

WEST WIND

Newsletter of the Zephyr Owners Association

Volume 64 Issue 3

www.zephyr.org.nz

September 2021

2020 –2021 Season Close

This issue of West Wind contains documentation tabled at the September AGM, along with minutes from that meeting.

On page nine is a ‘Crossing the Bar’ for Kim Ebert, who sadly lost her battle with cancer in early September. Kim was married to Rob, our former Secretary and honorary life member. Kim was very supportive of Rob’s dedication to all things Zephyr, so by extension our class benefited from Kim’s support of Rob during his time as Secretary. We offer our collective condolences to Rob, Julia and Christopher.

Editor

2021 Annual General Meeting Tabled Documents

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Matt Mitchell

I hope this report finds you all faring winter well.

We’ve had a steady period with the Exec over the last few months. Working away at resolving a couple of quite big issues which are looking like coming to a satisfying end in the near future. I would like to thank Geoff Collins who has stepped down from the Exec. Geoff provided a very technical and steady voice during the 700 series project and also generally. Taking his place is Hansie Eichholz from Tauranga - welcome mate and thanks for putting your hand up.

Firstly, our constrained spars supply. I’m hoping a more up to the minute report from Brian may confirm we have our first job lot of rigs and booms off to the anodisers. Thanks for all your patience on this and the lesson learnt is to make sure we buy further forward in future.

Secondly, and following discussions at the Nationals, we’ve been assessing the six carbon sheathed hulls on a case-by-case basis and after lengthy deliberation I can report we have a solution for two of them: - Hull 120 has been sold and is currently in the process of carbon removal to regain its measurement certificate.

The owner of hull 529 has received the sum of \$2000 from the ZOA as this skipper’s position was unique when compared to the others. This boat was the only one of the six where the current skipper was not the owner at the time of full carbon sheathing being applied. He can now choose to put the money towards reglassing or selling at a discount due to the lack of a Measurement Certificate for the new owner.

The Exec will continue to consider individual outcomes for the remaining four hulls (three owners) which in the meantime are under the original dispensation terms.

I’ve received some insight and advice on class sponsors and for various reasons in the medium term we’ll keep this to a minimum but will chip away at opportunities that don’t require too much extra admin. The obvious and equitable way to raise extra money is to increase ZOA membership fees.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Brian Peet

The last 12 months has been a challenging time for me. Picking up Rob Ebert's considerable workload was a baptism of fire, made more time-involved by my building the GRP deck plug, sourcing a replacement mast manufacturer, two rule ballots, membership admin, the production of two West Winds and quickly familiarising myself with the various paper and electronic secretarial records spanning 65 years.

The deck plug build was an interesting exercise, with details covered in previous West Winds. It was hugely satisfying to see how successfully Owen Mackay transferred the ZOA's collective vision into a quality production boat. Owen is so enamoured by his creation, he's decided to keep the prototype #700 for his family's, recreational use. At time of writing nine hulls have been built with six already sold.

NZ Rigging's bolt-from-the-blue announcement they were discontinuing mast production was an unsettling surprise and finding a replacement manufacturer has consumed considerable time and effort. Fortunately, all manufacturing issues are now resolved and the ZOA awaits the delivery of 12 masts and 10 booms. Forged Fabrications had a mountain to climb to learn the intricacies of cutting, folding and welding our heavily tapered spar. It's a credit to the skill of their factory foreman Ryan and patience of company owner Sheldon that we're now close to having a new batch of masts ready for sale.

By retaining the same extrusion, same grade alloy and same taper specification we'll be able to seamlessly satisfy the ZOA's ten outstanding orders and, in the process, avoid needing to replace the entire fleet with a new generation spar.

The successful recent 2021 Constitution Rule ballot now enables on-line meetings, electronic voting and as a result, a simplified, less expensive class administration. Thanks to Rob Ebert, John Faire and Graeme Robinson for their assistance.

Our monthly on-line Exec Zoom meetings enable convenient participation and has proved an excellent, regular platform for all the Exec to actively run our class.

The class rule ballot to permanently excuse five boats from complying with the carbon ban on hull sheathing was unsuccessful, falling short of the required 66.6% by 13 votes.

Demand for good second-hand boats during the 2020-21 season was unprecedented, with many selling within days of being advertised. The future for the class looks positive with more interest and demand from new Zephyr sailors than has been seen for many seasons. The class is now in the fortunate position of having new Mackay hulls available for immediate purchase. Very soon, a prospective Zephyr participant could decide to buy a boat one day and the next day be sailing. The GRP Zephyr represents an immediate pathway to competitive racing, something few other heritage classes can provide. A wonderful future awaits our little gem of a class.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Tony Miller

Financial

A great year for the Zephyr class, with increased revenue from subs, sails, hulls and masts.

The ZOA sold almost 40 sails last financial year, up from 10 in the previous year.

The ZOA also sold four hulls with a new batch of four currently under construction – only one of which is sold. Please let me know if anyone is interested in a glass Zephyr – there are three available for immediate delivery. "Purchases spars & riggings" includes some development costs from the new mast manufacturer. There are more development costs to come after balance date.

Expenses

Great to see meeting expenses of some \$1,562 last year vanish, however there are some Zoom and Webinar meeting expenses to come after balance date - approximately \$300 pa.

Subs

The online system of sub payment worked well. The only issue is a few sailors paid twice or more. Those that paid twice will show as prepaid for 2021/22.

I recommend to the AGM that subs stay at the same level for the 2021/22 year.

ZEPHYR OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 MAY 2021**

	<i>Note</i>	2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS			
ASB Cheque Account		44,570	47,545
ASB Fast Saver		13	8
Accounts Receivable		-	33
GST Refund Due		91	475
Inventories		4,084	8,906
		<hr/> 48,758	<hr/> 56,968
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
<i>Property, Plant and Equipment</i>			
As per Schedule (at Book Value)		36,138	16,138
TOTAL ASSETS		<hr/> 84,895	<hr/> 73,106
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable		6,243	790
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<hr/> 6,243	<hr/> 790
NET ASSETS		<hr/> \$78,652	<hr/> \$72,316
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Accumulated Surplus		76,052	69,716
Capital Reserve	2	2,600	2,600
		<hr/> \$78,652	<hr/> \$72,316

Chairperson

Date

Treasurer

Date

The accompanying notes form part of the performance report.
The above information has been prepared without performance of audit or review
engagement procedures and must be read subject to the compilation report.

Turnbull & Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants

ZEPHYR OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021**

	<i>Note</i>	2021	2020
INCOME			
Sails		36,491	10,321
Battens		2,634	203
Spars & Rigging		8,792	2,246
Hulls		45,734	334
Beach Trolleys		1,950	-
Subs Auckland		2,811	2,213
Subs Central		909	813
Subs Wellington		2,089	1,337
Subs Canterbury		1,115	844
		<hr/> 102,524	<hr/> 18,310
COST OF SALES			
Opening Stock		8,906	13,717
Purchases Sails		31,920	7,919
Purchases Battens		885	177
Purchases Spars & Rigging		7,836	378
Purchases Hulls		44,430	-
Purchases Beach Trolleys		1,950	-
		<hr/> 95,926	<hr/> 22,191
Closing Stock		4,084	8,906
Cost of Sales		<hr/> 91,843	<hr/> 13,285
GROSS MARGIN		<hr/> 10,682	<hr/> 5,025
INVESTMENT AND OTHER INCOME			
Interest Received		5	616
TOTAL INCOME		<hr/> 10,687	<hr/> 5,642
EXPENSES			
Accountancy Fees		808	808
Advertising		565	495
Bank Charges		20	-
Fibreglass Hull Development		-	687
Insurance		763	655
Meeting Expenses		-	1,562
Subscriptions		2,105	1,306
Sundry Expenses		89	-
TOTAL EXPENSES		<hr/> 4,350	<hr/> 5,512
NET SURPLUS		<hr/> \$6,337	<hr/> \$129

ZEPHYR OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN ACCUMULATED FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

	<i>Note</i>	2021	2020
Net Surplus for the Period		6,337	129
Total Recognised Revenue and Expenses		6,337	129
 ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT START OF PERIOD		 72,316	 72,186
		78,652	72,316
 ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT END OF PERIOD		 \$78,652	 \$72,316

STATEMENT OF CASH BALANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

		2021	2020
<i>Cash Balances in Balance Sheet</i>			
ASB Cheque Account		44,570	47,545
ASB Fast Saver		13	8
Ending Cash Carried Forward		\$44,583	\$47,554

REGIONAL REPORTS

AUCKLAND – Helgard Dannhauser

As I write this report, our friends across the ditch are in a fierce battle to contain another wave of infections. In many ways we have been very fortunate with the little interruptions we have had during the past season. A highlight is that despite all the uncertainties, the Zephyr Class continues to prosper with a good number of laser sailors joining our fleet. No doubt, the fact that Auckland was the host of the National Championships helped the interest. Good second-hand boats are still hard to find. More encouraging is that there are a lot of renovations going on all over the country as people are working hard to extend the lives of their little boats and long may it continue.

Most yacht clubs took the decision not to host a winter series this year to give the volunteers a well-deserved break. Manly and Murrays Bay are starting their seasons in September and October respectively. Pt Chev and French Bay being the few clubs to offer us the opportunity to sail during the off season.

The Auckland Championships was held at French Bay Yacht Club and as always, they made us feel very welcome. The wind was light for most of the weekend. Steve Pyatt managed the conditions best to win followed by Grant Beck and Mike Drummond.

Manly Sailing Club was the host of the 2020 Nationals. As expected, a very well-organized event with strong winds and big seas on the first day to light and shifty conditions on the last day and nothing in between. Rod Dawson won the regatta convincingly followed by Mark Orams and Murray Thom. The old guard

had a wakeup call and will no doubt be in better shape for Wellington.

AZO paid-up membership increased by 50% this year. The numbers are up from 42 to 64 members. AZO is in a great position to continue its growth for the foreseeable future.

As expected after the Nationals, the race participation for Auckland was lower than previous years. Numbers were 5-10 boats per weekend for the winter series.

HAMILTON / TAURANGA – Hansie Eichholz

The summer series had 5-14 Zephyrs on the Sunday race days. Generally, the racing was close with the wind from 4-20+ knots. Most sailors had a turn at the front, but Hansie won the series in the end. The after-race drinkies on Zephyr terrace were an integral part of the racing and if you are a sensitive person, you will not last on the Zephyr terrace.

Six Tauranga Zephyrs went to the Nationals in Auckland, and a good time was had by all.

The annual Tauranga regatta had 20 entries with many entries from Auckland. A good breeze was supplied, and the regatta was convincingly won by Matt Mitchell. A good bbq was organized for the Saturday night. Sunday dawned with some sad looking faces, due to the dreaded Zephyr terrace again. Music supplied by the irrepressible Lew Vijeon. This must do event for sailors that have not done the event previously.

The winter series had a low number of entries as usually happens. Six race days were scheduled but 3 days had to be cancelled with two days no wind and one with 30 knots. Other days were also marginal with only six races completed in total.

Five Tauranga Zephyrs attended the Ohope regatta in June. The 12 - 18 knot regatta was won by Andy Knowles.

WELLINGTON – John Kliffen

Last season saw a larger fleet of 42 Zephyrs competing in one or more of the 18 completed WBBC Zephyr Championship series races, with an average of just over 20 Zephyrs competing per race across the season. On one amazing day there were 30 Zephyrs jostling on the start line, which was fantastic fun. The busy course always ensures there are many races within races across the whole skill level, which has become an attraction drawing more sailors to the fleet.

It was great to welcome back Dean Stanley (308), Brett Linton (303) and Mark Berry (167) and to also welcome in some new sailors Joanna Kempkers (92), Neale Dickson (168) and Greg Scott (257). Our growing group of under 25 youth sailors: Polly Wright, Penny Linton, Harvey Linton, Ned Bacon and Elliot Bacon also deserve a special mention for extending the age group appeal of our special Zephyr fleet and for giving some of our more mature sailors some free lessons in competitive sailing.

Greg Wright (Bubble) was once again the convincing winner the Wellington Zephyr class championship, the Wellington Centreboard Zephyr Championship and also the WBBC Autumn Series, but he was regularly pushed by Brett Linton, James Macrae, Guy Taylor-Smith, Dean Stanley and several others (too many to name).

A large contingent of 21 Wellington Zephyr sailors travelled north to compete at the 65th Zephyr National Champs at Manly SC in April-21. It was an awesome event with sailing conditions at both extremes to truly test everyone's sailing skills. Unfortunately, Bubble was not successful in retaining his national champion title, however Amanda Hargreaves (313) won the Women's Champion title and Dean Stanley (308) won the Fresh Breeze Trophy and the Heavyweight Trophy, which is quite an outstanding double achievement.

Next season will see the 66th Zephyr National Championships being held at Worser Bay in Feb-22, so we might have some home-ground advantage to help our aspirations, as well as a big fleet of local sailors and our home crowd support. I'm sure it will also be another awesome event, and that the next Wellington Zephyr 21/22 sailing season will be even bigger and better than the last....

CANTERBURY – Daniel Smith

The 2020 - 2021 season saw a healthy growth in the Canterbury fleet, growing to 28 members over the season and into the early 30s over winter, with most of the growth coming from parent/child combinations and youth coming into the fleet through Jeff O'Leary lending out his 2 boats for youth coaching for a couple of 15-year-

olds. A special thanks to Richard Mackay for lending one of his boats to them before Jeff bought #321.

Canterbury Champs was a hotly contested series throughout the season with Hamish Atkinson finishing first, Daniel Smith second, Steve Edwards third. Steve also took out the Handicap for the series and the CZA Most Improved Sailor award. We are excited for Hamish's son and Steve's daughter to join us in their own boats next season.

South Islands were held in Akaroa in light shifty conditions with many lead changes throughout all the races. It was great to have Chris Hargreaves down from Wellington to give us all a hurry along, something we want to encourage more in the future. 1st Daniel Smith, 2nd Hamish Atkinson, 3rd Chris Hargreaves.

Next season we have an exciting programme planned with our new Traveller series, and a healthy fleet size including eight sailors under 30! Its looking like 2021 - 2022 will be a great season in the South!

Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting

Date: 6 September 2021 - 7:30 pm.

Location: Online Webinar Meeting.

Attendees: Matt Mitchell, Brian Peet, Tony Miller, Helgard Dannhauser, Steve Pyatt, Cathryn Bridges, John Kliffen, Mark Thomas, Hansie Eichholz, Glenn Tassicker, Daniel Smith, Hamish Atkinson, John Boraston, Chris Bridges, Dennis Conway, Mike Drummond, Rob Dunne, Rob Ebert, Scott Elliott, Caroline Francis, Chris Hargraves, Caz Kelly, Murray Hay, Andy Knowles, Brett Linton, James Macrae, Rob Martin, Gary Newland, Dan Middleton, Mark Orams, Paul Pearson, Terry Ross, Murray Sargisson, Claire Stretch, Peter Stokell, Pete Sutton and Greg Wright.

Apologies:

Richard Mackay, Alex Aitken and Llew Viljoen.

Opening Meeting:

ZOA President and meeting chairman, Matt Mitchell, welcomed members to the second Webinar ZOA AGM. Matt acknowledged the recent passing of Kim Ebert and offered Rob and his family sincere condolences on behalf of their many Zephyr friends.

Matt also acknowledged Alex Aitken's stepping down as ZOA Patron and acknowledged the excellent work Alex had done to keep the class thriving over many decades.

Minutes from 2020 AGM:

Previously circulated in West Wind and via membership email – taken as read. No discussion from the floor. Adoption moved Dannhauser/Ebert - approved.

Minutes from 2021 Special General Meeting:

Previously circulated in West Wind and via membership email – taken as read. No discussion from the floor. Adoption moved Miller/Tassicker - approved.

2020 AGM Reports:

President's Report

Previously circulated via membership email – taken as read. No discussion from the floor.

Treasurer's Report and Financial Report

Previously circulated via membership email – taken as read. A discussion followed regarding mould building expenses recorded as a capital expense rather than a profit and loss entry due to the non-trading nature of this activity. It is recorded as an asset increase on the Balance Sheet

Adoption of Financial Report moved Kliffen/Tassicker – approved.

Tony Miller recommended subs remain at \$50. Moved Miller/Kliffen – Approved.

A previous, pre-nationals, Cat Bridges' initiative for a \$25 sub for under 25-year-olds was recommended by the Exec for more permanent status. Discussion was universally supportive. Moved: A \$25, under 25-year-old sub be available. Kliffen/Bridges – approved.

The discount for this sub is to be deducted from the ZOA's portion.

Secretary's Report

Previously circulated via membership email – taken as read. No questions from the floor.

Election of Officers

The following were available for re-election. No other nominations received so the principal officers and executive members remain for the 2021-22 season.

President Matt Mitchell, **Secretary** Brian Peet, **Treasurer** Tony Miller.

Executive Steve Pyatt, Glenn Tassicker, Llew Viljoen, Cathryn Bridges and Hansie Eichholz.

Regional Chairpersons. After regional elections, each chairperson becomes an ex-officio member of the Executive. AZO - Helgard Dannhauser, HZO - Mark Thomas, WZO - John Kliffen and CZO -Daniel Smith.

Chief Measurer Graeme Robinson was available for re-election. No other nominations received, so remains for 2021-22 season.

General Business

Nationals Heavy Weight Trophy

After the 2021 nationals a complaint was lodged with the Exec that publishing sailor weights was no longer appropriate. Pre-entry weighing of all sailors was seen by many as unnecessarily intrusive and publishing the same was a breach of personal privacy. The Heavy Weight Trophy was an initiative designed to demonstrate the band of sailor-weights able to race Zephyrs and has successfully achieved that objective. However, the Exec mindful of recent concerns, suggested that competition for this trophy be on an opt-in basis for over 95 kg sailors. Weights not to be published. Discussion followed with positive support from members anticipating being eligible for this trophy. Moved: The Heavy Weight Trophy remain on an opt-in basis, for over 95kg sailors. Conway/Hargraves – adopted.

2022 Nationals Covid Interruption Options

John Kliffen spoke to the potential challenges of running the Worser Bay nationals under Level 2 - restricted to 50 people inside and 100 people outside. No social events could be organised. If other parts of the country were L3 or greater, sailors would be unable to leave those regions to attend. Organisers would have to decide whether deferring staging the nationals for 12 months was preferable.

At an earlier Exec meeting these issues were discussed and alternate lockdown dates for a deferred nationals were investigated. No dates suitable - the Exec's position is if the nationals can't go ahead, they'll be rescheduled at WBBC for a similar period in 2023.

Discussion continued focussing on the challenges of cancellation-notification close to the regatta start date.

Nationals Coaching Boat Exclusion

At the Manly nationals some competitors received on the water coaching and equipment exchanges between races. Several competitors raised concerns over this never-before-seen aspect of Zephyr competition and suggested it provided an unfair advantage, undermining the egalitarian nature of the Zephyr class. The Exec assessed the complaint and took guidance from was other classes' documents, particularly the US ones that had similar issues. Additional clauses have been added into the ZOA National Contest Guidelines document. The principle being: -

"Competitors shall have no communication with, or help from, coach or support boats from the time the first boats leave the shore until racing has been concluded for the day. Between races, coach and support boats shall not approach, communicate with or transfer provisions or equipment to or from their supported boats unless in a medical or emergency requirement threatening the health of the crew."

The entire document will be placed on the ZOA Website.

Discussion focused on the health requirements of some competitors and their need for access to support boats. This aspect wasn't challenged, but the meeting consensus was supportive of banning individual coaching.

Mast Supply

Forged Fabrications have solved their technical build issues and have produced two production masts. Lockdown prevented collection, but once work restarts, Forged will produce ten more spars. When these are collected another batch of 12 will be ordered.

Class Patron

The resignation of Alex Aitkin as longstanding Patron was tabled, and the topic of a replacement discussed. The position was informal and not prescribed in the ZOA Constitution. A letter is to be sent to Alex thanking him for his longstanding service as both class President and Patron.

GRP Hull Measuring

A member asked how the GRP hulls were measured and what processes were in place to ensure class rule compliance.

The laminate spec designed by Mackay Boats was approved by the Chief Measurer and class President. All boats are built to that spec and the Mackay quality control processes ensure compliance. Once boats are ready for sailing, they're measured using the Measuring Worksheet document used for the existing fleet. Items only applicable to timber hulls are exempted, instead covered under the GRP laminate schedule.

Another member asked if the GRP sub-bulkhead detail could be installed in a wood hull. The member was invited to put that question to the Secretary for referral to the Chief Measurer.

Exec Meeting Minutes

A member asked if Exec meeting minutes could be circulated to members to aide information flow. The Secretary spoke against this request. Traditionally, in most organisations minutes of committee meetings are for the use of the committee members to retain a record of their discussions and votes. A summary of those discussions can be circulated to that organisation's membership via newsletter. For the ZOA it's via West Wind, ZOA Website, Facebook and regional email reports.

If members have questions regarding current matters, the first point of contact should be with their local Exec rep.

Additional discussion revolved around record keeping. Currently the ZOA Constitution, Class Rules, West Wind, AGM, SGM and Exec meeting minutes are the class cornerstone documents. These are stored in three formats - paper based, cloud based and, on the Secretary's portable hard drive. In addition, the first five of those records are also available on the class website, openly accessible to members and non-members alike.

Meeting Closed 9:05 pm.

Crossing the Bar

As many ZOA members know, my wife Kim passed away recently, ending her long journey with breast cancer that many of my sailing colleagues were aware of. I want to acknowledge and thank all those ZOA members who sent messages and offered support to me and my family. Kim supported my Zephyr sailing (well, sort of!) letting me escape to the Nationals – and one of the Manly events is a much remembered family holiday. It was on the shore in Akaroa, after a lovely days sailing that I took the call from her, informing me that her breast cancer had spread to her lungs – a realisation for both of us that our life together was about to take a different path. Kim was the family grammarian, who proof read every West Wind I produced, so I will be reminded of her if ever there are apostrophes out of place in future newsletters! Kim's passing is a reminder that a healthy, active retirement is not guaranteed, so my message to fellow Zephyr sailors is to retire a little every day, or every week, perhaps with a bit of Zephyr sailing.

Rob Ebert

