



Sailing News

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This newsletter includes articles of interest to SYC owners and crews relating to club sailing activities and racing.

If you have any news that you would like to provide for future editions please email **Sailing News** at boatingco@syc.com.au.

Lou Abrahams - Yachting Australia Services to Yachting Award

Lou, a world renowned and respected yachtsman has been a member of Sandringham Yacht Club for over 30 years. He holds the record for skippering his own yachts in the Sydney Hobart race, which he has done since 1965, and has competed in 43 races.

Should he choose to race this year, Lou will equal the record for the most Hobart races achieved by a sailor and has twice won the race; in 1983 and 1989, finishing top three on three other occasions.

Lou represented Australia four times at the Kenwood Cup in Hawaii, racking up a win as part of the victorious 1981 Australian Team. He has represented Australia twice at the Admiral's Cup and was appointed Team Manager for the fatal 1979 Cup

Throughout, Lou has been actively involved in making a significant contribution to the future of the sport, including assisting young sailors to compete in championship events at National and International levels and providing others the opportunity to crew on his boat at top level events. His company Louisco currently sponsors one of the SYC Youth Academy yachts.

A Past Commodore and Life Member of Sandringham Yacht Club, Lou was Club Person of the Year in 2003 and has won many yachting awards. In recognition of his commitment to sailing he was awarded in 2002 the Commonwealth Medal for Services to Sailing.

*Lara Watts, Yachting Australia
12 July 2006*

(Ed. Note: As reported in the last edition of Sailing News, Lou was also awarded the Victorian Yachtsman of the Year Award.)

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Editor: Debbie Parker

SYC Boats in ORCV Melbourne-Vanuatu Race

SYC was well-represented in the results of the inaugural ORCV Melbourne-Vanuatu race that started July 2nd 2006:

BOOTS: 2nd - 2-Handed Division

ALIEN: 3rd - IRC

Unfortunately Phil Coombs' Dekadence had to retire after suffering mainsail damage in a storm that hit the fleet off Sydney.

The divisional winners were:

Line Honours: Andrew Short Marine

IRC: Moomba (whose crew included Chris Waters (SYC's New Club Captain - Sail) and SYC member Adam Manders)

PHD: Andrew Short Marine

2-Handed: Ingenue

Full details, including media releases, are available at www.melbournevanuatu.com or the ORCV web site www.orcv.org.au

As in most ocean events, the race provided a bit of everything to the fleet of 20 ranging from a 40-50knt storm off Sydney that claimed Dekadence and Electra, to days of doldrums that becalmed the fleet and tested crews' mental fitness. However the race did live up to its catch-cry of "Take me somewhere warm, George", as the temperatures improved with



every degree of latitude that the fleet swallowed up. The Vanuatu Cruising Yacht Club did a fantastic job of hosting the fleet, and all crews enjoyed the warm hospitality of the Vanuatu people upon arrival.

Mark Welsh

Match Racing

The stars came out to play in the July edition of the SYC match racing series. Four strong entries bristling with state, national and world champions met each other twice in the double round robin format.

A building northerly breeze greeted the crews who faced the added challenge of having the course set off Hampton Beach. With smooth manoeuvres and prudent use of the gusty breeze Team Shuwalow made a strong debut winning all their races in the first round with The Muppet Show only dropping one race to be nipping at their heels.

However it was the second round robin where all the action took place. Team Turnbull dealt Team Shuwalow their first defeat who then rallied to a come from behind victory against Crouching Tiger. This set up a thrilling final race of the day with The Muppets overcoming technical difficulties to tie with Team Shuwalow heading into the last flight.

Crouching Tiger were able to get the better of Team Turnbull in their final match up but it was not enough to lift them onto the podium with Team Turnbull snaring third.

If you wish to be involved in match racing at SYC please contact Rob or Vicki at the SYC office to be put onto the match racing database. Whether you're just starting out or an America's Cup guru you're more than welcome to come down and get involved.

For those who are interested check out: www.worldmatchtacingtour.com for the latest videos and news from the professional match racing tour

www.sailing.org and follow the links to the match racing website for events, rules and information on match racing

FINAL RESULTS

1st Team Shuwalow – 5 wins, 1 loss

2nd The Muppet Show – 4 wins, 2 losses

3rd Team Turnbull – 2 wins, 4 losses

4th Crouching Tiger – 1 win, 5 losses

Scott Walton

Around the Stix - Winter Series Race 5

The fifth race of the series was held in conditions that were far from favourable to the Norms of the world. It was raining heavily and a very cold wind of 18 to 20 knots blowing from the ESE. When the 5 minute siren sounded and the tower indicated that the course 33 would be sailed a few of the fourteen division one boats starting were caught napping as this was a northerly start. Crews that were huddled together on the rail in the pouring rain now leaped into action setting spinnaker poles and preparing spinnakers for the off the wind start. Luckily division 2 had an extra 5 minutes to sort themselves out.

The fleet had a shy run to #3, then ease, pole back, to R2 and a good long beat to #1. The last leg was a two sail reach to the finish, Goldfinger again led the fleet and finished at 1439 followed by Flirt and Bullistic

Fourteen Division 2 boats on course forty also had a northerly start to #3 then a gybe (interesting for some) to #2, beat to #1 and then a smaller triangle to the finish. Wavelength finished at 1458, eight seconds in arrears was Take Five, closely followed by A Crewed Interest. Even for such a miserable day the fleet numbers were good, we must have some very dedicated sailors out there. We are now half way thru the season and it is obvious which boats are the ones to watch. In Division one aggregate Musketeer leads both VYC and IRC, Bullistic leads AMS and Goldfinger is not far behind in all categories. In Division two Take Five leads VYC, Watermark leads IRC and Wavelength is up there in AMS.

Martin Power

Winter Results

DIVISION I

VYC	IRC	AMS
Musketeer	Goldfinger	Barnstormer

DIVISION II

VYC	IRC	AMS
Ingara	Wavelength	Wavelength

Helpers Welcome!

You don't have to sail to be part of the racing scene so, why not join the Race Management team? Help run races or drive a Rescue or Committee boat?

Training provided.
Call Vicki on 9598 7444