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DECEMBER 2023/JANUARY 2024

SETTING *the* Night Alight



The weather was perfect for an outdoor activity and despite the number of flares let off, no-one needed to be rescued from the drink.

Continued strong support for the regular flare demonstrations held at the OBC under the supervision of Coastguard could be explained several ways – either members have very little experience with the deployment of flares in an emergency (not a bad thing), or we have a lot of people who wanted to get a jump on Guy Fawkes night, happening in close proximity to the November 1 demo.

Regardless of the reasons for attending, as anyone who has found themselves in the unfortunate position of needing rescue can tell you, distress flares are an essential part of your onboard safety supplies. So, it helps to understand their purpose and know how use them.

John Versteegen of Coastguard ran the hands-on demonstration with members, explaining how to activate flares safely and effectively. He provided valuable insights about the importance of flares and the different types of flares available. As with previous events, this evening also provided members with an opportunity to safely dispose of expired flares.

The OBC/Coastguard flare demo nights are held quarterly, as they continue to be a beneficial and educational experience for Club members. Keep an eye on the calendar for the next opportunity. A huge thank you to John for making this event possible.

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COMMODORE'S REPORT

HARDSTAND WORK TO START

Tenders for stages one, two and three of the hardstand, as discussed in my report last month, have been received and by the time you are reading this the construction contract will have been signed with Lawton Construction for the work.

Lawton's principal, John Lawton, has been assisting the Property Committee voluntarily since 2020. His experience in the construction industry has been essential. To ensure John's involvement in the tender process was impartial, the process was overseen by an independent Quantity Surveyor, Paul Ranum of Deane, Murray and Partners Ltd. Paul is being retained as engineer of the project to provide professional oversight during construction. Work should commence before the end of November.

We are also pleased to advise that the final contract price will be under the \$2,000,000 plus GST approved at the AGM.

As discussed also last month, summer is not ideal for a construction project from a Club traffic perspective. But with a project like this, summer weather is of course more productive for the contractor (and importantly the Club's costs). John Lawton has assured the Committee that access past the construction will be maintained at all times.

I mentioned last month that we had contracted another, more rigorous, geotechnical investigation borehole at the clubhouse site by Soil and Rock Consultants. It was hoped that the materials beneath the clubhouse may not be subject to earthquake liquefaction. Unfortunately, this bore confirmed liquefaction could be a factor and, in that case, any piles would need to be driven in the bedrock to 30m. We are now consulting with piling experts to find the most cost-effective method of preparing foundations for the new clubhouse.

I would like to welcome Peri Snow and Shane Hollis to the Club's staff team. Peri has joined as Events and Promotions Coordinator, continuing the role previously held by Jess van Wyk (nee Shears). She has certainly been thrown in the deep end with functions coming up, including the OBC Kids Christmas Party. Jess is being very helpful in the transition. Shane has joined the Operations team and will be working Friday through Monday. He will be the Club's frontman for most of those members who launch during the weekends. Derek, Ross and Marcus will continue to roster on with Shane at the weekends.

It has been good to see the weather improving. We have had some nice weekends and bait sales have been vigorous. I can only comment second-hand, but I am told the fish are biting and members are bringing home good bags. Here's hoping this continues.

- Phil Allen



NORWICH WINTERTHUR CUP PRESENTED

Not able to be present at the 2023 AGM, Allan Duffy is the recipient of the Norwich Winterthur Cup, awarded for his service to safety at sea.

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Snap a SNAPPER

With the weather finally being a little kinder to boaties and the approaching summer bringing fish closer in, our keen angling members have been reporting some nice catches. Long may it last.

As this is the final Outboarder issue for 2023, it's a good time to take the opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy festive season with family and friends, some relaxing downtime, and plenty of enjoyable time out on the water.

The long, fine days of summer will, hopefully, be offering boaties more opportunities to get out and enjoy the Gulf and beyond, particularly during those change of light times before or after work. So, it's also a good time to remind anyone planning to drop their lines overboard, about the OBC/Seaboss Boats Longest Snapper Competition.

The current competition kicked off on June 1, 2023, and runs through to May 31, 2024. Meaning you've still got plenty of time to catch, measure (and, if possible, release) that trophy-sized snapper you've been chasing, and get a photograph uploaded to the competition website.

It's not a competition without prizes, and this one has \$200 up for grabs for the



A 58cm snapper found itself on the end of Wilma Millar's line on November 13, while she was spending a day fishing on Manganui harbour.

longest snapper, plus a \$400 random draw prize open to all entrants who have uploaded a snapper catch during the year. Turn to page 20 for more details about competition requirements and how to enter your catch.

Good fishing, and merry Christmas!

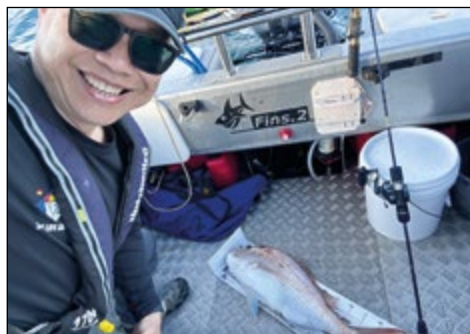
2023-2025 RECREATIONAL CRAFT STRATEGY LAUNCHED

Highlights of this year's Safer Boating Week (October 16-22) included the unveiling of 2023-2025 recreational craft strategy.

The strategy will outline how Safer Boating Forum members will work together to foster a culture of safety among recreational craft users and ultimately reduce instances of harm. Over the next two years, the strategy aims to influence significant year-on-year increases in recreational craft users using lifejackets, carrying two forms of waterproof communication, and checking the marine forecast.

The Safer Boating Forum is made up of regional and national bodies including Maritime New Zealand, Coastguard, New Zealand Sport Fishing Council, Surf Life-saving, Water Safety, New Zealand Search and Rescue Council, and many others.

Read the strategy at: <https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/about-us/people-we-work-with/new-zealand-safer-boating-forum/>



Kenneth Lim and his 62cm snapper caught from Fins 2 in late October.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE OBC FAMILY FISHING COMPETITION 2024

The biggest event on the OBC calendar, the Family Fishing Competition 2024, is set down for Saturday March 9, and we are currently seeking sponsors keen to be involved.

This competition offers an excellent opportunity to get your business name, products and/or services in front of fellow OBC members along with their families and friends.

You don't need to be involved in the marine industry, and sponsorship/prizes can consist of products, experiences/activities, services and more. Cash is also welcome as this can be directed to the



purchase of prize items. If you'd like to know more, please contact Peri Snow by email to events@obc.co.nz or phone 522 0774.

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HAKUMAU RESERVE

Work is now complete on the Hakumau Reserve fence modifications required for the lease, and we have signed the agreement for the use of this land.

There have been concerns expressed about the security of the facility in this new configuration. As a result of this the OBC has now become a two-tiered security zone. The first: entranceway, clubrooms and eastern launching ramps, are now less secure than once they were. However, it is important to remember that the boundaries are secured by fencing, we now have additional cameras and lighting, the barrier arms remain, and we still have 24-hour security in this area. We are looking at further measures, including

having tow ball-type locking devices being made available at the office for members, if it is felt that it is warranted. We will continue to monitor the situation as time goes on. Please let us in the office know of any issues you are having, as this will help us tailor our response.

Once the work has been completed in the area adjacent to the tractor sheds a new swipe card security gate will be installed where the current yellow judder bar is located. This will provide the same level of security for the area east of this, as we had prior to having to carry out the work on our fencing. In the meantime, we have increased security patrols at night at the site until this work is completed.

WORK DUE TO BEGIN ON STAGES ONE AND TWO

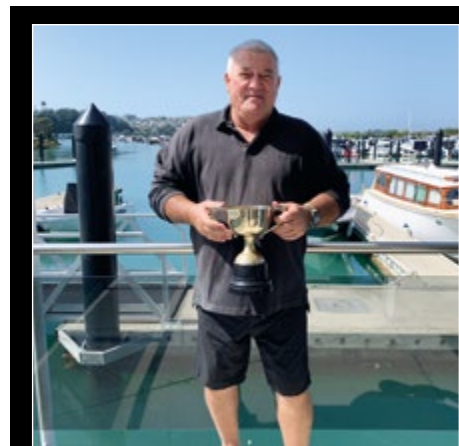
Work is about to start on stages one and two to satisfy the terms of our new resource consent. The agreement has been signed and it is hoped that work will begin in late November or early December subject to us receiving our building consent from the Council. We have required the contractor to always maintain easy access to the site and, most of the time, they will endeavor to keep two lanes of the roadway open. But please be patient if, for any reason, this is temporarily not possible. Although it would seem counter intuitive to carry out this work at this time of year, the Club is usually quite quiet in the weeks prior to Christmas and the month of January, as people go away for their Christmas holidays. Also at this time of year the weather is drier, enabling the

works to be interrupted less by rain, and the risk of sediment escaping into the sea is reduced.

MARINA

This year's parcel of work on the Marina is now complete with Piers G and B having had the corner brackets replaced. In addition to this, all pile guides that were causing problems with the plastic sleeves have been replaced. This means that there are no longer shards of plastic ending up in the sea.

All the old, galvanized pile guides have been replaced with stainless steel and we will continue to monitor the few remaining existing old stainless steel pile guides to ensure they are still performing as they should. In addition to this, we have carried out a thorough inspection of the electricity supply to G and B and refurbished any power suppliers that were substandard.



TRAILER BOAT QUEEN

The OBC was delighted to recently present Charles Bryant with the 2023 trophy for Best Prepared Vessel (trailer boat). Stayed tuned, an article on 'Lady Caribe' will appear in an upcoming issue of the Outboarder.

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READING OUTBOARDER EVERYWHERE



James Terry is reading the Outboarder at Asakusa Sensoji Temple in Tokyo. "Taking a break from the hustle and bustle at the oldest temple in Tokyo to catch up on OBC news and events," he wrote.

It's cool to see the variety of places members have taken 'Reading Outboarder' photos over the years, from backyards during Covid lockdowns to the inside of an aeroplane engine. You've visited distant mountain ranges, oceans, and other spots all over the globe, and quite a few neat spots much closer to home, all with a copy of the Outboarder in tow.

This year's competition is no exception, and it's not over yet! Entries close on December 31, 2023, so you still have a few weeks to get a photo taken reading Outboarder and send it in. And in return, you'll be in with a shot of getting a prize.

Send your photo/s reading the Outboarder by email to events@obc.co.nz, drop/mail prints to the Club, and/or upload and correctly tag the OBC (#OBCAuckland) on your Facebook or Instagram pages. Photos will be posted on OBC social media, and selected images will also appear in the Outboarder magazine during the competition, and after it closes and winners are announced.



"What to do while waiting for your next flight?? Read the latest copy of Outboarder," said Peter Meadowcroft who was filling in time during a layover at LAX.

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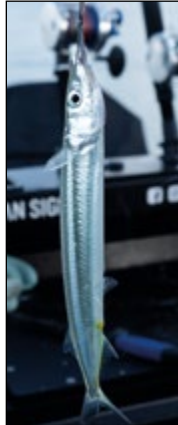
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From Adam Clancey

FISHING *in the* SEWER

As I was listening to the news on the morning I wrote this, I heard the good news that the rāhui on fishing and swimming in the Waitemata Harbour had been lifted. Equally interesting was a scientist interviewed, who said that testing after the recent break in a raw sewage pipe and the resulting effluent release showed that the harbour water was now at safe levels. However, they were still monitoring shellfish closely and results on the toxicity levels will be published soon. While it's devastating to hear

about any pollution in our marine environment it is timely to mention the inshore fishing that kicks off about this time. Usually around early December snapper and kingfish move inshore as the water warms up and can be found in very shallow water and estuarine areas, as well as right in the middle of the Waitemata Harbour and in areas past the Auckland Harbour Bridge. With these transitory fish there comes a great opportunity to fit quick, fuel-efficient fishing trips into a couple of hours before or



Live baiting with piper will tempt the larger kingfish and snapper.

after work. The fish you are likely to encounter are snapper in the 1-4kg range, that can provide excellent sport on light tackle. Unfortunately, many of the kingfish that take up residence in the harbour would not make the legal 75cm limit, but there are a few better fish around if you are prepared to work for them while practicing catch and release on any smaller specimens.

To chase the snapper there are two main techniques that will work really well when matched with the right conditions. Bait and burley fish on lightly weighted rigs fished in shallow channels and holes when the tide is rising, especially at the change of light, can provide incredible action. Fish areas like Meola Reef or the entrance to the Greenhithe Channel. Stealth and a delicate approach are the keys to success. The other great snapper technique is soft baiting in the main part of the Waitemata Harbour from North Head down to the Harbour Bridge. The key tips are to drag 4-inch curly tail soft baits using a 1oz jig head. Once you hit the bottom let out a bit of line to create slack every 30 seconds and let the drift tighten up your line. You want to feel your soft bait bouncing on the bottom. A small sea anchor can be very helpful if there is any wind, and the best conditions are when the wind is in the same direction as the tide.

To chase the kingfish, small surface lures and saltwater flies will get a lot of attention from the smaller kingies especially around any structure like channel markers or jetties. To tempt the larger kingies, live baiting with piper is the technique to use. If you are fishing on the anchor drift the piper back using a small strong live bait hook through the bill of the piper. If the current is really strong use a very small sinker on the rig. This will also attract bigger snapper. Slow trolling piper rigged the same way past the same structure where the smaller



It's inshore fishing time, perfect for a quick trip out before or after work.

kingfish hang out will also tempt the bigger fish.

I would consider it more than safe to eat any snapper or kingfish that you catch under the current water quality information. I would not be collecting any shellfish close to town. The chances of getting sick from seafood are probably less than you would expect from a bit of poor food hygiene at a summer barbecue.

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TRAWL CORRIDOR SUBMISSION DEADLINE Extended until December 4

Please make a submission to help stop practices that are truly having a huge impact on the health and sustainability of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. This practice continues to damage the seabed and as a result the marine ecosystem that is so necessary for the continued health of the Marine Park. Make your submission before December 4, 2023, either by email or via the website: **Email:** fmsubmissions@mpi.govt.nz **Website:** <https://haurakigulfalliance.nz/make-a-submission/>

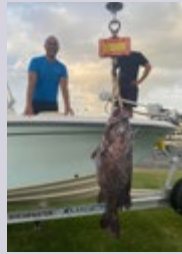
FISHING IS HOTTING UP

Remember to photograph your catch on a length measure or have your fish weighed at OBC.

There are competitions to be won, including the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's 'first and heaviest for the season' laurels.

There are still plenty of gaps on the leader-board, check it out here: <https://www.nzsportfishing.co.nz/our-records/first-and-heaviest-fish/first-and-heaviest-for-the-season/>

Remember, too, the Billfish and Tuna El Dorado, running through to June 2024. Open to all WBSFC members, it's free to enter. \$2000 up for grabs across three categories – heaviest billfish, heaviest tuna, and heaviest kingfish. **Email:** wbsfc@obc.co.nz for details



THE LANDING HAUL OUT AREA, OKAHU BAY

After a further round of submissions, the Orākei Local Board is now reconsidering its plan for this area. It is considering retaining 50 percent of the previous hardstand area for a short term haul out and wash down operation. The board has also decided, if feasible, to keep the existing filtration infrastructure and washdown pad to allow for a cost-recovery wash-down facility for small recreational boat users as they exit the sea-access ramp areas. The next step is for an expression of interest process to hear from parties interested in establishing and running a commercial short-stay haul-out facility.



The latest update can be found at: <https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/news/2023/11/the-landing-concept-design-gets-go-ahead/> From OLB Agenda: Clear public support for a hardstand at The Landing Results of the Orākei Local Board public consultation on retention of the hardstand at Okahu Bay shows a clear majority (64 percent) support retention of a short stay haul out and hardstand facility for boat cleaning and/or anti-foul application.



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GOLFING LEGEND RYAN FOX - COASTGUARD'S NEWEST AMBASSADOR

Coastguard New Zealand is thrilled to welcome kiwi golfing champion Ryan Fox to its whānau as its newest ambassador. Ryan is a proud Coastguard Life Member who is eager to play a role in reducing the drowning toll in New Zealand, which sadly continues to rise every year.

When Ryan isn't putting his way to another title somewhere around the world, you can find him with a fishing rod in hand instead of a golf club.

"As kiwis, the water is ingrained in our

DNA. We are never too far away from the ocean, lakes, or rivers that we're so lucky to have, it's among the top things I miss about New Zealand when I'm overseas," Ryan said.

"However, its beauty can also bring the unexpected, which is why I am fully behind Coastguard and its 2000 volunteers. Coastguard is there for everyone, regardless of what you head out on the water in; they are the people you can turn to for help when you need it the most or when you can't get



Kiwi golfing champ Ryan Fox is Coastguard's newest ambassador.

out and walk home."

Coastguard New Zealand's Head of Marketing and Communications, Georgie Smith, added, "Ryan is an absolute legend on the golf course, but as his many fans will also know, he has a real love for the water and reeling in a big catch with his mates. He's seen the 'she'll be right' classic boatie behaviour up close and knows that we can all do better to ensure everyone comes home safely from a fun day on the water."

Check out Ryan's introduction video at: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1454808278424147>

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- Kids Kahawai 1st - 3rd
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Highlights of the Executive Committee Meeting held October 25, 2023, with eight Executive Committee members present and OBC GM Phil Davenport.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

No incidents or accidents; 28 days since last accident or injury on site. GM's Health and Safety report accepted as read.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting dated September 27, 2023, were approved.

FINANCIALS

The OBC and Whakatakataka Bay financial reports for the month ended September 30, 2023, as presented and circulated were approved. All accounts trending well.

OPERATIONS REPORT

The operations report was accepted as

read. Discussion:

- Gareth Hughes asked, what was the induction process for the two new staff members?
- Harvey Brookes and Gareth Hughes both commented on the standard of our online presence. Facebook/website all need review.

EXECUTIVE SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROPERTY AND PLANNING: Bill McGarry updated the Committee on progress with stage one. Tenders have closed and Lawtons and DMP are working together to present us with a contract. Currently all on track. Seabed Occupation Licence has been renewed until 2068 which is a great milestone. Good work by David Hay of Osborne Hay.

MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND EVENTS: No report.

MARINA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

Meeting held October 17. Mike Breed was re-elected Chair of this Committee, and Mike Champness and Ant Smit were welcomed to their first meeting. Generally good progress being made on refurbishment.

MEMBERSHIP

New members: 12 Resignations: 36
Total membership 20/10/23: 1781 actual members

MARINA BERTH TRANSFERS

F12, 10.5m, Daley to Gibbs, \$70,000

GENERAL BUSINESS

- **NEW CONSTITUTION:** This is in the final stages of approval, and we need to set a date for an information evening,

likely in February 2024, followed by an SGM to adopt. Members will be fully consulted.

- **PERILOUS STATE OF THE GULF:** A great evening was held in conjunction with the Royal Akarana Yacht Club, with more than 70 people present to hear six very interesting presentations. The evening was opened by OLB Deputy Chairperson Sarah Powrie; Deputy Mayor Desley Simpson also attended.

Meeting closed at 8.47pm

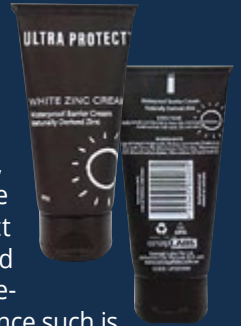
NEXT MEETING:

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 13

OBC members are welcome to attend Executive Committee meetings at 7.00pm, and may address the Committee on any one specific topic until 7.15pm. Outside of this time, members may be present as observers but cannot speak to any subjects raised.

SUNSCREEN RECALL

Most of us make sure we have a bottle or tube of sunscreen in our kit for outdoor activities. Hopefully, we've chosen one that meets Product Safety Standard requirements, because not all do! Once such is CL Ultra Protect Sunscreen – white zinc cream, which has been recalled. If you have a tube of this sunscreen, ANZ Code ANZ104436, with any of the following batch/lot numbers, contact ANZ Pharma Wholesalers Ltd on (09)571 2550. Batch/lot: C1071, C1089, C1101, C1115, C1118, B1926, B1927, B1928.



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