Jetty	
26-27	September			
3-5	October	3 and 6 hour Race	30 <sup>th</sup> Regatta	30 <sup>th</sup> anniversary
11	October	Happy Birthday Club		
17-18	October	Cruise		
20	October	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	
24-25	October			
31-1	October-November	Spring Race 5-6	Styles Point	
14-15	November	Cruise		
17	November	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	
28-29	November	Spring Race 7-8	Styles Point	
12	December	Christmas get-together		

These dates can change please check closer to the function.