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Newsletter – January 2006

On behalf of myself and the committee I would like to wish all members a Happy New Year. We hope that 2006 is a good year for both cruising and racing here in New Zealand and further afield.

Here in the Hauraki Gulf the first two weeks of the New Year have had a succession of days where we have experienced strong westerly winds often accompanied by rain. As a result many of us have not been able to visit our favourite cruising places. However the portents for a good summer are already here. Hopefully we will be able to enjoy some really good days out on the water in February and March.

We would like to hear from Association members outside Auckland about their summer cruising experience so that we can publish these accounts in later issues of our newsletter. Please contact me with your news. My email address is trevordunn@erstes.co.nz.

Forthcoming events

On January 29th we will be holding our annual picnic for Auckland Association members. This will take place in the Mahurangi Estuary at 1500 hours either at Scotts Landing or in Otarawao Bay. If you haven't visited the Mahurangi before Otarawao Bay is the first one on the port side as you enter the estuary. Scotts Landing is further up on the starboard side. There is a launching ramp there and an historic homestead. If you want some interesting racing on your way north to Mahurangi why not join the Devonport Yacht Club's night race which starts at Devonport Wharf at 1800 hours on Friday 27th January. Full details can be found on Devonport Yacht Club's web side www.dyc.org.nz.

The day after our picnic is Auckland's Anniversary Regatta. There is a Farr 1020 Association cruising race starting at 10.20 am at the mouth of the Mahurangi Estuary. Full details of this event please visit the Anniversary Regatta's web site or phone 0800 734 2882.

National Championships

These are being organized by the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron on the 4th and 5th March 2006. If you have not received any information from The Squadron please visit their web site www.rnzys.org.nz to obtain entry details. It is hoped that for the first time an Australian team will take part in this Regatta. If anyone from Wellington or any other area wishes to take part please contact me directly either at my email address or by telephoning 09 476 4605.

Other events

On 11th February the Devonport Yacht Club are holding a short cruising race which ends at Islington Bay. It is hoped that this will coincide with the annual Drunks Bay Ball to be held that evening. Details are on www.dyc.org.nc.

In addition on Friday 24th February Devonport Yacht Club will start its 3-handed Gulf Rally. This interesting event takes place over the next 3 days. Starting at Devonport on Friday boats race to Te Kuma. The following day Saturday 25th February there is a race from Te Kuma to Kawau. Finally on Sunday 26th February boats race from Kawau to Devonport. If you are interested in participating in this neat event please visit the club's web site www.dyc.org.nz.

Setting the rig up on the Farr 1020

As part of our technical service to Association members we are reproducing an article which appeared in the November 2000 Association Newsletter. Available on request to financial members. Email to mail@farr1020.org.nz. Hopefully many of you will find this article helpful in turning your boat for optimum performance.

Good Sailing

Trevor Dunn –Chairman