



SCOOP

Newsletter of the
Couta Boat Club

NOTICE OF FUNCTION

Saturday 12th January, 8.00 p.m.

Couta Boat Southerly Buster, Krebs Boat Shed, Oxford Street, Sorrento.

A refined evening of Discoteque Dancing, Food and Frivolity on the night of our main race.

Presentation of trophies to take place at 8.00 p.m. approximately, followed by ritual Couta Dance.

All Skippers, Crews, Families and Friends invited, tickets on sale from New Year's Day onwards \$10.00 per head.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your Committee and Handicap Sub-Committee have devoted considerable time and attention to adjusting Handicaps for the coming season. With the limited benefit of two recent races and taking into account historical performance and current potential we have applied a philosophy of easing the times of the majority of boats and tightening up the times of those boats that have constantly achieved greatest success. We believe we have created a very accurate system, its only flaw being intentional, i.e. it is heavily loaded in favour of boats that so far have not sailed up to their potential. In simple terms, it means that the skippers of the so called 'slower' boats will only have to steer a straight course to be in the running for Handicap Honours.

We retain flexibility of adjusting the Handicap system at short notice and be assured that our overall aim is to give everyone a 'fair go' with, as stated, the emphasis on giving the majority and the 'tailenders' the best chance. The current attached Handicap list demonstrates this, so if any of you have had the keenness of your racing edge dulled by seeming to never get close to a placing - the next few races are wide open to you.

Merry Christmas.

MARCUS BURKE.

Re 84/85 RACE INFORMATION

Most recent program issued incorrectly listed Sorrento Sailing Club Couta Boat Invitation Race on Saturday January 5th.

The Sorrento Sailing Club Invitation Race is to be replaced, (this year only) by the Victorian 150th Anniversary Special Combined S.S.C. and Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron Event at Blairgowrie to be held on Sunday 6th January at 1200 hours. Participation in this event and a race for Couta Boats is on the agenda. This event is a Celebration/Yachting Spectacular and would be suited to Family involvement.

Thursday 10th January, 1985 12.15 p.m.

Location: Portsea Pier, Portsea Hotel.

3AW Parmelia Cup.

This race is to be started via Ross Campbell's 3AW Good Life Broadcast from the lawns of the Portsea Hotel. It is of short duration immediately off Portsea Pier and would finish in time for lunch. Taylor Ferguson, Wine and Spirit Merchants are sponsors; a trophy and cases of 'Parmelia' Wine are awarded as prizes.

This race is a bag of laughs both on and off shore so be there if you can - Registration at the Pub 11.00 a.m. where Starting Instructions will be issued. It is imperative to carry a tried and tested radio as the start, commentary and finish are relayed by the Broadcast.

SAFETY

Tim Phillips has been appointed the safety officer for the current season. Safety is always at the forefront of the Committee's thoughts.

The couta boats, while now enjoyed and sailed by amateur yachtsmen, were originally worked by professional seamen. These fishermen, working Bass Strait winter and summer without adequate weather forecast, lost very few boats or lives, but they were "professionals", they knew these boats, their gear and how to handle them.

For example:

Originally each boat had three mainsails of varying sizes, two being carried aboard at any one time, the spare already being bent on its own yard. During the winter, the small and medium ones being used, in the summer, the medium and large one. Incidentally, a new main was generally ordered a couple of months before the Christmas race to break it in.

There will be a safety check one hour prior to the sailing of the Portsea Cup and any boats not coming up to scratch will be classified as "DID NOT START". There may be checks elsewhere throughout the season.

Tim will specifically be looking at the quick release mechanism of the Jib and Mainsail. A hand held system will not suffice. There must be quick release cleats, cam cleats etc.

Amanda has been set up with the gear and systems necessary to sail successfully and safely, and is available at all times, Tim aboard or not, for inspections and perusal, as an example.

Please ensure that each boat has filled out a current safety declaration and returned it to the club.

A liason has been established with the Southern Peninsula Rescue Squad. Our committee boat Wingara, Jack Mardling, will be equipped with a radio banded to the squads operations room . In the event of any emergency, they will be contacted forthwith.

It is important when moving boats up and down the bay or coast to let a club member know your 'estimated time of arrival' IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, SO HELP CAN BE PRONTO.

Many club members have been priveleged when visiting Port Fairy to meet and talk with Bob Johansen who lives aboard his beautiful 1903 30' Jones built Thistle.

It has been resolved by the committee to make Bob a Life Member of the club, and it is hoped Thistle will one day be fully restored by a member.

TROPHIES

The committee gratefully acknowledges the generous donation from Len Jacobs and family for the beautiful trophy for the Port Melbourne Race. The trophy is a China jug which has Minerva and Hero painted on the outside. Thank you very much Len and Family.

The committee also wishes to thank Margaret Williams for cleaning up Peter Grahams growing collection of trophies.

NEW BOATS

Martin and Anne Bryan recently purchased the Gina down at Portland and will shortly commence restoration. The Gina is a sister ship of the Aliscia.

Roger Wischusen recently purchased the 25 foot Ken Lacco designed 'Anne' from Nelson and she will be restored next year. Ronnie Rayson has recently got the Huia back into sailing condition and she is now moored at Williamstown.

Another of our members Stuart Fechner has purchased the Rosebud down at Portland which is a 30 foot Ken Lacco design and she will be launched early in the new year. Jack Beazley will be sailing the Cooma on behalf of Andy Cannon who is presently rowing in the U.S.A. (so we are told!)

RACE RESULTS PORT MELBOURNE

The first Cousta Boat Club race for the year was the "Melbourne Cup" which was the Port Melbourne fishing boat regatta held on the 4th of November. The conditions were very fresh and several boats were damaged due to the strong winds and lumpy seas. Wind gusts got up to 25 knots and the Sally suffered a broken bow sprit and other boats were slightly damaged including the Royal, the Pearl and the Alice which had to pull out. The results were:-

First over the line and first on handicap - Wattle.

Second over the line and fourth on handicap - Minerva.

Third over the line and second on handicap - Amanda.

The 20 foot Lavina was third on handicap and it was a credit to see Rob Nowak sailing the boat so well. Fourth over the line was the Volunteer which was well sailed by Oppy Beazley (inspite of all the barging at the start!) Fifth over the line was Coral Lee.

HOBSONS BAY RESULTS WINTER SERIES

First Volunteer, (Dugga Beazley), Second Coral Lee (Leigh Morgan), Third Binny Ying, (Charlie Strong).

PORT MELBOURNE/WILLIAMSTOWN HAPPENINGS

John Duke was recently seen at Gem Pier with the Helen sporting a brand new mainsail which looks most impressive and should be one to watch. The Rita was also noticed with a Khaki British Army green hull and she looks very mean. Charlie Strong has recently completed the Rose for Peter Gibson and family and has two further boats under restoration. David Beazley is currently sailing the 16 foot Pride which was done up by his father Dugga over the Winter.

COUTA BOAT CLUB

HANDICAPS 11-12-84

HCP	NAME	OWNER	SAIL	HCP	NAME	OWNER	SAIL	NO
.9500	SALLY	D. BAILLIEU	CB82	7900	LYNDAL LEE	ALMOND	CB21	
					ELSIE E'	WILLIAMSON	CB32	
.9310	PEARL	D. BEALEY	CB90		COMPLEATRE			
	MINEIRA	GRAMAN	B48		ALICE	KIMPTON	CB7	
	KATE	DAVIS	B305					
	AJAX	BAILLIEU		7700	Rouree		CB15	
					SEANNAH GRAY	HODGKINS	CB69	
.9210	WATTLE	BURKE	CB78		SEA BIRD	STEPHENS	CB114	
	HELO	YOUNG	CB1		MARNA RUSK	STEWART, GINN	CB6	
					SPANDLER	SUTCLIFFE	CB17	
.9000	VICTORY	BECKINGSALE	CB10		MOLANUS	MCKINNON	CB3	
	AMANDA	PHILLIPS	CB9					
	ODAL LEE	MOLAN	CB83	7600	COOMA	J. BEALEY	CB56	
					HELEN	P. BURKE	CB2	
.8800	RITA	WILKINS	CB30		LAVINIA	NOWAK	CB91	
	SURPRISE	SMITZAKER	CB14					
	ROYAL	RYAN	CB24	7300	KENTZALE	RYLAND	CB19	
	WESLONA	LANSALL			MELISSA	FAWK		
					TANGALOA	HARD	CB118	
					PIRELOST	GOUBANY FRANZ	CB66	
.8700	VOLUNTEER	BEALEY	CB20		MERLYN		CB67	
	HELEN	DUKE	CB13		SITUBSA	PARKINSON	CB15	
	HETHE	KYER	CB4		KALINGA		CB45	
	AUSCIA	HALLIS	CB33		MISCHIEF	BEALEY	CB25	
	BINNY-YING	STRENG	CB17		PEARL	DENNISON	CB39	
					GALLO NERO	BUNNY	CB111	
.8500	LORENA	ETHELIDGE	CB62		HEATHER	GARDNER	CB112	
	COLTON	SPENCER	BS1		LADY SIRI	BROOKS	CB113	
.8360	ZAMIRA	AVERY	CB104	6700	PHOENIX	MALHOTRA	CB16	
	WYAN	LAMING	CB31					
	SWAN	PARKINSON	CB50					
	JOAN	ROBERTSON	CB41					
.8000	-	NICK WILLIAMS						
.7900	COLSARK	ROSA	CB51					
	ROSE	GIBSON						
	JULIA	RYAN	CB8					