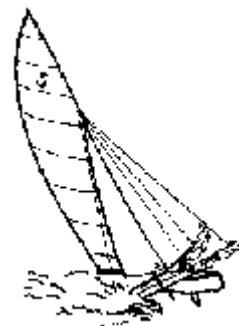




**COBRA TALES  
NEWSLETTER  
MARCH 2006**



## EASTER PARTY WEEKEND REGATTA

There's only one way to put it. Great weather, Beautiful Lake Boga, average temp' 28 deg'. Everyone who's anyone singing and drinking around the campfire, metres from the waters edge. Yes we've got it all. Wine tastings from the local region, old favourites such as the dragon boat race, the best counter meals just a walk away. Swimming and sailing, plenty of lawn camping and room for the kids to play. Lake Boga yacht club puts on a great regatta with a bbq night, a wine tasting night, raffles and a presentation afternoon. The clubhouse runs breakfast lunch and dinner if you wish at an affordable price.



I've even heard the Lake Boga sunsets provide the setting for new and renewing romance. It gives the great opportunity to consolidate your sailing skills or that new crew member. If you haven't been before, check with someone who has. This is not just our Cobra state championship, it's a great weekend away!



**SO WE INVITE YOU ALL FROM  
THE 13<sup>TH</sup> APRIL TO THE 17<sup>TH</sup> APRIL  
TO BRING THE FAMILY  
(mum & dad too!)  
RSVP Laurie Bradford by 30/3/06**

ph 0422 892 334

## TRAVEL SERIES DATES

Saturday	29 October .....	done.....	Rose festival, Lake Mokoan
Sunday	13 November .....	done.....	Portarlington
Thursday	13 April .....		Lake Boga
Monday	5 June Queens Birthday weekend .....		Sauna Sail

### PRESIDENTS REPORT

Great to see the success of the recent nationals at Portarlington and once again my thanks to all those involved in the event. All of you will have seen the reports on the competition in the Parkdale newsletter, so I won't go into more detail here. For all of you new Cobra sailors, if you missed these nationals, make a point of not missing the next. Put a note in the diary for the end of December/start January this year, most likely in NSW – Newcastle area. Note that the nationals are a fun event, open to everyone with a Cobra, and a great place to learn how to sail a Cobra well. BE THERE!!

The traveler series continues to add to our exposure around the state (I must get a new wetsuit) with our latest comp at Safety Beach on the long weekend. We added to the excitement of their regatta considerably with a strong contingent careering around the bay in gusty northerly winds, with intense racing in each of the heats. Victory to David and Lisa on Unnamed, with Livewire in second and Scream in third. Rick managed to keep the aluminium industry in business, while Pete decided that the only way to win was to throw the crew overboard, much to the amusement of the finishing line committee boat.

The Safety Beach club looked after us really well, and I think that this regatta will become a permanent part of the Traveler series. Next event is the Sauna Sail at Hazelwood Pondage later in the year to complete the series.

At the moment, our attention is focused on the State Titles at Lake Boga. We would dearly like to break the record number of entries at the states (16), so all of you who are already intending to go need to do some lobbying to explain to all the others what a great time this is. (details on the website or contact Stan)

A number of people have commented to me this season on the resurgence of the Cobras as a class and how impressive it is to see the

number and quality of the boats lined up each weekend at Parkdale and at the other venues around the country. It gives me a great deal of personal satisfaction to see the increased number of sailors coming on board and enjoying these great yachts. The lease boat system has been a major part of this rebuild, but new boat owners wouldn't stay unless the environment was enjoyable. So a pat on the back to all of you who have quietly helped the newcomers feel welcome – it hasn't gone unnoticed.

As we get near the end of the season, good luck to all in the competitions to come.

Laurie

Footnote:

I always wondered what the word yacht stood for – I just found out that it is an acronym for You Always Come Home Tired!

Thanks  
Laurie



Just a reminder to all Cobra owners that you need to pay your subscriptions before the next ski season - woops, sorry - state tiles. You can rest assured that I will look after them !!!

**POST SCRIPT** - If you can get this out on time - the jackets are ready and I will bring them down to the club on Sunday or they can be collected at the states \$40 cash or \$44 cheque (to VCCA) COD!!!!

Thanks Again Laurie

Tune in to the yachting Victoria radio station SEN 1116 at 1116 on the AM dial at 755 am every Saturday morning

Now for some more reports etc...

### **ROSE FESTIVAL LAKE MOKOAN**

The Rose Festival at Lake Mokoan started on the 29<sup>th</sup> October on a picturesque lake, a tranquil setting until you cover it with the brilliant colours of every class of yacht that you can think of in a spectacular regatta.

The sad part is that the Mokoan Yacht Club is struggling to survive, partly due to rising insurance costs. They very much depend on participation by clubs like ours, and let's face it, Why wouldn't we when were looked after as well as we were? Bacon and egg cooked breakfast, hot running coffee etc, and extremely good service to boot.

...Shame about the weather though, but can't blame them for that. Despite this the competition went well with enough races to sort winners from losers and pikers from sickies (no names but some had valid excuses).

As far as memory serves, the competition was taken out by Rick Nixon in first place Wes' second and some blown in mossie in third. The Badrocks missed out on a technicality.

The weather was really the only thing that held this back, so lets go again next year eh!

Nick Bradley (editor)



### **COBRA SOCIAL LIFE**

The Sailing season is fully underway with heaps of competitive sailing happening not least to mention the Australian Cobra National Titles which took place at Port Arlington, Victoria.

Most of our social events thus far consisted of a number of nights out celebrating birthdays at the local pubs around Port Arlington. We all had a lovely evening at the Drysdale pub with nearly all Aussie Cobra members present. A very small quaint pub with very nice meals. The Grand in Port Arlington proper was a good venue to celebrate Sue Nixon's and Gaye Thornhill's birthday with really yummy meals followed by a special birthday dessert for the two birthday girls. Within easy walking pace of the camp grounds a number of people took advantage of this and had a great night. On other occasions others ventured out to numerous local restaurants; take away shops and even Golf clubs. Not a lot of camp cooking going on! A nice way to take advantage of the beautiful weather and unique local surroundings.

A number of social gatherings took place around the camp site ranging from social chit chats, drinking binges, card nights and not to mention the QLD v VIC dodgem car challenge which took place at the nearby beach side carnival. From what I hear this was a lot of fun but not a shred of competition took place. Not much! Also the Carnival was a source of entertainment for all of the families who took the kids for a bit of fun. Some kids much bigger and older than others and fun was had by all.

The Australian Cobra National Tittles Presentation night was held under a marquis at the Port Arlington Yacht club. A spit roast

catered event provided great food, inexpensive drinks, a great atmosphere with a nice social gathering to celebrate the winners of the 2005/06 Aussie Cobra Tittles. Congratulations to Scott and Brek Mcvey, Glen Dale and Matt, David and Lisa Badrock for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> line honors positions respectively. Overall this series was a very enjoyable with, great weather, great people, great times and a whole heap of fun!

Another recent social event involving the Cobra's was the Parkdale Yacht club commodore's cocktail party. The weather was perfect, the ambience of the club was lovely, and the night was a lot of fun. Plenty of dancing was done by all, copious amounts of Midori illusion slushies were consumed, and abundant conversation took place on the picturesque balcony of Parkdale yacht club. A generally fun and successful fundraising night for the club. Well done to the organizing party.

As for coming events well we will decide by popular demand. Some suggestions are Rock Climbing, Go karting, Bowling, numerous restaurant visits or anything else you guys might suggest. If you have anything specific you would like to try let me know and we will see what we can arrange. Ok enough already. Bye for now.

Lisa Badrock



Above: Dolphins are playing with the cobras At Portarlington.

### THE NATIONALS Kim's view

Oh yes the nationals at Portarlington. Well the thought of hard work comes to mind, if you happen to have three Kids like I. Where did my holiday go. I do remember working hard on board and playing hard on shore. Many a drink and cheers to celebrate the winner, the losers and the repair tragedies. The debriefing if camping near some of our Queensland counterparts went long into the night or was that the morning.

First Nationals for me and what a great bunch of guys and gals, everyone laughing about the mishaps and being there the next day to help with whatever they could do to get there competitors back in to the race, there's a lot to admire about being part of the cobra class. The night of our presentation in particular at four am after our second warning about keeping the noise down, two rather large security gentlemen reminded us of the hour. Scotty politely, in, of course, his quietest voice proudly explained and showed the, at first unimpressed security personnel his trophy for winning the cobra nationals for 06. To my surprise they congratulated him and apologised for asking us to keep it down. ...Smooth talker and an OK sailor to boot.

Camp sites and facilities were great, beach, carnival for the kids and bike rides around the place had everyone sleeping well. Lisa Bolton and I took out a fishing expedition to the pier with all the kids aboard. There was some excitement in anticipation of our big catch. David and Rick turned up later to help us with the haul, or was it to remind us how late it was. Result:- No fish, mothers and fishermen ready for bed.

Weather was beautiful except for our lay day. Not cold but windy and wet. I'm sure I saw Pete Marshes tent doing backstroke but not to be deterred by the weather, all was salvaged at the Drysdale hotel for dinner where we contemplated our next night out for Sue and Joy's birthday celebrations at the Grand hotel.

(Hard times indeed).

Some highlight would be new years eve at Laurie's sister where we met some of the sting ray clan, had beautiful food and great company we ate and drank our way into 06 what lovely an atmosphere and great hosts, though I'm not sure if I remember leaving .

To my surprise later in the week, While I'd been out with all the guys and gals out on the water, us, showing those Queenslanders that Victorians weren't to be taken lightly, some of the ladies had discovered some very nice little café's around town to escape the sun wind and excitement of our races. I was fortunate enough to join in when my relief crew turned up for the last race. Thanks Nick.

All in all found myself budgeting for the next nationals, wherever it is.  
loved it !

Kim

# Trivia telltales

Are we all familiar with some of the new look cats on our waters, or is every thing old new again. Definitely Maybe. Considering definitely maybe now owned by Andrew Dixon has quietly been making its own history as the cobra with the most name changes, at last count we got seven,

Too short a fuse  
Popeye and Olive  
Al's Wildcat  
Mr Ed (Hybrid)  
Mal's Wildcat  
Wildcat  
Definitely Maybe

Well Andrew is definitely going to make it a wild cat on the water now, or is that maybe? (welcome Andrew)

## Name Our Cat Comp!

Start using your noodle now, for this competition that will run at the states. Our new lease boat needs a name. It could have cat in it such as in Catapult etc. Perhaps it could relate to Cobras. It could reflect the speed of the boat. We all know that the name of the boat can seriously affect it's overall performance. Despite this fact there are no rules regarding the naming, save for a little limitation on crudity.

Examples

Catapult  
King Cobra  
A load of old Cobras  
Leased we finished  
Re leased Brian



The Judges decision is final etc etc. Laurie will donate a bottle of cobra wine for the winning entry - hope that doesn't scare anyone off - it has aged superbly. Good luck

# Maddelyn Holland's Profile

Maddelyn's age 14 going on 17,18,19.

Favourite food, (junk).

Likes most sports, especially when she is winning, that's why she loves sailing with Mal. Also, plays netball, volleyball.

Favourite band; Green Day.??? But also thinks Jesse McCartney is hot

No relation to any famous singers we know.



What does she want to be when she is older, RICH AND FAMOUS, (not like Mal).

Favourite teacher hasn't got one. Some one that fits the profile of Willy Wonka and they'd have to own a chocolate factory.

Best skipper in the world, Mal. (Guess who wrote this profile?)

Skippers summary of Maddelyn

**Maddelyn has been a fantastic crew showing enthusiasm, energy and a lot of guts in all the tasks that a skipper would ask of a crew. She has not let fear get in the way of her thoughts of quitting even when the going gets tough. Maddelyn has sailed with me in winds of 35knots plus and has been very scared, but would not quit because she didn't want me to get upset or disappointed with her.**

Maddelyn is always very attentive when we are racing, because if she isn't I'll push her in the water after the race. Also, she doesn't like being beaten by Colin because he always lets us know when he does, which isn't very often thanking goodness. She has learnt a lot since she has been sailing, especially colourful language, not mentioning from where but it definitely wasn't from Mal. Need any clues? Maddelyn has said that she will definitely sail again next season so watch out.

## *From The Skipper Of Venom Comes The Poisoned Pen*



Laurie used to be indecisive but now he's not quite sure about that.

Last Sunday between races he was trying to decide whether to wear his spray jacket or not. He finally decided in the affirmative, but then took it off again whilst out on the water. As a bemused onlooker I could only assume that he had not fully re-acclimatised from his trip to Canada, however it seems that his indecision was not based on climatic considerations at all.

He was trying to decide whether to show off his muscular arms and powerful torso or to concede that Presidential flab may have set in. (Chris Wells knows what I am talking about)

He obviously made the correct choice as after the race not one, not two, but four women who had been having lattes in the hilltop café approached him to ask for a ride (on the boat). I am allowed to print this story as apparently that morning he had earned mega brownie points by helping Kerry with her horse.(enough for four women on the boat at once?)

Not to be out done by such dalliances, Sue was seen to be so interested in a foreign gentleman in speedos that she had to be reminded by Rick to come back to help de-rigging the boat and you know how much women usually enjoy that pastime.

Speaking of Nixons, Robbie seems to take direction very well.

The previous week while he was signing on, I informed him that his father had changed his name to: Douglas Nixon Fordham and that Robbie should always sign off as D.N.F.

Lo and behold, after the race I saw that Robbie had complied.

I'm sure everyone remembers that race, the one when Rick broke a diamond wire.

Is it true that David has put in a huge bid in for the yellow mast that is currently on Peter's boat? The diamond wires are obviously immensely strong as it has survived more than Two races with Peter and we know that David did have mast problems at the Nationals. It is more likely however that Lisa is behind this bid. The yellow car, the yellow cobra jacket, the yellow sunglasses that she insists on, that make David look really silly. It's just her obsession with colour co-ordination. If it all seems a bit much, remember that her hair colour is natural.

Rick is falling into Wes's cunning trap.

Wes has thrown a couple of races through skirmishes with Rick( and we all know how Rick loves to run into you then quote some obscure rule). Well Wes has brushed up on his rules and after the next collision (which Rick will be unable to resist), Wes will fly his new secret weapon.

It will be about 100 sq. ft , hoisted up the mast and pulled out on a pole forward of the jib. Some may confuse this with a spinnaker, but of course that would be illegal, so instead Wes will have a large red protest flag. It will need constant adjustment, so Vanessa will have far less time to sleep on the boat.

It is disappointing that Wes is not beating David at the moment.

It would have been so nice to have asked David, as I asked Mal a couple of years ago, So how much did it cost to upgrade to a boat that is slower than your old one?

Last and probably least, we come to Mal.

I mean which Poison Pen entry would be complete without him?

He has been behaving rather well in recent times. Gone are the cocktails of pain killers and spirits (with the accompanying atrocious

puns and jokes), he goes swimming to relieve his back problems, rather than relying on “teenage girls on the beach therapy”. He’s even winning a few races – a few too many in fact. And best of all those mysterious marks on the top of his head he said are disappearing. You know, the ones in the shape of a thumb print. However sailing at Safety Beach this week has given way to important family business.

So if you are feeling left out of all of this, just do something incredibly stupid, or beat me in a few races and I will invent something.

COLIN.

Car rally clue (as promised, so keep watching this space )

Even a certain oddness might earn extra score, although not in the tyre but in the attire.



Its great to see the return of the poisoned pen

Thanks Colin

## COBRA CLASSIFIEDS:

(If you have that unwanted something, that old boat, a wetsuit that fit really well last season, or want that go fast gadget or something then place your ad’ here in the Cobra Classifieds!)

### FOR SALE

Mistral 5.2 wave slalom board. Excellent learner/ intermediate windsurfer  
All in good condition with one small repair to the top section of the sail.  
fits easily on top of a Cobra if you need even more excitement in your life.  
\$150

Laurie 9844 2491

can email photos if needed.

[braddies@netspace.net.au](mailto:braddies@netspace.net.au)

Bomber jackets are ready and I will bring them down to the club on Sunday or they can be collected at the states \$40 cash or \$44 cheque (to VCCA) COD!!!!

Also there are some spares as well so first in best dressed.

Laurie. As above.

Editors Note : Too good to miss see you at the Easter party weekend regatta  
at Lake Boga!  
Nick