## ABOUT US...

The Omokoroa Boat Club is a community based Incorporated Society that plays a prominent part in the local community in a variety of ways. Situated on one of the most beautiful harbours in New Zealand and occupying a unique position over the water, it has become the focal point of the Peninsula. It is very popular as a venue for local community meetings, breakfasts, lunches, meals, parties, celebrations and weddings. It is also a good place for newcomers to the locality to meet and make new friends or for existing friends to meet up over a coffee.



Club Building as seen from the water - 2012

## SOCIAL SCENE

The Club has a strong social programme, organising events throughout the year, such as, to name a few, jam sessions, rugby evenings, fashion workshops, quiz nights, pool competitions and darts Other entertainment includes, an annual Easter Sunday Jazz afternoon and visiting entertainers and groups such as "The Beatles Tribute Band", "The Wild Reed Combo Band", blues singer "Big Daddy" and comedian "Gish". Parties are also held to celebrate special days such as St Patrick's Day, mid-winter Christmas and Valentines' Day and of course an afternoon best hat competition on Melbourne Cup Day. During the annual Club's open day we hold a rowing race, a fun duck race and a colouring competition for the children.

In addition to our famous and very popular New Year's Eve party, the Club holds two Christmas parties, one for children and one for adults. Many of these events are held under special licence.

The Club also hosts groups such as the annual Veterans' lunch and an afternoon tea with entertainment provided, for the residents of Acacia Park Rest Home and the Friendship Club. Many other local community groups use the Club premises for meetings, Christmas parties and training sessions etc.

To promote our safe sailing policy the Club also holds regular Coastguard and First Aid courses.

## **SAILING AND FISHING ACTIVITIES**

<u>SAILING</u>. We currently have about 20 yacht owners in the Club, some of whom prefer to cruise rather than race. Of that number about half come and enjoy the laid back racing which encourages fun and safety, not flat out sailing at all costs. The Club fosters safe sailing and the enjoyment of our beautiful harbour.

<u>LEARN TO SAIL</u>. The "learn to sail group" comprises approximately 50 families and it regularly has up to 30 children at summer lessons, which run from October to April. The Club has 6 Optimist dinghies for beginners, four sunbursts and two Vikings. Our trainers and juniors maintain these. We also have an inflatable dinghy as well as the Club's major rescue craft, which is available for the Fire Brigade to use if required for quick access to Matakana Island and as a back-up for the Coastguard service.

The Club also involves other youth groups in its sailing programme and the annual mid- winter rowing races. We have been fortunate to have three wins in the "Trustpower Empowering Volunteers" awards for 2005, 2007 and 2009. We are dedicated to encouraging the safe, responsible use of vessels on our harbour and passing those skills on to our young people.

<u>FISHING</u>. The Club holds two open fishing competitions each year, one for adults and one for juniors which enables the parents to "take a kid fishing" for a day. Most of the prizes for the winners are generously sponsored by many local businesses.

<u>OPEN FISHING LADDER</u>. In addition the Club holds an annual Fishing Ladder Contest for the heaviest fish caught in the five main fish species. The fish can be caught anywhere but must be by a Club member and weighed and verified on the Club scales by a committee member. This always raises a lot of interest and challenges, with the winners receiving trophies presented by the Club.

The Clubrooms are available for hire at the discretion of the committee, for further details please contact the Club Secretary.

Opening H	lours –	Winter months	
Bar hours			Restaurant hours
Thursday	from	4.00p.m.	
Friday	from	4.00p.m.	9a.m. Thursday – Sunday for
Saturday	from	4.00p.m.	Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner as
Sunday	from	4.00p.m.	well as Morning and Afternoon Tea.
Other times as advertised.			Other times as advertised.

The Clubrooms are closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

## THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE OMOKOROA BOAT CLUB

The Omokoroa Boat Club, originated from a suggestion put forward by Dick Coulston and Ira Thomas to a group of like-minded boating friends which included Ira Thomas's family, the Barretts, the James family, George Wright and Eddie Adams. The idea was greeted with enthusiasm and the Boat Club was founded when they held their very first meeting on 7th May 1950. The group may well have also included friends who owned holiday baches in the area, mainly farmers from the Waikato region, who became members and supported the Club at weekends and during holiday periods by taking part in the many boat races and regattas. At the time, apart from the holiday homes, there were only 13 resident families on the peninsula, mostly involved in farming.

First on the agenda for the newly formed committee was to find a suitable venue for the Club to operate from, and after discussing a number of options, it was decided to form a sub-committee to investigate not only a possible site, but



The fibrolite Omokoroa Boat Club Clubhouse

the cost of building a Clubhouse as well. In 1951, with ideas and estimates now in hand, the committee spent the next two years fundraising, organising all sorts of activities, such as sports days, galas, regattas and fishing competitions, with all proceeds going toward the building fund.

During this period the Club was delighted to receive seven cups and a shield, which had been generously donated by various sponsors. The cups were presented to winners of the many regattas and the shield was presented annually for the heaviest edible fish caught during the fishing competitions. In 1953, Gerald Crapp offered the Club a temporary site on the land that is now the Domain, and on which the Club constructed a fibrolite building at a cost of two hundred pounds. This was officially opened in October 1953 and was to be

used for the next ten years until the Club went into recess in 1963. As this was only a temporary arrangement, the Club began even then to make approaches to the Harbour Board and to Tauranga County Council in the quest for a permanent site.

Some of the notable personalities of the Club throughout the 1950s along with Dick Coulston, Ira Thomas and Gerald Crapp, were David Jack, Harold Roigard, Harry Allen, Bob James, Bro Benson and Warren Harrison who all served a period as Commodore. David Jack was born in 1878 in North Otago and served in the Boer war. He seemed to have a

somewhat restless spirit because on returning from the war he went into farming, then auctioneering followed by a spell as a contractor. As a retiree he ended up in Omokoroa in 1949 for about a year during which time he became Commodore of the Boat Club in 1950, but moved on before he had completed a year in that position.

Dick Coulston, who was a builder by trade from Hamilton, took over from David as Commodore. He soon became involved with the slipway which was owned by the Crapp family, and also served as Honorary Harbour Master until he died in 1995. Positioned as he was, living on The Esplanade, he kept an eagle eye on the harbour area from his lounge window, not only to be ready to launch his boat and rescue any boaties in trouble, but also to keep an eye on the local residents. Woe betides anyone



*Crapp's private jetty when their produce was picked up for the market. The jetty was situated at the end of the peninsula.* 

making mischief or trying to take shells or sand from the beach!

Gerald Crapp farmed the area from the Domain almost up to the main highway until; in the early 1950s he gradually began to sub-divide small parcels of land. In approximately 1952, the land adjacent to the seashore that we now know as the Domain was vested in the Crown eventually to become part of the Queen's chain.



The Domain when it was tidal in the 1950's

Designated for recreational purposes, the Domain is now looked after by the WBOPDC. Although the transfer date of the land was not officially recorded until January 1957, it was some years after its requisition that the Council actually got round to re-claiming this tidal land by using the fill from the construction of the main Tauranga Highway. Also at this time Crapp's Highway was re-surfaced and the name changed to Omokoroa Road, and Younson Road was formed. Harold Roigard, an ex-serviceman, owned a dairy farm opposite what is now the Z petrol station on State Highway 2.

Harry Allen was an orchardist growing

mainly tamarillos and citrus fruit. Bob James was a general engineer who lived in Cambridge but owned a holiday bach in Omokoroa which the family used regularly. Bro Benson lived in Tauranga but kept his yacht at Omokoroa, coming over whenever possible, especially at holiday times to compete in the many Boat Club regattas. Warren Harrison managed a Bond & Bond store and served the Club as treasurer.

With Peggy Smith as secretary, the fibrolite building was to become the hub, not only for meetings, but for the many hugely enjoyable activities that the Boat Club organised throughout the 1950s, including ten pin bowling, dances and dancing lessons for the teenagers. Peggy's daughter Pam recalls the great fun they all had at the New Year's Eve dance which was accompanied by either a wind-up gramophone or to the music of Gerald Crapp playing "Mademoiselle from Armentieres" on his squeezebox, apparently the only tune he knew how to play, having learnt it when stationed in France during the war. There was also an upright piano in the Clubhouse which was used as an accompaniment on occasions. Organised trips to Pahoia on yachts and power boats for picnics and barbeques on the beach were also a regular feature for members of the community. Power boats were as popular then as yachts so storage lockers were built on the side of the Boat Club building for safe storage of boat motors. Fish of all species were abundant in the harbour; stories abound of catching over a hundred fish in a day from the jetty, and it was not uncommon for boat fishermen to catch between forty and fifty good snapper in one outing. Sadly that is not the case today.

So many of the people I have spoken to remember the strong community spirit that prevailed during this time, which is not at all surprising considering the small population. However this community spirit did not prevent a slight "them and us" atmosphere from developing when owners arrived to take over their summer baches during the holiday period. Many of these people are now permanent residents and long-standing members of the Boat Club, having converted their holiday homes to permanent residences once they retired. All have very fond memories of not only the many sailing regattas, but also of races for runabouts and launches, and speedboat and rowing races that were held over the holidays.



Eddie Adams, along with his son Karl, were *Omokoroa Boat club History* 

Omokoroa Jetty - Approx. 1960's

apparently nearly always the odds-on favourites to win the speed boat races with Eddie's flashy red boat "Miss Omokoroa" which, I am told, the young boys spent many hours drooling over.

It was quite common for boats to come over for the weekend from Tauranga and Rotorua with up to 15 boats competing in a race.

The "Alma"

From left:- Cyril, Lena, Sidney, Rosa, Annie & Arthur



The Crapp family boat.

The Captain Crapp Cup sailing race was held on Anniversary Weekend and another trophy was for a race from Pahoia to Omokoroa which Athol Garland remembers winning in 1954-55. These two trophies were unfortunately stolen from the Clubhouse in 1986 but later replaced. The tides ruled everything of course, so the programme was arranged so that time trials were usually held in the morning to catch the high tide and after lunch, dinghy races were held for the children. These events were followed by all sorts of games to keep the children amused, such as egg & spoon and three- legged races. When the Hula Hoop craze hit the world in the 1950's children and adults could all be seen on the beach gyrating in competition with one another to see how

many revolutions they could muster. Junior and senior beauty contests were also held. Charter boats and private yachts from the Tauranga Game Fishing Club also came to Omokoroa each year, staying for about a month, mainly to carry out maintenance on their boats at the slipway, as facilities were very limited in Tauranga. Another well patronised event organised by the TGFC was the annual boat picnic outing from Tauranga to Omokoroa which the Omokoroa Boat Club hosted.

Despite all this activity and the enthusiasm of a few people, lack of sufficient members forced the Club into recess from 1963 until 1972, when Murray and Warren Harrison, along with Alan Crapp, decided to see if they could get the Club going again. A newsletter was dropped into every letterbox in Omokoroa asking who wanted to support and join the Club and it is thanks to them, and the response from the community, that the decision was made to re-start the Club, after nine years in recess. They enlisted the help of Dick Coulston, Wattie Crapp, Tom Kelly, Reg Metcalfe, Joe Crapp and Alan Leek and formed a committee. Warren Harrison, who had been Treasurer at the time the Club went into recess, still held the Club's kitty of \$800.



The Esplanade - late 1960's

With Alan Leek (best known to his friends as Snow) selected as Commodore, the newly formed committee set about the task



of re-invigorating the Club. It was hard though, to try and hold members together without a Clubhouse, as in 1972 the Council informed the Boat Club, that because no building of any kind is permitted on Domain land , the fibrolite building would have to be demolished There were many times when the Club came close to calling it a day. However, under the guidance of further Commodores throughout the seventies, Alan Crapp 1974-1976, Reg Metcalfe 1976-1978 and Jim McGregor 1978-1981, the Club survived. As most of the families had young children, fizz-boating, picnics and boat trips to offshore Islands were popular and as many of the members owned power boats, so was water skiing.

Regatta day!

Boat races and regattas were held and the social committee ladies were kept busy organising a variety of activities. The Settlers Hall was used for any large functions, e.g. the annual cabaret which the ladies spent many hours organising. It was so popular people travelled from Tauranga to attend the event and it was always a sell-out.

Alan Crapp, who was closely involved in the resurrection of the Club in 1972, is one of its longest standing members and has had a considerable influence and been a staunch supporter for over 40 years. In 1974 while Alan was Commodore, Terry Edwards settled in Omokoroa and joined the Boat Club; he recalls that meetings and social gatherings were held in the old smoko shed by the slipway. Later on, meetings and social activities were held at the old Omokoroa Volunteer Fire Station headquarters in Kowhai Grove. It was then that Terry enjoyed meeting some of the older generation Club identities and soaking up the knowledge they had of the harbour and surrounding areas. Sadly most of them have now passed on. It was in 1975 that members once again began to talk about solving the problem of finding a site on which they could build their own clubhouse. Meantime, meetings then moved to Jim and Bev McGregor's home on The Esplanade which conveniently had a bar in the basement and served as a very comfortable Clubhouse! The McGregors made everyone



Omokoroa Point - Early 1900's

verv welcome. After this venue, several other homes in Omokoroa hosted committee members for their meetings.

At the 1981 AGM with Stan Hoskin taking over the Commodore's position, members approved the proposal to continue with plans for a Clubhouse and preparations started in earnest. Things began to progress after Club Captain Rex Sherley, together with several members, spent hundreds of hours meeting with the Tauranga County Council, Tauranga Harbour Board and local lwi. Several sites were considered, including adjacent to the **Omokoroa Settlers Hall, the Domain adjacent** to the slipway, even building on top of the

Domain toilet block. When the foreshore adjacent to the jetty was suggested a meeting was called by the Omokoroa Residents & Ratepayers Association in the Settlers' Hall. The committee expected the idea to be 'shot down in flames' but it was deemed to have several advantages over previous plans put forward. It was on marine land with no encroachment on public reserves, had ample car parking with adjacent boat trailer parking, handy to jetty, boat ramp, and of course perfect viewing of boat races and regattas. After the meeting had discussed the proposal and studied the plans submitted by architect Russell Black, the committee was delighted when unanimous approval was given.

Fundraising began full on with galas in the car park, formal dinners catered for by their very own Omokoroa chef, John Houghton, raffles, fishing contests, cabarets and regattas etc. In amongst all of this they still managed to muster up to 20 boats for Club outings to Karewa and Mayor Island or up the Wairoa River before the eastern bank of the canal supplying water to the Ruahihi Power Station collapsed on 20th September 1981. Up to 1-1/2 million cubic metres of rubble and liquid mud descended down the valley, across SH29 and into the Wairoa River, and subsequently silted up the river and part of the harbour. Outings were often organised to the Bowentown Boat Club which always made members



Quickstep rounding Karewa

welcome, sometimes too welcome, until the early hours, then they would spend the night up there sleeping on their boats. Funds were also raised by members organising boat cruises from Omokoroa to Tauranga, using their own boats Omokoroa Boat club History 6

for a small fee, so that local residents could spend the day in Tauranga, shopping, having coffee and lunch, and watching progress on the new marina being built at Sulphur Point. Finally, with the fantastic help of many local and Tauranga business people, community help, members' debentures, donations of money and products, plus thousands of hours of labour from members and wives, sufficient funds were raised to make the dream come true.

By June 1982, plans for the Clubhouse were complete and submitted to Council for approval which was finally granted in the first week of December 1982. Council would not allow a 'volunteer' to uplift the building permit and insisted on handing it over to member John Brietler, a registered builder, who had to guarantee that the building would be completed. Council's permission to build on the foreshore also included a requirement for the Boat Club to extend the sealed road area

and provide extra public parking at the Club's cost. At that time Murray Harrison worked for Forest Products and was able to gain sponsorship from the company for 50% of the building materials cost. Materials were estimated to cost \$20,000 and labour approximately \$17,000, and were to be financed by the Boat Club with the Tauranga County Council acting as guarantor.

A building committee was formed comprising many talented and able members, too many to name, under the leadership of builders John Brietler and Ray Tanner and work began on driving the piles into the seabed on the 14th January 1983. This was achieved by first locating the piles by hand and then, with the help of the Omokoroa Volunteer Fire Brigade, the piles were jetted into position.



Placing the piles by hand.

One day while the construction team were taking a break and having a beer, they were startled to see cows swimming along with the tide. Unsure whether Roger Allen, who at that time ran a private ferry service to Matakana Island, had met with an accident, or whether they were suffering from the effects of the heat or the beer, or both, they rushed round to the jetty.

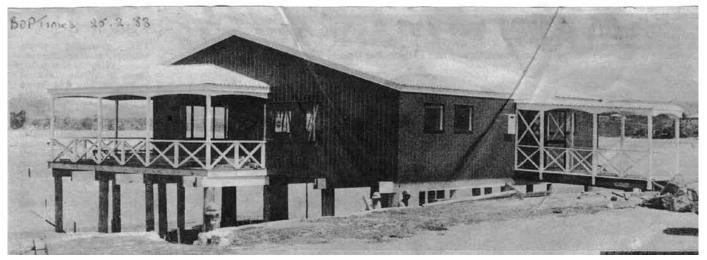


"The building team"

Fortunately Roger was fine, the calves however, which apparently were a little on the frisky side had broken through their crates and decided to go for a swim! All were safely retrieved.

After only eleven weeks the Clubhouse was at a stage where members could hold meetings and on 9th May 1983 the first Annual General Meeting was held in the new Clubhouse. However, as Commodore Stan Hoskin pointed out at this meeting, finishing touches still needed to be completed and the Clubhouse was not yet furnished. Over the next two years members were spurred into action by Rex Sherley, once again to fundraise in earnest. Membership at this time totalled

114 families, half of whom joined during the building of the Clubhouse and who were only too happy to participate. The Club also applied for and successfully gained incorporated status during 1983.



*Omokoroa Boat Club. Photo courtesy of B.O.P. Times* 25/2/1983

Dick Coulston was asked to perform the honours of opening the new Clubhouse. As a part of the opening celebrations a wonderful and very entertaining raft race was held at Easter from Beach Grove to the Clubhouse. There were many

innovative rafts of varying seaworthiness and a great time was had by all.

Terry Edwards was Commodore 1984-1986 and at the 1986 AGM he was able to announce that after two years of fundraising and hard work, building and furnishing of the Clubhouse was complete and that the Club finances were in a healthy state. All debenture holders had been given the choice of total repayment or of receiving a Club membership in lieu. Many had generously opted to donate the money; consequently the Club was now debt free. During the year the Club had received a very welcome donation of a patrol boat "Mr Chips". Membership had now risen to 121 families,



Raft race

many of whom had boats and enjoyed family Sunday picnics together at Matakana or Motuhoa Islands. At one picnic up Hunters Creek the little three-legged charcoal BBQ that had been in use (well below high tide mark) was packed away in a boat just before a forest ranger appeared out of the trees. Somebody had reported seeing smoke, but as everyone looked at him blankly and there was no BBQ to be seen, the ranger had to retreat, probably not very convinced! That was a close call as lighting fires near the forest area was and is forbidden.



Tod Stocker, a retired farmer and keen sailor, settled in Omokoroa in the early 1980s and soon became involved with the Boat Club. He was Commodore 1986–1988 during which time the Club continued to flourish with increased membership. Clubhouse improvements continued, with part of the verandah glassed in for weather protection and a new chiller and dishwasher purchased for the bar. By this time the sailing fleet was very strong in small yachts comprising over a dozen multihulls, mainly Paper Tigers with the odd Hobie and Espirit which all resided on The Esplanade beach creating a source of interest and a subject for artists. Sailing dinghies of different classes also competed and altogether provided a great spectacle on race days. There was an increasing number of trailer sailer and fixed keel yachts participating, mainly in races to offshore islands Karewa, Motiti and

Mayor, so Tod thought that it was time to get a bit more professional for race starts and introduced starting flags and a starting gun. Sunday racing was introduced as well.

Unfortunately in 1986 the Clubhouse was burgled and the Club trophies were stolen, and in 1987 the Club was again victim of another burglary and lost the bar till takings and bar stock. Fortunately the Club was reimbursed by the Insurance Company and committee member Philip Olds made and installed a locked trophy cabinet, as well as making an Honours Board which is still in use today. Tod continued to work tirelessly for the Club, particularly with sailing.

Carol Kelly, who had joined the committee as Secretary in 1986 became Commodore in 1988. At the June 1989 AGM, she reported that the Club committee had been working throughout the year on



Trailer Sailers rounding Karewa 1996

the requirements needed for obtaining a liquor licence. She had hoped that it would have been received in time for the AGM but the wheels of bureaucracy hadn't moved that fast and the licence was not finally issued until August of that year. A special thank you was given to Tod Stocker for the hard work and long hours he had spent on wading through the necessary paperwork required to make it happen. John Breech took over the position of the first licensed bar manager of the Club and was ably assisted by a roster of bar people. High on his priority list was the introduction of draught beer, the availability of which members wholeheartedly approved of!

The sailing and social sub-committees had throughout the year all continued to organise the many enjoyable functions and events in order to keep the Club members active and involved. The fishing competitions were a huge success with dozens of prizes given out at the end of the day to both adults and children.

Gordon Anderson, a retired farmer, was Commodore from 1989–1991 and under his guidance the committee undertook the monumental task of overhauling and updating the existing constitution and rules. The committee also was in communication with the Port Authority, the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, the Justice Department, Western Bay of Plenty District Council and other local parties who had an interest in the harbour and its environs, with the view of having all commercial fishing banned from Tauranga Harbour. Although they didn't achieve the success that they had hoped for, they were successful in having commercial fishing severely restricted.

Under the guidance of David Woods and handicapper Dick Drummond, the sailing group flourished with increased participation and competitiveness and the Club accordingly upgraded its safety and boating equipment. Membership was standing at close on 300 and reciprocal access arrangements were agreed on between Bowentown Boat Club and Tauranga Pleasure Boat Club with whom the Club had annual games competitions.

Social functions were still plentiful throughout these years, and on the 5th May 1990 a special pot luck dinner was organised in celebration of the Club's 40th Birthday, with Dick & Ella Coulston invited to cut the cake.

Brian Chesterman, a sheep and cattle farmer from Hawkes Bay came with his wife Jan to Omokoroa in 1987 and purchased an orchard in Whakamarama. Both keen sailors they joined the Boat Club in 1988 and were very active competitors in the yacht racing scene. Brian became Commodore of the Club from 1991–1994. Membership was still on the increase, now to well over 300 members. To cope with this increasing demand on facilities, member / architect lan Thorn was asked to draw up a plan for an extension to the Clubhouse.



Dick and Ella Coulston Omokoroa Boat club History

Meantime, members led by Lee Breech with her considerable flair for organising, set about the task of fundraising with events such as a Chinese dinner, barn dance, rock and roll dance, and theme dances, such as a mad hatters dance or a "P" party where everyone depicted something like a parson, painter, pauper, and so on which were highly successful.

Secretary Barbara Olds had spent many hours preparing applications for financial grants from Trust Bank BOP and the Lotto Commission. Both applications were successful and these funds, coupled with accumulated Club funds, efficiently managed by Treasurer John Riddle, enabled the Club to proceed with work in May 1992. John Brietler, who was involved with the original building of the Clubhouse, agreed to oversee the alterations which involved re-locating the bar to the west wall (where the kitchen is now), creating a storeroom and fire exit ramp to shore on the north wall facing the jetty, and increasing the width of the deck to 2.5m.



Junior Sailing

Sailing was on the increase Armstrong, who had organ-



under the keen eye of Peter Gordon and Maureen Anderson at the "P" party.

ised a full and interesting programme and had been encouraged by the number of young sailors coming along, and by the high standard that many had exhibited. John Muller as Club Captain, had throughout the year, made a valuable often unseen contribution to the maintenance of the Club's assets, planning Clubhouse working bees, and maintenance of the ageing "Mr Chips" and trailer.

It was time seriously to consider a rescue boat replacement and Brian worked tirelessly on this, involving community sponsorships

with ownership and operation controlled by the Boat Club. A new bright yellow Mac 5.7 boat and outboard was purchased and Dick Coulston suggested it be named after his boat "Wai-Atua" which means Water Spirit or God. It was launched amid great local interest on 4th December 1993 by Mayor Maureen Anderson, blessed by Kamatua Ron Taingahue from

Rangiwaea, and dedicated by Rev Mac Olds. There was no boat shed so "Wai-Atua" was kept secure on Peter & Carol Turnbull's orchard (now council property) next to the Settlers' Hall. This was not always convenient of course, being so far away from the water, but the Club was grateful for their generosity.

Barbara Olds who was elected as Commodore in 1994 served a full three year term in office. Coming from Auckland and settling in Omokoroa in 1975, she joined the Boat Club almost immediately and served several years as Secretary before



"Wai-Atua"

taking over from Brian. The Club seemed to be forever making an application for something, and this time it was to the



Council for permission to build a boat shed ( to house "Wai-Atua") on the Domain adjacent to the Beach Store. There were however a few objections to this proposal and Barbara was requested to attend a hearing at the WBOP District Council chambers to discuss the Club's application. Fortunately the Club's argument for the site won the day but it was not until early in 1997 that the long awaited approval was received from the Minister of Conservation.

Boat Club Display - "Have a Go" Expo at Wharapei Domain, Tauranga 9/10/1994

Omokoroa Boat club History

At the 1995 AGM, Barbara reported that further improvements had been made to the Clubhouse with the addition of a fire alarm, security system and telephone. The rotting wooden balustrade at the front entrance ramp was replaced with wrought iron and a canopy was added to the rescue boat to shelter the crew. New drapes were hung; a new stereo system and TV along with a new junior pool table and filing cabinet were purchased. New Club T-shirts and sweat shirts were purchased for resale to members.

Graeme Ramsey helped organise small boat sailing with John Budden who came on board to set and plan courses along with handicapper Harry Prangnell. John came out from the UK to New Zealand in 1971 settling in Central Otago. He moved on to Auckland, then Hamilton before finally putting roots down in Omokoroa in 1993. John has been a huge asset to the Club, both for his contribution to sailing over the years and serving three terms as Commodore.

John recalls many funny memories of sailing in the 90's. One day, whilst new to Omokoroa, he set sail on his boat "Piccaninny" along with Des Griggs on his Hartley 16, the two largest boats in the fleet. The course was set amongst the



Catamaran

boats moored in the estuary, Sunbursts, microns and even a laser or two. They were at the tail end of the line as they were tacking through the fleet to go around "Aberkazam" (a boat owned by David and Barbara Olds, but which was not sailing that day). As they rounded the catamaran, allowing room for tide etc., they were amazed to see a host of dinghies crammed between the catamaran's two hulls. Unable to fit in they sheered off, and in reply to their query "was that part of the course" got some very bad language in reply!!

On another occasion John was rostered to crew on the rescue boat "Wai-Atua" and was watching the speed of the cats and the skill of the crews, normally single handed. As the rescue boat followed the cats around the course they noticed that one skipper did not always duck on a tack and kept getting hit by the boom. At the D mark off Omokoroa point they were well back when they heard a really loud clunk and had to race to the assistance of an unconscious skipper. Unable to continue sailing, and unable to tow the catamaran to get the skipper ashore, John was dumped onto the "Paper Tiger" and told to sail home. Unaware that the main sheet had got caught around the rudder bar he came back at almost hull lifting speed!

The Omokoroa/Pahoia Sea Scouts ofteh held regattas at Omokoroa and set up a 'tent city' on the Domain. Boat Club skippers were only too happy to give up their time and man the rescue boat for the youngsters. For many years the Boat Club sponsored a harbour cruise for senior citizens in Omokoroa using members' boats. This was always very popular as it was the only opportunity a lot of these people had to enjoy a day out on the water and be able to see Tauranga from a different aspect. It was a great sight to see a flotilla of launches and yachts, full of happy passengers sailing down the harbour. Lunch was a picnic on the Matakana Island beach at Pani Pani Point, where Terry Edwards recalls having hastily to pull one



Murray Crapp with his boat "Resolution" taking senior citizens on a harbour cruise.

elderly gentleman back on board when he fell overboard at the Wharf. A lovely afternoon tea prepared by the Club ladies and drinks from the bar were served at the Clubhouse on return at 3pm. In later years, after Acacia Park Rest home was built, there was always a good contingent from there as well and it was not uncommon for grateful passengers to pass the hat around at afternoon tea. The Club reimbursed skippers for their fuel though some wouldn't accept, so these donations went into the fundraising kitty which was always on the boil. Sunday 14th May 1995 was a memorable day when "Black Magic" won the America's Cup. It was full house at the Boat Club for a champagne breakfast while watching the race on TV. The flagpole was sporting red socks and the NZ flag, with the USA flag at half-mast. The excitement grew during the morning as NZ surged to the final victory over Dennis Conner.

The Club used to issue a newsletter each month, typed and photocopied, until Brian Rogers began publishing "Waterline" magazine in 1995. He canvassed all the boat and fishing clubs in the area and most took up his offer to publish their newsletters in his magazine. In recent years the Club has issued its own monthly newsletter, produced and edited with great skill and humour by Ranald Ducat.



Jubilant coach return.

Annual games evenings used to be held between Omokoroa, Bowentown and Tauranga Pleasure Boat Clubs. In March 1997 Omokoroa shared a bus with TPBC and travelled to Bowentown for a very busy night playing pool, darts and table tennis. Omokoroa won the shield that year which resulted in a hilarious bus trip home with much drunken singing of "We are the Greatest" from Queen, with singing conducted by Charlie Main.

At the 1997 AGM Tod Stocker was appointed Patron of the Omokoroa Boat Club, a position that he still holds today. (2012). He subsequently presented to the Club a "Patron's Plate" sailing trophy.

Peter Agnew, a police sergeant, who came to Omokoroa from Hamilton in 1984, joined the Boat Club committee after his retirement from the police force in 1989 and still remains a committee member to this day. His wisdom and legal experience and ability to solve problems are invaluable. He became Commodore in 1997–1999, during which time more money was spent on upgrading Clubhouse toilet facilities to allow for wheelchair access. New carpet and vinyl was laid, the dance floor was replaced, and roofing over the deck was installed. New easier- to- clean table-tops and bar leaners were purchased and new gas heaters installed.

The boat shed was finally completed in September 1997, thanks to Peter Norris who had spent much time and energy on building quotes and co-ordinating the project. Unfortunately the Council had placed a restriction on the size of shed that the Club was allowed to build, but with much jiggling it was possible to house not only the boat but also the tractor which had been donated to the Club by Bob Nolan's family to tow and launch the boat. Lionel Harper, who was a retired spray painter, really enjoyed rejuvenating the old farm tractor to its former bright red glory.



Juniors and Optomist sailing dinghies.

Peter was keen to see that the fishing contests were well organised and sponsored, and this interest paid off as entries doubled and contests continued to be highly successful.

In 1999 the Club purchased at a bargain price five second-hand rather dilapidated Optimist sailing dinghies that were located in Reporoa. Their sad state was a challenge to a keen working bee, consisting of Lionel Harper, Tod Stocker, John Budden and Greg Molesworth who quickly set about sprucing them up ready for summer. With these sailing dinghies John, Tod and Alan Roberts were able to promote junior sailing lessons on a Saturday morning. The season began with five Optimists and thirteen junior sailors and ended with twenty two keen sailors and the use of ten other sailing dinghies owned by families. John Budden, with his unbounded enthusiasm for sailing can be seen very often on a Saturday morning wading out in waist deep water teaching the youngsters to sail.

The Futures Committee, instigated by Peter Agnew at the 1999 AGM, had throughout the year been assessing how the proposed increase in the population of Omokoroa and surrounding districts (from 2,400 to 12,000 over the coming years) would affect the growth of the Club. Its popularity was steadily increasing with not only members but with the community as well. Realising that our existing facilities would soon be inadequate, and to cope with this increase, concept plans for a single level extension had been drawn up by Paul Jones. These were now at a stage when the Club was ready to apply for resource consent. Meanwhile repairs to the Clubhouse septic tank pump and certification had to be carried out, involving more expense. This involved digging a trench right across the sealed roadway into the Domain where a new septic system was installed. At the time, the WBOPDC was also investigating the possibility of reclaiming land and providing more parking on the south side of the Club, which would have required relocating the Club entrance.

Ben Dahlkamp was Commodore 1999–2001 and at the 2001 AGM he thanked member / builder Tim Trickett and his team of helpers for their tireless work in modernising the Club's interior. A new slate pool table was purchased together with a big TV screen – all the better to view rugby and sporting events. The sailing division had another good year and the Club purchased a Sunburst OB-1 which was in need of restoration. This proved no problem for David Woods, Tod and Lionel who once again rolled up their sleeves and brought the dinghy back into pristine condition.

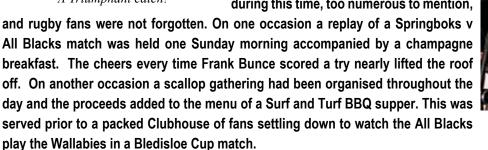


A Triumphant catch!

There were three fishing contests held throughout 2000-2001, organised by Kate Massey, Lionel Harper and members of the social and fishing committees. The first contest was for the ladies in December which saw 31 entries and some really

good fish caught. In January it was the children's turn. This also proved very popular with 102 entries, causing Ben to remark that he had never seen so many children in the Clubhouse. The main fishing tournament took place in February and it was seen to be "the event of the year" with over 400 people taking part and for the first time a marquee was used.

There were many social events held during this time, too numerous to mention,





Mike Brinsley with the winning snapper.

On the sailing front, dinghy racing, which had been discontinued in 1980, was re-introduced with great success, much fun and entertainment. The Optimists were put to good use throughout the season with 22 youngsters participating in the "Learn to Sail" programme, on completion of the course all of the young sailors qualified and were presented with certificates.

The year 2001-2002, during which Mike Brinsley was Commodore, was a busy one of consolidation and future planning. In October 2001 an Eftpos machine was installed in the bar. The committee was also looking into solving the problem of failing air conditioners which were proving inadequate to cope with the problem of cigarette smoke.



John with young sailors.

In December an application to Council had also been lodged for an extension to the boat shed. A new sound system was installed with the aid of a grant from the Te Puna Trust and celebrated in great style by a well attended 60's night.

The building extension to the Club, plans for which had been drawn up during the previous year, were put on hold as the committee felt that the Club needed an increase in membership to warrant such a large expenditure. An alternative idea however was to consider extending the deck area, a suggestion which met with approval by members, and in January 2002 the plans were finalised. Quotes had also been sought for painting the exterior of the Clubhouse and thanks to Charlie Main and David (Noddy) Payne; this was completed in January 2002.

The sailing division under the very experienced eye of John Budden continued to grow, with the Sunday morning sailing session being very well attended. A yacht training school was in the planning stage, which was to commence with an introductory course, followed by six more intensive sessions for those who wished to pursue the hobby more seriously. Races with Mount Maunganui Yacht Club and a Labour weekend cruise to Mayor Island were also organised.

The social sub-committee had been very active arranging a number of fun events throughout the year such as the 60's night, a Country and Western evening, and a barn dance. The Mid-Winter Christmas Ball, with a band and dinner provided, was held in September and was a very grand event with everyone requested to attend in DJ's and Ball gowns. In order to encourage more female members to use the Club, a Friday night "ladies only" wine tasting and nibbles evening was introduced and proved to be very popular. The New Year's Eve party was held on a "Be Brave Be Bold" shipwreck theme and anyone not brave enough to turn up in costume ran the risk of being fined, with all fines being donated to the Marine Research Foundation (a society dedicated to the research of aquatic plants and animals, with the aim of improving the



New Year's Eve "Shipwreck Party".

understanding of the interactions between people and marine ecosystems).

Use of the Club premises, as in previous years, was much in demand by organisations such as the local Bridge Club, the Fish and Game Club, the Probus Club, the Lions Club, Craft groups and many more.

Throughout the years, subsequent committees have devised plans to upgrade and modernise the Clubrooms and 2002 -



04 was no exception. With John Budden now in office as Commodore, long term plans were under discussion for a complete update of the Club. Retired Civil Engineer Anthony Avery, who came to Omokoroa in 2001, soon became well involved with the Club, drawing up plans for some big improvements in four stages. First on the list was an extension to the north and east deck, the planning for which had been under discussion during Mike's term as Commodore. Council permission for this to proceed was not received until early in 2003 and work finally began in April.

Deck's Finished! Yahoo!! Time for the construction team to celebrate!

Omokoroa Boat club History

With Anthony masterminding the build and with the aid of a generous grant from Te Puna Trust, plus the help of many voluntary working bees, work was completed in October 2003. This new deck added a further dimension to the Club, giving members a large recreation area where they could sit, take in the view of the harbour while having a drink, or dance the hours away while waiting to see in the New Year at the Club's now famous (or infamous) riotous New Year's Eve party !

Plans for the boat shed five metre extension towards the Domain were finally approved by Council and work on the extension began towards the end of May 2004. Once completed the extra space enabled the rescue boat and tractor to remain coupled at all times, thus greatly reducing call-out times. There would also be room, not only to allow the Optimist dinghies to be stored on shelves, but to garage the Sunburst OB-1 as well. With the help of a grant from the Lotteries Commission the rescue Boat "Wai-Atua" was traded in and a new rescue boat "Wai-Atua 2" purchased. This craft was also used to assist during the inshore power boat races at Tauranga and the Pacific Rim Yachting races which were held by the Tauranga Yacht and Power Boat Club. Also under discussion was the purchase of two fibre glass dinghies. With much debate over the virtues of new over second-hand it was finally agreed to purchase new dinghies and Noddy Payne



would look into applying for a grant to help out with the cost.

Funds were also helped by a generous donation from Murray Moon (owner of the Esplanade Beach store) to put towards the junior sailing programme. Murray, and latterly his brother Robin, have over a great number of years (at least 18) been staunch supporters of the Club, sponsoring cricket matches, fishing contests, children's Christmas parties and in recent years the members draw introduced on 15th December 2003 and held every Thursday night at the Club.

Throughout the year a great deal of consideration had been given to the possibility of banning smoking within the Clubhouse. Smokers at the time though, formed a majority of the Club membership, so in order to do this; the committee felt it would be necessary to provide a shelter or a windbreak outside on the deck for smokers. It was not until 2011 during the final stages of the long-term plan that a permanent structure was proceed.

structure was erected.

There had been many social events

during the year organised by Sue Lowry including pot luck dinners, jam sessions, and karaoke nights and in 2003 Kenny and Di Fenwick played for the first time at the Clubs New Year's Eve party. Kenny and Di became immensely popular with Club members and over the next few years contributed a huge amount of their time to the Club, playing for hours, regularly at our jam session days and on New Year's Eve for no charge. Their support for the Club was amazing and the bars take was always up.





Jam session!

Some of the Jam session audience! Omokoroa Boat club History



Pool competition in progress!

The existing pool table was badly in need of repair, and after much discussion on the pros and cons of rental as opposed to purchase, it was finally decided to trade it in and replace it with a rented coin operated pool table. This had the advantage of bringing in a little extra revenue as the Club was able to keep 50% of the takings. As the existing sound system was proving to be inadequate to cope with the Club's requirements a new sound / stereo system was also purchased and installed in December 2003.

Anthony Avery was elected Commodore in June 2004. During his year in office he was to feature prominently in the Club's plans for further

additions and alterations. With the extension to the boat shed completed in August 2004 the committee then moved on to the next stage and in September 2004, renovations began with enlarging and relocating the bar once again, inserting in its place a makeshift kitchen, and with the help of a grant from TECT, the installation of a cool room and associated refrigeration. A new bar which included ancillary equipment and a new beer system was built and an electrical upgrade was carried out. With the help of a team of volunteers this was completed by the end of November 2004. Plans for future development were well under way and the committee was also discussing with designer Dwayne Hawkins, the possibility of adding a curved canopy, to be constructed of aluminium to cover the North deck.

Regular patrons of the Club were passengers on board the Probus Kewpie Cruise boat which sailed from Tauranga on a tour of the harbour. Making a mid- way stop at Omokoroa allowed passengers to disembark and have lunch at the Club. The Club was also still playing host to many local organisations, which were able to use the Clubrooms for meetings, functions, parties and other occasions.

Sailing was well attended throughout the year and the social sailing and fishing sub- committees continued to be active.

At the June 2005 AGM, John Budden was re-elected as Commodore and over the next few months the building committee put together the ideas and costings for the proposed next stage of alterations in order for it to be presented to members at an EGM held on the 6th November 2005. The proposal was passed with only one dissenter and in March 2006 with member/ builder Greg Molesworth master minding the project, work began with the aid of a willing team of helpers which included Sean McPherson. Sean, a retired farmer from the Waikato region, joined the committee in 2004 and was Club Captain from 2006 – 2012. He has been a great asset to the Club, always willing and always on hand for any emergency. He became a close friend of Anthony's and together they spent many hours working on the longer term plans for the Club. This stage included the erection of the stainless steel canopy to the north deck and a complete renovation of the toilet block. The office was repositioned and a new entrance with glass sliding doors provided. New carpet and vinyl was laid, and new furniture bought to replace the old. Further refurbishment included strengthening and insulating the internal



Wild Reed Combo band - Easter Jazz Omokoroa Boat club History

bearing walls, interior decoration, and an upgrade to the fire safety system. By July 2006 this stage had been completed.

Over the next few years fundraising continued. The social committee with Pat Neil as convenor held, along with the regular annual features e.g. the "Melbourne Cup" afternoon, as many events as possible. These included French and Spanish evenings, many jam sessions with Kenny and Di, and a jazz afternoon on Easter Sunday, which usually featured a band on their way home after playing at the "Tauranga Jazz Festival". Tony Wellington, fresh from his success appearing as Roy Orbison on the TV show "Stars in their Eyes", performed one evening at the Club and the event, which included dinner, was a huge success. The Australian duo "Wizard and Oz" visited the Club on two occasions and tickets were a sell-out. Regular Saturday night suppers were held consisting of Sean's spit roasted lamb served with peas and potatoes. Sometimes it was just hot dogs on jam session days, a great favourite with the children! Needless to say there were many hilarious moments.

On one occasion Ken Atkinson donated a couple of boxes of fresh fish to the Club, which he also offered to cook. Hiring a couple of fat fryers for the occasion, a fish and chip supper was organised for members. However as one of the gas fryers kept going out it was a struggle to keep the fat hot enough, to this day we are not quite sure how we ever managed to pull it off. By the end of the evening there seemed to be more fat on the floor than in the fryers! Thankfully, the members pronounced it a success. Steve Willoughby organised coach trips to away rugby matches with much exuberant singing on the way home and quiz nights were introduced, with questions compiled by Ranald Ducat and Geoff Gripton aided by his wife Sue. Merv Richards organised Club pool matches and competitions and Neil Badger put together the first sponsored "Santa Run".



All competitors were allowed to donate their sponsorship money to a charity of their choice and as part of the fun, asked to wear a Santa costume. The set course to walk or run around Omokoroa proved a little too much on a very hot day for some competitors, and some were to be seen limping over the finish line, much to the disgust of any four legged doggy friends that accompanied them! One lady well into her eighties

that I spoke to, had not only completed the run as fresh as a daisy, but had acquired the largest amount of sponsorship money.

Kevin Blincoe, a retired farmer from Matamata, came to Omokoroa in 2004 after spending an extended OE of two and a half



Quiz Night

years in the UK. He joined the Boat Club shortly afterwards and was elected as Commodore in 2007. This was to prove a busy year as by now sufficient funds had accumulated to enable the committee to forge ahead with the next stage of renovations. This increase in funding was in no small way down to Mark Dodd's voluntary, efficient and excellent co-ordination as bar manager, a position which he held for five years. Mark ran a very 'tight ship' and was proud of the fact that at the end of each evening the bar till always balanced to the cent. Anthony had drawn up the plans, and in September 2007 with building consent in hand, work commenced with the services of member / builder Steve Willoughby in charge.

For many years the Clubhouse roof had been patched and repaired, so this was the opportunity completely to replace and extend it to the east in order to cover an open extension of the Clubhouse for dining. Roll-up clears were installed to give shelter in the winter. On the western side of the Clubhouse a new deck was added with built -in seating. The outside walls were completely re-clad, all windows replaced and complete interior and exterior decoration carried out. The existing fire system was updated once more together with a burglar alarm, and in order to cope with the increased power that a commercial kitchen would use, the electricity supply to the Club was upgraded from 30kw to 100kw capacity. New furniture was purchased and all bar leaners refurbished. Throughout the year Sean and Pat were visiting other Clubs and reviewing all the options available for manning the new commercial kitchen and also in researching the equipment needed to fit it out. After considerable discussion, it was agreed by the committee that the best option for the Club, was to contract out the catering, and with the aid of a grant from Pub Charity specifically for part of the kitchen equipment; the new kitchen was installed and opened officially on January 2nd 2008.



Kevin Blincoe and Fishing Competition prizes!

The fishing competition, which had been organised by Kevin, was hugely successful returning a very good profit for the Club and the sailing division under John's watchful eye continued to thrive. The social committee was still committed to raising funds as there were still further alterations in the pipeline.

John Budden was back in the chair for a third term 2008-2011. The new restaurant was proving to be a great success and extremely popular. The provision of food at long last gave members, guests and the community the opportunity of a more professional dining experience for lunch and dinner, as well as just being able to pop down to the Club and meet up with

friends for a coffee or a snack. Membership doubled and soon the Club was bursting at the seams on very busy Thursday and Friday nights.

There was no let-up however on the social scene as fundraising continued throughout the next three years and savings gradually began to accumulate once again, enabling the committee to start turning their attention to the final stage of the long term plan, an extension to the Clubrooms which would double its existing footprint. More cloakroom facilities with provision for a disabled toilet were required and more space was needed to provide members with a quieter bar area and games room away from the bustle and noise of the now very busy restaurant area. Anthony once again came forward with ideas and he and Sean spent hundreds of hours working on requirements the Club would need to take it into the future, not to mention



Melborne Cup Day

negotiating with WBOPDC, EBOP and local lwi. Club funding however was not sufficient on its own to undertake this huge project so Sean and Pat volunteered to work at applying to various organisations for a grant or grants ! Although money was tight due to the economic climate and several applications were unsuccessful, TECT came to the rescue and provided the Club with a very significant and generous contribution to make up the total required.

Unfortunately, despite the euphoria we all felt that at long last everything was coming to fruition; the Club was to be rocked to its foundations with the news of Anthony's unexpected death in October 2010. This was a tremendous shock to us all and really sad that Anthony would not be able to see the finished result of his endeavours. In recognition of his contribution to the Club it was decided to name the new bar in the extension the "Anthony's Bar".

Sean, who had worked very closely with Anthony during the planning stage, took over the reins as project manager. Although thrown in at the deep end, he did



an incredible job helping Steve towards the success of the final build. By late December 2010, after lengthy discussions with Council, the building consents were received and on 20th January 2011 the first pile was driven into the seabed. By Mid-February all the piles were in place and Steve was able to start work on the extension.



Annual rowing race



Members and visitors watching the duck race on Open Day.

a huge cheer after an awesome match and a nail-biting finish to the "All Blacks" winning the match and the Cup by one point. The room was furnished in time for the grand opening on the 12th November 2011 which was attended by a number of past Commodores, Club members and representatives from TECT. It was a great



Steve cutting the ribbon officially opening the TECT Room. Club has been

success. On busy nights, members are able to play darts and pool without interfering with one another or with diners in the restaurant area. The social committee, led by Tracy Allison, has been able to hold, along with regular events, more adventurous entertainment such as a "Beatles Night", an evening with singer "Big Daddy Wilson", and another with comedian "Gish" all have been sell outs.

Despite a busy year, John still found time to continue coaching the young sailors on Saturday mornings, and in late 2011 a new 4m RIB dinghy with an 8HP outboard was purchased. This is invaluable as a safety craft for use with the junior sailing group and also for the annual rowing race, which now takes place during the morning of Open Day (moved from

winter to the warmer months of summer). It is also used for launching and retrieving the ducks from the water at our very popular Duck Race, now in its fourth year and also held on Open Day.



Phil Cox, a keen sailor and latterly a power boat enthusiast, moved to Omokoroa in 1996 from Wellington, where he had been involved in the marine industry. When he took over the position as Commodore in June 2011 the extension was well under construction and despite a few setbacks, the TECT room as it is now named, was completed in August 2011 apart from finishing touches and furniture. However, this did not interfere with setting up a rugby stand and a large projected TV screen in time for the World Rugby Cup starting in September.

Neither did it interfere with the audience raising the roof with



Rugby World Cup - We can beat them!

success thanks to the hard work of the social committee, the caterer and to bar manager Fiona (known as Fee) who not only excels at her job but keeps us all in check!

In the time since its opening the new extension and extra space

that it has given to the Club has been a resounding



Gish - comedian Omokoroa Boat club History

Fashion shows organised by Leslie Blincoe have also been held, and on New Year's Eve in 2011, a wet and windy night, the Club was able to accommodate all revellers inside the Clubroom, something that could not have been done previously.

Today the Club not only caters for the needs of boaties and fishos, it also has a strong social membership. It is a place for friends to meet for a coffee, a drink, lunch or dinner and it is also a place to meet and make new friends. The Clubrooms are also much in demand for private functions, such as birthday and anniversary parties, the occasional wedding and funeral, as well as by many local community groups for meetings.



Beatles Tribute Band



Lady members enjoying the Fashion Workshop.

The Boat Club's unique position and the facilities that it now can offer in 2012, together with the excellent food supplied by resident caterers Wayne and Denis, have well and truly established its position as the focal point of the Omokoroa Peninsula. This could not have been achieved without the enthusiastic support of the local community, or without the many members, far too many to name, who have over the years, voluntarily dedicated their time and expertise to make the Club the success it is today .However, there will always be on-going maintenance and improvements to be made, the Boat Shed once again needs extending, the rescue boat needs replacing and the kitchen servery needs modernising. The committee is working on these now, as I am sure, from what I have learnt during my research for this history, will future committees for many generations to come.

I would like to offer my grateful thanks to Richard Francis, Murray and Alan Crapp, Warwick and Christine Wright, Brian Chesterman, Pam Robinson, Barbara Olds for her fantastic help and enthusiasm, and Lolita and Terry Edwards who unwittingly started me off on this project and to everyone, unfortunately too numerous to name, who have spared the time to share their memories and information to enable me to compile this history.

Pat Neil Committee member 2012 Omokoroa Boat Club Inc.

Photographs by courtesy of: Colin Pettigrew Barbara Olds Tracey Allison & Ranald Ducat



Mid-Winter Xmas Party 2012