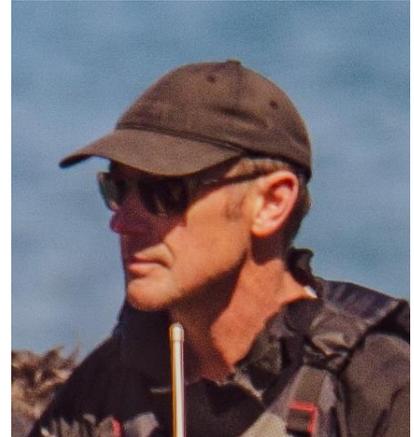




The Spinnaker

The official magazine of the Evans Bay Yacht & Motor Boat Club

October 2019



Contact Details

Club office:

Telephone: 04-939-4167

Fax: 04-939-4168

Office open:

Mon & Fri 930am-6pm

Tue: sometimes

Weds & Thur 10am-2pm

Email address:

admin@ebymbc.org.nz

Web Page:

www.ebymbc.org.nz

Postal address:

PO Box 14-496,

Kilbirnie,

Wellington 6241

Physical address:

501 Evans Bay Parade,

Kilbirnie,

Wellington 6021

Slip master / Bookings

04-939-4169

Clubhouse (members) phone

04-939-4170

Management committee contact details are on Page 11.

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Editor: Gavin Pascoe

027 309 8936

gavin.pascoe@gmail.com

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From the Commodore

It is an honour and a privilege to have been nominated and elected as Commodore for the 101st season. I am just sorry that I can't be there for Opening Day as I shall be overseas on a long-planned trip to see family in the UK and the Netherlands.

I believe I have a great team to support me and look forward to building on the great work achieved over the last few years that has seen participation in the Club grow. In the few weeks since the AGM, a number of members have already come up to me to discuss some great ideas and feedback, and it is great to see so much enthusiasm towards maintaining the momentum of the Club into the next 100 years.

Following all the celebrations last year to mark the Club's Centenary, we are anticipating a quieter season this year, but no less action packed and enjoyable. The new season's calendar has been planned with a focus on Club sailing and member participation and fewer external regattas. In response to member feedback, we have also started to open the upstairs bar on Friday and Sunday evenings as most people prefer the conviviality that it offers. We will also be using upstairs more on Saturdays when numbers and logistics allow. I am aware of the accessibility issues, and am keen to re-look at all the options that have been presented over the years to find a solution as soon as practicable.

A key focus for the new Management Committee is to continue to promote the Club as a family orientated environment. The recent potluck dinner at 5.30pm on a Saturday was just one example of the ideas we have. It was great to see so many children around the place keeping themselves entertained while Mums and Dads caught up with mates. The new table tennis table was a big hit with both young and old, so come on down and have some fun.

Before we get carried away with our own ideas, we are really keen to hear from you all. As mentioned at the AGM, we are organising some strategy workshops over the next month to let you have your say and help us refresh the Club's 3-year plan. These will be ably facilitated by Paul Davies, who does this sort of thing for a living when not busy doing race management. Your contributions will help us prioritise what we need to focus on both big and small. I hope that you all take this opportunity to make a difference and look forward to seeing the report back to the Committee in late October. (Note: these workshops are still being planned at time of writing, but may have happened by time of printing. If you think you have missed out, feel free to email me at commodore@ebymbc.org.nz

Our new flag officers, and key staff

Commodore

Jane Thomassen

Jane has been involved with the Club for nearly thirty years. She began sailing as a crew on a Laser 2 with her husband Remy which is always a solid test of a relationship. Jane now sails a Paper Tiger, and has been crowned Women's National Champion multiple times.

As Commodore, Jane is ultimately the skipper of the Club and is responsible for the overall organisation and management.

You can contact Jane via commodore@ebymbc.org.nz



Vice Commodore

Neil Currie

Neil, or "Pugwash" as he is known to many, is a Life Member of EBYMBC and has had a long relationship with the Club looking after the support boats that ensure we can safely run club activities on the water.

As Vice Commodore, Neil is in charge of the sailing activities at the Club and you will find him on the water helping run events whenever something is on. You can contact Neil via

vicecommodore@ebymbc.org.nz



Rear Commodore

Carla Bennett

Carla has been involved with yacht clubs her entire life. She is a competitive sailor with multiple national titles to her name and a wealth of sailing experience.

As Rear Commodore, Carla has responsibility for the operation of the Clubhouse and land based social events including the bar. You can contact Carla via

rearcommodore@ebymbc.org.nz



Club Captain

James McCarthy

James is a keen sailor who has been involved with boats his entire life. He currently owns a 40ft keelboat named Bullistic. He is also a dedicated sailing dad to his son who has recently started sailing.

As Club Captain, James is responsible for the maintenance of the Club facilities. You can contact James via

clubcaptain@ebymbc.org.nz



Communications & Marketing

Dierdre McCullough

Deirdre has been involved with EBYMBC for many years, she is regularly seen on the water with her husband Matt as they cruise their classic keelboat Wakarere.

As Communications and Marketing Officer, Deirdre is involved with planning events and communicating these to members.

You can contact Deirdre via marketing@ebymbc.org.nz



Events Officer

Ruth Medley

Ruth has been involved with EBYMBC for 10 years. She is a staunch crew on Wakarere and you will see her out sailing every time the boat is competing.

As Events Officer, Ruth will be leading the team to organise special events such as Christmas Parties, Movie Nights and Music Afternoons. You can contact Ruth via

events@ebymbc.org.nz



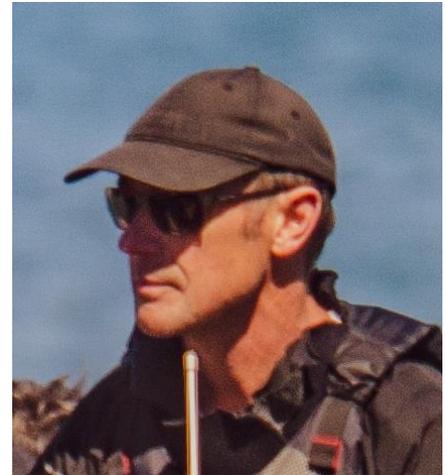
Sailing Academy Officer

David Nalder

David is a dedicated sailing dad who is a Yachting New Zealand qualified Learn to Sail and Learn to Race Coach as well as a keen sailor himself. He has a trailer yacht that he loves to get out on the water and enjoy.

As Sailing Academy Officer, David is responsible for the Learn to Sail courses offered by the Club. He also runs the junior and youth programme and spends many hours of volunteer time helping people get on the water. You can contact David via

juniors@ebymbc.org.nz



Slipway Manager

Peter Maheridis

Peter has caught the sailing bug later in life, but is making up for lost time with his heavy involvement in the Club. He currently owns and races (at every opportunity) a Raven 26 keelboat.

As Slipway Manager, Peter is responsible for the management and operation of the Club's slipway and hardstand area. You can contact Peter via slipway@ebymbc.org.nz



General Manager

Ryan Leatham

Ryan, or "Rowdy" as he is known to everyone around here, has spent his life in yacht clubs. A qualified Chartered Accountant, he decided the corporate life wasn't for him and started down the coaching path before moving into yachting administration.

As General Manager, Rowdy is responsible for the overall operation and financial sustainability of the Club. You can contact Ryan via gm@ebymbc.org.nz



Newly-voted Honorary Life Members

Richard Martin

It is a pleasure and an honour to be given the opportunity to nominate Rick Martin for Life Membership.

I have known Rick for many years both sailing against him and with him. His love of the sea stems back to his early childhood where at the age of eight he was first introduced to a P Class in Nelson.

Rick first joined the Club in 1964, where he sailed "P" Class for a couple of years. Then after a short break he re-joined in 1972 and has been a member every year since. A total of 47 years.

I first came across Rick at Evans Bay back in the 70's and found he also had a passion for catamarans. We first sailed against each other in the A Cats and then 1990 we teamed up together with our good mate Jocko and started a long association with the Elliott 5.9 class, which lasted a total of 18 years.

It is fair to say that Rick really enjoys the competitive side of sailing and has raced locally and nationally, in one-design classes such as the Paper Tiger, Tornado, Elliott 5.9 and currently back in the Paper Tiger.

He has also represented the Club and NZ in the Paper Tiger Inter Dominions in 1978 in Melbourne.

Rick is a tireless worker and has put many hours into the Club, He has been our Honorary Club Solicitor for over 20 years and supported every Club Commodore through times of difficulty. He has been a key player in the re negotiation of the Club lease with the Wellington City Council over a number of years.

He is passionate about providing a future for the Club and worked closely with Warren Rankin under his leadership to re-establish the Learn to Sail in the Club.

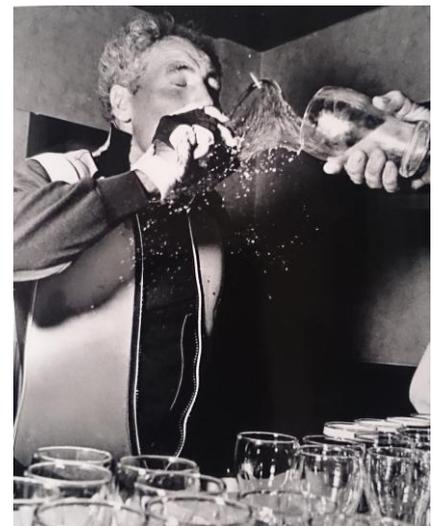
He has been the Vice Commodore of Evans Bay for a total of 6 years, firstly between 2008 – 2011 under Nikki Johnson and then again from 2016 until now. He has always led from the front to ensure we all enjoy a good days racing. The last few years have been really challenging for him with the Club taking on many National Championships, however Ricks ability to pull things together came through and there was not one bad criticism heard regarding the running of these events.

The last couple of years Rick has sacrificed his own club racing to ensure things are run properly so the rest of us can enjoy our time on the water.

Rick is a great motivator around the Club and has been inspirational in pulling the Elliot 5.9 and Paper Tiger fleets together at Evans Bay.

He has been a great sounding block behind the scenes for Rowdy and previous Commodores and is only too happy to share his knowledge.

I cannot think of a more worthy applicant for Life Membership.



Rick in the olden days, winning a pub to pub race in 1989

The Spinnaker

Paul Sara

Over the combined times that Paul has been Commodore, he is the second longest serving Commodore of the Club.

Firstly, Commodore in 1995-1996 during which time he led changes to the constitution including the structure and way the club is managed to reflect the changing times affecting all clubs and to help streamline the running of the Club.

In 1998-1999 season he led a 3 person sub-committee appointed by the Management Committee to carry out negotiations with the council regarding our lease. This work was completed during Paul's next term as Commodore following the Council's decision not to sell the land. Involvement in the 'planning committee' appears to have continued into the following year along with Neil Blance and Darren Kingi.

Again Commodore 1999 -2000- with the land issue settled, Paul was able to lead the ongoing promotion of the Watersports Evans Bay strategic plan. The profile awareness was started with a new look colour scheme inside and outside the club house along with new signage. Another key component of the strategy was to grow membership and saw the growth of affiliated members who would go on to increase activity around the club and provide better access to the facilities from everyone. Affiliated clubs have been an integral part of the club ever since.

Yet again Commodore 2013-2016 he developed the three-year plan for the club's future direction. He also appointed Mike Appleyard as Chairman of a new Centenary Committee to plan and organise celebrations for the 100th Anniversary

As well as being Commodore, Paul has also been President in 1996 – 1999 and 2002 – 2004, 2007 – 2008, 2016 – 2019 and ongoing. Many people would view the role of President as a figurehead whose only responsibility is to chair AGM and SGM meetings. Paul has done far more than this by providing support to many Commodores as they tackled the issues of the day.

Paul has also been Vice Commodore, a long-time member of the house committee in the 1970s, and regular driver of the Club's pick up boat Isabelle.

Paul is of course also an active member of the club in many other ways, through sailing and supporting events, and has been since 1975.



The Spinnaker

Barrie Smith

Written by Phil Williams

Barrie Smith has been a member, without break, from the time he sailed a P Class back in the early 1950s. He joined up when a group of St Pats boys were encouraged to come to the club. Started in "P" Class as we did back then.

He became a committee member in 1957-58 and held various roles, pretty impressive for a young fella. He has the club at heart and still active in working bees and the like.

Barrie has been a member for around 65 years or so. He sailed in a wide range of dinghies and keel boats here at Evans Bay. "P" Class, Takapuna "Z" Class, "R" Class and "X" Class and moth classes of the day.

He spent two years building "Carina" in the back yard at home, and sailed her too. In the keel boat years he seems mostly reminiscent of the Hartley family sailing FRID.

Through his business, Barrie's printing firm did much of the printing for the club for many years for little or no charge.

From a DomPost article I quote: "He recalls .. many years ago, when he and his friends learnt to sail... there were a lot of older fellows around. We'd get into mischief. But they would look after us and teach us what we should do".

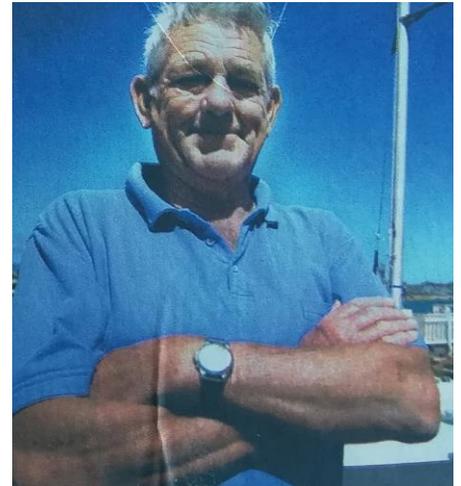
And that gives us a very good insight about Barrie's continuing contribution today.

Barrie is a founding member of TRIYA. One of the quiet workers, he is the maintenance man for the 420 yachts and as usual does not like any trumpet blowing.

I quote from Tup Radford's book "My Boats my Life" p120. "Right from the start we were blessed to enrol the services of Barrie Smith retired yachting and long serving member of the Evans Bay Club. He took on the critical job of (boatswain "bosun") and every day goes down to the TRIYA Shed to mend, repair, replace damaged or broken boats from the sailing on the previous day. Without people like ... and Barrie Smith I believe the Academy would find it difficult to carry on". In 2007 Barrie received a YNZ Honours Award from the Governor General for "Lifetime service to Yachting" and "contribution to yachting in a multitude of voluntary roles".

To this day, Barrie turns up every day after school and every Saturday pretty much year-round, to welcome the students and keep them in line just as I have quoted from the newspaper article earlier. "look after (them) and teach (them) what they should do". He does that. It's awesome.

He is a Trustee and a mainstay of TRIYA whose mission is, "getting college aged people into sailing".



Barrie in the olden days: at an R Class event in 1958

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Arthur "TUP" Radford

Written by Phil Williams

Tup became a member of the club in the 60's, initially crewing in a Flying Fifteen and go so excited by it all that he, like others bought his own.

He continued in the ff fleet for around 32+ years and campaigned his ffs, Seagoon, Saffron and fflagship. He was for a long time the "Club Captain of the Wellington Flying Fifteen Fleet" supporting and building the fleet. He regularly attended National Championships and was generally a mid-fleet finisher. However at local club level, series trophies such as the "South Pacific War Cup" "International Trophy" "Annetta Cup", he won, apparently, more by consistent, sailing every race and finishing rather than necessarily winning the races.

In 1981 he initiated the "Tarawera Freshwater Open Regatta" and I quote from the regatta report written by Rob McIlroy: Tup Radford was the instigator and organiser for this inaugural event which all competitors would agree was a great success".

In 1985 he was the support crew for the NZ Rep to the world ff champs in Perth.

Such was his regular attendance and enthusiasm in the club he was certificated "Life member of the Wellington Flying Fifteen fleet" The citation reading ... "Enthusiasm and support over many years"

He remained a club member for 32 years, but his contribution to the club did not stop there.

TRIYA:

In 1999 with his shift to the north, Tup was keen to make further contribution to the sport and club he loved, and give, Scots boys a better shot at dinghy sailing.

In 2003, Backed by our then Commodore Warren Rankin, YNZ rep Neil Verry, Scots Headmaster Tim Oughton, and Barrie Smith, Tup put up the money for the Academy; Eight 420 yachts, two RIBs and the shed.

Rather than limiting the opportunities to just Scots, the door was opened to all and any college aged students.

Tup also received and Honour Award from YNZ 2003/2004 "In recognition of outstanding services to Yachting".

TRIYA (although Tup was not keen on the name) is still operating 6 days a week during the summer terms, running learn to sail classes, teams racing and year-round, more advanced spinnaker and trapeze training.

Tup this year at the age of 91 resigned his place on the Trustees. His daughter Rebecca and her husband have taken his place. Evans Bay Yacht and Motor Boat Club continue to hold a place and attend the trustee meetings.

Staff Bio: David Nalder
Academy Officer/Youth Sailing Coordinator

YNZ Learn to Sail Coach
YNZ Race Coach

I started sailing at Evans Bay in my early teens in a P Class then a borrowed Starling, before moving on to crewing on a Flying Fifteen for a couple of seasons. A work colleague and the appeal of 'big boats' took me around to Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club where I crewed on keel boats for several years, including completing (and sometimes not completing!) many off-shore races. Overseas travel followed by business ownership and weekends tied up with work and kids regrettably took me away from sailing for way too long. I re-joined Evans Bay around ten years ago and it didn't seem to be too long before I was helping with adult learn-to-sail courses.

At some point around 2014/15 talked commenced around running children's learn-to-sail; at the time the number of children sailing at Evans Bay was... zero. Having a 12-year-old keen to learn was an incentive to be involved; I, along with Steve Holt who has been involved in every kids LTS since and was instrumental in getting funding for our fleet of learn-to-sail Optimists, set about running courses for kids. 10 or so courses on I am pleased with what we have achieved with junior and youth sailing at Evans Bay, but it's still early days in the regeneration process!

As Academy Officer I oversee all learn to sail courses run at the club (adult and youth) and the ongoing sailing in club boats of those LTS graduates, including the running of our busy youth sailing programme in Optis, Open Skiffs, Fevas and 420's. Whilst I love being part of getting people young and old involved in our wonderful sport of sailing, I am most passionate around getting more young people and their families involved with the club and that is one of my key aims for the coming season. To that end, I am also a member of the House Committee, to (hopefully!) help bridge the gap between 'the house' and the parents of youth sailors, to help get them involved.

I am looking forward to a busy and hopefully not too windy 2019/20 season!

Book Review: First Map by Tessa Duder
By Grant McNamara

Visiting Vic Books to buy a grand child's gift, I found, on sale, a new book by Tessa Duder. It's a wonderful book shop and so consequentially I always overspend there. But on that recent day something a little different; that same evening Tessa Duder would give a talk about this new book. Entitled 'Meet Tessa Duder and hear how James Cook charted the first map of Aotearoa New Zealand'. Very ambitious as 'the chart' drawn by Cook was without the use of a chronometer. As a long-term fan of anything Cook related, I paid my \$45 for a copy and reserved a place in anticipation.

Arriving in plenty of time to get a decent seat I wondered if I had the wrong night. There was almost no one there. But slowly, more people arrived. To myself I wondered if her publishers had made a mistake, rather than universities, libraries and book shops, perhaps organising the talks at boat and historical clubs would have drawn considerably more interest. But it wasn't my show and I listened intently as Tessa Duder started her talk to this very small audience of less than 15.

I have to say the book is beautifully produced. Tessa demonstrated how the dust jacket unfolds to A3 size, with Cook's NZ chart on the inside cover. The 157 gsm parchment style pages giving warmth, supported by excellent illustrations, and chartlets and with ribbon placeholder. Gorgeous, and tactile and a truly elegant book.

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Tessa's talk was short and related the standard story of Cook's first voyage of exploration. She talked briefly about the visit to Tahiti, without sharing insight as to why they were there. Sure, she did mention they were trying to observe the transit of Venus, but why. Cook's expedition was one of several sent all over the world to take observations of Venus crossing in front of the Sun. By measurement and study, it was hoped to precisely calculate the Sun's distance from Earth; and Earth's and the Solar System's true sizes. After 1769 a Venus transit wouldn't occur again until 1874, so it was a unique opportunity. Following the not especially successful sightings of the transit by Cook's scientists, Tessa went on to explain Cook then opened his 'secret' orders. These being to seek out, and if found, chart the hypothetical Great Southern Continent; Terra Australis. For centuries theoretical geographers believed Terra Australis must exist to 'balance' the world or the Earth would tip over and out of its orbit.

And so the Endeavour set out across the South Pacific. Two passengers had been taken on in Tahiti, Tupaia an arioi or high priest, and accomplished navigator, along with his servant Taiata, a boy of about 12. (Yes - I wonder too.)

Tessa spent the next 15 minutes giving a shortened version of the ship's arrival and circumnavigation of our country, stopping periodically to meet the locals and take on wood, water and 'scellery' as Cook called it. And of course, the entire time taking sights, measurements, climbing hills and charting the coastline. Tessa was somewhat dismissive of the 'primitive' equipment at Cook's disposal. I felt this a mistake; in reality, the Endeavour was the spaceship of her day.

Towards the end of the talk, about 45 minutes she briefly answered a couple of questions and then graciously signed copies. Obviously, Tessa wasn't in her element as a public speaker, but that aside I left with my signed copy, looking forward very much to reading this beautiful book.

Being a tad over 100 very large pages I expected to take some time. But not so, big margins, and wide leading, and of course much space given over to the illustrations, there aren't as many words as I anticipated, it was a short read. And, sadly I am left disappointed.

There just isn't anything new in the material presented in this book. And certainly, no insight at all as to how Cook and his staff drew the chart. As many authors have stated, Cook used Lunars to derive longitude, a complex process of mathematics and lunar sight, and so given the book's title I expected at the least, a laymen's description of the lunar distance method.

As I read, I came to realise that Tessa's presentation was pretty much the content of the book: superficial, and somewhat disappointing. Basically, a summarised retelling of a story many times told before, and at no time is there any discussion on the 'why' of certain actions. Nothing new is presented.

As I progressed through the book I wondered at the intended readership. And my feeling is that this book would be a wonderful gift for a teenager, starting out on their learning journey through our country's history. The language is simple and direct, points are supported with examples and fantastic illustrations. There's an understandable sadness about the deaths, and a superficial portrayal of what might have been going on inside the minds of the crew and locals. But I wonder if too much is made of Tupaia's ability to communicate. Certainly, the closeness of Maori and Tahitian offered a unique advantage as they made visits, but the degree of his 'apparent' influence on the voyage isn't something we've heard much about till very recent books.

I ponder too about the validity of judging people and historical events by the standards of the 21st century as this book does. For example, Cook's voyages occurred decades before slavery would be abolished. Scurvy wasn't understood but Cook had a pretty good go at solving the problem. Cannibalism is abhorrent today, but we don't learn the thinking of its validity in 1769.

In drawing the map Cook did far more than just make a chart of the country He supported the chart with extensive, in his published journal, information about the terrain, resources, flora and fauna, local people and all manner of information. Especially so when of potential interest to future mariners. And it was great to read Tessa's last chapter entitled The Legacy. Just to quote: *Cook's three voyages each made huge contributions to many branches of science and the arts.* I would suggest that, more importantly, the Chart definitively put New Zealand on the map of the World.

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