



Mistral Owners' Association

The Mistral Tiller

Issue 11: 22 October 2013

Dear Mistrallers,

SPRING EDITION

Yes, the season has started and after a few false-starts due to no-wind, then gales, we were blessed with a truly fabulous weekend of sailing. Typical for this time of year, the day starts nice and gently, you rig up all gung-ho and jolly, and then 10 minutes into sailing, whamo! in comes 20 knots and the whole thing turns to custard! And 'by crikey' there was a fair bit of custard knocking around on Saturday more than the average pie!

Club Activity:

TYC: 5 boats took to the ramp on Saturday to contest the remains of the Spring Series. Two stunningly good courses saw some outrageous reaching speeds both with and without spinnakers and the inevitable high-speed spill and muddy mast! By virtue of staying upright Nick and Matt Brewer won both races to take the series with Rob Mason surviving well to come in second. Brett and Darcy Black won the Jacques Cousteau underwater activity award with two spectacular capsizes under spinnaker. After the races and whilst peeling off his wetsuit, Brett later discovered he needed several stitches in his leg after sliding over the self bailer during a capsize and getting it very neatly sliced and diced! Great to see the Tamaki Club boat out there, rigged and in good race order. Also good to see young Zara Blakey out with Scott giving it a go.

One of the initiatives discussed after racing was the proposed introduction of a handicapping system for regular weekly racing. This will give additional incentive to the mid fleeters and beyond to have a crack at a prize. Hopefully this will be ready to start in the Early Summer Series (2nd Nov) for the **Don Grayson** trophy.

GBC: Warming up slowly but enthusiastic, three boats launched on Sunday; Slippery Ripple, Jester and Citrus. An absolute 'stunner' of a day reminiscent of mid-summer, bright sunshine, a goodly breeze, and a club packed with activity. With a 3 short-race programme, all races finished in the above order, no reports of outrageous misdemeanours or mid-race swimming activity!

NOTICES:

1. **Mistrals Wanted.** If you have a boat to sell please let myself and Olivier know and we can get it put on the website. We have potential buyers searching for boats right now.
2. **Mistral Open Day at TYC.** Planned for **Sat 9th Nov.** Usually a rally-around of all sailing members and a chance for new prospective members to come on down and view the activity, go for a trial sail. Meet 1200 ish. This coincides with the start of the Winkleman mini-series so promises to be a good event.
3. **Keri Keri Spring Regatta.** Event organised for Sat 30th Nov and Sun 1st Dec. First of the traveller series. Please let me know if you're keen to go up so we can sort accommodation and so on.

Keep an eye on the club programmes over the long weekend, some are racing, some aren't.

Good sailing!

Nick