

# CATALINA FLEET NEWS

May 2012



Farr Haven – Farr 6000 - Richard & Emma



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

## Management Committee 2011

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<b>Vice Commodore</b>	Derek Tracey	0414 501 133	<a href="mailto:derek@bravo.net.au">derek@bravo.net.au</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Phillip Sparkes	0414 223 654	<a href="mailto:pwsparkes@bigpond.com">pwsparkes@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Hazel Cooper	0408 435 432	<a href="mailto:hazelcooper@bigpond.com">hazelcooper@bigpond.com</a>
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<b>Race Handicapper</b>	Ralph Penn	0429 431905	<a href="mailto:rjpenn@bigpond.com">rjpenn@bigpond.com</a>
<b>Social Committee</b>	Hans & Anita Heck	4973 5519	<a href="mailto:heckresort@gmail.com">heckresort@gmail.com</a>
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Web	<a href="http://www.trailersailer.org">www.trailersailer.org</a>
Payment Details	To Treasurer, Phillip Sparkes Or Direct Deposit to BSB 650000 - Account No. 962889402 – Account Name NHTYA – Please use your name in the reference

### Annual General Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of the Newcastle and Hunter Trailer Yacht Association to be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 7pm at Club Macquarie.

#### General Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given of a General Meeting of the Newcastle and Hunter Trailer Yacht Association to be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at Club Macquarie.

**Deadline for content for the next Newsletter: 1 June 2012**

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## Vice Commodore's Report

Hello all my sailing friends,

Well it's been a while since I reported on anything but for sure you will now understand that Hart has gone OS and I'm back. So it's up to me to give over some info for the last month.

Strange thing is I wasn't here but I can see that we have had some racing and the numbers have been strong.

Phil gave us a wonderful talk on the Murray trip last meeting night and I see that Ralph has been not only working hard with the computer but has put some very informative reports in as well. Thanks Guys.

I know that there have been some questions about the race handicap system and I'm sure that if anyone has a problem understanding the results, we are only too happy to follow through with the info required. If you are interested it's not an easy job and the system I feel is a little confusing but if you really need to know any more about the results, get in touch with the racing guys, for the clues.

The Easter cruise was on and only a few turned up but with Judy and Nev having to leave as soon as they got there it was a little unorganised. Next year should be better and our sympathy's go to Judy and Nev for their loss.

Speaking of Judy and Nev, I must say that Leanne and I had a lovely time on the water last weekend and loved the slice for sweets. The weather didn't start out so good but we all had a great sail and time on the water which is what it's all about.

Next meeting is the AGM and I expect to see lots of people attending to protest all the positions! No, really should be good this year as we have it all sorted, I hope. There is still a vacancy for committee and if you want even more responsibility, you only have to ask and the spots yours.

I need to trophy's back NOW, so if you are holding some of the silver please get it back to me asap. Who knows it might be yours again. You'll find out at the presentation night which should be better than last year and we again have the room to ourselves and the food was great so I'm looking forward to the night. Please let Hazel know ASAP as we need to get into the bookings for the night.

Keep Smiling,  
Derek Tracey

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Committee Meeting**

Tuesday 10<sup>TH</sup> April 2012

Meeting opened at: 1915hours at 109 Fishing Point Road, Fishing Point  
Attendance: Hart, Derek, Phil, Kevin, Ray & Hazel

Minutes of the last Committee Meeting. Approved.  
Moved: Hazel Cooper. Seconded: Derek Tracey.

### **Correspondence**

Inwards: Bilgewater. Magazine from Yachting Australia  
Outwards: Card sent to Judy Heap for the loss of her mother.

### **General Business:**

- Constitution has been changed and accepted as per Minutes for February 2012
- Sonata Notes Newsletter had an item concerning damage to one of their members yacht and Yachting Australia made some recompense to their repairs.
- Presentation Night 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012.  
Trophies (Derek), music (Kev), photos (Phill), lucky prize (Hart) all in hand.  
Secretary to check whether we have to pay for the bar that night.
- AGM 15/5/2012. All positions already have nominations submitted for the coming year.

Meeting closed at 2030hours

# Minutes of the General Meeting Held at Club Macquarie

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2012

Meeting Opened at 7.05pm

Chairman: Hart Peters

Attendance: As per Attendance Book.

**17/04-01 Resolved-** The Minutes of the General Meeting held at Club Macquarie on 20/03/2012 ( as printed in the April Catalina Fleet News) be adopted.

Proposed: Kim Sparkes

Seconded: Ralph Penn

**Matters Arising from the Minutes-- Nil**

## Correspondence

Inwards ING statement, Newcastle Permanent Statement, Bilgewater and Sails Magazine.

Outwards Nil Known

**Business Arising from the Correspondence - Nil**

## Reports

### Treasurer

- Income \$135.00
- Expenditure:\$248.00
- Balance\$1841.96 as at 31/03/2012
- ING Balance \$4901.53 as at 31/03/2012

**15/03-02 Resolved-** That the Treasurers report be Accepted.

Proposed: Phillip Sparkes

Seconded: Anita Heck

- Meeting approved payment of Race Medals \$316.80 – Lings. Ralph now has the medals.

## Race Organiser

- The last race weekend was a good weekend. Ralph was congratulated on his very entertaining race reports.
- It was suggested that next year we race from a different locations i.e. Sunshine. Arnold will contact Sunshine re using Race markers. It was also suggested that we could head north i.e. Warners Bay, Bolton Point or even down to Mantering Park.

## Cruise Organiser

- May Cruise – Graeme Tinkler- Port Stephens. – Not many starters for this cruise. Hart to chase up with Neville and Judy.
- June Cruise – Phillip & Kim Sparkes – Lake Macquarie.

## Membership

Application from Tim Mills – very little sailing experience. Sabre 22 Keanu

Proposed: Phillip Sparkes

Seconded: Derek Tracey

## Aquatic Services

- Approval for Jetty opposite Marine Rescue Base – Swansea Park, Swansea RSL – Floating Jetty, Wangi RSL Jetty extension. Pump out at Marmong Point now in operation- but a fee to use. The old Sewerage pipe over Cockle creek has been removed. Marks point Marina upgrade in council.

## General Business

- Judy Heaps mother passed away on Good Friday- Hart attended the Funeral on behalf of the club.
- A committee meeting was held last week to discuss AGM and Presentation night.
- Race medals were presented for race 1,2,3 &4.

Date of Next General Meeting and AGM 15<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Meeting Closed 7.45pm.

## 2012 Annual General Meeting notice

Notice is hereby given for an Annual General Meeting of the Newcastle and Hunter Trailer Yacht Association to be held at Club Macquarie on Tuesday 15th May 2012, starting at 7.00pm.

All positions will be declared vacant and nomination form (attached at end of last month's newsletter) for all position to be in the hands of the secretary before the start of the meeting.

Positions to be filled are as follows:-

Commodore -	nomination received	Cruising Organiser -	
Vice Commodore -	nomination received	Equipment Officer -	
Past Commodore -	default	Membership Officer -	
Secretary -	nomination received	Web Page Organiser -	nomination received
Treasurer -	nomination received	Newsletter Editor -	
3 Ordinary Committee Positions -	nominations received	Social Organiser -	
Race Organiser -		Public Officer -	nomination received
Race Handicapper -	nomination received		

As you can see some positions (at the time of printing) already have nominations in. That does not mean if you feel you would like to also try of a position it is too late, just get your form in to the secretary.

\*\*\*\*\*

# PRESENTATION NIGHT 2012

Is being held at  
**Toronto Motor Yacht Club**  
**On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012**  
**At the Mariners Bar**

Come along and congratulate members for their achievements  
It's always a fun night.

Tickets only \$35.00 per head  
For a two course alternating menu.

**RSVP** To Hazel Cooper by Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012

Phone: 49751793 mobile 0418970357

e-mail: [hazel-cooper@live.com.au](mailto:hazel-cooper@live.com.au)

payment can be made by direct deposit into the club account

BSB 650000 - Account No. 962889402 – Account Name NHTYA

**Members who wish to use a berth at the club for that night please confirm before 21<sup>st</sup> June so boats can be moved on the wharf.**

# June Long Week Cruise

On Lake Macquarie  
9-11/6/2012

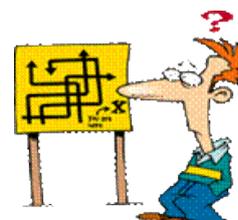


**Saturday:** launch at Styles Point for a sail (departing about 10am), head towards the Pulbah area for lunch. Returning to Styles for one of Kim's famous hardy winter meals (just bring your drinks and plates and chairs and warm clothes and fire wood and etc)

**Please let us know if you will be there on Saturday night (it's just courtesy) for catering purpose**



**Sunday:** we will head to green point jetty for an exploration/ treasure hunt?? and lunch then sailing down to overnight at Toronto jetty or Bolton Point or Valentine or Belmont or Bennet Park.



**Monday:** lunch shall be fish and chips or hamburger or pie or pizza or Indian or just a sandwich at Warners Bay before retrieving in the afternoon

Come and join us for the last cruise for a couple of months.

Phillip or Kim  
0414 223654



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Extracted from Myall Lakes Aquatic Club flyer

## Appreciation & Tribute Sailpast.

Dear boating friends,

To show our appreciation for the 25 years of service, friendship, help & advice that Bede & Jacqui have given to the boaters of the Myall Lakes, a tribute Sailpast is planned for 9<sup>th</sup> June ( long weekend ), 11 AM on the Tea Gardens waterway.

We would like boats to start assembling downstream of the Singing Bridge & be ready to steam off in a procession to be led by Maritime at 1100 hrs. The parade will pass under the bridge upstream to Tea Gardens & pass close by the Maritime wharf where Bede & Jacqui will be on-board the Independence. After giving B&J a wave, toot or salute, sail-on into Tea Gardens town, Witt Island area for "Fall-out."

Come in your big boat, or grab a lift with friends, come in your little boat, speedboat or tinny. If that doesn't suit, come by ferry or car. Otherwise, contact Mac or Linda & we can arrange some means of transport. The important thing is to just be there!

What happens after the completion of Sailpast is yet to be finalised. Please let us know your ideas, your wishes & your requirements.( anything we can assist with )

Please RSVP to Mac or Linda, ph 0417621122 [kmac7@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kmac7@optusnet.com.au)

# Murray River Cruise – March 2012

By Kim  
Part 2

## 8. Saturday 10/3/12 - Km marker 330

We headed off just as the ski boats started rounding the corner from the camp area. Lots and lots of ski boats (must be because its Saturday), even some house boats moving along the river on our way to find that perfect secluded spot (not). Passed through Morgan, but gave it a miss as it was ski boat heaven.

Tied up to a tree for lunch and a fish (gave up after losing two lures to snags). Phill was amazed at the amount of derelict house boats deserted on the banks.

Continued passing lots more majestic cliffs (Pelican Point) until we reached a camping area on the right side, grassy but full of speed boats. We motored alongside the cliff faces, took more photos then Kim jumped aboard 'Windsong' to make sure 'Sail Away' was in a picture with the spectacular cliff face behind her.



We motored past the reserve until we found a spot for overnight (approx. 5:00 pm), 6 km north of Blanchtown, some bow into the shore, others stern-in for easier access. Not a lot of shade on shore so we went aboard Wind Song for Happy Hour. Really felt like a chicken schnitzel and salad for dinner and amazingly Toni cooked us both exactly that (just pulled it from thin air). We enjoyed a meal cooked for us and it was truly delicious. Watched a DVD and bed as the southerly picked up but caused no problems overnight.

Total distance 52 km, 5.23 motoring

## 9. Sunday 11/3/12 - Km marker 278

It was a quiet night, other than the wind blowing up a bit, which helped keep the temperature down & the flies away. Breakfast, and then a shower along the way in the cockpit (with some warmed up water for the shampoo). Stopped at the pump-out just before Blanchtown and got rid of the rubbish. Through Lock 1 and into the town to tie up at the river edge. Some of us walked up into the town (general store, post office & pub) to get fresh milk and bread and an ice-cream. The Town is a reasonable size but only one shop & two caravan parks. Nev & Judy with shower bags in hand headed off to one of the caravan parks to use some free hot water.

When we got back to the boats after our exhausting walk up the hill and back, we found Toni had cooked fresh pikelets with jam for our morning tea (7 people on 'Chablis' but with Kim playing it safe on the bow of 'Sail Away'). Betsy & Toni decided they wanted to swim across the river and back, Toni losing ground to the strong current gave up and turned back to the shoreline. Betsy completed the swim with the aid of the noodle in the end, as she found the current too strong. Left around 12:45, we continued down the river. Lunch at 1:45, we admired kilometres & kilometres of 30 metre high cliffs as we went along. Again, we were amazed at how the cockatoos were nesting in the cliff face.

Stopped 4:45 for overnight, Happy Hour was on a high bank and thankfully watching as the last ski boats went past. Nev setting shrimp traps again. Phill tried his hand at fishing again, nothing caught.

Total distance 28 km, 2:30 motoring

## 10. Monday 12/3/12 - Km marker 250

Departed 9:25 after clearing a water blockage in the motor (no telltale), we passed Swan Reach without stopping and heading to the legendary Big Bend for morning tea/swim. Landed on the Bend on a sandy beach (obviously where Paddle Steamers pull in for a lunch stop), for a much needed swim. The Big Bend cliffs are the tallest cliffs on the Murray River and are hundreds of million years old. Here there is a very sharp turn in the river going 180 deg on itself in a very short distance. More snakes were spotted crossing the river. Tied to willow trees somewhere near Nildottie for lunch and another swim. The day was very hot again and we all tried to stay in the shade of our covers as we continued along our journey. We eventually stopped near a boat ramp & little park at Walkers Flat for the night at 4:10 pm



Some went for a walk to the local store for ice-creams (again) and another swim was enjoyed by most of us. Phill did some fishing with the shrimp he had got from Neville and caught two fish (not exactly sure what kind) but threw them back as we didn't think they were big enough (or even knew if they were edible). Happy Hour on our boats, all tied to the shore and to each other, as we enjoyed the peaceful river view.

Total distance 42 km, 4:33 motoring

## 11. Tuesday 13/3/12 – Km marker 208

We woke to the sounding of the horn from the Murray Princess as she approached the ferry crossing near our overnight location (Walkers Flat). This was a spectacular sight; a 4 story paddlewheel river boat that travels from Mannam twice a



week (3 day cruises). At 67m long and 1500 tonnes, she is the largest paddlewheeler ever to operate on the Murray and the largest paddlewheeler in the Southern Hemisphere. A huge wake came from the back of the paddlewheels which mostly rolled to the other side, luckily for us. Breakfast,

and then set off to Caurnamont for morning tea and a well enjoyed swim whilst Phill, Tony & Greg went for a walk to the ferry and back. Continued about another hour or so stopping at Bowhill for lunch break. Two of us tied up to a reasonably new jetty & the other two tied to the shore with the houseboats & tinnies. Walked up to the General Store and ordered take away for lunch. While others purchased supplies and then went back to their boats for lunch, we sat at a park bench eating our lunch overlooking the river. Several house boats came in and moored just down from the jetty as we were occupying it. This gave us the opportunity to chat with some locals about the area and river.

We met up with and chatted to some people who were from WA and Sydney who were enjoying their trip on a houseboat. Phill being Phill took some pictures for the family off the houseboat with their cameras and to our surprise they later repaid us with ice creams for his efforts. We also met another group of 4 in little tinnies who were also making their way down the river, These people are travelling all the way to the ocean and had apparently been about 2 hours behind us all the way. We headed back to our boats for a quick swim and towing Phill with a rope as we continued on our way. We stuck our head into a little creek running off the side to look at Lake Carlet (approx. 12 kms long). Motoring along the river, a couple on a houseboat called us over to ask if we wanted some fresh crabs - answering "YES" of course. Pulled up alongside their houseboat and chatted, they informed us they had been crabbing the night before at Port something and had caught heaps of blue swimmer crabs. Lucky for us! We gladly accepted a bag of crabs rolled up in newspaper, she had also put in some ice bricks just in case we didn't have a fridge onboard.

We continued on our way, after thanking them, until we found a clearing just big enough for our 4 boats. This was nestled amongst the willow trees and offered much needed shade (opposite the township of Younghusband). Phill and Greg started setting up chairs on shore for Happy Hour when Greg started walking (very fast) backwards towards the river bank yelling "SNAKE". A rather large brown/black snake approx. 6/8 feet (different opinions on the colour and size of this snake) slithered from the shrub and across the track heading back into the bush (luckily Greg didn't have to the jump into the river). Finally we all gathered under the shade to share our surprise offerings for happy hour. (The story went; we had just had them flow in by helicopter at great expense) The crabs went down very well with a cold beer/wine/coke/cup of tea before all retiring to our boats for dinner and another swim and to enjoy the wonderful view of the river with the sun setting again. We didn't have dinner, after eating crabs and a rather big lunch earlier that day, but sat/laid outside under the stars until rather late as it was still warm inside the cabin.

Total distance 38 km, 4:43 motoring

## 12. Wednesday 14/3/12 - Km marker 170

Left around 9:30 from our willow tree river side spot. The depth sounder indicated 18 metres of water; most of the time sitting around 10 metres. More deserted wrecks were scattered among the reeds on the shoreline. Continued until we reached Mannum around 11:30, all tied up along the river (except Windsong who had to tie to the little jetty until a spot became vacant near the rest of us). Mal & Betsy, Greg & Toni and ourselves went for a wander down the main street and headed to the River Museum. Entry was \$15.00 a couple and we spent a couple of hours poking around, during that time we went aboard 'Marion' Paddle Steamer for a self-guided tour. Walking back to the boats, a thunder storm broke and the first bit of rain (real rain) we had seen since putting in on this trip. Phill ran back to 'Sail Away' while I found a bakery and got lunch. By the time I got back, the storm had passed, rain had stopped & it had cooled down (thank goodness).



We spend a relaxing afternoon lying on the grassy river bank chatting and then another walk into the town (2 minutes' walk) to pick up some more supplies (coke for Phill). Phill went walkabouts chatting to some houseboats (filling up with afternoon teas) while the rest of us relaxed. 6:15 was the time to meet under the trees for champagne (provided by Betsy) but the rain started again and we had to change plans and Happy Hour was onboard 'Windsong'. Then we all went up the bank to the Mannum Memorial Club for a farewell dinner as this is the last night we will all be together. The meals were huge and very good; we all enjoyed a great night. When we went to leave the club the storm had returned and it was

pouring down rain again, but a quick dash to the boats was easy (& refreshing) before watching a DVD and listening to the rain.

Total distance 19 km, 1:55 motoring

### 13. Thursday 15/3/12 - Km marker 151-118

Woke to find the storm had passed, still some clouds but clearing. Headed off just before 10:00, after chatting to houseboats that were from New Zealand where our next trip is later this year. Stopped just past Wall Flat for morning tea and a quick exploration before continuing on our way again. Lunch was at a little clearing near another pumping station. We motored on past Avoca Dell Caravan Park down the river into the township of Murray Bridge for a quick look. We then headed back to the ramp at Avoca Dell Park to retrieve. 'Chablis' was already retrieving, soon followed by 'Sail Away' and then 'Windsong'. Judy & Nev had collected their car then driven into Murray Bridge to shop for supplies for the next day or two as they were continuing on to Wellington. After we all packed up the boats, Betsy & Kim had a \$5 shower at the Caravan Park and then we said our farewells.

Total distance 45 km, 4:33 motoring

Departed Murray Bridge at 6:50 pm - drove for approx. 1 hour before stopping in a road stop, cooking dinner and crashed out for the night.

### 14. Friday 16/3/12

Left the overnight spot (truck stop) just before Pinaroo around 7:45 am. Drove on then stopped for fuel and coffee. Continued for about an hour and then Kim drove for 1 hour to Ouyen. Lunch was at Tooleybuc - chips and fresh bread. Whilst I was walking around the park taking pictures of the rising river and buying lunch, Phill was enjoying a sleep. I then climbed back into 'Sail Away' to eat before we heard "tapping on the hull" to find Betsy & Mal had pulled up behind us for their lunch. We drove on to Hay (concerned as we were told by locals that the bridge was being closed tonight due to the flooding, Murrumbidgee River). Arrived at Hay where we stopped for fuel (sandbags everywhere). Hay was a town that was buzzing with excitement, lots of road blocks and stop/go men giving instructions. Relieved as we drove across the bridge, we detoured to West Wyalong as we were advised due to the flooding and road closures.



Arrived at West Wyalong, stopping at IGA for supplies, re-fuelled & then onto a road stop just out of town for the night, closely followed by 'Windsong' & a zillion mozzies, sending Kim crazy. Schnitzel & rice for dinner & again watched a DVD (whilst splatting mozzies).

### 15. Saturday 17/3/12

Left West Wyalong approx. 7:30 am; turning right heading along Burley Griffin Hwy towards Harden where we would finally meet up with the Hume Hwy. Stopped for breakfast at 9:30 just past Harden and to stretch our legs. We passed through very pretty farm lands and eventually made our way on to the Hume Hwy. Text received from 'Windsong' - "Just passing Yass Service Centre" as we were approaching the Goulburn area. That put us about an hour ahead of them. We also heard from 'Chablis' who were somewhere near Swan Hill and all was ok. 'Wanderer' called and said they had been to Wellington and was now on their way back to Talem Bend for the night.

It was an easy trip through Sydney using the M7 and M2 toll roads, just a bit of slow traffic up the small section of Parramatta Rd

It is a faster and safer way to get through just cost a couple of \$\$ stress and fuel saving makes it worth while.

Arrived at Belmont 3:07 pm.

Total Distance by road: 3006 kms with travelling time about 39hrs - driving time: 36hrs

Distance on water: 460km Time motoring: about 45hrs

Fuel used on river (10hp 4stroke Honda) 62litres and fuel was easy to get, you just had to be prepared to carry it.

Dumped black water about every 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> day with plenty of places to do it.

Fresh water was not available at the waters edge.

2 books are available: 'Murray River Pilot' \$16.50 - very good for the history and interesting things on the way.  
'South Australia's Waters - An Atlas & Guide' \$69.95 - better detailing for river, roads and towns.

Must haves- long sturdy gang plank, sun awning, comfortable seat to steer from, authelm made it easier, insect screens, several extra long ropes, lots of drinks and friends to go with.

Kim and Phillip

## Autumn Series 2012 Race 5

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012

MCHC Expo G2 results Start time 12:45 PM

Place	Sail No	Boat Name	Elapsed Time	AHC	Corrected Time	BCH	CHC	Skipper	Class	Finish Time	Elapsed Time Order
1	4	Oranje	02:01:58	0.674	01:22:12	0.700	0.687	A Broekman	HainesTramp	14:46:58	2
2	77	Possum	01:59:29	0.690	01:22:27	0.714	0.702	R Parker	Young 770	14:44:29	1
3	752	Farr and Beyond	02:31:14	0.559	01:24:32	0.564	0.562	H Peters	Farr 7500	15:16:14	4
4	51	Farr Haven	02:43:33	0.522	01:25:22	0.522	0.522	R Berry	Farr 6000	15:28:33	6
5	440	Blue Moon	02:29:50	0.587	01:27:57	0.570	0.578	S Steele	Farr 6000	15:14:50	3
6	502	Wanderer II	02:33:14	0.584	01:29:29	0.557	0.571	N Heap	Sabre25	15:18:14	5
7	86	The Itch	02:44:49	0.568	01:33:37	0.518	0.543	P Roache	Sonata 6	15:29:49	7
8	152	Keanu	02:46:13	0.616	01:42:23	0.514	0.585	T Mills	Sabre 22	15:31:13	8
DNS	501	Sail Away	.	0.582	.	.	.	P Sparkes	Sabre 25	.	.

DNS = Did Not Start

## Autumn Series 2012 Race 6

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2012

MCHC Expo G2 results Start time 11:30 AM

Place	Sail No	Boat Name	Elapsed Time	AHC	Corrected Time	BCH	CHC	Skipper	Class	Finish Time	Elapsed Time Order
1	77	Possum	02:36:43	0.702	01:50:01	0.748	0.725	R Parker	Young 770	14:06:43	1
2	51	Farr Haven	03:43:15	0.522	01:56:32	0.525	0.524	R Berry	Farr 6000	15:13:15	7
3	440	Blue Moon	03:22:16	0.578	01:56:55	0.580	0.579	S Steele	Farr 6000	14:52:16	3
4	4	Oranje	02:50:38	0.687	01:57:14	0.687	0.687	A Broekman	HainesTramp	14:20:38	2
5	752	Farr and Beyond	03:34:56	0.562	02:00:48	0.545	0.554	H Peters	Farr 7500	15:04:56	6
6	502	Wanderer II	03:33:56	0.571	02:02:09	0.548	0.559	N Heap	Sabre 25	15:03:56	5
7	501	Sail Away	03:30:12	0.582	02:02:20	0.558	0.570	P Sparkes	Sabre 25	15:00:12	4
8	86	The Itch	04:01:19	0.543	02:11:02	0.486	0.516	P Roache	Sonata 6	15:31:19	8

AHC	Allocated Handicap:- Your handicap applied to this race
Corrected Time	= Elapsed Time x AHC
BHC	Back Calculated Handicap:- This is the handicap each yacht would need for all yachts to finish at the same corrected time
CHC	Calculated Handicap:- This is used as the AHC in the next race. This is limited to no more than a 5% change from the AHC used in the current race. If you come first your handicap "number" increases and if you are a late finisher your handicap "number" decreases to improve your position in the next race.

# NHTYA 2012 Autumn Series Race 5

Pre Race Pandemonium, no not at the start line

Just trying to get to the start line.

Absolutely perfect day as seen by Ralph Penn.

I had more fun and excitement being Officer of the Day than those who sailed the race.

I arrived at “F” jetty to find the only yacht present was Possum however I had passed Sail Away who was taking on fuel in Toronto and other yachts were launching at Styles Point. Well there was another vessel present a very large cruiser.

## Pandemonium No.1

Ray and Bronwyn eventually returned from walking their Whippet dog Lillie and sheepishly told the tail of the runaway yacht. You see the trailer for Possum has very few rollers and since the hull is fibreglass over cedar timber the hull would deform slowly where the rollers provided spot support. So the hull is supported on two full length carpet covered timber beams. This requires the yacht to be “floated off the trailer”. The steep ramp east of the Catalina ramp is just perfect for the launch. Ray carefully backs the trailer into the water and Bronwyn shouts “that far enough”.

Remember the note in the last Catalina Fleet News

- Keep the safety chain attached until the yacht is ready to launch
- to this we should add
- Always have at least a 20 metre launching safety line attached

No prizes for guessing the immediate unexpected event. When Bronwyn shouted that’s far enough, naturally Ray hits the brakes and catapult launches Possum out, out, out in to the bay! You can imagine the surprise on Bronwyn’s face and the shrill exclamation that would have accompanied.

Ray, Ray, the boat.....etc etc

That explained to me, when I arrived at “F” Jetty”, why there was a very wet beach towel hanging over Possum’s lifelines drying in the glorious morning sunshine.

Yes Ray can swim 50 metres but towing a yacht in swimmers would be a significant ordeal.



## Pandemonium No.2

Bronwyn announces the need to take the car to the shops to purchase victuals for the days sailing. Her hand bag is on the wharf near the cleat to which Possum is moored. With the bag is Lillie’s leash. Bronwyn picks up the leash but fails to see the car keys are entangled and you guessed it...the keys go “plop” into two metres of salty water. Geez she was lucky the car key was not an electronic type! Well there had to be some redeeming feature to this event.

Well there we were the three of us peering down into the depths of the not too clear salty water.

- Enter the White Knight in Shining Armour for the damsel in distress.
- What is going on. What are you looking at says Leon who just walked onto “F” Jetty.
- My keys just fell into the water announces Bronwyn.
- Not a problem says Leon, I have my SCUBA gear in the car.

In all of the 20 something years I have been sailing from Rathmines I have never ever seen this chap Leon and by some quirk of fate, Bronwyn was able to have him materialise onto the scene. Not half an hour later but right smack spot on the time that the keys went “plop” Geez the power these women have is astounding!

It turns out Leon had been commissioned to defoul a 30 foot Cuddles cruiser at “F” Jetty this morning and to repeat that on a yacht at 1:00 PM as well.

## Pandemonium No.3.

Well there I was at the start line on shore at the old derelict wharf near the Rathmines Bowling Club. About 7 minutes before the two flags had to be raised and 11 minutes before the actual start my phone rings. Geez I hope this is not the chap in



Geraldton Western Australia who bought my yacht last month because we both enjoy a long chat that extends out to 30 minutes or more.

Hullo ...Phil Sparkes here.....my keel will not go down.....I will miss the start.

Oh dear....OK Phil I'll log you as a did not start (DNS).

To day was one of those "I wish there was some wind" starts. Yachts milling about at 1 or 2 knots and way in the distance back near "F" Jetty is Keanu and I thinks...he had better start his engine or he will not make the start line in time, he can do that up to 5 minutes before the start time, must tell him that. Anyway off they all go and I am free for about two and a half hours so I go see what Phil on Sail Away is doing about his recalcitrant keel. It seems the recent trip down the Murray River, which included a sand bar grounding has resulted in twigs or other debris jamming the keel.

After much kicking of the keel case the naughty keel would not oblige and free up.

Leon, our Knight in Shining Armour, well in wet suit and SCUBA gear, tried his best to clear any obstructions with his long shaft scraping implement but alas the keel won that short skirmish.

OK back to basics.

Phil retrieves the yacht back onto the trailer, gets the Landcruiser's jack out, pokes it between the trailer rollers and proceeds to up-down-up-down-up-down the keel to encourage free movement. For every up there was the grinding of sand or grit. For every down there was the grinding of sand or grit.

The trailer was sent back into the water and the yacht part launched till the keel was free of the trailer rollers. Wind the winch down but the naughty keel just hung up and the keel wire went limp...bummer.

Next option water blast up beside the keel and sluice the offending sand out from the very narrow clearance between the keel and the keel case.

Retrieve the yacht again, up to the ablutions block stand pipe, hook up Phil's hose and Phil elects to do the water works rather than suggesting either I or Kim take on that task which would precipitate instant mutiny. During 10 minutes of water sluicing and 43 up winds followed by 43 down winds on the keel winch I am a lather of sweat and Phil crawls out from under the yacht with only 43 drops of water on the end of his sleeve. I now know I got the raw end of this deal!

Back to the ramp...with the yacht safety chain on...and a long launching line attached...Phil sends Sail Away part way off the trailer with me on board still doing keel winch duties. I must be a slow learner.

I tentatively wind the keel down and it does indeed move downward. Feeling pleased with his effort Phil sends the yacht right off the trailer and during this activity I get overexcited and keep lowering the keel and hear a chorus of Phil & Kim shouting we have gone aground. So I raise the keel a wee bit and Sail Away has its keel back into obedient compliance with the wishes of he or she who must be obeyed. I believe Kim is the controller of the keel.

The rest of the day was relatively dreary until the fleet returned for their finishing parade.

Your Officer of the Day

Ralph Penn

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## NHTYA 2012 Autumn Series Race 6

Other than two unique but unwelcomed interludes the first during launching and the second during the preparations to head off to the shops to purchase the lunch victuals, the good yacht Possum was now ready at "F" Jetty for the race briefing. Arnold selected the North East course:- Fishing Point, Slips, Carey Bay, Coon Island, Marks Point then home.

Leanne Tracey (of the good yacht Calysta) had volunteered to be Officer of the Day and conduct the duties from the derelict wharf near the Rathmines Bowling Club while husband Derek



was overseas on Company business.



The start was a painful affair with yacht speeds of less than 2 knots because Mother Nature had forgot her duties for this race day. The flags were down and first across the line was Farr Haven. What a ripper start, but, close on her heels was Possum and still only able to squeeze 2 knots from the breeze. The whole fleet was somewhat dejected but we all pressed on hoping for better wind further out in the lake. Oranje gave up waiting for crew to arrive and set out from

shore single handed and was probably 5 minutes late across the line. Disappointing for Arnold but he is now racing and chasing the fleet.

Some distance on and looking behind, Possum's crew could see most of the fleet were "wing & winging" it with spinnaker poles holding jibs out wide and the main opposite. Now Possum may have good sails for 25 knot winds but today the genoa cloth is so heavy the sail will not fill and curve forward, it just hangs as a rigid and dishevelled rag, but a very expensive rag all the same! So Ray sets about resetting the sails and trying the spinnaker pole on port, then on starboard, then back to port. Ray is not a happy chappy because even with it poled out the sail will not fill and drive properly. The fully battened main however is just perfect. The fleet seems to be reasonably close together and at the Fishing Point Mark Possum is doing 3.5 knots.



Heading off to the Slips Mark with improved wind speed the skippers were much happier and Possum even achieved 6.5 knots. Time to have a bite to eat and put on a jacket to keep the cool wind from chilling the crew. Oranje, who started 5 minutes late, has done particularly well and is now about 400m behind Possum with the rest of the fleet spread out a wee bit in this picture perfect lake scene. We had to tack twice to reach the Slip Mark then laid one line to Carey Bay mark and rounded it.

Now I am sure Ray is ecstatic about the performance of Possum, his pride and joy, but with the draconian rule that the unpaid crew have to write up the race report the crew is contemplating approaching the race director with a special rule in mind. Possum should be required to drag a bucket to slow it down so that the unpaid crew can actually see what the rest of the fleet is up to so that the details can be included in this report! Anyone to second that potential motion?

After Carey Bay it is a long leg down to Coon Island Mark and Ray takes leave from his constant adjusting of the sail trim to provide hot coffee for us both...this probably to replace the need to pay the crew...just joking Ray! Having rounded Coon Island Mark we have to pinch a wee bit to make it past the Drop Over Mark however with some minor wind shifts we are forced to tack west to clear it. At this point we see Oranje has made up some ground on Possum and is also required to tack west to clear the Drop Over Mark. From here we set a single lay line to Marks Point Mark, round it cleanly and head for home. The rest of the fleet appear to be down near the Coon Island Mark however our vision of them is confused because the Wangi Trailer Yacht fleet is scattered throughout our vision. From here it was a starboard tack all the way to the finish where Officer of the Day Leanne was now accompanied by Bronwyn who had relinquished her duties on Possum and allowed me to have a ripper day of sailing.



Ray, thanks for the ride and for allowing me to take the tiller while you attended to sail trimming. Your efforts were rewarded with line honours and a first place....again. Your handicap will now be adjusted!

A Magic day  
Ralph Penn



## Boats for Sale

### “CROSSWIND” Austral Clubman 8

Sail number 8006, launched 1994. The Clubman is a high-performance trailer sailer with a current boat handicap of 0.805 and is an absolute delight to sail. For more information visit [www.australyachts.com.au](http://www.australyachts.com.au)

This yacht has had a complete refit in 2006 with new windows, interior lining, upholstery, plumbing and wiring. An additional light weight bulkhead has been fitted between the head and the V berth as well as a vanity unit and sink in the toilet area. All sinks are fitted with electric swivel taps fed from a food grade 60L tank under the V berth and there is an inbuilt 12/240V refrigerator.

The mainsail is brand new made by Ray Brown using Dimension Polyant Flex. Headsails are No 2 and No 3 Genoa (lamine) and a spinnaker. The motor is a Honda 9.9hp four stroke 2005.

The 2.5 tonne Mackay trailer has been completely renewed including all running gear, and is fitted with electric hydraulic disc brakes (stainless callipers) on each four wheels.

Also included are: depth sounder and log; lightweight carbon composite rudder; two 100Ah AGM batteries; 60W solar panel; alarm system; electric winch; canvas boat cover; auxiliary motor mount; single-handed mast raising system and single-handed retrieval system.

Asking \$49,000. Contact Hans on 0417 295 311



### “PRELUDE” Sonata 7

This is a well presented and maintained SONATA 7 \$18,000

Tohatsu 18hp 2 stroke long shaft. Pop-top cover and Sun awning Sleeps 6 - 2 in V-berth, 2 in back quarter berths and 2 on fold down dinette Marine toilet with holding tank. The separate galley includes a built in ice box, sink and drainer, storage under, and 60lt water bladder 100amp hr heavy duty battery all cabin lights, all navigation lights and switch panel, 27 mgz marine radio (new aerial) Anchor, chain and rope Main- jib x2, spinnaker, Aluminium mast and boom, S/S rigging, Aluminium rudder box with racing rudder 4 deck winches, clutches, V cleats  
NSW registered trailer 5/2013, with new hubs and springs in 2010, dress rims with good Tyres, new electric winch

Phone Phillip on 0414223654



## Farr 6000

Late model with “pop-top” and near new Yamaha 8hp long shaft outboard.  
 Sails include main, 2 x furling jibs and a spinnaker.  
 Trailer in is top condition and registered.  
 All safety, ground tackle, ropes and general inventory included.  
 Phone Judy on 0427 743297 or 02 49974792  
 Selling due to death in family.



(Sister boat shown)

Other boats known for sale in the club.

Farr 6000            \$18,000

Castle 650         \$12,000

For more information contact the editor

### NHTYA Program 2012

Date		Activity		Location	Contact and Phone	Pt	
Tuesday	15 May		AGM	Club Macquarie	Hazel Cooper 4975 1793		
Sat-Sun	19-20 May		Race	7 and 8	F-Jetty	Arnold Broekman 4973 3811	2
Sat-Mon	9-11 June		Cruise	Queens B/D	Lake Macquarie	Phillip Sparkes 0414 223654	2
Tuesday	19 June		Meeting		Club Macquarie	Hazel Cooper 4975 1793	
Sat-Sun	14-15 July		Cruise				2
Tuesday	17 July		Meeting		Club Macquarie	Hazel Cooper 4975 1793	
Sat	4 August		Inspection Day		F-Jetty	Hart Peters 0417 674687	
Sat-Sun	18-19 August		Race	1 and 2	F-Jetty	Arnold Broekman 4973 3811	2
Tuesday	21 August		Meeting		Club Macquarie	Hazel Cooper 4975 1793	
Sat-Sun	1-2 September		Cruise	Dad's Day			2
Sat-Sun	15-16 September		Race	3 and 4	F-Jetty	Arnold Broekman 4973 3811	2
Tuesday	18 September		Meeting		Club Macquarie	Hazel Cooper 4975 1793	
Sat-Mon	29-1 Sept/October		Cruise / Race	Labour Day 3 and 6hr	Styles Point		2
Sat-Sun	13-14 October		Cruise				2
Tuesday	16 October		Meeting		Club Macquarie	Hazel Cooper 4975 1793	
Sat-Sun	27-28 October		Race	5 and 6	Styles Point	Arnold Broekman 4973 3811	2
Sat-Sun	10-11 November		Cruise				2
Tuesday	20 November		Meeting		Club Macquarie	Hazel Cooper 4975 1793	
Sat-Sun	24-25 November		Race	7 and 8	Styles Point	Arnold Broekman 4973 3811	2
Sat-Sun	8-9 December		Christmas				
Sat-Sun	31-1 Dec 2012 Jan 2013		Cruise	New Years Eve	Myall lakes		2

These dates can change! So please check your Newsletter closer to the activity.

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