



## IYFR AUCKLAND FLEET NEWSLETTER December 2013

### From the Commodore's Cabin:



Ho ho ho!

Yes, it's that time of year again, how fast it seems to come around but isn't it great to have the warmer weather and fine days. Wonderful times to get out on the water.

For those that attended the knots afternoon and /or our Christmas dinner, I hope you enjoyed yourselves. A special thanks to our Vice Commodore, Peter Rowell for his organisation and to both Peter and his wife Vivienne for making their home available for the knots afternoon.

Coming up, your Bridge has planned a weekend at Kawau (hopefully mid February); a Maritime Museum visit in April and then we are hosting our International Vice Commodore and others immediately after the Post Convention Cruise in early June. For this last event we will be looking for home hosts and perhaps boats.

Liz and I along with Terry and Meryl Stretton recently attended the IYFR Area 3 AGM held in Boracay in the Philippines. Suffice to say it was a little business with substantially more pleasure. Boracay is lovely – a little like Bali but cleaner and very reasonable costs. A great spot for R & R and only an hour's flight south of Manila.

Well another year almost done and dusted! Enjoy your boating and our summer. Merry Christmas to you all and best wishes for 2014.

Yours in IYFR,

David Hansen  
Auckland Fleet Commodore

Fun and fellowship over a knot or two



## **The Bridge 2013-15:**

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L to R:

David Hansen, Liz Hansen,  
Pewter Johns, Meryl Stretton,  
PFC Colin Pauling, Lorraine  
Geary, Peter Rowell

Absent Terry Stretton

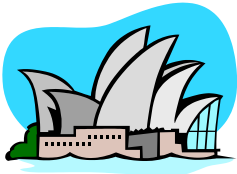


## Upcoming Events:

**February/March** Weekend at Kawau (dates and details to follow)

**April** Visit to the Maritime Museum (again dates and details to follow)

and perhaps a day trip to Tauranga – ferry one way and train the other.



**June 2014** Rotary International Convention will be held in Sydney from 1-4 June. For those who have never attended an International Convention, Sydney will be the closest ever to New Zealand. It is an opportunity to experience Rotary and its breadth across the globe. Ask any Rotarians who have been to Convention

– it is a wonderful chance to experience Rotary at an international level. Please note that the early bird registration has been extended to 15 January 2014.

Following the Convention there will be the IYFR PCC (Post Convention Cruise) and then we are expecting a number of Iyforians to come across to experience our Kiwi hospitality. As mentioned in the Commodore's report, International Vice Commodore, Jun Avecilla and his First Mate Lil from the Philippines will be coming. We also hope that the International Rear Commodore Guillermo Arteta and his lovely wife Monica from Argentina will be visiting.

A programme has been planned from 9 – 13 June and we will be asking for home hosts once we know numbers.

## From the Treasurer:

Annual subs of \$20 are now **overdue**. If you have overlooked this you can pay online - IYFR Auckland, ASB Bank 012 3026 0393942 00. Please put 'subs' and your name in reference. If any of your details have changed please let our Fleet Secretary, Meryl Stretton know.

## Report on Area 3 AGM

On 26 November Liz and I with Terry and Meryl Stretton departed for Boracay, a beach resort about an hour south of Manila. This Area 3 AGM encompasses Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific and Asia.

As your Regional Commodore I attended along with most of the other Regional Commodore of the Area together with the International Vice Commodore, Jun Avecilla. At this meeting we discussed the state of all our fleets, the Post Convention Cruise (PCC) and other operational matters.

One matter of interest coming from this meeting was that there would be no money available for grants this year. The full US\$30,000 was sent to the Philippines to help members and their neighbours in the typhoon ravaged areas. The Auckland Bridge, recognising the urgency of the need, added NZ\$500 to this fund, as did a number of other Fleets all over the world.

The funds are being managed through DG's in several regions and IYFR is getting good recognition for its rapid and generous response. One area of assistance likely is repairing boats, motors and nets so fishermen can regain their livelihood. It was interesting to receive briefings on the scale and spread of the damage and the consequent human impact.

The AGM and meeting took one day; the rest of the week was devoted to fellowship and what a time we had! Jun had everything superbly organised – we had a Beatles evening and a Grecian evening – both with applicable dress codes! I can assure you the four Kiwis did our bit. Dressed as Greek Gods and Goddesses we walked along the beach to the restaurant getting lots of compliments; guesses as to who we were (Zeus, Aphrodite etc) and requests for photos. There was also time for a sailing race; a day of island hopping and snorkelling; golf and visits to a spa for the ladies; a few drinks and more.

Boracay is a delightful spot – an island with white coral sand fringed with coconut palms, clear warm waters and a wide range of reasonably priced accommodation and restaurants. One of our favourite spots for pre-dinner drinks was Charls where two cold San Miguels cost about NZ\$3!

All in all we had a great time and got to know our fellow RCs much better.

David and Liz Hansen

