

Letters to NZRYS - June 2018

It has been a busy week for prospective members visiting the pond and for emails.

From Gavin Gilmer:

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Hi Richard

I have been Googling Kyosho sites but been unsuccessful. I came across your RC club who sails Seawinds

I'm presently resurrecting 2 America Cup replicas for a friend of mind with the hope of getting him active in RC sailing.



I have found that the tube and rudder have corroded and I cannot free them by using the release agents I have. The second tube and rudder seems to be different so I'm assuming it could be an earlier model. I have not attempted the second as yet.

Is there someone in your club that can assist or better still have a

spare rudder tube and rudder x2?

I live in Glendowie and can bring it to whoever if need be.

I have attached photos of the two yachts (foot of page) and the problem rudder (left) for your comment.

Hope you can assist.

Cheers, Gavin Gilmer

I understand that a number of Seawinds were completed by the NZ America's Cup team as shown in your photo and given to team members. One of these did sail at Onepoto once. All parts of the Seawind are available as sets of spare parts, though there may be shortages at times. Our club secretary does hold some parts for our members. There are some shops that do have some parts, such as Ultralite at West Harbour.

http://ultralite-radioyachting.net/contact_us

The stainless rudder shaft becoming seized in the aluminium tube is a common problem when the boat is left for some time. Some care needs to be taken as the shaft could become slightly loose in the blade. I have freed one by gripping the shaft firmly using the flat and then forcibly turning the tube. I only recommend this as a final resort. There is a spares set with the tubes and another with a fin and rudder.

It may be useful for you to look at

<http://Azonic.co.nz/NZRYS/PDF/tech/building.pdf> which has my and others' experiences over the last couple of decades with these boats.

We sail every Sunday afternoon at Onepoto and I usually take a club boat that may be available for a trial sail. It may be useful for you to examine other boats and discuss your problems with members.

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To Peter Andrews from Mike Renner:

I came down to Onepoto yesterday and used the club boat. I don't think I met you. I have a lot to learn but I think I'll enjoy it .

I've like to join and have completed the application as far as I can. I purchased a second hand boat from Pierre du Plessis last week because I wasn't 100% certain if I'd like it. Evidently Pierre was a member but can't continue due to an eye problem.

The yacht has NZL85 on the sail so presumably that is acceptable to the club. I'm not sure what the radio frequency is, I think it is 2.4 GHz.

Peter, if you advise the bank account details I can deposit whatever the fee is into the bank account. Alternatively I can pay it in cash at the next event.

PS. Any suggestions as to where I can find info on tuning the boat? Also, mine has several of the 'winches' missing on the top of the hull, which presumably will leak into the hull in strong wind. Do you know where I can get these?

Kind regards, Mike Renner.



With ABS hulls the holes where the winches and chainplates fit are 'blind' in that they are sealed at the lower end of the hole.

On carbon fibre hulls with a fibreglass deck the holes are not sealed and would require blanking off.

I am pretty sure that NZL85 is ABS.

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Hi Richard and Peter

Apologies if I ask a few questions but I'm a newbie to this. I disassembled the fin keel and bulb last night and found there is a crack on both sides of the fin as per attached photo. The locking nut was rusted on the rod but I've got it off. The bulb was loose on the fin keel but I've cleaned the gunk out. I can fill the cracks with Epifill or buy a new fin. Any suggestions of a source for the fin and replacement locking nut. The unit is second hand but seeing I've come this far I may as well do it properly. I'd value your input.

PS. I noticed the name of a friend from years ago, Patrick O'Hanlon, in the newsletters. He still has a Seawind and seems keen to give it a go again.

Kind regards Mike Renner



The fin cracking like that is not uncommon. Fortunately, the strength of the fin is derived from the rod which goes from deck to bulb. It may be necessary to scrape the cracks wider to get epoxy deep into them.

The socket in the bulb, because it is cast from lead, is not particularly accurate. I have on one bulb routed it out with a dremel and then filled with body filler, wrapped the fin in gladwrap and inserted it to the correct depth in the filler so that there is a perfect socket when the filler sets. All spares are available at times, but it may be necessary to hunt for them. I am not sure which set of parts has the locknut.

Peter carries some spares, as available, so check with him first.

Extract from Wayne Carkeek

I suggest that one day a year be set aside to maintain the buoys with as many hands on deck as possible and a dingy, perhaps testing our an exterior house paint as the preferred paint and chipping off the mud and debris and lightly sanding and painting the top only with 2 coats followed by a semi fresh course design laid out for the year.



P.s. I found buoys in native plastic colours we don't need to paint, Pink, hiVis Yellow and Blue (again).

We have had 'working bees' in the past, catered even, usually when there was algae that needed to be cleaned out.

Buoys can be easily recovered by sailing out a line. The problem is getting them back in position, especially if they have heavy weights. House paint usually takes too long to dry, replacement of buoys with offsite maintenance is probably best.

Designing buoy layouts is particularly fraught. I think that extra identification: stripes, quadrants, bands; would be useful. I still have several buoys here, some of which have added id items (photo attached).



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Richard Plinston - President NZRYS