

The Canterbury "J" Class Owners Association

A Brief History of the Association.

In 1997 a group of radio controlled model yachting enthusiasts found the need for a class of yacht that could be sailed in weedy conditions, transported easily, be cost effective, relatively easy to build and competitive.

To promote the "J" class there became the need to form an association.

Most developers of the "J" belonged to CMYC but the consensus of opinion was that if the "J" yacht was part of CMYC then CMYC could be deemed as favouring one class of yacht over others.

CMYC's constitution states their roll is to promote interest in the sport of model yachting.

The Canterbury "J" Owners Association was then founded with it's own identity like other classes ie: One Metres, E C Twelves etc

The Canterbury "J" Class Association was founded 2nd September 1997.

Part of the associations aim is to maintain the restricted design nature of the yacht.

The current measurers are Mike Hefford, Hugh Hobden and Peter Vincent.

Ian Scott is managing the hull and keel sales.

On 2nd September 1997 the founding committee was Hugh Hobden, Peter Vincent, David Heanly, Urwin Gibbs, Laurie Wales and Alan Atkinson.

Sadly some of these members have passed on or do not sail currently.

There were also other enthusiasts, too numerous to mention, who also contributed many working hours and their knowledge to the forming of the "J".

Annual membership subscription fees of \$10.00 was set and has not changed over the years.

"J" members are entitled with current measurement certificate to sail in the "J" Class championships held annually.

Sales proved so successful, The Canterbury "J" Owners Association committee, decided as it had surplus funds it would make donations and some requested donations to CMYC because that is where most of the Canterbury "J" yachts sailed.

2001: Donated the set of scales, plastic chairs and a table.

2003: Donated more chairs, a starting system, white board and pinex pin board.

2004: Donated a second starting system and chairs.

2007: Donated 10 more chairs and an upgrade on the solar power system.

Sales of the Canterbury "J" Class yachts have been made to various places in New Zealand, England and America. To date the Association has sold approximately 226 hulls in NZ.

As in the past we propose to have sailing events for "J" Owners Association members and these events would be arranged for days that were not in conflict with CMYC sailing programmes.

The Enterprise Trophy for Canterbury "J" Owners Association members, was donated by Thysje Arthur who also devised a format of how she thought it could be competed for. This proposal was set aside at a "J" meeting for the next committee to discuss.

The Canterbury "J" Class Owners Association formed here in Christchurch is a unique organisation and long may it continue to be so.