



Mainsheet

15 December 2016

COMING UP -- OUR KID'S XMAS PARTY

WHO? kids (and parents)

WHEN? This Saturday 17 December, 2 pm to 4 pm

WHERE? Meet on the Matauwhi Bay reserve, outside the club house

WHAT? games, barbeque sausages, SANTA

SANTA? yep, arrives by dinghy with presents (you don't need to bring any)

SLIP OPENING GREAT SUCCESS





Our rebuilt slip was officially opened last month, sponsors and volunteers who made it happened thanked, and spit roast pork and drink enjoyed by all. (Photos courtesy of Steven Western, Bloomin' Photogrpahy).

If you are interested in booking the slip, download this [booking form](#) or pick one up from the club house foyer, and/or contact Slipmaster Terry at 027 918 5809. The terms of use of the slip are [here](#).

TALL SHIPS -- ONLY 3 WEEKS AWAY

Just three weeks to Tall Ships.

What makes Tall Ships such a great event is how everyone pitches in to make it happen, especially in the week before Tall Ships.

We list the ways you can help [here](#). Different things to do each day from Tuesday 3 January to Tall Ships itself and the Sunday morning clean up.

To volunteer all you need do is look through [the list](#), see where you can help, contact the relevant person and turn up on the day and time mentioned.

SHORT TACKS

The prize pool for Friday night draw is getting towards \$300. Each Friday evening between 6 pm and 7 pm (may be later on race nights) we draw a current member's name from the box. If that member is present, he/she walks away with the prize pool. Not there and the pool jackpots by \$10 and try again the next Friday.

Some of the recent names which were drawn, but the person wasn't there are: Hylton Edmonds,

IN IRONS

One mistake in the last Mainsheet. In the article about our new cook, Dean, we talked about Jo's amazing home made deserts. What we should have said is Toni's amazing home made deserts.

And speaking of the kitchen, I hear they are planning on special ham meals this Sunday.

In mid-November, Bruce Trotter competed at the

Paul Broekhuysen, Robin Stevens, Frank Veldman, Doug Ritchie, David Scoffham and Rico Martini.

Wine tasting evening. Thanks to Kiki and Susan for organising our Club fundraiser the wine tasting evening. Enjoyed by all and once again a fundraising success. More next *Mainsheet*.

Club house maintenance. Anyone rowing towards the club house recently must have noticed the concrete piles under the kitchen. Another part of the sub-floor maintenance programme being ably run by Jay and Christine. Thanks.

Slake Raceboard World Championship 2016, held in Queensland. Great results -- 4th in the open class of 70 competitors, and the top grandmaster in the worlds.

Opening hours over Christmas -- New Year. The kitchen and bar will be open as usual on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday over Christmas - - New Year except for Sunday 25 December -- Christmas Day -- when it will be closed.

New Year's Day, 1 January, will be out third open mike night. Come along and be entertained at the best venue in the Bay of Islands.

Thanks to our race sponsors:		
		
		

JUST CRUISIN'

This month we look at ... our pontoon jetty



Lots and lots of dinghies and other boats will be using our pontoon jetty this summer.

Here are some ways that we can make sure the pontoon can be used by everyone:

- tying up your dinghy on a long (3m plus) painter allows more dinghies to tie up. The photo above shows what can happen when a dinghy is tied on too short a painter -- it can't move away from other boats at the pontoon
- keeping the outer (eastern) face of pontoon clear of dinghies will let launch users and others to load and unload at the pontoon
- bailing out your dinghy after rain saves everyone else the hassle of boating around sunken dinghies

Simple things so everyone can use and enjoy the pontoon.

LETTERS TO MAINSHEET

Yah, we got a letter; this one about the club living up to its boating club name:

Yes...I agree. The club in my eyes is a Sailing Club. I was hoping when I first joined I might find members with similar interests, but there seems a scarcity of like-minded cruisers.

As a launch owner, the club really offers me little apart from a bar and some very cheap meals.

Nothing really to do with "boating".

I would love to use the pontoon once in a while to tie up to, load and unload passengers, but I can never get close due to the armada of dinghies permanently attached to the thing, sometimes half full of water.

From a non yachtie, Jaffa perspective, ... rather than encourage me, the facility indicates that its only marine use is a long term dinghy park, and other uses are not catered for.

I would like to get involved, or participate in some activities that don't solely involve flappy things, and prefer to work my way through my allocation of fossil fuels, but the club offers little opportunity.

I fully appreciate that the club is maintained solely by the good efforts of mainly yachting people, and that fossil fuel addicts like myself have contributed very little.

For our club to survive, it needs the

and we need to entice launch owners to give time, funds, and effort to the club, but similarly, we need the club to offer something to launch owners and boaties in general (whether members or not) to make them want to contribute.

I simply think the current members need to have a "this year".....a "5 year"and a "50 year" vision, and a plan to make it happen.

I am not sure the current situation offers a long shelf life for the club, and to have a future we possibly need to supply services, and amenities that make all people want to belong, or want to use, and to part with money for the privilege.

Obviously, this may change the historic "feel" of the club, but is that a bad thing compared with seeing it sink into history?

I would like to think I could contribute something to the club in the future, or at least generate some debate, but I am unsure if there is a genuine desire to widen the horizon, or entertain change.

Note: since writing this, I see the slipway is running, and being used. A great effort on the part of those whose efforts and contributions made this so.

got something to say? a boating story to tell? an idea to share? send your letter to info@russellboatingclub.org.nz

**support of all boating people. It needs
to be a "Boating Club",**

CLASSIFIED ADS

Our club house is a great venue to rent for parties, weddings, anniversaries. If you are interested in renting it. Here is [a form setting out the terms and conditions](#).

We offer a **CLASSIFIED AD SERVICE** for members wanting to buy or sell or rent anything nautical. Cost \$5 for up to 30 words, \$10 for 31-50 words. Images extra. For enquiries or to place an ad in the next Mainsheet email info@russellboatingclub.org.nz

We also repeat below ads from the calendar -- please support our advertisers.

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PHOTO CREDITS

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Dinghy on pontoon © Andrew Riddell 2016

From your Committee: Tony Hanlon (Commodore) commodore@russellboatingclub.org.nz; Simon Taylor (Clubhouse Captain); Andrew Riddell (Secretary-Treasurer) info@russellboatingclub.org.nz ; David Nicolson, Helen Ough Dealy, Jack Duston, Jay Howell, Kiki Nicolson, Maureen Trotter, Mike Trotter, Steve Southworth, Terry Blundell

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