

South & Northy Newsletter

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Your Committee of workers

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PDYC. Greg Rowsell

Historic Scene Hobart Feb 1984



Unfortunately for the general public viewing, Ns races like this that are starting close to shore, are no more. In current times for regattas, "showdowns" and "crown series"; the courses are too far out from the shore. The boats now can hardly be seen, apart from at the "Blockbuster event" at PDYC.

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Priceless : Emailed to financial members

Membership and Boat Registration

At the time of publishing we only have fifteen boats registered for the 2010-11 season. Boats from last season still not registered are:- "Bumps, Cicada6, Enter the Dragon, Dry White, In the Red, Jim, Just Ice, Magic and Loss, Tamarg, Under the Radar, Yes Yes Yes". We have written to the latter new owner, inviting Pat Symes to join, as well as recent arrivals "Wild Thing" from NSW purchased by Hugh Maslin, and "Touche" purchased from Victoria by Robert Carter. However a new owner that has joined is Sam Bailey, who has purchased "Hedgehog" not registered for the last two seasons. If you see these un-financial boats sailing, ask them to join. As we need the numbers for voting rights to the national body, and there is no local association, without members.

National Voting: Each state is currently voting on five changes put forward by another state, to change boat measure rules, and constitution appointments. Had not four members joined, and four "rego" cards been issued on 28th October. Tassie would have had only 1 vote instead of 2, at National Council agenda meetings. The vote rules for all states are based on registered boats eg: 10 boats =1 vote, 11- 30 boats = 2 votes; 31-50 boats = 3 votes etc. We also have to pay our capitation fee \$20 per boat by Oct 31st.

Site of the 2010-11 Nationals at Lake Burley Griffin



The Registrar took these photos in September, and it shows a 49Er training on the course area to be used. Just behind the yacht is a small island in the lake. But the area is just large enough for a triangle course. The hill in the background is "Black Mountain". With a tower, a nice tourist spot, to look over the ACT.



Again a photograph taken in September, while visiting, and during which, I was able to dine for lunch with the NS 14 National President Bill Kerrigan. This photo shows some of the rigging area available in front of the Canberra Club. The first floor has the dining room and bar. Ground floor has the change rooms for crews.

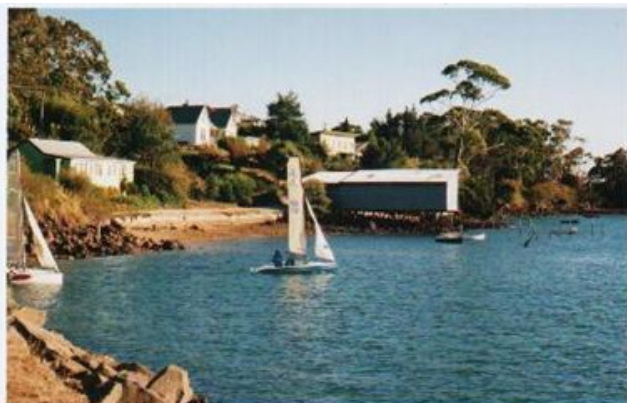


This small sheltered inlet is the actual area for crews to launch. Either using trollies or carrying the boats. The top left hand photo showing the actual course area, hides the rocky bank between the grass and lake. From the inlet to the lake, there is a narrow entrance on the left near the jetty, and area of reclamation. Darren Eggins is going to the nationals, and is offering to take another boat on his trailer. If a crew wishes to fly in.

News Around the Clubs

The North Grapevine: -The season opened on 10th October. We understand a couple of Ns with the TYC have been on the water so far. On November 7th there were five out of the six, Ns sailing at PDYC in the Sprint Series. A father and son team took out the Aero six "Duel Control" which is the club trainer since the 2009-10 season. Father had a younger life sailing experience in International Cadets at Sandy Bay Club. While son crew has come through to graduate from the sabot class. While in "Hedgehog" a Tequila Ns design, the new owners are still feeling (a bit prickly perhaps) their way. Personally in my own experience, I found introduction to the fibreglass series, first through the Aero hulls a little less difficult. But then previous owner sail maker Nick Richardson, was able to climb aboard Tequila "Hedgehog" in just a few short sails, so easy from what most of us saw. And win two state titles. As well as become "Tassie sailor of the year" awarded by the YA. We hear Rob Moreton has been more addicted to the club training. Perhaps skipper therapy by Claire, Karen, Katherine, and Ruth, can help Gail?

Southern Grapevine: -The opening day 26th Sept was blown away, with Governor Hon Peter Underwood, and crews taking shelter in the Motor Yacht Club for that ceremony. I was flying back from Canberra and the plane ride over Tassie quite bumpy. Commodore Michele gave her Ns boat a polish and "Redback" was on display in the Boat Show for the 17th and 18th of October. So far at Lindisfarne ten boats have raced in the five event days held so far. The average race has four to five boats competing. "Go with the Flow" has competed in all events, with Katherine on the tiller and Mum Karen crewing. Possibly on point score, they are leading Club boat to date. "Gum Blossom" crew have a new rubber floor to relax on this season. And did not complete the course last weekend as the gusts where around 10 to 25 Knots. "Norwegian Blue" clearing out in all races for that particular day. Scott told me back on the 3rd Oct race he dropped the mast when the side stay car saddle broke off. He has replaced both cars, as that rig is twelve years old. "Enter the Dragon" missed last weekends sail, as there are some fractures in the mast at the gooseneck. So Paul took a spare section from my home to do an internal sleeve during the week. The hull has had a big repair by Derwent Marine at the mast step bulkhead, during the winter months. Not an uncommon problem with that original hull builder.



Tasmanian Championships March 5th 6th 7th 2011

This will be the launch site for the next state championships from the Tamar Yacht Club complex at Beauty Point. These two photos show the Tamar Estuary at about a three quarter high level. And the “bottom” photo then at low tide. The photograph was taken at the previous event, held there in March 2003. Most would know who the blue Aero 9 boat belonged to then. But around 1957, I recall that big shed on piles over the water, was not there, or the shed on shore behind it. It was grass and trees then. There was in fact a bit of sandy beach where the cement wall is. I kept my rowing dinghy on shore there, while my Derwent Class “Pim” swung on a mooring about 200 metres off the shore in deeper water. All the land, now back behind where the photographer was standing, has been reclaimed, with rock and land fill in more recent years. And a marina now fills the site with boats in floating pens. The wharf is where the “SS Taroona” used to berth, into the 50’s after crossing Bass Strait from Melbourne, to unload passengers, vehicles (with crane) and freight. That is how my now wife, first came, bringing a motor bike from WA, and nurse in Launceston. “Pim” by the way, is the blue Derwent Class that is moored at present, off Rosny College in Kangaroo Bay on the Derwent. It features most times, in the wooden boat festival in Hobart. I also remember when the Bell Bay industry site on the eastern shore was not there, only a few sheltered beaches and bush. Progress, is ugly in comparison now.

History 1971-2011 I am afraid not a nice introduction. But it is a history item. Many sailors will have heard the news on Sept 19th, as I did during the rough weather flight home from Canberra. Ross Cubit lost his life in a rough overnight big boat race off Bruny Island. In the season 1972-73 (38 years ago) as a young lad, Ross crewed for helmsman Ian Gill in Ns “Nomad” whose name is engraved on the Perpetual State trophy as the “Second State Championship winner”. There are very few Tasmanian dinghy classes that can claim they have held continuous state championship, for forty years or more. Locations I have competed Ns State Titles are varied from:- Beauty Point, Burnie, Dover, Orford, Cygnet, Kingston, Sandy Bay, Swansea, Lauderdale, Midway Point, Austins Ferry, Montrose, and Lindisfarne. Plus in the south Nationals each six years. I would think the Mirror Class would also be a lengthy list; as are dates given recently by Greg Rowsell for the Sabot Class. Their first state title was in 1962-63 season. Some of the young sabot year “Senior” winners as they grew up, I have noted with interest, took our entry, also sailing the development class Ns 14 dinghy with success. Some of the names are: 66-67 M Ferguson, 69-70 P Turner, 72-73 J Brook, 73-74 D McGuinness, 74-75 S McElwee, 77-78 & 78-79 A Bridley, (Adam also won a junior sabot championship) 83-84 J Desmarchelier, 94-95 Claire Brown. I may have missed a couple, but it’s a good record. So where are we headed with all this?

Darren and Helen Eggins are organising a former Ns State Title holders event, in April. The weather should be kinder for the “oldies” to use borrowed, more modern boats on loan, to race one another. There will be a dinner at night. We also hope by then the Wilkie family will have completed for permanent display (if we still have the funds) a showcase, in which to record forty years of Ns memories, and perpetual engraved trophies.

Quiz: Who can identify the Australian Naval flag ship at the Hobart Regatta in the front page photograph?

Hint:- Before it joined the navy, it was a frequent visitor to the Derwent River, Sydney Hobart yacht race finish site.

If you cannot get that right: An easier one:-Guess who the helmsman is in the Aero four Ns design, that seems to have the best start in that race?

Question:- Do you have this problem? You never know when it will strike; but I have found while working, so often these days, that you know, you just aren’t going to do anything productive, for the rest of the day? Also living on my own now, how do you fold fitted double bed sheets?