

Presidents Report

Hi Windrush sailors, The Nationals at Chelsea yacht Club were a success. Many Thanks to the sailors that attended from W.A. Rob and Vicky Thompson, John, Moira and Ailsa McKechnie. Paul Todd, Robin Holmes, Brett Bassett.

Next Nationals are at Koombana Bay Sailing Club, Bunbury. We have had a lot of interest from sailors from the East coast, so lets make them welcome with a huge turn out at Bunbury. Members need to book accommodation as soon as possible.

State titles at Jervoise Bay Sailing club. Easter 2003 from 18th -21st April 2003. Camping will be available at the club. The notice of race will be mailed out shortly

The winter series this year may have to be cancelled, due to a lack of number of boats and helpers for this event. If anyone would like to take over running the series for 2003, please contact the committee as soon as possible. See you on the water soon.

Regards

Cliff Rolfe



Dowerin March

Labour day

Weekend

Regatta

Cancelled

Windrush Wavelengths

Newsletter of the Windrush Catamaran Assn of Western Australia

2003 Windrush Nationals Report

By Rob Thompson

The trip east was uneventful for most of the first day, passed a couple of dead camels near Balladonia, then the skies closed in with bush fire smoke getting thicker. Passed a couple of CFA fire trucks, then a road grader on a mission to try and prepare fire breaks. The mallee scrub on both sides of the road was on fire, pushed along by strong winds, and here we are cruising along the centre of the highway, boat in tow and 80 litres of fuel in the trailer. Found out later we were one of the last cars through that afternoon. Some hours later coming into Ciaguna we encountered grass fires with patches of orange glowing into the darkness as far as the eye could see, we decided to camp at Ciaguna. Second night we camped at Kimba, had trouble boiling the kettle (strong wind and bitterly cold), had the car heater on early in the day, can you believe that?

Day three found us up early that morning and on the road still pushing into a strong head wind, which eased off as we got closer to Adelaide. Here we met up with Mavis and all stayed at my sisters place for xmas. Did the sightseeing trips and then on the 31 December headed for Melbourne.

DOWNSIDE: Arrived in Arrarat on new years eve. Picked out the most expensive motel !!! Cleaned up and set out to celebrate the start of 2003. Found the local RSL,

seemed that every man and his dog had the same brilliant idea. So the trek began to find food. We were standing in front of one of the local Chinese restaurants when a woman rushed past and told it was the best in town. She was right, we all enjoyed our meal. We walked back to the RSL, where mum and I watched Vicky make a small donation to the poker machines. The main



point of this paragraph was to tell you all that we saw 2003 for the first time at 7am on the 1st. There was no need to have an early start, as Melbourne was only 200 km away.

Brother Bow had given us the low down on how to evade the toll ways by getting through the city via the West Gate Bridge, what a view from up there. Traveling down onto St Kilda Road then out the Nepean Highway to Chelsea. It was very easy, only got into the wrong lanes a couple of times.

Booked into the caravan park, probably had a cup of tea, then head down to the yacht club.

The narrow lane between the houses was just as I remembered it from 1985, when I attended my first Nationals. The YC building had received some renovations and they still had the same start boat that had been built in 1949 by some very keen club members. It looked as if Steve was part of the helm as he was on that seat every day on the start finish line.

The six pack had arrived and some of the boys were cleaning and unpacking boats. Paul Todd was having some trouble removing the short beams from his hulls, looked as if he was going to sail the new narrow class Windrush that doesn't require a trampoline.

The boys had been upstairs to make sure the bar was functional. "All was well".

The views from the balcony were exceptional, good for watching the racing and the night-lights. At about 8.45 pm each night, you felt at home as you looked west. To watch the sun slowly sink into the Southern ocean. Three hours different from Perth time threw us into a tail spin for a couple of days.

Next day was registration in the morning and invitation race in the afternoon. One mass start with everybody sailing cat or sloop in readiness for the serious racing next day.

It was an early rise as briefing was at 9am sharp. Racing started in a light westerly, then by the start of the second work the wind had filled in from the south at 15 knots. The race committee was flying Code Flag C and the course had been moved around to suit the new breeze.

The racing was close at the front between Cliff Rolfe, Rob Fleming and Rob Thompson all sailing cat, then Gary Schneider and son Blake tacking down wind covering huge amounts of ocean, and never far from the action on the windward legs. Final placings were: Strawberry Wave, 2nd Invented Reason, 3rd Summersalt and 4th Fluid Driven.

The welcome BBQ was held upstairs at the CYC with the cooking done out on the balcony. Just the best!!! After a hard day on the water.

Saturday and Sunday's program was a race in the morning and 2 back to back in the afternoon, plus race 7 on Monday morning. At the end of the series, only Race 1 of the Cats and Sloops had been shortened, all the other races had enough breeze, some felt like it had been too much. I know that by the end of 8 cat races, my hips, lower back (due to the lack of stomach muscles) were getting worse by the hour. Luckily for me, I was able to win the first five races and relax a bit. Gary and Blake had sailed exceptionally well and managed to win all seven Sloop races, some only just from The Edge, sailed by Shane Wilkinson and crew T. Vanvercki. Closely followed by Updraft sailed by Grant Roe and crew K. Cotton. Maxx Unlimited took the dubious honor of being the heaviest boat at the regatta some 98 kgs. Tuesday was the lay day, so most went for a day of sight seeing. We took a drive, down the down the



Ailsa McKechney

Mornington Peninsular, some very specky houses hanging from the cliff face overlooking the bay. Mum wanted a look at her Auntie's old home in Mornington, which we eventually found, mum had stayed in this house back in the 1940's. Heading further south we couldn't believe the kilometers of Council Caravan Park along the beach, tents and caravans packed in like sardines. We were told most people had yearly bookings and that was their summer holiday spot. We motored to the top of Arthur's Seat where the ill-fated chair lift had collapsed only 2 days earlier. It is situated 304 meters above sea level, and what a fantastic view of the bay, also sat and enjoyed iced coffee in the restaurant.

It was midday and Melbourne was having its hottest day in 2 years 41.8 degrees C. But as all intrepid travelers do we ventured on past Portsea



into the Point Nepean National Park, purchased our tickets for the tractor train trip out to Fort Nepean and past the beach where Harold Holt perished or vanished back in the 60's. The fort was built in the 1890's to protect Port Phillip Bay, as history shows, it was the place where the first bullet was fired in WW2 at a German Merchant ship trying to leave Melbourne when war was declared. Robin Holmes had come along with us, so we went of to explore the old tunnels and bunkers, very interesting to see where the soldiers had bunked down and the built in storage used to house the ammo, also it was some 20 degrees cooler than outside. It was one of the few days when small fishing boats could motor out through the head, as the Southern Ocean was like a mirror.

Wednesday the 8th was supposed to be Heats 1,2 & 3 of the Super Sloop, but "O" what a difference a day makes in Melbourne from 41.8 to 19 degrees, misty rain and 32 knots of breeze. So at 11am racing was abandoned for the day. Guess what! More sight seeing, this time we headed for Southland Shopping Centre, incredible 3 stories high and built across the Nepean Highway shops filling this space, department store on each side of the road and multi story car parks just to make life and spending your money easier. Once inside you couldn't see either end of the building even after walking for 10 minutes. I think half of Melbourne were out there having lunch. So we joined them after finding a seat. Of course bought the odd thing, then headed to Mordiallic River mouth where we donned every available piece of clothing to head out onto the jetty in gale force winds so Vicki and Mum could get an idea of the swell that was running.

Earlier we had been sailing in 22 knots of breeze, which had felt like a roller coaster ride at times. Thursday light winds with a Seabreeze forecast for the afternoon. Racing had been re-scheduled with 4 races and 3 more on Friday. Little did I know but my day was going to get decidedly worse. One tack to go and 200 meters from the finish my rig comes down around my ears. A pin had come out of the side stay, tore the jib and took the mast step off the front beam, luckily I got that before it went overboard. Third place out the window and a tow back to shore. Friday morning was much the same with light winds. Once again the racing was keen, the start line had been moved back closer to the leeward mark to relieve the congestion at the top mark. Once again I was moving into the passing lane.

I had been laying under the beam going to windward and when the breeze picked up, sat up, needed to hang over the side, OOPS! forgot to put the feet under the foot straps, ended up in the drink with the boat upside down and a broken tiller. Once again had to get the rescue boat to tow the boat up. Only good thing, I was able to sail back to shore under my own steam. Friday afternoon racing was postponed until the wind came down under 25 knots. Only 10 Super Sloops fronted the starter. The rest of us had lost the plot.

With sailing finished for the WA guys, it was dismantling the boats and packing them onto the 6 pack trailer for the journey home. Friday night was the presentation dinner at the Y. C. The meal was roast meats and a variety of vegetables followed by sweets. The heat winners had all received glass coasters, awarded at the end of each day's sailing. The Championship awards were presented that night and were concave smoked glass trays with the Windrush emblem situated in the middle.

Klaus Stiegelbaur was presented with a Life Membership for service to the Chelsea Yacht Club. With the formalities completed and some re-sailing of all the races a few firm commitments from people planning to make the trip West in 2004, it was off to the cabin for some shut-eye. Saturday morning it was pack-up and move out, trouble was everything didn't want to fit into the trailer.

Cont..

Supersloop Results Windrush National Championships 2003 Chelsea YC

Sail No	Skipper	Boat Name	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Race 6	Race 7	Points	Place
6279	R Flemming	Summerset	1	1	4	1	10	9	2	9	1
6288	G.Schneider	Fluiddriven	2	2	1	6	1	3	4	9	2
6232	C.Rolfe	Invented Reason	6	8	6.5	3	3	7	1	19.5	3
6187	M Pfeffer	Fast Idle	3	4	3	8	8	2	8	20	4
6184	W.Pfeffer	Fade to Grey	5	12	2	11	4	6	12	28	5
6255	K Stiegelbaur	Shannana	9	7	5	7	9	4	6	29	6
6134	P Flemming	M Bigglesworth	4	9	22	10	6	1	10	30	7
6258	J Kroek	Jackpot	10	6	8	9	7	8	3	32	8
6261	S. Wilkinson	The Edge	15	11	22	5	5	12	5	38	9
6276	P Todd	Happiness is	8	3	12	17	13	22	9	45	10
6248	R Thompson	Strawberry Wave	20	22	22	2	2	5	20	49	11
6225	D Flemming	Longshot	7	13	22	4	15	10	15	49	12
6247	B Weidner	Pussy Power	13	10	6.5	12	11	11	11	49.5	13
6224	G Roe	Updraft	11	5	9	18	14	22	13.5	52.5	14
6265	R Fyfe	Yabby	12	15	22	15	16	22	7	65	15
6273	R Holmes	Push	16	16	12	16	12	13	13.5	66.5	16
6277	J Pawson	Sagerous	14	14	22	14	17	22	16	75	17
6254	G Burke	Maxx Unlimited	17	18	22	21	18	14	17	84	18
6138	P Boyle	Rush	22	17	22	19	20	22	18	96	19
6287	B Bassett	XTC	20	22	22	13	22	22	22	99	20
6217	J McKechnie	Ravin	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	110	21

Windrush for Sale

Bruce Waldon has his Windrush 14 for sale. It is a bulkhead boat in excellent condition with a Mylar main, dacron jib, new main blocks, licensed trailer and sail box. \$2,800 Phone 95376274

Cock of the Canning Shelley SC March 16



This years Cock of the Canning is on Sunday the 16th of March. Starting at 2pm. It's a fun marathon race, which starts around SSC's normal course but then extends up to Mt Henry Bridge (at least once, maybe twice) if huey's blowing. Yachts can sail in any configuration they choose and its first over the line. In the past some set-up as sloop and have their kids on trapeze, or flown spinnakers.

Everybody is welcome to join in this event, and also have a beer with us and watch the sunset from our clubhouse. Regards Tony Smith Phone 041991 7269

Dowerin Cancelled

With regret it is announced that the Dowerin Regatta on the Labour Day March weekend has been cancelled due to low water levels in Hagboon lake.

Tom Williams

The Invitation race for the State Championships at Easter at Jervoise bay SC will be the final heat of the interclub challenge

InterClub Challenge

Whitfords Bay Sailing Club

Heat 1 November 2002

Whitfords Bay turned on perfect sailing conditions, 15 to 18 knots from the SSW. Once again only a small group of visitors joined in, so 12 Windrush fronted the start line.

The 1st and 2nd beats up to the top mark were close and hard fought with Cliff Rolfe narrowly in the lead followed by myself, Brett Bassett, Frazer Watson, Brian Norwood and Paul Todd with the cat brigade not far behind.

Cliff and I pulled away from the fleet on the first reach, while Brian pulled into the beach with back pain. So the new immaculate looking Jaws only had a short run on the ocean.

Meanwhile Cliff and I crossed tacks until the third beat to windward, where Cliff decided to go out to sea, while I was happy to put in the extra tacks and stay inside the reefs, which gave me a winning lead as the fleet followed Cliff out through the reefs.

While all this was happening, in the Cats Ian Culling had worked his way to be in front of Peter Hawley from SBYC and Andrew Harcourt from Shelley.

Final results were not available, as they had to be calculated on yardstick.



Whitfords Windrush Challenge Race Results

Boat Name	Skipper	Sail Number	Place
Strawberry Wave	Rob Thompson	5194	1st
Invented Reason	Cliff Rolfe	6232	2nd
XTC	Brett Bassett	6149	3rd
Spindrift	Ian Culling	6245	4th
Double Time	Frazer Watson	6188	5th
Catfish	Peter Hawley	6246	6th
Happiness is	Paul Todd	6211	7th
Push	Robin Holmes	6273	8th
Wildcard	Greg Jennings	6278	9th
Jaws	Brian Norwood	6259	10th

Strawberry Wave



Photos by Greg Jennings

HMAS PERTH Regatta Nedlands YC

The HMAS Perth regatta was held on Sunday the 23rd February. There were 11 Windush in the Hector Waller Memorial Race. Racing started in a 25 knot southerly. Most supersloops had removed their jibs before the start (Except Brett bassett), Brett relished the conditions and left us for dead. The wind was gusting over 25 knots and up to 30 knots, the waves were huge in the river channels as we dodged fallen monohulls. I experienced wind gusts sweeping me off the trapeze. The Windrush fleet diminished as boats pulled out of the race until there were only three left. Brett basset led home Paul Todd. Third was Simon and Mandy Daddo Well done to Winner Brett Bassett and to Paul Todd and the Daddo's for their endurance.

Interclub Challenge

Safety Bay YC
Safety Bay YC

Races 2 and 3 December 2002

The strong wind warning for the easterly had me apprehensive about the morning race, but on arriving was greeted by a dying easterly, which was to become my worst nightmare.

The course was set out to a pole near the second rock, south of Penguin Island (Mark "C"). Then starboard down to mark "D" at Penguin Island, back along the beach to the outer starboard mark, this was the first triangle.

So the start was going to be down wind, which made for some crunching, and when push came to shove, some skippers tried to make room for themselves.

Thankfully I was one of the boats that got away to a clean start along with Jaws, so the two of us opened up a good lead by the completion of the windward and return, only to find the Easterly breeze dropping out and a weak sea breeze trying to take its place. I was too low to make the mark, where as Brian had sailed higher and squeezed around the mark. While all this was going on, the whole fleet had come cruising down on the next puff of dying easterly, leaving me in a huge black hole and before I knew it I was bringing up the rear of the fleet.

Brian managed to stay in front and be first home. Cliff Rolfe led the cat and sloop brigade home but right on his rudder blades were Keith Saw and Greg and Jack Olden.

Heat 2. Just as the morning race finished; the sea breeze started to build, and by 2 pm we had 15 to 18 knots, but by the end of this race it was back to 10 knots and weakening. The course was altered slightly, with the windward and return moved from "D" mark to "C", while still using the outer start mark.

most of us were running late, had too long a lunch, so the start was almost single file. (no log jam this time).

It was a short run through the moored fishing boats and a tack and out to the Sand bank. Peter Hawley on "Catfish" tacked early after the start and had a good lead on the Cat fleet by the first mark.

I was the only super sloop to beat him to the windward mark, but as the race wore on Mal Buzza and Cliff Rolfe overtook "Catfish". Peter must have used up all his petrol rations early in the race. Meanwhile "Jaws" came through the fleet and moved into second on the water.

So over the line finishing order were Strawberry Wave, Jaws, Cliff on Invented Reason. Then Mal Buzza on "Beez Neez".

A fleet of 19 boats started in the afternoon race, but the rough water saw a few retirements and a couple of casualties. One being a specky cartwheel at the top mark by none other than WBSC's own Greg Jennings. I must say I was pleased to see the wind stay in after my morning race effort.

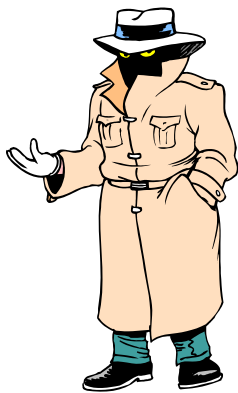
Strawberry Wave

Results of heat 1 and 2 (race 2 and 3 of the challenge series)

Class	Yacht	Skipper	Heat 1	Heat 2
Cat	Georgeous	Noel Hardy	6th	5th
Cat	Invented Reason	Cliff Rolfe	2nd	2nd
Cat	Beez Neez	Malcolm Buzza	4th	3rd
Sloop	Bad Boy	Greg Olden	3rd	12th
S/Sloop	Strawberry Wave	Rob Thompson	10th	1st
S/Sloop	Jaws	Brian Norwood	8th	7th
cat	Wendy B	Keith Saw	1st	8th
Cat	Catfish	Peter Hawley	5th	4th
Sloop	Spindrift	Ian Culling	12th	6th
Cat	Watt Next	Bob Lowther	10th	19th
S/Sloop	XTC	Brett bassett	17th	16th
Cat	Wild Thing	Anthony Saw	16th	15th
Cat	Yee—Ha	Martin Hewitt	13th	19th
S/Sloop	Push	Robin Holmes	14th	10th
S/Sloop	Wild Card	Greg Jennings	13th	11th
S/Sloop	Happiness is	Paul Todd	15th	14th



The Convict Bay regatta was held by the Shelly Sailing Club on the Saturday and Sunday of the Australia day long weekend. Jan 25-26. Two races held on Saturday afternoon commencing 2pm and three races on Sunday commencing at 10am, just in time for the Australia day breakfast on the foreshore. The first race on the Sunday (heat 3) counted to the interclub challenge. Won ably by Rob Thompson fresh from his cat class win in the Australian nationals in Victoria..



Peter Hawley

The overall regatta winner was Peter Hawley who sailed extremely well in all conditions to win this prestigious event.

The editor was unable to get a picture of Peter racing as he was going too fast, but was able to obtain this police photo of him allegedly-taken in the local park.

The sea breeze came in quite strong for the two races held on Saturday afternoon and Brendan Smith was brilliant to win the first race. In the second race Brett Bassett sailing super sloop relished the conditions. And powered away to a good win but was pressed by Jaws sailing cat rigged until he ran aground.

Sunday saw more boats arrive from other clubs for the challenge race. But the wind of Saturday were no more, and it was tough going with many wind shifts in a difficult gusty south easterly breeze. The challenge race was a nail biting event with some very close racing and leading positions changing regularly until the final lap when Rob cleared off.

CONVICT BAY REGATTA

Shelly Sailing Club



Heat start at convict bay regatta



Heats 4 and 5 were held in a dying south easterly breeze and half way through the final race the breeze kept dropping right off and going around in circles until on the last lap the Westerly sea breeze settled in and the sailors who had persevered were rewarded with an exciting final lap. Our thanks to the Shelly Sailing Club for a well run regatta

Jaws

Convict bay Regatta Results * Denotes heat of interclub challenge

Skipper	Boat	Heat 1	Heat 2	Heat 3	Heat 4	Heat 5	Place
Peter Hawley	Catfish	2	5	5 *	1	2	1st
Brendan Smith	PTO	1	4	2 *	10	3	2nd
Tony Smith	White Pointer	5	3	4 *	2	7	3rd
Brett Bassett	XTC	3	1	8 *	4	6	4th
Greg Armstrong	Black cat	9	8	11 *	13	8	5th
Rob Thompson	Strawberry wave	23	23	1 *	6	1	6th
Brian Norwood	Jaws	23	2	3 *	5	23	7th
Greg Olden	Bad Boy	4	7	23 *	3	23	8th
Norm Snell	Catalac	6	6	23 *	7	23	9th
Brian Marshall	Cat balou	8	9	23 *	17	10	10th
Selwyn Beesley	Gulp	10	23	15 *	16	5	11th
Sandy Beesley	Vanilla Slice	23	23	7 *	12	11	12th
Robin Holmes	Push	23	23	14 *	14	9	13th
Ian Culling	Spindrift	23	23	12 *	15	23	14th
Julie Plumber	Rush	23	23	17 *	23	12	15th
Deakin	Wrush14	7	23	23 *	23	23	16th
Ron Cornish	reckless	11	23	23 *	23	23	17th
Ian Bar	Boat of us	23	23	6 *	23	23	18th