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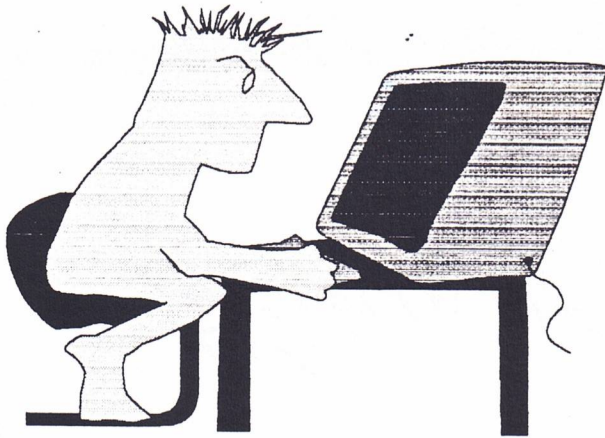
# WEST HEADINGS



The Newsletter of the  
**FLINDERS YACHT CLUB**

PO Box 58  
Flinders 3929  
tel (059)890-762

**October/November 1996**



## Editorial

At the annual meeting of the FYC the Treasurer tables the balance sheet listing the Club's assets and liabilities.

The financial statements only list tangible assets. By far the Club's most important asset is not in the balance sheet. This is the enthusiasm and commitment of members.

Good financial management is important but equally, the club must also protect its membership.

The greatest risk to the continued existence of the club is loss of membership because the activities offered are not what members want. On the positive side The FYC also has the potential to increase membership and expand as a club.

One of the challenges we face is to provide activities which will maintain the interest and challenge our older teenage members. As a result of the great work done by Sue Slater and others, the FYC has a strong junior membership. The Club must encourage the transition of junior members to the senior ranks.

To achieve this and build on membership the Committee needs to know what members want from their club. The Commodore, Darcy Smith, is keen to obtain feed back from members. If you have an idea that can improve the Club's program don't keep it to yourself. Let the Commodore, or any committee member know. They are elected to consider all suggestions, even the seemingly drop dead stupid ideas are worth putting up.

*French  
Provincial  
Theme*

*The  
Opening  
Eve  
Dinner*

*Adults  
\$14*

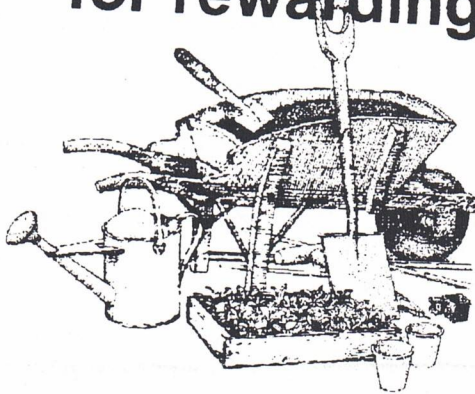
*Juniors  
\$7*

*RSVP  
Sue Slater  
03-95983924*

*See You  
there !!!*

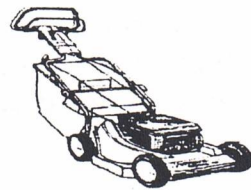


## Wanted: Willing people for rewarding positions.



As many willing people as possible are needed to contribute to the Flinders Yacht Club Working Bee. Although the salary is minimal, a summer of enjoyable sailing is ensured. Bring spades, forks and other equipment.

Apply in person to Ken Lacey  
Flinders Yacht club on the 13th of  
October, at 9:30 am



### Interesting snippets of useless information

#### Why is French island called French island?

George Bass first charted the southern shore of French Island in 1797 but it was the Baudin expedition of 1802 which established French island was indeed an island. Baudin named the island *Ile des Français*. Which Anglophones later corrupted to French Island. He named what is now known as Phillip Island *Ile des Anglais*. It is a bit much to refer to Philip Island as England.

#### Flinders' own Mushroom Reef unique in Victoria

Mushroom Reef at the Flinders ocean beach has been identified by the Land Conservation Council as an area supporting the most diverse rocky intertidal marine communities in Victoria. The LCC has recommended that it be a special management zone subject to

careful management by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

The area is unique because of the type of rock making up the reef and the combination of exposed and sheltered environments.

The LCC's Marine and Coastal Report described the area as having "kelp beds in the shallow waters sheltering a variety of small fish, the larger species becoming more abundant in the deeper water. Seagrass beds and a sea dragon colony have also been reported."

According to the LCC there is a similar reef at Shoreham known as Honeysuckle Reef.

#### Borrowing Club Property

From time to time members borrow club property for private functions. The Committee has decided in future members must make arrangements through the club's internal property officer Rod Slater. A small charge will be levied on each item borrowed.

Rod can be contacted at Flinders on 059 890703 or in Melbourne on 03 95983924.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear members of Flinders Yacht Club

I have to write to tell you how you bring such entertainment to my life. You will recall that I was not looking forward to winter in Flinders. Well Bert decided to take me on a holiday to Mallacoota in late September to stay with my sister. He nipped off fishing with my *brother in law* up to Gipsy Point and didn't show up for a week.

Anyway I was sitting on the decking in the sunshine idly viewing the scenery through the binoculars when I saw some familiar figures - 2 young girls, one with long blonde hair and the other black hair. Both were being tormented by a number of boys - nine in all I think. They looked remarkably like the junior members of the Flinders YC. Up on the shore

watching the shenanigans going on were 3 gentleman rather generous build with glasses of red wine in hand. A close inspection of the bottle in the hand of one Colonel Sanders lookalike showed Preece on the label. In the background a fourth gentleman was busy fixing an outboard motor with the help of a tall dark young man. They seemed to spend a lot of time on this job - every time I looked they were busy. Around the corner I glimpsed young lady with dark hair busy sketching the scene. She would need lots of talent to convert all that activity into an attractive painting.

I must not rattle on now but it was such a thrill to see my friends so far away. I do so look forward to the start of the sailing season. I am very happy for Bert to go to bowls. It means I don't have to cook him lunch. I can watch the yacht races and the interesting activities at the Club all day long.

See you later

Ima Perve

# OPENING DAY

SUNDAY 20 OCT  
FOR ALL MEMBERS  
& FRIENDS

PROGRAMME

- 1200-BBQ LUNCH (BYO LUNCH)
- 1400-SAILPAST (ALL BOATS)
- 1600- AFTERNOON TEA  
(SUPPLIED BY FYC)

## Ocean Racing Handicapping

The IOR system of Handicapping had revealed weaknesses in the years that it had been operating with the result that expensive lightweight boats had frozen out the older boats. These older boats represent the backbone of the ocean racing fraternity. They enjoy the excitement of a race without expecting to win but still with the hope that a freak of weather may push them to the front. The more commercial sailors enter with only one object in mind, which is to win. Without the older boats there would be no race and this forced the hand of the governing bodies to do something.

The international measurement system was introduced two years ago to rectify the faults of IOR but in doing so it introduced some problems of its own. The changes caused the newly formed Australian Offshore group to shun the last Sydney-Hobart in protest. Since then the Australian Yachting Federation and the

Ocean Racing Club have given the rule change top priority in discussions with Australian Offshore.

Typical of the magnitude of the task is the list of discussion headings on an allowance for Cruiser/Racers which was fixed at 1%. This now appears to be too generous in some cases and only barely adequate in other cases. The headings are:

- Heaviness Factor
- "Fatness" Factor
- Light Air factor
- Surfing Factor
- Age Factor.

All of this to decide how much of 1% handicap benefit should be allowed to cruising yachts. Before entering into discussions on these factors a "cruising yacht" has to be defined. Does a cruising yacht require a shower and a lavatory or is a bucket permissible for both purposes? West Headings' mind is quite firmly made up on this particular point.

Special Staff Correspondent

## JUNIOR NEWS

**F.Y.C.**  
**JUNIOR MEETING**

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE ANNUAL  
JUNIOR MEETING FOR JUNIORS, TO  
VOTE FOR THE 96/97 JUNIOR CAPTAINS.  
TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER  
AT 10am DURING THE WORKING BEE,  
IN THE CLUB HOUSE!!!

BE THERE FOR YOUR SAY!

From your very helpful  
past and present Captains  
Kyle, Tim, Michael &  
Tina

## Painting the Moozie too

I don't know what it is like at your place but come the middle of September the Manners family's thoughts turn to the annual task of painting David's mirror.

The most important issue is what colour should it be.

Last year we painted it white. I thought it looked good but according to David it was boring. A judgement emphatically confirmed by Kylie Slater and several other younger club members.

This year it had to be different. I went to the paint shop and obtained a boat paint colour card. There were not many colours on the card. Two reds, orange, two yellows green blue grey and black. Even so we could not agree.

All was not lost because the colour card said any shade was possible by mixing the primary colours. Initially we considered a blue-green but after much debate we decided a lime green with just a hint of orange was the colour we needed.

Following a quick trip to the bank to arrange a second mortgage I bought half a litre of cove green, one litre of signal yellow and 250 mls of rescue orange. ( Why is marine paint so expensive? Is it really worth it?)

We then set about producing our very own designer colour. A little bit of green some yellow, a splash of orange, mix well.

"What do you think Joy?"

"Not enough yellow," upper management authoritatively declared.

This fine tuning went on for some time. Eventually enough was enough. I decided the green I had created would do the job admirably. Sometimes it is impossible to get consensus.

Eventually the job was done. Initially the family was not enthusiastic. I had to forcefully point out that although it is very green you can't make a proper judgement until the boat on the water. I assured the family the green will not be so overpowering when the red sails are set.. (Besides I can't afford more paint to change it.)

On opening day, look out for the bright green mirror with the lovely red sails. If the opportunity presence itself you might care to casually mention to Joy how well the green hull goes with the red sails. David would be interested to know this too.

I understand there will be some fancy mirrors on the water this year. Mrs Perve will be very impressed. Look out for shearwater and seayalater.

*By Clay Manners*

# Editorial Team

West Headings is a joint production of the Manners and Dawson families

The team responsible for this edition were

Managing Editor: Joy Manners  
Editor: Clay Manners  
Layout: James Manners  
Consultant: David Manners  
Sub Editor: Annie Dawson

## Junior Sailor of the Month Tim Dawson: A Profile

**Age:** Nearly 16

**School:** St Michaels Grammer School

**Sailing Experience:** Originally sailed with my dad in a Kestral on the Gippsland lakes. Then moved to Minnows at Beaumaris and sailed in the National titles. Upgraded to a Mirror at the Flinders Yacht Club two years ago.

**Favourite Class:** 14 ft Skiff.

**Sailing Ambition:** To beat Frank and Doug in my Sabre this year and sail in a Sydney to Hobart.

**Greatest Sailing Achievement:** Persuading Dad to buy me a Sabre.

**Career Ambition:** To earn enough money to buy my own boats.

**Special Skills:** Poetry, soccer, golf.

**Other Interests:** Surfing, golf, soccer, cricket, listening to music.

**Favourite Music/band:** Alternative music:- Red Hot Chilli Peppers, Presidents of the USA, Nirvana, Custard.

**Favourite Food:** Roast Lamb with mint jelly.

**Favourite Books:** I love John Marsden and Tim Winton.

**Part Time Job:** Chemist delivery boy.

**Favourite Relaxation:** Sailing

**Plans for the Future:** Sail as much as I can and kick butt in the VCE.



## Senior Sailor of the Month Profile: Peter Dawson

**Age:** Any younger and I'd be dangerous.

**Occupation:** If you need a tractor or a ride on mower, I'm your man.

**Current Boat:** Rubber ducky-no alternative given the 1996/97 roster.

**First Boat:** *Pam-B*, an international Cadet dinghy built by my dad, Smokey when I was ten years old. I sailed her for ten years.

**Subsequent Boats:** Later crewed on a Cherub and an H28. Bought a Kestrel 18' trailer sailer which we sailed mainly on the Gippsland Lakes when the kids were small.

**Current Boats:** Play support role for Tim and Kate who sail a Sabre and a Mirror.

**Best Cruise:** Recently sailed to Merricks in a Mirror with Timon a flood tide with a sou-westerly late one afternoon. Had a great sail down with spinnaker up. Camped on the beach, stargazed and chewed the fat. At dawn we sailed back on an ebb tide with a nor-easterly and again flew the spinnaker. There was no tacking either way.

**Worst Cruise:** Melbourne to Devonport in 1968 at age 16 (*This makes him 44, Editor.*) I was the bowman and as we tacked through the heads in heavy seas my stomach turned. I was seasick for the next 4 days. We lost all auxiliary power and could only sail up the Tamar. The next day we were woken by the Princess of Tasmania bearing down on us at full speed. The pilot boat towed us away in time.

**Favourite Food:** Chips, Pommes frites, French fries, potato skins, wedges and every thing high in cholesterol except chocolate.

**Sailing Ambition:** At 50 I plan to take six months leave and sail from Townsville around the Cape visiting Kakadu, Darwin, and Broome with my family.

**Interests:** I love my golf and aim for a single figure handicap, tinkering in my shed, jogging.

**Life ambition:** To play golf four days a week and own a cruising yacht to fill the rest of the time.

# New Year's Bash



December 31st  
7:00

Juke Box, Fireworks and Heaps of Fun



# Bulletin Board

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Members should note the following important dates in the FYC calendar

- Working Bee Sunday 13 October commencing at 9.30 AM
- Junior sailors meeting Sunday 13 October at 10.00 AM
- Opening Eve dinner Saturday 19 October commencing at 7.00 PM
- Opening Day Sunday 20 October at 12.00 noon
- First races Sunday 3 November
- New Years Eve New years Eve Stupid!

## MUST DO:



A quick reminder to those who haven't yet paid their subscriptions. Please have them into the Yacht club ASAP or MISS OUT!!!!

## Classified Ads

**Hobie Cat** 14 foot Turbo in Good condition with licensed trailer and sail box. \$2000. Ten percent discount to FYC members. Contact Clay Manners (03)98273127 (059) 890021.

**Toyota/Diahatsu** Crew cab truck of unknown vintage. Body liberally reinforced with roofing bolts. Driven by quiet sober gent. Vehicle well known in the Flinders Red Hill districts. Bargain priced at \$1000 ono. Contact Doug (059) 892745.

**Furniture for rent.** The Flinders Yacht club has tables, chairs and assorted other goods to rent to club members. Reasonable rates subject to negotiation with the Club's internal property officer Rod Slater. Telephone (03) 95983924 (059) 890703.

**Good home offered to old boats.** A good home will be provided to old boats, boat bits and canoes.. Classic yachts preferred (Mirrors a speciality) but we will accept boat in any condition. Phone Ken Lacey

**Wanted: Glasses** Prominant Flinder Y.C members, John Derham, and Frank Brancroft are both looking for glasses, John to find the bouys enabling him to have a chance of winning this season, Frank has decided he needes a little assitance with his driving.

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