



NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

RL24 - It's YOUR kind of boat

Wright Crossbeams



RL24 News Feb 98

From the Bosuns Chair.

Here it is, 1998 already and the RL24 Owners Association of Australia is not only still alive but is kicking. Maybe not as vigourously as in the hey-day of the trailerable yacht scene, but certainly with enough energy to keep you up to date with RL developments and goss', via a newsletter 4 times a year, a well organized national championships regatta, and hopefully, some social events during the year.

As you will read later in this newsletter, we have just completed a successful National Championships at Lake Wellington Yacht Club, where 12 boats competed. While at Lake Colac at the other (western) end of Victoria 10 boats contested the Victorian Championships, over the Australia Day long weekend.

At Lake Wellington a new "Administration" was appointed, headed up by Ken Hackett who graciously succumbed to considerable pressure to take on the job of Association President. Ken is a founding member of the association, a former National Champion (Sasha) and a former National President. He is joined on the committee by Sec/Treasurer Rachel Parker who, although relatively new to the ranks of RL24s, is a very enthusiastic advocate for the class and the sport of sailing in general. With husband Dave, Rachel sails "The Other Woman" mostly on lake MacQuarie and after 7 straight wins at the recent Nationals they are currently National Champions of the swing keel division. Ross Corben (Cosmic Sedso - shore crew) has been co-opted to assist with the preparation of the newsletter. If you wish to contact any of the above people they can be reached as follows.

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Ken Hackett
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Sec/Treasurer
Rachel Parker
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Ross Corben
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National Championships 1998

As mentioned earlier, the 7 heat regatta to determine the RL24 National Champions was held at Lake Wellington from 3-1-98 to 9-1-98. After a week of excellent weather with the wind ranging from a bit light to a bit heavy (on average just right) the winners and place getters are....

Swing Keel Division.

1 st	The Other Woman	Dave/Rachel Parker
2 nd	Toucan	Brian/Pam Cuthbertson
3 rd	Sanity	Peter Gaudion

Drop Keel Division

1 st	Ohau Rua	Simon Walsh
2 nd	Slippery When Wet	Peter Stevens/Peter(nige) McKay
3 rd	Pipe Dream	Ian Lane/Red Edwards

Overall handicap winner

Sanity	Peter Gaudion
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A complete list of scratch and handicap results is attached to this newsletter.

Congratulations to all participants. But especially to Simon and his Band of Little Helpers, Moon, Daryn and Shane. And, to the Parker family. In both divisions, both crews were clearly superior and are worthy winners. Congatulations also to Peter Gaudion who, sailing two-up showed great tenacity if not courage, to hang in there through the heavy bits. He and his crew at least kept "Sanity" upright for the whole week which is more than can be said for "Pipe Dream" which lay down on the job when a jibe went wrong in the 6th heat. Fortunately no damage was done but when the boys Finally returned to shore they were the victims of a few jibes of a different sort.

Coolibah Trophy

1st Victoria (Ohau Rua, Slippery When Wet, Pipe Dream)

This trophy is presented annually, to the best finishing team of 3 boats representing a state, It was donated to the Association by Barry Arnold, late of Barmera in S.A. But more recently a resident of the Gold Coast, who in his day was as successful with "Coolibah" as Simon is with "Ohau Rua" today. Both have raced against each other in at least 2 national Championships , the last time at Barmera in 1978. On that occasion Simon (aged about ten), thought he was skipper of "Ohau" but the record shows it was his Dad (Jack) with mother Joy as forward hand. The point is, however,



that Simon has been very keen for a long time. And what about the boat? Still going like a rocket after all these years. Fantastic boats these RL's !!

Best First Year Skipper

This year, for the first time, an award was made to the best performing new skipper. The inaugural winner was Tim Corben who with sister Tanya, Brother Paul and friend Todd sailed his family's "Cosmic Sedso" to the 6th place of the Drop Keel Division.

Toad Trophy

As the most prestigious of all awards presented by the RL 24 Association, the Toad is the trophy most highly sought after by RL skippers. Its lure is such that many will willingly stake their lives on winning it. It was presented to the association by Craig Rooney, skipper of "Toad Of Barmera" in about 1978 to recognise any skipper who had shown "conclusive consistency" throughout a National championship series. The inaugural winner Peter Jackman whose feat in driving from just south of Innisfail (his home town) in QLD to Barmera in SA, towing his RL24 "White Pointer" had many people wondering what was so special about that. However, all became clear when it was revealed that the trip was undertaken in second gear- top gear in his three speed auto box having succumbed to the gremlins shortly after Peter left home. Peter completed the series, finishing last, but unbowed in every heat- in one very hot one- it was after dark as he finished as he had anchored and gone swimming for the afternoon. And yes- he did drive back to Innisfail in 2nd gear.

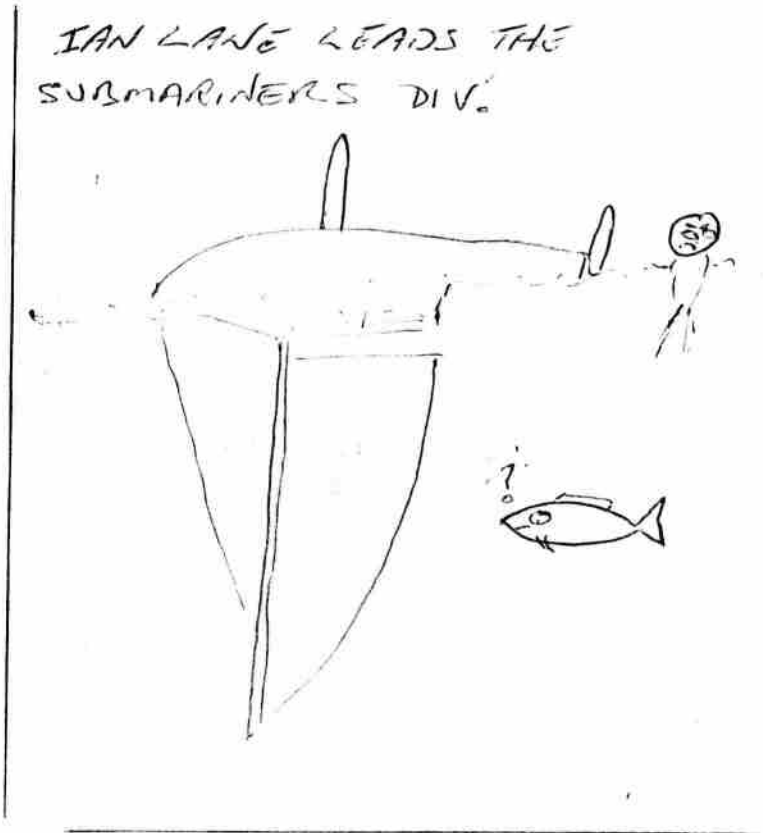
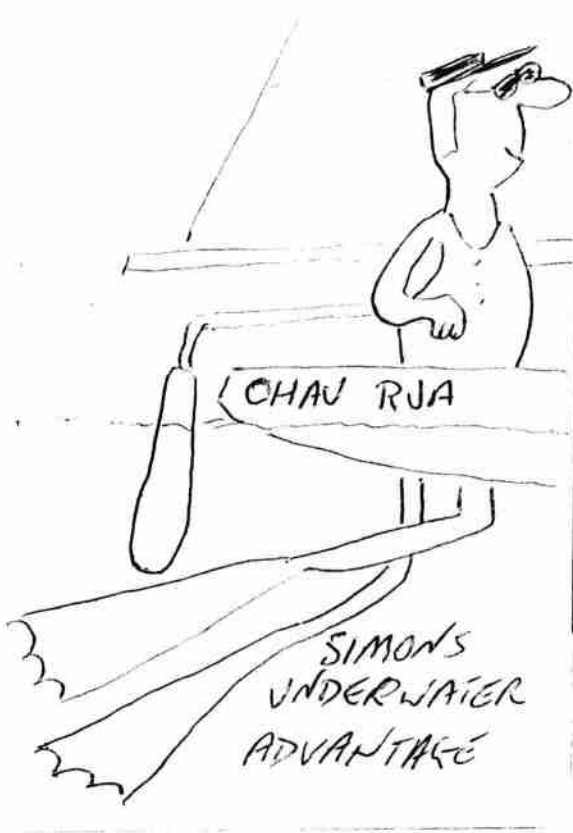
This year, unfortunately, the standard of competition, in the judges opinion, was not as high as previously noted but there were 2 or 3 reasonable efforts worthy of consideration. "Cosmic Sedso" lost crewman Todd Spencer overboard not once, not twice but three times in one race but as skipper Tim Corben opted to pick him up after the 3rd occasion and not soldier on without him, the judges felt this showed an unhealthy respect for sailing rules and crew comfort and therefore dismissed the effort. Pam Cuthbertson (Toucan) wore her beautiful blonde hair and a stunning pink band all regatta causing mayhem amongst many of her male competitors and at the start of the long distance race causing the bloke on the starting siren to misfire. However the judges thought her effort was a little underdone and thought she would have done much better, had she complimented and balanced the hair band with a pair of butt-hugging iridescent lycra bike shorts or similar. The boys on "Pipe Dream" put in a good one but even with the keel nearly right up the boat couldn't go turtle (mast head in the mud). So at best the effort could only rate maybe 40 out of a possible 100. Compared with Lake Colac spending 1/2 hour in the rich brown waters of Lake Wellington earns no points at all either.

However, just as the judges were despairing of a winner, up steps the doyen of the association, our very own Ronald McCrindle Esq albiet aided and abetted by that pushy Mick Shannon. Ronnie with Jo Jo skipper Ron Player and H28 sailer Dave Edwards as crew was doing nothing more than minding his own business in "Bunyip" just jilling around the line prior to heat 6 when out of nowhere came that FERRAL Shannon mob who put "Lowana 6" in a spot where not even Ronnie could miss it.

The resulting whack on the bow was heard all over the lake and forced "Lowana 6" to retire while Ronnie, who couldn't convince himself that he wasn't somehow, someway responsible for the prang also retired. However, as unlikely as it may seem, to those of us who know and enjoy Rons' company, this was one occasion in his long and distinguished sailing career when he was absolutely blameless. Like Shultzie in Hogans Heros Ronnie saw nussink, new nussink and untill Bunyips' bow caught lowana, heard nussink and in the judges view you can't get more Conclusively Consistant than that. Congratulations to all those skippers who missed out, keep trying. Nobody wins the Toad by giving up !!

Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the AGM are attached



TIM LORBANS TRAINING TECHNIQUES FOR CREW



Provisional Results

RL 24 Nationals Handicap - Lake Wellington Yacht Club

Results by Division Low Point Scoring

Printed 3:39pm Friday, Jan 09, 1998

Division 1 OVERALL Handicap Results Progressive

Pos.	Sail No.	Class	Skipper	Boat Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Points	Pos.
1	207	RL 24 SK	Peter Gaudion	Sanity	1	1	6	1	3	9	1	12.00	1
2	6000	RL 24 DK	Tim Corben	Cosmic Sedso	7	3	1	3	2	2	7	17.75	2
3	1030	RL 24 SK	B Cuthbertson	Toucan	3	8	12	2	1	6	2	21.75	3
4	2310	RL 24 DK	Ken Griffiths	Splice	4	2	3	5	6	5	5	24.00	4
5	415	RL 24 DK	Jeff Germaine	Radical Lady	5	5	4	6	5	3	4	26.00	5
6	454	RL 24 DK	Ian Lane	Pipe Dream	2	4	2	7	7	DNF	6	28.00	6
7	193	RL 24 SK	Dave Parker	The Other Womn	8	11	10	4	4	8	3	37.00	7
8	808	RL 24 DK	Peter Stevens	Slippery/Wet	6	6	5	9	10	4	9	39.00	8
9	1520	RL 24 DK	Bruce Castles	Pegasus	12	9	9	8	8	1	8	42.75	9
10	427	RL 24 DK	Mick Shannon	Lowana VI	9	7	7	10	11	DNF	11	55.00	10
11	1990	RL 24 DK	Simon Walsh	Ohau-Rua	11	10	11	11	12	7	12	62.00	11
12	405	RL 24 DK	Ron McCrindle	Bunyip	10	12	8	DNC	9	DNC	10	62.00	12

Total Entries 12

YachtMaster by Sportcomp Australia, P.O. Box 1096, Swan Hill 3585.

Division 1 SWING KEEL Scratch Results Progressive

Pos.	Sail No.	Class	Skipper	Boat Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Points	Pos.
1	193	RL 24 SK	Dave Parker	The Other Womn	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4.50	1
2	1030	RL 24 SK	B Cuthbertson	Toucan	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	12.00	2
3	207	RL 24 SK	Peter Gaudion	Sanity	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	18.00	3

Total Entries 3

YachtMaster by Sportcomp Australia, P.O. Box 1096, Swan Hill 3585.

Division 1 DROP KEEL Scratch Results Progressive

Pos.	Sail No.	Class	Skipper	Boat Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Points	Pos.
1	199	RL 24 DK	S Walsh	Ohau-Rua	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4.50	1
2	808	RL 24 DK	Peter Stevens	Slippery/Wet	2	3	4	2	3	2	2	14.00	2
3	454	RL 24 DK	Ian Lane	Pipe Dream	3	4	2	3	2	DNF	3	17.00	3
4	427	RL 24 DK	Mick Shannon	Lowana VI	4	2	3	4	4	DNF	4	21.00	4
5	1520	RL 24 DK	Bruce Castles	Pegasus	9	6	6	6	6	3	5	32.00	5
6	600	RL 24 DK	Tim Corben	Cosmic Sedso	8	7	5	5	5	4	6	32.00	6
7	2310	RL 24 DK	Ken Griffiths	Splice	6	5	7	7	8	6	8	39.00	7
8	415	RL 24 DK	Jeff Germaine	Radical Lady	5	8	8	8	7	5	7	40.00	8
9	405	RL 24 DK	Ron McCrindle	Bunyip	7	9	9	DNC	9	DNC	9	53.00	9

Total Entries 9

YachtMaster by Sportcomp Australia, P.O. Box 1096, Swan Hill 3585.

MINUTES of MEETING - RL 24 OWNER'S ASSOCIATION of AUSTRALIA.

Conducted at Lake Wellington Yacht Club Inc. at 3.15 p.m. 6/1/98.
Present G.Slater, Lindy Lou 222. R.McCrindle, Bunyip 405. I.Lane,
ThisWayUp 110. R.Edwards, Pipe Dream 454. B.Castles,
Pegasus 152. R.Corben, Cosmic Sedso 600. M.Shannon,
Lowana VI. K.Hackett, Sasha 102. K.Griffiths, Splice 231.
P.Gaudion, Sanity 207. B.Cuthbertson, Toucan 103. S.Walsh,
Ohau Rua 199. D.Parker, The Other Woman 193. J.Germaine,
Radical Lady 415. T.Jones, Casper 307. P.McKay, Slippery
When Wet 808. R.Player, Jo Jo 999.

Apologies Received from A.Costin and T.Jackman.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed as correct
on motion of D.Parker, seconded by R.Edwards.

Financial Report - The Association currently has three Bank
Accounts. The working account being used by the Colac
committee has \$440. There is also an account held in
Sale by Simon Walsh since the previous committee, it
has \$2245. As well there is an account in Sale from
a prior committee, supplemented by funds transferred
from New South Wales when that State Association was
wound up. This account has \$2780.

Correspondence - Various inward correspondence, all of a dis-
posable nature.

President's Report - Current financial membership only 20 odd
members, from a mailing list of about 120. Affiliation
fees to V.Y.C. takes almost all of membership subs.

Election of Office-Bearers for 1998 year. The following were
elected-
President - Ken Hackett. Prop. M.Shannon, sec. R.Corben.
Sec/Treas. - Rachel Parker. Prop. D.Parker, sec. I.Lane.
Carried with acclamation.

General Business -

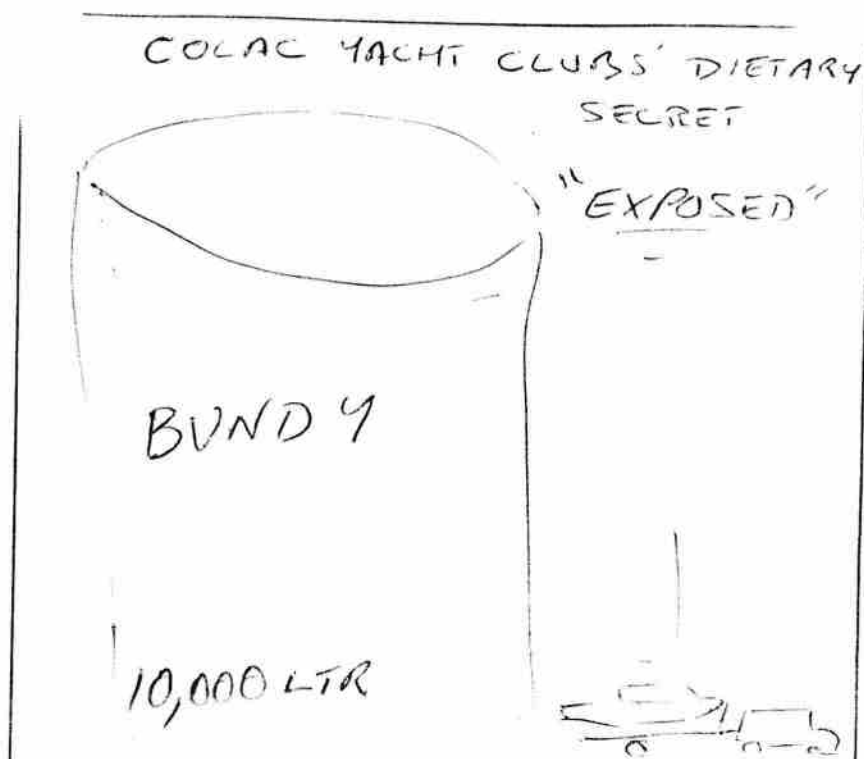
There was a warm vote of thanks for outgoing President
Nig. for a job well done.
Re. various rules - D.Parker expressed a desire for a
ballot on the subject of sealing strips on keel-slots
of swing keelers, preceded by for and against corres-
pondence in Newsletter. Nig. reported that the postal
ballot on hull weight and keel restrictions had been
almost unanimously against change.
Re. Venue for next Titles. Simon Walsh reported that
Tim Jackman (Townsville) had offered to contact some
southern Queensland clubs. Eden also suggested as a
desirable venue. Moved M.Shannon, seconded I.Lane that
incoming committee explore all options and decide.
Re. Membership Subs. Moved D.Parker, sec. R. Edwards
that subs remain at \$24, associate member \$12. Carried.
S.Walsh stressed the importance of keeping up affil-
iation with V.Y.C. Meeting closed at 3.50 p.m.

Victorian State Championships 1998

These tiles were hosted by Lake Colac Yacht Club and sailed over the Australia Day Long Weekend in January. Originally planned as a 5 race regatta, the results were determined after 4 heats as mother nature forced the cancellation of heat 5, with 30+ knots of breeze. Six drop keelers and four swings turned out to battle and some excellent racing ensued.

In the Swing Keel Division Gary Slater was clearly superior with "Lindy Lou" notching up 4 straight victories. But there was a good, close tussle between the Cuthbertsons on "Toucan" and Ian Lane sailing his recently aquired "This Way Up" (After Ians earlier experience at lake Wellington perhaps his boat should be called 'Which Way Up'-ed) By the end of the championships, Ian was second overall with Allan finishing a creditable third. Wayne Williams entered 'Finisterre, a former Lake Wellington Y.C. boat, but had time during the weekend for only one race. We look forward to seeing more of Wayne and 'Finisterre' at future RL events.

In the Drop Keel Division, 'Slippery When Wet' was slippery as usual but the corban kids, when they finally got their act together, managed to take one heat off the Stevens/McKay combo with 'Cosmic Sedso'. But it wasn't enough and Slippery took out a well deserved championships victory. John Pruden, with 'Alicia 2' skipper Les Brown as forwardhand sailed his recently aquired 'Liason' into third positon. Ricky Slater (Crackerjack) and Ron McGrindle (Bunyip) tied for 4th after some close tussles, with Ricky taking the chocolates on a countback. Red Edwards enjoyed a faily steep learning curve over most of the regatta and sailed 'Pipe Dream' into 6th place. The word from Lake Colac is that Red and his crew now have their Herald Learn to Swim Certificates and in future will not feel the need to practice swimming during yacht races. Full results of the Victorian Championships are as follows over leaf.....



Drop Keel Division

Skipper	Boat Name	Heat 1	Heat 2	Heat 3	Heat 4	Total points	Final place
McKay/Stevens	Slippery.W.W	1	1	2	1	2.25	1
Tim Corban	Cosmic Sedso	3	3	1	2	5.75	2
John Pruder	Liason	2	2	3	3	7	3
Ricky Slater	Crackerjack	4	6	4	dnc	14	4
Ron McGrindle	Bunyip	5	4	5	dnc	14	5
Red Edwards	Pipe Dream	6	5	6	dnc	17	6

Swing Keel Division

Gary Slater	Lindy lou	1	1	1	1	2.25	1
Ian Lane	This Way up	2	3	2	2	6	2
Allan Cuthbertson	Toucan	3	2	3	3	8	3
Wayne Williams	Finisterre	dnc	4	dnc	dnc	14	4

RLs Wanted

Peter (Nige) McKay, our man in Colac, tells us that he has had a number of approaches from people wanting to lay their hands on good RL24s'. If you know of an RL that is for sale, Nige would be very happy to hear from you. He can be contacted on 03 5231 4073 ah.

There is a list attached to this newsletter, compiled by David Parker, of boats listed in the Feb Trade-a-Boat.

Bits and Pieces

- Jeff Germaine (Radical Lady) rolled up to the Nationals with what appeared to be the ultimate secret weapon in intimidation- his own, personal PLO terrorist. Fortunately before the SAS were called in we discovered that the highly sus' and dangerous looking bloke complete with arab headgear and luxurious black beard was none other than Trevor Jones who was simply dressing very sensibly to avoid the dangers of the sun- just as the Arabians do. Trevor is usually found at RL events sailing his beloved 'Casper' and as for any terrorist tendencies, let's just note that he is one person who brings a literal meaning to the term *gentleman*.

- One of the prettiest and best maintained RLs is Ken Griffiths' 'Splice' and by the time Ken finishes his development program it may well be one of the fastest too. Ken has spent a lot of time removing excess weight from the inside of the boat. And, with help from Reg Hill of Sale Fibreglass Repairs has built a new interior that stiffens the boat without losing any of the boats cruising capacity. If you are in the process of setting up or modifying your RL, You'd be wise to talk to Ken who has a wealth of experience and is very happy to share it. You'll learn heaps just looking at 'Splice' which bristles with good, clever, neat and highly clever ideas.
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- It was good to see Bruce Castles and 'Pegasus' back at a National Championships. Bruce and his boat have been to more RL24 Championships than anyone and until 1996 had been to every RL Championships held since the class began.

And finally- overheard at Colac when Ronnie McGrindle, veteran of 1001 championship campaigns was at the Bar with rookie Tim Corban. Says Ronnie to Tim "By the lord Harry, that boat of yours is going good now you've got rid of your old man." Thanks Ronnie- that was obviously 'Cosmics' problem all along..



"Well, if we aren't in the shipping lane there are four moons going over at twenty knots."

Glossary of class and sailing terms

Abandon. 1. A wild state in which one acquires a boat. 2. A wild state in which someone relinquishes a boat. Further reading .. Tim Corbans art of successful skippering. Soon to be released.

Alcohol Stove. A small cooking appliance found on many cruising RL24s'. Preferred over LPG as its' contents can be easily emptied into a glass and mixed with tomato or orange juice.

Bar. An underwater build up of sand at a river mouth. However sometimes made of laminex and found ashore RL sailers rarely congregate around the former ,they can however be found in great numbers around the latter.

Boom. The sound that emanates from the bow of Lowana 6 just prior to a race. Often heard in stereo with resinations provided by the nearest vessel. The most notable was a duet recorded at Lake Wellington performed with Bunyip.

Capsize. See Pipe Dream.

Catamaran. Single hulled vessel with training wheel or hull.

Chart. Quoted by Red Edwards as a useless piece of paper. Mr Edwards is known for his navigational skills, having traversed much of lake wellington prior to the National Titles without need of such a document. During Mr Edwards endeavours he and his hearty crew discovered numerous rivers , streams and even some lost civilisations.

Clew. Evidence leading to the finding of a missing sail.

Crew. Breathing Ballast.

Fast. An object firmly attached. Example.... The crew of Slippery when wet were *fast* to the bar.

Figurehead. An ornamental figure placed at the bow of a vessel. Though in the case of Toucan the stern applies.

Gybe/jibe. 1. The process of clearing the vessel of unwanted breathing ballast. 2. Often heard around bars and starting lines with one skipper reminding the other of No 1. or any other possible weak point that can be played upon.

Moon 1 Earths natural satalite. 2. Found on the deck of Ohau Rua and used primarily to provide an increased righting moment. 3. Subject to prevailing conditions two moons can be seen moving at high speed and low to the ground, usually dependant on the spirits and exhalation of a great series. These two moons are scientifically known as Nudis Stevus Rottenous and Starkas Davey Smashedus. Upon the rising of the sun , these unusual fenomina will be almost impossible to find. They generally move to a galaxy known as maxima-embarrisementum hangoverous.

Pipe Dream. See Capsize

Protest committee. A senior and impartial group of members with the highest level of integrity. Charged with enforcing the rules without personal persuasion. To those protest committee members reading, Hi how are you and the family. Did you like the bottle of port I sent you. Did you get my Xmas card, lovely to see you recently, are you losing weight, yes it's ok to park in my spot.

Racing. A contact sport. An unusual situation where thousands of dollars are spent to win a twenty dollar prize. It is widely believed the sport was invented by economists as sailors will often be seen *adjusting* components and *correcting* times.

Rules. Often made of rubber and vary dramatically depending on ones position in a race.

Rhumb Line. An American spelling of the traditional late night dance performed by members of the Colac Yacht Club. Similar to Conga line , however co-ordination is not relevant. The dance is usually performed late into the night while many stories and fables are passed around the group. Many of these fables are based on little truth but certainly are entertaining to the onlooker.

Trailing. A time when the owner of a boat is not aboard but the vessel is in just as much peril

Wake. A navigational aid placed in the water by Simon Walsh and his crew for other skippers to follow.

Whip widely used crew motivational device. Barn, the Love Guru, has other uses for the same but due to federal regulations we are not permitted to print them. The author recommends, those interested the Love Gurus techniques, read Caligula or the Carma sutra. In these books you will get a small sample. Similarly you could ring 1900 L.O.V.E.G.U.R.U.

I have contacted several brokers and offered them free 'add space' in the newsletter for boats for sale. In return, I've asked for contact information on purchasers, so we can mail our newsletters to them.
Dave Parker 0249 705 754

The following boats are available through feb 98 Trade-a-Boat.

***Sailaway Trailer yachts, Belmont NSW 0249 45 9499

Mk3. 2 mains, two jibs, two genoas, three kites, 15hp johnson, pulpit, chemical loo, metho stove, log, four winches, danforth anchor, no trailer currently moored. \$9,500

Mk3. 1 main, 1 jib, 1 kite, tohatsu 8hp, trailer, hydraulic brakes, power winch, retrievermates, intl lighting, nav lights, battery, stereo, sounder, log, pulpit, anchor, compass, boom awning. spent most of its time in fresh water. \$16,5000

***Sundance Yachts, Sandringham VIC 03 9598 8999

Mk1 \$8,900 no further info in add

***Mooloolabah Yacht Club Brokerage, QLD 07 5444 4822

Mk? 5 sails, 6hp merc, \$11,500

***Keppel Bay Marina, Yeppoon QLD, 07 4933 6244

MK? \$8,400 no further info in add

***Mainsails Marine Brokerage, Brooklyn NSW. 02 9985 7033

Mk? Custom built. Timber deck (modified). Swing Keel, stove, head, radio, sounder, outboard. with modifications to the boat it is unlikely it would be able to race within the class rules, may suit cruising purchaser \$12,500.

***from Trade-a-Boat Classics.

Mk? 8hp outboard, toilet, stove, South Australia, 08 8522 3505, \$10,900

Mk3 swing keel, 6hp merc, 5 sails plus kite with launcher, boom tent, anchors, safeties, gal trailer, Queensland 07 5443 9662, \$11,000

Note: all care, no responsibility on the above. I reccomend you confirm with brokers or advertisers in case of typo's. Dave Parker