

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Media publicity for sailing events is worth it say organisers

In these lean and hungry times, any free or cheap promotion that a club can get for its events can make a big difference to participation and sponsor interest.

We talk to two organisers that go the extra mile:

After nearly every race run out of Wai-kawa Boating Club Nicky Jenkins gets off the water and dedicates an hour or more to getting stories into local newspapers. "I'm usually sailing so know what the conditions were, and am at the club afterwards to get relevant comments from winners or those who have done something interesting," she says.

Her top tip? "Photos make a big difference – we got huge coverage from the more spectacular broaches during the Lawsons Dry Hills Regatta." She recommends a photographer on a dedicated photo boat is the best way of getting this.

Her 'comments' on racing appear weekly in the Marlborough Express, Blenheim Sun, and sometimes in Picton's newspaper, The Seaport News. To set it up at the beginning she went and physically met people at each publication. There is also a weekly radio comment the morning after Twilight Racing.

Lesley Haslar heads up promotion of Bay of Islands Sailing Week, now one of the country's most successful big boat events. Her informal, sometimes quirky 'Regatta Ramblings' newsletters go to a mailing list of recipients and content from within them is often picked



Above: Nicky Jenkins says that action shots like this one, taken at the Lawson Dry Hills Regatta, are great for newspapers and magazines.

up by local newspapers, other yacht club newsletters, and boating media.

Lesley keeps her newsletter to one or at the most two pages, and it takes her 60-90 minutes to put together. She emails it to another committee member for proofing. "It brings the next regatta back to mind, and we get to return more value to sponsors through it," she says.

"It puts the club in the public eye," Nicky Jenkins says. "We wanted to build membership, interest and atmosphere at the club, get more use of the kitchen and the bar, encourage crews and this is a great way of doing it. Club members now look out for coverage - particularly if they won. They really enjoy coming up with quotable quotes. We encourage anyone who wants to come sailing to crew on Tuesday nights so it's all about advertising that we're there and approachable."

Autumn 2009 Issue:

In Brief	2
PHRF Update	3
New Safety Regs	3
Flying Boat	4
Calendar	4

Is your boat registered with Yachting New Zealand?

Registration is strongly encouraged for recreational and racing boats for safety and security reasons, enabling rapid tracing of a boat in the event of theft, mishap or more serious maritime emergencies. It is also a requirement for all boats that are racing. Your boat's registration is valid until you sell it or change the boat's name.

Go to www.yachtingnz.org.nz and click 'Keelboat' for more information.



Arriving at the Robertson Island beach party at Bay of Islands Sailing Week on the Fullers car ferry. Photo © Lesley Haslar.

“Eighteen crews from nine countries will battle it out for top honours at the IFDS World Blind Sailing Championships in Rotorua”



The classic 6m yacht 'Scout' competing at BMW Auckland Regatta is set for the 6m World Championships in Newport Rhode Island later this year. Photo © Zoe Hawkins

IN BRIEF

Expressions of Interest are now being accepted for the **Royal Akarana Yacht Club's** offshore race for 2009, destination Noumea. Starts for the Cruising and Corinthian Div are on Wednesday 24 June, and on Saturday 27 June for the premier and multihull division – dates chosen to coincide with a full moon, and to give boats time to recoup prior to delivery to Australia for the Queensland regattas. www.rayc.org.nz

Ten expressions of interest, including four from Australia, have been received for the **Zenza Women's Keelboat National Championships 2009**. The Platu 25s are proving a popular choice, requiring less crew up to a max 400kg weight limit. Tash Paget says that female crews have already been out training on the boats, and feedback is that the lighter gear means skill can come into play a lot more. Jan Dawson is reigning champ, but locals Jessica Smyth, Sally Garrett, Olivia Powrie and Robin Hilton have already expressed their interest in taking on the title. Racing starts 2 April.

Following a tie with Georgia One, the Farr 1020 Hard Labour has been declared **2009 IRC National Champion** after a review by Yachting New Zealand. Both boats had a win and a second placing to their credit after taking alternate placings at Bay of Islands and BMW Auckland Regatta. Appendix A of The Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012, Rule A8.1 was applied to break the tie. The Hard Labour skipper and crew will receive the

magnificent IRC trophy at the Yachting New Zealand Excellence Awards dinner later this year, and the IRC Owner's Association will continue to strategically develop the IRC Rule's position in New Zealand sailing.

Congratulations to Roger Pagan and the crew of the Young 88 Triple 88, winners of the second **BMW Sailing Cup** to be raced in Auckland. The win means that the team will fly to Lake Garda in Italy this August to compete in the World Final of this prestigious international regatta. Amateur divisional winners from the BMW Auckland Regatta qualified for the BMW Sailing Cup.

The country's three major keelboat/multihull regattas each attracted significant fleets for 2009: 31 entries at Wellington's **Line 7**, 86 at **Bay of Islands Sailing Week**, and 64 at the **BMW Auckland Regatta**. Yachting New Zealand has provided a valued sponsorship contribution to not only help each regatta a three year investment that will help to promote keelboat sailing in the major centres of sailing that have established and successful keelboat regattas.

A valid first aid certificate is no longer a prerequisite for the **Coastguard Boating Education Services Advanced Sea Survival and Yachting Australia Safety and Sea Survival** courses, but race yachts will still need to comply with the current YNZ Safety Regulations of Sailing with regards to first aid training requirements (17.35). The number

of sailors to have had Sea Survival Training shall be as prescribed by an event Notice of Race and shall not be less than the ISAF Regulations for all Category 1 events. Read 4.08.4 of the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations for more info at www.sailing.org

The third episode of the TV show **Sailing New Zealand** airs on the last Thursday of each month, on Sky Sport. Each show screens several times—check your television guides for viewing times.

Eighteen crews from nine countries will battle it out for top honours at the **IFDS World Blind Sailing Championships** in Rotorua from 13 to 21 March 2009.

Teams from Norway, Finland, Italy, Canada, Japan, United Kingdom, Australia, United States of America and New Zealand have confirmed entries.

Panmure Boating Club members are benefiting from a series of interesting events, including a visit by the famous biodiesel powered 'Earthrace' on 11 March, and a celebration 40-year reunion for the One Ton Cup winning crew of Rainbow II. www.pybc.org.nz

The **Trailer Yacht Association** has a new website, www.traileryachts.org.nz, full of news and information for owners and prospective owners.

NEW SAFETY REGULATIONS

406 EPIRBs are major change in new and improved safety regs

Despite an extensive re-write, changes to Yachting New Zealand's Safety Regulations aren't as comprehensive as they first appear, says Safety & Technical Officer Michael Churchhouse. In fact, with the exception of the new EPIRB system, most boats will be affected very little.

"Of prime importance is the fact that the old 121.5 EPIRB no longer triggers the satellite system and is now obsolete. Every boat that wishes to retain their category 1, 2 & 3 status must have on board after 1 February 2009, a registered 406 EPIRB and YNZ must have been notified of the hexadecimal number so they can insert it in their records."

The Safety Regulations were extensively rewritten and the result is a much better and easier to use publication. "There are many small changes, so it is essential that the new book be read as a stand

alone book of regulations, and that boats investigate these changes as soon as possible," says Michael. Those with time to run on their safety certificates need do nothing except keep their existing equipment maintained and up to date: provided that skippers do this, and that they carry a new 406 EPIRB which is registered with Yachting New Zealand, there is no need to make changes until your certificate comes up for renewal.

Look out for *changes in the following main areas* (Was = old book reference, Now = new book reference): WAS - (M) 7.14 watertight hatch be fitted... NOW (M) 13.10 On all multihulls a readily usable... / WAS - (K) 12.2 One storm trysail... NOW (K) 15.15 One storm trysail... / WAS (K) 9.1 three fire extinguishers NOW (K) 17.01 min. weight now 5 kgs / WAS - (K) 9.2 two fire extinguishers NOW (K)

17.02 min. weight now 4 kgs / WAS (K) 13.1 (life jackets cat. 1) & other differences - NOW (K) 17.05 type 401 category 1 & 2 etc. / WAS - (K) 13.9 lifesaving changes NOW (K) 17.13 (d) / WAS (K) 17.19 (b) lifeline terminals NOW (K) 13.14 grab pack (bag) WAS (M) 17.34 needed for cat 1-5 NOW (K) 12.24 hand held VHF R for cat 3 / WAS (K) & (M) 18.2 (ii) & (iii) mandatory for cat 3 & 4 NOW (K) 13.10 with the mandatory increase in hand held VHF radios, flare numbers have now been reduced see 18.7 in new book / WAS (K) 11.4 GPS NOW (K) 19.04 GPS - one extra GPS for cat 1 OR ability to find position by sextant is recommended (see website).

Plus, 21.0 in the new book now clearly sets out what is expected of skipper and crew skills. Some further revisions may be made: Download the latest version of the new regulations on the YNZ website.



The new book of Safety Regulations is designed to be easier to read and interpret, but there are few actual changes to equipment requirements.

"Of prime importance is the fact that the old 121.5 EPIRB no longer triggers the satellite system and is now obsolete."

- Michael Churchhouse

PHRF COMMITTEE REPORTS IN

System tracking well, improvements roll out this month

Following an extensive rework, the PHRF system is becoming more robust, and fine tuning is now being applied to ensure that it provides satisfaction for boat owners.

This month owners revalidating their PHRF will also see race histories forwarded to them along with their new certificates. This ensures transparency of calculations, and a system is being developed so that this information, and measurements, can be publically accessible online. A more formal assessment and appeals

process is also being established, and some of the philosophies and processes around PHRF will be more clearly articulated.

Boat owners should also note that PHRF is designed as a self regulating system and if they are aware of a boat sailing out of measurement, the best course of action is to file a protest against that boat when they next race against it. (Note that PHRF is calculated solely on race history, but boats must race within the configuration that their rating is based on. Any boats mak-

ing changes that affect their performance, or which exceed its measurements are obliged to notify YNZ and may need to apply for a new certificate.)

A first stop for anybody not happy with their results is to ensure that their yacht club is submitting them via the free YachtSystems software. All clubs that run PHRF are expected to submit all results to YNZ to ensure depth of data. A list of clubs that do send results, and more info about PHRF, is on www.yachtingnz.org.nz.



PHRF racing has produced very close results at major summer regattas.

Photos © Zoe Hawkins

Safety at Sea

your dedicated safety supplier



Now owned and operated by yachties,
for yachties, with more brands, more
choice and better value.

- Category 1 & 3 Upgrades
- Life Raft Service & Hire
- 406 MHz EPIRBs

OPEN 6 DAYS

79 Gaunt St, Westhaven
Call: (09) 3099 111 Fax: (09) 3099 211
Email: sales@safetyatsea.co.nz
Web: www.safetyatsea.co.nz

BACK PAGE PHOTO

Fly baby fly!



Mike Calkoen's *Flying Boat* in the Line 7 Regatta in Wellington during February. The Young 11 took out both the IRC victory and the much coveted Port Nicholson Line 7 Trophy. Winds of up to 35knots challenged the entrants from as far afield as Christchurch and Nelson. More at www.rpnyc.org.nz—This photo by Chris Coad

Major Events

Easter 09	Auckland to Tauranga www.yacht.org.nz
24/27 Jun 09	Auckland to Noumea www.rayc.org.nz
Winter 09	B&G SIMRAD Triple Series www.ssanx.co.nz
23 Oct 09	HSBC Premier Coastal Classic www.coastalclassic.co.nz
26 Dec 09	Rolex Sydney-Hobart www.cyca.com.au
19-22 Jan 10	Bay of Islands Sailing Week www.bayofislandssailingweek.co.nz
Date TBA	Port Nicholson Line 7 Regatta www.rpnyc.org.nz
Date TBA	BMW Auckland Regatta www.mzys.org.nz / www.bbyc.org.nz

Planning your race calendar? With dozens of clubs around the country holding events there is more happening than we can list here, so look no further than your regional yachting association or local clubs' websites for event listings – full details at www.yachtingnz.org.nz, click on 'club directory'

Yachting Quarterly

Reaching over 2,000 boat owners, Yachting Quarterly is the official newsletter of the Keelboat & Offshore Racing Committee (KORC), incorporating keelers, multihulls, trailer boats & motor yachts.



All enquiries:
85 Westhaven Drive
Auckland
Phone: +64 9 361 1471
Fax: +64 9 360 2246
E-mail: mail@yachtingnz.org.nz

Yachting Quarterly is produced for Yachting New Zealand by Wilde Media Limited. www.wildemedia.co.nz.

Thank you to our contributors.