

Good Morning Exhibitors!

We are very excited to share news of our first Women in Marine event being held on Thursday morning of the boat show. This event is open to all. Exhibitors have complimentary access to this event and non-exhibitors can book a discounted single day ticket to attend this event - a link to this is below. Please note that a normal single day ticket will not be accepted - it must be a "Women in Marine ticket" to gain access to the venue before show hours. This will be promoted in a NZ Marine Fastmail shortly.

We are really looking forward to making this event an annual event, so please RSVP to us [here](#) - thank you!

The Boat Show Team

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### **Women in Marine: Inspiring conversations, real connections, lasting impact**

The 25th edition of the Auckland Boat Show opens with an inspiring new initiative: our first **Women in Marine** event.

We are excited to bring together a group of successful and inspiring women from across the marine industry to explore how we can build confidence, embrace discomfort, and network with purpose. Together, we'll discuss why putting yourself out there matters—even when it feels awkward—and how creating genuine connections can transform your experience in the industry.

This event is designed to spark meaningful conversations, foster authentic relationships, and provide practical strategies attendees can take away and put

into action. We believe participants will leave with new skills, fresh perspectives, and, most importantly, new friendships.

### **Our MC**

Our MC, **Nicky Vaux**, is a marina entrepreneur, boating advocate, and public speaker, well known to many through her podcast *The Boat Princess*.

**Nicky Vaux** says she is thrilled to be part of the Auckland Boat Show and especially excited about this event: “There are some incredible women in the marine industry in New Zealand—and many more I am yet to meet. This event is about bringing us together, sharing our stories, and recognising that we are not alone. We have strategies we can use to build our success and relationships we can grow together. As cliché as it sounds, a rising tide really does lift all boats. Let’s create our own rising tide.”

Nicky will be joined by **Hillary Buckman**, Managing Director of Ocean Media, an Australian publishing house focused on the premium yachting industry, **Isabell Zitzelsberger**, founder of Wild Chix, who inspires women to embrace the outdoors and build confidence in boating, fishing, and hunting, and **Jo Aleh**, an Olympic champion and a trailblazer in world sailing being the first woman to sail with Emirates Team New Zealand.

## Speaker Profile: Hillary Buckman



**Hillary Buckman** of Ocean Media is also enthusiastic about supporting this new initiative: “New Zealand is where it all started for me, so it always feels special to come home and reconnect—with fellow Kiwis and with an industry that has shaped so much of my journey. The marine world is built on relationships: real conversations, shared knowledge, and supporting one another. Bringing people together, strengthening connections, and encouraging more women across all areas of the marine sector is something I’m proud to support and excited to be part of.”

## Speaker Profile Isabell Zitzelsberger



**Isabell, founder of Wild Chix** comments “I’m genuinely excited to be part of the Women in Marine event and the **Auckland Boat Show** this year. Boat shows have traditionally been seen as spaces for men – but in reality, they’re for ocean lovers and boating enthusiasts of every gender. It’s incredibly powerful to see more space being created for women in this industry – from complete beginners to experts – and to open the floor for real questions, learning, confidence and career development on and around the water.”

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### Event Details

Thursday 8.15am-9.30am  
Level 3, Viaduct Events Centre

**Auckland Boat Show Exhibitors (with an exhibitor badge) have complimentary access to this event.**

[EXHIBITORS RSVP HERE](#)

If you are not an exhibitor and would like to attend, we are offering a discounted single day ticket to the Auckland Boat Show for Thursday only, which will allow access to the Show before opening hours. (You must have this ticket for early access, a normal single day ticket will not be accepted). **You can purchase your ticket [here](#)**

5 - 8 MARCH 2026



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4  
DAYS

12,000+  
VISITORS

1.6KM  
OF BOATS

140+  
EXHIBITORS

OFFICIAL MEDIA PARTNER

**BOATING**  
NEW ZEALAND

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