

WELLINGTON CLASSIC YACHT TRUST

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The Wellington Classic Yacht Trust (NZ Charity registration CC49281) was formed in 2010 in response to the plight of the famous little Wellington racer *Lizzie*, declared abandoned and at risk of destruction. A collective raised money to pay salvage and return her to Wellington. After over two years of volunteer work and donations of money and material, she was relaunched in March 2013.

Our burgee is cream and brown, representing canvas and wood. The red/gold represents the copper and bronze fittings and fastenings which hold it all together.

Since 2010, the WCYT has freely shared skills and teaches anyone who cares to learn traditional boatbuilding methods; in joinery, metalwork, ropework, and boat handling.

The process of restoration and getting back to original material instructs us on techniques and materials used, and the particular practices of different boat yards of the classic era.

WCYT researches the history of yachts and yachting and sporting personalities in Wellington and the wider area of central New Zealand. We have created a database of vessels, publish articles based on extensive original research, and have completed collections assessment work for other heritage institutions.

OUR VESSELS

Lizzie

Lizzie was built at Evans Bay by Edwin Bailey and launched in 1909. She was the champion vessel of her division running up to World War One. Bailey, who also built champion racing centreboarders, carried the principles of what makes a fast boat into building *Lizzie*.

She had been significantly altered over the years, though her original keel structure and planking are complete. Over 2 ½ years, WCYT restored her to her original configuration and she is once again sailing and racing in Wellington.



Lizzie ca. 1909



Lizzie salvaged 2010



Lizzie cruising 2013



Mystery

Mystery is a centreboarder of the Idle Along class. Idle Alongs are named after the first one built, by her designer Alf Harvey at Petone in 1926. For almost 50 years This class was integral to developing NZ youth racing nation-wide. *Mystery* was built around 1950 in Nelson by Joff Kroening – the most prolific and successful builder in the history of the class. *Mystery* came second in the National championship held in Wellington in 1956. She was beaten by Hugh Poole representing Wellington in *Lavina*, another of Kroening's boats.

Mystery was acquired by WCYT in 2011, restored and raced in the North Island and National championships held in Auckland in 2012.



Mystery ca. 1950



Mystery in 2011



Mystery in 2012

Atalanta

Atalanta was built by Charles Bailey Jr. in Auckland in 1894. She was brought to Wellington in 1895 for the Annual Regatta. She won, but was later disqualified. Fondly known as "Attie" she remained in Wellington and was still winning "A" division racing consistently in the 1960s. She then spent several decades in the Marlborough Sounds, then Dunedin. She was donated to the Wellington Classic Yacht Trust in 2013, and is now moored at Clyde Quay awaiting restoration. WCYT is currently gathering materials for the work.



Atalanta in her early days in Wellington



Atalanta in 2012



Mahoe

Mahoe is a canoe-stern launch built circa 1903. More research is required on her; she is possibly the 30-footer built by Logan Bros. of Auckland they shipped to H. H. Harris of Havelock in July 1903. Built of NZ kauri and Pohutukawa, she worked as a mailboat in the Marlborough Sounds until the 1930s. *Mahoe* was owned by the Brownlee family at Havelock during the 1940s and 50s. WCYT acquired her at the end of 2012. Restoration work began on her in April 2013.



Mahoe in 2012



Mahoe in 2013 with later superstructure removed and seams reefed out ready for refastening

COLLECTIONS

WCYT is building a specialised collection of books and magazines which focus on New Zealand yachting.

We are also building a collection of physical material related to yachting of Wellington provenance. It will be added to a content management system 2013/2014.

Wellington Classic Yacht Trust operates primarily out of the historic marina Clyde Quay, Wellington.

