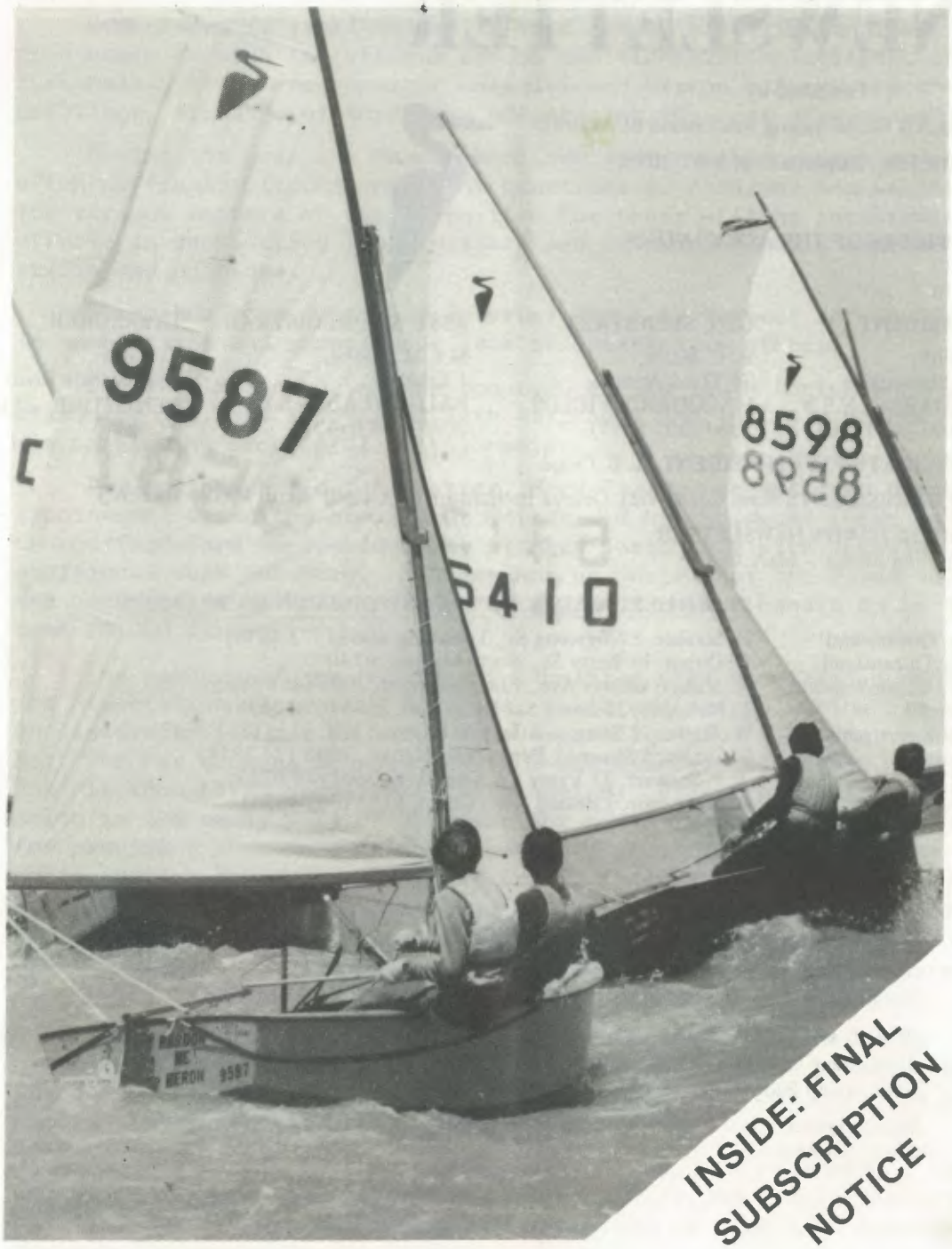
PRICE 70 cents

# HERON NEWSLETTER




INSIDE: FINAL SUBSCRIPTION NOTICE

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# HERON NEWSLETTER

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National Heron Sailing Association of Australia
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OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

| PRESIDENT | GEN. SECRETARY | ASST. SEC/REGISTRAR | TREASURER |
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| N. Hill,<br>19 Illawong St.,<br>LUGARNO. N.S.W.<br>2210 (533 1590) | R. L. Watts,<br>36 Third Avenue,<br>MACQUARIE FIELDS.<br>2564 (605 5057) | Mrs. M. Clarke,<br>1 Ethel St.,<br>BALGOWLAH. N.S.W.<br>2093 (948 8142) | R. Hann<br>153 Ryedale Road<br>DENISTONE 2114<br>85-3041 |

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT** A. B. Crane

**VICE PRESIDENTS** John Coen (Vic), George Richardson (S.A.) and Keith Mealey (N.S.W.)

**EDITOR HERON NEWSLETTER**
Acting Editor – Mary Clarke

STATE HERON ASSOCIATION AND DIVISION SECRETARIES

| | |
|---|---|
| Sth. Queensland: | D. Straker, 87 Bywong St., Toowong, 4066 (371 4076) |
| Nth. Queensland: | D. Quinn, 11 Peaty St., North Mackay, 4740 |
| New South Wales: | H. Mills, 6 Gladys Ave., Frenchs Forest, 2086 (451 5963) |
| Victoria: | L. Menogue, 25 Sonia St., Ringwood, 3134 (870 0598) |
| South Australia: | W. Tucker, 2 Stimson Street, O'Halloran Hill, 5158 (381 1867) |
| Tasmania: | S. Camm, 4 Shannuk Drive, West Hobart, 7000 (34 3854) |
| A.C.T.: | A. J. Stewart, 23 Vasey Cr., Campbell, 2601 (49 6753) |
| Western Australia: | R. McGregor, 7 Bessell Ave., Como, 6152 (367 4534) |

**COVER PHOTO –**
Allen Lewis (6410 - Victoria) and Meredith Bullock (9587 - Q.D.) in pursuit of Ari Knoop (8598 - S.A. ) in a heat of the 24th Nationals on Lake Bonney at Barmera, S.A.

**INSIDE BACK COVER –**
Allen Crane and Mary Clarke proudly display their Life Membership Badges following the 25th A.G.M.

Sunny skies and light breezes were the order of the day at Barmera.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE 25TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 2/5/1983

It is my honour to present this report at the 25th A.G.M. of the National Association. Very few Classes have this success and the continuing interest indicates a bright future for our family sailing dinghy.

Membership is stabilising, in some areas, consolidating, as it progresses through the various phases and financial activities. Unfortunately there are numerous unregistered Herons not sharing that privilege, exchange of ideas and not sharing the cost of membership.

During the year the Measurement Committee has had unexpected and often difficult circumstances and questions to consider and we thank the various members of that Committee for their willing assistance and efforts in considering these matters and submitting their recommendations and opinions.

There has been increased interest shown by members and Committees in some States and conspicuous lack of interest in others.

Road
2114

Congratulations have been conveyed to the South Australian Association for its most successful 24th Nationals and to Craig McPhee for his continuing successful championships.

During the year our Registrar, Mary Clarke, accepted an unexpected appointment as Acting Newsletter Editor and has produced three editions in modified form at considerably reduced costs but with considerable additional work for Mary. You may not be aware that the first edition was produced on a manual machine which required the handle to be turned some 10,000 times.

The members of the Management Committee gave excellent support to the Association at monthly meetings, there was always worthwhile debate and interest by those in attendance - particularly, I wish to thank Mary for her general preparedness and efficiency; Secretary, Rod Watts, for his thoughtful debate and contribution; Vice President, David Smith in the early part of the year for his attendance and particularly for providing such an excellent meeting place; Keith Mealey, for his participation generally and Barry Frier, Treasurer, when he was available (his work often necessitating him being interstate and overseas) and, later in the year, he was able to provide the Committee with a meeting place. I also include thanks to Ian Cook and other representatives from the N.S.W.Association.

I call on all Heroners to support promotion of the Heron by State Associations. I am aware that several States are planning new ideas and efforts in this matter but they need and must have the support of interested members.

You may recall that my predecessor, Allen, had recommended that ambitious sailors concentrate on sailing skills and tactics rather than trying to abuse the letter and intention of permitted measurements. I support this attitude.

. Considerable correspondence was dealt with, particularly by the Registrar, with 1500 inward items and 2,500 outward, excluding 4 mailings of the Newsletter. We welcomed 116 new members, 133 boats changed hands, 22 new numbers issued, 15 for plywood and 7 for fibreglass (not as many as we would like to have seen).

During this year there has been an additional GRP Builder approved in Victoria and several new measurers have been appointed, but we do require more Class promotion and sponsorship.

I remind State Committees that their monthly reports are necessary for the benefit and progress of the National Management Committee.

Finally, I remind you of the Silver Jubilee, the 25th National Titles to be held at Perth between 31st December and 7th January next year. Many are already booked to obtain the best concession in fares and accommodation. Happy sailing, Heroners.

Noel Hill (9498)

*********

A SUMMARY OF THE 25TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - M.Clarke

For such a milestone in Association history the attendance at the Middle Harbour Yacht Club for the 25th A.G.M. was rather poor, just 27 members and friends. As President, Noel Hill, suggested in his report, very few Classes have the opportunity of celebrating a 25 year anniversary and it was disappointing that the occasion had so little support. A contributing factor could have been that, for the first time in some years, the membership was not required to vote on Constitutional changes.

Having given his report to the meeting, Noel Hill declared all offices vacant and called upon long time Life Member, Bill Youll to chair the meeting for the election of the President. In accepting, Bill suggested that this task usually fell to the aged and venerable!

There being no other nominations it was Mr.Youll's pleasure to declare Noel Hill elected for a further term as President of the N.H.S.A.A. Rodney Watts was returned as Hon.Gen.Secretary, Messrs. J.Coen and G.Richardson as Vice Presidents and Mrs.M.Clarke as Asst.Sec/Registrar.

Noel extended thanks to retiring Vice President, David Smith and Treasurer, Barry Friere and welcomed Keith Mealey to the office of Vice President (NSW) and Ray Hann to that of Hon.Treasurer.

To those officers throughout Australia who have retired or who are continuing we say "Thank you" for your time, effort and interest. To the incoming officers we say "Welcome" and hope that your term of officer will be informative, productive and most of all, satisfying.

At this point the meeting moved to the Motions on Notice, i.e., the proposed nominations of Mary Clarke and Allen Crane for Life

membership of the National Heron Association. Those who supported Mary Clarke's nomination from the floor were Ian Cull, Bill Youll, Allen Crane and Noel Hill with written support from John Stannard (Q), Bill Mora (SA), Tony Oram (WA)Alec Barrett (NSW). John Coen (Vic), Stewart McGilvray (ACT) and Allen Cawsey (NSW). In support of Allen Crane's nomination were, from the floor, Mel Picman, Ian Cook, Mary Clarke, Bill Youll and Noel Hill with written support from Alec Barrett and Allen Cawsey. Again, the Chairman called upon the "aged and venerable" Bill Youll who congratulated the nominees on their suceessful election and presented them with their Life Membership badges. (Acceptance speeches printed elsewhere in this Newsletter.) (p.16).

General discussion centred around the ongoing promotion of the Class, the need for States to work together and in tandem with Management to meet the needs of members and prospective members. There were sufficient suggestions, recommendations and proposals put forward to keep Management on its toes for the next 12 months.

********

"OLD HERONS NEVER DIE"

The year was 1964 and Heron No. 4975 (TARNI WARRI) was lovingly created by its owner/builder, Arthur Braddock of South Australia. She was sailed for three years before the Braddock family reluctantly decided to sell her, Arthur continuing as a non-boat owner until '74.

TARNI WARRI, meantime, had found her way to the West Coast of S.A. at Cleve and went off the register in 1976.

In December, '82 Arthur wrote to the Association describing his children's interest in his previous sailing activities and their obvious keenness to take up the sport. Did we know the current whereabouts of TARNI WARRI?

Pointing him in the direction of Cleve, but warning that this was some four years past, he was able to track her down (Still in Cleve but with two more owners since 1978). In his words "she will be back in Adelaide shortly in my hands and I am looking forward to sailing her again with my children who will undoubtedly gain pleasure in sailing a boat older than they are."

He went on to write that "the boat is still on it's original trailer and took out a Club Title about two years ago".

So you see, if cared for, old Herons never die, they just go on giving pleasure to family after family.

**********

WINTER BUILDING? The Association can provide Boat Plans, Full size frame plans, building book, numerous informative leaflets on timber buying, permitted modifications, and notes to builders - $25.00, write or call the Asst.Sec/Registrar, 1 Ethel St.,Balgowlah. 2093. (02-948-8142).

THE SILVER SERIES - TWENTY FIFTH NATIONAL TITLES, W.A.
from 31/12/83 to 7/1/84.

This is the big one, folks, and the March Newsletter contained all information required to enter this series and book accommodation - did you miss it?

CURRIE HALL - in the grounds of the W.A.University and within walking distance of the Perth Dinghy Club has available 4, 5 and 7 bedroom flats, each flat having its own kitchen, bathroom, lounge and balcony (and sheets, pillowslips and towels). All this for $6.50 per night per room, each room has two beds and a third can be installed for an extra $3.50 per night.

YOUR CONTACT - Neil Dvorak, 18 Aleppo Dr.,Kardinya, 6163 is in charge of bookings and you can contact him by phone on 09-335-8999 (Business) and 09-337-4768 (Home) but don't forget the two hour time difference!!

If, by chance, the Currie Hall accommodation is booked out then there are several Caravan Parks, all within easy driving distance of the club, offering on-site vans.

The W.A.Heron Committee are working very hard to make this series a memorable one - and it is a very important celebration of 25 years of Heroning in Australia. If you've always wanted to go west what better reason than this, to make new friendships, renew old ones and have a whale of a time sailing THE HERON.

*********

THE APPLE ISLE SERIES - TWENTY SIXTH NATIONAL TITLES, TASMANIA
from 29/12/84 to 4/1/85.

You can't say the Heron Association doesn't give you a variety of venue sailing. One minute we are in Perth, the next in Hobart, two very different but equally enjoyable venues.

And by the way, how many responded to Tasmanian President, Andrew Palfreyman's request to drop him a line indicating interest. Believe me, it is not too early to start thinking about this series which needs more planning for both entrants and the Committee responsible for hosting it.

Shipping Companies will consider discount for bulk bookings provided they are informed, early enough, of the likely numbers attending.

What better way to spend a family holiday - Dad can go sailing, Mum can have a rest (while Dad's sailing) and then the whole family can enjoy their sightseeing tour of Tassie!

YOUR CONTACT - Andrew Palfreyman, 15 Joynton St.,Newtown.7008.

********

## NATIONAL HERON SAILING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

### *RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP FORM*

Please note that I/We ..... hereby apply for renewal of my/our membership in the National Heron Sailing Association of Australia for the year 1983/84.

as .... sole owner ) .... part owner . ) .... joint owner ) .... non boat owner )

of Boat Number .....

named .....

classification: A / B / C / (ply/grp).

I/We intend to sail with the ..... Club during the 1983/84 season.

My/Our occupation(s) is/are .....

and my/our address(es) for Association correspondence is/are

Street ..... Town .....

State ..... Post Code ..... Tele: .....

*(please tick this box if either address or phone number should be changed from that shown on Association records* ☐ )

My/Our remittance enclosed is made up as follows:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Subscription | $12.00 |
| Donation to Trophy Fund - | |
| Other payments | |
| Total | |

Form of remittance:

Cheque ☐

Money Order ☐

Detail of other payments

..... Signed ..... Dated.....

---

**FORM OF RESIGNATION** – Please note that I/We .....

of ..... have disposed of my/our Heron No. .....

named ..... to Mr. .....

of. .....

and do not wish to renew membership. DATED .....

**RETURN TO:** Hon. Gen. Secretary, N.H.S.A.A., 1 Ethel St., Balgowlah. 2093.

# NATIONAL HERON SAILING ASSOCIATION OF Australia

## ASSETS & LIABILITIES AS AT 31 March, 1983

| 1982 $ | | 1983 $ |
|---|---|---|
| | **ACCUMULATED FUNDS** | |
| 7,914 | Balance at 31 March, 1982 | 7,138 |
| ( 776) | Excess of Income over Expenditure | 990 |
| $7,138 | | $8,128 |
| | represented by | |
| | **ASSETS** | |
| 40 | Cash on hand | 40 |
| 2,140 | Commonwealth Trading Bank | 585 |
| 2,000 | A.G.C. Debentures | 2,000 |
| 4,000 | Cash Management Trust | 3,581 |
| 515 | Permanent Building Society | 561 |
| 65 | Sundry Debtors | 10 |
| 300 | Loan for Mould | 300 |
| 2,026 | Stock on Hand - at cost | 1,857 |
| 481 | Office Equipment - at cost less Depreciation | 1,176 |
| 11,567 | **TOTAL ASSETS** | 10,110 |
| | **LIABILITIES** | |
| 3,463 | Sundry Creditors | 1,210 |
| 966 | Subscriptions in Advance | 772 |
| 4,429 | | 1,982 |
| $7,138 | | $8,128 |

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1983

| 1982 $ | | 1983 $ |
|---|---|---|
| | **INCOME** | |
| 9,613 | Subscriptions | 10,316 |
| 4,032 | Less allocated to Newsletter | 3,520 |
| 5,581 | | 6,796 |
| 865 | Registration fees | 813 |
| 5,032 | Newsletter - Subscriptions | 3,520 |
| 180 | - Other | 260 |
| 287 | Commissions | 189 |
| 532 | Donations | 535 |
| 541 | Interest | 1,012 |
| (144) | Royalties | 145 |
| 950 | Surplus on Sale of Goods | 885 |
| 12,824 | | 14,155 |
| | **EXPENDITURE** | |
| 558 | Advertising and Publicity | 441 |
| 20 | Affiliation fees | 25 |
| 133 | Bank Fees | 163 |
| 2 | Depreciation | 105 |
| 5,383 | Newsletter | 4,804 |
| 845 | Postage | 815 |
| 607 | Printing and Stationery | 542 |
| - | Repairs and Services | 135 |
| 4,719 | Secretarial | 4,719 |
| 674 | State Association Subsidies | 339 |
| 602 | Telephone | 750 |
| 48 | Trophies | 268 |
| 9 | Sundries | 59 |
| 13,600 | | 13,165 |
| $(776) | **EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE** | $990 |

LEARNING FROM THE OTHER FELLOW!

You might recall that I issued a challenge in the March Newsletter for the National and State Champions to "tell us how they did it". Well I'm sorry to say that, at the time of going to print with this issue, that challenge has not been taken up. So I'm left with the other alternative, and that is to re-print some very tried and tested methods used by other Champions at other times. (Acting Editor).

****

ON GOING TO WINDWARD (Part 1 - John Stannard).

"....To me, the crew is the major factor in determing a boat's performance. The boat can be improved to make it easier for a crew to do well, but it is basically up to the "nut on the tiller" and his forward hand. - Perhaps a list of factors and their relative importance could be of use:

a) THE RIG - spars and sails - is of prime importance in all wind strengths. This may seem obvious but the number of people who come and say that they have a new rudder, coat of paint, ratchet block, or whatever, but are not going any faster, why?,,,, one must become sensitive to the demands of the sails. "Adjust sails to wind and water and you will go well" (Paul Hopkins was right on the ball there). That includes main luff and vang tension as well as main and jib sheets adjustment. This is important in a Heron because any position other than upright plus or minus fifteen degrees, is out of control to some degree, except in 0-4 knot winds. Remember the course you sail is 45° off where you want to go, so the idea is to sail as high as possible without loosing too much boat speed, just that fraction off boat speed. As Bill Northam put it, "get her going as fast as possible, then point up a bit". In Herons this is a tricky business because the boat is fairly heavy for its size and canvas and also blunt on the entry. (I'll probably be run through by an irate Heroner for saying that). The problem is that the boat takes a while to build up momentum and can be easily slowed by a wave or knock if one has not got the right technique, or "tightens up" under pressure and makes a mistake. Therefore one does not have to be brilliant, just careful, in guiding a Heron to the windward mark.

b) THE HULL. Forget about it as long as it is fair, with no big dips, etc. Finish doesn't matter much at all, because there are no sudden changes in boat speed to windward (e.g. planing) and hull weight is only a factor to be considered in marginal planing conditions. I think that as long as the hull is under 175lbs. it is well and truly competitive.

Remember - It is not so much a matter of doing any one thing (or things) just right, as much as avoiding mistakes, and bad luck!

ON GOING TO WINDWARD (Part 2 - Dick Sleeman)

I would like to itemise the changes made to DODI to improve her pointing ability and footing speed to windward. Variation in performance being evaluated each week in the club event when sailing against the National and State Champions.

Jib tack is as far forward and as low as possible; wire from mast head fitting to halyard pulley is maximum length; this allows head of jib to lay back and keeps foot of sail low to deck. Jib luff is tight without creases. Sheeting is fixed about 100mm. aft of chain plates. Jib wire has 200mm. side to side movement.

Mast is minimum size, oregon 14.5kgsper 50mm bend. Gaff is spruce, 12.7kg per 50mm bend. A 50mm spacer between gaff and mast; gaff has some free movement - halyard is not locked down tight. Main is as high as possible, boom is just inside black band with loose luff tension. Battens are fibreglass; top batten is shaped by varying thickness, 2 and 3 are rigid and tight in pockets. Mast rakes back a few degrees, boom slopes slightly donwards when mainsheet is on hard. Both sails luff simultaneously and main does not backwind.

With wind speeds up to 15 knots, foot is tensioned till creases appear, luff is pulled down hard, boom vang adjusted on water on a work. Jib is cleated on tight and not altered. Main is also tight- boom is just inboard of transom. Boat must be kept flat to obviate weather helm and is heeled slightly to windward in heavy puffs. Once boat has reached maximum speed it is luffed up in the gusts. Main is not eased unless it is impossible to keep the boat flat. If wind speed increases, the main is flattened further by more tension on the luff and boom vang. Our crew weight is 19 stone and we sit close together and right up against shroud.

ACTING EDITOR'S NOTE. Well, there you have it, two theories on how to make your Heron go to windward. If you agree, disagree, or want- to ask questions NOW'S THE TIME to put it in writing, send it to me and we could get something going here which will be of information and assistance to the rest of us - HOW ABOUT IT?

*********

READ A GOOD BOOK, LATELY?

If there is a birthday or anniversary coming up then why not give the sailor in your life (male or female) a copy of "The RULES IN ACTION" by Gerald Sambrooke-Sturgess (recommended price $22.00).

It's pretty deep and should be read with the IYRU Rule book held in the other hand but it will certainly guarantee a better understanding of the IMPORTANCE OF KNOWING THE RULES on the water.

**********

WANTED URGENTLY WANTED URGENTLY WANTED URGENTLY

By all State Associations, boats for their secondhand boat listings - you'll find their names and addresses in the front of this Newsletter. (For N.S.W., contact Mary Clarke) Boat number, classification, brand of sails, built-in or bag buoyancy, plywood or glass, with or without trailer and, IMPORTANTLY, PRICE.

NEWS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Heron Nationals in U.K. this year will be hosted by the Kingsmead Sailing Club at Datchett near Slaugh. Unfortunately our knowledge of this came too late for those touring England in June who would have been most welcome to enter the series.

English Heroners are certainly kept up to date with Aussie doings as a full report of the 24th Nationals at Barmera was included in the English Heron Newsletter and prompted the U.K. Secretary, Ernest Cornish, to comment that he wished for summery conditions at Christmas time!

Due to the economic situation, the long time producer of Heron kits in the U.K., the Bell Woodworking Company of Leicester, has found it necessary to discontinue the Heron from their catalogue. They will, however, service and repair and if orders pick up won't hesitate to reconsider their decision. But as Ernest points out, "We seem to be back to the original concept of the Heron being a boat for the enthusiast to build at home from Plans supplied by the Association."

Sounds familiar!

*********

LETTER TO THE EDITOR (My very first and I'm thrilled).

"STATE FLAGS

Having attended a number of National Championships and watched the Opening and Flag Raising Ceremonies, I think that there should be some uniformity of State Flags. Often the occasion is marred, somewhat, by the array of shapes and sizes (O.S. of some) especially in a good breeze.

Generally the flags are flown from modifield yardarms to take the extra number so consequently they have to be flown close together. A medium shape and size flag, in the State colours, would be more appropriate and spectacular and combine better with the National Heron flag which should dominate for the series.

We sail a One design boat which has proved its effectiveness, so lets have a One size for our State flags - and I don't think it will be necessary to bring the Measurement Committee into this issue. "

sgd. M.J.Luders (8773).

Acting Editor's note: Thank you, Max, and your letter will be tabled at the next meeting of Management for discussion and, maybe, determination of the most suitable size.
KEEP THOSE LETTERS COMING IN -

## LICENSED BUILDERS OF FIBREGLASS HERONS

Space was short in the March, '83 NEWSLETTER and we were not able to fully list those builders licensed with the Association to construct full and composite glass Herons. We now do so and pass on the builders comment that they would like to talk with you on your requirements and be able to help with your decision on the stage of construction most suited to your purchase.

QUEENSLAND: Mr.G.Hermann, "Selectacraft," Industrial Estate, Slade Point, Mackay 4740 (079-55-1934).
*Building full grp Herons (glass hull and deck)

N.S.W.: Mr. E.Sweeney, 13 Jones Ave., Warners Bay. 2282 (049-48-8625) working with Lambton Marine and has 6 glass Herons successfully sailing on Lake Macquarie.

J. & H.Boat Kits, 1 POLO Ave.,Mona Vale. 2103 Mr.M.Bailey (02-99-2306) can supply from basic glass hull through to complete Heron.

VICTORIA: R. Botterill, 6 Advantage Pde.,Highett, 3190 (03-555-2448) uses vacuum moulding method, also supplies in two or three stages of construction.

Frankston Fibreglass, 16 Martha St.,Seaford 3198 Frank Gruber (0 -786-2832)

WEST/AUST. Mr. Rudi Tiessen, 15 Constance St.,Whatley, 6053 (092-279-1462) Supplies to fitting out stage or complete.

All licensed builders have been supplied with an Information Sheet prepared by the Association and to be handed to the prospective buyer detailing the procedure for obtaining a sail number, payment of Designer's royalty fee, etc.

**********

FOR NEW SOUTH WALES HEROWERS - Your Yachting Association has designed an Insurance Plan to benefit all yachtsmen whether they race or cruise. The cost $3. per annum per crew member to commence from 1st July, 1983. Cover is provided whilst the injured person is involved in yachting activities including training, racing, practicing for racing or cruising but DOES NOT cover on-shore activities.

For further information, contact YANSW, P.O.Box N195, Grosvenor St., SYDNEY.

** It may well be that other State Yachting Authorities are following suit, If not, a phone call to them about the N.S.W. action might see results in your State!

## STATE AND DIVISION NEWS

### AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY NEWS

Alistair Stewart writes that the 82/83 season on Lake Burley Griffin lived up to expectations with good winds from October to mid January and drifters to the end of the season. Racing was keen and numbers are definitely on the increase due, largely, to the promotion activities of the A.C.T.Heron Committee and its President, Stewart McGilvray.

Discussion evenings on rigging, tuning and sailing were well attended and the practical beach demonstrations were a great success. The Heron Class is advantaged with very good media coverage in the Canberra district.

At the recent A.G.M., held 27th April, Stewart McGilvray was returned as President. Alastair Stewart was re-elected to the office of Hon.Secretary and Dave Simmonds is to look after the funds.

********

### NORTH QUEENSLAND NEWS

The cry from the North Queensland Division could almost be "We know you are out there, so why don't you come and sail with us". There are several Herons at Kurrimine and Mackay that seem to be spending a lot of time in garages and under the house and they could be put to much better use, particularly in the delightful north.

Des Quinn reports that, with the decreased numbers sailing with the Mackay Sailing Club, the Herons still have the best fleet of all Classes registered there. He also reports that Graham Hermann, licensed GRP builder, is keen to hear from prospective Heron owners.

Des writes that he is assisting with the A.Y.F.training Classes and Herons are being used for the initial coaching of youngsters. He is being assisted by Kevin Guttler, Brian Farley, Keith Reading and George Trehane and is hopeful that, in 3 or 4 years, the Heron Class will really benefit from this effort.

*******

HARD LUCK STORY - G.Stockdale of 6 Connemara Ave.,Killarney Hts. in Sydney made an unfortunate discovery when he returned home from sailing recently. It seems the gaff wasn't as secure as he thought and parted company with the other equipment. If you can help with a secondhand gaff please ring 02-451-5679.

********

## MORE STATE AND DIVISION NEWS

### VICTORIAN STATE TITLES

On the recent Labour Day long weekend, the State Heron Championships were held at Westernport Sailing Club. The event was most successful as the weather required varying degrees of sailing skill. In all, fourteen Herons took part and although this is not a large fleet compared to the total membership, it does constitute a 50% increase on last year's State Titles.

Congratulations go to Lake Boga skipper, Ray Hale sailing BEJUGARAWAY. With only 3 points lost, Ray certainly showed a clear stern to the remainder of the fleet. Not to be outdone, however, were Ian Martin in TRIALANERRA and Life Member, Len Ralph in LUFF AFFAIR who came in second and third, respectively.

Again, the Victorian Heron Association is to combine the A.G.M. and Presentation Night set down for the 24th May at the Elwood Sailing Club.

President, Laurie Menogue, urges all members to attend and if this is not possible then certainly to offer their services through the year to help with the annual Herald National Boat Show (7/13 July). and to generally promote the Heron in Victoria.

********

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

It was such a great success last time, the W.A.Committee decided to do it again - what's that you say. To hold the A.G.M. in the middle of the day followed by a coaching and boat tuning session, a barbecue lunch and a teams race. Now this is the sort of atmosphere that those entering the 25th Nationals are going to encounter on their visit to Perth. Great hospitality, great friendliness and great competition on the water. And you'd better look out for two fair damsels sailing Herons. They are Ann Gaunt, current State Title holder with nil points lost for the event and runner-up Hilary Arber. Both ladies are extremely competent helmswomen and are looking forward to taking on the Easterners.

********

ACTING EDITOR'S NOTE: As mentioned in the March issue, if your State or Club is not represented in these pages then there is every possibility that nothing was contributed. My role is only that of Acting Editor - is there someone out there interested in taking on the job? I can only produce a Newsletter if I am provided with the material to fill it - HOW ABOUT IT? M.Clarke.

# CLUB PROFILE

SPEERS POINT AMATEUR SAILING CLUB, N.S.W.

Speers Point Heroners can look back on a very enjoyable and successful sailing season with an increase since last season in the fleet facing the starter each Saturday. With a large body of water, sea breezes and virtually no tide, ours is an excellent sailing venue.

The most pleasing aspect of the past season has been the improved performances of our less experienced skippers and the influx of new members to our family sailing group which has lead to a series of pleasant social activities and very tight racing right through the fleet.

Heron Manager, Allan Sutton and his wife Marilyn hosted the Heron Holiday Regatta, a great series particularly enjoyed by the many Sydney siders who came up for the fun. Peter Macleod, David Llewellyn, Sid Dyer and Bill Parry proved too fast for us but the locals beat the handicapper and took out the big bikkies. There is no truth to the rumour that our one minute non-metropolitan allowance is under threat.

Robert Champness (THE PHOENIX) convincingly won the Club Championship with Phil Owens (REPRISE) second and Mark Gray (GOLDEN SHAMROCK) third. Julio Owens (DING HO) took out the first half-season point score by virtue of staying on her feet during the southerly and westerly gales that punctuated the end of 1982. Allan Sutton (GRAND ROUGE) and Paul Armstrong (APPAULED) battled out the second half-season point score, Allan scraping in by one point for a win.

We plan a coaching night and tuning session during next season to help those who are wondering "what are they doing that I'm not"?. A goodbye to Garry Wilson (LAKE FLYER) who is to try his luck in a Tasar.

Reporters: Phil Owens (REPRISE)
Paul Armstrong (APPAULED).

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ARNO BAY YACHT CLUB, S.A. Reporter: Kevin Knott.

Our Club has sailed a most successful season with more than 9 Herons competing on most Sundays. We sail the season in two divisions and Graham Butt (VALERIE J) took out handicap honours in the first division followed by Brendon Rehn (EZEE-GO-ER).

The Club New Year Race proved a close event and resulted in a tie for EZEE-GO-ER and Robert Butt's EDITH J. Kevin Knott's CAVALIER took out the handicap second division with Graham Butt, runner up. Kevin Knott won the Club Championship with no points lost.

MORE FROM YOUR FRIENDLY REGISTRAR

** My response in acceptance of Life Membership.

"To say that I am overwhelmed by the comments made this evening and received through the mail is indeed an understatement and I am truly honoured to receive Life Membership in what I believe to be the best sailing Class in Australia.

I'm sure there were times when Warren regretted introducing me to sailing and, particularly, to the Heron and I know there have been many occasions when the family was left sitting at the dinner table waiting for a meal while Mum took yet another call about Herons." I thank them and I thank Warren in particular for his tolerance and understanding and also for those hundreds of prints developed by him over the years which have found their way into numerous Newsletters, Boat Shows and Club displays.

At a time like this one's mind races back over our 21 years of membership and my 16 years in office and there are so many people to be thanked for their guidance and loyal support. As John Coen said, Edna Barrett trained me well and Bill Youll's discipline for One-design became my creed. To be celebrating the 25th A.G.M. of the Heron Class must be evidence that the principle does work.

Sixteen years is a long time to be involved and if I have contributed to the Class in any way I have been more than rewarded by wonderful friendships made over the years. They are friendships which I treasure, having been welcomed into many homes all over Australia, an opportunity only the Heron Class could have afforeded me. That, in itself, is reward and, of course, Life Membership is the ultimate reward - I thank you most sincerely."

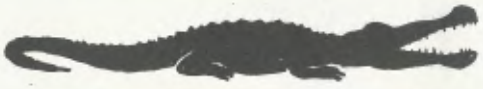
** Allen Crane's reponse in acceptance of Life Membership.

"I would personally like to thank Mel Picman for nominating me and Ian for seconding the nomination and all present for your confidence in electing me into this position. This is a reward and I'm really thrilled, but the greatest reward is the satisfaction and enjoyment that the whole of the Crane family has got out of Herons. They say, in life you only get out of it what you put into it and I think I got more out of it than I ever put into it. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen."

*********

** News from popular Victorians, Len and Mary Ralph (ZORAIDA and LUFF AFFAIR) and touring Europe is that Len has found the venue for a future Nationals (or would it be Internationals) - The Lake of Como, Italy. The postcard shows it to be a beautiful spot - some people have all the luck, Len and Mary board a yacht on the 16th May to cruise the Greek Islands!

** ATTENTION Heron Class Club Captains - Help your Association and at the same time help your own Club by supplying to me a list of Herons sailing with your Club this season. Boat number, owner's name and address is sufficient to the need.



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