



NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1999

RL24 - It's YOUR kind of boat



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RYE NATIONALS UPDATE (From Ken Hackett)

1. Planning is at an advanced stage with very experienced and enthusiastic yacht club committee.
2. RLs will race by themselves on Wednesday, Jan. 5th (Invitation race) and on Saturday, Jan. 8th. (Long Distance race.) All other heats will be on the course with TS16s with RLs starting 5 minutes ahead.
3. There will be four support boats on the water covering the duties of Committee Boat, Course Laying, Start Line (leeward end) and Lead Boat. All boats will share rescue duties as required.
4. We are invited to provide Observers/Time Keeping Assistants for either the Committee Boat or Race Control Centre. Anyone interested in being in the thick of the action in this way, please see Ken or Ross.
5. Several options are likely for launching, mooring and trailer parking. All ramps are busy in January but the area is well served with a triple ramp at Rye, and ramps at nearby Tootgarook and Tyrone (refer Melways 168/169.) The Club will provide limited "over the sand" launching with a tractor but with up to 30 Hartleys sharing facilities, this is likely to be slow. Trailer parking will be available near the Club but bear in mind that summer holiday crowds may limit access. It is also possible that RL campers may be able to poke a trailer in near their tents. Overnight boat mooring/storage is possible in the shallows at waters edge. (Two good anchors recommended.) The Club will provide a security patrol in the clubhouse area or an alternative boat park may be in front of the tent area.
6. Camping. The camp ranger, Gordon Sheppard, has been most cooperative and is keen to see the visiting sailors are looked after. He is hoping to open up an area not usually for camping and have all the yachties together. If this arrangement comes off, it is about 400m. west of the Club but has the advantage that boats at the waters edge are in clear view of the camp.
7. Social. To get the ball rolling, the Club will host a *Welcome Barbeque* after our Invitation Race on Wednesday 5th Jan. Likely cost is about \$10. A vegetarian alternative will be available. BYO drinks or purchase your liquid requirements at the Club bar. On Saturday evening, Jan. 8th, we will have our own *Social Night* which will be pizzas at the Club. This will follow our AGM and will be AT NO CHARGE for RL crews and supporters. The RYC Social Committee will provide rolls/sandwiches for lunches – orders to be lodged in advance. There are 2 barbeques at the Club, freely available at any time.

VICTORIAN RL24 CHAMPIONSHIPS 2000

Not yet finally confirmed but it seems highly probable that the Victorian RL24 State Titles for 2000 will be on Port Phillip Bay at Mordialloc over the weekend of March 18th & 19th. This will be in conjunction with the VYC Victorian Trailable Yacht

Championship. The host organisation, "Mordialloc Motor Yacht Club has been around for a long time but is now emerging as a pre-eminent player in the Trailable Yacht scene. The Club is going to a great deal of trouble to stage a series that trailables will find easy to get to, launch and moor. The club house is on The Island in Mordialloc Creek with excellent launching into the sheltered waters of the Creek at the mouth near the pier. Mooring pens will be available. Full details and the Race Programme will be in the Notice of Race to be posted with the next RL Newsletter in January 2000.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the RL24 Owners Association of Australia will be held on January 8th 2000 commencing at 1800hrs. sharp at the club house of the Rye Yacht Club Inc. Notices of Motion, duly seconded, must be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary, RL24 Owners Association of Australia by Dec. 8th 1999. Any other items for inclusion on the agenda for the meeting must be forwarded to the Hon Sec. By Dec.31st 1999.

HOT GOSS. FROM COLAC.

Our very own roving (raving?) reporter from The Club With No Water, the incomparable Pam Cuthbertson, has sent us news of the RL scene at Colac. Pam reports as follows.

Hi Ross

Big Red Edward's (Pipe Dream) and his lovely lady Trish, have announced that they have a baby on the way, looks like "Red" is like the "Doc" and getting his own crew together, so look out "Barn Cuppo" and Phil Harris, you had better keep fit.

Paul & Jane Davis, formally off "Toucan" have purchased their own R.L. (" Street Car") and Paul has had himself locked away all winter methodically checking out, and modifying a already fast and proven boat.

Now the Colac R.L. Boys and girls were very sorry to hear that Pete McKay ("Nige") was selling his R.L. ("Slippery When Wet") but fortunately Tony McKenzie (Colac A. Class sailor) has produced a Taipan, as fair exchange!!!! Imagine "Nige" on a Taipan!! We have heard that he will be under the guidance of Peter Stephens. Slippery When Wet is currently holidaying up at the Whitsunday's, and hopefully might turn up at the Nationals at Rye. We heard they went O.K. in the "Hogs Breath fun Race" with a novice crew on board.

Now the Colac "Boys" would like to know has the "Doc" booked his accommodation at Rye (as we all know how much he and his family love to camp right next to us, none of us drink, we all go to bed very early and keep the noise right down.)

SEE YOU AT THE NATIONALS " DOC".

Sad news is that Bryan Cuthbertson's ("Toucan") won't be going to the nationals as stand in skipper Pam is unable to get a clearance from "This Way Up".

Now speaking of "Laney" and "Dash" Langdon's ("This Way Up"). She has been in the workshop all winter getting a complete make over (interior & exterior) the Otway blackwood on the gunwale and topside finishes her off beautifully.

ANY IDEAS ON THE LOCK DOWN KEELS?

As lock down keels are now compulsory on all Trailer Sailers at competition level. Owners are scratching their heads wondering what is the best method to achieving this result. Do I put a pin through the centre case (LAST RESORT) or try something else?

As sailors by necessity, are a very resourceful and inventive group of people I'm sure that amongst ourselves there are many fantastic and simple ideas that maybe the answer to this problem.

As this lockdown is a problem for everyone I would like those with any solutions to fax a diagram and particulars to me. I would then compile a list of all ideas and make them available to all, either by way of fax, post or even the R.L. Net site if agreeable with the R.L. executive.

PLEASE FAX OR POST IDEAS TO

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WHERE HAVE THE RL'S GONE ?

Following weekly winter Friday night meetings at the Colac Yacht club bar it seems the biggest concern to most is the number or lack of RL's actively competing at National & State Titles.

To try and increase these numbers it's thought that perhaps the class needs a cruising division.

Cruising division boats must have bunks and cushions, stove, porta potti, marine radio. Spinnakers are not to be used.

Maybe this class could sail a shortened course.

It is thought that maybe this class would encourage the husband, wife, family or cruising team to come along and not have to compete against the so called guns and stripped out shells.

Anyone interested in this concept please contact us. If sufficient interest is shown maybe a cruising division could be included at future titles.

WANTED

Desperately a berth or mooring for Reds 42 footer to use as the official sister ship for the Colac RL boys (& girls). Seriously Red is looking for a berth or mooring at or near Rye for the nationals. The spin off would be moonlight cruises, completely catered for lay-day cruises and late shipboard drinks & biddles as only the Colac Girls could arrange.

WANTED 2.

A **RESPONSIBLE** person to run people to & fro the sister ship in small rubber inflatable.

