

Presidents Report from the A.G.M.

The Nationals at Chelsea Y.C. in Melbourne, Victoria, was represented by six sailors from W.A. — Rob Thompson, Robin Holmes, Brett Bassett, Paul Todd, John McKechnie and myself. The series was enjoyable, friendly and competitive with the best result from W.A. being Rob Thompson first in the Cat Rig.

The interclub challenge had good support last season with Rob Thompson also claiming the honours. This series started at Nedlands Y.C. on their opening day 5th October. I hope this series will continue to be supported. Visiting other clubs keeps the Association healthy.

Some of the clubs are experiencing problems for this coming season, like the beach disappearing at S.B.Y.C. Please keep in touch about any changes to the dates or venues to the Interclub Challenge.

The State Titles at J.B.S.C. last Easter was well represented with 32 boats attending. The wind let us down, but that did not dampen spirits of the people who attended, with everyone having a great time at this event.

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The 29th running Windrush National Championships will be the best ever. No idle boast as this a magnificent place to sail with a terrific club house overlooking the bay, and the friendliest club you will ever visit. The preparations are complete and we look forward to greeting you at the Registration. The Bunbury city Forum shopping centre is a sponsor of

Windrush Nationals

January 2 to 9th 2004 at Koombana Bay YC Bunbury W.A

The nationals and is close to the sailing club so we can do our shopping there. A swimming beach is right next to the yacht club which will be great on those warm days.

12 noon January 2 for the cat and sloop titles and up to 5pm on Monday Jan 5th for the Super Sloops. A late nomination fee of \$20 applies.

Windrush Wavelengths

Newsletter of the Windrush Catamaran Assn of Western Australia

Thompson wins Cat Classic

Hobie Assn Nedlands YC Sept 27-28

Rob Thompson and I from Whitfords Bay (WSSC), and Brett Bassett from Shelley SC were the only Windrush there. 5 heats were sailed, the best 4 of which counted. Heats 1 and 2 on Saturday were pretty light. In the second race Rob was the first to pick up an incoming breeze on the first leg and sailed into the lead—and stayed there, crossing the line with only the Tornado in front of him.

Heats 3 and 4 on Sunday morning were in 20 + knots with some seriously heavy gusts. Rob capsized just before the start of heat 3, and didn't lose much time because the start was a total shambles. No one had noticed the start sequence begin—or end (complete with shotgun blasts). -Everyone was whizzing backwards and forwards having a bit of a practice a couple of hundred yards from the start line. I had been sitting near the start boat and watching the sequence and as the last minute ticked down I moved towards the line, but because no one else had been showing any interest (except Rob—but he was still upside down at this point) when the gun went I ambled slowly over to the boat and asked "wasn't that the starting gun?" John McKechnie's reply was "Well we're not allowed to tell you, but all the flags are down." This sounded reasonably affirmative to me, and also one Hobie was bearing down on the line at full speed, so off I went!



This was already about a minute after the gun, and I was at least 2 minutes before most of the other boats realized that the race had started. Unfortunately I blew what must be my biggest start advantage yet by capsizing before the end of the first leg.

The wind had eased to around 10-12 knots for heat 5 on Sunday afternoon. The start was a bit of a mess because the wind turned as the boats were coming to the line and a lot of boats couldn't make the line without tacking. Still Rob managed to Keep clear of most of it and was

was in the first few places starting the last upwind leg. When the leading boats were maybe two-thirds of the way up the leg I came round the bottom mark about 4th from last just as the wind turned—maybe 20 degrees, and I sailed straight to the top mark and past Rob and a load of other boats that had been caught by the wind shift (and who were all no doubt spitting feathers at this point) and sailed into about 5th place which turned out to be 1st on yardstick—nice for me but no doubt infuriating for everyone else. Rob still managed to finish 6th in this last race on yardstick but didn't need to count it as his other results were enough to give him the overall win. Brett had good finishes in the first 3 heats but didn't do so well in heat 4 and withdrew from heat 5. He still finished 7th overall because of his earlier good finishes. P.S None of us won the raffle.

Robh Holmes

Nominations for the nationals close on the 1st of December, but of course you can nominate right up to

Presidents report cont..

Shelley Y.C.'s members sent a thank you card which was greatly appreciated. The Association appears to be stable thanks to the hard working committee members which are Glennis & Brian Norwood, Paul Todd and Noel Hardie. Lately Robin Holmes and Greg Jennings have been very helpful. Greg has done the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions for the coming Nationals at Bunbury.

After six years on the committee, the last three years as President, I am standing down from the position. Therefore it is important that we have new blood on the Committee. I will however continue to assist with the organisation of the National Titles in Bunbury. Last year at the A.G.M we discussed the proposal of scheduling the A.G.M. at the State Titles. I wish to vote on this proposal today, It makes sense if the members don't come to the A.G.M. then take the meeting to the members.

As the Nationals at Bunbury approach, your committee has been very busy. Paul Todd has the official T-Shirt under control. Together with the Notice of Race and sailing Instructions, Greg Jennings has also printed posters for the event. Our editor of Wavelengths, Brian Norwood has done a fantastic job throughout the year notifying members with the next edition being due in November. Glennis has been liaising with Koombana Bay Sailing Club about catering and running costs. Robin Holmes and I have been actively seeking sponsorship. So far, we have sent out 12 requests to different businesses around the Bunbury area.

These contacts were provided by Peter Hawley. (thanks Pete for your efforts) At this stage, we have received one positive response from the Bunbury City Forum. The centre manager, Mel Hogarth has informed us that the centre will be providing \$400 and some further assistance in other areas, one of which will be displaying a fully rigged boat in the shopping centre prior to the event.

Tom Williams passed away suddenly in July. Tom was a wonderful man who will be sadly missed. He was the main organizer of the Labour Day Long Weekend at Lake Hagboon, Dowerin. I feel that it is most important to provide assistance to the Salt Lake Sailors to carry on Tom's weekend.

I have enjoyed my time on the committee and look forward to sailing with you all in the near future.

Cliff Rolfe

TOM WILLIAMS

The sudden death of Tom, our friend, fellow sailor and commodore of the Dowerin Salt Lake Sailing Club on the 17th of July this year was a shock to us all. Tom was always there to welcome us to the annual Dowerin regatta at Hagboons lake and will be especially missed by the salt lake sailors, and the Shelly sailing club Windrush members, who had for many years made this regatta the main event on their sailing calendar.

We always had a great time with Tom and the salt lake sailors at the Cervantes Easter Regatta in the old days. Tom sailed "Tomcat" in the Windrush state titles whenever possible, the last being the states at Koombana Bay YC at Bunbury. Easter 2002.

Tom loved to drive fast. One year Glennis and I visited Dowerin and Tom took us out in his pride and joy (a 5 cylinder turbo Volvo) to show us another lake north of the town. Well the speedo read 170 kph by the time we were at the end of the main street. The fastest Glennis and I have ever been in a motor vehicle, and Tom was grinning from ear to ear.

We city slickers thoroughly enjoy sailing on Hagboons lake. It was the Easter Regatta for many years and then a few years ago it was moved to the labor day long weekend. Tom and his fellow sailors from Dowerin always made it a regatta to remember. The race briefing left us in no doubt we were there to have fun and at the end of the regatta everybody came away with a prize.

Our deepest sympathy to Toms Widow Kath and their children.

James

The following is the story of Toms life, from the program for the funeral service at Pinjaroo Memorial Park, Perth, attended by over 400 people.

Tom Williams was likened to "superman" of the Dowerin community. He was a very good family man and one of the best citizens you can get. Tom served as committee man on every sport he played—football, rifle shooting, salt lake sailing, golf, squash and bush bash.

He was President of the Dowerin Business Association for many years and a justice of the peace for 27 years, being available for the community at all times. Since its inception Tom has been involved in the Dowerin field days and was vice president of the field days committee for the past two years.

In 1989 he was named Citizen of the year for Dowerin and also winner of hardware store of the year.

Tom supported all country people and country sport, sponsoring many community sporting events in the region for over 30 years. He was a very large man with a huge personality, amazing generosity and a caring nature.

Tom came to Dowerin in 1952 with his parents JK and Effie Williams and was educated at Dowerin District High School and Northam Senior High School.

Working life began with the National bank, then onto construction of quarters for mining camps in the Pilbara.

He returned to Dowerin in 1966 to buy the news agency and a year later married Kath, together raising five children, Peta-Maria (dec), Louise, Julie, James and Steven.

In 1975 he bought his parents share of JK Williams and Co and developed it into a large Retrovision and Mitre 10 store. Tom passed away suddenly on July 17 and is survived by wife Kath and children Louise, Julie, James and Steven and seven grandchildren.

Matt Couper has been elected the new Commodore of the Dowerin salt lake sailors. We offer Matt and the sailing committee our full support.



Thomas James Williams 1945 - 2003

The final heat of the Interclub challenge will be held on the Sunday of the labor day long weekend at Hagboons lake Dowerin. 2004.

Club Reports

Whitfords Sea Sports Club

Whitfords bay sailing club is no more. Heavy insurance costs has caused the members to join with the Whitfords sea sports club . Visitors will not notice any difference as the Catamaran section will still sail off Pinnaroo point at the usual time on Saturdays.

Safety bay YC

After serious concerns about the bay filling up with sea weed Ian Culling had talks with CALM and the Rockingham council and work was carried out to clear some of the beach so that the summer sailing season could get underway.

Annual General Meeting

A big thank you to Pam and Graham Burvill for hosting our Assn AGM At their new home in Como We all had a great time and it was a good to get together socially .

Rob Thompson won the Holden Monaro



29TH NATIONALS BUNBURY

Entrants will be well catered for on the social side of the nationals with a welcome barbecue and a wine and cheese night and on the lay day you can visit the wineries or tour the scenic sights of the south coast

Nedlands Yacht Club

Paul Todd was in Melbourne for his brothers birthday and missed the first challenge heat at Nedlands YC. Brian and association treasurer Glennis Norwood were also missing as they had gone for a two weeks tour of the south Island. of New Zealand during which we were able to roll about in the snow at a place called Hanmer Springs Famous for its natural hot thermal pools for us to splash about in . If you are going to get snowed in this was the place to be.



Weather wise we have been lucky with our club races with milder sea breezes, and only getting up to 23 knots at some occasions. Paul Todd has bought the foam sandwich boat formally sailed by Tim Hodgson. And is looking a winner Robin Holmes has joined Nedlands to sail on Sundays , he has just bought Jack Freemans old foam sandwich hulled boat.

Robin had instant success when he came second to John McKechnie in Sundays club race.

Shelly Sailing Club

Ron Cornish a senior member of the Windrush Association and Shelly sailing club has announced his retirement from sailing at the incredible age of 77. He must be the oldest competitive catamaran sailor in Australia. Ron's wife has been quite ill and needs to take more time to care for her.

Ron is a world war 2 veteran who served on a Corvette (as my father did) and was acknowledged for his work with the navel assn when he carried the Olympic torch before the Sydney Olympics. Ron said he will be putting "Wreckless up for sale. You will be missed from our events Ron.

Jaws

Carnarvon YC

The notice of race for the State titles to be held at Carnarvon next Easter has been sent out to all members , if you have not received one then please contact Glennis Norwood to get your copy. For motel accommodation you can contact the Hospitality Inn 08 99 411600 next to the YC. Camping is available at the yacht club.



Association Committee Contacts

Cliff Rolfe 94433970
 Paul Todd 94474884
 Noel Hardie 93102716
 Glennis—Brian Norwood 93432546



InterClub Challenge



Heat 4 of the Interclub challenge will be held at Safety Bay SC December 14 at 11 am. The 5th heat is at Shelly Sailing club Australia day Regatta Jan 25th (sun morning race one) Heat 6 Is at Dowerin Labour day long weekend 2004

HEAT ONE

Heat 1 was sailed at NYC, a beautiful spring day with a light sou-wester only. Sailors who attended were John McKechnie and daughter Ailsa sailing sloop from Nedlands YC, along with three from WSSC, formally WBSC, Greg Jennings, Robin Holmes, sailing super sloop and myself sailing cat and Brett Bassett sailing super sloop from Shelly.

Once we figured the course out with the help of John all was in readiness for a good afternoon of sailing with the breeze steadily filling into 15 knots.

I got a good start and was able to lead for half the race, until Greg got a nice lift along the far shore and sailed into the lead at lucky bay. By now Brett was on my rudder blades and moved into second spot on the reach back to Bond.

On rounding bond for the last time Greg was on a reach across the river heading for the finish and hit some rough water and stepped off the boat and had a swim. Luckily the boat popped up quickly and he was able to lead Brett and myself to the finish.

Rob Thompson

Results Heat 1 (yardstick)

1st Rob Thompson Cat
2nd Greg Jennings S/Sloop
3rd Brett Bassett S/Sloop
4th Robin Holmes S/Sloop
5th John & Ailsa McKechnie Sloop

HEAT TWO

Heat 2 was held in severe conditions at Jervoise Bay. It was a completely different kettle of fish compared to Nedlands. On arriving at JBSC late that morning 11am, the wind was already at 25 knots and the bay was a mass of white caps.

Decided to have lunch first and was wishing I had lead sandwiches instead of ham. I was going to need weight to survive !!!!!!!

By 1 o'clock eight boats had arrived from SBYC, WSSC and JBYC. It was decided to set a small port course with the leeward mark down near the first jetty and the windward mark about 150 meters out from the club house. The start finish line was off the beach at the launching ramp.

So it was a down wind start with the fleet sailing cat rigged, except myself. I went super sloop without the jib. Out of the start I got a 50 meter jump on the fleet, which I didn't mind.

On rounding the leeward mark you immediately realized you were in for a hard day. Tacking was concern as was the jibe approaching the leeward mark. Cliff Rolfe sailed well to lead the cats, closely followed by Noel Hardie and Peter Hawley.

Greg Jennings waited until the last downwind leg to have a cartwheel, I almost came unstuck when approaching the finish line and the tiller extension stuck through my buoyancy vest and had a few anxious moments trying to extradite myself from this predicament before crossing the line in first place. Robin Holmes finished and then capsized on the way back to the beach.

On checking the wind reports the breeze had reached 30 knots mid afternoon, and with some gusts off the scale. Congratulations to the 8 guys who survived the course.

Results Heat 2 (yardstick)

1st Rob Thompson
2nd Cliff Rolfe
3rd Noel Hardie
4th Peter Hawley
5th Ian Culling
6th Robin Holmes
7th Greg Jennings
Paul Todd DNF
Vern Gear DNF

HEAT THREE

Heat three was sailed at WSSC. Whitfords Bay It was a great day, with flat water courtesy of the land breeze with a gusty easterly wind about 15 knots. Wind shifts of 20 degrees gave you a choice of which side of the course to sail on the windward legs and it made a big difference if you made the wrong choice.

The start was off the beach and Rob Thompson super sloop made the most of it and cleared out with Cliff Rolfe also super sloop making a poor start and playing catch up throughout the race. Greg Jennings super sloop made a good move during the race and almost caught Cliff at the finish. The best of the cats was Noel Hardie with Ian Culling close by.

Results Heat 3 (yardstick)

1st Rob Thompson
2nd Cliff Rolfe
3rd Greg Jennings
4th Noel Hardie
5th Ian Culling
6th Brett Bassett
Robin Holmes capsized



Windrush Assn Web Address
GEOCITIES.COM/
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