



MILLS REEF
WINERY | RESTAURANT

Here Comes WOW! But before we sail let's get together for a catch up!

All previous and prospective WOW members are invited to a gathering on

Thursday October 17th from 6pm at TYPBC Sulphur Point...

Do come along and meet some other WOW bunnies!!...aren't they cute...

Hi everyone,

We decided it was time we spent some time socializing with our fellow sailorettes before we hit the water on October 31st for the first sail of the **Mills Reef Women On Water Summer Series 2013-14**.

There'll be some fun sailing activities to help break the ice and nibbles and wine from the bar to liven up the conversation. Several of our sponsors are coming, our Club coaches will be there to promote the Adult Dinghy Sailing program and you'll get to meet the team of committee members that make it all happen. You can fill out your registration form and buy your WOW shirt, jacket, headband, gear bag or a pair of sailing gloves so when you come to **WOW sailing on October 31st** you'll be prepared *and* you'll know someone!

Delwyn is putting the word out to **boat owners** in the Club calling for their time and boats to help us out. This is a stressful time for her as our numbers have grown every year but without the boats to put our ladies on we can't take you sailing so be patient and understand that Delwyn is doing her utmost to get you on a boat. If you miss out on a sail one time, don't give up, just register again next time and she'll try again.

If you are not regular crew on a boat then it might be best if you pay your \$15 each time you sail but if you're sure you can sail most of the races then it's better to buy a prepaid card for the season for \$90. Remember, **WOW night happens rain, hail, or shine** but we won't always go sailing. The Race Officer and myself will make a decision by 5pm whether to sail or not if the conditions pose a safety issue but never fear! We have a plan in place for such nights so there'll always be some worthwhile sailing activity or tuition to be had in the Clubhouse so nobody misses out. Any cancelled sailing night activity will be free to Club members and prepaid card holders but \$5 to other club members and casual members.

The WOW program for the season includes an evening on **Thursday 21st November** at the Clubhouse where we'll show the **Penny Whiting video** on keel boat sailing in which she demonstrates all aspects of sailing on her boat 'Endless Summer'. We've invited **Nicole Harris**, our local Coastguard educator, to come along and further explain the technical aspects of sailing with the help of some equipment to practice on. In the New Year, we will organize another evening or two of **dinghy sailing** using the BOPSAT Topaz boats. We've yet to set a date for our annual **windward/leeward regatta** on Lake Rotoiti with the BOP Trailer Yacht Squadron but we're keen to continue this

event. Our **final sail** will be on a Sunday afternoon as this seemed to suit everyone last season. All in all, we're in for another great season for women's sailing in the Bay....one which the Auckland women are envious of.

Other news to date regards the call for women sailors to do the **Coastal Classic Race** from Auckland to Russell, Bay of Islands on October 25th. Lisa Lewis, the chief trustee for Women's Yacht Racing New Zealand (WYRNZ), has worked so very hard to get a team of experienced women sailors to work together to do this race and compete for the Te Hoe O Wairaka Trophy for the Women's Division of the race. It was a team of 4 plus another young Auckland girl and myself. Plans were coming together but then the skipper, Cherry MacIvor, had new job hassles and so withdrew from the team. In desperation, Lisa Lewis and I called far and wide for a replacement skipper and backup crew and we were almost there but then the boat owner got cold feet and withdrew the boat. So close and yet so far! Maybe it was all a bit rushed but we've learned a lot in the process and Lisa will keep pushing us women to achieve more in our sailing. She has great plans so if there are any of you out there with high aspirations please let me know and WYRNZ will endeavour to get you there.

Make sure you check out Friday **October 11th edition** of the **Weekend Sun** as we have an article promoting WOW with hopefully a not too cheesy photo of a few of us ready for action. Last year our article prompted a huge response and we had the biggest WOW night ever of 129 ladies but we had to turn away the last few as we barely had enough boats. Advertising is great for WOW and TYPBC but it does create rather big ripples for us.

Well, that's all from me. Remember to come along to our gathering next Thursday 17th October from 6pm.

See you there...with your ears on!!

Megan Harris

WOW Chairwoman