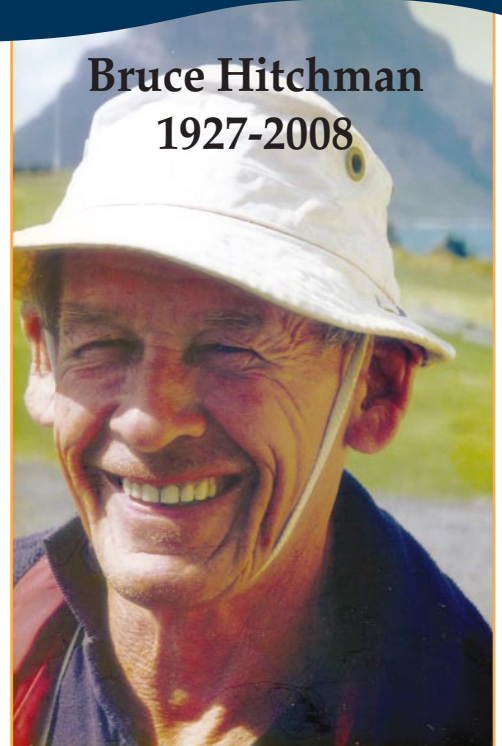
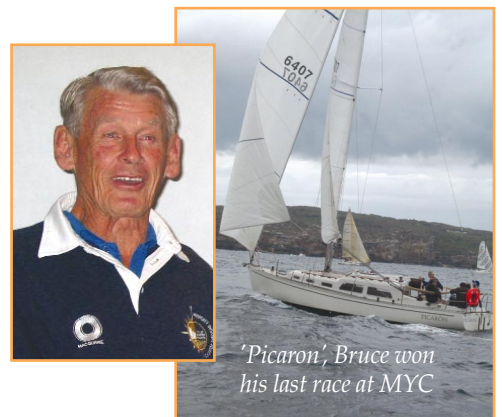




Bruce Hitchman 1927-2008



*Captain Bruce Hitchman
on the James Craig*



*'Picaron', Bruce won
his last race at MYC*

Bruce Hitchman was a legendary man. Born in Napier, New Zealand, in 1927, his earliest recollection was of the earthquake in 1931, an experience he said which gave him claustrophobia. At the age of 16 he went to sea on the Pamir. The Pamir, built in Hamburg in 1905, was a square rigged cargo ship of 3,020 tons. She was lying in New Zealand at the beginning of WW2 and was requisitioned by the New Zealand Government. It was on the Pamir that Bruce sailed to the west coast of the USA several times and learned his seamanship, a skill which he kept for the rest of his life and resulted in his becoming one of the Skippers of the James Craig.

After the war Bruce worked his way up through the ranks until he became Captain. He skippered several cargo ships one of which was called Pacific Breeze. To pass the time on long voyages he built a small wooden sailing boat and he always took his trusty Triumph motorcycle for trips ashore. By this time he was a married man and his wife Nanette accompanied him on many of his voyages. They sailed out of Hong Kong to ports in India, Indonesia, Japan and the South China Sea.

He came ashore in 1963, bought a house and in 1964, Nanette gave birth to Kylie and 3 years later Sally.

He became a Harbour Pilot bringing the big ships in and out of Sydney Harbour. About this time he joined MYC and was co designer of the Stingray catamaran which was an 18ft flyer similar to, but slightly smaller than, the Olympic Class Tornado. Stingrays sailed off the beach in Manly Cove. I first met Bruce on the beach in the early 70s when I began sailing Paper Tigers (14ft catamarans).

He retired from the NSW Maritime in 1987 and bought a Farr 11.6 sloop. He named her Pacific Breeze. In 1988 Pacific Breeze completed her first Sydney Hobart race and was the first Australian yacht to cross the finish line in the Sydney Noumea race, organised by the French to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the storming of the Bastille in 1789. The crew came from MYC and I was privileged to be one of them.

From then on Bruce sailed the Breeze in the Melbourne Osaka race and brought her back largely single handed. He raced in a short handed trans Tasman race which ended in disaster with Bruce and his crew being rescued by HMAS Sydney and the story of the recovery of the Breeze reads like a boys own adventure.

He was fiercely competitive and I should know. I sailed with him on many offshore short handed races including Lord Howe several times. There I am, in my late 50s, experiencing the most hair raising adventures of my life with a man 10 years my senior who had endless stamina and total commitment.

A year ago the Breeze went up on the rocks at 40 Baskets Beach. She was dragged off by shear muscle power and Bruce himself motored her round to Davis Marina. However she was an insurance right off. The world's furthest travelled and most battered 11.6 is still afloat in Middle Harbour. However Bruce wasted no time in purchasing another yacht named 'Picaron'. Like Pacific Breeze, she is a New Zealand design, 34ft long and surprisingly fast.

Bruce was always willing to teach the skills of sailing to others and many MYC members have benefited from a race on the Breeze complete with some ripping yarns back on the mooring. Bruce has been Commodore and a Director of MYC and a fearless participator in working bees. He taught kids to sail and adults how to handle rescue boats and obtain a power boat license. Altogether, a club member who contributed a great deal by way of knowledge, experience, skill and dedication.

He was a compassionate man quick to praise when praise was due but he did not suffer fools gladly. Never afraid to express his opinions, quick to show his exasperation if things were not going according to plan but equally quick to forgive and forget.

Two days before his death, at the helm of 'Picaron', Bruce won his last race at MYC. To his family, his death will leave a huge hole in their lives but they will derive comfort from the fact that he lead a very full, caring and active life right to the very end. He was a very good friend of mine. MYC and his boating friends will also miss him greatly.

Brian Wilson 

JOURNAL OF MANLY YACHT CLUB

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President's Report

This is my last report for the 2007-2008 season because there is no Newsletter next month.

Members should be aware that Board Meetings have been re-scheduled to the first Tuesday of the month at 6.30 pm. This arrangement seems to be working well with Members of the Board being able to get home a bit earlier and exciting decisions made by the Board can be reported in the Newsletter.

Nominations for the 2008/2009 board have been received but the final composition will not be known until the AGM. However, there will be some changes. So come to the AGM, be abreast of the latest news, enjoy a good meal with trivia and the companionship of your fellow members and sailors.

There will be one change to current procedure at board meetings. In an attempt to reduce the enormous administrative load carried by Christabel I have decided to appoint a Minute Clerk. This person will not be a member of the Board but will attend board meetings. Duties will include taking down the minutes, distributing the minutes and preparing any correspondence arising from the minutes. This will have the added benefit of tightening up meeting procedure. I have a volunteer, Jenny Wilson (yes, my wife). It could work.

Keith Woodward has received a quotes for the security fence and the Board has given the go ahead to finalise the details and proceed. The design incorporates a gate between the Skiff Club ramp and the deck so that on special occasions the Skiff Club can use the deck.

All too often this season I have had to report the death of a prominent club member. Now it is the turn of my very good friend Bruce Hitchman whose accidental death came as a devastating shock to Nanette and the rest of the family and to members of MYC. He fell when the eaves lining of his house collapsed whilst he was working to repair a leak in the roof space from the inside. I have written a brief obituary which appears in this Newsletter but one could write a whole book about the life and times of Captain Bruce Hitchman.



Brian Wilson President 

The club will miss him. I will miss him and I regret not making a note of his experiences for posterity.

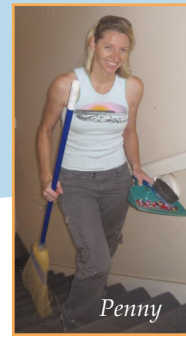
See you at the AGM.



Colin & Keith, heads down, bottoms up, all day welding



Blue & Cleveland



Penny



Al & Britta



Peter

There was good support from members at the working bee on 10 May 2008. It was also great to see a new member, Jeff Lee come along and help. It is a great way for new members to meet people at the Club.

As always, there was lots of cleaning and tidying up to do with Al Thomson, Britta Hüttel, Penny Meakins, Margaret Lucas, Sally Stone, Peter Hamilton, David Lewis, Jim Nixon and Craig Rosevear cleaning the garbage bin area, hall, stairs and walls, kitchen, cupboards, fridges, deck and front entrance to the club.

At Bruce Hitchman's, last working bee he teamed up with Jeff Lea to fix many of the sticking doors at the Club, Bruce's last job was painting 'his' orangy pink colour triangles and will be missed as part of our MYC working bee team.

Cleveland Rose and Blue Robinson preferred painting and painted handrails and touched up other areas.

Myself and Colin Cameron replaced the hinges on the ramp to the pontoon. Six years of constant jet cat wake had taken its toll on the original steel hinge plates.

These were replaced with new hinges able to withstand this punishment.

I apologise if I have missed any-one but I spent the day welding. Thanks to Bruce Davis of Davis Marine for lending us his 3 phase welding machine for the day.

I hope to see more people and some new faces at the next working bee.

Keith Woodward 

The cup has now been returned!

In the May issue of this widely read newsletter you will all remember a story on the B Class Ryan Trophy won by Okita in 1935-36.

We made numerous enquiries to people we thought may have some information but to no avail. Because it was recently handed to the MYC by the Holman family [who had been caring for it and not knowing it's history] and our search for more information was hard pressed the Sailing Committee decided to name it The Holman Trophy and from time to time and as a circumstance may arise, would recognize outstanding examples of good seamanship. Well, much to the delight of the MYC NEWS editor the following email was recently received.

Hi Margaret,

I have read with interest in the Manly Yacht Club Monthly Newsletter a snippet regarding the "Holman Trophy". The article has outlined that research was done to scorce the history of the cup and where it came from.

This cup was sailed for in 1935 by the B Class at Manly Sailing Club which now is known as Manly 16ft Skiff Sailing Club not Manly Yacht Club as outlined in the article. Manly Yacht Club was never known as Manly Sailing Club as the Inauguration meeting of the Manly Sailing Club was held on Feb 23 1923 later on to be changed to Manly 16ft Skiff Sailing Club on 22 December 1952.

Our club records indicate that "Okita" sailed by R Wilson was registered at our club in 1935 in the B Class Division. Actually my grandfathers cousin Dick Andrew competed against Mr Wilson in the B Class that year. The trophy was donated by club members of the time the D & P Ryan & Family who owned a B Class called Birubi. I think that the history on the cup has been un earthed so maybeit may well find its way to its home now.

Cheers,

Brad Andrew Sailing Manager Manly 16ft Skiff Sailing Club Ltd.

Fortunately no changes had been made to the B Class Ryan Trophy other than replacing the base and a general clean up. The cup has now been returned to the 16' Skiff Club.

Another trophy is being decided upon by the Sailing Committee and will be called The Holman Trophy.

Editor 

SIMRAD Winter Series - Races 1 and 2

We have welcomed aboard a new sponsor for our Winter Series this year in SIMRAD, SIMRAD supply electronic instruments and bits for boats. They will be providing as prizes a 1520 Wind System for first place, a 1520 Combi System for second, and a 1520 Compass System for third, to find out more about these products why not grab a catalogue after the next race and see what may be adorning the bulkhead of your yacht by the end of winter. These prizes have a combined retail price of \$3,500 and as in the past every boat starting a race has a chance to win.

Danes Coffee are also joining us this year with great race day prizes of freshly ground coffee and coffee cups. They are also supplying another \$500 coffee machine as an end of series prize.

Race 1, despite the forbidding forecast of rain and lots of wind turned out to be a nice day, not so good for getting around the course but great weather.

The forecast 20 knot south westerly never quite got to the main part of the Harbour which meant some pretty light and fluky breeze in and around the Taylor Bay mark. Windy Point and Polaris of Belmont had plenty of time to enjoy the scenery while they waited for a bit of breeze to get them back into the center of the Harbour where a good 10 -12 knots could be found.

Okavango Delta had a bit of man over board practice loosing a crew member over the side; luckily they were back on board quickly without any injuries.

Prizes for the day in the spinnaker division went to Jim Nixon sailing Carinya in first, Peter Bennell on Good Intent, and David Harris on Atlanta. The non spinnaker division was won by Murray Bails on Sip Ahoy, Bruce Hitchman on Picaron, and Jack Morrison on J Curve. The starters prize for the yacht closest to its start time was won by Graham Radford in San Toy, only one second off the mark.

Race 2 dawned overcast and with showers forecast but this didn't stop the 26 starters enjoying another good days sailing on the Harbour. A good 10 -12 knot breeze stayed in all day with none of the calm spots we saw in race one, allowing for a much more competitive days sailing.

Bruce and Pam Davis on Pensive brought out yet another new sail; we can't wait to see what will show up in race 3.

Another crew from the dark side showed that their rule book must be different to ours when called upon to keep clear, the response of "we're racing" could be heard. I understand that they were left in no doubt that we do sail under the same rules and that they were in the wrong.

The Simrad hats and Danes coffee went to Eos, with her new coat of paint and fresh anti foul in first place, Bill Spence and Al Thomson in Beau Soleil second, and Bruce Davis, Pensive and the new sails third.

The non spinnaker division was won by Bruce Hitchman sailing Picaron in what was to turn out to be his last sail before his tragic death a couple of days later. Second place went to Murray Bailes on Sip Ahoy and third to Neil Simpson on Jai-Dee.

The starters prize was taken out by Jim Nixon on Carinya.

In memory of Bruce Hitchman all yachts are asked to fly a black ribbon for the next race on June 22nd. They can be collected from the Yacht Club office or Davis Marina on race day.

Ian Dennewald

Simrad Winter Series				Race 1 18 May 2008				
Division 1								
Sail No	Yacht Name	Helm	Yacht Class	Div	Start Time	Actual Start	Finish	Elapsed Place
127	Carinya IV	Jim Nixon	Swanson Carmen	1	12:20:00	12:20:16	14:22:30	2:02:14 1
MYC820	Good Intent	Peter Bennell	Clansman 30	1	12:07:00	12:07:18	14:22:47	2:15:29 2
KA55	Atalanta	David Harris	J24	1	12:21:00	12:21:12	14:28:22	2:07:10 3
MYC9	Beausoleil	Bill Spence/Al Thomson	Cavalier 28	1	12:12:00	12:10:17	14:28:59	2:18:42 4
MYC1	Aussie Rules	Gene Scott	Cavalier 975	1	12:16:00	12:18:31	14:29:48	2:11:17 5
6295	Ratty Tooley	Ian Dennewald/Steve Tucker	Northshore 34	1	12:30:00	12:30:02	14:31:10	2:01:08 6
MYC7	Ten Sixty	Phil Vidler	Radford 10.6	1	12:39:00	12:39:27	14:34:38	1:55:11 7
MYC10	Pensive	Bruce Davis	NSX 38	1	12:46:00	12:46:07	14:39:16	1:53:09 8
6719	Crmist	Troy Dillon	Beneteau 44.7	1	13:00:00	13:00:44	14:43:30	1:42:46 9
MYC12	San Toy	Graham Radford	Radford 12	1	12:49:00	12:49:01	14:43:45	1:54:44 10
M366	Windy Point	Kathy Brown	Adams 8	1	12:42:00	12:42:14	14:44:04	2:01:50 11
AUS147	Okavanga Delta	Emma Radcliff/Neil McPherson	J24	1	12:34:00	12:34:09	14:45:45	2:11:36 12
6689	Copernicus	Greg Zyner	Radford 12	1	12:53:00	12:52:15	14:46:32	1:54:17 13
MYC100	Shear Magic	Howard Sullivan/Vaier DeCamp	Adams 10	1	12:44:00	12:44:09	14:47:30	2:03:21 14
A73	Top Odds (cas)	Karen Peterson	Northshore 27	1	12:00:00	12:00:31	14:47:46	2:47:15 15
MYC3	Big Blue 01	Craig Rosevear/Sorrell Lambie	S80	1	12:28:00	12:24:53	14:57:57	2:33:04 16
5527	Polaris of Belmont	Chris Dawe	Cole 43	1	12:39:00	12:39:26	15:02:47	2:23:21 17
Division 2								
Sail No	Yacht Name	Helm	Yacht Class	Div	Start Time	Actual Start	Finish	Elapsed Place
5797	Sip Ahoy	Murray Bailes	Northshore 34	2	12:02:00	12:04:53	13:44:34	1:39:41 1
6407	Picaron	Bruce Hitchman	Stewart 34	2	12:24:00	12:24:18	13:55:35	1:31:17 2
MYC25	J Curve (cas)	Jack Morrison	J24	2	12:27:00	12:27:37	14:03:34	1:35:57 3
6367	Selene (cas)	John Baker	Hanse 34	2	12:35:00	12:35:11	14:04:48	1:29:37 4
M313	Minder	Tim Stewart	Triton 24	2	12:00:00	12:14:35	14:08:19	1:53:44 5
MYC99	Jabiru	Ann Webber	Bavaria 42	2	12:42:00	12:42:35	14:15:40	1:33:05 6
MYC157	Lady Canasta	Edward van Oort-Pieck	Catalina 30	2	12:00:00	12:01:35	DNF	7
1152	Bokarra	Coin Cameron/Margaret Lucas	Santana 22	1	12:00:00	DNC		
1255	Melody	Ivana McAlpine	Swanson Dart	1	12:04:00	DNC		
MYC5	Eos	Brian Wilson	Brittany Sloop 331	1	12:15:00	DNC		
4863	Two Can	David Lewis	Masram 920	1	12:39:00	DNC		
MYC375	Out There	Greg James	Cavalier 375	1	12:46:00	DNC		
1236	Local Hero	Peter Mosely	Sydney 36	1	12:56:00	DNC		
MH56	Jai-Dee	Peter Hunt/Neil Simpson	Bavaria 41	2	12:41:00	DNC		



Simrad Winter Series				Race 2 00 May 2008				
Division 1								
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MYC5	Eos	Brian Wilson	Brittany Sloop 331	1	12:15:00	12:15:29	14:22:37	2:07:08 1
MYC9	Beausoleil	Bill Spence/Al Thomson	Cavalier 28	1	12:14:00	12:14:19	14:25:05	2:10:46 2
MYC10	Pensive	Bruce Davis	NSX 38	1	12:49:00	12:49:08	14:28:47	1:39:39 3
MYC820	Good Intent	Peter Bennell	Clansman 30	1	12:11:00	12:11:17	14:31:11	2:19:54 4
MYC7	Ten Sixty	Phil Vidler	Radford 10.6	1	12:39:00	12:39:10	14:31:21	1:52:11 5
6295	Ratty Tooley	Ian Dennewald/Steve Tucker	Northshore 34	1	12:30:00	12:30:44	14:31:35	2:00:51 6
MYC12	San Toy	Graham Radford	Radford 12	1	12:49:00	12:49:09	14:31:39	1:42:30 7
5527	Polaris of Belmont	Chris Dawe	Cole 43	1	12:32:00	12:32:43	14:31:59	1:59:16 8
MYC375	Out There	Greg James	Cavalier 375	1	12:46:00	12:46:35	14:32:03	1:45:28 9
MYC100	Shear Magic	Howard Sullivan/Vaier DeCamp	Adams 10	1	12:44:00	12:43:51	14:34:24	1:50:33 10
M366	Windy Point	Kathy Brown	Adams 8	1	12:42:00	12:42:33	14:34:50	1:52:17 11
6689	Copernicus	Greg Zyner	Radford 12	1	12:53:00	12:53:04	14:35:47	1:42:43 12
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MYC3	Big Blue 01	Craig Rosevear/Sorrell Lambie	S80	1	12:25:00	12:22:38	14:38:47	2:16:09 16
KA55	Atalanta	David Harris	J24	1	12:23:00	12:23:17	14:46:20	2:23:03 17
Division 2								
Sail No	Yacht Name	Helm	Yacht Class	Div	Start Time	Actual Start	Finish	Elapsed Place
6407	Picaron	Bruce Hitchman	Stewart 34	2	12:30:00	12:30:18	14:07:13	1:36:55 1
5797	Sip Ahoy	Murray Bailes	Northshore 34	2	12:15:00	12:15:28	14:09:21	1:53:53 2
MH56	Jai-Dee	Peter Hunt/Neil Simpson	Bavaria 41	2	12:33:00	12:33:29	14:10:26	1:36:57 3
6467	Selene (cas)	John Baker	Hanse 34	2	12:32:00	12:32:26	14:15:18	1:42:52 4
MYC157	Lady Canasta	Edward van Oort-Pieck	Catalina 30	2	12:00:00	12:00:31	14:18:30	2:17:59 5
MYC202	Isea II	Matt Collis	Bulebird	2	12:00:00	12:09:57	14:18:53	2:08:56 6
MYC33	Lautrec	Helen Ebeling	Passage 33	2	12:26:00	12:27:44	14:19:08	1:51:24 7
AUS102	Flying Carpet	Nick Chatham	J24	2	12:29:00	12:29:24	14:19:56	1:50:32 8
M313	Minder	Tim Stewart	Triton 24	2	12:00:00	12:02:47	14:27:44	2:24:57 9
1152	Bokarra	Coin Cameron/Margaret Lucas	Santana 22	1	12:00:00	DNC		
A73	Top Odds (cas)	Karen Peterson	Northshore 27	1	12:00:00	DNC		
1255	Melody	Ivana McAlpine	Swanson Dart	1	12:04:00	DNC		
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4863	Two Can	David Lewis	Masram 920	1	12:39:00	DNC		
1236	Local Hero	Peter Mosely	Sydney 36	1	12:56:00	DNC		






FOR SALE

Womens Sea Boots,
\$500 brand new
Dubarry Shamrock,
size UK 5, EU 38
Still in the box - Call Louise
0418 609238



Finish Line race 2

Sailability Skippers needed - the rewards are huge!

Manly Sailability is now in it's 12th year and during that time it's improved the quality of life of hundreds of people of all ages and varying degrees of mobility, by enabling them to experience "freedom on the water."

Equally as rewarding is the experience of the volunteers, especially those who skipper our clients in the fleet of Access 303 dinghies, and witness their joy first hand.

Often their expression tells it all like little Tanju here about to enjoy an outing with Ivan in Woody.

Their carers tell us their date with Sailability is the highlight of their lives, and gives them something to look forward to.

Our six brightly coloured little yachts have names reflecting the generosity of their donor, and they are a lively sail.

Steering with a joystick rather than a rudder takes a bit of getting used to, after that, all your regular sailing experience stands you in good stead to have an exhilarating sail on glorious Manly Cove. (We don't go out if it's blowing over 20 knots, or pouring with rain!)

With more skippers we could handle even more clients. You don't need much helming experience, but a good understanding of the basics, and a desire to introduce others less fortunate, to the pleasure you get through sailing.

If you can donate one Saturday morning a month during summer 9 - 12, to help rig, launch and skipper we would love you to come and try us out.

Manly Sailability is holding Orientation / Training on Sat. 30th August 9-12. Come and see if you think you'd like to get involved - no obligation.

You will receive far more than you give, and it will be very much appreciated.



Jude

Two very important dates are coming up in our calendar.

The first is a repeat of our fundraiser at St Andrews Presbyterian Church in Raglan St, Manly, with the fabulous group 'Loosely Woven' We will be splitting the proceeds between ourselves and Allawah Children's Hospital. For all of those Manly Yacht Club Yachtees who missed our first Loosely Woven Concert, as well as for those who didn't, this will be a very worthwhile evening, with amazing music, the legendary songstress, Sonia Bennett, wonderful participation from the audience, and an exciting supper menu.

The date for this very special evening is Friday, 8th August at 7.00 p.m. We would like to fill the hall with Sailability and Manly Yacht Club members, so please come along, have a good time, and support us in our efforts to make sailing available to everyone.

Our second significant day is Saturday, 30th August at 9.30 a.m. at the Yacht Club. We are going to run a training and orientation day for both new and old volunteers. We will be including sessions on rigging, use of the hoist, getting to know our sailors, risk management, etc Please accept this as an invitation for Manly Yacht Club members to join us so that you will feel confident of giving us some of the help we need.

Even though we have had some horrible weather in the last month, we have had some interesting sailing days, and a working bee on 24th May where we mended, cleaned and put most of our gear into order.

At the presentation night on 24th May, three of our sailors and volunteers were very honoured to receive MYC Awards for Sailor of the Year, Wayne Black, Volunteer of the Year, Jan Jensen, and Most Improved Sailor, Bruno Manzoupo.

We had a Wednesday sailing on 14th May with groups from Fisher Rd Special School, and MAPS, a Race Day on 17th May, and a Boutique Sailing Day on Friday, 30th May. Details on these can be found on our web-site, www.manlysailability.com.au

Eli



Tanju about to enjoy an outing with Ivan in Woody.



Eli and the most Improved Sailor, Bruno Manzoupo



Ivan and the Sailor of the Year, Wayne Black

Above) Volunteer of the Year, Jan Jensen



PS: All the gridders with winning trophies, need to return them to the MYC office by 30th June 2008, so don't forget to take a few photos for the family album to share with family and friends.

Thank you: Sailing Committee

DIARY DATES

- Sun 22 June Yachts SIMRAD Winter Trophy 3
- Sat 28 June Annual General Meeting and Dinner
- Mon 30 June Sailing Committee Meeting
- Wed 9 July Sailability Interchange/Centrecare
- Sun 20 July Yachts SIMRAD Winter Trophy 4
- Mon 28 July Sailing Committee Meeting
- Mon 4 Aug Bank Holiday
- Tue 5 Aug Board Meeting
- Wed 6 Aug Sailability Fisher Rd/RFW
- Sun 10 Aug Yachts SIMRAD Winter Trophy 5
- Mon 27 Aug Sailing Committee Meeting

DUTY ROSTER CREW CONTACT:

Pam Davis: 99391972
pbdavis@bigpond.net.au

Please double check your 2007-2008 Handbook

**THE 'GRAHAME COTTON' MEMORIAL TROPHY.
THE 'MYC CITIZENSHIP SHIELD'**

For some of the newer members of MYC let me give a little insight into the name behind the trophy, which is the **Premier Award, on Presentation Night.**

A 'wee bit' over twenty three years ago Graeme spotted some MJs pottering around, off East Esplanade, and he, and his wife Anne, decided that this was the ideal sport for their young family, namely Greg, Steven and Lucy, and through his enthusiastic involvement at MYC he resuscitated an ailing yacht club by building a large centreboard fleet, with a strong family base.

Graeme had a passion for the timber construction Manly Juniors (MJs), which were reasonably priced and gave everyone the opportunity to own a boat and compete on the water. Many families have very happy memories of idyllic Sundays, at MYC, or adventurous sorties to MJ State and National Titles under his selfless leadership.

Unfortunately Graeme succumbed, after a long battle, to cancer and it was suggested, by Ken Wray, that a memorial trophy should be created to acknowledge the qualities and values that Graeme had instilled in the club.

Anne Cotton keeps in touch with developments, at MYC, Lucy can sometimes be seen at MYC on a Dragon Boat. Steven is a keen 16' Skiff sailor, at Manly. Greg went on to achieve a 2nd place in the World Taser Championships among many sailing achievements.

Colin Cameron 



Brian and Jenny Willson

COMMODORE'S REPORT

Since the last Commodore's report we've had another successful Presentation night due to the efforts of Peter Hocking and his team, Robert Fagan who MC'd the night; Jack Morrison in charge of trophies and skite plates; Jenny in the galley and the many helpers who set up and cleaned up afterwards. Thank you to all...and congratulations to the winners!

Most of you will, by now, be aware of the untimely death of Bruce Hitchman. The Sailing Committee, on behalf of the club sends its heartfelt condolences to Bruce's family. He was always active in life and in the club. Those club members who assist at working bees will remember Bruce painting the Twilight Triangles that bright orange pink colour atop a ladder a man his age should not be climbing. Back at the club after racing, he would always insist on drinking his beer from a glass! It was a pleasure knowing him. He will be missed.

It's that time of year again where the new calendar and the handbook for next season is being prepared. There are a few changes in race series and in the format for the NOR and SI's - just to keep you on your toes! Hopefully you will find the new standardised NOR and SI's easier to follow as we have attempted to use the templates from the "Blue Book". There appear to be a few new boats in the club since the last handbook was published, with members replacing boats or being first time owners. Congratulations! If you intend to race them and would like to have them appear in the handbook please send me the details as soon as possible. In the past couple of years we have had difficulty in attracting numbers to our training courses, so this year we will present to you what is available externally. We will still schedule the Racing Rules of Sailing, Race Management and practical powerboat internally and hope that the times scheduled suit most members. It is important that members participate in the activities presented to them by the club.

The Winter series is underway and the trialling of the Starter's Trophy concept appears to be working. A nice bottle of "starters" wine saw its way into my cellar for the first race! We have had good fleet numbers and hope that it continues.

I urge you all to attend the AGM on the last Saturday in June - the boring bit is over quite early. Dinner is good value at a reasonable price and the activities planned for this year will hopefully entice you to come. (page 7 for more details)

On a final note, I would like to extend my thanks to the outgoing Sailing Committee and Board for the tremendous work they have done, and continue to do, to keep the club growing. It takes a lot of commitment, time and energy in an already busy life and I, for one, appreciate your efforts.

See you on the water ... Maz Theaker - Commodore 

(Above) Congratulations to Brian Wilson the winner of the 2007/2008 'Graeme Cotton' Memorial Trophy, MYC Citizenship Shield'

*The 'girls' and Al having sip of champagne from the Club Championship Cup - Rebecca collecting the cup for Ian Dennerwald - Div 1 - Ratty Tooley
Bruce Davis with the Club Championship Shield - Wild Life Div 2 and Pensiove taking the Zilzie Twilight wine prize.*



Maz and Peter Hocking



The 2008/2009 Season Audits

Some weeks to go yet but winter won't last long!! So, it is never too early to think about next summer's sailing and certainly not too early to start preparing our boats for the equipment audit which is scheduled for **Saturday 30th August 2008**.

The new YA "Blue Book" will not be effective until 1st January 2009. Until that time we will be carrying out our audits based on the requirements as set out in the presently effective "Blue Book". Any additional changes or updates to these requirements, necessary before the new book becomes effective, will be posted on the official Club notice board as they are required.

There are a few things to be aware of when preparing your boat for the August 30th audits apart from making sure all the equipment is in good working order and in date for the full season. (ie. 1 year).

Some of these less obvious requirements are:-

1. Lifelines shall be stranded stainless steel and uncoated. Rule 3.12
2. Cooking stove to be securely fastened, have accessible fuel shutoff and sign. Rule 3.17
3. Navigation lights. Necessary for some late summer twilight races.
4. Means of communication with MYC office or starter boat when necessary.
5. Correct sail numbers. Rule 4.01
6. Flares are highly recommended for Category 7. Rule 4.22
7. PFDs and lifebuoys to have attached good retroreflective tape, whistle and name. Rule 4.16; 4.17; 5.01

Remember to check the dates and quantities required for your medical kit. It **must** be stored in a **waterproof** container and include a first aid manual.

Have your fire extinguisher serviced as recommended by the manufacturer. (Usually yearly). 5BE extinguishers are no longer permitted.

EPIRBS :- Please note that as from January, 2009 only epirbs transmitting on 406 Mhz are acceptable, and from 1st July 2009 these will be required for Category 3.

Come on Summer.- Sailing Committee



Three New Boats for the MYC Fleet

'**Occums Razor**' is an Offshore 30, which is a Duncanson design, built in 1988.

For those who are wondering Occums Razor is a principle attributed to the 14th century logician and Friar, William of Occam. Basically it means, 'when you have two competing theories which make exactly the same predictions, the one that is simpler is the better.'

From the research that I have done I believe that Occums Razor was the first boat in the Offshore 30 fleet.

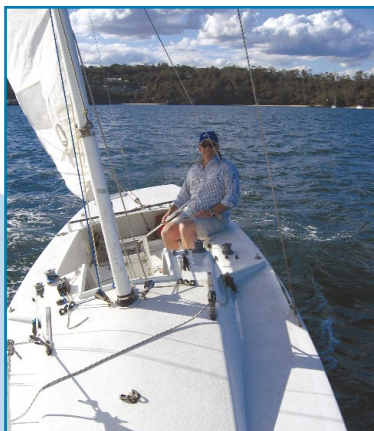
Steve Garmston and I bought the boat which was at Manly, Brisbane and sailed her down to Sydney with the help of our loyal crew. We took ownership of her at Brisbane on 23 May 2008 and proceeded down Morton Bay inside Stradbroke Island to the Broadwater. After running aground a couple of times and replacing an impellor we left Southport and proceeded to our next stop at Coffs Harbour. After a night we proceeded to Port Stephens for another overnight stay and then the short hop back to Manly, Sydney.

Dave Fairclough and Steve Garmstone



'**Esra Tew**' a Northshore 27 and will be making it's way to its mooring in Sydney Harbour on the weekend of June 21.

Owners: **Jackie Morgan and Sally Stone**



'**Nickel**' is an unusual vessel. It is a converted Etchell that has been used for offshore sailing. It has a small cabin and is fitted with a stereo and 27 meg radio as well as lights. It also has a well in the middle of the cockpit for an outboard. The kids use it to view fish and Poppy even wanted to use it as a mini swimming pool. I have bought it in partnership with Simon Grosser who is another club member. It's bad news for Nick Chatham of Flying Carpet Fame as he could lose three regular crew now Sally has bought a boat.

The other interesting story to the etchell has virtually circumnavigated Australia. Converted in Melbourne it somehow made it to Perth where a father and son sailed it across the top to the Whitsundays. The guy we bought it from is Gerry Harvey and John Singleton's helicopter pilot who had it shipped from the Whitsundays to Sydney. I'm not sure if we will get much further than Pittwater.

Anyway "Nickel" is named after his two kids and (Nick and Kelly) and should give a few people in the club a run for their money **Michael Troy and Simon Grosser**



On 28th June 2008
At 6.30 for 7:00 pm

Dear Member,

I would like to invite you to the Manly Yacht Club Annual General Meeting and Trivia Night. You can enjoy your complimentary drink on the deck from 6.30pm before the formal proceedings begin at 7:00pm. These will be followed by a delicious meal followed by coffee, sweets and trivia questions. Drinks will be available from the bar and everyone will have a chance to win the Lucky Door Prize.

Please complete the form below and return it to
Secretary Christabel Casimir by 22nd June 2008.

It has been another great year at the Club and I look forward to seeing you on the night.

Brian Wilson
President 



Please reserve me places for the Manly Yacht Club AGM Dinner and Trivia Night on Saturday 28 June 2008 at \$25 per place.

Credit Card Details: Visa Mastercard

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiry Date: _____ Sign: X.....

Name:

Address:.....

Post Code: Phone:



Please make cheques payable to: **MYC** and post to PO Box 22, Manly 1655 **by 22 June 2008**
Please note: Members who cancel within 5 days will be required to pay the full amount.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Manly Yacht Club will be held on Saturday 28 June 2008.

Drinks will be served at 6:30pm

and the meeting will commence at 7:00pm.

The following nominations have been received:

BOARD POSITION	NOMINEE
President	Brian Wilson
Vice President	Ian Dennewald
Honorary Secretary	Christabel Casimir
Treasurer	David Lewis
Commodore	Maz Theaker
Vice Commodore	Jim Nixon
Rear Commodore	David Fairclough
Director (MYC Shop)	Al Thomson
Club Captain	Howard Sullivan
Director (Sailability)	Peter Hamilton
Director (Hall Hire)	Sorrell Lambie
Director (Historian)	Helen Ebeling
Director (Moorings & Security)	David Fairclough
Director (Boats & Equip)	Bruce Davis
Director (Buildings & Maintenance)	Candace Christensen
Director (Sponsorship)	Ivana McAlpine

Notice of Annual General Meeting and Election of Office Bearers for 2008 - 2009

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Manly Yacht Club and election of Office Bearers for 2008 - 2009 will be held at the Clubhouse at 7:00pm on Saturday 28th June 2008.

Positions on the Board of Directors are open for nominations. The Club is required to have a Board consisting of the office bearers and up to twelve other directors. The Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore and at least five other board members must be boat owners.

Only financial members may vote at the Annual General Meeting. Persons who are not members are invited to attend the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Notice convening the meeting
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of the minutes of the last AGM held 30/06/2007
4. Receive and consider the Annual Report
5. Hold elections if necessary and announce Board of Directors for 2008 - 2009
6. Appoint auditors for 2008 - 2009
7. Other business



New Members - We are delighted to welcome to our Club the following new members.

Associate members

**Neil Aitken, Duncan Keith, Emma Keith
'The Big Blue Sailing School'**

We look forward to meeting you, perhaps at the AGM or on the deck after Sunday Racing.

See Diary Dates on Page 4

"PICK A SIDE" There is an interesting "balance" for **right of way** or **give way** yachts to consider when sailing on the Harbour. It doesn't matter whether you are racing or just out for a sail.

One of the legs in our racing courses which exemplifies the advantages of "pick a side" is when, after rounding Cannae Point YA mark and sailing to windward south across the Sound in a south-east wind. Mostly the yacht going to windward is on port tack and it is not unusual to encounter yachts on a reciprocal course sailing downwind on starboard towards the Store Beach area.

Then the "dance" for the port tack yacht starts. Not wanting to give away distance to windward...it lifts just enough to clear the approaching starboard yacht, woops, header, back down...up again, but no - header, ease sheets, pull away, re-trim, up again...then, Oh no - another one! While the **right of way** starboard yachts toddle off to Store Beach for a picnic! It has happened to us more than once!

Now we all know that the port tack **give way** yacht will and must keep clear (and won't call racing!)...but it highlights the ability of a starboard yacht on a free leg of a course to "pick a side" and not cause inconvenience or, more importantly, indecision for other yachts.

If you are on starboard converging with a yacht racing in your division then there may be an occasional tactical reason to maintain course, not to "pick a side" and make the port tack yacht keep clear...but nearly always it is worthwhile to "pick a side".


So we have developed a policy, where possible, to avoid sailing downwind on the course of the port tack yachts going to windward. If however we are on a reciprocal course then we pick a preferred side as early as possible and sail a course so that the other yacht can reasonably identify which side we intend to go, let them keep their optimum windward course and get on with our sailing whether we are racing or off for a picnic sail. **Give it some thought and give it a try.**

Still Learning... 

The Directors and the Sailing Committee need your support

Hope you can make it to the AGM Dinner and Trivia Night on the 28th June and enjoy the company of MYC members, family and friends over a relaxed dinner and Trivia, with the opportunity to meet The Board Members and give your support for all their hard work that makes this such a fantastic sailing club.

Since formatting the last 45 newsletters, I am reminded of how many great people are involved in the MYC, the new and regular members continuing the maintenance and improvements to the club, the hard working: Sailing Committee, The Board of Directors, the Secretary, Sailability and all our Volunteers.

All your beautiful stories and photos you have contributed make my job as Editor so much easier, please keep them coming for 2008-2009. Thanks, **Margo** 

**There will be no July MYC Newsletter -
Deadline for the August issue: Sunday 10th August**

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