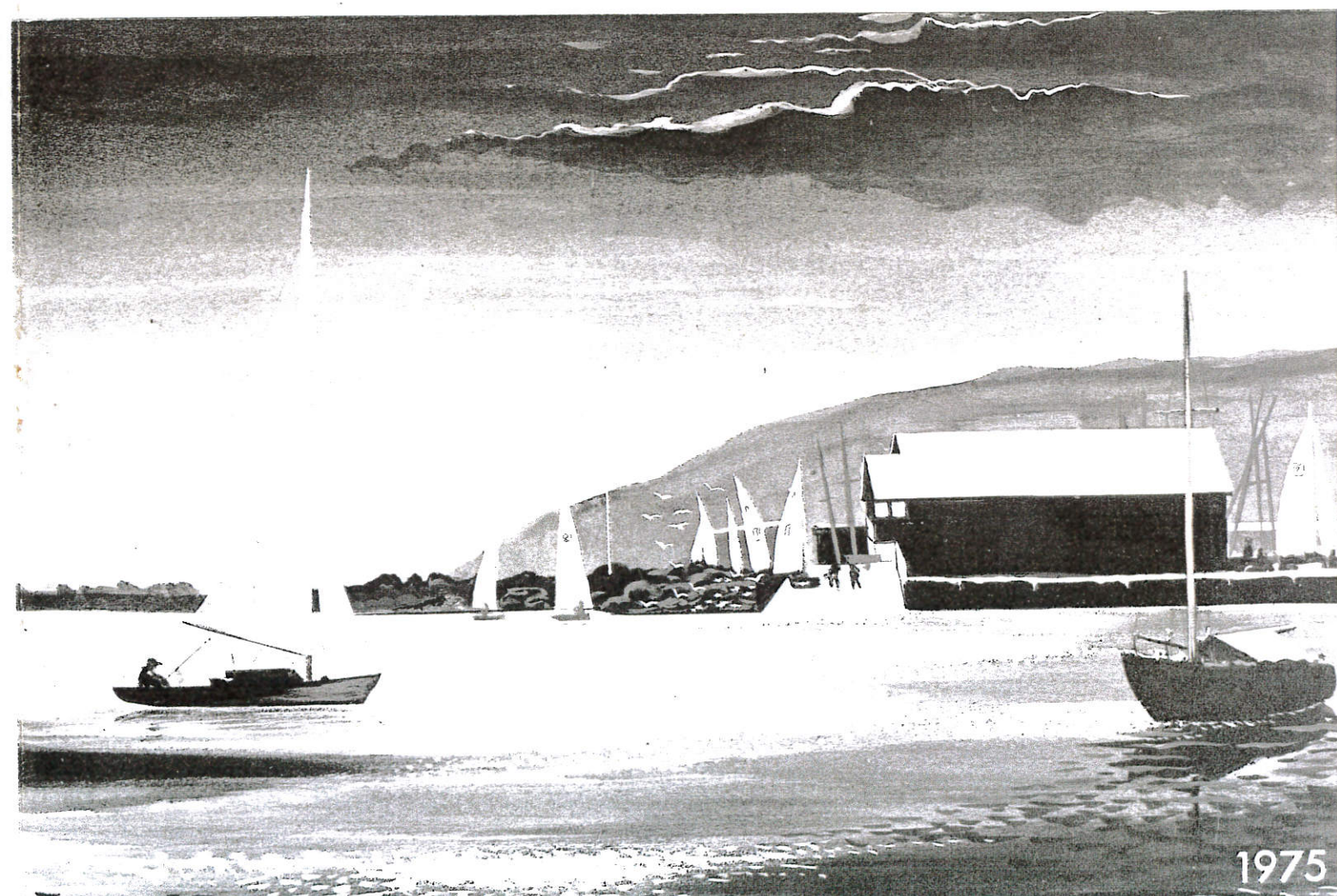


Plimmerton Boating Club

50^{TH.}

ANNIVERSARY



1975

50th Season Officers and Committee

Patron:	Dr W.K. Bryson
President:	Mr F. Ross
Commodore:	Mr D. Tucker
Vice-Commodore:	Mr G. Greig
Rear-Commodore:	Mr R. Casey
Secretary:	Mr L. Whitehead
Treasurer:	Mr R. Carter
Club Captain:	Mr K. Askew
Sailing Secretary:	Mr A. Tinney
Power Boat Secretary:	Mr R. Ohlen
Social Convenor:	Mrs G. Ohlen
Junior Club Captain:	Mr L. Casey
Clubhouse Manager:	Mr R. Newman
General Committee:	
Mr T. Murphy	Mr J. Franklin
Mr P. Ruttle	Mr T. Sheehy
Mr P. King	

Introduction

"There is nothing — absolutely nothing — half
so much worth doing as simply messing about
in boats."

That was written many years ago by a well known author.

Now, in the 50th Anniversary year of the Plimmerton Boating Club, many will cast their minds back over the years and undoubtedly agree with these sentiments.

Boating, in its various forms whether large or small, sail or power, is synonymous with the Plimmerton district. From the early settlement days through the decades to the present, few residents have not had some close association with boating in some form.

In the development of the area the Plimmerton Boating Club has played its part. The Club can be justifiably proud of its achievements — in the field of competitive yachting, in moulding the characters of the younger generation, in the facilities provided for a healthy environment for both young and old, in the club spirit that has developed where there are no barriers of class or wealth, and in the fostering of qualities that only the sport of boating can bring out.

This brochure has been prepared to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Club.

It is a time to reflect and pay tribute to the founders of the Club and all those who through the years have placed the Club in the strong position it is in today.

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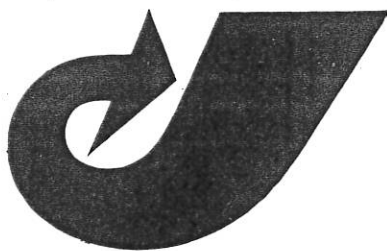
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THE PLIMMERTON BOATING CLUB

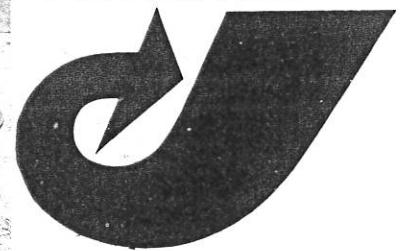
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Jet Unit

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Our Next 50 Years

Fifty years ago a small number of people with a large amount of foresight acquired a piece of land on the beach front of Karehana Bay and founded the Plimmerton Boating Club. Through their hard work and enthusiasm and through the hard work and enthusiasm of the many committee members that have followed we start our fiftieth anniversary season with land, buildings and equipment worth something like \$250,000 being enjoyed by nearly five hundred members. With a membership of this size we have of course a large variety of boats and while yachting is still our main sport, power boating is increasing and we are establishing quite a good fleet of family runabouts and launches. However, no matter what boating section a member is interested in, all enthusiastically support any club activity. Working bees of sixty members have been held and the most recent example of member participation is the rapid raising of nearly \$8,000 to purchase our new jet patrol boat which was so urgently required to assist our original rescue boat, the "Deryck Barron".

With the rapid growth of Porirua City and the projected development of Pauatahanui, the demand for boating facilities during the next fifty years will steadily increase, and the Plimmerton Boating Club, having a prime situation and access to deep clear water for all types of boating, must continually expand its facilities.

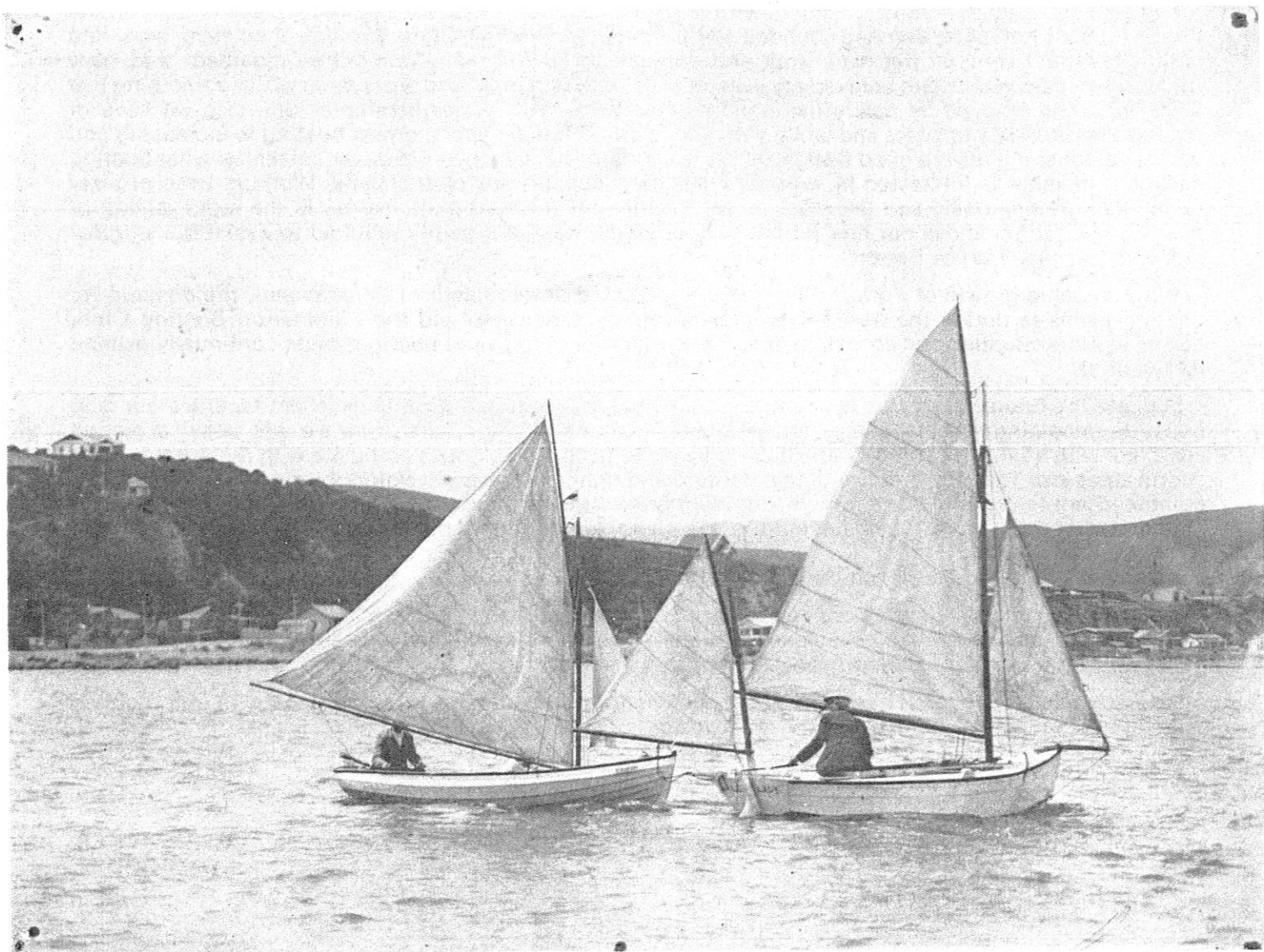
I believe the future of our club is practically limitless, and although with its excellent facilities our club house is becoming a social centre for members, perhaps in fifty years' time we will boast a marina complete with a full jetty complex and backed by a multi-story club house complete with restaurant, bars, sports areas etc. That however is still in the future and right now we are tackling the job of developing the point adjacent to the jetty and slipways, and during the coming season we plan to seal the club grounds. The idea of beautifying the area behind the sea wall, the curbing and channelling of this part and the planting of trees on a grass verge, is one of the many ideas at present being considered, and many other improvements are planned for the next year or so.

As I have said our club must continue to grow and to prosper and I am confident it will but great care must be taken to ensure that it never loses that spirit of friendliness and comradeship it has offered to all those who have enjoyed boating over the last fifty years.

I welcome all members, past members and visitors who are here to participate in our Jubilee celebrations and thank all those who have worked so hard to ensure its success.

**DAVID TUCKER
COMMODORE**

A photo from the first year of the Plimmerton Boating Club, of two of the Club's foundation members.



Left:
Lionel Waddel
"Raumati"

Right:
Henri France
"Sea Lady"

A Brief Record of the Club

History is difficult to record properly when records have been destroyed, early details are difficult to pinpoint, and many of the old identities are unfortunately deceased.

However, from the records that are available and the assistance of many members, the following record has been compiled.

Perhaps there can be no better way to start than by reprinting an extract from one of the original rule books.

SAILING

"Racing has been described as the 'Sport of Kings'. Yacht racing is the King of Sports.

"The Plimmerton Boating Club, in common with kindred clubs throughout the world, will keep up the glorious traditions of sails. A ship under full sail is the most beautiful and fascinating work of man. Those who have seen and sailed in the wonderful clipper ships of the last century have had an experience which no future generation will enjoy. Gone are the speedy craft with the pyramid of white sails — gone are the seamen who could handle them.

"With the advent of the motor engine, the last of the brown-sailed fishing fleet disappeared from Plimmerton waters. They were half-decked, centre-board boats, twenty and thirty feet in length, and carried a large spread of sail; and on this exposed coastline no one but skilful seamen could handle them.

"Of historical interest in the passing of sail is the list of the last of them, and the skippers:

"Thistle" — A. Mackenzie and G. Peters

"Tam o' Shanter" — M. Vella

"Resolute" — A. May

"Hope" — T. Bruce

"Tam o' Shanter" — M. Sarcich and J. Foster

"Columbo" — A. Lambert

"Rosebud" — J. Vella

"Mayflower" — J. Barber

"Cephalonia" — A. Paris

"Kitty" — L. Gestro

"Taupo" and "Comet" — J. Foster

"Mana" — P. Tarabochia

"A chance meeting in a bay near South Head of two centre-board sailing dinghies was an introduction to the two skippers — A. Stirling and H.B. France. Sailing was discussed, the boats rubbing gunwhales suggested a race, and a match was arranged.

"As a result, there are now two sailing clubs, one at Paremata and the other at Plimmerton."

The Paremata Club observed its Golden Jubilee last season — their first meeting being held on 15 December 1923.

In those days Plimmerton was quite an isolated spot. With no harbour bridges direct contact was only possible by water.

The first official record of the Club's formation goes back to a meeting held in the Karehana Dressing Shed on 4 April 1925.

This meeting was called to discuss firstly the reorganisation of the Paremata Boating Club or the formation of a separate club in Plimmerton.

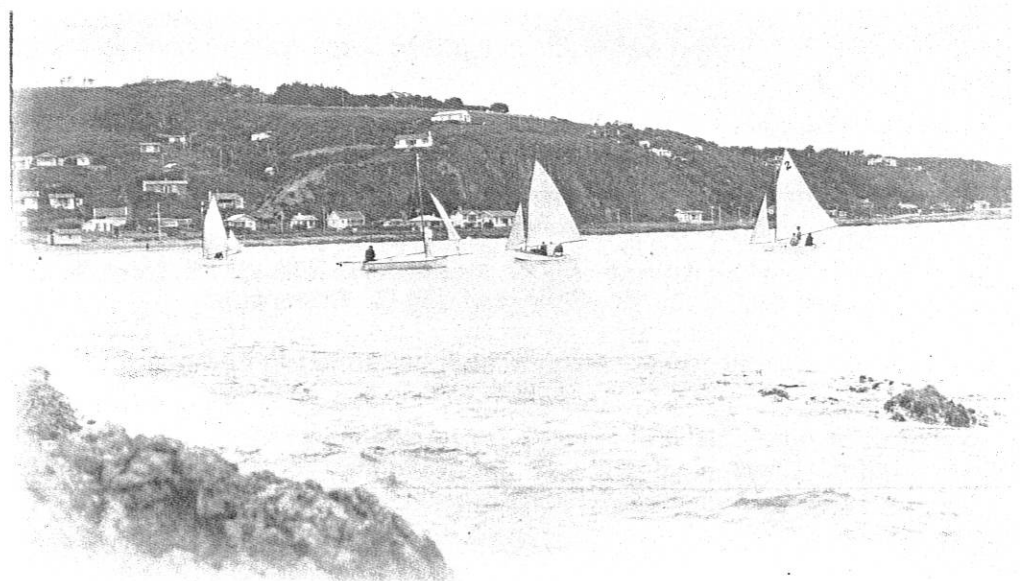
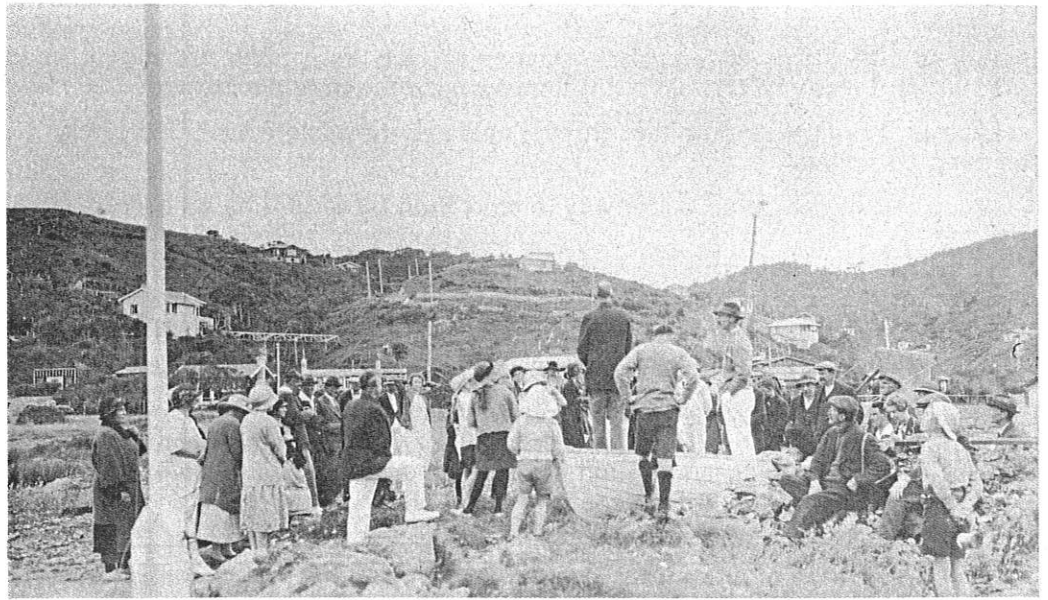
Present at this meeting were Messrs W. Amon, J.W. Johnson, R. Lane, A. Smith, W. Todd, W. Pack, T. Harper, T. Bryant, G. Groves, R. Mildenhall and G. Thompson.

The meeting resolved "that a separate club be formed in Plimmerton".

It seems that parochialism existed even in those days, for at the next meeting held on 18 April 1925 it was decided "to obtain a list of signatures of those members of the Paremata Boating Club who were in favour of calling a special general meeting of the club to consider reorganisation".

Opening Day Scenes in the Mid-1920's

The records relate that one of the most important tasks on opening day was the erection of a tarpaulin to break the wind on the slipway.



This meeting adjourned until 2 May 1925 when a further meeting was held.

At this meeting it was resolved "that the formation of the club be proceeded with" and "that the name of the Club be Plimmerton Boating Club".

Membership fee was fixed at 2/6.

The next General Meeting held on 16 May 1925 adopted general and sailing rules and elected two life members, Messrs H. France and A. Stirling.

Club Officials elected at this meeting comprised:

Patron:	Sir Maui Pomare
President:	Mr H. Akers
Commodore:	Captain G. Hooper
Captain:	Mr L. Waddel
Vice-Captain:	Mr G. Groves
Auditors:	Messrs A. France & A. Thompson
Measurer:	Mr A. Mildenhall
Handicapper:	Mr R. Lane
Judge, Timekeeper and Starter:	Mr T. Bryant
Photographer:	Mr J.W. Johnson
General Committee:	Messrs J. Foster, W. Amon, H. Waddel, W. Pack, R. Lane.

A Club burgee was also approved at this time being that of a red diamond horizontally on a white field.

Boating was then centred around the Club's present day site but certain minor conflict seems to have existed with a local Slip Owners Association, who as the title suggests controlled the launching slipway. However after a series of meetings these issues were satisfactorily resolved.

The land in question was owned by Messrs G.A. Troup and C.S. Moore and at this time the Club had permission to erect a boat shed on the site. Later, on 31 March 1926, a formal lease was entered into for portion of this, at an annual rental of one pound.

In May 1926 it was decided to make application to the Marine Department for foreshore rights for a club-house and skids at a site adjacent to the present slipway.

A start was made on the first club-house at the end of the 1928-29 Season. The records pay tribute to the considerable efforts of many club members for voluntary labour and financial and material contributions.



The original Clubhouse.



The Clubhouse today.

The erection of the first club-house was a great milestone in the Club's progress, and it is appropriate to incorporate here a copy of a Club circular dated 14 October 1929.

PLIMMERTON BOATING CLUB.

Moana Road,
Plimmerton,
14th October, 1929.

Dear Sir/Madam,

With the summer season now at hand, it is the desire of the Committee of the Plimmerton Boating Club that members and residents of Plimmerton and elsewhere, may be made acquainted with the Club's forthcoming activities.

You may be aware of the fact that owing to the generosity of certain of our members, both in finance and in labour, the Club is having erected a fairly commodious Club house on the slipway site at Karehana Bay. The desire for boat accommodation and a social hall has been felt for some time by our various members, and it is with some considerable satisfaction that we are able to report good progress with this work.

During the forthcoming season much spectacular and good racing is anticipated. In the seasons passed, the Club has been somewhat concerned for the proper protection and accommodation of visiting Clubs' yachts. This season, however, our new boat house will afford that necessary protection. Apart from accommodating yachts, the first floor of the building is intended for use as a general meeting room and for social gatherings, etc. It is anticipated that during this season many enjoyable social evenings will be spent in the cool sea air of the social hall, by members and their friends. In building the Club house, we have endeavoured to promote a good healthy sport amongst all sections of our community, but the fact must not be overlooked that such an endeavour cannot be wholly provided for out of the Club's funds. The generosity already shown by a few members it is hoped will stimulate the interest of the community in general to assist us in this work. Donations to the Building Fund, no matter how small, will be gratefully acknowledged. The Committee express the wish that the forthcoming season's activities may make our members feel proud to be associated with a Club that has a clean record in a clean, healthy sport, and that in feeling so they may promote the interest in their friends, that they may also desire to become members and so strengthen the Club's existence. A hearty welcome is extended to you to attend the opening ceremony on ~~13~~¹⁴th November at 3 p.m. on the slipway. Afternoon tea will be provided. The Secretary will be in attendance and new members are requested to enrol on the spot. The annual subscription is 2/6. Existing members are respectfully reminded that subscriptions for 1929-30 are now due and can be paid to the Secretary either at his residence, Moana Rd., Plimmerton, or by arrangement.

A limited number of badges are now to hand and those members who desire one may apply to the Secretary - Made for either lady or gentleman - Price 2/6.

Desiring that this Report may be regarded as an earnest endeavour to promote further active interest in the Club,

I remain,
Yours faithfully,

J.A. LAGDEN,

Hon. Secretary.

Throughout the 1930's the Club's progress continued. A steady growth in the recognised "Z" and "X" classes occurred and the Club was represented at the Cornwell and Sanders Cups National Contests.

The yachting highlight however came in 1937 when M. and K. Watson won the Cornwell Cup Contest at Tauranga.

The following year with the Contest being held at Plimmerton the Club was again successful with A.D. Barron and A. Edginton the winning crew.

Since these years, and indeed prior to them, the Plimmerton Boating Club has produced many distinguished yachtsmen and its representatives have always been prominent whether it be inter-club, local championships, or national contest titles at stake.

The 1940's saw many of the Club's members away serving with the Armed Forces and as a result general racing and Club activities were affected.

Also with the war, the Army took over occupation of the Club-house and land. Several existing boatsheds were required to be demolished for the installation of gun-pits and general defences.

Few people today would realise the drama of those times. Explosive charges were laid in the Club-house and on the slipway to ensure complete destruction should the eventuality have arisen.

However, despite the troubled times, 1942 saw two very important events for the Club:

Firstly the Club became an Incorporated Body and

Secondly the Club purchased the land on which the Club-house stood, comprising the whole of the point, an area of some 1-3/4 acres.

It was not until the 1945-46 Season that the Club's racing was again in full swing. Also with the termination of the war additional boatsheds were purchased and other improvements to the Club property were carried out.

Development of the Club about the 1950's was not all "beer and skittles". In fact various annual reports commented on little interest shown by members, with improvements coming along very slowly.

However the 1960's saw renewed interest with the erection of new boatsheds, work continuing on the sea wall, Club-house maintenance and general improvements to the Club property.

The major project at this time was the complete remodelling of the Club-house — this being officially opened on 30 January 1965. This work involved the strengthening and complete rejuvenation of the old two-storeyed section at the same time extending in two directions — on the seaward side with a starter's box cantilevered out over a wider slipway, and on the other end of the original structure a single-storey addition of changing rooms, kitchen, and committee room.

Steady progress in the Club's activities and membership continued and the 1968-69 Season saw the first organised races for power boat members. The interest of these members has continued and there are probably very few clubs in New Zealand where the melding of membership covering sail, power, fishing and general boating exists in such a harmonious manner.

And so into the decade of the 70's with further improvements being carried out to the Club's facilities and another substantial extension of the Club-house.

The high standard of furnishings and amenities provided by the Club for boating and social purposes are facilities that all can be proud of.

In 50 years a lot has been achieved. A great number of members have helped in these achievements.

As mentioned in the introduction, on the occasion of the 50th Jubilee, it is a time to reflect and pay tribute to the founders of the Club and all those who have contributed throughout the years. We can only hope that the next 50 years will see a continuation of this spirit and progress.



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Comparisons — Old & New

Years pass quickly and nothing illustrates this more than comparisons between the old and the new.

In our 50th Jubilee year it is fitting that the Club has launched its new rescue boat.

Back in 1948 the Club first decided to acquire a suitable boat with engine for pickup and rescue work. This was launched on 19 November 1949 and named the "Deryck Barron" in commemoration of the only active member of the Club who lost his life in the Navy during the war.

This heavy clinker craft has served the Club well and is still in commission.

However progress must come and now the Club has acquired its new craft: 18 feet of Hamilton Jet capable of 40 mph and just about anything!

Already it has proved its worth and obviously will be a great asset for future years.



The Old
Opening Day
19-11-49



The New
Opening Day
5-10-74

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Yachting

In the sport of competitive yachting the Club has always been prominent, on occasions with considerable success.

The 1974/75 Season has marked a change with Sunday morning yacht racing. This has been well received and the numbers competing have grown significantly.

A pleasing aspect has been the growth in the P class and the high standard now showing through.

It is appropriate that in the 50th Jubilee year the Club has provided the Wellington P Class Tanner Cup representative.

The formation of a local Trailer-Sailer group and the interest in other senior classes also augurs well for the future.



A scene from the Tanner Cup successfully hosted by the Club during the 1973/74 Season.

Power Boating

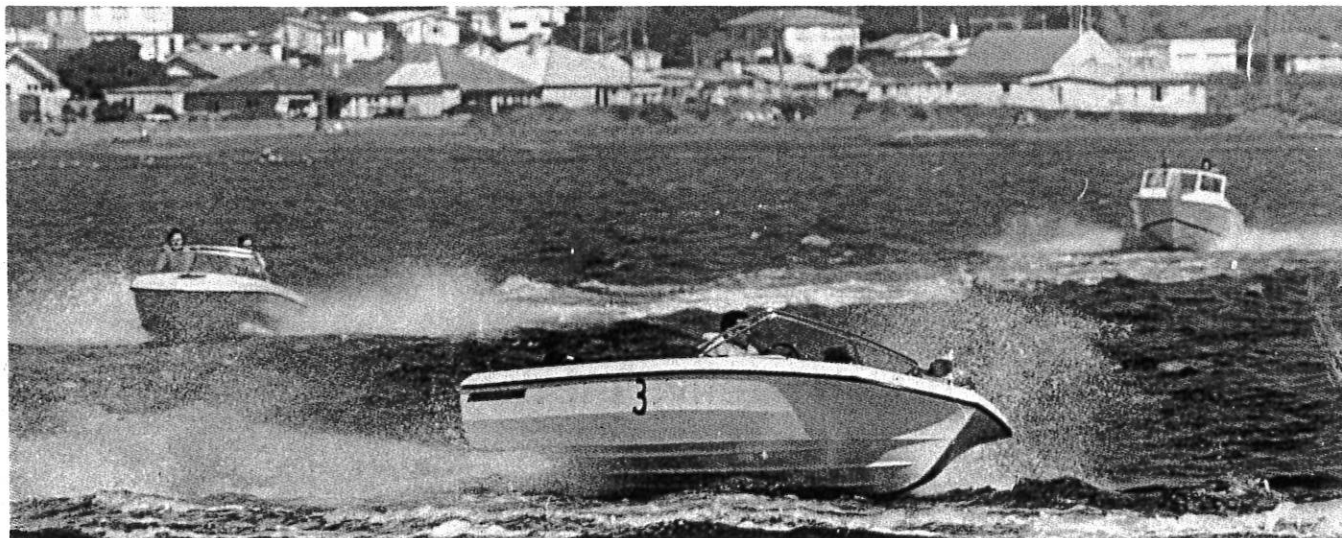
When Plimmerton Boating Club was first formed I wonder if any of the original members foresaw that power boating was also to become a boating section in Club activities.

Ingenuity of modern invention has made such progress that many may now enjoy this avenue of boating which once was the privilege of the very few.

The owners of power boats do not consider their section as a separate identity from other sections of Club activities, as the recent Tanner/Tauranga Cup showed.

Power boaties gave unstinting service as pickup boats, standby for rescue purposes, and general backup for morale to these young and eager Junior Club members over this period. In many cases the combination for the day was Son racing and Dad on patrol duty, which in anyone's language is a good foundation for family and Club relationships.

Power boating is one of the many sections in the club but first and foremost their aim is for the benefit of the Club and co-operation with their fellow members.



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Fishing

Fishing has been a pastime and still is for many members of the Club over many years.

Tales tall and true (well sometimes) abound of the "ones that got away".

The critics claim that the fishing will never be as good, that the fish are not there, and so on.

Just to prove that the critics are sometimes wrong, the photo below was taken on 25 November 1974, showing a catch of groper by two well known club members.

Reliable sources report that groper, snapper, terakihi, cod, moki, butterfish and crayfish are still around — waiting to be caught.



Programme for Jubilee Weekend 21-23 February 1975

FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY 1975

7.00 pm Informal get-together at the Club-house.

SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY 1975

11.00 am Massed display of all Club members' boats on the water in front of the Club-house.

2.00 pm Yacht race for older members and visitors.

8.00 pm Jubilee Dance Social, Ngati-toa Hall, Paremata Domain.

SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY 1975

10.00 am Club Yacht Races for all classes.

12.00 noon Novelty events — dinghy races, ladies' races, etc.

2.00 pm Power boat race.

Notes, Addresses etc.

MIGHTY LION
congratulates
**PLIMMERTON
BOATING CLUB**

on their
50th ANNIVERSARY



LION

sign of good beer