



Cruising & Navigation

Association of New Zealand

President's Report to 2017 AGM

Our Patron, Jim Lott, is continuing his travels abroad. Soon he and Karin are intending to finish traveling around the Mediterranean Sea.

At the 2016 AGM, retired Auckland goldsmith Peter Minturn spoke about the time he spent as a deckhand on a sea-going adventure on the Soren Larsen. It was Peter's 79th birthday so we all enjoyed some cake.

At the AGM it was agreed that CANANZ should take on a new objective and help to host those cruising yachts that reach Auckland from overseas. Our hosting objective has now started. We published this on our website and arranged a contact email address, and I spread the word thru my blog. During last summer, we had two requests for help: one crew I met with in Westhaven, and t'other was an email that was shared with the club and answered within a day by email. We have also re-activated our Facebook page and it now has 7 followers.

We also were looking for a method to make use of some of our reserve funds that would benefit the membership. After some discussion, the committee has decided a good idea is to organise an instruction course on how to use a sextant for navigation. We are still researching the details for organizing this objective.

My committee over the past year consisted of Basil, Chris, Paul and Steve.

Basil joined the CANANZ committee in 1998, 19 years ago, and has been serving as our Treasurer all that time. He has kept a good "hand on the tiller" and steered our finances and budgets along nicely all this time. Basil has expressed his desire to stand down now—soon he will be presenting our annual accounts for the last time. He has earned a generous pat on the back for his contribution to CANANZ.

Steve spent last year concentrating on completing his MBA, so Paul agreed to take over production of our newsletter. He has introduced us to the adventures of his cat, Skatty, and Auckland's Junk rigs. Thanks to Tom Miller and Shawn Baker for several articles making the newsletter good-reading.

Chris took a business trip overseas last spring and was our cruise direction for the Summer cruise.

We added four books to the library:

"Heavy Weather sailing", "Intro to Nautical Instruments", "Galapagos of the Antarctic", and "We three go South".

Two books were donated to the library:

'South Sea Vagabonds', And "Sailing with Penny Whiting"

In June, John Croft introduced us to the sextant and brought along several specimens. Several members were able to bring their own sextants along as well for a "show and tell".



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Our Annual Dinner in August was again held at the Yacht Squadron. Kerry Howe entertained us with a talk about his book “To the Islands” He spoke on how we can see the Hauraki Gulf differently, with a summary of its history and geography.

In October, we looked at the modern state of the art of sail making with Grant from Lidgard Sails. His list of tips on how best to maintain your sails prove very popular.

The Kowhai cruise for 2016 was deferred to 5 Nov, with Basil was cruise Director. Four vessels made it to Man-o-war Beach: Pink Cadillac, JL Seagull, San Fran and Mokoia. Nick from SAN FRAN threw the gumbot the furthest to win the Maggie’s trophy.

In December, Jim and Karin brought us up-to-date with their adventures around the Mediterranean. A link to a video of this presentation has been added to our website.

In February, we sought to visit the office of a Yacht designer for our annual “outing”, and, in the end, we had Yacht designer and Naval Architect Roger Hill come and visit us, along with veteran designer Jim Young. It was interesting to see the evolution of designing from hand-drawn spline curves to the current status of computer aided CAD and computer aided manufacture CAM – those 3-D printers will soon be printing yacht hulls.

For our Summer Cruise on 25 Feb we timed the tide to take our dinghies up the Mahurangi River for dinner at the Bridgehouse in Warkworth. 5 vessels and one car made it. Southern Venture, Le Canard Bleu, Close Encounters, Delia, and Taleisin.

In March, we arranged to be part of the Westhaven Marina Open Day.

Chris, Stephen and Paul have agreed to put their names forward for another year on the CANANZ committee. Our constitution allows for eight on the committee. So, if anyone at our AGM is willing to also join our committee, then please jump at this opportunity. Committee meetings are on second Monday’s of the odd months, and we often meet on our yachts, benefiting from discussing and comparing Auckland’s boat builders.

Keep on cruising, and keep having fun navigating
Bob McDavitt, MNZM

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