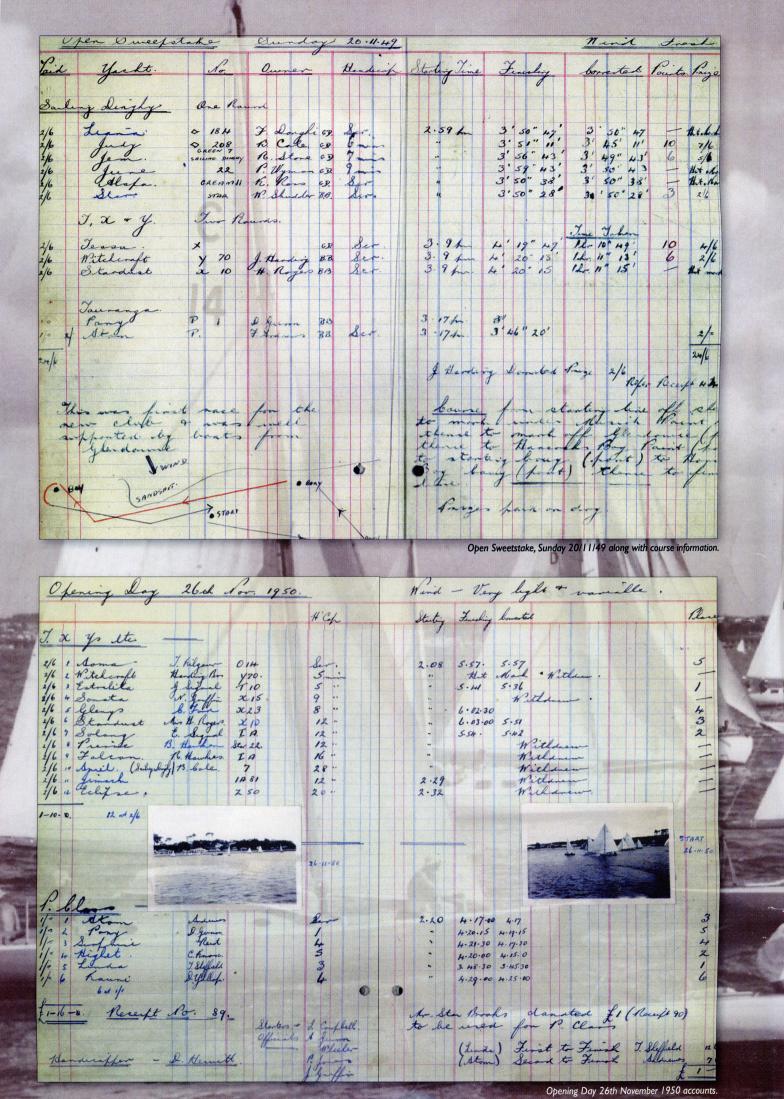


The Call of the Running Tide

A SPECIAL COMMEMORATION OF THE FOUNDING YEARS OF BBYC 1930-1968





BBYC History:

Archivist: Peter Harding Research: Robyn Duncan Cox Post script:

Some text excerpts are accredited to Keith Ingram

A word from Robyn:

This publication would not have been possible without the generous input from Peter Harding, who has not only provided his own historical memorabilia enhanced by his photographic skills in presentation, but his awesome recollection of every detail – every event, year, man and boat spanning 60 plus years with impeccable accuracy! Along with this we pay tribute to Peter's wife Julie - proof reader par excellence, strong and patient in her support. Their dedication to this project has been an inspiration.

Like many of the emerging sailing families in the early years of the Bucklands Beach small community, Peter and Julie are an example of how children grew up together, enjoying their backyard playground of the sea, socialising, romancing and eventual marriages with discerning choices. Many of their begotten have inherited the benefits of the footsteps before.

With a respect for our local history along with being a long term member of BBYC this project, exploring and learning about the early days of boating in our environs, has revealed yet again to me, the ingenuity and resourcefulness of New Zealanders, and in this instance initiated 60 years ago, the indomitable spirit and courage in accomplishing world class status in both seamanship and boat building. I feel both humble and proud.

Introduction:

On the 21st September 1991 Blair Beamish initiated a meeting with a few remaining foundation members and/or their siblings and other old "salts." The collective memories of attendees were recorded on tapes. It is with nostalgia and great respect that now the essence of this meeting provides the background to this edition. A valuable contribution to the foundation of BBYC recounting the beginnings of how the "mucking about in boats" developed into serious (?) rivalry and interaction with other early nearby sailing fraternities. From this BBYC has evolved into producing world class international winning competitors. Our grateful thanks to Blair Beamish and all contributors.

This publication goes to print on the occasion of the BBYC 60th Anniversary, November 2009. Many members present at that meeting in 1991 are now deceased.

The members were:

Ray McGrath(d) lim Dickson(d) Dave Hewitt(d) John Neale(d) Stan Dent(d) Colin Stewart(d) lack Banks Tom Partridge Peter Harding Gary Banks Helen Partridge (nee Rogers) Gordon Patrick Fred Andrews Doug Reid Lloyd Thomas Ron Evans Blair Beamish Alan Moore

Front Cover:

"Peter Harding's "Witchcraft" with it's innovative fluorescent orange "gennaker" that stunned all competitors in the 100th Auckland Anniversary Regatta in 1950."

Past BBYC Commodores: 1949 - 1969



Joe Harding: 1949 - 1951



Albie Gunn: 1951 - 1955



Percy Jones: 1955-57 & 1962-64



Hughie Nutsford: 1957 - 1961



Gordon Patrick: 1961-62 & 1965-66



D. Pillsbury: 1964 - 1965



Alf Farrand: 1966 - 1969

60thAnniversary</sup>



Above: Early 1930's view of boats anchored at Bucklands Beach. These boats came from many parts of Auckland so the crews could attend the regular Saturday night dances held in the Post Office Hall owned by Charlie Farquar (later Mason's Four Square Store).



'Velox' V64 owned by Stan Brooks. Early 1940's Violua' Y63 owned by Sailed by Gil BeamishNoel & Dave Hewitt. Dave later became Secretary/Treasurer of the BBYC.



'Surprise' V16 later owned and raced by Jim Dixon and 'Mollie' M2



BBYC history to 1968:

The story begins: "Once upon a time a strong bond had developed between many of the then few permanent residents of Bucklands and Eastern Beaches. The kids were students together, played together and enjoyed together the pleasures of their environment — that of the beaches and the sea beyond. Their families were not necessarily financially privileged, just favoured by their living location. This inspired them to be creative and ingenious in supplying themselves with sea worthy craft for family and neighbourhood enjoyment, fun and togetherness. It is no wonder that the fellowship and pride long established still flourishes, and over the years has rubbed off through the generations of many sailors who sail from BBYC.

Racing started off Bucklands Beach in 1934 with boats like the Hancock family's "Phoebe", a 16ft mullet and Noel and Dave Hewitt's "Violua", the Turnidge family's "Cyclone" and Jim Dickson's 18ft V Class "Surprise" which he had owned since he was 16 years old, and had raced it successfully. For 3 years "Surprise", with other boats "Aline" and "Atlanta", was a scratch boat. From measurements taken from "Surprise", Percy Jones' "Meteor" was built followed by another 18 footer, "Velox", owned by Stan Brookes (later to become Commodore of Royal Akarana) and sailed by Gil Beamish.

Our early mariners initially did not have an official club, per se, so combined with other nearby sailing fraternities to hold regattas and regular sailing on Saturdays at Panmure and Bucks on Sundays. The scow, "Rahiri", acted as Flagship at regattas as seen here at Bucklands Beach in 1940.

1940 Scow 'Rahiri' owned and skippered by Jock Mckinnon carried stock and goods to the islands in the gulf and acted as flagship for the Bucklands Beach Regatta that year.

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A great pre-war story is of Jim Dickson. Permits were not required to put moorings down at the beach. In 1936 Jim bought an old keel boat called "Naroma," (Jim described it as "the slowest boat ever designed by man"). On making enquiries to Auckland Harbour Board about getting some moorings at Bucklands Beach he was directed to the skipper of a scow that was departing that day for Thames. Skipper, Lemonade Bill, was paid "three quid" on the spot and Jim was told to put flags out where he wanted the moorings before six o'clock. Lemonade Bill would drop them off, and so he did! Jim also had an 18ft V Class, "Arahi" built which was stored for the duration of the war in a garage at Little Bucks. In fact, Jim owned 3 V Class prior to World War 2.

When World War 2 broke out, it is surmised, that that was the reason any formal establishment of a Club, as such, was abandoned for the time. However, in the first year of the war a regatta was held to raise a few pounds for patriotic services.

During the war, Eastern and Bucklands Beaches were boom defence areas. A submarine net floated by mines extended from Musick Point to Browns Island making it impossible to sail around. There was barbed wire off Eastern Beach - great for fishing but only with a certificate from the Naval Department. Often some fancy seamanship assisted in avoiding the searchlights! John Neale, (a foundation member of Bucklands Beach Yacht Club), was one of the culprits here — he told son Mick of sailing his 24 ft Keeler "Vagabond" through the Browns Island channel at high tide and heeling her over to clear the anti submarine nets.

Bucklands Beach V Class boats used to sail to Westhaven to race. They'd leave Big Bucks, in front of the Chez Paree Cabaret, around 7am to get to get to Westhaven by Ipm for the start of the race. They had to get back to North Head before 6pm to get through the submarine net and often did not get home before midnight. If the wind had dropped and the tide was going the wrong way, with no motors to fall back on, they would anchor until it turned, sometimes having to paddle to shore. Adversely, if it was blowing a gale they would have to hang on for dear life – maybe for hours.

In 1945, before a Patrol boat was in place, "Limerick" capsized on it's way to Panmure for a Saturday race – frozen, the crew

had a grandstand view of the race from the water hanging on to the side of the boat - it took them 4½ hours to drift to shore. Wet weather gear consisted of as many football jerseys as one could manage to don without sinking.

As mentioned, sailing was a family affair with a few quirky beginnings. One, is as told by Reg Barker who had a Zeddie, "Betty" at that time. Reg recalls with awe, a spunky kid Fred



1940 'Rahiri's' mast with flags shown behind Y38



1946 V4 'Limerick' owned and raced by Joe Harding & Wally Girven.

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1949 'Pony' P1 owned and sailed by Dave Gunn.

1945 'Pinto' P65 built and owned by Peter Harding aged 13. It was the first P class at Bucklands Beach



'Eurydice'



1948 'Hazard'Y67 owned.by Jim Gane had the same problem as 'Witchcraft' - the rudder was too small.

Andrews, aged 7, who adapted his father Charlie's fishing dinghy into a seaworthy vessel by adding lee boards and mast and sail of sorts!

During this time there was plenty of proper boat building going on from youngsters building their own P Class boats, as did Peter Harding in 1945, (aged 13) with "Pinto" with more little P's coming out of back yard sheds like Dave Gunn's "Pony" and a little older Fred Andrews with "Atom", to larger impressive undertakings such as that taking form in John and Dot Neale's shed at 3 Devon Rd. John was building "Eurydice", an Ernest Bailey design 40 ft ketch, built with 1½" full length kauri carvel planks on tanikaha ribs and grown pohutukawa floors fastened with copper nails and roves, and a long cast iron keel which drew 6' 6" (1980ml).

The local kids were intrigued at this "big ship" and they would sneak into the shed to admire it and it's progress. "Eurydice" was launched at Bucklands Beach in 1947.

Post war, some Kiwi-type innovation was being employed in adapting some craft to increase momentum and seaworthiness. This is exampled in 1948 with top boat designer, Jack Brooke, and his own 18ft V Class on which Jack cut both ends down to make it a 14ft "Y" Class. Others followed suit. Not good thinking as it became very hard to sail as still bore the same sails. The next trick was to shorten the rudder and centreplate for less resistance which made the boat hard to control - many capsizes resulted as seen in Jim Gane's "Hazard" - the rudder wasn't big enough. Unfortunately this was not corrected by opening day but they still had a few tricks up their sleeves.

The Harding brothers discovered that by twisting the centreplate from side to side, "Witchcraft", when going against the tide, would climb to windward. No other boats could do this and no one ever found out. Even when the rudder was extended the centreplate trick continued. Legal? Of course!!

In 1948 "Witchcraft" was the first boat to be fitted with a self-draining cockpit which enabled the boat to be righted.

Added to this was the ingenuity of Peter Harding, in 1951, getting Leo Bouzaid to make a "gennaker" (unheard of in those days) for "Witchcraft" and the first time it was used, lapped a jaw-dropping Laurie Davison, designer of "Black Magic", America's Cup winner in 1951. Apparently Laurie didn't come back to Bucks again - he took to racing "Flying Dutchmen" in Westhaven. Laurie didn't own a boat – he was in great demand as a skipper – such was his reputation. He had served in the Air Force and was rumoured to be an expert weather reporter!

Another point of interest is that boats were harder to sail in those days as they had no trapezes and when

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these were introduced in 1954 they made such a difference that the number of crew went from four to three.

After the war the regattas became a fixed event for combined Eastern Clubs such as Otahuhu, Panmure, Howick, Glendowie and the then Bucklands Beach Sailing Club and Eastern Sailing Club. Bucklands Beach was deemed to be the best for inter-club racing. Peter Harding was on the committees of Bucklands Beach, Panmure and Glendowie and would row across to Glendowie in his dinghy, holding meetings in an old steamer, the "Kawau", co-ordinating the regattas.

These regattas took place in the Tamaki river. To raise money raffles were held: e.g. one case of whisky containing 6 bottles, costing 7 pounds, eleven shillings and sixpence: one bottle of gin, thirteen shillings and threepence and a bottle of rum, I pound, 2 shillings and sixpence. The entry fees in those days were: P class; one shilling, with the prize money being the grand sum of one pound, two shillings and sixpence. These regattas continued with little change until 1966 – (16 years.)

Even though named "Bucklands Beach Sailing Club" the Club had no formal or official status with no home. People like Percy Jones, Albie Gunn, Dave Hewitt and Joe Harding were the backbone of the non-formalised club.

The Harding brothers, Joe and Peter, used an old boatshed for their boat building - Elliot's boatshed as it was known and loved, situated prominently on The Parade opposite Devon Rd. It was a focal point for boaties but as it was rather externally in need of upgrading Manukau County Council wanted it demolished. In an effort to save it, the

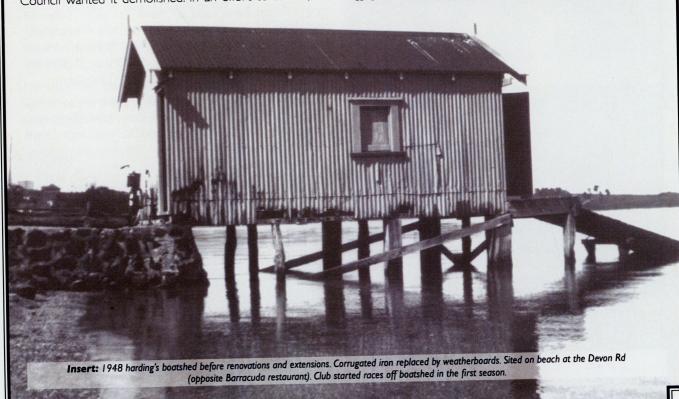
boaties decided to make it the official Clubhouse and formed the Bucklands Beach Boating and Life Saving Club. The "Life Saving" input was a ploy to convince and endear the powers that be of the worth of it's operations, but to no long lasting avail!



1948 Glendowie Boating Club's Inaugural Opening Day. The steamer 'Kawau was the first clubhouse. All Bucklands Beach boats participated in this regatta.



Rigging up for racing. Bucklands Beach Post Office in the background.



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Dave Hewitt was mentor and coach for the younger members of the club.

	Во	ATS.	REG	ISTE	ERED	Nov 1949
HOME .LUB.	NAME	Dim.		CLASS		
3B.	EURYDICE	40'x10'	KEEL		J. R. NEALE	
3.8.	STAR	12'6	CB.		W. SKUDDER	
33.	WITCHCRAFT	14'	C.B.	Y 70	J. HARDING	
B. B.	FALCON	12'8'	C.B.	1 A.	E. SIGNAL	R. Handen.
3. B.	STARDUST	14'	C.B.	× 10	M. ROYERS	Min H. Mogar.
B. B.	JUSTWETU	10'	SAIL DING		C. MASON	
3.3	SH HAON	11.	factore		D. HEWITT	SOLTA
8.B	SONATA	140'	c.3	3615	N. GRIFFEN	
3 3	Канча.	12'8"	e 3.	1.4-	8. Hammon D.	- 3. HOWKIN.
3	METERIA	18'	CB	V99	P. JONES	
3.3	SOLONG	12'8	CB	Inno	DP HEWITI	
83	MISBEHAVE	12'8	CB.	Innz	W. SKUDDER.	
33.	PIERRE		68	S.F.	B HACKOUR	5040



Registered boats and race day



'Norseman

The Manukau County Council threatened that if the Hardings did not pull down this little icon, the Council would have it demolished (apparently there were complaints from some residents that it blocked certain views). So, board by board it was dismantled. But soon after, the aforementioned club was advised that MCC had had no right – the section was on a 99 year lease from the Marine Department – a permit was issued to the Hardings and they re-built Elliot's boat shed on their property, 52 The Parade.

An active group was endeavouring to raise funds for a clubhouse. (A fund raiser of great interest in November, 1949 was a beauty pageant). From 1949 onwards meetings were held regularly in the Post Office Hall at the rear of Mason's Four Square Store, then to the Tennis Pavilion (now the Bowling Club in Marrow Ave).

The first Commodore in 1949 was Joe Harding with secretary/treasurer Dave Hewitt. The inaugural Committee included Percy Jones, (Rear Commodore), Albie Gunn, (Vice Commodore) Colin Mason, John Russell, Jack Hogan and Gill Beamish, Peter Harding and George Signal. A junior sub-committee was formed as future adult members - Fred Andrews, Dave Gunn, Reggie Barker, Doug Reid and Dave Harford. Patron was John Turnidge.

The Club colours of blue and white were established - all thanks to a local football club and a basketball club, whose players both sported blue and white uniforms, so when the Sailing Club approached the Yachting Federation of NZ, the request of blue and white was granted and remains today.

In the first summer ten races were held within it's fleet of 33 boats made of "P's", "X's," "T's," "Y's", "Zeddies," Idlealongs", "Silver Ferns" and a "Mullet" or two. Some of the outstanding performers were: the Y70 "Witchcraft" (J.Harding), T69 "Tessa" (J.Sharp), X10 "Stardust" (Helen Rogers), T10 "Estralita" (G.Signal), V99 "Meteor" (P.Jones), "Invader" (Casley brothers), and "Aoma", (J. Kilgour).

The "Flying 15", the Duke of Edinburgh's favourite sail boat choice, made it's first appearance in New Zealand in Bucklands Beach at the time of the Club opening in 1949 when local car dealer, Eric Schultze, obtained it by trading a motor vehicle.

Legendary "Norseman," built in the 1930's, was bought by the Reid family in 1950 and refurbished, becoming known as the Viking terror ship.

Helen Rogers, with an all girl crew from 1949-1955 was thought to be the first in Auckland.

Membership quickly grew to about 52 – membership fees were 7 shillings and sixpence for seniors and 1 shilling and 6 pence for juniors. Race entry fees were 1 shilling and 6 pence and 1 shilling respectively. At the end of the first summer the Club was in credit 14 pounds and 4 pence.

Much respect has been recorded as to how astutely and professionally the monthly meetings were run. Many of the

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young sailors, some still at school, would attend and learn, along with the matters discussed, valuable business skills.

Many of these youngsters mentioned earlier were now achieving success in the greater Auckland racing scene - Fred Andrews with "Atom" and Dave Gunn's "Pony" in P Class.

Later, in 1954 with the Idle-along "Cassandra" Fred won the fresh water championships in both Rotorua and Hamilton.

But the growing awareness and successes still did not bring the desired and much needed Clubhouse any closer.

The late Patron, John Neale, recorded that there was a certain amount of animosity towards yachties during and after the war and there was a minor revolt when small boat races were held off the beach. Imagine the mission of trying to hold screeds of papers and a stop-watch whilst attending to the starting and finishing procedure in a Westerly. Suffice to say, impossible, and the result was papers flying in all directions causing some disruption and unwanted litter, so that's when the bright idea of building a starting box was mooted.

And so it was that in 1950 the first starting box with materials supplied by John Neale and built by Joe and Peter Harding the night before a major race, appeared. For some time it was roofless so the shotgun was used to anchor the papers until a tin roof was added. Peter Harding recalls the incident when he was in charge, firing the gun along the starting line – with live ammunition!! Luckily no-one or boat was hit. Unbeknown to Peter, it so happened that Bernie Isemonger was racing the first Flying Dutchman in NZ – good job he wasn't over the line!

This portable contraption was stored beside Chez Paree, the local cabaret (the War Memorial Hall stands on this site today).

Mention must be made of the owner of Chez Paree, Jack Griffin, who was accommodating and supportive in so many ways. Prizegivings and monthly fundraising dances were always held there. Mothers and sisters made and served



Helen Rogers 1949, with an all girl crew was thought to be the first in Auckland.



IA 98 'Cassandra' owned & sailed by Fred Andrews. Foward hand Dave Harford.



'Chez Paree' besides the Post Office. 1952-53



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1950's Charlie Andrews senior in race "unofficial" patrol boat. Built by Joe Harding.



'Spiffy' first patrol boat. Donated by Don Wishart.

Below: Race day at Bucklands Beach approx. 1953. Daly's store in the background, previously Mason's store which was also the Post Office, Petrol Station and had a hall at the rear which was regularly used for Yacht Club meetings, Saturday night dances, church services and various other gatherings.

copious cups of hot tea ready for the return of valiant young centreboarders - each wearing 6 football jerseys, soaking wet and freezing cold. They also were allowed to dry their sails inside – the cotton sails were subject to mildew if left wet – and the camping site toilets were available after racing.

There was no official Patrol boat. The Harding brothers, Joe and Peter, generously used their fishing boat, "Rothsay", for weekend races, even towing all centreboards to Westhaven for several Anniversary Regattas.

In 1950, not long after the Club opening, "Hurry Up", a clinker-built clipper, built by Joe Harding and owned and manned by Charlie Andrews senior became an unofficial rescue launch and was always on hand.

The first official patrol boat, "Spiffy", was donated by Don Wishart in 1953. During the 50's members acquired Mistrals and Javelins and other clubs were encouraged to come to BBYC and race.

Gordon Patrick remembers how chaos would often reign when visitors, not familiar with the unmarked river channel would go aground – notably when the depth would be as low as 9 inches (much to the delight of local yachties)! One of the many responsibilities that Percy Jones with Peter Harding on "Rothsay" took on board (so to speak) was the rough annual task of lifting the 4 club buoys, metal cans, and bring them in to be overhauled and painted (no mean task).

In 1952, with the name change to Bucklands Beach Sailing Club, a positive and getting-desperate move was made to buy land. All sites investigated met with opposition from all sides – bureaucracy and red tape at Council level, antagonism from a section of the local community, added to which the funds available lodged in the Post Office Savings Bank, amounted to the princely sum of one pound, five shillings and threepence!! So, nothing could be done but the frustration was building.

As well as this, and adding to the importance and pride deserved, of establishing some acknowledgment and



60thAnniversary</sup>

recognition of what was being achieved by our local sailors and boat builders was the indignity of the existing haul-out facility.

"Eurydice" and "Norseman" are examples of early haulout days. They would be hauled out in front of where the old clubhouse is now on the reef. Two macracarpa trees, planted by Alf Morrow opposite his bathing sheds at 53 The Parade were perfectly situated. A strop was slung around them enabling cradles of greasy planks to be lowered at low tide, then at high tide, the boats would be jacked up and slid up on to the rocks assisted by John Neale's tractor. Owners were threatened by Manukau County Council that their boats would be impounded if not removed.

Stan Dent, an accountant, was the voluntary auditor in 1955. By then annual subs were 10 shillings. A year earlier an attempt was made to raise them to 12 shillings and sixpence, but the horrendous increase was voted out.

At the first set of annual accounts prepared by Lloyd Thomas, the profit was 102 pounds, 13 shillings and ten pence. There must have been 80 members as total subs registered as 38 pounds, fifteen shillings and 6 pence.

But by 1957 the goal was set to obtain the selected land at the foot of Graingers Point, as already a rocky flat area on Big Bucks side of the reef was being used as a haulout area but it was over a decade before this was realised.

With much red tape to cut through many innovative ideas were initiated. One such idea was when the manager of the then Manukau County Council was invited by Vic Rogers and Dave Bell and a few of their "cronies" to go and look at the land and then retire after the meeting to Chez Paree to discuss the proposition over a dozen bottles of beer and a bottle of whisky. The total cost of these liquid refreshments was one pound, five shillings and fourpence – nearly expending all the funds, leaving only sixpence. And, unfortunately, not much progress was made, business wise, re the new site at that meeting.

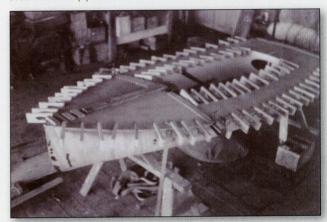
So back to the boating:

The one-man boat, "Zephyr", with the Des Townsend moulded ply hull, made its advent in 1958. Gordon Patrick (another import from Otahuhu Sailing Club where he began racing in mullets at the age of 14, in 1927) now a BBYC member and having built 6 P class yachts and owned at least one as did Peter Harding, Fred Andrews, Roy Dean, Cecil Rhodes and Gary Linkhorn, to mention a few.

Speaking of the Otahuhu Sailing Club, from where many members eventually joined BBYC, there was another. Tony Kendall, at the age of 13, would race with the Otahuhu Sailing Club "Idle Alongs" and then mosey down to the Eastern Combined Regatta, introducing him to Bucklands Beach. Later, in 1961, Tony decided to moor his 18ft mullet "Priscilla" V12 there— choosing his mooring spot and marking it with a plastic milk bottle. In the ensuing 60's with



1954/55 Eurydice and Norseman hauled out for refits and maintenance opposite 52 The Parade. This situation was chosen by boat owners who used the Harding's boatshed/workshop facilities.



Peter Harding's Zephyr 36 'Woops' under construction 1957/58 (deck being glued to hull).

Results of Pr	ye-giving Jane 28th June
Payments.	
Hall.	\$4-5-0
Band	312-0-0
bakes.	£ 1-16-0.
Trifle Stonge	3-1-1-0
milk , Butter . E.te	. 16-5
addientismento	\$1-10-9
Groceries	19-11
Prizes	14-8
Decorations	£1-1-1
Total Expenses	£24-4-10
Donations & addinies	
Profit	\$10-8-2
No. 204 31 Aug	19.58
RECEIVED from J. Macque	1. J. Mi Aver
the sum of Ten	
the sum of Ten Pounds Light Shillings and	To-o Pence
Cheque £ : WITH THANKS	
Cash \$ 10:8:2 further	
Discount E : : fw7w Total E /0:8:7 Per	

Stan Dent, an accountant, was also the voluntary auditor in 1955.



30ft "Ajax", a mooring change to LB47 beside Stan Dent's ketch and alongside Sid Bell's wooden H28 saw Tony and wife Peggy and 2 wobbling toddlers, Bruce and Wendy, baby Barbara in a plastic carry bag alarming locals in their dinghy prowess out to "Ajax".

One of the clubs more interesting commodores was Hughie Nutsford, commodore 1957-61. Hughie was a refrigeration engineer for Fisher and Paykel and an avid subscriber to the American publication "Popular Mechanics". Hughie built the first catamaran New Zealand had seen since Maui arrived, from plans he found in a "Popular Mechanics" magazine.

When Hughie's catamaran "Me n You" raced with the BBYC open fleet on Sundays he would blitz the field as long as everything held together.

Being an extremely inovative character Hughie also made a set of SCUBA dive gear in the late 50's from refrigeration parts and old fire extinguisher tanks, based on early plans from Jaques Cousteau, also published in the " Popular Mechanics". Not exactly PADI stuff but he caught a lot of crayfish with it.

In 1960 the Mander brothers of Christchurch introduced the Leander "R" Class, which became a popular follower of the "Idle Alongs". Club members, persuaded by Arthur Lines, built nine "R" Class. Lindsay Newbold, Peter Ellis, Ken Harford, Alan Moore, Alan Brown, Ian Hopwood, Bob Ireland, Peter Harding and Steve Udy were all starters. Arthur, abetted by Peter Harding, assisted young sailors in building their own, leading to many being exhibited in the 1961 Boat Show.

Local boat building was taking off dramatically in different ways. One night in 1959 after a few beers, Fred Andrews and Tom Partridge went around to Jack Brooke with the vision of keel boat "Roulette" in Fred's head. This became a reality. lack's design and Fred's labour saw "Roulette" launched in 1961 and after successful racing in NZ was selected to represent the Club in the Suva race in 1966.

An aside to this story answers the question of how boats such as "Roulette" put their masts up. Fred Andrews explains. "I'd motor up to Panmure Bridge, then from the bridge, drop the mast over the side and winch it down. On one particular day we had a rating official on board measuring calculations and needed smooth water so I brightly thought the Panmure Lagoon would be perfect. Approaching the bridge I realized too late that the mast was still up - hit the bridge - mast cracked, crew covered in crumbling concrete from the old bridge and the rating official white faced muttering "you crazy bastard". But suffice to say, "Roulette still got her rating!"

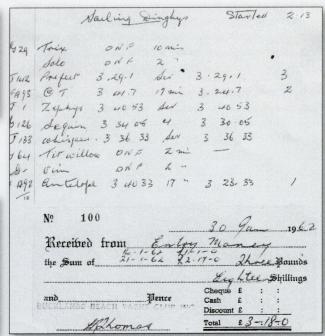
Another significant trophy in 1962 was Flying Dutchman "Pandora". Awarded "Best Boat" in the Auckland Boat Show in years 1961 and 1964, "Pandora" was built by Peter Harding and Earl Wells for Sir William Stevenson, the then Mayor of Howick and sailed by Peter and Earl initially. "Pandora" then went on with Earl Wells and Helmer Pedersen to win the Gold Medal at the Tokyo Olympics in 1964.

Another innovation was being developed by John Neale who was always interested in new ideas and developments, so when Arthur Piver, an American aircraft engineer, started promoting home built plywood trimarans as fast, stable, and comfortable, John wrote away to the States for a set of plans and started building a 40ft Trimaran. The 3 hulls were built at Devon Rd and as John was busy with the building business he took the hulls around to Tom Partridge in Hattaway Ave to be built. Trimaran "Manuia" was launched in 1963.



'PANDORA' Flying Dutchman. Winner of 'Best Boat in Auckland Boat Show' 1961 & 1964. Winner of Gold Medal at Tokyo Olympics 1964. 'Pandora' was the pinnacle of Peter Harding's boat building career, always forward thinking with his designs, he managed to achieve the first underweight wooden Dutchman along with the only self draining cockpit.





1963 Auckland provincial Championships in Whangarei. Expenses received for entry fees 1962

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Lots of experimentation and creativity were employed in this embryonic stage of building boats . Allan Creek displayed typical Kiwi ingenuity when he converted his Mullet to a keeler by adding a concrete keel.

Joe Harding followed with "X" Class "Sabrina" and Owen Woolley built Ray McGrath a keeler, "Mahana". When completed all began racing together. Naturally a strong fellowship developed and family social days evolved, like the Club picnics organised by Ray and Alma McGrath, for which they actually received a small payment to cover expenses.

The larger boats at this time needed much more maintenance than they do now. Canvas sails, no fibreglass and hemp ropes, so anything that got wet had to be dried immediately otherwise would mildew rapidly.

More bureaucracy reared its head in 1962 with regard to moorings.

Up until the mid 60's club members' vessels were restricted to chain and had to use heavy aeroplane tyres to float the chain to the surface.

As an aside 5 sets of grid piles, including a launch grid, were built adjacent to the ramp for cleaning vessels. The 50's haulout practice at Grainger's is referred to earlier on page 9 exampled in "Eurydice".

During these years, members were responsible for the maintenance of their own moorings and would hire Subritzky's "Jane Gifford" to service about 6 moorings at a time. Members would strip trailer loads of mussels off the moorings with a wire strop and have a huge cook-up at the end of the day.

In 1962 it became obvious that yachties could not continue to drop moorings anywhere in the river and the Auckland Harbour Board was asked to take over the control. The Board declined but gave the Club the power to control the mooring sites. Order was brought out of chaos but the

mooring pressure on the river would have soon become intolerable if the Half Moon Bay Marina had not been constructed.

Tom and Helen Partridge's experience of launching their home built "Taiaha" in Hattaway Avenue, also examples the intrepid resources of the time. A John Lidgard design, "Taiaha" was a 8 ton 34 foot yacht, and on completion Tom was, in his words, "absolutely broke" and had to resort to somewhat desperate skull-duggery to launch the yacht. With his last few dollars he bought some planks into which he bored holes to put the rope through. He told his crew, in secret, about the expected time of floating "Taiaha" off in high tide. In the dead of night, the trellis was removed from the front of the house and a logging mate of Tom's who had a logging business, backed his truck in, and "Taiaha", on skids, was dragged along to, and down, Devon Road.

The "secret" expedition was met with about 200 people out to watch. Just past Percy Jones' house they had to dig the road up a bit and rounding the corner into The Parade, they were met by a cop car. Naturally, panic reigned as they had just removed a Council seat. But no! A blind eye was turned. "Do you need any help?" the cops asked.

Back to the drawing board of the proposed Clubhouse. What was happening? Fundraising had begun in earnest.

Young members such as Fred Andrews, Reg Barker, David Duffett, Doug Reid, Joe and Rima Harding and Peter Harding were running monthly socials and dances for many years in the Pakuranga Hall and Chez Paree. Entrance fee was 5 shillings for the gents and ladies a plate.

It so happened that a young Council employee, Barry Curtis, was now a very involved member, and he was to prove very helpful in the later ensuing battling years.

Meantime sailing wise, Fred Andrews had been building "Roulette", much to the annoyance of neighbours who



60thAnniversary</sup>



'Roulette' and crew.



Whangarei-Noumea Race. Chris Bouzaid, Steve Armitage, Fred Andrews, Don Pollack and Tom Partridge.



John Neale's 'Manuia' Trimaran. Press boat at 1966 Suva race.



'Rainbow II' going downhill on the way to Noumea.

thought that hammering should cease by midnight. On completion, with crew Tom Partridge, Chris Bouzaid, Steven (Sticky) Armitage and Bill Sunday, Fred, with "Roulette", went on to win, as mentioned, the Auckland to Suva race in 1966 bringing much pride and kudos to BBYC. The prize money was 200 pounds. Tom Partridge, navigator, reported that considering the sailing conditions were pretty horrendous, that on it's return to NZ, Roulette was in immaculate condition and looked as though she just had been cruising around Auckland Harbour! The Press boat at this 1966 Suva race was John Neale's "Manuia" with John, son Mick and radio journalist Noel Holmes. Noel reported that Fred raced "Roulette" with the same reckless flair that had made him an Idle Along champion and possessed the "definition" of a good ocean racing helmsman. That is: "A good helmsman is a guy who doesn't give a damn who owns the boat - is nuggety, nerveless and with guts of steel".

The Bouzaid name was becoming well known. First of all there was Leo Bouzaid, notorious in the Manukau Harbour. With his veteran 50-footer, Rainbow, built in 1898 he was soon outstripping everything in Auckland, continuing her reign as champion for over 40 years. Leo, also, was a very sought after sail maker. In between times along came son Chris, After crewing on Fred Andrews' "Roulette", and a sail boat or two, Chris had "Rainbow 2" built of single skin kauri. "Rainbow 2" was launched from Bucklands Beach boat ramp on March 8, 1967 and a month later, with Fred Andrews and Tom Partridge as part of the crew, was competing in the Noumea race, followed by the Sydney-Hobart classic, doing well in both. Then it was taking on the big one in 1969, the "One Ton Series" in Helgoland (coastal Germany) and winning!! Chris, understandably, gaining two other awards, New Zealand Yachtsman of the Year, the Bernard Ferguson Trophy and an MBE.

Mid 60's saw more fundraising efforts, led by Nola Banks, towards the purchase of an Official Patrol Boat. "Miss Buckland" was built by Colin Stewart, cost 500 pounds and was launched in 1968. A strong vessel powered by a second hand Ford 10 petrol motor, "Miss Buckland" gave many years of stalwart service, including transferring picnickers from their crafts to shore. The fleet was growing - now including "Flying Ants" and "Paper Tigers".

The latter was a headache if capsized – the only way of recovery was for the skipper to put a rope over the hull and on to the mast followed by Colin and "Miss Buckland" going at full throttle to pull the boat upright.

In continuing the fundraising efforts for the nearing possibility of the Clubhouse, the biggest personal financial boost came from the generous Patron, Don Wishart, who already was donating fifty pounds annually and had given the Club a "P" Class for members' use and made this bargain - "If you fella's can raise 300 pounds I'll give you another 300". So they all got stuck in – managed to raise 280 pounds and then made a desperate rush for personal donations to make up the

BUCKLANDS BEACH 60th Anniversary YACHT CLUB INC.

deficit 20 pounds. This done and triumphantly presented, Don, true to his word wrote a cheque for 300 pounds followed by yet another!!

Then came the bright idea of issuing life memberships at 25 pounds each – as they say, the best investment ever made. Then the fired up and intrepid band raised 5000 pounds by issue of interest free debentures.

By 1966 the lobbying was underway with officialdom – a painful and drawn out business. As John Neale expressed, it seemed that every Council Department was against them. At long last with John, Theo Lowe, Don Wishart, Gordon Patrick and supportive efforts from many members – including knocking on doors in previously fruitless treks to Parliament to get Government support, permission was granted, but the building was not to be called a Clubhouse – the reason has always remained obscure. It is referred to in Minute books, as a "Gear Store" – even meetings were not meant to be held there.

Commodore Alf Farrand and John Neale began the initial planning. This was now of major significance in NZ yachting. Together, with assistance from Barry Curtis, they surmounted the difficulties with Manukau County Council and the many aggro-petitions from a faction of residents. Brave but wearying times.

Fred Andrews organised another strong team to raise by fair means or foul, the 6000 pounds for a seawall. John Neale's brainchild.

Five years later — at last! Members rallied excitedly at the prospect of having a base and, as per usual, voluntary labour and materials were supplied. Gordon Sorensen donated all the foundation blocks; Gilbert Hadfield and his company laid the foundations — a huge commitment, plus he supplied all reinforcing for free; Frank Langford donated all electrical equipment and undertook all wiring; Chas Andrews not only supplied roofing but installed the plumbing and drainage.

The now Commodore, Alf Farrand, a builder, coaxed and coerced voluntary labour from members to build the I 300 sq ft building. Holes had to be drilled for piers before the concrete blocks laid and then the rest happened and "Voila"! Upstairs, a large lounge, a galley and a real control room with a real starter's box. Downstairs had storage space for a tractor, patrol boats, dinghies and general paraphernalia. Total cost \$5,377.

The Clubhouse, to be called "Gear Shed" was opened in 1968 by Patron Don Wishart and his wife Val.

A visitors' book was there for all to sign. Ron Evans had the bright idea of charging all guests, members and visitors, when signing. Don Wishart agreed to match the amount



Colin Stewart on the 2nd official Bucklands Beach Patrol boat Miss Buckland

Bucklands Beach Yacht Club (Inc.)

Please address correspondence

We the undersigned who have undertaken to jointly and severally guarantee an advance of \$2000-00 to the Bucklands Beach Yacht Club (Inc.) from the Bank of New South Wales hereby agree that in the event of the Bank being required to make a demand under the guarantee we shall each contribute one-tenth of the said demand:

J. Bester J. M. M. J. Rosenson

J. R. Wender

Link Vous

List Padges

Dated: M. Ch. May 965

The Bucklands Beach Yacht Club

DEBENTURES FOR £5 (FIVE POUNDS)

6) B Nº

252

Payable on the day of netrest from the 1st day of July, 1962, at £3 per centum per annum payable annually on the 1st day of July, the first payment whereof is due on the 1st day of July, 1963.

This Debenture is one of a Series of Six hundred (600) Five pound (£5) Debertures issued as Series B and ranks pari passu with the remaining Debentures of the series as to capital but the Debentures of this series rank in priority as to the interest

This Debenture is issued by The Bucklands Beach Yacht Club (Incorporated) for the purpose of raising capital for the improvement of club facilities and o perates as a charge on the whole undertaking of the Club.

Issued pursuant to a Resolution of The Bucklands Beach Yacht Club (Incorporated) duly passed on the 24th day of October, 1951.

Issued under The Common Seal of THE BUCKLANDS BEACH YACHT CLUB (INday of

Secretary

Commodore

Member Committee Member

60thAnniversary</sup> yacht club inc.



Excavation of site

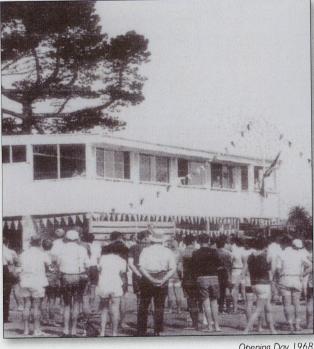
raised, dollar for dollar. Late that night, a weary Don was visited at home by Ron and Ben Taylor clutching \$510. True to form, gentleman Don, flinching somewhat, sat down again and wrote another cheque.

A lighthearted appendage – post Clubhouse opening

The donated piano began to show weariness and re-tuning did not seem an option. No one wanted it and it wasn't thought worth spending \$8 on an ad so one night a group of revelers decided about 11pm to wheel it down the road and dump it in the Reserve and so they did, making an enormous racket as they went. Local residents were woken at daylight by the cops trying to establish ownership and/or responsibility. Lips remained sealed. During the day, local council workers discovered it and so a new home was found in one of the offices.

	1 1 2	BUCKLANDS BEACH	YACHT CL	UB (INC.)		
	BA	LANCE SHEET AS	AT 31st	JULY 1968		
<u>LJ ABILITIES</u>		1968	1967	<u>assets</u>		1968
Accumulated Fund : Balance 1st August 1967 Add Transfer Fatrol Boat Fund Surplus for Year	12201. 12 456. 94 2400. 02		2434 14 12357	Cash at Bank of New South Wales Stock of Pennants and Badges Hauling Out Reclamation and Namp		60. 00 12411. 01
		15058. 08	200	Hauling Out Equipment Less Depreciation	200.00	180.00
Debentures 1st August 1967 Add Issues	1300.00 20.00		23	Dinghy Less Depreciation	23. 00 3. 00	20.00
Less Repaid and Donated	1320.00		8	Shot Gun Less Depreciation	8. 00 1. 00	7. 00
		1190. 00	60	Portable R.T. Sets Less Depreciation	60.00	54.00
Loan Manukau City Council Overdraft - Bank of New South Wales		1322. 00 1245. 68	10	Mooring Less Depreciation	10.00	
			. 90	P. Class Yacht and Trailer Less Depreciation	90.00	81. 00
			77	Trophies Less Depreciation	177. 00 7. 00	170.00
			7	Starting Box Less Depreciation	7. 00 7. 00	Service Service
				Patrol Boat Less Depreciation	2011. 11	1910. 00
			-	Club-House (cost to date)		3922. 75
		\$ 18815. 76	15280	Audited and found Carrect	\$	18815. 76
DATED: 19th August 1968				Honorary Audit	or	

Stock of Pennants	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE SHEET AS 1968	AT 31st JULY 1967	1968 INCOME	196
Surplus of Income over Expenditure 2400.02	Stock of Pennants Maintenance - Hauling Out Area Patrol Boat Expenses Postages, Printing and Stationery Prizes and Trophies Sundry Expenses Rent of Hall Insurance Badges Signwriting Picnic Expenses Pennants Affiliation Fees Loss on Sale of Patrol Boat Interect on Loan	52. 53 9. 56 103. 58 128. 30 52. 07 7. 50 72. 25 30. 52 13. 06 45. 00 40. 00 72. 94	108 -4 663 950 481 190 12 18 62	Donations Received Donation - J.R. McKenzie Trust Entry Fees Subscriptions - Annual - Life Hauling Out Fees and Honesty Box Raffle Receipts Social Committee Profits Sale of Pennants and Badges Boat Show Receipts Profit - Sale of Year Books Profit - Cake-stall	29 214 150 88 734 150 815 611 320 17 84
	Surplus of Income over Expenditure	2400.02			







Mr & Mrs Don Wishart cutting the ribbon.

Post Script:

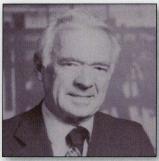
The completion of the Grainger's Point clubhouse in 1968 marked the end of an era spanning nearly 40 years of enterprise and enthusiastic activity by those with a love of the sea and sailing within Bucklands Beach and its environs.

These hardy souls had a vision and a strong spirit to achieve. It was their resolve that helped forge this club and create

the foundations that have gone on to produce a club, that in 2009 after 60 years, is the embodiment of a first class community focal point and the second largest Yacht and Boating Club in New Zealand. A club which has achieved a lot and of which we are all very proud.

Articles and information printed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions or formal position of the BBYC.

BUCKLANDS BEACH 60thAnniversary YACHT CLUB INC



Alf Farrand: 1966 - 1969

BUCKLANDS BEACE YACHT CLUB (INC)

COMMODORE'S REPORT

This has been a year of considerable activity and achievement for the club and there has been a steady increase in membership.

Contreboard youht rucing has been carried on as usual under the devoted vision of Colin Stewart. Maile there has been good competition in the one man boats, the bigger ones have been lacking in numbers.

Throughout the racing season the ladies committee provided afternoon toa on each race day for the competing crews and also held a very successful cake stall which provided a welcome addition to our funds.

I would like to thank the ladies for their efforts.

As a culmination to enthusiastic fund raising efforts the new patrol boat "MISS BUGALARD" designed by J.Brookes and built under contract by Colin Stewart was launched and began service in February.

We are grateful to the McMenzie Trust for their donation of \$150. toward the cost of the Patrol Boat.

Arnold Rule has kindly accepted the position of Patrol Boat Skipper and

Congratulations to the Bucklands Beach Flying Ant crews who brought home the r Trophy. Bucklands Beach crews have distinguished themselves by winning Tillor Trophy. this trophy twico.

The Flying Ast championships were hold at Bucklands Beach during the season,

This year, has been notable for the increased interest and enthusiasm in local kooler races. The keeler committee which is also the social committee has the determined which is also the social committee which is also the social committee held two popular socials during the year and has built up an admirable set of trophics for its competitions.

Congratulations to "MAHANA" for winning the WOODY CUP.

As in the past fow years the club took part in the 1967 boat show. This time a model of our pominsular showing our club facilities and racing course was displayed.

Chas Andrews, Mrs Folts, and helpers made a very creditable job of this

display.

Owing to windy conditions the pionic was this year hold at Karaka Bey, however the weather improved and we had a very pleasant day.

Thanks to Ray McGrath who once again did a sterling job of organising the micnic.

The hauling-out and equipment have been put to good use during the year and Percy Jones and Herry Mees have done a wonderful job for boat owners. The amount amount of time given by these members is of concern to me. Either they should receive some payment or the work should be spread to a much greater extent. On behalf of the club I would like to thank Percy and Herry for the splendid work they have done.

This year, it was felt more practical to split the prize giving evenings into Junior and Senior events. The Junior prize giving took the form of a film evening and the Senior one was followed by a very popular dance.

It is very pleasing to see the club building almost completed. The upper floor is now meady for use, while the basement can be developed as funds become evaluable. It is hoped to have a club gathering for an official opening shortly. We are very grateful for the plans provided by our Architects

Mesers. Orchard and Allison, and to John Neals for his organising work. The club is much indebted to Gilberd Hadfield Pile Co.Ltd through the suspices of Mr. Stewart Redger, who carried out free of charge, a difficult and expensive job mash a drilling rig, ancevating through the fill for the foundation piers and placing the concrete in the holes. Ar. Redger also helped greatly in obtaining reinforcing and shuttering free of charge to the club. Club members bened and poured the fooring beams and kir. Gordon Soronsen made a wonderful gift to the club by Paying all the concrete blocks as a full time job.

The committee engaged men on labour contract to erect the frame and close in the building and when this was completed the work has been carried on by working been of club members.

Roofing, plumbing and draining have been attended to by Chas. Andrews and its helpers. A splendid contribution has been made by Frank Lengford who very finally denoted all the electrical equipment and with his helpers carried out the fring and installed the fittings.

On behalf of the club I would like to thank all those who have helped in every may with the building. I hope that it will prove a useful amenity to the club and will give much pleasure to members through plenty of use.

Finally, I would like to thank the elub for honouring me with the position of Commodore during the last two years and for the support I have received while in this post.

I would like to thank all the officers and committee for the work they have done for the club during the past year. I wish every success to the incoming officers and committee.

On behalf of the Bucklands Beach Yacht Club Committee.

ALF FARRAND. COMMODORE

Building thoject. - a further aguest be made to the act to the act is filling and an injury as to the formed begins and an injury the start for the fulling of the great store, it the flans are required would they flavor the direct to the Ellies are heters muses bushed alleren. The Menutes of the previous needing were reads confirm S. S. Sennis Club 6.8. Greent - means Jones, daylor, MGroth, andrew, batrilys. a. Gum. O. gum, S. Gum, J. Halle, Thomas, Farrand + wolkber. Mornings a formal request be made to the dushland accounts - Monakea E.C. - Hall His \$8.0.0 apologies - humans batrick, dloome + barker Concepondence - X Clare acon. Cests, Ounford. 1968 Word & Canon Shew. zaythed as a protested anchorage. annal Meeting - 28th aug. 1963 15th Committee Meeting they are interested in meny his soking whether seeing seeing whether coming sees on the milk with they will stay they will they are any other matters that they wish to being they do not with our sailing counties, of his seeing someties, or when we would be seen the seeing seein by all the who telped in great aucers, which is to a great aucers, which is the sent to my have wished in the true of the and the my have wished for their despreased Georat, measts Jones Garke Olyma, D. Jum, G. Jums, S. Jums, S. Jums, Janears, Jaylor, greate, Julie, Butus The Minutes of the previous meeting were read confirmed 8. B. Dennis Blub 2.7.65 lemants - I he hoy quote for smaller humants be accepted and an order for 24 he placed Enfund Physin < 9 - 8 - 9 accounts - a donation of \$10 be made to the a rua. Mahting federation of the Williams E. Lehry presenting the buyes. 14th Committee Meeting apologies - magnila. Gonespondence

