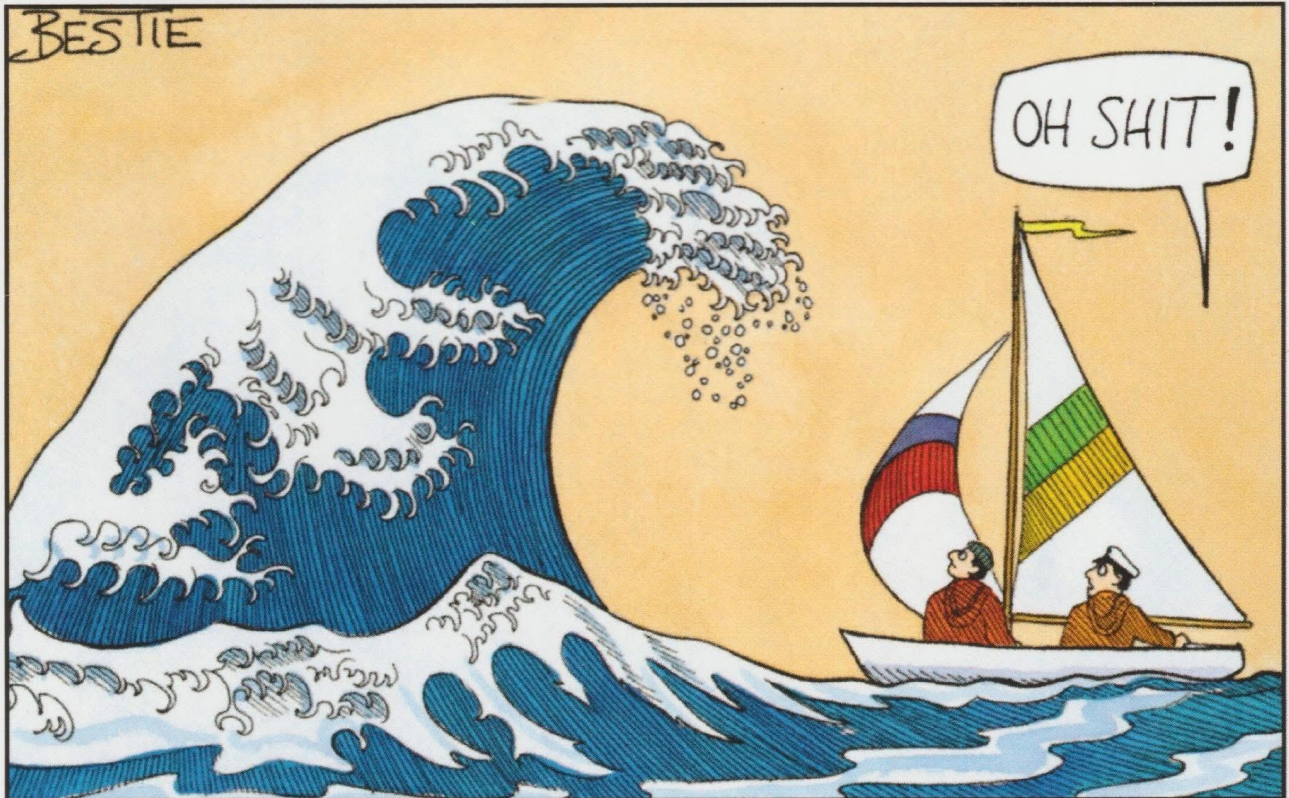


CATALINA FLEET NEWS

April 2026



DAD WAS A KEEN SAILOR AND KNEW ALL THE APPROPRIATE NAUTICAL TERMS

NHTYA  **Newcastle and Hunter Trailer Yacht Association Inc.**
www.trailersailer.org

www.trailersailer.org

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Use your name as reference

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General Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given of the
Newcastle and Hunter Trailer Yacht
Association.

**Tuesday 7pm on
14th April 2026 at
Club Macquarie and via ZOOM**

If you have information for the next
newsletter, please email by 7th May
to

johnlisa@outlook.com

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Commodores Muse

Greetings to you all.

Thank you to all that attended the Special Meeting in March regarding if monthly meetings will still be held at Club

Macquarie, just on Zoom, held at various other locations, or a combination of options. I would like to thank Phil and Kim who have diligently attended in-person meetings over the years and gave an insight into where meetings have been held previously, such as people's homes and other locations.

One thing which stood out is that when we were in Covid lockdown, we would have discussions on all sort of topics after the General Meeting was finished organised by Peter Melbourne, and people looked forward to these once the business of running the club was finished. Great news, we are going to start these up again, with the 1st by Rob Remmington after the April General Meeting, which will be at Club Macquarie and on Zoom as normal.

There is now a poll up on the Facebook page to try and get a better understanding of how we can better meet your needs to attend meetings. We understand that people have busy lives or live a long way away and can attend by Zoom but not in person. I also understand that a lot of us socialise at the Rathmines Bowling Club on the Saturday nights after racing, and non-racers are now coming along to join in the fun as well.

I'm looking forward to the Easter Myall Lakes Cruise report and photos in the newsletter, and where the traditional 'Easter Pizzas' were cooked this year. Phil and Kim have such great knowledge of the history of the Myall Lakes that bring a totally different perspective to how it is today!

Well, I had been hoping to go for a few day sails on the lake over Easter, however the weather was just enough rainy that I did gardening instead! Did you go out at all? If you did, please give us a rundown at the meeting on how it was.

It's a race weekend next weekend 11 & 12 April, so see you there if racing, and join us all at the Bowlo after for dinner from 6pm to catch up and have a great time!

I missed seeing the OTB's head out for their March race, however, I heard that they had a great time. The April OTB is on 18 April, so let Brian know if you have an OTB and want to join in!

Fair winds to you all, and see you at the ramp soon!

Ken. Your Commodore

Minutes for General Meeting

17 March 2026

Welcome to Meeting: Ken Hill

Meeting Opened: 7.01 pm

ATTENDANCE

Apologies: Kathy & Barry White, Roger York, Paul & Jennifer Webster, Jackie & Peter Armstrong, Sue & Will Hardcastle, Tania Hill, John Boer & Simon Gregson.

Attendance: Via Zoom Hart Peters, Peter & Karen Armitage, Jennifer Gregson, Peter Melbourne, Brian & Val Harrison, Jennina Boer, Wayne Bacon, Jodee Davey, Robert Rimington, Chris Keever, John & Carol, Doug Dyce, John & Lisa Pateman & John Haig

Attendance at Club Macquarie: Ken Hill, Greg Cross, Phillip & Kim Sparkes, Derek & Leanne Tracey

Visitor/s: Nil

Minutes of last meeting:

The minutes of meeting held 17 February 2026 as printed in the March 2026 Newsletter be accepted.

Moved: Ken Hill

Seconded: Jennina Boer

Any matters arising from the previous minutes:

Treasurer Report Updated from last month showing Xero Software is \$35.00 per month, not \$70.00, which is for 2 months.

Moved: Jennifer Gregson. **Seconded:** Robert Rimington

Any items to be discussed in General Business: Nil.

Mailbox: PO Box Renewal Invoice & Signal Magazine.

Correspondence In: Nil.

Email:

Peter Melbourne - received an email chasing up Survey they wanted us to do. Chased up Sailing Australia and they sent an email with a link. They are pretty keen for us to have our say.

Phillip Sparkes - Why are they getting us to do this Survey? There seems very little in it that applies to us or what they are going to do to help us.

Peter Melbourne – There appears to be very little that relates to us.

Hart Peters - The email came out on 9th February it's about working with the Sports Commission to basically plan for a future with what Clubs' experience within their own Club. I didn't see it myself either.

Ken Hill – Ken Hill, Peter Melbourne & Greg Cross will have a Zoom Meeting and attend to answering it and sending it off.

Rob Rimington - Sailing Australia have some excellent online learning tools and courses that are free if you have an ASA number. I have looked at doing a couple of those for just a little fun. Will let us know when they.

Phillip Sparkes – Why don't you complete the course to get your Certificates to benefit the Club.

Action Taken –

Outwards: Correspondence requesting use of F Jetty sent to LMCC 16.3.2026.

Treasurers Report was presented by Jennifer Gregson and shared on the screen.

The full Treasurers Report is available to Members in the "Members Only" section of the website.

Thank you.

Jennifer Gregson.

Treasurer.

Treasurers Report Moved: Jennifer Gregson

Seconded: Carol Parker

Racing Report

➤ **Peter Melbourne**

- We had the Race Weekend the weekend before this last one. We had 9 Boats on the Saturday. Forecasts were for wet weather. We did have a few boats away at the moment. That was Will & Sue and Brian & Val were down doing the Marlay Point. Ken's Ute wouldn't start, so his boat wasn't there. We did 2 Races on the Saturday in quite nice conditions. We did a triangle sausage course using the Wangi marker near the end of Coal Point then across to Fishing Point. Turned into a really nice course which everyone seemed to enjoy. It kept the boats all pretty close together, it was good fun.
- Unfortunately on the Sunday the Southerly came through with a bit of a thunderstorm on the Saturday night, forecast to be about 15 knots. It had been blowing up over 20 knots. By the time of pre-race briefing it was dropping down to around 15 knots. We thought we would go for it.

- By the time the Start Boat got into position we were motoring out past F-Jetty and there were some pretty heavy swells even at that point. So Kerry and I just put up the reefed main and went out for a bit of a sail into the main bay to see what it was like. Chris Keevers had already gone across and you could see he was struggling. Kerry then made the comments “Are we really going out in this.” “Do you want to break your boat?” “Do you want to break your wife?” We delayed the start by about 5 minutes to see what everyone else’s thoughts were now that they were out there having a look at the conditions.
- 5 of the 6 boats said they didn’t want to race. We ended up abandoning the race. It was an interesting comment from Warren and Doug afterwards that they had had real difficulty in setting up the Start Boat and weren’t too sure what their stomachs were going to be like by the end of the race. Because there had been a long fetch with a strong southerly all night it really kicked up quite a chop.
- With all the effort to catch up on the missed racing we are now a race behind. Not sure if we will be able to catch this up.
- We had a large Cruiser on the ramp side of the jetty. Was blocking the ramp Friday night and it didn’t leave until Sunday afternoon. Fortunately we didn’t have as many boats. John & Jennina ended up going around to FJetty to pull out. A number of us had to pull into the beach and then pull our boats around to the ramp that way. We did ask them to move but they weren’t too keen. I think Warren contacted the Council with their rego details. They said that they had engine problems but they then motored away on Sunday OK. It was a bit entitled of them to be sitting there.
- I had a chat with Rob Tickoff today. Because Rob & Beverley and Kerry & I are the ones that travel the furthest to the racing and obviously with the fuel situation the way it is, I did a bit of a calculation. It’s 180km each way for us to come up to Styles Point. At \$2.70 per litre it works out to be \$125.00 in fuel plus \$30.00 in tolls. So it’s starting to mount up. Rob said that because of the monthly whole weekend format he says it is still worth their while. They will keep coming and we probably will too. But if fuel starts getting scarce then that is something we will have to face at the time. Fuel is \$2.80 here at the moment.
- It’s not like Covid. During Covid we suspended the racing program because we had no choice. People couldn’t travel. It’s just more discretionary for those of us that are travelling further. It may end up that we have to get someone to do the Race organising if we can’t get there.

OTB

➤ **Chris Keevers**

- We had 5 Maricats, a Weta and a Laser. There were 3 Races. Breeze was about 8 - 9 knots. Val set a brilliant course as usual. First race Brian finished just ahead of me.
- Second race. I was leading to the top mark and I managed to pick up the buoy. I had the buoy caught between the hull & the rudder. I was dragging it along. Being first to the mark I had to cop flack from 6 or 7 other boats that went past laughing their heads off at my misfortune. Much glee on their behalf and a few silent words on

mine. I eventually got free and managed to catch up to 2 other boats before the race finished.

- Race 3 was champagne sailing. Brilliant stuff. Nice weather. Good crew. Quite a few. We had a bit of a turn around after the sailing was done. A few stories tall and true were told, mainly my liking for “buoys”. That was the day on the water. OTB was very well done.
- Thanks to Brian and Val they do a great job keeping that together. I enjoy sailing with them, no doubt about it.

➤ **Ken Hill**

- I see that the birthday boy who had a milestone birthday has joined us. Congratulations on the big 80 John Haig.

➤ **John Haig**

- Thanks I have still been celebrating my birthday. Have been fairly crook until after Xmas but now I only have myself to blame.

Cruising Report and Upcoming Cruises

➤ **Phil Sparkes**

- Crabbing Cruise. 4 sailboats & 1 speed boat. 27.5 crabs of which we threw possibly 16 of them back. We ate 10 crabs. Majority were females so we threw them back. We went to a spot on the Lake on Saturday night that I have never been to before. Not going to tell you where. A very good beach setup. Deep water right up to the bank. Nice gravely. Not rocky.
- We cooked the crabs on shore in a pot belly. Saturday night Jodee cooked the fresh crabs and then she made a linguine. We all sat around with our bowls, spoons & forks and hoed into that.
- Launched from Summerland Point in a little bay there. It was down to 800ml of depth getting out of the little harbour. Peter Armstrong hit the bottom at one stage. We had the speed boat because it was quicker to get the crab traps. We didn't put the mast up as we weren't going that far. Jodee did a great job. She went over and above what she needed to do. Even on the way back they checked the crab traps and brought back a couple of crabs.
- **Easter Cruise.** We can't fly pizzas in this year we will be cooking them normally. There will be the second annual inaugural “Duck Race” with new rules. So Peter

can't win this year. We would like people to tell us if they are coming to help with us buying pizza stuff. Launching at Nerong. No National Park fees.

- There is a Cruise on the Lake on the **Anzac weekend**. Flyer with details will come out shortly.

Membership update

➤ **Phillip Sparkes**

- David Bradburn has paid membership & race fees. No membership form received from him as yet.

Update for Facebook & Website

➤ **Greg Cross**

- Have added to data base:
March Trailer Sailer Race Result.

Treasurers report

March Newsletter.
- Requested flyer for Easter cruise then this will be added.

GENERAL BUSINESS

➤ **Ken Hill**

- Location of Meetings & Electing a Meeting Activity Coordinator. Would anyone like to put their hands to organise speakers.
- You can suggest someone from the Club to do a talk on a subject that they know well.

➤ **Peter Melbourne**

- During Covid we weren't connecting any other way. It was only during Zoom Meetings that we were able to connect. There was a whole range of topics. It kicked off with someone asking about Insurance. Some people did a bit of research on that. A rememberable one Kim did on vacuum sealing of food. Phil did one on trailer maintenance. Warren did one on electrics. Mostly used people from within the Club that had a bit of expertise in a particular area. It was important to let people know what the topic was going to be. The whole point was to actually try and attract more people to the Meeting. The Meetings at the moment are a little more administrative.
- What we did was we finished the meeting and then had the topic after that. So if people wanted to leave they could. But most stayed on and listened to the talk and had a bit of discussion about it. We didn't do it every meeting but maybe every second one. It got more difficult as time went on to try and convince people to do

stuff. Was getting harder and harder. So if we have a co-ordinator doing that then the rest of us need to assist them where we can.

➤ **Phil Sparks**

- Last week we went down to Mallacoota which is about 30kms off the Vic Boarder. Gabo Lighthouse is down there and people would probably have heard of that. It has a lake system. We set off with friends from South Australia with a Farr 6 to have a look at. We sailed around there for about a week. If you are thinking about going away for a week and want to go somewhere different, put it on your bucket list. It's laid back and safe. It's catered for the boating tourist. There are jetties everywhere. It's protected. It is nearly all National Park.
- There are 2 major lakes. Similar to the Myall Lakes where half is shallow and half is not. Launched at Mallacoota which is a town of about 1000 people. Shitty road to get into it. We spent 4 days on the water and well and truly saw it all. Several rivers that run into it. Never seen so many fishing people in my life. At night you have the Lake to yourself. There were only 2 houseboats. We initially went down to suss it out for a Club trip. Jetties aren't really set up for 10 boats, like Gippsland Lakes. All the Jetties you could fit 2 boats maybe 3. There were a couple that you would fit 4 or 5 boats at. There are beaches. There are toilets everywhere. We may possibly run a trip down there in a couple of years' time. We didn't put the mast up as it isn't a big enough sail area. We also had no wind while we were there.
- One of the biggest surprises was the Caravan Park where you could launch. 1,600 sites at this caravan park. It was ¾ full when we were there. The town has less than 1000 people. There is an IGA, a Foodworks, a Chinese Restaurant, 2 Service stations and a Pub.

➤ **Jennina Boer**

- Still trying to get a list of our assets. To track equipment.
 - Hart has List of all the Trophies? Will talk to Hart regarding this.
 - Ken may have Decorations.
 - Phil has the hats, stubby holders & Epirb.
 - There are no T-Shirts.
 - Ken has a tear drop flag and banner.
 - Brian may have the other Tear Drop Flag.
 - Brake Winchs on Boat Lift is not Club property.
 - PO Box keys – Ken Hill & Karen Armitage.
 - Bunker keys – Peter Melbourne, Ken Hill, Phillip Sparkes, Brian Harrison & Jennina Boer.
- Will update List every second Meeting unless I say there is nothing to report.

➤ **Robert Rimington**

- Looking forward to the First Aid Course. Thanks Phil & Kim.

➤ **John Haig.**

- Thank you all for the birthday wishes. Couldn't make the last race weekend because I had a family visit from everywhere. Luckily I had my 2 sons, their wives and grandchildren. Put their initials together it means Jocimo with an "O" on the end. All went well. I scored a beautiful set of binoculars and you would not believe the quality they have today. So anyone out there scratching their bum be careful because I will be watching.
- Had dinner with old members, John & Marg Farrington who owned a Sonata 7 named Bunyip, Barry & Kathy joined us as well. Kathy had a birthday a few days before mine. Have been unwell but back on deck now and looking forward to next race weekend and catching up with you people.

➤ **Phillip Sparkes**

- First Aid Course still being run on the 28th March. At the moment there are between 8-10. Not all Club Members. Some pre-learning to do beforehand. Only need to know the night before. \$60.00/pp to do course.

➤ **Hart Peters**

- Re Presentation Night. Swansea RSL doesn't require deposit. Payment on numbers needed about 3 weeks out. Confirmation on the menu 2 weeks out. Booked for 27th June. Will be a flyer coming out.

No other business.

Meeting Closed: 8.09 pm

Karen Armitage

NHTYA Secretary

Special Meeting

17 March 2026

Welcome by Meeting Ken Hill

Meeting Opened: 7. 10 pm

ATTENDANCE

Apologies: Kathy & Barry White, Roger York, Paul & Jennifer Webster, Jackie & Peter Armstrong & Sue & Will Hardcastle, Tania Hill & John Boer & Simon Gregson

Attendance: Via Zoom Hart Peters, Peter & Karen Armitage, Jennifer Gregson, Peter Melbourne, Jennina Boer, Wayne Bacon, Robert Rimington, Chris Keevers & John & Carol, Doug Dyce, John & Lisa Pateman

Attendance at Club Macquarie: Ken Hill, Greg Cross, Phillip & Kim Sparkes, Derek & Leanne Tracey

Visitor/s: Nil

➤ Ken Hill –

- The purpose of the Meeting is to talk about the options for Monthly Association Meetings. To seek Member direction of whether current arrangement at Club Macquarie continue or be modified.
- Under current arrangements we have hybrid Meetings, which is in person and by Zoom as we have today.
- Over the Winter months attendance has declined down to 2 – 4 Members. We had 2 to 3 months where it was just Greg and I in here but we have a great attendance on Zoom.
- We have a formal arrangement with the Club where we say we will have 10-12 Members attending, a pre-meeting dinner and drinks. They allow us to have a room at no cost.
- The good thing is today and at the last Meeting we have had the 6 of us here for dinner and drinks.
- During Covid technology was good because it allowed us to go to Zoom in a larger amount than previously. It has allowed Members who live further away to attend Meetings regularly. We have John & Carol from Dungog. Wayne from Walcha. Doug from Gloucester. Peter & Kerrie from the Blue Mountains. So it has allowed people who don't live close to join in. It has allowed people who might be working late or have trouble getting here to also dial in. But it has meant that there has been a decline in Members coming to the actual physical Meeting.
- We have to talk, be honest and open to comments that people make.
- Zoom does mean that we do loose on face to face interaction but the Cruising and Racing does pick up on that.

- There may be a cost if we don't have enough people coming through to Meetings.
- We have a couple of options and I will run through them.

Option 1: Continue Monthly Hybrid Meetings at Club Macquarie (Status Quo)

Description:

Maintain the current arrangement of monthly meetings at Club Macquarie with hybrid access and continued pre-meeting dinners.

Implications:

- Provides continuity and familiarity
- Maintains strong relationship with Club Macquarie
- No direct meeting room cost
- Does not address declining in-person attendance
- Continues reliance on a small number of Members to attend dinner. These numbers will fall over the winter months as these are the Club's quietest months.

Option 2: Monthly Zoom Meetings with Quarterly In-Person Meetings at Club Macquarie

Description:

Conduct routine monthly meetings via Zoom, with four in-person meetings per year at Club Macquarie (e.g. AGM plus three others), promoted as social and strategic gatherings.

Implications:

- Aligns meeting format with current attendance trends
- Reduces ongoing burden associated with monthly dinners
- Retains regular use of Club Macquarie and the Association's relationship with the Club
- Reduces frequency of face-to-face meetings

Option 3: Hybrid Monthly Meetings at Club Macquarie Without Expectation of Pre-Meeting Dinners

Description:

Maintain monthly meetings at Club Macquarie but remove any implied expectation that Members attend pre-meeting dinners. Meeting room hire costs, if applicable, would be met by the Association.

Implications:

- More equitable arrangement for Members
- Retains physical meeting venue
- Potential increase in Association expenses

- Will require renegotiation with Club Macquarie

Option 4: Fully Online Monthly Meetings; Club Macquarie Used for Social or Special Events Only

Description:

Conduct all monthly meetings via Zoom, with Club Macquarie used for occasional social events, information evenings, or special gatherings.

Implications:

- Maximises accessibility for Members
- Lowest ongoing cost
- Reflects current participation behaviour
- Reduces regular face-to-face engagement
- Changes the nature of the Association's relationship with Club Macquarie

➤ **Phillip Sparkes**

- The reason I wanted this done this way is I wanted it to be formally identified through a Meeting that this is what we are going to do. I didn't just want the Committee to say we are not having General Meetings anymore. It's a big decision for the direction of the Club. That is why I requested we go through this process of a Special Meeting to discuss just this thing.
- I think you can tell that the Committee doesn't want to turn up here. The Committee's decision in the background has already been made. They don't want to have Meetings here. That is evident by who turns up and who doesn't turn up. Greg & Ken turn up. Most of the Committee are doing it by Zoom so that gives how they feel about attending to the Club.
- We don't have to hold Meetings at Club Macquarie they can be held where ever.
- Going back to your options. Ken what do you what outcome do you want out of this Meeting Club?

➤ **Ken Hill**

- A direction from Members and some commitment on that.

➤ **Kim Sparkes**

- I think it's pretty obvious that people that are on Zoom what their interests are or opinion will be. Because how many people on Zoom have come to a Meeting in the last 6 months. I think it's quite obvious their opinion.

➤ **Jennifer Gregson**

- As one of the people on Zoom can I say I like Option 2 which is quarterly Meetings and the monthly allowing for Zoom. I don't know why my life is so busy but it just seems

to be. I appreciate the mobility of Zoom. I'm not always even in my own home. Zoom just works for me. I also appreciate meeting everyone face to face. I like Option 2 with the commitment of a quarterly in person meeting.

➤ **John Pateman**

- I work shift work. I would prefer to go to the Club but I can only get there no more than a third of the time, if at all. The only reason I am at this Meeting as I was working and was ½ hour late, was because I am able to attend by Zoom. I think it would be nice to say have 4 Meetings at the Club per year. Even then it would depend on my shifts if I can get there, unless I retire.

➤ **Rob Rimington**

- I'm happy to pay Membership for Club Macquarie. I think it is a great resource. It's pretty close to where we sail. It's only like \$6.00 or \$7.00 to join. Shows your support for the Club and it's a good location. Whether or not we have our Meetings there or whether people can get there. Life is busy. Myself I don't really want to drive there all the time. I'm more than happy to watch it on Zoom and contribute. It takes me an hour to drive there and an hour to drive back. I can't have a couple of beers because I worry about drinking and driving. There is a cost of buying a meal there. I see everyone on the weekend when I'm sailing. I don't feel the need to go to a Meeting unless it is a Quarterly Meeting or AGM. I'm happy to do it on Zoom.

➤ **Jenina Boer**

- I would like to say thank you to Ken & Greg and anyone else who turns up regularly at Club Macquarie. For my lifestyle and my commitments at the moment I struggle to make it to Zoom Meetings. I'm sure I'm not the only one in the group. For me to get to Club Macquarie and try and traverse all of that traffic to get there, probably not going to happen every month. I appreciate the convenience of Zoom. I don't want to be driving at night across roads that I am not terribly familiar with. Thank you to Ken & Greg who always turn up and who else is there, Phil & Kim, Derek & Leanne. Thank you for turning up. But that is not my gem.

➤ **Peter Melbourne.**

- I have guests here tonight so I might leave. I think I have been to 1 Club Meeting face to face in 13 years for obvious reasons. I'm 2 ½ hours away each way. I think it is really a decision that needs to be made by people that are within travelling distance.

➤ **Ken Hill**

- I propose that I will put a Poll up on the Facebook page so people can vote. The vote might not be binding. There might be people saying Quarterly Meetings and whole lot

of people saying they will come to Monthly Meetings. We may try Monthly Meetings for a while and see if those people stay here and if not we may go to the other option.

➤ **John & Carol Parker**

- We obviously aren't coming to the Meeting because of the journey. Not as far as Peter's but still not a good journey at night. What we find better with Zoom is we can actually hear everybody that is on Zoom. We miss half of what Kim and Phil say. Everyone on Zoom we can hear.

➤ **Kim Sparkes**

- It goes the other way for us Carol. Quite often for us that are actually here at the Meeting we can't hear what people on Zoom are saying.

➤ **John Carol**

- Tonight's Meeting for us is ideal. We can see everybody. Talk when you need to. It's quite clear and positive.

➤ **Chris Keevers**

- I might add that Zoom suits me. I don't like driving at night anymore. I have had the operation on the eyes so headlights kill me. I'm quite happy for Zoom to carry on. You guys are doing a great job.

➤ **Phillip Sparkes**

- There is no talk of stopping Zoom.

➤ **Karen Armitage**

- I agree with what Robert said earlier. I think the social aspect is the Racing and the Cruising. I don't know if we even need to have the Monthly Meetings. The time for people to come together face to face is at the Racing and Cruising with the sailboats. As far as financials etc. we I believe we just go on Zoom and do it that way. Zoom is far better for our busy lifestyle.
- Ken has a long drive back from work at Muswellbrook to get there. Greg is marvellous driving all that way to set it up when they may be the only 2 people there. It is disappointing.

➤ **Peter Armitage**

- It's probably a sign of the times as well. Not everyone is going to be happy with whatever the outcome is. You can't please everyone. Maybe a Poll is a good idea Ken. At the end of the day it's a sign of the times.

- **Jennina Boer**
 - I think it is a huge contribution and commitment of Greg and Ken. Greg travelling there and back and Ken adding this to the end of a long day having already travelled is beyond the pale.

- **Kim Sparkes**
 - Why don't we just put it to a Poll and wrap it up.

- **Leanne Tracey**
 - Can I just say people have commented that being social is just Racing and Cruising. Not everyone Races and Cruises.

- **Karen Armitage**
 - Come to dinner on Saturday Race night and say hello, or come down and see everyone. You don't have to bring your boat.

- **Jennina Boer**
 - Or come to dinner on a Saturday night.

- **Phillip Sparkes**
 - So why don't we have Club Meetings after a Race on a Saturday night. It's coming down to that everything is being discussed at the Racing Dinner at Rathmines and that is part of the demise of this. Everyone is saying they are getting their social interaction with other Members through the Racing. Not everyone Races. I don't Race anymore. Why should I drive 1 ½ - 2 hours or whatever it takes me to go and have dinner. It's like you saying you can't be bothered driving in here.

- **Karen Armitage**
 - So come on the Cruises. That's a social aspect too.

- **Phillip Sparkes**
 - That's right it is a social aspect.

- **Leanne Tracey**
 - Phil said with the Cruise Report last week there were only 5 boats turn up. We couldn't be there because our American sailing friends that we met in Gibraltar were

in Australia, so we were spending the weekend with them in Sydney. That's why we weren't on the Cruise.

➤ **Phillip Sparkes**

- Everybody has a reason why they aren't at a Cruise, aren't at a Race or aren't at a Meeting. This is supposed to be about the Meetings and the other social aspects shouldn't be brought into it. It shouldn't take away what the Meeting is all about. It's about the business side of the Club.

➤ **Greg Cross**

- Which can be handled via Zoom.

➤ **Kim Sparkes**

- You do a Poll but it's obvious what the results are.

➤ **Ken Hill**

- OK. I will put a Poll up so people that aren't here tonight can have a say. We will circulate the Minutes of the Meeting so people can think about it. We will circulate the options again and go from there. How does that sound?

No other business.

Meeting Closed: 8.36 pm

Karen Armitage

NHTYA Secretary

RACING UPDATE – April 2026

By Peter Melbourne, Race Officer



AUTUMN SERIES 2026

We only have two more race weekends to go this series with the next race weekend being the 11 & 12 April, the weekend after Easter. Let's hope for good weather!

Although the "Tow Tug" requires fuel, once we are on the water, we are very small users of fuel. I heard it said that in these very uncertain times, instead of thinking "What if?" we are better off thinking "Even if".

So,

"Even if fuel prices are high, we're going sailing! "

See you at the Race Briefing on Saturday 11 April!

The Events Calendar has now been extended to the end of 2026 and is printed at the end of this newsletter so put them in your diary now to reserve the date!

The OOD Roster for the 2026 Autumn Series is listed below and is based on frequency of races attended. If you are unable to do your roster, please make a swap with others who are rostered later in the series and let the Race Officer know what swap has been made.

11 April 2026 – Race 7 OOD Scallywag	12 April 2026 – Race 8 OOD The Cubby
16 May 2026 – Race 9 OOD Deja Vu	17 May 2026 – Race 10 OOD Zam

Off The Beach Racing Results

14 Mar 26

Race 13

Yardstick

Race 13		Race Start							
		12:41:00							
Name	Boat Name	Class	Sail No	Finish Time	Elapsed Time	Yardstick	Corrected Time	Place	
Roger York	Laser	Laser	161199	13:21:21	0:40:21	114.0	0:35:24	1	
Brian Harrison	Not as Sirius	Weta 1up SQ	842	13:15:30	0:34:30	95.0	0:36:19	2	
Chris Keevers	Adrenaline	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	2094	13:15:55	0:34:55	93.0	0:37:33	3	
Tom Howell	Knot Normal	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	1659	13:18:12	0:37:12	96.0	0:38:45	4	
Andrew Dyce	Lifted	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	0009	13:21:18	0:40:18	96.0	0:41:59	5	
Warren Parrott	Catatonic	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	650	13:27:35	0:46:35	98.0	0:47:32	6	
Doug Dyce	This side up	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	650	DNS		98.0			
Valerie Harrison				OOD					

Personal Handicap

Race 13		Race Start							
		12:41:00							
Name	Boat Name	Sail No	Finish Time	Elapsed Time	ACH	BCH	CH	CT	Place
Brian Harrison	Not as Sirius	842	13:15:30	0:34:30	1.0881	1.0121	1.0628	0:36:40	1
Chris Keevers	Adrenaline	2094	13:15:55	0:34:55	1.0822	1.0000	1.0548	0:36:50	2
Roger York	Laser	161199	13:21:21	0:40:21	0.9390	0.8653	0.9145	0:36:54	3
Tom Howell	Knot Normal	1659	13:18:12	0:37:12	1.0221	0.9386	0.9942	0:36:59	4
Andrew Dyce	Lifted	0009	13:21:18	0:40:18	1.0043	0.8664	0.9583	0:38:37	5
Warren Parrott	Catatonic	650	13:27:35	0:46:35	0.8773	0.7496	0.8347	0:38:53	6
Doug Dyce	This side up	650	DNS		0.8211		0.8211		
Valerie Harrison			OOD				0.0000	0:00:00	

Race 14

Yardstick

Race 14		Race Start							
		13:33:00							
Name	Boat Name	Class	Sail No	Finish Time	Elapsed Time	Yardstick	Corrected Time	Place	
Roger York	Laser	Laser	161199	14:18:47	0:45:47	114.0	0:40:10	1	
Tom Howell	Knot Normal	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	1659	14:13:21	0:40:21	96.0	0:42:02	2	
Brian Harrison	Not as Sirius	Weta 1up SQ	842	14:12:56	0:39:56	95.0	0:42:02	3	
Andrew Dyce	Lifted	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	0009	14:15:53	0:42:53	96.0	0:44:40	4	
Warren Parrott	Catatonic	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	650	14:18:23	0:45:23	98.0	0:46:19	5	
Chris Keevers	Adrenaline	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	2094	14:18:17	0:45:17	93.0	0:48:42	6	
Doug Dyce	This side up	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	650	14:20:53	0:47:53	98.0	0:48:52	7	
Valerie Harrison				OOD					

Personal Handicap

Race 14		Race Start							
Name	Boat Name	Sail No	Finish Time	Elapsed Time	ACH	BCH	CH	CT	Place
Warren Parrott	Catatonic	650	14:18:23	0:45:23	0.8347	0.8799	0.8498	0:38:34	1
Doug Dyce	This side up	650	14:20:53	0:47:53	0.8211	0.8340	0.8254	0:39:31	2
Tom Howell	Knot Normal	1659	14:13:21	0:40:21	0.9942	0.9897	0.9927	0:40:03	3
Andrew Dyce	Lifted	0009	14:15:53	0:42:53	0.9583	0.9312	0.9493	0:40:43	4
Roger York	Laser	161199	14:18:47	0:45:47	0.9145	0.8722	0.9004	0:41:13	5
Brian Harrison	Not as Sirius	842	14:12:56	0:39:56	1.0628	1.0000	1.0418	0:41:36	6
Chris Keevers	Adrenaline	2094	14:18:17	0:45:17	1.0548	0.8819	0.9972	0:45:09	7
Valerie Harrison			OOD				0.0000	0:00:00	

Race 15 Yardstick

Race 15		Race Start							
Name	Boat Name	Class	Sail No	Finish Time	Elapsed Time	Yardstick	Corrected Time	Place	
Roger York	Laser	Laser	161199	15:05:05	0:39:05	114.0	0:34:17	1	
Brian Harrison	Not as Sirius	Weta 1up SQ	842	15:00:38	0:34:38	95.0	0:36:27	2	
Tom Howell	Knot Normal	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	1659	15:02:11	0:36:11	96.0	0:37:41	3	
Chris Keevers	Adrenaline	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	2094	15:02:14	0:36:14	93.0	0:38:58	4	
Warren Parrott	Catatonic	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	650	15:05:20	0:39:20	98.0	0:40:08	5	
Doug Dyce	This side up	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	650	15:07:29	0:41:29	98.0	0:42:20	6	
Andrew Dyce	Lifted	Maricat - Cat - GRP Hull	0009	DNS		96.0			
Valerie Harrison				OOD					

Personal Handicap

Race 15		Race Start							
Name	Boat Name	Sail No	Finish Time	Elapsed Time	ACH	BCH	CH	CT	Place
Warren Parrott	Catatonic	650	15:05:20	0:39:20	0.8498	0.9199	0.8732	0:34:21	1
Doug Dyce	This side up	650	15:07:29	0:41:29	0.8254	0.8722	0.8410	0:34:53	2
Roger York	Laser	161199	15:05:05	0:39:05	0.9004	0.9258	0.9089	0:35:31	3
Tom Howell	Knot Normal	1659	15:02:11	0:36:11	0.9927	1.0000	0.9951	0:36:00	4
Brian Harrison	Not as Sirius	842	15:00:38	0:34:38	1.0418	1.0448	1.0428	0:36:07	5
Chris Keevers	Adrenaline	2094	15:02:14	0:36:14	0.9972	0.9986	0.9976	0:36:09	6
Andrew Dyce	Lifted	0009	DNS		0.9493		0.9493		
Valerie Harrison			OOD				0.0000	0:00:00	

Sailing Bump Hat



Bunnings have CITECO Bump Caps for approx. \$15.

Note: They are not designed to substitute a Hard Hat.

I have found you can remove the Plastic Insert from the Cap, and with a little massage they fit inside a Burkes Sailing Hat.

May need to reposition the Ventilation Holes for comfort.

Alternatively use the CITECO Bump Cap as is.

I have been using my Burkes Sailing Hat all season with no issues, and no intentions of trying it real time on a Gybing Boom.

Regards John Haig (JOCIMO)

April 2026 MPONR Post Race Newsletter



Welcome to the post race newsletter for 2026. Please share with your crew and any other interested sailors.

RACE OFFICER'S REPORT

Sailors experienced another successful Marlay Point Overnight Race in better-than-expected weather conditions on the Gippsland Lakes. The forecast was for the wind at the start to be around 8 – 10 kts from the south east and dropping out overnight to very little and almost calm conditions. The start time this year was moved forward half an hour to take more advantage of typically fading twilight breeze and to overcome potential issues on the start line associated with Colregs versus the Racing Rules of Sailing. With the increased number of multihulls entered this year it was determined to introduce two groups for the start to separate the faster boats from the slower boats.

There was the typical cluster of boats each attempting to find clear wind at the committee boat end of the start line whereas there were gains to be made in the clearer winds in the middle of the start line. Boats soon spread across Lake Wellington with virtually no tacking required in the SSE breeze to make it across the Lake and the balmy temperature provided a very comfortable crossing and into the McLennan Strait. The current in the Strait was flowing in the correct direction at about 1-1.5kts and assisted boats to continue towards Hollands Landing in the light winds.

The introduction of SailPro Live Race Tracking that was voluntarily taken up by more than 70 boats provided a great overview of the fleet, particularly for the Race Management Team, purely as a guide to where boats were located. Quality of data captured was generally very good with accurate speeds and locations. Some anomalies with data were evident dependent on phone/tablet settings and location of the device in the boat having reasonable reception of GPS data and transmission of data to the website.



Fig 1 A post-race screenshot of SailPro – 2134hrs on Saturday 07 March, lead boats halfway through the McLennan Strait, back of fleet halfway across Lake Wellington and the Judy G Race Committee vessel, parked at Hollands Landing.



Fig 2: A screenshot taken during the event illustrating the string of boats progressing through McLennan Strait.

The light wind filled in from the north west and kept boats moving providing great sailing conditions compared to the forecast winds. Competitors bragged after the race that they barely had to tack for the whole duration and all boats were finished by about 9:30am on Sunday.

Great this year to see the growth in all-female crews – well done to Sue Burke and her crew in her Explorer 16 and congratulations to Marg Goddard, recipient of the oldest sailor and her all female crew sailing Marg’s Noelex 30.

Once again this year, we appreciate Gippsland Ports for generously lending GLYC two illuminated inflatable markers to place at the finish line and southeast of Point King near Raymond Island.

Thanks to all the volunteers that support this great sailing event and particularly the MPONR Committee made up of LWYC and GLYC members. Thanks to LWYC member Andy Warner for stepping up as Deputy Race Officer to support me throughout the race. Our event contingency planning kicked in when there was an incident that involved transporting a race management volunteer with an injury to the Bairnsdale Hospital for stitches to a cut sustained while transferring between boats after the start. Finally, a big shout out and thanks to all the sailors that continue to support Australia’s premier trailable yacht sailing event.

Continue to enjoy safe sailing

Ron Parker

MPONR Race Officer



ANZAC Weekend Cruise

WHEN: Friday 24th April to Monday 27th- launching at **Croudace Bay Park** around **12pm**. (Weather dependant)

Join us here if you can **or** we can meet up somewhere on the lake depending on where you launch.

THE PLAN:

Sail to Wangi to stay the night, depending on weather possibly Pulbah side or near jetty.



Please bring a stern anchor

If you're joining us on **Saturday**, you can tie off at Wangi Jetty as we will be within walking distance.

We intend to be there for **Anzac Parade at 10am** and leave after 12pm to sail somewhere for the night. (There is also a Dawn Service if interested.)



Sunday night we intend to sail to Lake Macquarie Yacht Club to stay the night and have dinner at **Crusoe's Restaurant LMYC**.

This restaurant is very popular and often books out on weekends 2 weeks in advance. So we need numbers early please.

Cost- \$69 per yacht and you will require your **comprehensive insurance certificate** to show them.

I know it's not cheap however we will be free camping for 2 nights before and it would be worth it having hot showers available.

If interested please **contact**

John & Lisa Pateman 0425361849



MERCHANDISE

Stocks of NHTYA Club caps, coolers and Burgees - contact Phillip 0414 223654

Caps \$25 each



Stubby Holders \$5 each



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2026			Activity	Location	Contact	Pts	Extra Info
Apr	11-12	Sat-Sun	Race 7&8	Styles	Peter Melbourne 0412278567	2	
Apr	14	Tue	Meeting	Club Macquarie	Ken Hill 0400208553		
Apr	18-19	Sat-Sun	OTB	F Jetty	Brian Harrison 0421 979 452	2	
Apr	25-27	Sat-Mon	Cruise	Croudace Bay/ Lake Macquarie	John Pateman 0425361849	2	Anzac long Weekend
May	3-4	Sat-Sun					Bay to Bay
May	9-10	Sat-Sun	OTB	F Jetty	Brian Harrison 0421 979 452		Mothers Day
May	16-17	Sat-Sun	Race 9&10	F Jetty	Peter Melbourne 0412278567	2	
May	19	Tue	Meeting	Club Macquarie	Ken Hill 0400208553		
May	23-24	Sat-Sun	Cruise ?	?	?	2	
May	30-31	Sat-Sun					
Jun	6-8	Sat-Mon	Away Race	Keepit Dam	Brian Harrison 0421979452		King's Birthday
Jun	13-14	Sat-Sun					
Jun	16	Tue	Meeting	Club Macquarie	Ken Hill 0400208553		
Jun	20-21	Sat-Sun					
Jun	27	Sat	Presentation Night				

2026			Activity	Location	Contact	Pts	Extra Info
July	4 - 5	Sat - Sun					
July	11 - 12	Sat - Sun					
July	14	Tue	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	Ken Hill 0400 208 553		
July	18- 19	Sat - Sun					
July	25 - 26	Sat - Sun	Shore Cruise?	?	?	2	
Aug	1 - 2	Sat - Sun					
Aug	8 - 9	Sat - Sun					
Aug	15 - 16	Sat - Sun					
Aug	18	Tue	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	Ken Hill 0400 208 553		
Aug	22	Sat	Audit Day	Rathmines	Hart Peters 0417 674 687		Local race boats expected
Aug	29	Sat	OTB	F Jetty	Brian Harrison 0421 9794 52		
Sept	5 - 6	Sat - Sun	Race 1 & 2	Styles Pt (F Jetty)	Peter Melbourne 0412 278 567	2	
Sept	12 - 13	Sat - Sun					
Sept	15	Tue	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	Ken Hill 0400 208 553		
Sept	19 - 20	Sat - Sun	Cruise?	?	?	2	
Sept	26	Sat	OTB	F Jetty	Brian Harrison 0421 979 452		
Oct	3- 5	Sat - Mon	3/6hr Regatta	Styles Pt	Peter Melbourne 0412 278 567	2	NRL Grand Final BBQ Sunday night
Oct	10 - 11	Sat - Sun					
Oct	17 - 18	Sat - Sun	Race 3 & 4	Styles Pt	Peter Melbourne 0412 278 567	2	
Oct	20	Tue	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	Ken Hill 0400 208 553		
Oct	24	Sat	OTB	F Jetty	Brian Harrison 0421 979 452		
Oct/Nov	31 - 1	Sat - Sun	Cruise?	?	?	2	
Nov	7 - 8	Sat - Sun	Race 5 & 6	Styles Pt	Peter Melbourne 0412 278 567	2	
Nov	14 - 15	Sat - Sun	(Keep clear)				Castle Nationals Lake Illawarra
Nov	17	Tue	General Meeting	Club Macquarie	Ken Hill 0400 208 553		
Nov	21 - 22	Sat - Sun	Cruise?	?	?	2	

Nov	28	Sat	OTB	F Jetty	Brian Harrison 0421 979 452		
Dec	5 - 6	Sat - Sun	Race 7 & 8	Styles Pt	Peter Melbourne 0412 278 567	2	Xmas Party Saturday Night
Dec	12	Sat	OTB	F Jetty	Brian Harrison 0421 979 452		
Dec/Jan	27 - 3	Sat - Sat	Myalls Cruise	Myall Lakes	?	2	New Year's Eve Party