

# Boating and Sailing

Bay of Islands Yacht Club- part 4

**Sailing has played a major part in the Yacht Club since the beginning.**

**Racing was run off the beach at the Third Bay from 1951, and at that time it had a grassy verge on which the boats were stored.**

**November 1951 and the PClass #83 was purchased for 25 pounds from a donation by D.A Williams.**



## **December 1951 Rules for Children using the Club were made as follows:**

- 1. Must be able to swim 100 yards**
- 2. Have written permission from parents**
- 3. Wear a life jacket**
- 4. Be a Club member**
- 5. That the boat be hired by the parents**
- 6. Sailing to be limited to the two islands off the Jetty**

**To hire a boat cost 1 shilling per hour, and there was a dedicated individual to look after each boat purchased by the Yacht Club. That person would be responsible for hiring the boats, collecting the money, in exchange for free use of that boat.**

**The earliest Club records are a Receipt Book of the Paihia Yacht Club from August 15th, 1951 to June 1958. A most interesting and significant entry in this book is the receipt No.94 dated the 22nd January 1952 for David Hope-Lewis as a Junior for two shillings.**

**January 1952 “Pat C” (Z Class yacht) was purchased for 25 pounds with donations and an interest free loan.**

**This yacht was to be hired to Club Members for 10 Shillings per half day.**

**Mr Healy appointed guardian of the yacht, was to collect the hire money and would have free use.**



**The racing fleet in 1951/52 mainly consisted of 14ft X Class Yachts and were of a Clinker design with Kauri planking.**

**A significant numbers of club boats meant the racing was very competitive.**

**After racing a visit to the Duke of Marlborough Hotel in Russell was an essential part of the day on the water. There was no better way to enjoy the sport of yacht racing.**

**David Hope-Lewis' task as a 13 year old, after being supplied with Raspberry & Lemonade drinks, was to hold the boats off the beach. A most important task.**

# **1952-53 Season's Fixtures are as follows:**

**Opening Day: November 1st, 1952**

**Sander's Cup Trials: December 6th-7th and December 13th-14th, 1952**

**Learners Sailing Class: December 21st, 1952**

**Paihia Regatta: January, 1st, 1953**

**Tabuteau Cup Race X Class to be held in Whangarei-February 16th-17th**





Brian Bluck and  
Ken Cook  
Waitangi 1955

BRIAN BLUCK + KEN COOK WAITANGI 1955

**From the 14th June, 1958 the name changed to the “Bay of Islands Yacht Club” and all racing was now done under this name. Most of the early trophies were originally contested under the name of the “Paihia Yacht Club”**

**Trophies for  
different  
classes of  
sailing have  
been donated  
to the Club  
over the years.**



Trophy Cabinet  
containing Cups and  
Trophies of the  
“Paihia Yachting &  
Boating Club” as well  
as the “Bay of Islands  
Yacht Club Inc

**For a number of years a sailing Programme was set out by the Committee of the day, and where appropriate included Regattas, Epiglass Series, and the Live- in Sailing Instructions Programmes.**

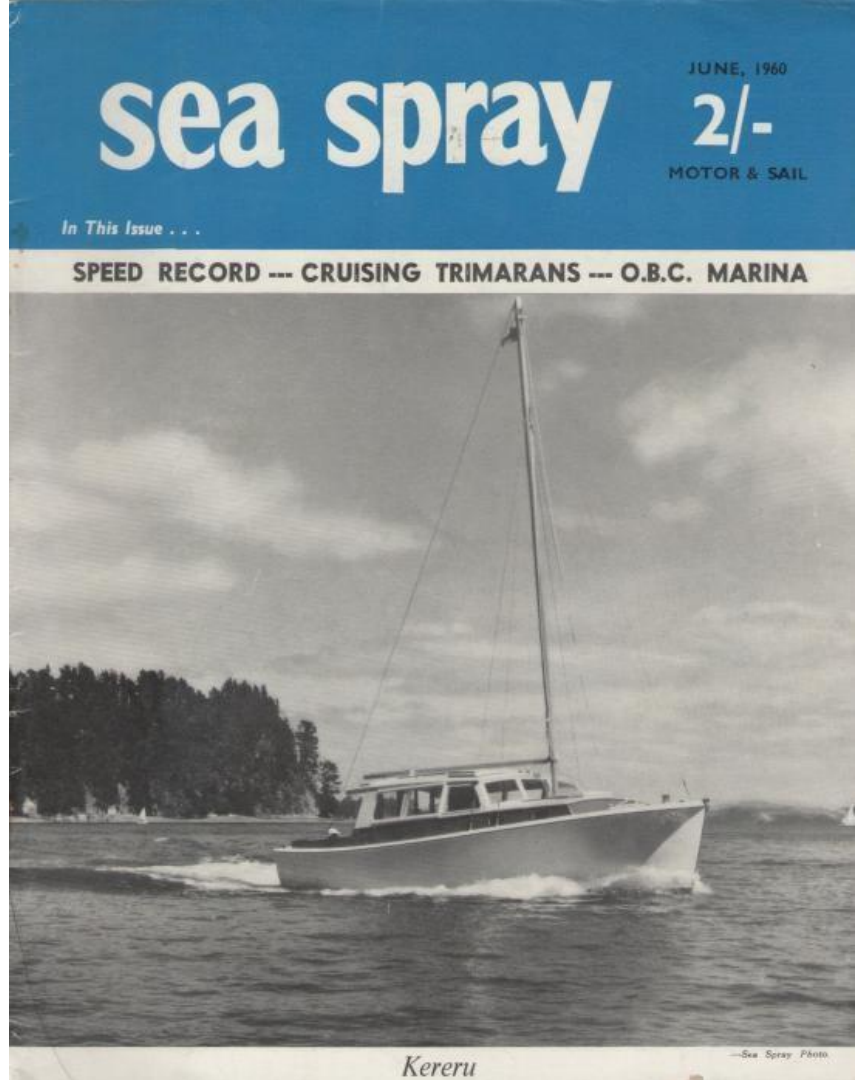
**The Trophy Cabinet is testament to the large number of races undertaken by all classes, with special emphasis given to Learn to Sail programmes for the young.**



# Report published in “Sea Spray” from the 1960’s ...

In the 1960’s the Club had a strong emphasis on both Yachts and Launches.

Articles in sea spray highlighted the construction of 12ft catamaran, “505”, and 14 foot “Zephre Too”, X classes- “Frith” and “Julie” to name a few.



# **But it was not all about racing? Fishing Day...**

The Yachtsmen versus Launch men fishing competition was reported to have had an enjoyable time.

Owing to some extra good fishing by the Hault Bros,..the Launchies just managing to avert a draw.

The sailing members aboard the “North Star” also ably assisted by Mrs. Joe Harris, who caught the most fish by putting down vast quantities of ground bait.

In appreciation of a very successful day the Yachtsmen will hold a Launchmen’s Yacht race in which each Yacht will be required to carry a Launch member.

## **New Class of boat**

**1961/62 Bob Wilkinson -NZ Finn Class Champion was asked by the committee to design a boat for the Club similar to the Finn but for amateur construction. This was called a Marlin Class and four or five were built by members.**

**These boats were built in Wallace Supplies shop (cnr of Broadway and Station Rd, Kaikohe) supervised by Jack Stenbeck.**

**They were build over a mould one hull at a time and then the owners finished them off.**



## **Marlin Class**

**Don McGowan sailing his  
Marlin.**

**It is believed that five of these  
boats were built by Club  
members.**



**There was always a packed Clubhouse for the New Years Eve party and a big keeler race New Years Day which was very popular with the visiting Yachts**

**January 1960- Annual Round-the-Island race of approximately 14 miles is held and in February a rechallenge- The Yachties wish, once again, to prove their superiority over the Launchmen and have challenged them to another fishing trip.**

# Memories from Jim White

The committee used to have an annual Christmas Party trip to the Duke. On one particular trip, Captain Friend, the harbourmaster at the time was helming Atea back to Waitangi about 2am when he was warned he was getting too far to starboard and could hit the Hermone Reef.

His reply was “this is my harbour, I know where I am”.

A short time later we hit the reef and were stuck for several hours.

From then on Captain Friend’s nickname was ‘Rocky’”

# **1960 Blue Water Boys**

A number of members left in the early 60's in search of adventures on the high seas.

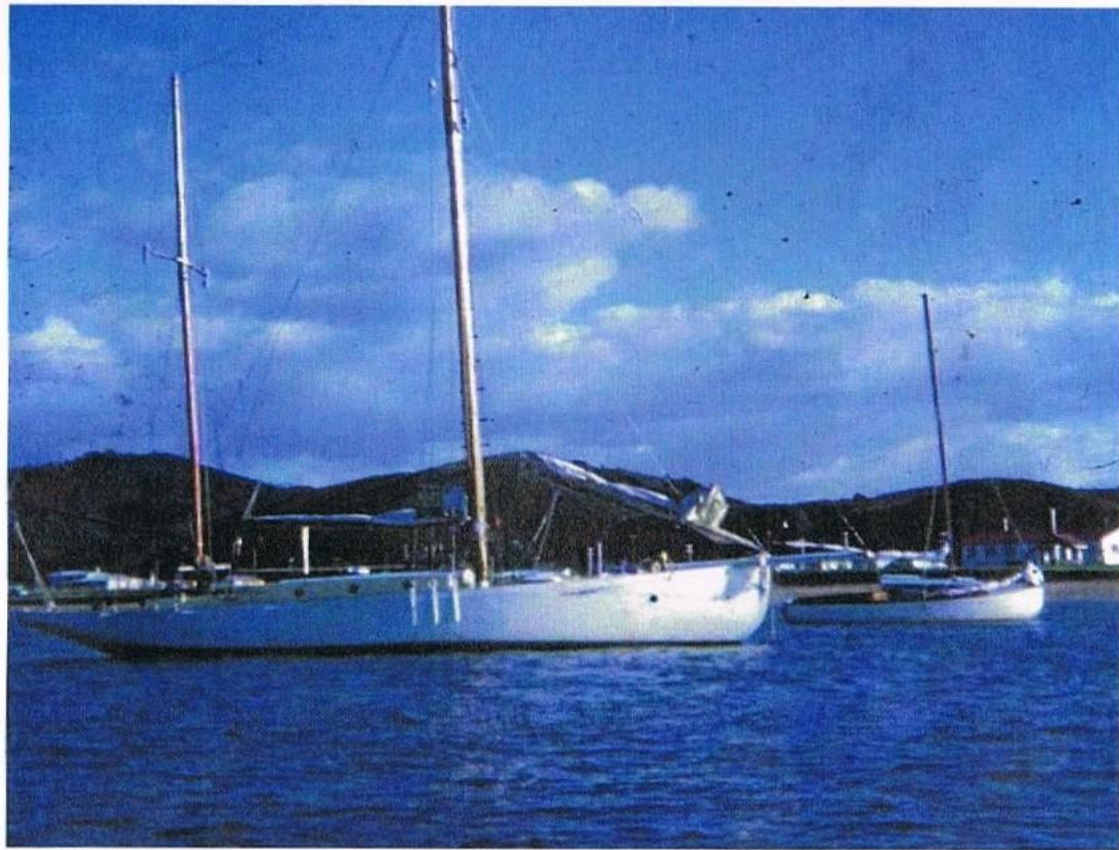
Dick McIlvride, Harry Hudson and Jim White

Jim left in 1962, returning in 1965- Jim was recommended by the Northland Yachting Association for the “Blue Water Trophy” as he had carried out a journey of considerable note in his yacht “Mink”

Jim boats was purchased in Venice and believed to be a former prawn fishing vessel.

February 1964- found Harry and Jim in Malta.

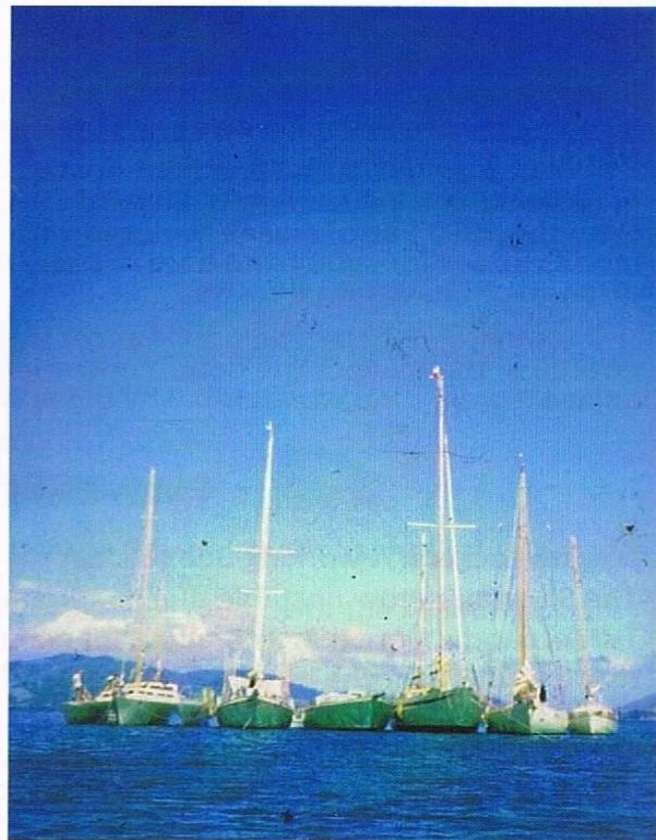
In Balboa Harry contracted jaundice, and after a prolonged spell in the hospital decided to come home via steamer.



**"Mink"**

**October 21, 1962 was the annual opening day at the Club and it saw 10 boats and Juniors participating.**

**In 1966 with the big keelers at the height of popularity amongst club members, they partook in their version of a Yacht Club picnic.**



**Yacht Club Picnic— 1966**

Yachts from left to right:

"Arita", "Mink", Cochrane & Gallagher,  
"Roulette", "Taurua" and "Reremoana"

**July 1973- Plans for the Center Board ramp were made.**

**April 1974- The Center Board ramp was poured and later this same year a Sea Nymph pick up boat and outboard was purchased. Also 25 copies of the Pickmere Charts.**

**July 1976 and the large photo of “Reremoana” was donated to the Club by Gordon Hudson in appreciation of Ron Hope Lewis’s service to the Club.**

**Out of interest Subs for club in 1977 were \$10 for Senior, \$12 for Family, and \$2 for Juniors.**

# Keel Boat Racing

Many Keeler Class Races were held, and the log Book from 1978 is a record of these:

“Whangaroa Race”

“Winter Races”

“Round the Island”

“Ladies Races”

“Nine Pin- Bird Rock”

“Poor Knights-100 miler”

“Epiglass Series”- hosted by different Clubs including the Kerikeri Cruising Club, Russell Boating Club, Opua Cruising Club and the Bay of Islands Yacht Club.

## Whangaroa Race for Keelers....

**Was one of the most important races held yearly by the Club, and still was when Peggy's history book was composed. The Whangaroa Race has been going for 52 years.**

**This race started in 1968 with a cup lent to us by the Mangonui Cruising Club which was in recess at the time. The "Mangataniwha Cup" was returned at their request, and the Club replaced it with their own "Mangataniwha Cup" in 1980.**

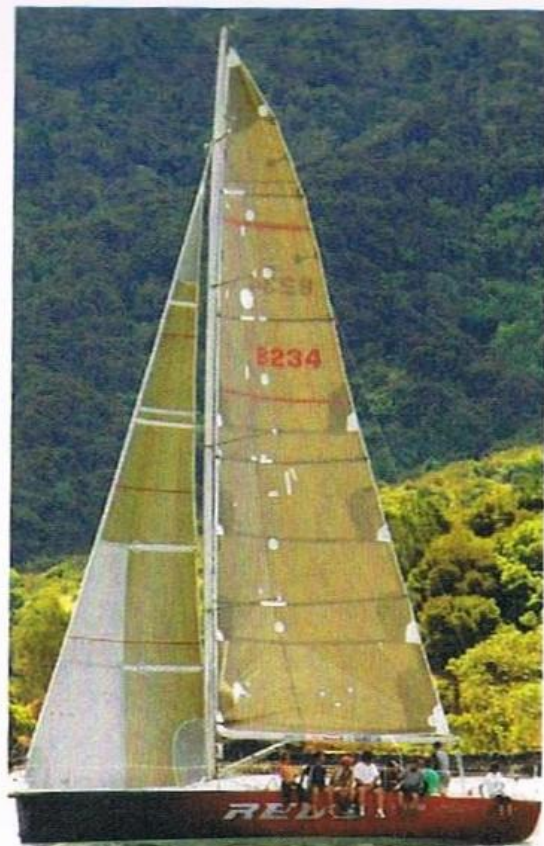


# Memories from Oliver Campbell...

One vivid memory on the Whangaroa race was a calm day when Davey Lewis, after a tacking duel with us through the Cavalli Passage, motored ahead of us across the finish line, much to the ire of my wife Pip who felt it most.

unsporting...Davey's laughter didn't help but eventually he admitted he was not a contender in the race as he had pulled out a long time earlier and had kept us on our toes by motoring when he needed to keep up with us.

Pip has nearly forgiven him 30 years later...



**"REVS"** 2004 Whangaroa Race  
record 3hrs 33mim



**Whangaroa Race Trophy**

**June 1982- The PClass fleet had grown to approximately 20 boats for the coming season.**

**And in July of this year- The Club investigated organizing a race to Tahiti.**

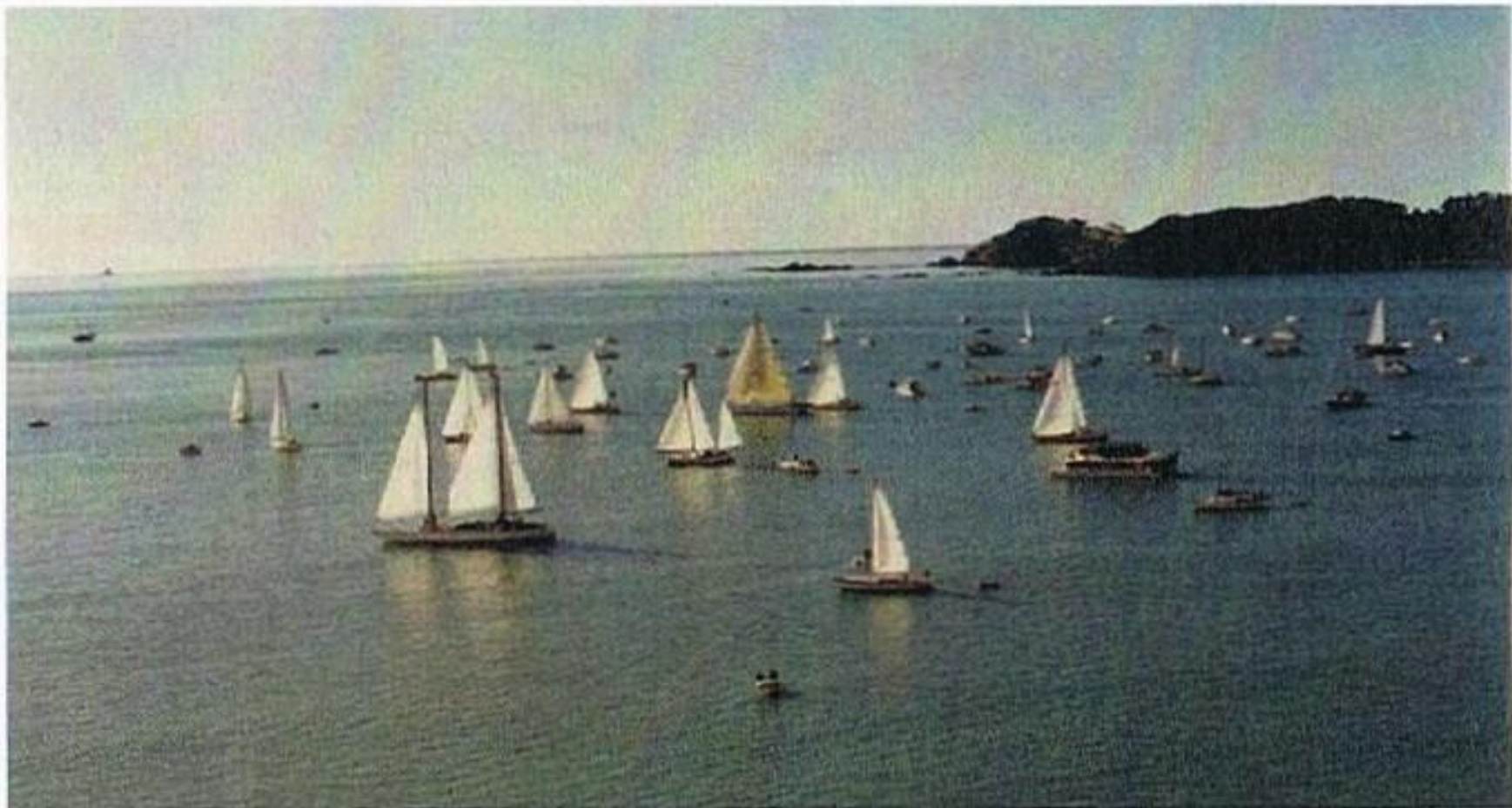
**The Tahiti race came to fruition with 13 boats starting on 2nd June 1984.**

# **Tahiti Race**

**The Bay of Island Yacht Club links with Tahiti began in 1961 with Dick McIlvride's. Suggestions and ground work by Simon and Judy Willis and Warren Paterson led to the formation of a Tahiti Race Committee which after 18 months were confident of running a successful and memorable event.**

**The inaugural race started on 2nd June 1984 @ 13:00 hours.**

**13 boats competed in "The Epiglass Bay of Islands to Tahiti Race". Preparation for the race included safety requirements, customs regulations, ships stores, as well as a farewell dinner function and satchels containing all the information needed to be supplied to the entrants.**



The start of the Tahiti race

# Memories from P. Petersen and W. Stephens\*

**This Race in 1984 was considered an ambitious introduction to ocean sailing.**

**It was the longest sailing race starting from New Zealand that was ever attempted.**

**The start of the race was with very light winds....**

**The following morning we went on port tack where we spent the next 5 days...**

**All boats ran into heavy weather, encountering wind gusts in excess of 60 knots, as a result of a cyclone...**

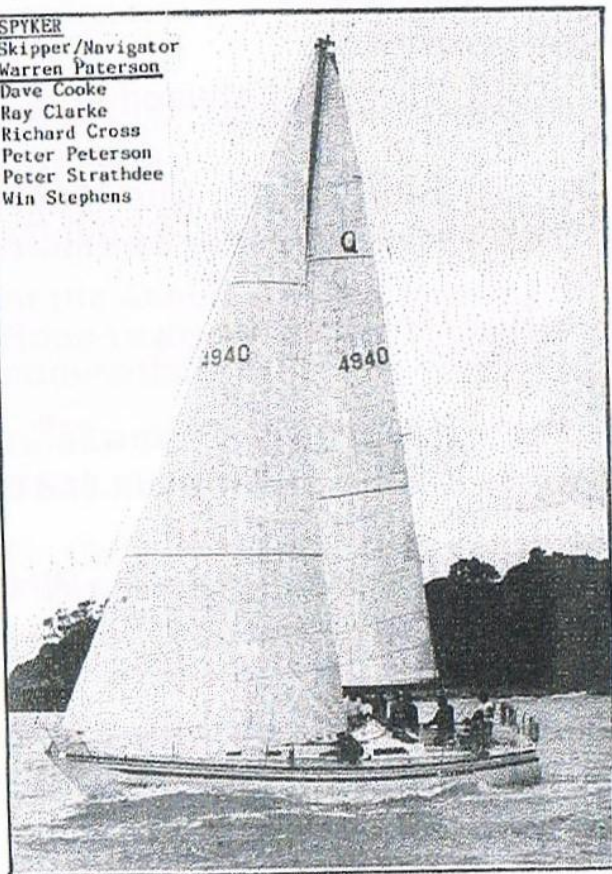
**At the height of the storm we hove to for 6 to 8 hours, totally battened down...**

**Finish time 330 hours 53 minutes and 18 seconds- almost 14 days- finishing in 5th place**



**SPYKER**

**Skipper/Navigator**  
**Warren Paterson**  
**Dave Cooke**  
**Ray Clarke**  
**Richard Cross**  
**Peter Peterson**  
**Peter Strathdee**  
**Win Stephens**



**SPYKER**



**Crew** W. Paterson, R. Cross, P. Strathdee, R Clark, P .Petersen, D.  
Cook, W. Stephens

## Memories from the Tahiti Race -Oliver Campbell

**An unfortunate repair to our freezing system before departure left us with a freezer full of thawing meat which had to be cooked and eaten quickly.**

**Gybing with the kite, ended with a cockpit full of slippery roasted chickens as they popped out of the cooling tray. It is a memory, my wife, Pip would prefer to forget.**

**20 days start to finish and then our skipper was bitten by dengue fever mosquitos in port.**



# Results

**Line Honours Overall- “Elevation” -sailed by H.Rust of the Royal Hong-Kong Yacht Club**

**Line Honours I.O.R- “Black Sheep- skippered by A.Shanks of Waikawa Boating Club**

**Navigator’s Prize: “Southpac”- skippered by Phil Stubbing of the Royal Akarana Yacht Club**

**“Anticipation” took 1st in A Division PHRF, Overall in PHRF, and Overall Winner.**

**Overall PHRF Winner- An**

## Bay of Islands - Tahitia Race 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 1984



The Bay of Islands - Tahiti Trophy commissioned by the Northland Harbour Board on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 1984 for the Master Carver Mr. Tupari Te Whata from Tautora in Northland. It shows the "hole in the Rock" and a paddle called "Steering Oar of the Rainbow".

**“ The Steering Oar of the Rainbow” has also been used by the Kerikeri Cruising Club for two races to Vanuatu in 1994 and 1997.**

**This trophy is back with the Bay of Islands Yacht Club and has been used for the Whangaroa race since 2009.**



October 1988 saw a Live-in weekend with 62 Juniors from Opuā, Russel, Kerikeri, and Paihia attending and 41 boats being on the water.

A bonus for the Juniors was a talk by Grant Dalton, Skipper of F & P New Zealand.



David Ferris, a competent sailor at the age of seven, was the youngest at the event.



Sailing instructors, from left, Roger Toplis, Maurie Robertson and Wayne MacKenzie with young sailors Michael Toplis of Paihia, and brothers Craig and Lance Adolph of Kerikeri.

## GUSTY WINDS CHALLENGE SKIPPERS

Sixty two keen young sailors from Opuā, Russell, Kerikeri and Paihia took part in a live-in sailing weekend at the Bay of Islands Yacht Club recently.

Strong gusty winds on the first day set a challenge for

the more adventurous, causing two mast breaks. Conditions on Sunday settled to a brisk breeze, providing perfect sailing.

Children, aged 7 to 13, had access to Optimists and P class yachts, which they

sailed under the watchful eyes of their instructors.

Roger Toplis, Wayne MacKenzie, Robert Shaw and Maurie Robertson had two weeks previously completed a Yachting Federation club instructors

qualification course, which meant the young sailors were eligible for certificates.

The popular annual event saw some 40 sailboats on the water with seven patrol boats in action or on standby.



**April 1989- a Zodiac and motor was purchased.**

**Sadly, at the AGM in this year the Tahiti race is postponed indefinitely through lack of entrants.**

**1990- Opti Sail North regatta was held January 15-19<sup>th</sup> and it is noted that 48 youngsters attended.**

**1991- Junior Live in weekend was attended by 25.**





**1992 October- Live in weekend and 40 are expected to attend.**

**14 are enrolled for the Adult Learn to Sail and 6 Sunbursts will be on the water.**

**6 Yachts are entered in the Bay of Islands Open Day Ladies Race.**

**1993 saw 37 starters for the Whangaroa Race. An upcoming Inter Dominion Secondary Schools Yachting Championships to be held in September.**

**1997- Whangaroa race saw over 60 boats starting.**







# **Wendy, Shayne and Kaya....**

**Kaya being their 43 ft steel sloop,**

**Circumnavigated from the Bay of Islands to Bay of Islands via the two canals.**

**1993-1997**

**2006 and the Junior Sailing and Learn to Sail Programme, have proved to be extremely popular, fully booked and progressing well. All due to Andy Greager, John Candy and Pete Richards**

**2009 Growth and interest in the Small boats and Junior sailing is noted.**

**John Candy's coaching sessions at the weekends were going well. Andrew Murdoch attended and was well received.**

**Andrew Murdock was  
born in Kawawa but grew  
up in Kerikeri.**





**2009-**

**Small boats  
regatta to be  
held over the  
Labour  
Weekend with  
44 entries, with  
Harken as the  
sponsor. Fly  
15's regatta  
has 13 entries.**



# 2009- Phil McNeil won the Javelin South Pacific Regatta



# 2010- Peter and Marie Sharpe win the Moffat Cup

Marie was the first woman since 1936 to win it.



# **Notable Sailing Members-2009-2014**

**Sharon Ferris- Represented NZ at the Atlanta and Athens Olympics**

**Justin Ferris- One of the Volvo Round the World Sailors**

**Phil McNeill and Bill Wallace- World Champion Cherub, Reigning South Pacific Champion Javelin**

**Antje Muller- National Champion Javelin**

**David Hope-Lewis- Tall Ships Trophy winner 2010**

**Nathaniel Deverell- World Champion Optimist Class**



Hip-Hip-Hooray



Kaya Tobin

**The Regattas and Races programme for 2010/11 to be held at the Club included a large number of races for the Club, with efforts being made for the Junior Sailing and also Regatta Championships.**

**2010 An average of 20 sailors per week were taking part in the coaching sessions.**

**The programmes give some idea of the racing that is accomplished by members who give time and skills to ensure that the young may enjoy and master yacht sailing at its best.**

**2011 and approval was given to purchase a chase boat for just under \$23,000.**

**The housing of the chase boat was reviewed and alterations to the shed were made to accommodate it.**

# **With growth comes challenges**

**2011 and discussion took place on the need for regattas to pay for themselves.**

**An increase in Jet Skis is noted and safety concerns are address by Andy Greager and John Candy writing to Maritime Safety Authority.**

**Club assets and who is responsible for maintaining these becomes a topic for discussion. Concerns are voiced regarding the Club chase boat and that minor things are being left and now becoming a major fix.**

# **Soling Project**

**In 2012 the Soling Project is started with 6 Soling being donated to the club by William Goodfellow and the NZ Racing Board Trust.**

**February 2012 and after a Special meeting it was decided that a separate Trust would be set up for the Soling Project.**

**October 2012 the Soling were being sailed by Club members who were happy to pay to use them..**

**These boats were used for Friday night racing and the teams were made up from different local businesses. These boats were also used for match racing and during Sunday Racing.**

# **Club Racing**

**Club Racing was every second Sunday of the month and started at 2pm. This was open to any small boats for both adults and children.**

**The Starting method for this racing was “Mark Foy”.**

**2013/14 and Club training is continuing on Thursday nights with 7-8 people taking part.**

**The Club has always been interested in launches and yachting and has maintained an excellent record in the teaching of sailing, with live-ins at the club, the purchasing of appropriate small boats for the young to learn, and racing for the bigger boats.**

**I will leave you with some memories....**



Open Day  
2010

























Thank  
you

