



Ho, Ho, Ho!!

Hello fellow RL sailors, and on behalf of the Committee of the Association I'd like to wish you and your families a jolly good Christmas and a prosperous and healthy 2009. Don't eat too much pudding on Christmas Day – it'll weigh you down for the Championships. We hope Santa brings you everything you wish for!!

This newsletter is mainly about the **RL24 National Championships**, to be held at Paynesville 28<sup>th</sup> Dec'08 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan '09. The Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club is our host for the week, the 'base' for all activities is their Sailing club.

**Registration** is from 1000 hrs on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Dec. at the clubrooms, where you will be able to collect your showbag full of goodies and **sailing instructions**.

The first social item on the week's agenda is the Welcoming BBQ, which will be held after the 3 short invitation races at the Sailing Club at 1830 hrs., on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>. Dec. This is a free meal of sausages, hamburgers, coleslaw, bread etc. Just bring yourselves & family along for a short welcome and general get together. The Bar will be open for refreshments.

**The Annual General Meeting of the Association** will be held at the Clubrooms at 1800 hrs sharp on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> December. Please remember that only financial members are eligible to vote, and the rule that states one vote per boat will apply. Copies of the RL24 Constitution and RL24 Class Rules & Restrictions will be available. Free pizzas will be delivered for our dinner after the meeting.

**The Presentation Night Dinner** will be held at the Clubrooms - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan '09. 1815 hrs. Drinks - Dinner at 1900 hrs. The cost for this will be approx. \$28.00 per head, for a 2 course meal with a vegetarian option. Menu available at Welcoming BBQ.

### **Sponsors**

We have obtained many very generous sponsorships for the Championships, so throughout your stay in Paynesville please support the following businesses :

*Paynesville Foodworks, Blue Water Marine, Boat Pieces, Bulls Cruises, Ronstan, Club Marine, Quantum Sails Paynesville, Hamilton Sunscreen Company, Paynesville Wine Bar, East Gippsland Regional & Business Tourism Association and Robb Legg.*

**CREW** – If anyone is looking for extra crew for the National Titles - CASEY SLATER is looking for a spot on any RL – Please contact him on 0439853652 – he has accommodation organised.

### **On the grapevine :**

From Colac : Cookie ( Screamin ' Blue Murder) nearly needed another crew member for the Nats. himself, as 2 weeks ago young Bryan Cuthbertson ( AKA Cuppo) was skippering his boat when a younger member of his crew lost one of his thongs. On circling round to look for it, a very accommodating Bryan was looking in the water when the boom unexpectedly swung across and collected him on the nose. Much angst and blood and a trip to the local hospital later, Bryan was looking very bruised and sorry for himself. Moral of the story – noses are more precious than thongs! Fortunately it happened at the end of the second race of the day.

From Sale : what do good sailors do during the winter months to hone their skills, ready for next sailing season? The Secretary of the Association found out whilst trying to contact the President some months ago – his daughter had great delight in telling said Secretary that he was out playing indoor bowls!!! So I expect to hear that enrolments in indoor bowls tournaments have surged once sailing season is over.

That's about it for now, looking forward to seeing you all at the Nationals, Jane Davis