



## NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2005

RL24 – It's YOUR kind of boat

RL24 Owners Association of Australia Inc.  
A0045403P ABN: 75 905 426 014

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Ross Corben.

**GREETINGS** to the RL24 diaspora!

This Newsletter is a bit late (well, OK, very late) but given that the basic ingredient of a newsletter is news and given that your humble scribe hasn't had any of the RL24 variety, there seemed little point in sending out a blank sheet of paper. However, that situation has now changed so here we are back in print. If there is something you feel ought to be included in the next edition (and there *will* be a next edition!) give Ross Corben a call on (03) 9763 7732 AH or 0419 50 13 19 during the day or e-mail [corbens@netlink.com.au](mailto:corbens@netlink.com.au) and if it's fit to print it will get a run. Promise!

#### **A Note From President Bernie Ryan**

Monkey See Monkey Do has had a tummy ache and has had its appendix removed, it was also sick of being a swinger, it will have a long one fitted soon.

I was disappointed with the people who mentioned they would turn up for the 2005 Nationals and didn't, maybe more of an effort for 2006 at Paynesville.

Colac Yacht Club has offered to stage the State Titles on the first weekend in December 2005. in conjunction with their Annual Regatta. I believe we've taken up the offer on Lake Colac.

Interesting to read in "Australian Sailing" (July 2005.) an article entitled "Facing The Future". Data was presented showing competitor numbers at the National C'ships of various classes as follows: Finns 5, Vee Ess13, Flying Dutchman 16, Skates 17 12ft. skiffs 19, Tornados 7, Mosquitos 17 etc. He did not mention trailables but 15 at our Nationals must be one of the largest fleets in trailable yachts. Mentioned also was weekend trading may be great for the economy but it is a disaster for the recreational needs of our society. "Modern" housing seems to have discarded the shed, we are faced with a generation of kids who are unlikely to learn how to use tools and work with wood, fibre glass and aluminium, at the finish the writer talked about the low birth rates etc. maybe therefore more sex will build up numbers in RL fleets.

Bernie Ryan.

#### **RL24 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2006**

As directed at the last AGM, your Hon. Secretary, Paul Corben, approached the Committee of the Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club Inc. for their co-operation in hosting our next National Championship regatta. Paul now reports that the Club has agreed to do this during the period 27<sup>th</sup> December 2005 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005. Our initial preference, you will recall, was for dates early in the New Year but the Club has a prior longstanding commitment for that period with the Flying Dutchman Association. Given that both the Dutchmen and ourselves would prefer to have exclusive use of the track, we have opted to take the earlier week for our series and declare the winners National Champions for the year 2006. One unexpected bonus of this arrangement is that our Presentation Night will coincide with the Paynesville New Years Eve Spectacular which the town sponsors every year. Association President, Bernie Ryan is again coordinating the regatta and if it is anything like as good as our last Championship, it will be another great event. Already, action is in hand to make overnight parking space available within the GLYC grounds for all competing RL's should visiting skippers require it. Bernie is also very happy to make his good offices available to any prospective participants who require assistance in locating suitable accommodation. Phone him on (03)51 56 76 06 or 0418 52 17 08.

As we go to press, the Notice of Race is in the hands of GLYC and Yachting Victoria for their collective approval and as soon as it is cleared, it will be forwarded to all members. At this stage, the programme for all Divisions (ie Swing Keel, Drop Keel and Cruising) will look something like this:

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. Invitation Race – probably 2 or 3 back to back 1 lap screamers in the afternoon.

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> Dec Heats 1 & 2 back to back in the afternoon.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Dec Heats 3 & 4 back to back in the afternoon.

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Dec Heats 5 & 6 back to back in the afternoon.

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> Dec Heat 7 in the morning.

All divisions will start and sail the same course simultaneously. Resails will be scheduled in the mornings if required. A comprehensive social programme is also being planned.

#### **RL24 Victorian State Championships 2005.**

The Colac Yacht Club is holding its annual regatta on the weekend of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> December next and we have been invited to participate on the basis that the programme of races will constitute our State Championship series for 2005. As is well known, Colac YC is home to several notable RL24s and their more notable owners so a big fleet and a great weekend is assured. The Notice of Race is enclosed so mark the weekend in your diary now.

#### **National Championships 2005.**

Despite an appalling lack of cooperation from the weather Gods, the National Championship series held at Gippsland Lakes yacht Club, Paynesville from January to January 2005 was one of the best yet for a number of reasons. To begin with, we were favoured by the attendance for the entire week of the man responsible for the very existence of our Class, Robb Legg and his wonderfully tolerant (at least where sailing and boats are concerned!) and charming wife, Dawn. It was a great pleasure to have them involved and many members expressed the view, in one way or another, that it was very reassuring to note the extent to which the Class designer, Patron and Life Member is so obviously still nurturing the Class in his own unique style. We are indeed fortunate to have the benefit of Robb's continuing support.

Then there was the organization. This was the first time we were the beneficiaries of substantial sponsorship. Association President Jeff Germaine (*Running Late*) did wonderful work with his employer, GEO, to secure a very generous cash grant which was used to help defray traveling costs and administrative expenses for which the Association was very grateful. Bernie Ryan (*Monkey See Monkey Do*) did his bit by squeezing a useful trophy or cash out of most of Paynesville's business community and Michael Reid (*Sasha*) tossed in several bottles of his superb Auldstone Wineries' Muscat. Presentation Night was metaphorically an embarrassment of riches and no one left empty handed.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of the series was that, at last, the Olde Order changeth. As alluded to above, the weather was dreadful with either far too much wind or not enough. In the end the series was decided on the basis of 5 heats, it proving impossible to make a start in two resails. None the less, the racing in both divisions was hard fought and close with results often being decided on the last work. Both division winners won 3 heats but were closely pushed throughout the series by at least two or three other competitors. So, as you will see from the attached results, the Association has a new pair of Champions and warmest congratulations are due to Bernie Ryan who won the Swing Keel Division with *Monkey See Monkey Do* and Craig Rainey, who with *Wings* won the Drop Keel Division. For Craig, this is his second RL24 National Championship, the first coming at Lake Wellington in 1989 after a series many believe was the most demanding ever held.

The series also attracted 2 new competitors in Simon O'Leary (*Miles To Go*) and Darren Dyer (*Whatever*). Darren is only "new" in the sense that this was the first RL24 Titles in which he sailed his *own* boat – last year he skippered Doug Laity's immaculate *Streaker* to a 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Swing keel Divn. Previously he sailed for many years as crew on brother-in-law Simon Walsh's *Ohau Rua*. Simon O'Leary missed the first couple of heats but he had good reason – he had been crewing in the Sydney – Hobart and was making his way back from Tasmania. The Association welcomes Simon and Darren and hopes they enjoy the RL experience for many years to come.

### **The Toad**

This year, the Toad Trophy, perhaps the most coveted of all RL24 awards, was won by Simon Walsh and *Ohau Rua*. Simon's bid for Toad glory was made early in the series when, at the last mark in Heat 2, he headed off for shores unknown when he should have been dashing for the finish line instead. At the time, he was in a situation not unfamiliar to him - i.e.- he was leading the field but such was the intensity of the racing that before he could correct his mistake, he'd surrendered 4 places and finished 5<sup>th</sup>. Simon was, of course, strongly challenged for the Toad, the best effort coming from last years' winner, James Shannon (*Warrigal*) James was doing well in the early heats so it was surprising to see him begin the trek out to the course in race 4 only to turn back due to what he interpreted to be a rising gale. The rest of the fleet headed out for a start as scheduled but the race was postponed due to a lack of wind! At least James had his boat back on the trailer first.

### **2005 AGM**

Details and the Minutes of the RL24 AGM held at Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club, Paynesville last January will be circulated in the next Newsletter. Office bearers elected at that meeting are as follows:

President: Bernie Ryan.

Secretary: Paul Corben.

Treasurer: Trevor Jones.

Public Officer: Mary Jones.

**2005/06 SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE!**

Sorry to remind you, folks but the grubby business of money always seems to be lurking in the background and in this case it's the matter of our annual subs. Which are now due. Please send your remittance of \$24 to our Treasurer, Trevor Jones at PO Box 112 LOCH SPORT 3851 with the attached invoice.

**FOR SALE**

Craig Rainey has for sale a Holms Brothers keel and a North jib, both off *Wings* and both in excellent condition. Craig can be contacted on (03) 51 431215 (AH) or 0417 588 838. (Mob)

Date Jan 05

RL24

RL24 National Titles

SAIL NO	YACHT CLASS	YACHT NAME	SKIPPER	RACE 1	RACE 2	RACE 3	RACE 4	RACE 5	RACE 6	RACE 7	TOTAL POINTS
450	RL24 DK	Wings	Craig Rainey	2.00	0.75	0.75	2.00	0.75			6.25
199	RL24 DK	Ohua Rua	Simon Walsh	0.75	5.00	2.00	0.75	3.00			11.50
427	RL24 DK	Lowanna VI	Mick Shannon	5.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	5.00			18.00
102	RL24 DK	Sasha	Mick Reid	4.00	4.00	8.00	4.00	2.00			22.00
600	RL24 DK	Cosmic Setso	Paul Corben	7.00	8.00	5.00	6.00	4.00			30.00
150	RL24 DK	Warragul	James Shannon	3.00	3.00	4.00	10.00	10.00			30.00
307	RL24 DK	Caspar	Trevor Jones	6.00	6.00	7.00	7.00	7.00			33.00
415	RL24 DK	Running Late	Jeff Germaine	10.00	7.00	6.00	5.00	6.00			34.00
407	RL24DK	Miles to Go	Simon O'Leary	10.00	10.00	10.00	8.00	8.00			46.00
126	RL24 SK	Monkey See Monkey Do	Bernie Ryan	0.75	4.00	3.00	0.75	0.75			9.25
110	RL24 SK	This Way Up	Ian Lane	2.00	0.75	2.00	3.00	4.00			11.75
159	RL24 SK	Whatever	Darren Dwyer	4.00	2.00	0.75	2.00	3.00			11.75
269	RL24 SK	Street Car	Paul Davis	3.00	3.00	4.00	4.00	2.00			16.00
414	RL24 SK	Screamn ' Blue Murder	Ian Cook	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00			25.00
108	RL24 SK	Mis Tress	Hugh Hetherington	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00			30.00

## INVOICE

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE RL 24 OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA FOR THE 2005/2006 FINANCIAL YEAR ARE NOW DUE AND PAYABLE.

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PREFERRED MEMBERSHIP STATUS BY TICKING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

FULL MEMBERSHIP .....\$24.00

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP .....\$12.00

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHEQUE PAYABLE TO THE RL 24 OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA AND RETURN IT WITH THIS INVOICE TO MR. TREVOR JONES, HON. TREASURER, RL24 OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA, P.O. Box 112 LOCH SPORT , 3851.

### MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

NAME: .....

ADDRESS; .....

.....

POSTCODE .....

TELEPHONE NO. .....

BOAT NAME : .....

SAIL NUMBER .....

MK. 1, 2 OR 3? .....

DROP OR SWING KEEL? .....

IF YOU HAVE DISPOSED OF YOUR RL 24 COULD YOU PLEASE ADVISE THE ASSOCIATION OF THE NEW OWNERS NAME AND ADDRESS SO THAT AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE ASSOCIATION CAN BE FORWARDED.

IF YOU ARE A CURRENT OWNER BUT REQUIRE NO FURTHER CONTACT WITH THE ASSOCIATION, COULD YOU PLEASE ADVISE US BY RETURNING THIS INVOICE NOTED APPROPRIATELY.