

VICTORIAN NEWSLETTER



RL₂₄

Association of Victoria

AFFILIATED WITH THE RL24
OWNERS ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA

AUGUST '86

President:	Mike Shannon
Secretary:	Barry Aitken
Treasurer:	Geoff Vaughan
Editor:	Ross Corben

VALE KEN RAINY

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of a long-term stalwart of the RL24 Association, Ken Rainey.

Ken gave distinguished service to our Association as Secretary for a number of years and later as a Measurer, a position he held at the time of his death on 13th June last.

In addition to his outstanding administrative skills, Ken was, of course, a very keen sailor and always enthusiastically supported the Association's sailing program. His RL24 "SPLICE" was immaculately presented and was invariably to be found mixing it willingly at the top end of the fleet.

But the full measure of Ken Rainey came from his unfailing good humour, his gentle courtesy, his wry wit and his constant willingness to lend a hand whenever it was required.

Ken will be sadly missed around the Association and to Merle, Ian, Craig and Kerrin we extend our deepest sympathies.

"FROM THE PAST"

Four Days Around Port Phillip

11th January 1982. 40^{oC}. 25-30kts N wind.

At 1300 hrs 'Solace' was launched at Williamstown to find the keel jammed 7/8ths up! We motored away from the congested launching area to a marina pen to work on it. Eventually after much diving and manoeuvring some foreign matter loose with a screw-driver (probably picked up at Gippsland Lakes the previous week) we made our way around Point Gellibrand two hours later. Our course was SouthWest and we intended to spend the night at Portarlington.

We were making 4-5kts under genoa alone. It was still blowing pretty hard. My crew Peter (3rd time out) and I ran up the mainsail. The log jumped to seven knots and found ourselves peaking to nine knots surfing down waves. Our new 6' dinghy, 'Whimpy' was towing easily. As we passed by Werribee River the winds dropped out to, around 15 knots. Peter had no spinnaker experience and took the opportunity to handle the forward work. After some successful launching and retrieving we hoisted a second with one clew tacked to the bow and jib sheets to the other. This improved our time in the lighter conditions.

Approaching Point Richards we had just recovered the second spinnaker when we ran aground on the sandbar! Peter took the helm and I dived below to bring up the plate. To my dismay it was impossible to withdraw the lockdown bolt! The swell had brought the hull down on the sand pushing the plate up inside the case and had bent the $\frac{1}{2}$ " stainless steel bolt at right-angles. The motor was started and we bumped our way upwind into deeper water.

Point Richards did not offer us very much shelter due to the depth of water we were forced to anchor in. Never-the-less after setting two anchors Peter cooked tea; 'T' bone steaks and vegetables with iced beer. It was now dark and still very hot. No sooner had I wiped the plate with a tasty crust of bread when the wind shifted to the North and increased to 20 knots or so. !!!

Out with the tool box. One screw driver and one pair of rigging wire cutters chopped at the fibreglass around the lockdown bolt eventually uncovering enough to apply a spanner and remove the embedded nut. To my relief two good whacks with the rigging cutters and out she came. Beauty! Up with the anchors and into flatter water.

With the bow into the wind we settled down to a good rest at 2330 hrs. Yes, you guessed it. Our ally the wind played a cruel trick and swung due West at three in the morning. The stern anchor did not hold in the weedy bottom so an early morning swim was in order to reset it. The wind was colder. Peter put the dinghy on the beach. Back to bed.

Wakey! Wakey! It is 0600hrs and your anchors are not holding well. In fact one anchor rope has caught itself around the motor fin and is holding the stern into the 20 knot Westerly and sending copious amounts of spray through the main hatch...

After a hearty breakfast we set sail for Queenscliffe with a 20 knot following wind which dropped out to 5-10 a little later. Near Governor Reef off Indented Head the wind was on the carousel again. This time a further 90^o to due South, 25 knots. Somehow while adjusting to this, a piece was ripped out of the rudder blade. A few tacks into St. Leonards pier seemed a good idea for lunch and inspection of the damage.

We tied up to the pier in flat water; perfect shelter in a Southerly. Disappointed that the hotel did not serve a counter-lunch Peter took 'Whimpy' and his "lovely" boat-rod and reel a little way out and called that lunch was not far away. I put a couple of hamburgers and sausages in the pan, opened a cold can and stretched out in the cockpit. Ahh... What's that!! "Your mate's in the drink"; called out someone from the pier. Oh no! But yes; a ski boat has pulled up and giving him a hand. I suspect he had given him a wash before that? "Whimpy" doesn't have an anchor, she's only 6' long, so Pete was using a No.8 danforth and 5 metres of chain attached to the painter. It seems he was hauling the anchor over the beam and had taken it aboard but the combined weight on the opposite beam resulted in a back somersault. When I handed him a dry towel and a cold can and suggested he forget about his lovely boat-rod you'd think he'd be grateful!

We found a beautiful mooring up against rubber tyres at Queenscliff and enjoyed a very pleasant night out. We didn't drink too much either. We were just full.

Next stop Mornington. Wednesday was fine and the 20 knot Southerly took us across the bay past 'Popeye' and the Mud Islands to the South Channel Fort then North East via the Pinnacle Channel. The rest of the journey was a very relaxing 5-6 knot run.

Mornington proved to be the quietest mooring of all. Here we sighted the only other RL24. "Woodwind" flew in under full sail, went about in front of the Mornington Y.C. and departed as quickly as she arrived. Fresh sizzling schnapoeer fillets, a few drinks and a quiet chat capped off a most enjoyable day.

Thursday morning. The wind has moved to the South-east 5-10kts. We ran under spinnaker for about 10 miles. The wind returned to the South and knocked us down. It was gusting 25 knots and the seas quickly built up. The wind increased to 30-35 knots and we were surfing again at 8-9 knots. As we approached Williamstown the seas were quite high and even in the troughs our minimum speed was 7 knots. Our highest speed registered on the log at 12½ knots, a record for "Solace". We were forced to gybe twice to avoid a ship in the channel. A little later we rounded up on a wave and another which closely followed hit us on the port beam and layed us right over. This was a very worrying moment but she popped back up immediately and increased my confidence in her twofold. These were very exciting conditions and we found the ride exhilarating but happy to rest at Ferguson St. pier outside Hobsons Bay Y.C.

A total of 75 nautical miles was covered in approximately 18-20 hours sailing time. Average speed 4 knots. "Whimpy" shipped only a few drops of water under tow.

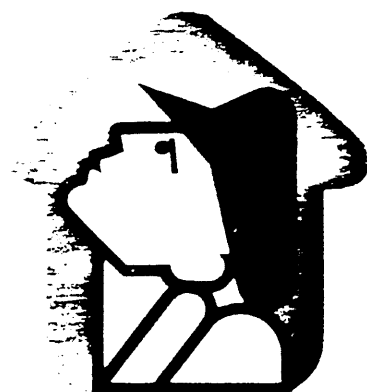
Our keel lock-down device certainly held the plate in the down position but it seems that an increase in the bolt diameter or another method is needed. Point Richards is not a good anchorage in a Westerly and the weedy bottom requires admiralty pattern or plough type anchors. Danforth designs cannot be relied upon in these conditions.

Dick Armstrong/ Solace 244

Your mast can be a hazard . . .

When using launching ramps make sure that the mast, or any part of the rigging, is clear of power lines—look up and live. Remember to allow for the height of the hull and trailer, as well as the mast, when moving your boat on a launching ramp.

AN RL24 ON
A TRAILER WITH
MAST ERECTED
IS ABOUT 33 FEET.



ALLOW FOR
CLEARANCE OF
MORE THAN
11 METRES!

LOOK UP AND LIVE

VICTORIAN TITLES 1986-87

When: Australia Day Weekend, January 1987.

Where: Rhyll Yacht Club
Western Port Bay

Who: Me

The planning has commenced for a fun filled family series at Rhyll Y.C. on the Australia Day weekend, January 1987.

The organizing committee guarantee sun, fun, fair winds accommodation? and more!

A notice of race will be included with the next Newsletter, together with more information on the venue and accommodation options.

V.Y.C. CENSUS INFO.

85 Albury-Wodonga Yacht Club	3	RL24's
85 Black rock Yacht Club	1	
85 Colac Yacht Club	1	
84 Flinders Yacht Club	1	
85 Frankston Yacht Club	1	
85 Geelong Trailable Yacht Club	2	
85 Hastings Yacht Club	2	
85 Lake Boga Yacht Club	1	
85 Lake Wellington Yacht Club	10	
85 McCrae Yacht Club	1	
85 Metung Yacht Club	1	
85 Mornington Yacht Club	1	
84 Portland Yacht Club	2	
85 Rhyll Yacht Club	7	
85 Trailable Yacht Club of Victoria	1	
85 Western Trailable Yacht Club	6	
TOTAL	41	

PORT, STARBOARD AND LOG FIRES

Want to talk to the hot-shots about tuning your boat?

Want to swap cruising yarns or pick up a tip or two about new sailing grounds for your RL24?

Well, the PORT AND LOG FIRE NIGHT at Jan & Ross Corben's home on 16th August 1986, is your chance to do all that and more.

The port, coffee and log fire will be supplied but it's BYO drinks and a plate for the supper table would be appreciated.

Note your diary and book the baysitter now! The details again:

WHERE: 161 O'Connor Road, Knoxfield. 3180. Ph: (03) 763 7732
WHEN: Saturday 16th August, 1986
WOT TIME: 8pm Onwards

OVERNIGHT KRUIZ - 11th & 12th October

We have arranged an overnight cruise to Hastings starting from Warneet. The intention is to rig at Warneet, sail to Tortise Head and meet with other RL24's and return via the western channel to the Hastings Marina. Berths will be arranged for the night. Then on to the local Pub for a meal (it's highly recommended), fellowship and a few tall ship stories. On Sunday a leisurely sail back to Warneet.

RHYLL WEEKEND - 21st and 22nd of February 1987.

Although all RL owners are already very much aware of this important date, this is one of the outings we organise for the Victorian Owners as an Association social and family get together, with boats. It has become a long standing and very popular annual picnic weekend.

Programme: Saturday 21st

- (1) A handicap race for the perpetual "Olneys Gong".
Start time to be advised next Newsletter.
- (2) A family barbeque evening at Shannons' Rhyll home. All meat supplied - bring anything else you might fancy. This evening includes presentation of trophies for Victorian Championships.

Sunday 22nd

- (1) Annual General Meeting at Rhyll Yacht Club commencing 10.30am.
- (2) Short cruise to nearby beach for lunch. Salad rolls and beer supplied. Estimated departure 12 noon for lunch at 1pm. Lunch venue also accessible by short drive.

So get there Friday night or Saturday morning, camp in the boat on the vacant block alongside Shannons' or book in at Swan Bay Caravan Park - (059) 56 9220.

We encourage you to participate in these events and invite friends to come on the cruise. I've heard a rumour there will be a Visitors Encouragement Award.

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RL24 ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

MINUTES OF AGM

Rhyl 23.2.86 Meeting Opened 10.30am

Present:

Mike Shannon, Geoff Vaughan, Barry Aitken, Lloyd & Sue Graham, Werner and Tina Stephan, Don Lewis, Doug, Susan and Denise Lee, Geoff Olney, Eric Logan, Ken Hackett and Ross Corben.

Appologies: Nil

Minutes/Reports:

Minutes of the previous meeting were discussed and reports given by the President and Secretary. These were passed on the motion of Ross Corben, seconded by Geoff Olney.

Membership as of December 1986 - 35 members.

Treasurer's Report: See next Newsletter

Election:

Election of Office Bearers for the season 1986-87.
Ross Corben moved that "current office bearers should continue for the coming season" - carried.

Membership Fees:

Ross Corben moved that subscription be increased to \$10.00, seconded Sue Graham - carried.

General Business:

Discussion on the following:-

- How to enthuse existing members and gain new members from existing boat owners.
- Possible social function during Winter.
- Money invested on State Titles, small number of entrants to cost of host Club.
- Newsletter most important and considered the life blood of the Association. Ross Corben offered to help in compiling Newsletter.

State Titles:

Resolved that Association Office Bearers organize State Titles for 86-87. Suggestion that they be conducted over two weekends in February 1987, one at Rhyl and one at Lake Wellington.

Thanks

Ross Corben moved a vote of thanks to the committee for their efforts.

Meeting Closed 11.24am



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PRESIDENT .. Mike Shannon

SECRETARY .. Barry Aitken

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO

..... 22 French Street

..... Croydon 3136

A S S O C I A T I O N S U B S C R I P T I O N S

Dr. to RL24 Association of Victoria for Membership Year July 86 -
June 87, amount \$10.00

RL24

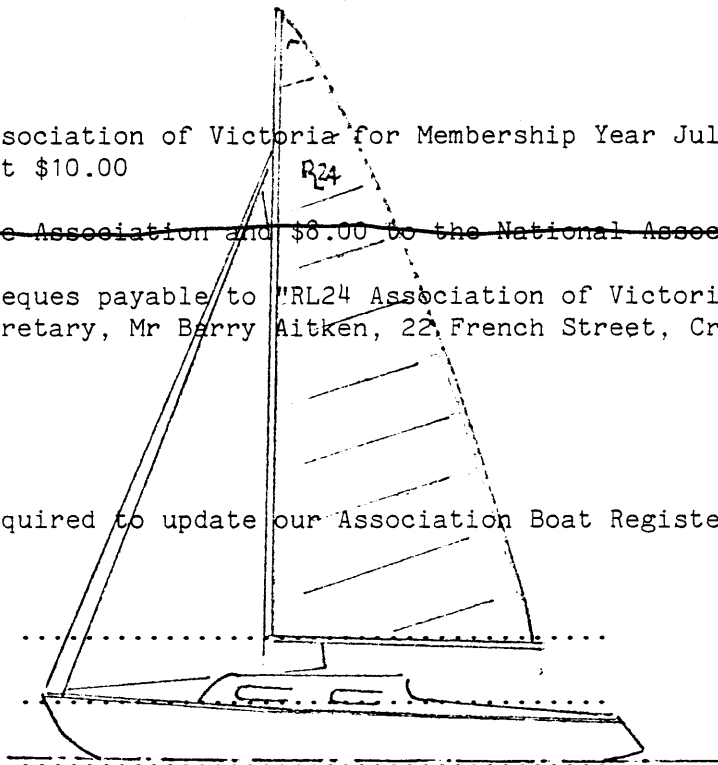
~~Being for State Association and \$8.00 to the National Association.~~

Please make cheques payable to "RL24 Association of Victoria",
forward to Secretary, Mr Barry Aitken, 22 French Street, Croydon,
3136.

Information required to update our Association Boat Register.

Owner's Name

Address



Sail Number: Boat Name

Hull Colour: Deck Colour