

Dick Newick (Boat Designer):

A pioneer in sailing multi-hulls, Newick's design inspiration is the Polynesian voyaging canoe. In 2008, he was inducted into the North American Boat Designers Hall of Fame. His "fast, safe, ocean proven multi-hulls can truly be said to have been 'ahead of their time'".¹

Dick Newick, who has been designing multihulls since 1960, has won long-standing acclaim for the independence of his approach, the success of his boats in competition, and the elegance of the craft he draws. From the start of his career he has made a substantial contribution to the evolution of the multihull. Dick Newick boats have been particularly impressive in ocean races, where they have been formidably competitive over many years.

There are about 130 Newick designs [2004], over 100 of which have been built. Most are light, slim-hulled trimarans with speed and seaworthiness priorities over accommodation volume and cruising facilities with their inevitable burdensome weight. His innovative 'Atlantic' proa CHEERS finished 3rd in the 1968 OSTAR (Observer Single Handed Race). CHEERS has been restored in France and was designated a French Monument Historique.²

For more information visit: <http://www.wingo.com/newick/>

FONO GROUP (Steering Committee)

Steering committee members are donating their time, efforts and expertise.

Dr Sitiveni Halapua (Project Manager):

Currently CEO of the Talanoa and Development Project, Sitiveni Halapua has had over 20 years experience as the Director of the Pacific Islands Development Program in the East-West Center, Hawaii, USA, and the Secretary-General of the Secretariat for the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders.

An economist with a PhD from the University of Kent U.K. in Monetary Theory, Dr Halapua developed the Talanoa process in response to the failure of current development models and the recognition of the vicious cycle, which sees development leading to conflict, and conflict inhibiting development.

¹ Steve Callahan.

² Multihull Maven

After developing the dialogic process of Talanoa, he has led practical applications of Talanoa in the Cook Islands (1996), Fiji (Talanoa: 2000-2004), Solomon Islands (Tok Stori: 2005) and the Kingdom of Tonga (Public Civil Servant Strike [Talanoa: 2005] and the National Committee for Political Reform [Talanoa: 2006]).

For more information visit: www.eastwestcenter.org;
www.buildingglobaldemocracy.org; <http://talanoa.org>

Max Purnell (Build Manager):

Newick's New Zealand Agent, Max Purnell, is an experienced yachtsman and dairy farmer who spent a number of years working in the American Virgin Islands tourist industry sailing day-charter yachts. He has served on a number boards including the Auckland Harbour, Agricultural Research, Marketing and Development Trust, and the Waikato Trust. Purnell first met Matthew Flynn (below) when they together crewed a Newick trimaran in the New Zealand Coastal Classic twenty years ago.

Matthew Flynn (Maritime Lawyer):

Matthew Flynn, a Partner at McElroys Litigation Lawyers, has had a wide range of experience in all aspects of boat building contracts and insurance related boat building disputes. Matthew has been the maritime lawyer for the New Zealand Marine Industry Association for many years, and has advised them on a wide range of issues surrounding the NZ Marine Industry generally. As part of his role there, he has drafted an Industry Standard Boat Building Contract for use by NZ Boatbuilders, which is now widely accepted as a template agreement for construction of boats in NZ.

Matthew is currently the President of the NZ Branch of the Maritime Law Association of Australia & NZ. He retains his professional association in England and is still admitted as a barrister and solicitor to the High Courts of England and Wales and is a member of the London Maritime Arbitrators Association. Matthew is also a keen yachtsman and has been sailing for over 40 years, with many years experience as a multihull sailor. Matthew is Commodore of the NZ Multihull Association.

For more information visit: www.mcelroys.co.nz