

* HI! to all 135 Members. Five new Members since last Newsletter.

1 / W.A., 1 / VIC., 3 / QLD.

* The "RL24" has been awarded the Good Design label by the Industrial Design Council of Australia. As far as we know this is only the 3rd Boat in Australia to receive the award. Special emphasis was placed on ...

1. Ease of rigging and simplicity of rigging - very good.
2. Self-righting property and buoyancy - very good.
3. The comfort of facilities related to the performance of the yacht were most impressive.
4. Self bailing facilities of the main and forward cockpits - very good.
5. The unique design of the motor well was considered excellent.
6. The sailing performance for this type of craft was considered outstanding.

* Congratulations to all RL24 Owners' who sailed in the South Australian 116 mile "TRIPOLIS". The standard of sailing was extremely high as the results in two of the legs proved, the 14 / RL24s competing finished within 15 minutes. A new record was set for the Whyalla/Port Pirie leg when "SASHA" (Ken Hackett, Sail No. 102, Vic.) covered the distance (25 miles) in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours, breaking the old record by 2 hours. Fastest time results overall were ...

"APACHE" (Rob Legg, Sail No. 1, Qld)	1st.
"SASHA" (Ken Hackett, Sail No. 102)	2nd.
"CAVALIER" (Lyall Mutton, Sail No. 74, S.A.)	3rd.

39 Boats competed.

* Our Third National Championships hosted by the Lake Burrendong Sailing Club, Wellington, N.S.W. confirmed superiority of "COOLIBAH", Barry Arnold (Sail No. 79 Barmera, S.A.) and Crew with a very creditable 4 - 1sts. Final results were ...

- 1st "COOLIBAH"
- 2nd "TOAD of BARMERA" Craig Rooney, (Sail No. 87, S.A.)
- 3rd "SCARLET LADY" Des Stanaway, (Sail No. 29, Brisbane, Qld.)
- 4th "APACHE" Rob Legg, (Sail No. 1, Southport, Qld.)

The series was sailed in strong winds, the first experienced on the lake for some time. Methinks that the perpetual trophy will take some getting off that Arnold mantelpiece. Congratulations to all.

* Bruce Castles, (Sail No. 100, Sundance, Vic.) Don Castles, (Sail No. 103, Vic.) and Ken Hackett, (Sail No. 102, Sasha, Vic.) had an interesting experience in the Sunday Island race at Port Albert, Vic. (20 miler). While sailing in light very overcast conditions, the entire mixed fleet of about 30 Boats were wiped out by a front (not pre-forecasted). The A.B.C. news following reported gusts to 160 Km. P.H. Bruce thinks this an exaggeration, but it was certainly upwards of 70 MPH. The three RL24s were laid on their beam ends with freed sheets and held flat for $\frac{1}{2}$ minute or so by the first front, after which all three righted again with virtually no water aboard. They got the anchor out and set about dropping sail. The furler wouldn't start to roll the jib the wind was so strong, and by the time they had dropped the main the clew of the jib had flogged to pieces on the Mast. The three had identical damage but apart from this, they all righted from a sails in the water position and returned under motor without damage. The entire dinghy and Cat' fleet were wiped out, with much broken gear, and a TS16 turned turtle and had to be towed in.

* Gil Stening, (Sail No. 58, LISA-LEE, Weipa, Qld.) put her in the water for the first time and won the Weipa Cup. It was an inshore course of about 10 miles with 18 knot breezes. Congratulations Gil.

* Merv Allwood's "FALCON", (Sail No. 137, Mackay, Qld.) competed in the first J.O.G. race held in his district. Merv didn't qualify for J.O.G. but they let him race with them unofficially. The winds were up to 30 knots and he completed the entire course (60 miles) under reefed mainsail, altering the sail from 1st. reef to 2nd. reef up and down 7 times during the race. There were 12 starters and the race started at Midnight with "FALCON" crossing the finish line first at 10:30 AM and most of the other yachts finishing in the next hour. Congratulations Merv.

....over/..

- * As the Queensland Trailer Sailer Championships are held on the 17th and 18th April and the Queensland RL24 Championships on 1st, 2nd and 3rd May, being held at Gladstone and Yeppoon respectively, the Port Curtis Sailing Club have offered our Members Boat storage (at owners risk) for over the intervening fortnight. The storage is a totally enclosed (steel) shed within a locked fenced area. Contact R. Elliott, 42 Scenery St., Gladstone, 4680. (079) 72 2313.
- * 1976 Queensland State Championships... All queries to Jim Glover (079) 276 444 day, (079) 23835 (evenings). Accommodation enquiries to Roy Semple, 22 Ross St., Yeppoon, 4703. Phone: (079) 391 637.
- * This will be my last NEWSLETTER as the "National Association" now goes to Victoria for the next twelve months. The Office Bearers are ...

Hon. President..... Roy Martin
Hon. Vice President... Ross Corbin
Hon. Secretary..... Mrs. Rae Mahon,
24 Wattle Avenue,
Beaumaris, Vic. 3193. Phone: (03) 994 759
Hon. Treasurer..... Geoff Olney,
P.O. Box 98,
Mount Evelyn, Vic. 3796. Phone: (03) 736 26511.
Registrar..... Mrs. June Legg,
P.O. Box 24,
Runaway Bay, Qld. 4216.
Phone: (075) 37 1656.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH. An American astronaut was poised in his capsule, ready to be launched.
"How do you feel?" he was asked.
"How would you feel", the astronaut replied, "if you were sitting here atop of 150,000 parts - each supplied by the lowest bidder?"

HAPPY SAILING,

JUNE LEGG.

