

◆ West Headings ◆

May 1997

Editorial

We have come to the end of a great season of sailing and merrymaking at the FYC.

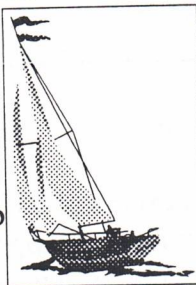
The season has been very successful in a number of ways. We were blessed with great weather over summer. According to the old hands it was a summer like we always had in the good old days. Pity the fishing was not like it used to be.

The Club has also finished the year in good financial position. The shed is almost complete and there is little doubt it will be a great asset for the club.

The annual meeting will be held on Sunday 15th of June. An important proposal to create a new class of membership for "veterans" will be put to the meeting. Any change to the constitution requires approval of 75% of members. Be sure your are present or send a proxy. Presentation night will be held in the Flinders Hall on Saturday 14th. In past years the AGM and presentation night have been held on the Queen's Birthday long weekend. The Committee have decided to hold these

functions on the following weekend because many families go away on the long weekend.

Presentation night is always a great night and this year will be no exception. The committee look forward to seeing as many members as possible at presentation night.



Shed Update

The Committee have been waiting for some months to receive the Grant the club received from the Government to assist with the building of the shed. Some Committee members doubted that the money would ever come. The good news is that the first instalment of the grant finally arrived. This will enable the committee to complete the Shed by connecting electricity, moving the fence and installing a security system.

The total grant was \$7500 and we have now received just over \$4500. We can apply for the remaining \$3000 when the club has spent a total of \$15,000 on the shed. This must be done by the end of June.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
15 June	Annual General Meeting
14 June	Presentation Night, 7.30pm, at the Flinders Hall

AGM Update

The Annual General meeting of the Flinders Yacht Club will be held in the club rooms at 11.00 AM on Sunday 15th June 1997. This is the day following Presentation night. Members should try to organise themselves to attend both important functions.

The major items of business at the AGM are:

- Approve an amendment to the club's constitution to create a new class of membership for "veterans." The aim of this change is to create an opportunity for older members of the club who are not active sailors to retain their association with the FYC. To be eligible members must be over the age of 60, have not less than 10 years continuous membership and not sailing or crewing a yacht on the club register. Veteran members will have all rights and privileges of senior members. The subscription for veteran members will be set at one third of family membership. There are a number of current members who can take advantage of this new membership classification. This will enable them to retain an association with the club at a reasonable cost. It will also provide the club with ongoing access to their advice and experience.
- Election of Office bearers.
- Awarding the Penny Nilsen Trophy to the club member who has made the greatest contribution to the club during the year.
- Authorising the Committee to spend in excess of \$3000. The committee is keen to replace one, or both patrol boats. The Constitution requires approval from the AGM for expenditure in excess of \$3000. The Committee will be seeking this approval from the meeting. Opportunities to obtain government grants to assist the club finance this project are also being explored.
- The meeting will also set membership fees for next year. The committee is proposing a very modest increase in fees to keep pace with inflation

Please Note: To amend the constitution to create the new class of "veteran member" the support of 75% of members is required. If you cannot attend the meeting in person please submit your proxy using the form posted to you with the notice of meeting

Articles for West Headings Wanted.

If you don't like the content of West Headings do what Brian Coleman does, submit your own articles! You guessed it, contributions from members are very welcome. Within reason we print anything. Send to: The Editor, West Headings, 30 Cloverdale Ave Toorak, 3142 or fax to 03 98048353 or e-mail to clayman@bigpond.com

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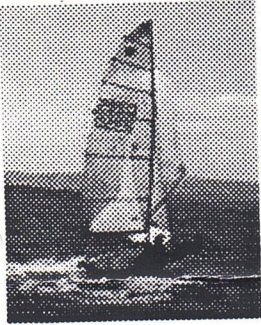
SALES

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SERVICE

Cherubs: A New Class For Flinders?

A number of our junior sailors are considering progressing from Mirrors to faster and more challenging boats. Some families are considering whether or not to sell their Mirror and buy a faster boat. In sailing you can always consider selling your current boat and buying something faster.



Frank Bancroft has suggested that younger FYC members should consider a Cherub. West Headings decided to find out a little more about this class. Cherubs are 12 foot skiffs. They certainly provide challenge and excitement for young sailors and would be great boats for Flinders.

Every year FYC hosts a visit by the 14 foot skiff Association. The visit to Flinders by the 14 footers is one of the highlights of our calendar. Cherubs are good boats for young sailors to learn the skills to successfully sail International Fourteens. The following information about Cherubs was extracted from the Cherub Association's web page.

The Cherub is a 2 person twelve foot racing dinghy with spinnaker and trapeze. Some call it a baby 18 foot skiff, although the Cherub is a little more moderate, and doesn't have quite the sail area of the 18. Originally designed in New Zealand, Cherubs are sailed mainly in Australia, New Zealand and Great Britain.

The Cherub is a 'restricted' class as distinct from a 'one design' class. This feature gives amateur builders some flexibility in complying with maximum and minimum measurement restrictions. It provides the opportunity to improve the boats and keep abreast of modern concepts and developments.

Most Cherub sailors are aged between 16 and 28 as it is mainly an intermediate class. Most sailors come out of junior classes such as the Flying Ant and the International Cadet as they find the Cherub is the only class that provides the high performance of a skiff class with the flexibility of a restricted design.

No other performance class has had as many women helming and crewing on equal terms at the top level, including National & World Championship Winners. Husband/Wife Boyfriend/Girlfriend Brother/Sister combinations of crew are common.

Famous faces seen on Cherubs in the past include Iain Murray, Gordon Lucas, Rob Brown and Andrew Buckland. If you are a follower of the 18's Grand Prix series in Australia you would probably find most of these

sailors have gained their skiff sailing skills in Cherubs. Why is it countries as small as Australia and New Zealand produce such a large proportion of the world's best Sailors? Because they learn racing and boat handling in Cherubs.

The Cherub is damn quick offwind.. Recent analysis of video footage has produced good evidence for Cherubs hitting anything up to 25 knots in bursts, which is pretty fair by anyone's standards.

The Cherub is a class for designers and builders as well as sailors. One of the aims of the class is to provide an inexpensive platform where prospective designers can try out ideas.

What do the names Bethwaite, Farr, Murray, Howlett & Bowler have in common

(other than being amongst the worlds leading Sailboat designers and engineers)? The answer is that they have all designed Championship winning Cherubs..

Finally, and most important of all, a Cherub is great fun to sail, especially if you aren't afraid of getting wet.



Working Bee

The final working Bee for the year was scheduled for a very wet Sunday in May.

Ken Lacey has kept the grounds in great condition but as usual there are always a few jobs to be done. The small band of members who reported for duty were divided (on the basis of gender!) into two groups.

One group did a great job spring cleaning the kitchen in the club house. Most of the male members adjourned to the Shed and greatly enjoyed the morning, out of the rain, watching Doug Thorne fasten sheets of iron to the inside walls. Well done Doug!

The day concluded with morning tea in the clubhouse. Working Bees, there should be more of them.

Take it from an Expert

An article in the March 1997 edition of Australian Sailing list 21 tips for on sailing. The 21st tip was specifically refereed to West Headings by an anonymous Sabre sailor.

"If you are sailing in an area where you might catch weed, the beginning of the run is a great time to check your foils to be sure you are not being slowed."

Aggregate Final Results Off-the-Beach

Senior Miscellaneous Division

A major feature of Club sailing for all divisions is a series of races conducted on a regular basis throughout the season; the number of races involved varies from year to year. This season, by making full use of resails provided for in the Sailing program, nine of a planned ten races were sailed by the Senior Miscellaneous division, and all eight planned races were sailed by the Mirror division.

Two events are incorporated in the long series. The Club Championship is determined by scoring results according to VYC yardsticks for the boats involved, and the Club Aggregate is scored according to Club handicaps. Yardstick of course relates to dinghy class and remains constant throughout the season, while club handicap is a measure of Boat/crew performance, and is adjusted race by race. As the series progress, worst results may be discarded in accordance with Club sailing instructions; with the number of races sailed this year, results in each OB division allowed for two discards.

Regular participation is obviously very important. Boats not starting in a race are scored for that race points equalling the number of starters in the whole series plus one, while boats starting but not finishing are scored points equal to the number of starters in that race plus one. Acknowledging that some failures to start are directly related to sailing commitments, boats which do not compete because their skippers are on rostered race duty, or which are actively participating in State or National Class Championships, are for the race missed awarded points equal to their average points started during the series.

Results this season were very close, and top places were in doubt until the final race. And conditions for that race were certainly designed to test Club sailors to the utmost - a strong swinging Westerly with gusts and intermittent driving rain produced a day of thrills and spills. In the senior division, Diddy-do-it dominated to move up one place in both events, and in the Mirror Aggregate, the previously leading boat dropped to fifth overall by not sailing and as a consequence having to count an earlier DNF.

Brian Coleman.

Club Championship

Place	Boat Name	Skipper/Crew	Points
1	Master's Apprentice	John Derham	10.75
2	Diddy-do-it	Frank Bancroft	11.5
3	Farandole	Brian Coleman	14.25
4	Crossfire	James Manners	21
5	Scamp	Clay Manners	35.75
6	Flat Out	Ken Lacey	61.25
7	Old-Dog-New-Tricks	Doug Thorne	65
8	Incognito	Ant Grage	70
9	Jock	Michael/Kathie Mclean	75
=10	Sea Vixen	David/Nick Hayne	78
=10	Wahoo	Tim Dawson	78
12	Anka	Matthew Jones/ Paul Newton	93
13	Seayalater	James/Steven Thorne	93

Club Aggregate

1	Crossfire	James Manners	14.5
2	Master's Apprentice	John Derham	15.75
3	Diddy-do-it	Frank Bancroft	21.5
4	Scamp	Clay Manners	22.25
5	Farandole	Brian Coleman	29
6	Flat Out	Ken Lacey	65
7	Incognito	Ant Grage	65.5
8	Wahoo	Tim Dawson	66.75
9	Old-Dog-New-Tricks	Doug Thorne	72
=10	Jock	Michael/Kathie Mclean	75
=10	Sea Vixen	David/Nick Hayne	75
=12	Anka	Matthew Jones/ Paul Newton	93
=12	Seayalater	James/Steven Thorne	93

Stern Chasing the Year Out

Mirror Division Club Championship

Place	Boat Name	Skipper/Crew	Points
1	Oriole	Ben Slater/Tamara Slater	8.25
2	Seayalater	James Thorne/Steven Thorne	14.5
3	Moozie Too	David Manners/Sam Bancroft	17.25
4	Shearwater	Kylie Slater/Kate Rennie	24
5	Ammonia	Will Morgan/David Morgan	29
6	Fiery Dolphin	Michael Newton/Chris Newton	30
7	Black Magic	Andrew Rennie/Tom & Will Rennie	40
8	Flash	Kate Dawson/Jasmin Thorne	46
9	Zephyr II	Leigh Whiffen/Steven Ditterich	47.75
10	Specchio	Tim Ramsden/Amelia Ramsden	60

Cub Aggregate

1	Oriole	Ben Slater/Tamara Slater	16
2	Shearwater	Kylie Slater/Kate Rennie	16.75
3	Seayalater	James Thorne/Steven Thorne	19.25
4	Moozie Too	David Manners/Sam Bancroft	19.75
5	Fiery Dolphin	Michael Newton/Chris Newton	20.5
6	Ammonia	Will Morgan/David Morgan	30
7	Flash	Kate Dawson/Jasmin Thorne	38.25
8	Black Magic	Andrew Rennie/Tom & Will Rennie	42
9	Zephyr II	Leigh Whiffen/Steven Ditterich	49
10	Specchio	Tim Ramsden/Emilia Ramsden	60

The last race of the season was a stern chaser. Our handicapper Brian Coleman calculated the starting times. David Hayne was the scratch marker in Sea Vixen. The rest of the fleet started at intervals thereafter. The Mirrors sailed two laps and the other boats three.

Most of the race was sailed in a light easterly. On the last lap the wind dropped to almost nothing. Some boats were lucky enough to find some wind and others fell into the hole just past the pole.

The Handicapper did a great job as only a few minutes separated the leading yachts. David Hayne managed to hang on to win the senior section from *Crossfire* (James Manners) and *Farandole* (Brian Coleman). In the Mirrors Kylie Slater held out little brother Ben and James Thorne. Less than a minute separated the three place getters.

Only two keelboats started, Tulack and Skittish. They raced out to the pilot buoy and back. In the run home under spinnaker Skittish gradually overtook Tulack passing her about 400 meters from the finish. Doug Thorne, who was on the tiller of Tulack, pulled the race out of the fire and managed somehow to get over the line first. Bill Thomas and Doug were quite pleased with themselves.

Overall it was a very enjoyable day and a great way to round off the season. A stern chaser for the off the beach boats must be part of next year's program.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir

The last edition of West Headings contained a very interesting article by Brian Coleman on the origin of Boat names. Most of the boats in the club were mentioned. I am very disappointed that the name of my boat Scamp was not considered interesting enough to warrant a mention. Perhaps Brian thought my boat was merely named after a dog. He probably thought it was called scamp after the pup in the Walt Disney's Lady and the Tramp. How wrong he is! *Scamp* is in fact an acronym for *Sailor Clay Always Making Progress*. Yours sincerely

Clay Manners

Junior Report

Well the season is finally over and the results for the Aggregate and the Club Championship are in. Throughout the season racing was close between all boatsracers. Flash skippered by Kate Dawson and Jasman Thorne put in a great effort when their boat was in the water. For their first season they did extremely well. Another boat that deserves a mention is Specchio. Tim and Amelia Ramsden won their first series this season winning the Easter series with several gutsy performances.

Now to what you have all been waiting for, the result of the Aggregate and Club Championship. The racing in this years series has been very close. The first three boats in the Aggregate finished within 3.75 points. .75 points separated the first two place getters. Shearwater, with Kylie Slater and Kate Rennie finished a very close second and sailed consistently throughout the season. The winner of both the Championship and the Aggregate was Oriole, with Ben and Tamara

Slater. This makes multiple wins in the aggregate and club championships for Ben and Tamara. You have to wonder if we all took up a collection we may have persuaded the handicapper to fudge the results! Congratulations Ben and Tamara on great another win.

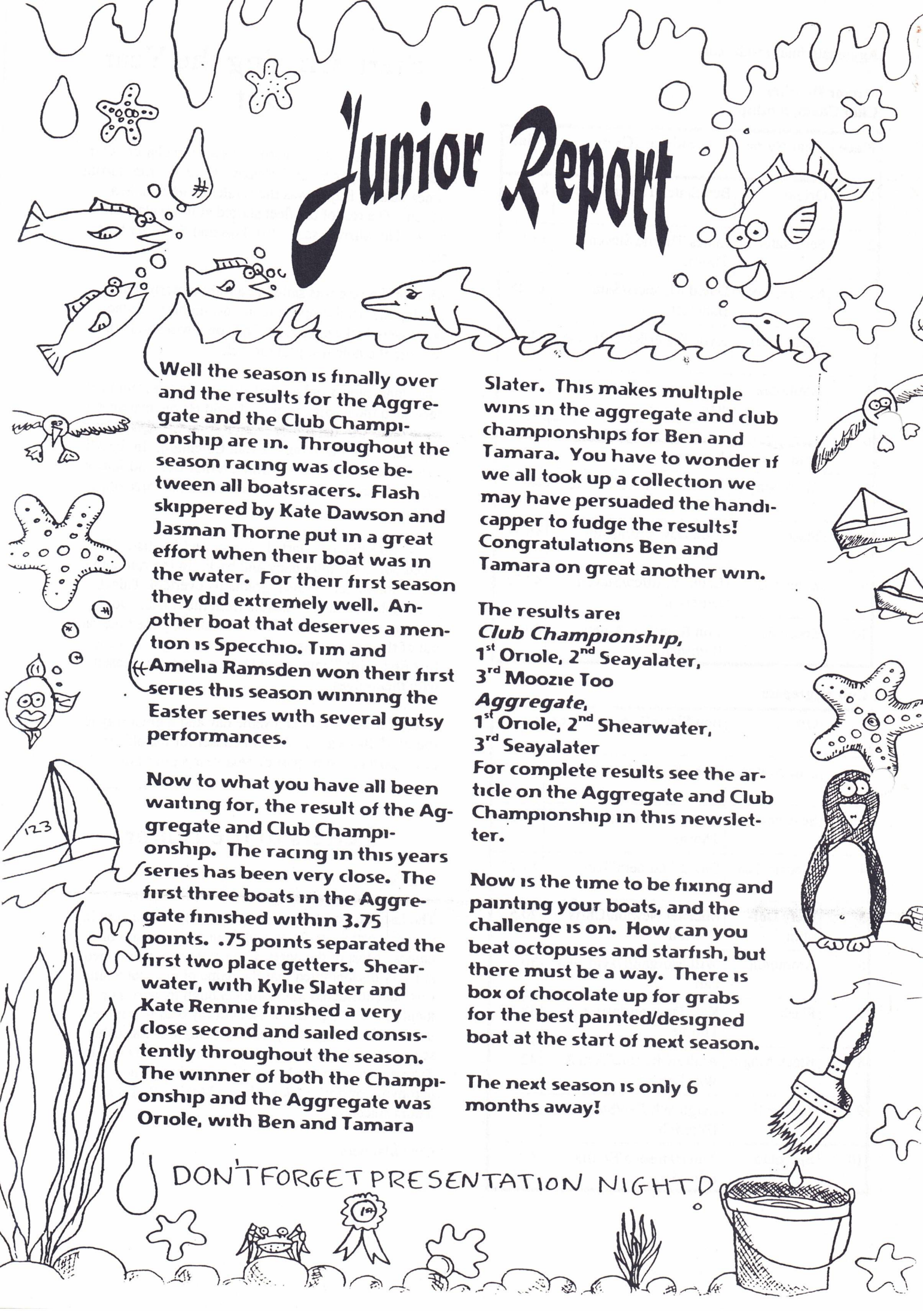
The results are:
Club Championship,
1st Oriole, 2nd Seayalater,
3rd Moozie Too
Aggregate,
1st Oriole, 2nd Shearwater,
3rd Seayalater

For complete results see the article on the Aggregate and Club Championship in this newsletter.

Now is the time to be fixing and painting your boats, and the challenge is on. How can you beat octopuses and starfish, but there must be a way. There is box of chocolate up for grabs for the best painted/ designed boat at the start of next season.

The next season is only 6 months away!

DON'T FORGET PRESENTATION NIGHT!



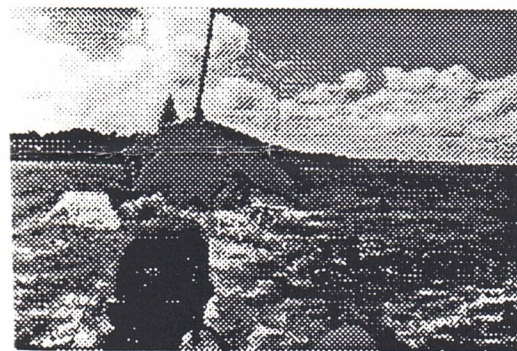
The Grand Shed Opening



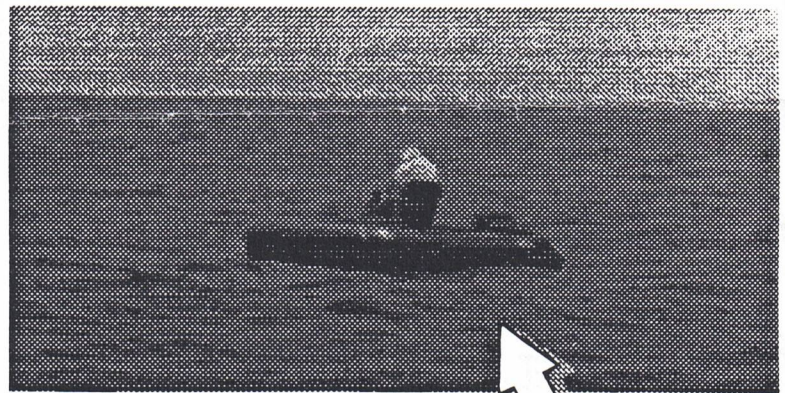
The FYC "Great Southern Shed" was officially opened on Easter Saturday. A good crowd assembled in the Shed for the opening ceremony. The Shed was suitably decorated for the occasion. Despite the meticulous planning that went into the day someone forgot to bring scissors to cut the official ribbon. As the photo shows how, in true FYC style, the Commodore improvised.



Social Life



A mirror returning to sail another day.



Rod Slater seeking relief at sea!





Presentation Night

*Flinders Hall, Cook Street
Saturday 14th June
7:30 pm*

This is the most important
night of the year for the
Flinders Yacht Club

Three Course Meal

Adults \$18

Children \$10

RSVP:

Sue Slater

03 9598 3924

03 5989 0703



Clay Manners

03 9827 3127

03 5989 0021