

RUSSELL BOATING CLUB
NEWSLETTER --- JULY 1982

We regret that our newsletters have been rather sparse of late; your committee has not been short of enthusiastic talent for most of the club activities but we have lacked a compulsive journalist to let you know that it has been a busy year, that the club is serving its purpose, and that our finances are in fine shape.

Our major trophies, the Duke of Marlborough Points Cup and the Patron's Cup were keenly contested throughout our long racing season (October to May) but on Closing Weekend Roy Grant in his SS24 "Kumara" capped a consistently good performance by taking both trophies; a popular result for a long serving foundation member.

In May, it was also our turn to stage the "Boaties Ball". We started this annual function in 1979 and KCC and then BOIYC hosted the ball in 1980 and 1981. All have been successful but ours fills a local community need for a proper night of good dancing with just a touch of the formal occasion. This year's format with a good Auckland jazz band and an elegant supper next door at the Gables restaurant was so successful that we think it could be an annual event in Russell.

We will be fielding a couple of crews for a weekend of match racing in Rainbow Yacht Charters vessels at Opua on the weekend 17/18 July, along with crews from every club in Northland. Joe Cotton's local knowledge from Fuller's car ferry odd forey in those tricky waters will be helpful.

A clubhouse maintenance job which has become urgent is the replacement of about half of the 90 piles supporting our over the water clubhouse. Worm and weather have been at work since the building's days as a boat builder's premises, and later, a fish processing factory. On a crisp Saturday in June a few of us acquired some excellent kanuka posts from an overgrown grove and these will make durable props.

Laurie Samson, our jetty building member expects to begin restoration work this month. Meanwhile, walk softly and carry a big inflatable.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting and prize-giving is attached. We look forward to a good muster for this important occasion. It's your club and it is a golden opportunity for YOU to air your views about the club's activities and management.

You are urged to nominate committee members and officers whom you believe will do what you think needs to be done. We in fact have some nominations in already.

After the AGM a meal will be served and then some dancing to the music of Alan Grams and the "Honorary Members".

Attached to the above notices you will find the annual subscription account, an unavoidable facet of the club and its functions. The yearly rise of NZYF and NYF affiliation fees mean that your club actually gets less per year in real terms, and your committee in the last few years has bent over backwards to keep the annual sub. at a reasonable amount for such a club as ours. The unfortunate thing is, that each year we have an increasing number of members who do not pay their sub until the latter part of the season, which does not help us at all. There are even ones who pay only in the odd year that they want some service from the club, like reduced slip or grid fees. Such people are being subsidised by the bona fide member who pays up promptly. Your club's major outward cash flows are in the early part of the season, so we need money to meet these commitments.

Don't forget, AGM on Saturday, 31st. July, starting at 5.00 p.m.
See you there.