



MYC NEWS



CRISTAL D'ARQUES
WOMENS CHALLENGE
2004-2005

RESULTS DIVISION 1										
Place	Sail No	Boat Name	Elapsed	AHC	HC Cor'd T	First Name	Last Name	Class	F/Time	ET Ord
1	MYC2	CHICKOO'S NEST	2:20:29	1.085	2:32:25	Jenny	Danks	Bavaria 42	15:25:29	2
2	3838	ZEN	2:19:58	1.105	2:34:40	Kim	Ketelbey	Sydney 38	15:24:58	1
3	7027	ESTATE MASTER	2:20:42	1.105	2:35:28	Lisa	Hill	Sydney 38	15:25:42	3
4	6081	NEXT	2:30:46	1.120	2:48:52	Allison	Thompson	Sydney 38	15:35:46	4
AUS166	SLANGIVAR			0.940		Sorrell	Lambie	Soling		DNS

RESULTS DIVISION 2										
Place	Sail No	Boat Name	Elapsed	AHC	HC Cor'd T	First Name	Last Name	Class	F/Time	ET Ord
1	MH22	CAPE FEAR	2:27:13	1.035	2:32:22	Elizabeth	Wood	Cape 35	15:32:13	1
2	MYC10	PENSIVE	2:32:10	1.015	2:34:27	Pam	Davis	NSX 38	15:37:10	4
3	MYC32	PACIFIC BREEZE	2:35:52	0.995	2:35:05	Sally	Hitchman	Farr 11.6	15:40:52	5
4	KA16	PAM	2:44:05	0.950	2:35:53	Alex	Murray	International 5.5	15:49:05	6
5	AUS169	NORTELE	2:50:09	0.935	2:39:05	Ivana	McAlpine	Soling	15:55:09	8
6	6232	RUMBA	2:49:46	0.940	2:39:35	Stephanie	Cook	Northshore 370	15:54:46	7
7	MH36	THIS WAY UP	2:31:26	1.080	2:43:33	Eedra	Zey	Sydney 36	15:36:26	3
8	1236	LOCAL HERO	2:30:25	1.090	2:43:57	Cate	Sundquist	Sydney 36	15:35:25	2
9	AUS52	PALADIN	3:03:11	0.898	2:44:30	Barbara	Zussino	International 5.5	16:08:11	11
10	AUS26	BARAGOOOLA	2:58:19	0.942	2:47:58	Catherine	Hogan	International 5.5	16:03:19	10
11	AUS82	MY SHOUT	2:52:35	1.046	3:00:31	Christine	Ingate	International 5.5	15:57:35	9
AUS24	KINGS CROSS			0.912		Lynn	Michevetti	International 5.5		DNF
MYC820	GOOD INTENT			0.875		Natalie	Bennell	Clansman		DNS

RESULTS DIVISION 3										
Place	Sail No	Boat Name	Elapsed	AHC	HC Cor'd T	First Name	Last Name	Class	F/Time	ET Ord
1	MYC375	Out There	2:10:41	1.100	2:23:45	Gabrielle	Howard-James	Cavalier 375	15:25:41	1
2	3683	Ratty	2:32:42	0.980	2:29:39	Kim	McKay	Northshore 27	15:47:42	3
3	MYC3	Madama Butterfly	2:29:13	1.020	2:32:12	Kate	Pinnock	S80	15:44:13	2
4	A73	Top Odds	2:50:27	0.953	2:42:26	Caroline	Busvine	Northshore 27	16:05:27	4
5	MYC259	Yevanna	3:08:30	0.875	2:44:56	Susan	Strath	Cavalier 26	16:23:30	5
6	2295	Walrus	3:09:42	0.875	2:45:59	Liz	Joyce	Endeavour 30	16:24:42	6

RESULTS DIVISION 4										
Place	Sail No	Boat Name	Elapsed	AHC	HC Cor'd T	First Name	Last Name	Class	F/Time	ET Ord
1	MYC11	Manly Too	2:04:36	1.095	2:16:26	Patricia	Croxen	Bavaria 44	15:19:36	1
2	1150	Jillaroo	2:06:26	1.108	2:20:05	Cathy	Susans	Farr 11.4	15:21:26	2
3	MYC200	Slipstream	2:18:40	1.040	2:24:13	Joelle	Legoux	Sigma 36	15:33:40	5
4	KA113	Flying Carpet	2:27:27	0.985	2:25:14	Jan	Beacham	J24	15:42:27	7
5	MYC6	Aida	2:26:17	1.005	2:27:01	Louise	Tofts	S80	15:41:17	6
6	1060	Ten Sixty	2:14:10	1.100	2:27:35	Angela	Radford	10.6	15:29:10	3
7	2090	Morna	2:16:41	1.085	2:28:18	Sophie	Lipscomb	Cavalier 35	15:31:41	4
8	893	Pacific	2:47:43	0.900	2:30:57	Teresa	Ukrainewitz	Catalina 30	16:02:43	12
9	MYC20	Manlyana	2:48:42	0.905	2:32:40	Helen	Ketelbey	Cole 26	16:03:42	13
10	MYC8	Eos	2:32:16	1.020	2:35:19	Adelle	Massey	Brittany Sloop	15:47:16	9
11	MYC24	J-Curve	2:36:19	0.997	2:35:51	Helen	Puddick	J24	15:51:19	11
12	MYC33	Lautrec	2:34:02	1.030	2:38:39	Helen	Ebling	Passage 33	15:49:02	10
13	127	Carinya IV	2:30:11	1.068	2:40:24	Ella-Maz	Nixon-Theaker	Carmen	15:45:11	8
14	WP69	Shear Magic	3:01:42	1.087	3:17:30	Jill	Madden	Adams 10	16:16:42	14

President's Report

Forte Event management has been managing events at Manly Yacht Club since July 2004 without a single complaint from neighbours. However, recently one of our Directors had a function at the Club that generated significant noise and caused not only complaints from neighbours and the Council but also resulted in an article in the Manly Daily. This matter was discussed at our last Board meeting and the Board was unanimous in condemning the Director involved for his actions which we believe had an adverse effect on the Club. Amplified live music has been banned at the Club for some time to ensure that events at our Club do not inconvenience our neighbours. The Board moved to ensure that ALL members must abide by any reasonable direction of Forte Event Management relating to activities at events at the Club that may adversely affect the quiet enjoyment of our neighbours.

Security has again been a problem at the Club. The Club was recently left open and this resulted in the loss of the Sailability dinghy. Recently vandals broke the windows to the boat storage area. If they were able to gain access to the Club, damage may have been significantly worse. Members are again requested to keep the Club locked at all times and to keep oars safely locked away from dinghies in the oar locker. Any member who unlocks a door to the Club must be responsible for locking that door. Anyone with a right to enter the Club has got (or can get) a key to the Club. Anyone else should only enter the Club in the presence of a member. IF THE DOORS ARE OPEN, PLEASE LOCK THEM.

NSW Maritime is conducting a "Foundation Survey" of Manly Cove. It is believed that there is some concern that moorings in shallow water are damaging sea grass beds that are important in the breeding of fish. The Club has been consulted on this survey and will make a submission to NSW Maritime when appropriate.

MYC membership fees for the coming year were discussed at the last Board meeting and it was decided that despite increases in charges by Yachting NSW, the Club would hold membership fees at the current rates for the coming year.

The roof above the top deck has deteriorated and is leaking during rain. The Board has agreed to replace this roof with new "Laserlight" material. We will be asking for help from volunteer with this work over the next few months.

Keith Woodward President

CENTREBOARDS

Competition between the fleet is now hotting up as places change regularly between the windward and leeward marks with the Lasers. The friendly feud between Blue in his Finn and Iain in the top Laser recently reached culmination in a protest room. About time the rules started being observed and enforced properly throughout MYC racing series and good to keep the club on its toes with having to manage the situation as per the rule book. Lets see more red flags out there if you think you were in the right !! Whether you win or loose the protest it will improve your understanding of the rules and raise the level and standard of racing within the club. (Rumour has it that the new Blue Book allows you to protest boats racing from other clubs now about time the skiffs were put in their place with or without a bow sprit)

Do we want to race a winter series this year? Please let me know ASAP so that I can discuss start times with the race officer and may be find another sponsor for prizes. Any help in this area would be greatly appreciated.

JULES

We are pleased to announce that Cumberland Charter Yachts have recently confirmed that they will continue their very successful sponsorship at Manly Yacht Club next season. The Cumberland Cup will follow the same format as previous seasons with a five race series between September and December, with courses selected to take racing and cruising yachties around the islands of Port Jackson. The prize will again be a \$2,000 voucher towards a cruising holiday around the Whitsundays with Cumberland Charter Yachts.



Diary Dates

Mon 21 Mar	Sailing Committee Meeting
Fri 25 Mar	Easter Friday
	Offshore Race 5
Sun 27 Mar	Easter Sunday
Wed 30 Mar	Sailability MAPS and MS Society
Fri 01 Apr	Withdrawal Cup 2
Sat 02 Apr	Sailability General Sailing
Sun 03 Apr	MJs FUN DAY
	Yachts Div 1 & Div 2 WST 4
Mon 04 Apr	Board Meeting
Fri 08 Apr	Withdrawal Cup 3
Sun 10 Apr	Centre Board APS 7
	Yachts Div 1 APS 7
	Yachts Div 2 APS 7
Sat 16 Apr	Sailability General Sailing
Sun 17 Apr	Yachts Div 1 & Div 2 WST 5
Mon 18 Mar	Sailing Committee Meeting
Sun 24 April	Centre Board APS 8 & CC 6
	Yachts Div 1 APS 8 & CC 10
	Yachts Div 2 APS 8 & FL 10

DUTY ROSTER CREW:
Call Ann Webber on 9948 6724.
Please double check your 2004-2005 Handbook



MAY - JUNE, DECK ROOFING REPAIRS
Chris Shead (Director: Building and Maintenance) is looking for volunteers to help replace some of the timber rafters late May (TBA) pry to renewing the "Laserlight" roofing over the deck on the long weekend of 10, 11,12th June.
Contact Chris 9371 2975

Looking for Crew?

Alex Arrey	0424 624 702	Jesus Jiminez	0401 890 564
Charlotte Sorensen	0424 624 702	Nicole Dehler	0409 397 236
Craig Clark	0405 320 035	Sara Wright	0404 372 931
Debbie Knox	0438 326 921	Shaun McKinnon	0418 243 161
Granger Wallis	0425 250 058	Sophie Lipscomb	0405 320 035
Heidi	9938 6714		Happy Crewing!

View our web site: www.myc.org.au for photos and further results. April issue will feature some great stories on an excellent event.

SKIPPER'S MEETING

All MYC skippers are invited to attend a meeting to discuss next season's racing program (events, dates, courses, etc) at 7pm on Monday, March 21 ahead of the Sailing Committee meeting later in the evening. Anyone with questions or suggestions for next.

JOURNAL OF MANLY YACHT CLUB

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WHAT THE HELL IS THE KING KAAG CUP
I hear you ask? Well here's a brief overview.

The 5.5 class came into being in the early 1950's, with the demise of the much more expensive and larger metre boats (6's, 8's, 20's, J's the list goes on). The only metre boats at that time still competitively sailing were the good old and famous 12's. So a cheaper alternative was created and along came the 5.5's.

Now today's fives are a lot different to those of 40 years ago, but because of their beautiful lines and still relatively competitive performance, the old ones are quite sought after.

In conjunction with the International powers and diehard enthusiasts, three divisions were created to encourage all to participate. All boats built up to the 1st of Jan 1970 are called Classics, then to 1990 are the Evolutions, while everything from then onwards is in the Modern division.

Luckily, some royal family in northern Europe donated a beautiful cup to the Royal Kaag Yacht Club, so as the Classic division would have something to race for each year. Considering the number of Classics especially in Europe, this cup was a welcome addition. The King Kaag Cup is an event that only one yacht from each country can compete in.

Australia has an overabundance of 'would be' Kaag Captains, but we held out through sheer grit, determination and a hell of a lot of good luck. It was PAM versus the bloody Italians in the end. Their boat Carabella was world champ back in the 70's, has a fin keel, separate rudder, carbon rig and more than 3 sets of brand new sails. They just pumped over \$80grand into the boat before they shipped it over here, so one could say these olive-growers were serious about their Kaag Campaign.

Race 1 was a sick east/sow easter and 2 to 6 knots. Exactly the wind we didn't want as the mighty Pam is heavy due to her rebuild. We also had a choice of only one main and two headsails. Bang went the gun and slowly but surely those rotten spaghetti-munchers climbed out from under us and crept away with an insurmountable lead.

The crew of Pam would need an act of god to win this one and we got one You wouldn't believe it, but they didn't read the sailing instructions properly and only did two laps instead of three. Aussies 1 – Gelato-suckers 0. Unfortunately for PAM, the rest of this event was also sailed in light airs. We battled for

another 2 days in some close sailing but the rotten Romans won the next three and clinched the much coveted King Kaag Cup. We were out gunned, out spent and out sailed, but boy was it a lot o fun!

The next event was the big one on center court - The World Championships. By now all the 5.5's had arrived. We had 27 lined up for the first race, again in a sick east-sow easter, maxing out at about 8 knots. The brand new state of the art boats just took off. If you had just paid nearly \$400,000, you would expect to be somewhere up front too.

These boats have keel mounted trim tabs, so with the touch of a button their keel turns into a second rudder. This gives them amazing windward performance not to mention their carbon rigs and the best sails money can buy. It didn't take long in the fleet to work out who were your main rivals. Of course Olympic champ, Jochem Schuermann was ever so slightly out of our league.

On a good day however, if we didn't make too many mistakes we could give the Germans and the Bahamians a run for their money. On a few occasions we picked some good shifts and even got to the top mark in 7th spot. Of course that was usually short lived, but much celebrated.

The Maritime Museum donated some of their fleet as spectator craft and also dropped the famous 5.5 Barranjoey in the water to compete in the event. They even thawed out skipper and crew from cryogenic freezing to compete.

As the days went buy our crew work improved. Matt Walker our middleman became a 'mainsheet machine' While Al Sims was working his ass off popping and dropping kites at a frantic pace. The competition was the most intense we have ever sailed in. One mistake and you're out the back door. We learned more in those 30 races than we had in the last 10 years of club racing.

In the last race we picked a ripper end of the line to start and had a blinder, finishing up with the modern boats. The time between first and last boat was only 12 minutes. This worked out to be about \$17,000.00 a minute.

As for the post race adventures, we all left our boats back at the RSYS and had a BBQ and Keg every night. It didn't take long for the language barriers to break down and the friendships to form. We met some great people from all round the world and were even invited to race in several European countries. They'll supply the boat; we just have to get there.

As for running the event, the whole thing seemed immense at the time. The enjoyment Tannis and I got in return far outweighed it all. At the International AGM held during the regatta, it was noted that the event was extremely successful due to the hard work of a lot of people. The one most responsible for this event however, was a tenacious little red head that basically ran the whole show. So I'd like to thank the 4th and most important crewmember of KA 16 PAM ... my wife Tannis

Peter MacDonald



Time to Party

We have a wonderful Club House perfect for parties, why not hold your next party at MYC?

Members of MORE than 1 year get a 50% discount on hall hire fee. The cost is currently \$764 including cleaning and security, and there is no need for members to use Forte's food or beverage packages.

For more details please call Forte Event Management on 9984 1111

WATCH FOR THE SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE APRIL ISSUE FOR DETAILS ON THE...

Social Night

Special invitation to ALL NEW MEMBERS

Sat 30th April (TBA)

Boogie on down with your fellow crew to the juke box sounds and swap your favourite Sailing stories. Make new friends and hand pick your crew for the Sunday winter series! We will be celebrating the close of the MYC Friday night twilight series. Slip on your dancing shoes, shelve the rivalry and get set for a night of sail social, catering, music, lucky door prizes, Cash bar and bookings will be essential so don't miss out!

Special thanks to all those who have donated to the dishwasher for the MYC kitchen, along with Fairlight Meats, St Hallett's Wines and a SPECIAL THANKS to an ANONYMOUS DONATION of \$200... we're looking very good to achieving our goal, and David Faiclough will be one of the many very happy Twilight 4th place sailors.

Contact Name _____

Ph • Fax • Mobile _____

Delivery Address _____

Delivery Instructions _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Cash Cheque Visa Bankcard Mastercard

Card Number

Signature _____ Expiry Date



ORDER FORM

WINE SPECIALS*	Region	R.R.P.	\$ Bottle	\$ Case	Qty	Sub Total	Total
St Hallett Gamekeepers Reserve	Barossa, SA	13.99	11.99	9.99			
St Hallett Poachers Blend	Barossa, SA	13.99	11.99	9.99			

***Purchase a case (12) of either of these Wine Specials* and receive a complimentary magnum of St. Hallett Poachers Blend.**

SPARKLING WINE	Region	R.R.P.	\$ Bottle	\$ Case	Qty	Sub Total	Total
Croser	Adelaide Hills, SA	35.99	27.99	25.99			

WHITE WINES	Region	R.R.P.	\$ Bottle	\$ Case	Qty	Sub Total	Total
Wither Hills Sauvignon Blanc	Marlborough, NZ	25.99	19.99	17.99			
Tatachilla Growers Blend	McLaren Vale, SA	15.99	13.99	11.99			

RED WINES	Region	R.R.P.	\$ Bottle	\$ Case	Qty	Sub Total	Total
Tatachilla Partners Blend	McLaren Vale, SA	15.99	13.99	11.99			

TOTAL \$

FAX ORDERS to (02) 9905 7397 FREE DELIVERY TO MANLY LOCAL AREA

Please note that there is always a single bottle purchase price AND a bottle price if you purchase a mixed or straight dozen.

30th Wedding Anniversary 'Blitz'!



'The Couple'



'The Husband'



'The Diver'



George, Gina, (Colin's brother and his wife from Scotland) Sara and Colin Cameron at the Opera

Sara and Colin Cameron's 30th Wedding Anniversary, in March, has been disrupted by Colin's call to a diving job overseas, but he cunningly redeemed himself by arranging a magical night, at the opera to see Carmen (Tragic Girl. I hope she didn't plane to enter the 'Womens Challenge!'). It was truly a superb and appropriate live entertainment venue for celebrating a special day.

Love and Best Wishes to you Sara,....Colin.



Kung Hei Fat Choy!

Welcome to the Year of The Rooster in the Chinese Horoscope.

The Northern Beaches Dragon Boat Club (NBDBC) recently competed in a full day of very intense competition at Darling Harbour to celebrate the beginning of the Year of the Rooster.

More than half of the people in our team that day were experiencing this race event for the first time. Our gruelling training sessions at Manly paid dividends - we were making the most experienced teams very nervous.

NBDBC fielded 4 1/2 teams in the competition - 2 mixed teams, one men's team (open division), and 1 full women's team, as well as a combined women's team (with another club).

Saturday 19th February 2005 saw a record number of teams that registered for the 2005 Chinese New Year Dragon Boat Races: 35 mixed teams, 20 womens teams and 23 mens teams entered, as well as 6 youth teams. Teams came from Melbourne, Canberra and regional and metropolitan NSW. A full but disciplined schedule had the races running from 8am until the last final near 5pm - and then the heavens opened!

The NBDBC women's team came a very respectable 4th place in the "A" final, and both our mixed teams came 5th in their finals. It definitely gave us something to crow about in the Year of The Rooster!

Maree Germon: Northern Beaches Dragon Boat Club



9TH FEBRUARY, 8 students from Fisher Rd., Special School came for their regular sail. Some of these students we have known for three years now, and they have

become much more confident in their getting into and out of the boats, and in fact, some are even taking the rudder. It is a joy to take these students for a sail, and to see their rising confidence and enjoyment. Thank you very much to the helpers who came down that day, and helped to make it a success.

12TH FEBRUARY, we were back to our busy Saturday morning sail. Special thanks to Bob Ronai and Malcolm Murray, who have now taken over Charlie's Chariot, and to the other 13 helpers who arrived. Thanks also to the 13 sailors who came for a try at sailing. We are noticing that our regular sailors are starting to take over the controls on the boats, giving us extra skippers for future sailing days. A big Thank you also to Chris Stockdale, who is giving us a hand with training some of our sailors. During the next fortnight, we had some repair work and

servicing done on Charlie's Chariot, with help from Peter St. John and J.P. Borsini. This will make our support boat more reliable, giving us more security on our sailing days.

Our next sailing day was Saturday, **26TH FEBRUARY**. Again we had very large numbers turn up for a sail, and we needed to get all the boats out to accommodate the numbers. Sometime after this sail, **WE NOTICED THAT OUR LITTLE TENDER DINGHY, THAT HAD BEEN DONATED TO US BY ONE OF OUR MEMBERS HAS GONE MISSING**. It has no identification on it, but it is double hulled, plain white, and with padded gunnels. If you see it, or know where it is, could you please contact: Eli on 9976.2747, or Des on 9949.2629 so that we can arrange to get it back.

Saturday, **5TH MARCH** was D'Sports Day at Manly Dam. Thank you very much Cheryl, Brian, Jill, Roger, Ivan and Eli who turned up on the day, and helped Sailability Pittwater take close to 100 people sailing.

Well done everyone!!!! **ELI DEMENY**

Manly Juniors - States, Spills Splashes and Spinnakers A big month for Manly Juniors. 2 boats: The Swick Too (Angus and William) and Broadreach (Alice and Natalie) attended the third round of the NSW MJ State Championships. A special division was created for 'Rookie' sailors who had never attended a State Championship before. Long Jetty Sailing club was the host. Tuggerah Lake is a lot different to Manly. The walk out was muddy and long and the course set was bigger than anything we had experienced. Conditions were perfect for the morning race. Alice and Natalie put in a big effort and it was a great achievement to finish the course. Unfortunately Angus and William were delayed due to losing the boat

Twilight Tales

"Just take a photo of tonight and that sums it up," says Ian from Ratty, taking a sip of his drink while surveying the scene on the deck of the Manly Yacht Club. It's about 8:45 on Friday evening and the sun has set on the final Manly Twilight for 2005. Conditions were perfect, with the breeze around 15 knots, smooth water, 25 degree air temperature and blue sky.

According to Ann on Haphazard, husband John's staff at his office in Fairfield are well trained in making sure he gets out the door by 3:30 in order to make the long trek back to Manly by 5pm. "Of course, they probably leave themselves at about 3:35" she muses. But that doesn't matter, because for her Twilights are "the perfect way to relax. If I had to get to Manly by 5pm to visit my parents for dinner it would never happen, but I'll never miss a Twilight," she says.

Ian puts it this way: "Is it the perfect finish to a week or the perfect start to a weekend?" Keith, club president agrees. "There's no excuse not to leave work early. It's like getting an extra day to the weekend." The Twilights are the major event on the MYC sailing calendar, he says. "It's forced [the club] into providing a better service. We've improved the quality of the food and wine and it's become a whole night out."

Race director Steve says he helped get the MYC series going after getting sick of having to head over to Middle Harbour to join their twilight series. "We used to have a dozen boats going over on a Thursday and now there's a dozen of them coming to our races," he says. He continues to run the series for selfish reasons: "It's a lot of fun. I enjoy participating in it and someone's got to help run it." He gets pleasure seeing other yachties, their families and friends out enjoying themselves. "For a lot of members it's the only competitive sailing they do. It draws in new members."

The figures appear to back this up. Membership "units" (including individual and family memberships) have increased by two thirds to 250 over the last four years, consistent with the growth in yacht numbers entering the Twilights. This year's season had forty entries and fleets regularly in the thirties, compared with perhaps 15 in 2000. The last race set a new record of 90 meals sold, blitzing the previous record of 72 (set after the first race of the season) and a testament to the skills and service of Chris on the grill and Dee in the kitchen.

Sydney Sailing, co-sponsors of the Twilight series along with St Hallett's wines often introduce tourists to the delights of sailing on the big Bavaria, Manly Too. Tonight, skipper Chris had the good fortune to welcome on board a

trio of Swedes and Elise from Wisconsin USA who arrived complete with a case of beer and a big packet of chips. The feedback: "Wonderful, inspiring! Challenging and strenuous - they put us to work and it was great!"

Bruce, of Davis Marina, agrees that the Twilights are good for business: "It gets people to use their boats: we get happy customers having a good time." But it's not all beer and skittles, apparently. "We have to brace ourselves on a Friday afternoon: it's a hard point... like a lighthouse," he says.

And on the water? "It's far too competitive and I think I shouldn't compete so much," says Bruce of his experiences on Pensive. "I have a lot of crew problems balancing the competitive and non competitive members. There's a wet and dry line along the boat." Captain Bruce Hitchman of Pacific Breeze remarks, "It's good fun... much more lively than on the James Craig."

Margo who sails on Pensive and Reality enjoys Twilight sailing because she "never gets yelled at." Maz on Sprint just "loves helming." Graham, however, disagrees: "It's not a relaxing sail, sailing your own boat: I miss the best sunsets." Meanwhile Flick who joins Sheer Magic or Twocan when she can make it says she sails in order "to spend quality time with my husband," despite the fact that they're often on separate boats.

Twilights are also the perfect way to introduce friends to the world of sailing. Ann says the response she usually gets from friends is "'Awesome!' - when they're not throwing up." She says many races combine the scariness (to the newcomer) of the boat heeling over with the unexpected sightings of fairy penguins and the odd seal, which few people expect to see in the busy harbour of a large city.

At the business end of the race, Elizabeth on the race committee advises skippers "red sail numbers are the best for easy visibility." She "likes orderly finishes," urging those on the helm to "please form a queue to cross the finish line and have sails at right angles to the line." Given the frequent congestion on the line, she uses the club's radio to get feedback on yacht positions from the Manly ferry captains and "a band of official 'lurkers' in the bushes on the far side [of the bay]."

For making this series so successful, thanks go to the race director and committee, our sponsors, chefs and all the sailors who make the twilights such a special sailing experience. Don't forget the unofficial "rug up cup" series to help ease your withdrawal symptoms: contact Steve Teudt for details on 9907 9111. **BY DAVID MCEWEN**

off the roof of the car on the trip up. Rook racks and cradle took most of the impact leaving The Swick Too in pretty good shape. A quick return trip to Manly to pick up a van and Angus and William made the afternoon race, sailed in very tricky conditions with a storm threatening. Full marks for commitment and well sailed!. It was a great experience and we are looking forward to more Junior sailors participating at this level next season.

Back at our club the next Saturday was a perfect day for a fun sail over to Reef Beach for a swim. We swapped crews around for the return trip home.

Spinnakers have been unpacked and hoisted on a couple of occasions. Well done Angus and William and Jaz and Claire.

It looks like great fun and makes a colourful picture to see them flying.

