



THE ARROW

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Commodores Column

Inside this issue

Commodores Report

March 2005

From the Sailing Master	2
Optimist News	4
LTS Report	5
Starlings	6
Arrows	8
Club Contacts	9

Happy New Year. I hope you enjoyed the Christmas break wherever you were.

Although there has only been 4 official club sailing days there has been a huge amount of sailing for our junior sailors; The P Class and Starling Nationals in New Plymouth, Optimist Coaching Clinic at Eastern Beach, the Noumean Exchange sailors were hosted for 10 days, Sail Auckland Regatta, Eastern Beach Regatta, Auckland Girls' Champs, Secondary Schools Fleet Racing at Wakatere.

The Dirty Dog Regatta was well attended last weekend by many GBC sailors. It has become a real tradition as a first big regatta especially for our Green Fleet sailors. Thanks for the huge effort put in by David Glen and his team with the organisation.

Torbay will host the Optimist Nationals over Easter weekend and a number of our top sailors will be competing for the honour of a place at the Worlds. Good luck to those involved, we will look forward to seeing the results of all your training over the season.

We were all disappointed with the decision by DOC to withdraw permission for GBC to camp at Browns Island. According to DOC we should never have been allowed to camp and will not camp there again. This has been an annual event for 20 years and the sailors have collected 10 to 20 rubbish bags of flotsam and jetsam from the beaches and foreshore. This was a wonderful way to promote community spirit and caring for the environment to youth. Alternative campsites/sailing opportunities are being investigated.

Security is always an issue at the club so can you all please make sure that if you are there outside normal sailing days that doors are kept closed.

Wishing you well for the rest of the season.

Tom Kool
Commodore

Dates to Diary

24 March Closing date for Opti Nats entries

26 March Holder Cup Your chance to sail an Arrow!

14-18 April Opti Nats Torbay

7 May Parents and Ladies race, Closing Day

When there was no wind, our sailors took to the water with paddles from the chase boats. This event was won by Dave Collins and Tom Peet. The longest distance travelled was by Emily Martin and Chloe Lowe, with dubious techniques employed by Thomas Elmore, Tom Craigie, Andrew and Tim Slane.



[Next](#)

From the Sailing Master

Sailing must be the most underrated sport of all time. Although it does not have the instant gratification of motorised sport sought by adrenaline junkies or the forced mate-ship of team games, sailing has long term rewards that far exceed either. Non-sailors seem to view sailing with suspicion as some mysterious art-form that must be passed genetically. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Sailing is simply one of those life skills, like riding a bicycle or swimming. It can be learnt in an hour or two for sheer enjoyment or perfected through Olympic training. The level is up to the individual. I often hear about today's kids being ADD, hyperactive or socially inept. Leave the Ritalin, play therapy & peer pressure behind & introduce them to sailing. They will seek their own pace and meet their own objectives. Sailing provides many challenges, great contentment and teaches the value of self discipline.

Sailing does not require you to "fit in" or to be "chosen" for a team. You do not need good hand-eye co-ordination or to be fit. You can be any shape, size or age. It is a healthy, outdoor, water sport that builds confident and able young men and women. Think JFK, Ted Turner, Edward Heath, Prince Phillip, Ernesto Bertarelli, Thomas Lipton etc. Not successful men who sail, but rather sailors that became successful.

Competitive sailing requires tactical and strategic thinking more than physical ability which is why older, more experienced sailors often hold the whip hand over the agile youngsters. Do not think "sailing school" or "ocean cruiser" or huge expense. Do not rush out and buy a boat or any "boaty" gear. Do not think of romantic beaches. Think small, unsinkable, safe boats with sails that will effortlessly and silently propel you across the lake and back again. Like magic.

If you enjoy sunshine, water, and outdoor activity, simply phone your local sailing club and they will be only too happy to welcome you to one of their "open days". You can easily have grasped the mechanics of sailing and be able to put this into practice within a couple of hours.

Although I started out saying that sailing held no appeal for adrenalin junkies, I lied. Think windsurfing, kiteboarding, Hobie Cats, sports skiffs like the 49'er, Volvo 70's and the America's Cup. Totally on the edge or tame enough for Ouma, and everything in between. Sailing has it all.

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TECHNO SAILBOARDS at GBC next season

The GBC Committee has resolved that Techno boards are to be promoted as another youth class with immediate effect. An initial coaching programme will be developed in discussion with interested parties.

TECHNO BOARDS: The Junior Development Board in New Zealand

Techno 923OD windsurfer - officially recognised by the world sailing body (ISAF) as the official board for junior sailors less than 17 years of age

It is envisaged that the Techno 923 OD board will be a stand alone class with class racing across two rig sizes. This is to allow a development path for existing sailors from as young as 11 years through to 16 years of age, and more importantly it to encourage the involvement of young people who have not previously been club sailors.

Other major countries, such as France, Germany, Great Britain, have already embraced the Bic Techno as their development board and New Zealand is heading in the same direction.

Features:

- **Early planing**
- **Performance in light to medium wind**
- **Upwind aptitude in light winds (dagger board)**
- **Stability and accessibility**
- **Durability**

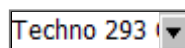
Background:

Up until last year, the very long-serving Tiga Aloha has done an admirable job as the junior racing board. However, it was very much in need of replacement, so after a set of trials and much consultation, the Aloha was replaced by the Bic Techno 293 One Design. This board is essentially another hybrid in that it's a modern-style short wide board with a daggerboard, although it was developed from the original Bic Techno 293 rather than conceived from scratch. It has been received very well by the junior community, and will clearly make a great training board from which youngsters will be able to progress onto the RS:X with ease.

As the official new junior board, there are going to be a lot of these Techno 293ODs knocking around, which means that they will be readily available 2nd hand, and also there will be a lot of mums and dads who might well be wondering whether they can sneak a go on young Timmy/Tammy's board when they're at school. We have tested the T293D in the past looking at its performance as a beginner / first time board, and found it very satisfactory in this role – its daggerboard, substantial width and nearly 3m of length gives a solid learning platform. The Junior OD has a sliding mast-track which adds a slight extra degree of complexity, but it's very simple to operate, with just three positions (front, back and middle), so it shouldn't really be a hindrance for a beginner. Likewise, the board is fine for a bit of light wind freestyle.

Overall:

Don't expect hybrid-like performance from it – this is not a natural upwind performer, despite its daggerboard. But it does have a decent degree of versatility in that it can offer reasonable large freeride performance, function very nicely as a beginner board and as a light wind freestyle platform too. All that for adults, which ain't bad for the official junior racing board!

A review:**Test Techno 293 OD**

Volume : 205 ltr. Length: 293 cm. Width: 79 cm

Design features, durable plastic construction, dagger board, back and beating straps.

I tried this board in 15+ knots and, to be honest, I went out with low expectations due to its size, plastic construction and small fin. However my initial thoughts were put to shame once I hooked in and started to fly up wind against the other boards. Compared to them the Bic has a relatively narrow tail which meant it felt like sailing a free ride or big slalom board.

It was by far the quickest board up wind, even though it lost out on a bit of angle. The downfall of this board however, which is why it's so fun in wind, is that it's just too low in volume to work in sub planing conditions for an adult and needs over 13 knots to get planing. However it's a really fun little board which was a great choice as the junior one design replacing the Aloha.

Now there is the perfect introduction into Hybrid racing for kids from a young age!

If you are interested in learning more about the Techno boards and sailing these at GBC, please contact David Glen (ph 528 6476).

If you know of others who may not sail but who might be interested in learning and sailing Techno boards at GBC, please pass this information on to them too.

Optimist News



DIRTY DOG REGATTA

11 March 2006

Eastern Beach

Yet again GBC was able to pull off a successful Dirty Dog Regatta – it was the 9th !!

Thank you to those GBC members who assisted in the smooth running of the Dirty Dog Regatta, and particularly those who did not have sailors participating at the Dirty Dog or Auckland Champs.

Special thanks go to VMD / Dirty Dog and Craig Reid and Nick Lowe for their support and provision of the spot prizes at the Dirty Dog Regatta.

Roll on 2007 and the 10th Dirty Dog – let's make it something special !!

Panasonic
ideas for life

Noel Leeming

Dirty Dog Green Fleet Race Report:

The Green Fleet enjoyed some great sailing over last weekend.

Harry Craigie was the stand-out GBC sailor over the weekend, enjoying some good races and often in the leading group at various times in most races. Harry showed good speed and plenty of potential. There was a good turn-out for the Dirty Dog Regatta with LTS numbers eclipsing those from the GBC Green Fleet. In addition to Harry Craigie, there were Victoria Sharps and Holly Novis from the Green Fleet. Both Victoria and Holly had a good regatta. Jacob Tyndall unfortunately was ill, and after giving it a go had to withdraw after one race.

From the LTS squad, there were Brittany Chamberlain, Chris Boyd, George Novis, Laura Hadfield, Logan Watson and Taylor Knight – they were all stars competing in a race for the very first time !! Chris and George did particularly well, sailing and completing all 4 races, while Taylor completed both races in the morning. Brittany, Laura, and Logan showed great confidence and perseverance in all races. Logan and Laura finished at least one race. It was a great effort by all the LTS sailors to 'jump in' and 'go racing in the big time' – I am certain they all learned a lot and will be better sailors for the experience.

Our thanks to John Woodyear-Smith, Steve Sharps, Michele Chapman and Lois Martin for their efforts in providing the race management for the Dirty Dog for the Green Fleet.

Open Fleet Dirty Dog and Auckland Champs Report by Nicky Elmore

Some shifty winds and weather saw an interesting set of results from our open fleet as they warm up for the Nationals. Some were glad of the opportunity to drop a race after 2 days sailing. Clearly some good experience in picking wind shifts turned the tables around which will all be good experience for racing off Torbay at Easter.

Sailor	Dirty Dog	Auckland Champs
Ashleigh Lamberg	3rd	11th
Jake Stanley-Harris	26th	46th
George Kool	27th	7th
Thomas Craigie	29th	53rd
Rosie Kool	54th	67th
Thomas Elmore	57th	65th
Chloe Lowe	59th	90th



Ashleigh crosses the finish line off Whimaway, GBC's first open fleeter in the Dirty Dog.

LTS Report

The LTS squad continue to make great progress, with good turn-outs week in and week out giving most sailors the opportunity to spend more time on the water.

We have had a few late starters join us. Chris Boyd and Craig Mathieson have come on very well. Tim Reeves has clearly done some Opti sailing before and joins LTS from RAYC.

We have enjoyed 2 fantastic sailing days over the past couple of weekends and it is very pleasing to see the growth in skill and confidence throughout the LTS squad. Fantastic effort everyone – let's make the most of the rest of the season !

It is great to see a few of the older LTS sailors keen to participate in the Dirty Dog regatta. Hopefully the weather will be kind and these sailors will enjoy both a challenging and rewarding day on the water in their first regatta.

For the rest of the club's information, 'the sailors of the future' and current LTS squad comprises:

Billy Stanley-Harris	"Wubba Ducky"
Brittany Chamberlain	
Chris Boyd	"Pluto"
Craig Mathieson	"Rocket"
George Novis	"Bubbles"
Katie Rae	"Black Magic"
Laura Hadfield	"Mighty Duck"
Logan Watson	"Bubs"
Niklas Erikson	
Russell Wilson	
Simon Powell	
Taylor Knight:	"Sting"
Tim Kralj	"Mightyena"
Tim Reeves	"Threadbare"
Tom Dargaville	"Blu-Tack"



Don't miss your opportunity to buy a Dirty Dog Mug on sail now at the Galley for only \$5.00

With 5 sailing days left in the 2005 / 06 season, let's make a special effort to get down to the Club each day so that all sailors have the opportunity to complete their Level 1 and Level 2 sailing certification, and make ready for progress to the Green Fleet next season. **By Dave Glen**

GBC, SRC exchange

Our annual return exchange with the Noumeans was again a great success. Many thanks to Liz Andrews for all her organising. This is such a wonderful opportunity for our young opti sailors to visit Noumea in September followed by an hosting a Noumean sailor during the Opti Clinic and surrounding days in January. Much fun was had by all on and off the water, including a lovely weekend at the Collins holiday home on Waiheke after the Round Browns Air Calin regatta. Sadly the cup was not to be ours this time. Maxime Mazard (SRC) won it again, narrowly beating Nicholas Poree (SRC) with Jake Stanley-Harris in third place, putting up a good fight for GBC. SRC stressed how much they value this exchange and presented the club with a lovely nautilus trophy for our cabinet. I strongly recommend the families of our young opti sailors to support this event again this year.



Where was Tom Kool??? Stand in commodore for the day to present Air Calin Cup to Maxime Mazard

The Noumean (SRC) and GBC exchange team, with the Nautilus trophy.

Starlings

The Starling fleet has had a stella post Christmas with everyone improving their sailing skills and race performances accordingly. Prior to the Nationals we were very fortunate to have Andrew Murdoch spend three afternoons coaching at Glendowie. Andrew is national Laser champion and one of the top Laser sailors in the world. The coaching and tips passed on were of tremendous quality and benefit. Prior to the Auckland champs we were fortunate to have Rod Davis, Olympic medallist and Team NZ coach come along for a coaching afternoon. This was also of huge benefit and we have all been fortunate the famous are happy to get the GBC mud between their toes. (Well maybe not – neither has returned for squelchy seconds.)

The nationals at New Plymouth were held in the most testing conditions I have ever seen centre-boarders yachts race. Virtually all the racing was held in very strong winds and huge swells. At the peak in race three, winds were recorded at 31 knots and swells were estimated to be 6 metres with the odd one breaking at the crest. It was a testament to the skill of all of the entrants that there were no accidents or casualties. Some of the press photos taken show the enormity of the conditions the 139 competitors had to face. In my view it was ridiculous to be racing in these conditions, however the race organizers had little option if there was to be a series and a result. After an initial ceding series, the competitors were split into gold and silver fleets for the remainder of the regatta.

Ben Lowe led the GBC team home with a solid 18th. Ben was always close to the front of the fleet, scoring an 8th as best placing. Vinnie Saunders was next on 26th with a 9th as best and always inside

the top 30. Frankie Lardies sailed his first Starling regatta in his new boat finishing in 35th and consistently finishing most races around this position. A 5th showed his potential to mix it with the best. Josh Impey who was one place behind sailed well and was consistently placing in the twenties to thirties. Bobbie Gordon was highest placed GBC entrant in the silver fleet finishing 10th. A couple of seconds demonstrated his ability to race at the front of the fleet. Lauren Peet sailing her new boat was 28th with a 6th as the winds abated towards the end of the regatta. Danielle Chapman sailing the prototype glass Starling was close behind in 33rd. Danielle also had improved results as the wild conditions settled towards the end of the series. Tom Peet at 51st and Emma Lowe at 57th both struggled with the conditions and wisely decided to stay ashore for the more extreme weather. Simon Stanley-Harris had a brief but spectacular contest with an eye stopping deck peel after 2 races, ending his regatta. His 25th place in race 1 showed he was a real contender for the front end of the fleet. Bodies and boats seem to take a hammering in Simons world.

Overall it was a regatta like no other with conditions outside the boundaries of sensible racing conditions. I'm sure all who sailed in the event will remember the contest for a long time to come.



The Starling Team ready to race!!



In true Peet style Brian has created Lauren's wonderful state of the art Starling "Voodoo".

Mid March saw the Auckland champs being sailed at eastern Beach in a more suitable range of 5 to 20 knots. The club Starlings had a fantastic regatta with three of our nine entrants in the top 10. Ben Lowe won the 46 boat regatta in convincing style. His performance was phenomenal with a very convincing 1st overall, 18 points ahead of the second place boat and his consistency through the series was a lesson to all other competitors. (Without a race drop, he was 46 points ahead of the next skipper.) This was Ben's first regional Starling contest win and was a fitting end to the competition season. Frankie was also one of the most consistent performers with only a 12th as a drop and was relatively close points wise to 2nd overall. This was great performance for someone with so little time sailing Starlings. Paul, sailing as one of the lighter sailors in the regatta, did extremely well on the windy conditions of Sunday to finish with a 9th overall. A 3rd and a 5th shows that he is a real threat to the fleet front-runners. Josh's 17th overall could have easily been an 11th overall without his DNF, since the average of his other races would have resulted in a twenty point lower total. What was really good to see was the steady improvement in his consistency and results through the series. Bobby had a solid regatta to finish 20th, with a couple of 12 placings to show that when on song, he is able to mix it with the best. Tom also had a good series finishing 27th in his second Starling contest. Tom turned starting at the committee boat and tacking away for clear air into an art form. In one race, the technique yielded spectacular dividends with a 13th. Vinnie was only able to attend on Saturday, however a 10th and a 12th proves his continued ability to mix it with the best in the class. Emily Martin was another new GBC Starling sailor racing in her first Auckland champs. Using a 15 year-old sail, she demonstrated once again her gritty and bubbly determination, finishing all races consistently in the low 30s. Dave Collins

was racing in his very first Starling event and showed the cheerful stoic style that he has always brought to his on the water endeavours. Dave was handicapped with the inadequacies of the Elliot rudder system, however I'm sure he will notice a great improvement when he gets the new rudder currently on order.

By Brian Peet, Starling Convenor.



Very testing seas for Starling Nationals in New Plymouth

Arrows

The season has consistently seen the same Arrow sailors on the water. It would be great to see some of the others out of the shed too. Following are 2 great opportunities.

Holder Cup 26th March

An event not to be missed. Open to all GBC sailors. Organise a crew then just put your name in the hat, draw a boat and race for this prestigious trophy. This promises to be a fun day and will be raced between Club Points races to give sailors and spectators the best opportunities possible.

Parents' race

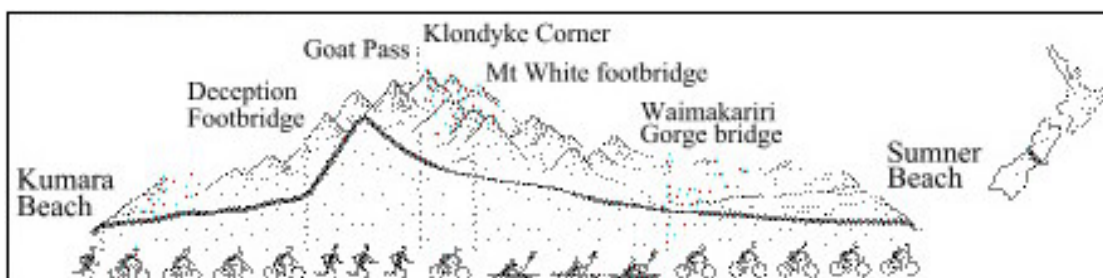
Again an opportunity to partake of the "Arrow" experience. There is a planned parent's race and ladies race on closing day May 7th. Diary this date now!

By John Woodyear-Smith, Arrow Convenor.

Anecdotes

GBC features at the Speights Coast to Coast

On the multisport front, GBC members did very well in the 2006 Speights Coast to Coast. Some of you may have wondered about the presence of kayaks on occasion about the yacht club in recent years. The training efforts of a number of GBC members came to fruition in mid- February when a record number of GBC members took part in and successfully 'beat' the Coast to Coast course.



The Speight's Coast to Coast is one of the most gruelling and well known multi-sport events in the world. The Speight's Coast to Coast traverses the South Island of New Zealand from Kumara Beach on

the Tasman Sea to Sumner Beach on the Pacific Ocean. Over either two days (individuals or two person teams) or the one-day event (individuals only), competitors cycle 140kms (3 stages of 55km, 15km and 70km), run 36km (including a 33km mountain stage that crosses the Southern Alps) and kayak 67kms of the grade two Waimakariri River through the Grand Canyon of New Zealand, the Waimakariri Gorge.

The maddest of the GBC group entered the Longest Day event – a mere 243 kms in one day – and all finished !! Margie and Kip Stanley-Harris were the first married couple ever, to complete the one day individual event finishing 4th and 19th in their respective events with Linda Craig finishing 3rd, all succeeded in earning their Speights on Sumner Beach !!! Fantastic effort.

In the two day Coast to Coast event, Phil Morreau stormed to a win in the Veterans section and Tim James came in 14th in the same division.

We are all in awe of you all – great commitment and fantastic efforts by you all.

Submitted by 'A couch potato'

Editors Note

We have some incredibly interesting and talented families in our club. If you have interesting anecdotes to share please send them in to elmore@xtra.co.nz. Photos are always especially welcome. Don't forget to check out our website for regatta information, results and Re Sail information www.gbcyachting.org.nz. Hopefully the next edition of The Arrow will be posted on the website. We have been experiencing some technical glitches. Thanks to all those who receive The Arrow electronically now. Did you know for every stack of newspaper the height of an Opti sailor we save a tree!

By Nicky Elmore

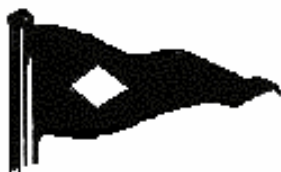
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