



□ Smooth sailing: Steve Maiden and Lorraine Greenwell tie the knot at South West Rocks.

Keen sailors tie the knot

WHEN Steve Maiden and Lorraine Greenwell met six years ago, it was the start of a beautiful romance.

It also was the start of a shared sailing obsession. So the Port Macquarie couple decided to exchange vows on Saturday – during a regatta

at South West Rocks.

They took their Olympic-class boat to the North Coast Catamaran Challenge for the weekend, were married at Smoky Cape Lighthouse, then hopped in their catamaran (in full wedding regalia) and joined the competition.

"We wanted to have a nice, simple wedding that was a bit of fun," Mr Maiden said.

"We had a short, 15-minute ceremony at Smoky Cape Lighthouse with close friends, representing our passion for the sea and sailing.

"It was a great day and a great weekend."

Mr Maiden accepts responsibility for nurturing the sailing

obsession – he sailed at the top level for 20 years before meeting Lorraine.

He introduced his new wife to his sport and, he said, she took to it like a duck to water.

Together, they travel up and down the east coast competing and, now they have married, there are no plans to stop.

"We look forward to many more years out on the water together," Mr Maiden said.

For the record, Scott Machon and Bryce Hafner won the North Coast Catamaran Challenge.

The Nambucca Sailing Club, which hosted the weekend's regatta, is taking full advantage of the unique wedding by using it to recruit new members.

To sign up or go for a sail, phone Justin on 6569 5574 or 0409 030 930 or Morrie on 6574 7152 or 0408 589 833.



□ Back on the water: Vows out of the way, the couple rejoin the competition.

Six rescued from fire

FOUR children and two adults were taken by ambulance to Kempsey. Hospital after emergency services were called to a house fire in West Kempsey's George St on Sunday evening.

The fire was reported to have started in the kitchen.

The six people taken to hospital all suffered smoke inhalation.

The hospital reported that all six later were released.

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