

SCOOP

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November 1999



Correspondence to The Editor, Couta Boat Club., P.O. Box 203, Sorrento, Vic. 3943

President's Comment

The season is only weeks away and no doubt all boat owners are well under way with season preparations. Throughout the winter the committee has been frantic preparing racing programs, sponsorships and club facilities.

There are a few major changes this season all designed to improve the racing, heritage and community among Couta Boat sailors. In this issue of Scoop you'll read about many of the outcomes from these efforts.

The committee's efforts are to be especially commended. This season the committee are requesting all members to opt-in and lend a hand as many hands make light work. Often the burden of running a club is left to the committee members, so this season I encourage all of you to do your part to help make the club an even greater success.

There are weekly opportunities to lend a hand. Each of our racing program days has three major components to it - race management, social activities and event coordination. Each of these areas could well benefit from your involvement so please donate a little bit of your time.

I appreciate that we're all time poor these days, however active participation is the key to a great club experience. I recommend that to get the most out of your club time you should get involved. The rewards are amazing.

Chris Sinn
President Couta Boat Club



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MAZDA

The Editor - Scoop & CoutaNet join forces

Welcome to the Millennium Summer. Scoop has had quite a few changes since last edition. The most significant I believe, has been the lightening of Sue Leeming's sole burden of publishing Scoop.

I'm sure I speak on behalf of the entire club in thanking Sue for her past efforts. As you might have noticed, this issue is running about a month behind schedule. The changing of the guard is never easy.

This season, Scoop will become a mixture of CoutaNet material and exclusive Scoop stories. Midway through last season CoutaNet came to life and added a new publishing opportunity for those members connected to the internet.

For those club members that haven't visited CoutaNet, the address is www.couta.net. I'm sure that some members aren't able to access the internet and some might not even know what the internet is. That's where the dual roles of CoutaNet and Scoop will be so vital.

CoutaNet will be continuing to publish a weekly newsletter. This will include the coming weekend's sailing information, club news and results. Scoop will continue to be published 4 times a year, three issues for the season and one through winter. Scoop will contain feature articles collated by Sue Leeming, from around the Couta Boat community.

These two outlets will enable the club to provide more information to members on a more regular basis. All contributions are welcome, particularly stories about the boats. The Couta Boat heritage is a living issue so please help build a rich and vibrant catalogue of Couta Boat stories and tales.

More information about CoutaNet can be found on Page 7.

*The Editor
Mark Bergin*

Couta Boat Club Committee 1999-2000

President

Chris Sinn
03 9690 5247

Vice President

Jeff Richardson
03 9791 4800

Secretary

John Dixon
03 9542 1190

Treasurer

Owen Day
03 9890 6381

Race Committee

Tim Phillips
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Sponsors Committee

Bruce Griffiths
03 9644 4226

PR Committee

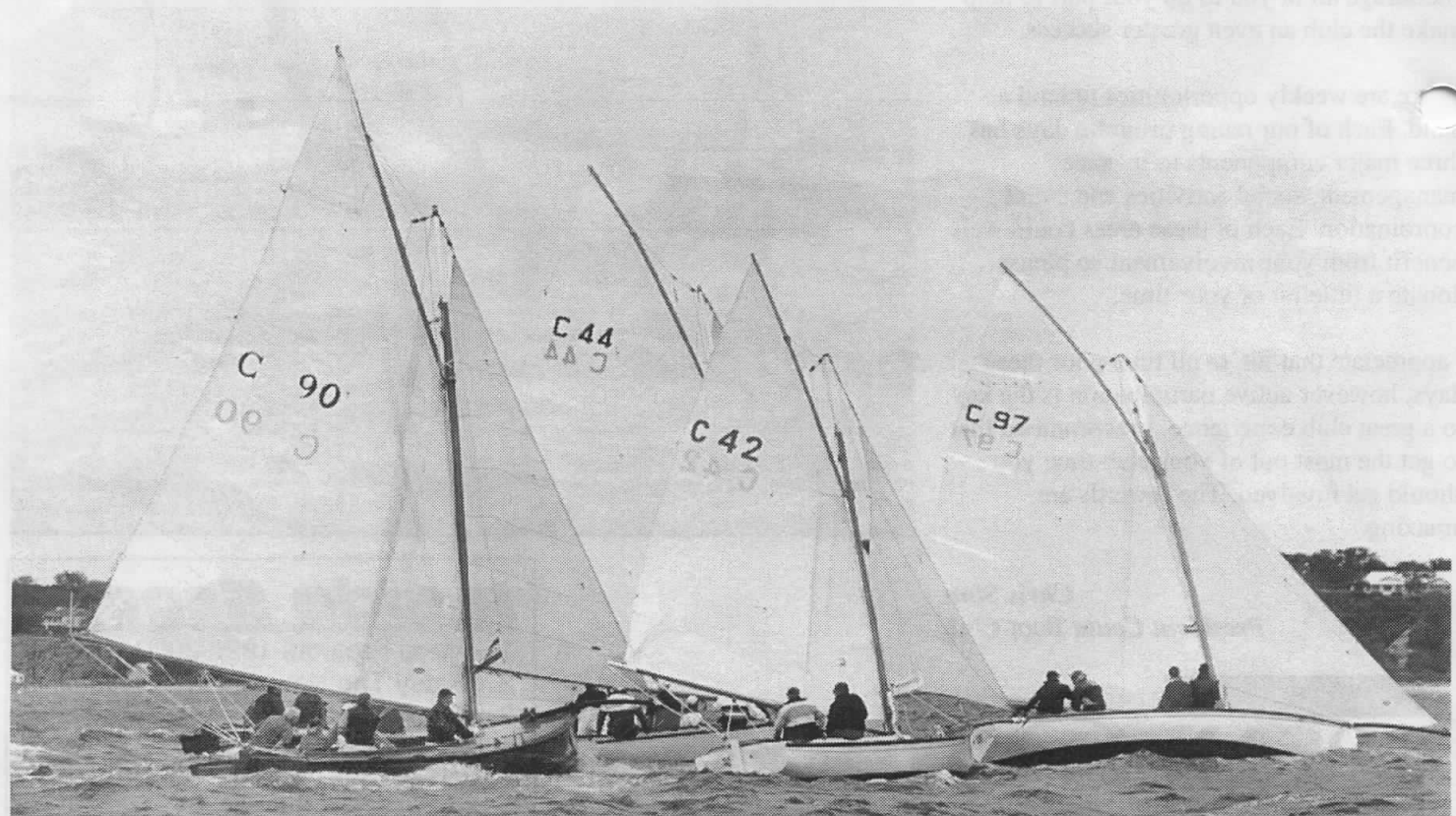
Mark Bergin
03 9629 1666

Social Committee

Sally Williams
03 9598 9587

General Committee

John Alexander
03 9580 1030
Graham Cunningham
03 9690 5247



LINFOX - THE COUTA BOAT MOVERS!

The team at Linfox has been very busy and generous this winter in preparing a purpose built Cousta Boat Trailer for the Cousta Boat Club. The trailer is configured to carry 2 Cousta Boats complete with rigging and ballast. This will dramatically improve the movement of boats at the club and open up a range of guest appearance opportunities.

This hard work over winter by Linfox is definitely going to take some of the hard work out of touring this summer. We must take this opportunity to thank Linfox and hope that all members will consider Linfox favourably in any commercial ventures in the future.

SIGN UP YOUR CREW

We should try and start the New Millennium with a record level of membership. So make it a personal challenge to try and get all your regular crew signed up before "Midnight at the Oasis". Of course, we always encourage you to invite guests to any Club events but membership is the lifeblood of the Club. More members equal more funds and more funds equal a top quality Club.

If you need to give someone a reason to become a member, just show them a copy of Scoop and the Racing Program, take them to the Club House, and get them onto CoustaNet at www.cousta.net. If they are not convinced after that, then they never will be. You can always ask a committee member to talk to potential members as well.

WANTED..... TROPHIES RETURNED

Last season's trophies must be returned to the Club by the last week of November.

Any trophies not returned will be featured on the notice board under the title "CBC Most Wanted" with the name of the last holder prominently displayed.

A reward will be offered for information that results to their safe return. If you know the whereabouts of a trophy and would rather not be identified, please leave the trophy or a message containing its location at the Club House.

SUPPORT FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR CLUB

The Cousta Boat Club, its members and friends gratefully acknowledge the contribution of all our sponsors to the development of the Cousta Boat Club, the Cousta Boat Class and the ongoing promotion of a fishing boat heritage unique to Australia.

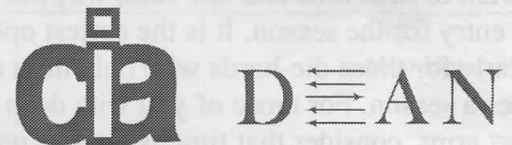
We encourage our membership to fully support the services and products of our sponsors to enable our Club and Class to continue its strong relationship and growth for generations to come.

A commitment by all members to our sponsors is your responsibility.

Major Sponsors


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Event Sponsors


Carlton & United
AUSTRALIA'S OWN**D E A N**

RACE PROGRAM

SUMMER 1999-2000

A Notice of Races, Entry and Class Rules has been posted to all owners of active boats. Additional copies can be obtained from the Club, The Wooden Boatshop or the CoutaNet website at www.couta.net

We would like to bring your attention to the following -

SAFETY

Safety Compliance is going to be a key focus this season and it is important for all entrants to complete a Safety Compliance Declaration when submitting entries. Any entry that does not have a completed Declaration cannot be accepted. Details of Safety Regulations are contained in The Blue Book and are in line with the AYF Safety Regulations, Addendum A, Part 1, S2.1(h) C.7.

ENTRIES

Make sure that you don't leave your entry submissions until the last minute. If you are submitting your entry by post it must reach the club by the Friday at least one week prior to the race. As you can appreciate, each entry has to be received, processed, acknowledged and instructions sent to you by return post hence the week turnaround time. Late entries can be accepted up to three hours before the scheduled start if they are lodged at the Club and accompanied by a late fee of an additional \$20.00.

If you want to save time and late fees, why not put in a blanket entry for the season. It is the easiest option particularly for those die-hards who only miss one or two races a season. For those of you with deep pockets and short arms, consider that time is money, postage for each entry costs money, and that the couple of race entry fees you may save will be going to the betterment of your club for your future enjoyment.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

All entrants will be sent full sailing instruction documentation prior to an event. However, additional copies can be obtained from the Club, CoutaNet or host Clubs where appropriate.

FIRST AGGREGATE EVENT

The first aggregate event for the season will be The Wooden Boatshop Regatta Heat 1 on Saturday 20th November. So for those of you who want to win the Trophy this year, don't miss it!

RACE MANAGEMENT

Management of each race will be allocated to one boat per event. This onerous task will only be foisted upon you once per season so take it on the chin.

Here's hoping that we can sail into the New Millennium with the best program of sailing and Club events yet. And please remember that the Club is only as strong and active as its members - so get out there this year and do it!!

RULES

There has been a major review of the Couta Boat Club Class Rules by the Committee pursuant to Rule 13 of the rules of the Club and shall have effect from 1st November. The Committee deemed this necessary to provide a far more comprehensive document and realised the necessity to keep the Class Rules in line with the growth and depth of the Club as a whole.

The intention of the Rules is to protect the integrity of the traditional Queenscliff Couta boat, promote good, fair and competitive racing between restored older boats and new boats in a non-developmental class.

The other important aspect to note is the increased emphasis on safety. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with the safety requirements laid down in the class rules. This includes such statements as "Boats shall carry the prescribed equipment laid down by the Marine Act 1988.". The act is administered by The Marine Board of Victoria, 11/80 Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000. Contact Phone (03) 9655 3399. The Marine Board issues the "Victorian Boating Guide" which is available from the Board or The Wooden Boatshop.

Boats shall also carry safety equipment as prescribed in AYF Racing Rules of Sailing for 1997-2000 (*The Blue Book*), AYF Special Regulations Addendum A, Part 1, S2.1(h), C.7. The Blue Book is also available from The Wooden Boatshop.

These safety issues affect each and every one of us. Not only are we putting our own lives at risk by being foolhardy but we are putting at risk the lives of our family and friends. So let's have a safe, injury free season this year and take care out there!

RACE PROGRAM

SUMMER 1999-2000

		Sat 20 Nov	1100	Opening Day Raft Up	CBC/SSC
			1330	Sail Past	
1	A	Sat 20 Nov	1430	Wooden Boatshop Ht 1 Div 1-2	CBC/SSC
2	A	Sat 27 Nov	1430	Wooden Boatshop Ht 2 Div 1-2	Portsea
3	A	Sat 4 Dec	1430	Wooden Boatshop Ht 3 Div 1-2	Portsea
		Sat 11 Dec	1430	PROV. RESAIL Div 1-2	Portsea
4		Mon 27 Dec	TBA	R.T.Edgar Dash to the Heads Div 1-2	Portsea
			ASAP	Club House Drinks	
5		Tue 28 Dec	1800	Twilight Race Div 1-2	CBC/SSC
6		Thu 30 Dec	1800	Twilight Race Div 1-2	CBC/SSC
		Fri 31 Dec	1930	Midnight at the Oasis New Year's Eve Party	CBC/SSC
7		Sat 1 Jan	1300	Dean International South Channel Race	CBC/SSC
8	A	Sun 2 Jan	1330	MAZDA Nationals Ht 1 Div 1-2	Capel Sound
9	A			MAZDA Nationals Ht 2 Div 1-2	
10		Tue 4 Jan	TBA	KPMG Couta Boat Classic	CBC/SSC
11	A	Thu 6 Jan	1330	MAZDA Nationals Ht 3 Div 1-2	Capel Sound
12	A		ASAP	MAZDA Nationals Ht 4 Div 1-2	
13		Fri 7 Jan	1800	Twilight Race Div 1 & 2	CBC/SSC
			ASAP	BBQ - BYO Food	
14	A	Sat 8 Jan	1100	Logan Portsea Cup Raft Up	Portsea
			1400	Logan Portsea Cup Div 1-2	
			ASAP	Club House Drinks	
		Sun 9 Jan	1200	Logan Quarantine Picnic	Quarantine
15		Fri 14 Jan	1800	Twilight Race Div 1-2	CBC/SSC
			ASAP	BBQ - BYO Food	
16		Sat 15 Jan	1300	Lady Skipper's Race Div 1-2	CBC/SSC
			1600	Club House Pres & Func.	
		Sun 16 Jan	1030	Kids in Coutas	CBC/SSC
17		Sat 22 Jan	1330	Sail Melb. Ht 1 Div 1-2	CBC/SSC
18				Sail Melb. Ht 2 Div 1-2	
19		Sat 22 Jan	1330	Sail Melb. Ht 3 Div 1-2	CBC/SSC
			ASAP	Club House Pres & Func.	
20		Sat 5 Feb	TBA	Round Mud Race Div 1-2	QLYC
21		Sat 12 Feb	TBA	Schnapper Point Classic Ht 1	Mornington
22				Schnapper Point Classic Ht 2	
				Schnapper Point Classic Party	
23		Sat 13 Feb	TBA	Schnapper Point Classic Ht 3	Mornington
				Presentation	
24	A	Sat 19 Feb	1400	Air International Champs Ht 1 Div 1-2	Portsea
25	A			Air International Champs Ht 2 Div 1-2	
		Sun 20 Feb	TBA	Juniors in Coutas	CBC/SSC
26		Sat 26 Feb	1200	CUB Match Racing Div 1-2	CBC/SSC
		Sat 4 Mar	1315	Pier to Perignon	Portsea
		Sun 5 Mar	TBA	Family Day / Boat Rally	CBC/SSC
27	A	Sat 11 Mar	1400	Air International Champs Ht 3 Div 1-2	Portsea
28	A		ASAP	Air International Champs Ht 4 Div 1-2	
			ASAP	Club House Presentation	
29	A	Sat 25 Mar	1200	Queenscliff Regatta Raft up	Queenscliff
			1400	Queenscliff Regatta Div 1-2	
30		Sat 1 Apr	1400	CIA Sternchaser 1-2	CBC/SSC
			1900	Club House Easter Party	
	A	Sun 2 Apr	1400	Provision for resale	Portsea

"A" denotes Aggregate Race - Program is subject to change

SAILING FOR TOMORROW'S OLD SALTS!

We are indebted to Harley Moffatt, skipper of "Elsie E" who has taken on the enormous responsibility of running the Juniors Sailing Programs for this season. While this is an extremely challenging role, it also offers great rewards in helping to develop the "Old Salts" of tomorrow and pass on the thrills and passions of sailing Couta Boats. If you can spare a little time to give Harley some assistance he would greatly appreciate it.

The major event is "Juniors in Coutas" on Sunday 20th February. This is always a hotly contested event as we see the senior fleet of tomorrow battling it out. It is also a thrill to see heritage boats being sailed by young people.



GEELONG GRAMMAR CROSS THE BAY!

The fleet this year will also be bolstered by an entry from Geelong Grammar, so a tussle between the East and West Coasts of Port Phillip Bay is sure to ensue.

KIDS IN COUTAS

"Kids in Coutas" will be held on Sunday 16th January. This event is being organised to give kids the opportunity to go sailing and for many of them it will be their first time out on the high seas. For those of you who were involved in last year's event, you will certainly be able to testify to how wonderful it is bringing a smile to these children's faces. There will be more detail about this event published in the next edition of Scoop.

BARRY DAWES BUILDER

MBA 8341 DB-U8467

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3 Stonecutters Road

Portsea 3944

Phone 5984 3536 Fax 5984 5536

"MIDNIGHT AT THE OASIS" A NEW YEAR'S EVE SPECTACULAR

Celebrate New Year's Eve with some Moroccan Millennium Madness.

- *Dance to the Fabulous "Boogie Fever Band".*
- *Take a camel ride on the desert sands.*
- *Enjoy Toula with her Flowers of the Desert Exotic Dancers.*
- *Feast on a sumptuous Mediterranean Buffet.*
- *Indulge in fine wine, champagne and beer.*
- *Win incredible door prizes.*

*Dress in the mystical finery of the East (optional).
Be enveloped in a tropical oasis setting at the
SSC/CBC.*

*All of this could be yours for the all inclusive price
of just \$200 per head. Exceptional value when you
consider what people are paying for a night at
Blake's or Walter's Wine Bar!*

*But Book early as New Year's Eve humps are
limited*

*For more information or bookings ring
Sally Williams 0411 187 974 or
Christopher Sinn 9690 5247.*

COUTANET

Everything Couta Online. Features include a Crewmail service, The Weekly briefing, Couta Boat heritage and Boat register, CoutaNet links, CoutaNet newsletter, Couta Boat Club race centre, the best of Scoop plus all the week's hot news. www.couta.net

30 BOAT HISTORIES TO BE PUBLISHED

The major winter drive to collect and publish individual histories of every club-registered Couta Boat has proceeded very well and 30 profiles will be online within the next two weeks. Gathering Couta Boat heritage is as important as the restoration of the boats. Over the last 20 years approximately 120 boats have been brought back to life so we still have 90 profiles to search out.

How you can help to create history –

- The easiest way is to visit the CoutaNet site and fill in the online boat heritage form. Even if you only have scant details at the moment, please take the time to send those details in. Every little bit helps.
- The site can be found at www.couta.net/boatreg.htm
- If you do not have access to the Internet, please do not let this deter you.
- Ring Mark Bergin at CoutaNet (03 9629 1666) and he will arrange a copy of the form for completion and return by mail/fax.

You can also help by discussing the programme with your crew and other Couta Boaters.

COUTAPICS

A great number of the stunning Couta Boat images you see on the website can be attributed to Alex McKinnon from On Deck Photography. Alex has generously given of her time and skills to share with you all her passion for the beauty of sailing and particularly Couta Boats. These images are not only great for CoutaNet but also help to create pictorial records of the resurrection of the Couta Boat fleet for future Couta Boaters.

All of the On Deck Photography images are available for sale. Alex can also be commissioned to take photographs of your launching or other special events. For all information regarding On Deck Photography please phone (0413) 456 408.

COUTANEWS

Crewmail is a weekly email distribution to all registered participants providing information about the upcoming weekend's Couta Boat events. If you want to save the time and hassle of finding information, sign up today at www.couta.net

PATSY

"THERE'S A NEW GIRL IN TOWN"

The new Melbourne Museum in Carlton Gardens will be displaying an historic couta boat "Patsy" in the foyer of the Museum. For all lovers of historic wooden boats and for those actively involved in couta boats, this is an exciting opportunity to highlight the significant role that these fishing and sailing boats have played in the history of Port Phillip and Corio Bays.

The Couta Boat Club is actively supporting this exhibition and is seeking to raise the finance necessary to acquire, restore and display "Patsy". She has already been acquired and Tim Phillips at the Wooden Boatshop is making arrangements for her shipment from Port Sorrel, Tasmania to Sorrento for restoration. The Couta Boat Club is seeking to raise over \$60,000 through individuals, companies and the membership base of the Sorrento Sailing Club/Couta Boat Club to assist in the acquisition, restoration, delivery, sails, conservation and display.

All donations will be tax deductible. Supporters of the project who donate \$1,000 or more will be individually acknowledged. The Couta Boat Club is targeting to raise \$10,000 through the Sorrento Sailing Club/Couta Boat Club membership base and will be named as a major sponsor of the project.

For full details, please see the enclosed "Patsy at Melbourne Museum" brochure and donation form. You can also contact the Patsy Information Line on (03) 9629 1666 or email patsy@couta.net.

A "Patsy" Appeal Newsletter following the progress of the appeal and restoration will be published. If you would like to be on the mailing list please send an email to pasty@couta.net or sign up from CoutaNet at www.couta.net.

Remember that all donations will contribute to ensuring Couta Boats have a high profile in the maritime history of the state.

