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Magazine

*tell tales*



**AUGUST 2023**

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## COMMODORE'S REPORT

IAN TEMPLEMAN



If I said: *'hello darkness my old friend, I've come to talk to you again'* you would instantly think of Simon and Garfunkel and then dismiss it from your mind. Well, it might surprise you, but that is exactly how it feels each month when I have written these few words for *Tell Tales*. How can your committee find more engagement with the members? Are we doing something wrong? Please tell us because silence can be very depressing.

As I mentioned last month we still have not been able to find anyone prepared to take over the position of OCC Sailing Secretary (Head Race Officer) so, unless somebody volunteers soon, the only way we can move forward will be to start a Duty Boat System for Wednesday Night racing. This would mean that if your boat is the nominated Duty Boat then you are responsible for manning the start box, choosing the course, recording the starters and finishing times, calculating and announcing the results. If this means that your boat cannot sail in that race you will be awarded average points (details yet to be decided). This system is used in every other club I have raced at and it results in everyone getting a better understanding of what is involved in organising the racing and consequently, everyone is less likely to abuse the Race Officer as it might be you next week! Full details we be advised before the evening racing season starts.

We are still in need of a Publicity/PR person, someone who can organise the advertising in our Calendar and help generate articles for our monthly *Tell Tales* Magazine so if this could be you, please contact either Sheila in the office or myself.

Thank you all for your support and we will continue our efforts to remain the friendliest little club in the South Pacific.

Happy sailing, Ian T.



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## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

BY JUDY LYMBERY

A friendly reminder that your membership of the Club is due for payment now. Existing members will have been sent an invoice, but only if we have your correct details. I am making it my mission to update the Club's database and to encourage people to sign up to the Club.

Below are the most frequently asked questions.

### *I don't have a boat so why join a sailing club?*

OCC is not just for boat owners. We have boat owners who will welcome you onboard as crew, teach you to sail and you can take part in cruising or racing as well as land-based activities. You don't have to get involved in boating, become a member and enjoy our social events such as quiz nights, darts, bingo, wine tasting or excellent meals from the Galley Bistro!

### *Is it expensive to join a yacht club?*

Full membership including bar discount and food discount is less than \$1 a day. There are special rates for social members, family groups and retired people.

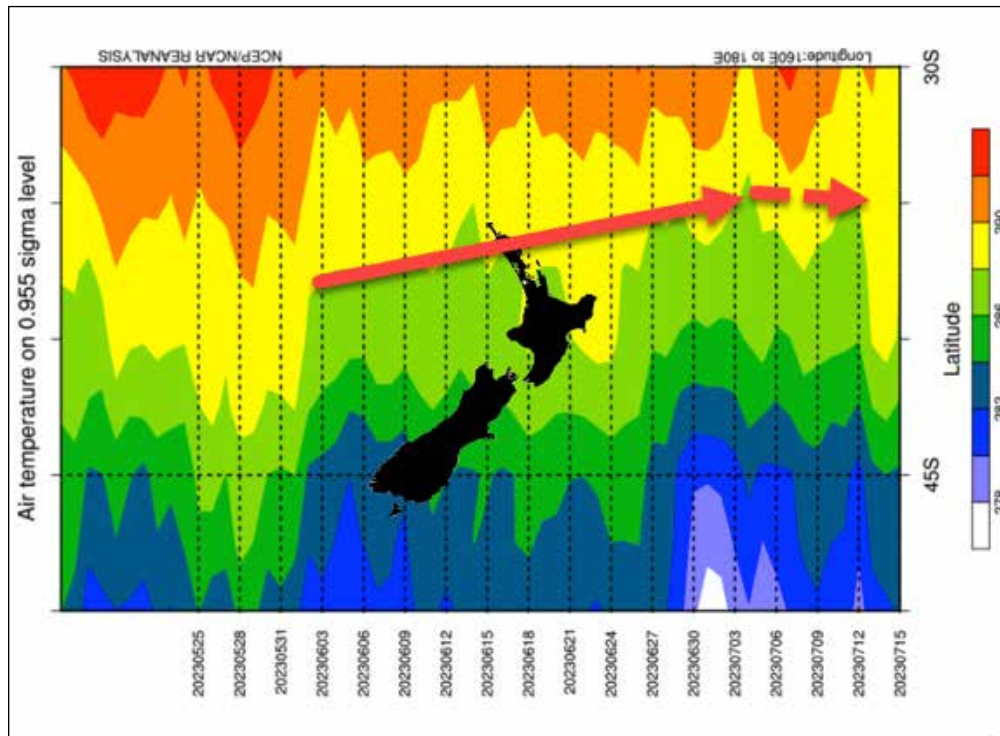
### *What do I get for my money?*

- Access to the world-class facilities of a world-renowned yacht club on Ōpua's prime waterfront
- Access to the Clubrooms and decks with unparalleled views of the port
- Access to the Restaurant and Bar
- Full Member discounts, including:
  - Members' discounts at the Bar
  - Main Meal Discount
  - Discount on the price of Function Room Hire
- Access to a full 12-month calendar of boating activities and racing series, including sailing and social events
- Reciprocal rights at other YNZ national and overseas clubs.
- Voting rights at the Annual General Meeting (subject to category)
- Monthly *Tell Tales* Magazine
- Annual Calendar

More questions???

Call into the Club or contact Judy via email [Judy.lymbery@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Judy.lymbery@xtra.co.nz)

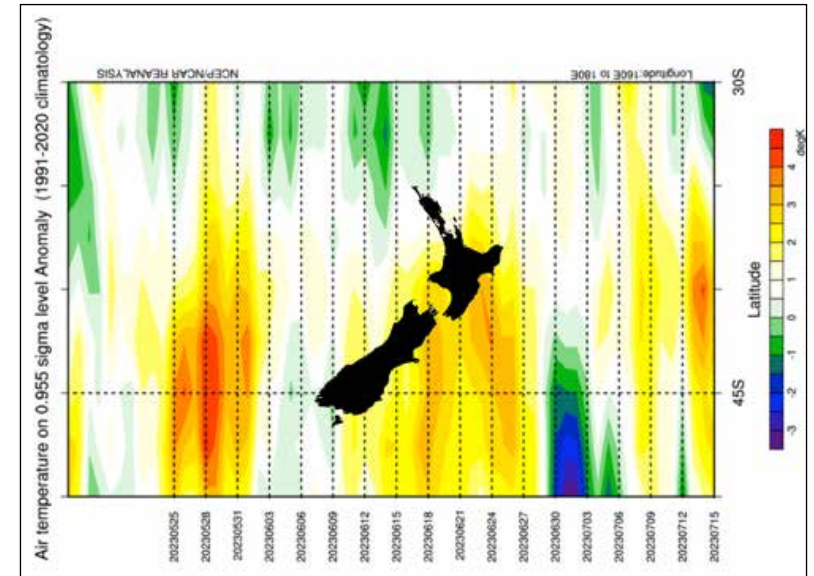
This graph is a time-latitude plot for the New Zealand area (160E to 180) from 30S (north of NZ) to 50S (South of NZ). A map of NZ is superimposed to show the latitudes involved. Left to right are the last 90 days from mid-May to mid-July. The colours are the daily averaged surface air temperatures (the line between green and yellow is 283K or 15C).



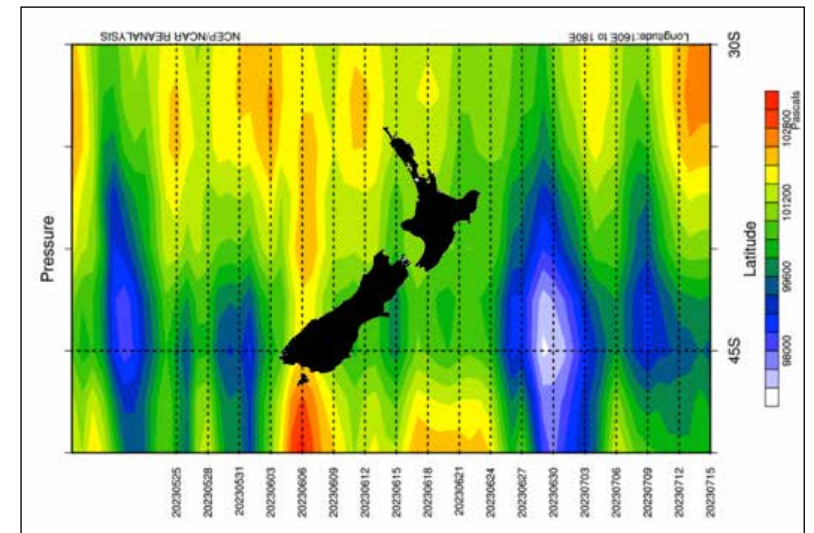
Temperature is going up and down with each passing weather system and some weeks, such as in late May, and significantly warmer than the one before or after. The coldest time of this winter was a polar outbreak in early July. The trend arrows show we have stopped cooling and I think we are now turning the corner and the trend may now be to warming temperatures (but there may still be some cold outbreaks).

When we look at the temperature anomalies an interesting pattern is revealed with places in the north having a cooler than normal winter and places in the

south having a warmer than normal winter, but for that brief cold snap in early July.



The isobar map for the same period shows lots of lows and not many highs.



# ANECDOTES OF A YOTTIE

BY GIORGINA PORTER



Sailing on to Curaçao we entered the sheltered Spanish waters anchoring off Sarifundy's. This place seemed like paradise where everything was on trust, which worked well on the whole, till someone added stuff to your list.

Next stop Oranjestad, Aruba, here there were sniffer dogs searching the yachts. A couple of days later when we

left a surveillance plane flew so low and close it gave us quite a fright.

On our way to the Panama Canal, a booby bird hitched a ride one night and we saw two manatees and some dolphins. We arrived at Cristóbal Harbour in the middle of the night and threaded our way into the yacht anchorage. We spent a week sorting out paperwork for the transit. It cost us US\$120 which paid for the pilot for two days and someone to measure the boat, plus a Panama Canal Guide for yachts. We were astonished to later receive US\$44 back. We had to have four line handlers plus the skipper and pilot so we arranged with our friends on *Kayos II* to help take our boat through and we would help them. We organised a local girl to come with us.

Puerto La Cruz was amazingly clean considering it was Carnival time. Probably the local militia patrolling with machine guns and machetes was having an effect. Everything was so cheap we ended up spending a fortune! We decided not to visit inland due to the political unrest.

One highlight while island hopping was sitting in the cockpit of an American yacht in a bay on Las Aves watching *Pretty Woman*. The wind was starting to get up and that night it blew 30 knots and the snatch line broke, causing us to think we had hit something. The next morning we set off for the ABC Islands, anchoring overnight at Kralendijk, Bonaire. I was hoping to see Flamingoes but didn't see one.

We had been warned of unrest and high crime rates and told to get a taxi to the bank and pay him to wait. There were armed guards inside and outside all very unnerving. Even worse was in the supermarket and the power going off and being in the pitch black with armed guards. It was a relief to get back to the security of the dock.

The whole procedure of the transit was very efficient. We spent a night anchored Gatún Lake and left *Noridiam* on a mooring at Balboa Yacht



Club. We caught a bus back and repeated the trip on *Kayos II* the next day. Hello Pacific Ocean, here we come.

## THANK YOU TO BRETT

BY MIKE PREECE

Word too for fellow team member of the **Sold Out** consortium, Brett Etherton who has taken the team moniker literally and jettisoned his property for pastures new. Brett, Maree and I, plus various others, (usually Shanghaied by Brett) have represented **Sold Out** since the inception of Quiz Nites. We will miss his patience, intellect and cavalier “joker” choices, dearly.

Brett also managed the quiz and bar for some years and has been an invaluable asset to OCC and its members.

Many of you will also remember Brett and Barbara for running the old Ōpua Store. Stalwarts of the community and good buddies. Fair winds guys, wherever they may take you.



## SPOT THE YOT GIVEAWAY

**Find the Yot hidden in the trade directory and then let us know what you think of Tell Tales to go into the draw to WIN!**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO Terry Hooper THE JULY WINNER.**

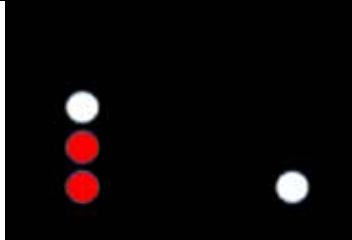
**If you would like to go into the draw to win a handy Burnsco Dry Bag email**

[publicity@opuacruisingclub.co.nz](mailto:publicity@opuacruisingclub.co.nz) and let us know in whose advert you found the little yacht as well as what you like best about our monthly newsletter before **25th Aug** to go in the draw.

**The winner will be announced in the August issue.**



*Test your crew!! Test yourself with these five quick questions.*

1. On a sailboat where should you fly the courtesy ensign to show respect to the country you are visiting?
  - a. Masthead
  - b. Pushpit
  - c. Starboard spreader
  - d. Port spreader
2. Running rigging is the fixed parts of the rigging that hold the mast in place (they are the forestay, backstay and shrouds)
  - a. True
  - b. False
3. Engines that are petrol driven with a separate oil lubrication system are:
  - a. 2 stroke
  - b. 4 stroke
  - c. Inboard
  - d. None of the above
4.  Navigating at night and you see this in front of you, what should you do?
  - a. Leave it to port.
  - b. Leave it to starboard.
  - c. Check the depth before making a decision.
  - d. Go between the two white lights.
5. The order in which you untie your mooring lines is dependent on the:
  - a. Wind and current
  - b. Height of the tide
  - c. Time of day
  - d. All of the above

If you struggled with any of the questions or you want to expand your knowledge of sailing theory take the free eLearning courses at International Yacht Training. <https://www.iytworld>



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### **Mission Accomplished ... continued**

New York was a wonderful experience. However, we were very much 'against the clock' on our quest to reach Annapolis, so on August 15th we moved on again. On entering Manasquan Harbour, we were boarded by very determined US Coast Guards. However, once they saw our permit, they could not have been more helpful, leading us to their pier and making sure we were safely tied up for the night then suggesting a good inexpensive restaurant nearby.

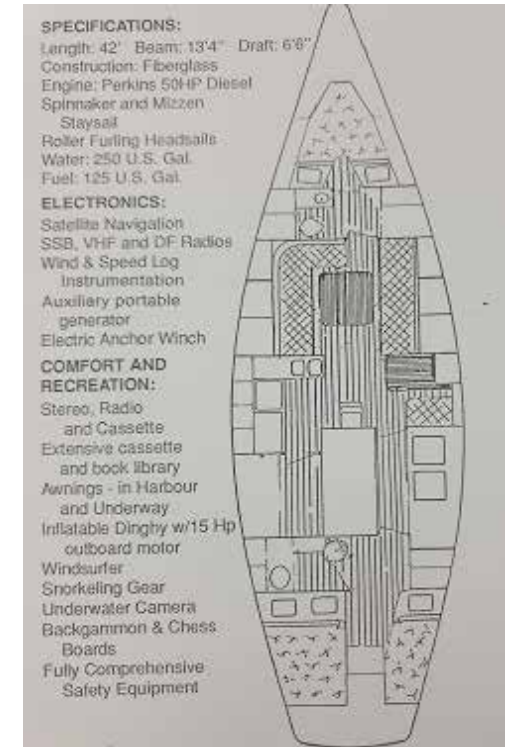
We had hoped to avoid Cape May by using the canal but found the first bridge at 55ft to be 1ft too low, we had thought that waiting for low tide would provide a solution to this but a careful approach saw us having to turn away at the last moment. Non-the-less we had a good sail around Cape May to the Delaware River where the Ospreys nesting on top of the channel marker posts were teaching their young to fish. We anchored off the village of Queenstown and met up with friends we had made in the Virgin Islands.

We were fortunate enough to borrow their car too for our visit to Annapolis to meet with Anne Wallis-White, the so-called Queen of Caribbean Charters. During our meeting we invited her to dinner aboard *Marathias* and that she would bring her friend and associate Paula Bender with her. I took special care to ensure the dinner was a good one beginning with canapés and cocktails in the cockpit followed by dinner in the saloon. She asked us lots of questions about what we had been doing before cruising and was especially interested to learn that David was the David Sadler who designed Sadler Yachts, and of my developing Whatley Manor to turn a semi-derelict stately home into a retreat for the rich and famous. All the while Paula took copious notes. After dinner Anne ask to have a look around and proceeded to inspect everything, even under the mattresses, the wardrobes, and shower compartments. Returning to the table she sat down and said: "Yes, you'll do."

Anne advised us to charter out of Antigua, and demand to be in Nicholson's December Charter Boat Show and to tell them she would be sending clients.

We had a hard slog back to the Caribbean but got our spot at the Show, albeit in the back corner. We were the smallest boat there by a considerable margin, in fact, we were the only boat that took just two people. As it

happened this was to our advantage as there were many couples who just didn't want to share.



We had hoped to charter for about six weeks, but in that first season we did twelve. The second year we did twenty-four weeks. Most of our guests were delightful but there are always those who are a pain in the butt! It was hard work and we had to use the smaller forward cabin, so to remind ourselves it was worth it we had a sign over our bed T.O.T.M. – Think of the Money!

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**ANSWERS TO QUIZ August 2023:**

1. c. Starboard spreader above any other flags (owners, Q, club, etc)
2. b. False
3. b. 4 stroke
4. c. Check the depth and your position on the chart, as it is probably a side on view of a vessel over 50m in length (indicated by a higher all-round white light at the forepeak and a lower all-round white light astern) which is probably a ground, (indicated by the 2 red lights above one another in the forepeak). It is also possible that it is two separate vessels at anchor but the one to your port side is a ground.
5. a. Wind and current.

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SEPTEMBER 2023						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		<b>Darts</b>	<b>first mortgage trust Meat Pack Draw</b>	<b>first mortgage trust Meat Pack Draw</b>	<b>E59s Traveler on the water start</b>	<b>E59s Traveler on the water start</b> <b>Father's Day</b>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>OCC Committee Meeting 17:00</b>		<b>Darts</b>	<b>first mortgage trust Meat Pack Draw</b>		<b>School Holidays Starts</b>	<b>Winter Series Race 5 - 13:00</b> <b>RBC Winter Series Race 4 - 12:00</b>
25	26	27	28	29	30	
		<b>Darts</b>	<b>Q U I Z Meat Pack Draw</b>	<b>North Sails Pursuit 29 Spring Rum Series Race 1 - 17:30 Start</b>	<b>Daylight Savings Starts</b>	
		<b>Season Warm-up Race 18:00</b>				



# AUGUST 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			 			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
			 			
<b>OCC</b> Committee Meeting 17:00						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
			 		<b>Wine &amp; Cheese, Beer &amp; Sausage Tasting Evening 19:00</b>	
28	29	30	31			
						