

## CHAIRPERSONS REPORT 2021

This time last year the world was coming to terms with the global pandemic and the uncertainty it was bringing with it. Nobody knew how things would pan out. The committee decided early on to put together an action plan of how we could run the regatta at the different alert levels. We were therefore prepared and ready to adapt. Thankfully the country was at alert level one at the end of January when the regatta took place.

Numbers were slightly down this year, but there were still 127 boats competing in 13 divisions. This year, by popular request, saw the revival of Division C. The six Island Racing divisions still prove to be the most popular with over half the fleet taking part in one race a day around the Bay. The other divisions saw close racing in their windward/leeward and Bay races.

We are extremely grateful to our loyal sponsors who continued to support us even in these uncertain times. CRC, New Zealand Yachting Foundation, North Sails, Explore Otehei Bay, Mt Gay Rum, KZ Leisure Furl, Bay of Islands Marina, Gurit, New Zealand Spars and Rigging, Bluefix Marine and Burnsco. Thank you. We value your support and hope to see you again next year.

We also received support from Pub Charity, Grass Roots, Pelourus Trust and the Far North District Council Community Board. Thank you to these four organisations

The regatta could not happen without the support of our volunteers. Some have been with us for many years and it was great to see some more new faces. Race officers, judges, on water volunteers, bar staff and those who help set up and take down the regatta HQ. Thank you.

The Bay of Islands is a wonderful place to sail, and the regatta continues to attract people from further down the country. The format that we have is enjoyed by all and is a fun event to be a part of, whether as a sailor or a volunteer.

I have been fortunate this past year to have worked with a great committee who all had their part to play in putting on the best regatta in New Zealand. Thank you all.

Tony and I wish the next committee fair winds for the future and we look forward to the 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the regatta next year.

Nina Kiff 20/05/2021

