

Wing Flap



*Official Newsletter of the NSW B14 Association
Affiliated with the Australian B14 Class and World B14 Class Associations*

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Traveller's Trophy Blown Wide Open

Lissa McMillan—Port Stephens Correspondent

The Australian 19/11/01 "A small regatta was caught in the tempest at Nelson Bay, north of Newcastle, where police confirmed 28 people were swept into the water. No one was hurt. More than 60 houses, a motel and a resort were damaged in Port Stephens."

SMH 20/11/01 "...the fiercest storm anyone in Port Stephens could remember..."

ABC Radio 19/11/01 "...State Emergency Service crews from the Illawarra ... will help Sydney SES crews repair roofs and clear trees, damaged by gale force winds. The worst-affected areas are in Sydney's west and north, the Blue Mountains and Port Stephens, north of Newcastle."

STOP PRESS!! The Travellers' Trophy regatta at Port Stephens Sailing and Aquatic Club gained much more publicity than expected. The actual results have not had much coverage - indeed they weren't available after the last race as the power to the club (and the region) was out. But the drama that unfolded as the storm hit as the last race was finishing was the story.

We could see the dark clouds building, and as Race Four progressed, great streaks of lightning flashed ever closer. It looked pretty threatening, but I don't think anyone was pre-

pared for the severity of the squall. On land, trees crashed into cars and buildings, windows were blown out and power lines were downed. On the water, in wind speeds estimated at up to 70 knots, the dinghies had no chance. One laser sailor told us she was thrown from her boat, and then watched amazed as her vessel turned three somersaults in the air before crashing back in the water. The starting yacht, a substantial craft of about 30 ft, was knocked flat despite having no sails up. The rescue craft, an inflatable, was missing for some while, and fears were held for the young volunteer for a tense hour after the storm abated.

And where were the B14s? That was what the three crews on shore were wondering. Goon Show had prudently headed to safety earlier, while The Nude and Hunt Leather had just managed to get to the



World Titles—Lake Garda—The Social Perspective

Sophie Hunt— European Correspondent

Report on the "Social" at the Worlds in Garda from a survivor.

Having only ever participated in wild drinking sessions at the end of yacht races and after the B14 Nationals at McCrae this year, I was completely

shocked and surprised by the atmosphere at Garda. It all started calmly - Abby and I began diligently preparing our borrowed boat, and had a lovely drive late on our first afternoon with Chris and Jules (Fujitsu) and Rob Bates (B14 sailor from Gosford who'd turned up on the off chance of

a ride) up to a "rifugio", a little hut way up in the mountains above the lake at the end of a long narrow track, where we ate spaghetti and had cold Italian beer (the best).

That was the night Torbole threw an End of Summer Beach Party for the public, and the Aussie contingent made a



Traveller's trophy cont. from p.1

"We only had the centreboard up, but we were still tacking," said Emily.

beach, roll up sails and tie down the boats as the front hit with a vengeance. The rain was initially so heavy it was impossible to see more than 30 metres. But thankfully, Marie Celeste was in that range of vision, capsized just metres from shore. The fierce winds made it impossible to do anything but remove the sails while laid flat, a task that took five people.

But two boats were out of sight, Priority Powder Coating and Groove Monster. It was only after the wild weather had passed that these two sailed in, happily unscathed, along with the rest of the ragtag fleet of 505s, Lasers, OKs and Sharpies. Amazingly, there were no injuries, and minimal damage to boats – one snapped 505 mast, and some minor hull damage. Emily Fewster and Kieran Livermore told of the difficulty of clinging to the hull and each other at the storm's peak. "We only had the centreboard up, but we were still tacking," said Emily. Paul Hansen and James Ellis, arguably the heaviest combination on the water on the day, couldn't battle the strength of the wind, which flicked their boat over at will. All remarked at the stinging pain of the rain hitting their

ears.

For the record, six B14s competed on each day. The racing was exciting, with the lead in each race changing several times, and with epic battles to the line. The results, subject to confirmation when Port Stephens gets power again, are:

Race 1

The Nude; Hunt Leather; Marie Celeste; Partly Susan's; Groove Monster; Goon Show

Race 2

The Nude; Hunt Leather; Marie Celeste; Groove Monster; Goon Show; Partly Susan's

Race 3

Marie Celeste; Hunt Leather; The Nude; Priority Powder Coating; Groove Monster; Goon Show

Race 4

The Nude; Hunt Leather; Marie Celeste; Groove Monster; Priority Powder Coating

State Emergency Service were quickly on hand following the storm



CHECK OUR NEW WEBSITE AT

<http://b14.interalpha.net>

World Titles cont. from p.1

lot of friends. "Beach" = rocks, and a band on stage and a couple of thousand Italians grooving to daggy Italian pop music. We moshed in front of the stage for a while, until Chris Madin (Fujitsu), in appropriately beachy Egyptian dress, was pulled up on stage when our nationality was discovered to sing along with the lead singer... and the crowd cheered "Australiani, NUMERO UNO!". Chris certainly had his 15 minutes, and we caught it all on video.

After the beach party we became well acquainted with THE MOBY, or the Moby Dick Bar, which is apparently the sailor's mecca in Torbole and for the next week became the unofficial B14 bar every night.

at the club was terribly subdued and apprehensive. But then it seemed that everybody wanted to forget things for a while and enjoy themselves, revelling in the place we were in and our own safety. So the poms cut loose, and we tried to keep the flag flying.

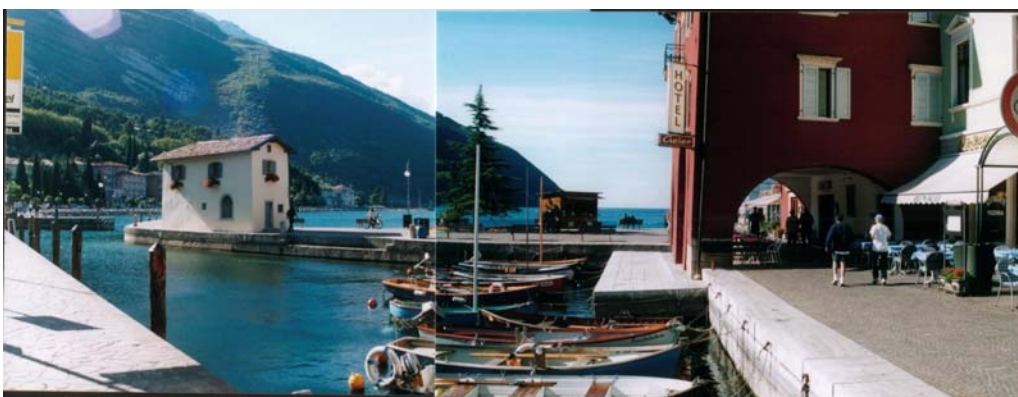
Then I saw my first "wine wave". The excellent Circolo Vela Torbole held a dinner for us all under the big top on the second night of the regatta, and although the wine was pretty bad, the Aussies held their own until the wine became scarce and the entire contingent moved down the road to a big bar. The rest of my memories of that night are somewhat vague. But with the assistance of my camera, I

opposite the incredible Villa Stella, shrine to sailing and home of the wonderful Tonelli family, and lots of B14ers that week.

The last night was definitely the PEAK, however. Sailing had been abandoned that day after a fairly wild storm that dropped on us from above, so everybody had some energy to burn. After a big packing up session, Richie, Lissa, Abby and Jules took The Nude and Fujitsu to Malcesine, just down the road where the 49ers were starting their own Worlds, from where the boats would take the container home to Oz. Then the mayhem started. Dinner had been organised by Tim Fells for about 70 people at an unsuspecting local res-



Jules & Chris "15mins. of fame" race against an imposing background.



Full of pommy B14ers, it was uproarious fun most nights, as the poms did exactly what I'd been warned they would do - drink a lot. I just didn't realise they would do it the entire week, during the regatta. And then sail so darned well the next day!

Things were definitely changed after September 11 - we'd had a gorgeous training sail that afternoon (Richie from the Nude got nude and sang to the Sound of Music with the chicks while we floated about waiting for the Ora to kick in), and were completely overwhelmed by the news and CNN at the club when we got back. We had a minute's silence at the briefing next day and the mood

know that Lissa was involved in trying to prevent a "pantsdown" of Richard Dowsett (defending champion and noted stripper), and I do remember learning how to salsa later on at the Conca D'Oro nightclub, scene of Jules' (Fujitsu) conquest of one of the only single English-speaking females in town.

But before going to the Moby every other night, we had to eat, and I have indelible memories of the cackling ducks laughing at us as we ate delectable takeaway pizzas and drank red wine on the foreshore of the town, with the mountains all around us, watching the light fade down the lake. We also had lovely meals at La Trattoria Rustica,

restaurant, and nearly 100 turned up. Food took a long time as everybody was squeezed in and the wine waves began almost immediately. We lost a couple of our number almost immediately - Christian, an honorary Australian from Wales, who'd made a name for himself by sleeping on TOP of (and breaking in the process) his tent one night earlier in the week, and his drinking pal for the afternoon, Rob Bates, didn't make it through the first course, for various reasons! Many speeches were made, including an Aussie Aussie Aussie chant, and quite early on in the night pommie "Hairy Jason" asked his girlfriend to marry him (and she accepted).

"It was a heavenly place, with incredibly spectacular scenery, an extremely high standard of racing..."



Tony Eccles & crew

President's Report



“...the big news was that the B14 Worlds are coming back to Oz. The wonderful McCrae Yacht Club in Melbourne will host the big event in January 2003”

So the biggest news out of the World Titles in Lake Garda was not that Chris Maden danced and sang (in Italian!) on stage with a pop band in front of a screaming beach party audience in excess of 1,000. It wasn't even Julian Bolleter announcing his “engagement” to that pommy girl (what was her name again, Jules?). It wasn't Tony Eccles' new trademark hat, or Richie Reynolds sailing in the nude in The Nude and it certainly wasn't Sophie Hunt falling in the lake at 4am.

No, the big news was that the B14 Worlds are coming back to Oz. The wonderful McCrae Yacht Club in Melbourne will host the big event in January 2003. A great deal of enthusiasm was shown by the British and French competitors at Lake Garda (it could've been the photos of Victorian food and wine we distributed) and it would seem there'll be a sizeable European contingent.

So get your leave booked - the event looks like running from Jan.5—Jan. 11 with the Aussie Nationals preceding it. (final dates still to be confirmed)

Our dedicated Race Secretary John “Safe Date” Perry has been toiling away putting together the race calendar, which features in this action-packed edition of Wingflap. Coordinate diaries, synchronise watches, and get on the water!!

As always, the Second Hand Boat list is also featured in this edition of the esteemed official organ of the NSW B14 Association. You may notice it's pretty short this time. There've been a lot of boats sold in the last little while, which is fantastic. I'd like to warmly welcome all the new B14 sailors to the class. Looking forward to seeing you all out on the water. Please don't hesitate to con-

tact us with any suggestions or queries.

And there are still more people wanting to join the class, so if you are aware of any B14 that may be on the market, please let us know.

And finally for this blurb, a big thankyou to Duncan and the rest of the committee for all the hard work while the rest of us were swanning around Europe. Grazie and ciao for now.

World's continued...



Not to be outdone, Jules asked Kerry, his blushing English rose, to do the same, Chris announced it, and Jules and Kerry cemented the deal with a stand up snog and a bottle top for a ring.

But then it got ugly. A whole group of Poms stood up and started “Singing in the rain”, and I was singing along until my skipper informed me that this was THE STRIP SONG. I have photos of it all, and I still can't believe we weren't thrown out immediately - the noise in the low, vaulted ceilinged room was immense, but apparently the waitresses enjoyed the show. Then we had “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” and a few broken chairs, more nudity, and a big bill to share at the end. Then on to the Moby, which was jammed!!!



Carnage reports the next day included several lost wallets and missed aeroplanes for the Poms, and a big shiner on the skipper of a green Australian boat. Very wet shoes on the crew of another Aussie boat (I have to admit that lake is COLD!). And more than a few lingering headaches.

It was a heavenly place, with incredibly spectacular scenery, an extremely high standard of racing, great food, amazingly friendly locals as well as Poms, and great mayhem on and off the water. We were very sad to leave.

Meet your executive committee—Abby Parkes—Secretary

Name	Abby Parkes
Age	36
Nickname	Abby....abs (not the muscles)...others I don't know about
Occupation	mmmm...reinventing self, any ideas welcome
Height	Don't know, tallish I think (but anyone's taller than Duncan)
Weight	Mmmm, depends on what I had for dinner
Bust measurement	Apparently smaller than duncan's
Waist...	77cm!
Hips....	Is that meant to include the bottom?
Skipper or crew	I try to steer but sometimes sink other boats
Sail with...	The patient Sophie Hunt
Boat name	Hunt Leather, alias Flo

Length of time sailing B14s

Oooh...since 1989 but a few years off between 1991 and 1997!

Length of time as executive member

Is this one year, coming up for two? Time has positively FLOWN, it's been such fun

Highlight of B14 career

Sailing with Soph in 25knots and actually enjoying it

Reason for sailing B14s

What were all those great words we thought up?

It's the most fun boat I've ever sailed (better than 49ers and 18 foot skiffs, even): lively, responsive, challenging, plenty of power but not terrifying (except when I sank Firestopping), and most of all because the people who sail it are NICE!

Personal information that you prefer wasn't published in Wingflap

Umm, I'd better make some up here James, because I know you will if I don't...personal....I'm in love with my dog....Kieran has just given me the horrible nickname in the world....I actually enjoy ironing....

Favourite book & why Something frightfully intellectual..."Winnie the Pooh", because of its Zen and Taoist implications, and its relevance to a wide cross section of cultures and age groups.



Abby (holding the drink) preparing to take minutes at a B14 meeting.

"Is that meant to include the bottom?"

Racing Calendar

Sprint Series 2	Gosford SC	15th December 2001
B14 Nationals	Woollahra SC	7th - 11th January 2002
NSW States	GSC	16th - 17th February 2002
Travellers Trophy 3	Bayview SC	16th - 17th March 2002
Sprint Series 3	GSC	23 March 2002
NEXT SEASON.....(to be confirmed)		
B14 Nationals	McCrae YC	27,28 or 29 Dec.– 2 Jan. 2003
B14 World Titles	McCrae YC	5th–10th or 11th Jan. 2003



**NOT SAILING THE NATIONALS????
WHY NOT CHARTER YOUR BOAT OUT & ENCOURAGE
NEWCOMERS TO TRY OUT THE CLASS?**

What's happening at Gosford

Well, Gosford has had a much better start to the season than last year. Enthusiasm is high & up to six or seven boats are hitting the water on a regular basis.

Highlights to date include the first two heats of the Traveler's Trophy which were sailed in a typically variable (strength & direction) westerly.

Peter Ray & Gareth Wells won both heats by sailing consistently & avoiding mistakes. Sporting brand new Rob Brewer sails they adopted a strategy that involved sailing fast, going the right way & staying upright.

Murray Walters & Rob Brewer returned to the class after (another) long lay off & showed that they could also sail fast still. Unfortunately they had some difficulty staying upright throughout each race & settled for two third placings.

Glenn Smith & Kirby Haynes ventured up from south of the big smoke and came away

with a first & a fourth with Chris Rodowicz & Duncan Rutherford monopolising fifth spot in both races.

Richie & Lissa, unable to sail in The Nude, were never comfortable & only managed to finish one race.

Another Gosford event that was very successful was the first round of the sprint series.

Four short, 1 lap races in a building nor'easter resulted in lots of fun & boat handling practice.

The next round is planned for December 15 which coincides with no racing in Sydney so we're hoping to see some boats from Woollahra!!!



Greg Dodd gets down in the blocks in readiness for the start (or did he just fall off).



Peter Ray & Gareth Wells sprinting their little hearts out.

Glenn Stewart & Dick McCulloch lead Dave Turner & Geoff Jakins into the finish line during one of the sprints.

What's happening at Woollahra



Party animal Jules B. trying out one of the moves he'll be using at the WSC Xmas Party

B14 sailing out of Woollahra (WSC) is going great guns so far with 10 boats racing this month with a few more still promising to turn up! A big welcome to all the new boat owners and crews in the fleet too - watch out old timer B14s there is some new talent about!

A "Come and try a B14" day held at WSC on Saturday 24 Nov proved very popular, with a about 10 people (Tasar sailors, 49er sailors plus people from other classes and clubs) turning up to go blasting in 20 knots with either Abby or Ritchie. A big thanks to those who turned up to help and took people out on their boats in blowy conditions.

For those interested in having a race at Woollahra the race format is:
Sundays: multiple races (usually two or three) windward - leeward courses starting at around 2pm. Casual entry fee is \$10.

Thursday nights: one or two races, windward - leeward courses starting at around 5.30 - 6pm. Casual entry fee is \$10 but entry for all twilight races is a bargain \$50.

Although there is no bar at WSC don't despair - there is a beer club so you can sit and have a few beers at the club after the race! For more info on post sailing beverages just ask Lissa in the Nude - the first B14er to join the beer club - go girl.

Also the WSC Xmas party is looming up on the night of Sat 8 Dec and will be a great opportunity to meet some of the other club members and get very silly on a balcony overlooking the harbour (good practice for the Nationals I say).

For more info on sailing at WSC email or call Emily Fewster efewster@seda.nsw.gov.au, 9314 7668 hm or 0418 960 822

Woollahra sailors note!!!!!!

No sailing on 9th or 16th December....

So come to Gosford!!!!

Where you can sail in 2 club races back to back on Saturday 8th December & The Sprint series (4-5 races...1 lap...back to back) on Saturday 15th December & maybe win a prize in the meat raffle!!! (just ask Richie).

Note: we are trying to encourage Ingrid Abery (Photographer) to visit for the sprint series so this may be an opportunity to get some good photos of your boat.