



## LOWRY BAY YACHT CLUB (INC.)

SEAVIEW MARINA  
Lower Hutt  
NEW ZEALAND

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# The Cutlass

January 2008

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## Contact us at Lowry Bay Yacht Club

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## Commodore's comments



Well it's been a terrific year for the club, and we had a rousing Christmas party to finish it off in style with about 45 members. It was a beautifully mild Saturday evening, and Don Wilson played his lively set and got everyone dancing until midnight, and sat on the deck to cool off.

I was especially pleased to see that the children's Christmas party went off well, with fifty little ones turning up for a couple of hours of fun and games. Our club manager, Anne Callaghan, dressed up as The Cat in the Hat, and Cameron Linkhorn and friend generously did a turn as clowns. Terry Bach and Lynda, a special thank you very much for helping out as Father Christmas and sidekick this year.

Don't forget that if you are around for the New Year's Eve party, it will be at the club on Monday 31 December at 1800. Bring meat and salad to share. We'll have an informal do to ring the New Year in. Bring your air horns too!

For those of you off to the Sounds and further afield this Christmas, have a wonderful time, and may the fair weather and fish follow you wherever you go. If you want company, there's a group gathering at Punga Cove for Christmas dinner in the evening, and again on New Year's Eve, when Punga puts on a good barbeque and live music on the deck over the water. There are often dolphins around there. Wherever you go, if you see a fellow Lowry Bay yacht or launch, be sure to say hello and stop for a chat. Just don't follow me, because I'm off to my secret fishing spots!

I look forward to seeing everyone at Opening Day for our usual ceremonial happenings, and excellent racing. We'll have to spruce up the club the day before, so please do turn out and volunteer a couple of hours of your time to clean up the building from the outside. The house committee will be doing their usual job of putting on a nice lunch for everyone, and the yachts and launches will look wonderful with flags and bunting all around.

Well, have a fantastic holiday everybody, and we'll see you back here in the New Year for our summer racing calendar.

**Bob Rowell, Commodore**

## Visit the bar!

Most of our events are accompanied by a drink and good company at our lovely club house bar.

On Friday nights the bar is always open, and our resident chef Graeme cooks fantastic, reasonably-priced hot meals, and on race days he does things like nachos, and steak or sausage sandwiches. At other times you can snacks from the bar.

You can now get Julicher wines at the bar.

Kids are welcome at all times: we're family friendly.

The bar is open these hours:

- Fridays 1700-2230
- Saturdays 1600-1800
- Sundays 1600-1900 on non-race days, or from the end of racing until 1900 on race days

## Are you getting our emails?

The club sends out regular emails notifying you of our social and cruising events. Do let us know if you're not getting them: contact club manager Anne Callaghan on the contact details on the first page of this newsletter.

## Upcoming events



### **New Year's Cinderella Party – Mon 31 Dec**

For all those Cinderellas staying at home, there's a New Year's Eve party at the club at 1800 on Monday 31 December. There will be singing and dancing to the wee small hours. Volunteers are needed to man the bar and bbq, and clean up. Bring meat and salad to share. Family and friends are all welcome to our great venue. RSVP [Bobrowell@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Bobrowell@xtra.co.nz) or 5663740.



### **Wellington Regatta: 19–21 January**

Make the most of summer racing with this regatta. Keeler racing happens at Lowry Bay Yacht Club, and the dinghies race at Heretaunga. The notice of race is available on the club noticeboard, and will be sent out by email.



### **Club clean up day – Sat 26 January**

Volunteers are needed to clean the club and grounds from top to bottom so it's sparkling clean for opening day. Bring your window-washers, buckets and cloths, detergents and sprays, ladders, gutter cleaners, hoses and water blasters. 1000hrs start. Pick a job and it's yours!



### **Opening Day – Sun 27 January**

This is the one formal day where we have speeches and dignitaries, and let off the cannon before racing starts, to open the season. Ceremonies kick off at 1130hrs, and racing starts 1400hrs. There will be a prize for the best dressed crew! Please adorn your boats with flags and pennants for a colourful convoy out of the marina.

## Your sailing committee:

The sailing committee organises all the racing events for the club. Feel free to contact any of them to have a chat.

Sailing captain: Tom Trapp  
(*Piaf*)

Sailing secretary: Brent Porter  
(*Piaf* crew)

John Hermans (*Mint Condition*)

Geoff Thorn (*Am Meer*)

Manfred Wolff (*Easy Spirit II*)

Graeme McMillan (*Blue Water*)

Bob Rowell (*Impulsive*)

## Just cruisin'

Our cruising captain Grant McNamara organises lots of great events for the club: talks on interesting things, and events out on the harbour, like the fishing day, and social cruises. Come along to the next one (see Upcoming Events): the bar's always open.

## January diary

### Saturday – Monday 19-21 January

Wellington Anniversary Regatta: keelers at LBYC; dinghies at Heretaunga

### Friday 25 January 1815hrs

Series A, Race 1 – the first of the new pursuit races

### Saturday 26 January 1000hrs

Clean-up at the club – all volunteers welcome

### Sunday 27 January 1130hrs

Lowry Bay Yacht Club Opening Day ceremony 1130hrs; race 1400hrs

### Wednesday 30 January

Glass Shoppe Twilight Series Race 1:  
Two-handed 1820hrs; Fully-crewed 1830hrs

## February diary

### Friday 1 February 1815hrs

No Spinnaker Series Race 2

### Sunday 3 February

Single-handed Series Race 1 1000 hrs; Summer Series Race 1 1300hrs

### Friday 8- Sunday 10 February

Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club Line 7 Regatta

### Tuesday 12 February

Lowry Bay Yacht Club Technical evening (tba)

### Wednesday 13 February

Glass Shoppe Twilight Series Race 2:  
Two handed series 1820hrs; Fully-crewed 1830hrs

### Friday 15 February 1815hrs

No Spinnaker Series Race 3

### Sunday 17 February

Single-handed Series Race 2 1000 hrs; Summer Series Race 2 1300hrs

### Wednesday 20 February

Glass Shoppe Twilight Series Race 3:  
Two handed series 1820hrs; Fully-crewed 1830hrs

### Friday 22 February 1815hrs

No Spinnaker Series Race 4

### Saturday 23 February 2000hrs

Night Race 1

### Sunday 24 February

Single-handed Series Race 3 1000 hrs; Summer Series Race 3 1300hrs

### Wednesday 27 February

Glass Shoppe Twilight Series Race 4:  
Two handed series 1820hrs; Fully-crewed 1830hrs

### Friday 29 February 1815hrs

No Spinnaker Series Race 5

### Friday 29 February – Saturday 30 February

Hook a Huge One fishing competition.

## Got any good scuttlebutt?

We're short of goss this month! Tell us the gossip for the Scuttlebutt section of *The Cutlass*. Email [info@lbyc.org.nz](mailto:info@lbyc.org.nz), or ring Katie on 04 479 4913.

## Scuttlebutt

It was a veritable hotbed of commercial intrigue at the Lowry Bay Yacht Club Boat Boot Sale. Graeme (*Blue Water*) sold a pair of sandals to John (*Mint Condition*) for \$1. Not five minutes later, John sold them to Graham (*Smile*) for \$2.

**John Moriarty (*Onça*) was trying to sell his generator at the boat boot sale. It was very fortunate that it did not sell, because he needed it to start his car to drive away in!**

Jamie (*Testarossa*) put down his sailing bag, got into his car, and reversed right over it, scattering the contents across the car park as he drove off. Must be love.

**For months there was a sulphurous smell on board *Smile*. Graham searched every nook and cranny, but could not find the culprit. He even installed a new vent to let fresh air in. But, while preparing for his annual summer cruise, Graham came across the dozen eggs that he had stashed away a whole year earlier, and had searched for so fruitlessly at the time.**

Graeme McMillan's advice on diesel motors is short and to the point, but we don't know to what extent it is based on scientific knowledge: "Never buy a diesel motor beginning with the letter 'M'.

**Somebody who was commenting on the shape of boat keels, said: "Did you know that *Out-to-lunch's* keel is wider at the front than at the back." The person beside him said: "Does that make it go faster". The reply came: "No, not really: it's been like that ever since Jenny got stuck on rocks at Somes Island."**

The exec committee was debating an item entitled: "Surviving spouses and rules". Somebody said glumly that it was difficult enough to survive either of those things.

**There was a truly putrid smell on board *Am Meer* one day: the crew had forgotten to remove a rubbish bag from the cabin. The embarrassing thing was that, during the week, a tradesman had been working inside for hours in sweltering conditions – he didn't say anything, but the smell must have been awful.**

Who would have thought that certain fellows in the Lowry Bay Yacht Club would provide pole dancing as entertainment at the Christmas party? It's true: it's not a fallacy.

**Father Christmas's sidekick, Rudolph, got a surprise at the children's Christmas party, when a six year old came up and said: "I don't think you're Rudolph at all. I think you're a person *pretending* to be Rudolph." Oh, they grow up fast, don't they.**

Another egggy story comes from Terry Bach, who, on the Sydney-Hobart race, encountered an Aussie customs officer who "confiscated" a tinned ham and made him tape up a box of eggs. Later, in the terrible weather, the boat returned to port. Terry rang for a customs officer to collect the box of by then very smelly, broken eggs for safe disposal. The officer had to drive in very hot weather for several hours with the smelly eggs in his car. It was the same one who confiscated the ham. Justice!

**Our dear Commodore was going so hard out at weightlifting that he split his jeans. Father Christmas is bringing him some shorts.**

## Switch to the 406 EPIRB now

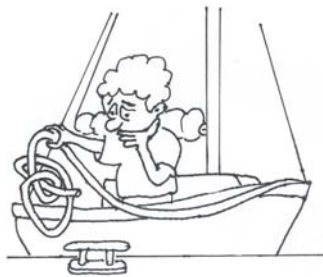


Have you switched to the 406MHz EPIRB yet? The old analogue (121.5MHz and 243MHz EPIRBs) won't work worldwide from February 2009, as the satellites will not pick them up. The newer digital 406MHz beacons are more powerful and more accurate, and some have built in GPS devices to provide a quick and accurate fix for search teams.

Offshore pleasure vessels heading overseas are already required to carry 406MHz EPIRB. Yachts undertaking coastal races where Category 2 or 3 safety rules apply must carry a 406MHz EPIRB from 1 February 2009.

Don't forget to register your EPIRB: registration is free and can be done at [www.beacons.org.nz](http://www.beacons.org.nz) or contact Maritime New Zealand at [recreationalboating@maritimenz.govt.nz](mailto:recreationalboating@maritimenz.govt.nz)

## Summer sailing instructor wanted



SeaSense Sailing School teaches YNZ level one keelboat sailing in Nelson over summer and needs a relieving instructor for February, March and April 08.

Courses are usually run from Monday to Friday and are of three hour duration with occasional weekend work as well. The vessel is an 8m Gazelle. Applicants require appropriate YNZ certification and MNZ LLO or better. Rate to be negotiated and accommodation may be available. Application details are on YNZ Sits Vac page [www.yachtingnz.org.nz](http://www.yachtingnz.org.nz).

## Solving a wee problem



Boaties have the perennial problem of how to avoid filling up the holding tank unnecessarily. Guys can direct some of what they do overboard, and now girls can too - with a Shewee. This is a moulded plastic funnel that provides women with a simple, private and hygienic method of urinating without

removing clothes whilst standing *and* sitting. More details at [www.shewee.co.nz](http://www.shewee.co.nz)

## Got any bright ideas?

We're always on the lookout for new products like this, or sailing tips to suggest to our members: let us know if you've come across a good solution for one of those yachting problems.

## A note from Gypsy Girl



Dear LBYC

Sue and Stephan from Gypsy Girl would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the caring support you have shown over last year's difficult "passage". After rain, there is sunshine...

Yes, the rumour is correct. Sue and I are tying the knot on 9th Feb 2008. Have a great sun and wind filled year. May 2008 bring you joy and happiness. All our love to you fellow boaties.

Stephan, Sue and Nicki.

## Ships are just big girls



Club member Terry Bach writes on the subject of why a ship is referred to as "she" or "her". He notes that collision regulations are now gender neutral in respect of vessels - no longer are they referred to in the female form. So why were they always considered a "she"? Here's Terry's answer.

A ship was called a "she" because there was always a great deal of bustle around her, there was usually a gang of men active around her and paying attention to her, she had a waist and she sometimes wore stays. It took a long time to paint her and a lot of paint to keep her looking good. It was not the initial expense that that was the problem - it was the cost of keeping her all decked out.

It took an experienced man to handle her correctly, and without a man at the helm she was absolutely uncontrollable. She showed her topsides, hid her bottom and when coming into port always headed straight for the buoys.

So what's so different today!

## Grow greens on board



Frustrated at having no lettuce after a week on board? Well, you can grow a continuous supply of sandwich sprouts very simply in only three days. Take a glass or plastic jar, some muslin, a rubber band and some seeds - alfalfa, mung bean, sunflower and radish.

Put a teaspoon or two of seeds in the bottom of the jar, and cover with warm water. Cover with the muslin (if you use a mason-type jar, screw the ring over the muslin) and soak the seeds for 24h. After that, twice a day drain off the water, rinse once with fresh water, and leave to grow. Keep in the light, but out of direct sunlight. They should be ready in three days. If you stagger the batches, you'll always have plenty. The sprouts are great in sandwiches, stir fries, or pureed.

## Send us your recipes

Got a bright idea for how to cook things with limited facilities on board? Share it with us.

## Race from Wellington to Akaroa



If you fancy a bit of tough action between Christmas and New Year, consider joining the biannual race from Wellington to Akaroa. Akaroa Cruising Club runs the event in conjunction with Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club. Race sponsor is Dickson Marine of Nelson.

Starting in Wellington between Christmas and New Year the race is about 190 nautical miles from start to finish. Wellington boat *Andiamo*, skippered by Andrew Taylor, took line honours in 2005 after 31 hours and 23 minutes of racing. Pretty Boy Floyd, also from Wellington, was just ten minutes behind. The Notice of Race is available on the Akaroa Cruising Club's website [www.akaroacruisingclub.org.nz](http://www.akaroacruisingclub.org.nz) or contact race convenor, Paul de Latour on (03) 304 8518.

## Don't let this be your holiday snap



## Tell us your holiday stories

Take note of your cruising highlights this summer holidays. We want to hear them, good or bad – dragging anchors, great fishing, drunken parties, romances, gossip, and general scuttlebutt. They'll go in the February Cutlass!

## We hope you like the new format

Doing *The Cutlass* by email saves us \$300 in printing costs each month. You can still pick up a printed copy in the foyer, or ring Anne Callaghan, the club manager, to get one sent out to you.

**A big thank you to members who have volunteered their time over the past year. Special thanks to Tom and Wendy Trapp for their donation of new wine glasses for the bar.**

**Happy Christmas and New Year to you all  
from the Lowry Bay Yacht Club!**