NATIONAL HERON SAILING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (ABN 79 884 913 220)

# Feb 2016 NHSAA Newsletter

## 57th National Heron Championships

## Photo Review

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## A view from somewhere in the fleet

Also: Heron Rescue Ladder

Single Handed Heron Championship

**NHSAA AGM, Tue 10th May 2016, 8.00 pm AEST.**

**Venue: Concorde & Ryde Sailing Club, Kissing Pt Park, Putney 2112**

**Dial in number: 02 9696 0706**

**PIN: 466320**

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The beautiful rigging up area at Port Lincoln (left) provided easy access to a wide beach for launching.

Newest boat in the fleet, Little Miss Magic, (10280, Justin Carey) at the launching ceremony (below left)

Champion Jason Groves with crew Isobella Brewin and magnificent trophies (below).

The local sea food was great. A number of skippers were known to encourage their crew with promises of post-race local-oyster feasts (left).

New boat Batmobile (10279, Brian Hopping) showing its form (below) on Boston Bay

Silver Heron jewellery worn by crew member – spotted at Presentation Dinner – below left.

The magnificent trophies (top left) were prepared by SA sailor Peter Nicholson. The fleet assembled on the beach, preparing to race (top right). Dinner on the foreshore (bottom left). Pick your crew from this tree (bottom right).

Photo credits: Richard Gibson, Glenn Wilson, Melinda Hardman, Craig Cameron, Frank Whitehouse, Kate Carey, Phil Heron

**57th Heron Nationals Race Report**
**Port Lincoln Yacht Club 10 January 2016 – 17 January 2016**
**by Richard Gibson, Justin Carey and Dave Johnson**

Herons from all over Australia gathered at Port Lincoln in South Australia for a very competitive 57th Nation Championship Regatta.

Set on the shores of beautiful Bluefin Bay, the Port Lincoln Yacht Club hosted a fleet of 38 Herons representing every state. South Australian Herons were out in force with 19 boats competing, 12 from NSW, three from QLD, and then one each from WA, Vic, Tas, and the ACT. A great fleet; including four previous national champions and defending champions, David and Lachlan Johnson; took to the clear, deep waters off Port Lincoln for an eight-race regatta.

## Monday 11 January

### Invitation Race

The Invitation Race for the 57th Heron Nationals got underway with a breeze of 10 knots, which died off on the way out to course and then sprang up again from the North East. The fleet set off with an individual recall announced, but no boats went back.

10280 Little Miss Magic, sailed by Justin and Mollie Carey (who had only finished fitting out parts of their boat that morning), was first to the top mark with 10232 Flaw Show, sailed Richard Gibson and Therese Nolan (current holders of the Invitation Race trophy) and 9947 Isabella, sailed by Ben and Mitchell Kelsey, just behind. Flaw Show gained the lead on the reach and maintained a strong lead in a steady 5-8 knots and got over the line first, but along with Drop Bear, Fatty & Skinny and Little Miss Magic were disqualified for an OCS (on course side) start. The final results of the Invitation race:

1. 9947 Isabella
2. 10269 Heronasaurus (sailing with Kaitlyn Davison as substitute crew for Lachlan)
3. 10236 Skinny Dip
4. 10128 Mickey Mouse
5. 10279 Batmobile

## Tuesday 12 January

### Race 1

The Fleet got a clean start in light northeasterly, which swung north at the start. 10274 Fatty & Skinny sailed by Jason Groves and pint sized brave heart Isabella Brewin, slugged it out with 9947 Isabella on the first work. Close behind 10259 On and On, sailed by Don Rantanen and crew Alicia Gaffney, were showing good early form. Along with 10188 Bugger, and 7814 Sobraon, the leaders contested some very close racing for the triangle and loop. On the last beat to the finish the breeze died, leaving the leaders stranded while the back makers picked up a line of breeze and flew. Sobraon and 10277 Valkyrie, sailed by the Tasmanian team of Simon Olding and Gabby Burke, out on the right of course were hammered and frustratingly slipped from 4th and 5th position down to the 20s. Drop Bear, sailed by previous national champion Phil and Tyler Kelly, and Skinny Dip, sailed by Mathew Stephens and Deanna Henderson, made the most of the wind change and had their own private breeze to sail around the whole fleet coming through from near last to finish first and second respectively. In 14th place was Squib sailed by Michelle De La Perrelle and Cassie Paynter, setting the pace early on her way to wining the first lady skipper award.

1. 10237 Drop Bear
2. 10236 Skinny Dip
3. 10188 Bugger
4. 10274 Fatty & Skinny
5. 9947 Isabella

The second heat scheduled for the day was abandoned due to a lack of wind.

**Wednesday 13 January**

**Race 2**

Strong morning wind greeted the sailors on day three as a southerly front came through leaving behind a moderate to gusty south westerly for the afternoon racing. The course was set in the area immediately in front of the sailing club (Course Area 1), making for a long straight run out to the start. The fleet had a clean start and Fatty & Skinny read every shift in building a good lead by the first mark and was never headed taking the race very comfortably. The newest boat in the fleet, 10281 Overtaking Layne, sailed by the class builder Mark (Freddie) Phillips and son Hugh made some rigging changes that rocketed them up the ladder with great speed to finish 2nd. Drop Bear came from back in the fleet (again!) to finish 3rd demonstrating speed and smarts that won him a national title, and 9953 Unique sailed by local family Davis and Joseph Perin 4th.

1. 10274 Fatty & Skinny
2. 10281 Overtaking Layne
3. 10237 Drop Bear
4. 9953 Unique
5. 10184 Grumpier

Strong, gusty conditions led to several capsizes as the wind built just before the second scheduled start, prompting the race officer to abandon racing for the day.

**Friday 15 January**

Day four of the nationals saw the fleet happily confronted with a steady southeast at about 15 knots, perfect sailing conditions for the Heron fleet. The strong breeze took it toll on some boats including Isabella who was dismasted and had to go back to shore to search for some more tape to put his mast back together.

Race 3 got underway with Heronasaurus, sailed by David and Lachlan Johnson (with Lachlan sailing for the first time after recovering from a virus that earnt him the new name Gastroboy – compliments of Holly from Astro Boy), showing the form that won them the national title the year earlier, as he built a substantial lead at the first mark and extended to win comfortably. Fatty & Skinny demonstrated that they were fast in all conditions (even with the lightest forwardhand in the fleet) to finish second withOvertaking Layne and Drop Bear continuing their consistent form to fill in 3rd and 4th, with The Avengers, sailed by Mark and Darcy Conry, showing some great speed and skill in the steady breeze to round out the top 5. Michael Groves and Ashleigh Brewin sailing Abracadabra finished 6th and was show strong consistent form on the scoreboard being one of four boats to have finished in the top 8 in all 3 races. After 3 races it was becoming clear that consistency was going to be key.

1. 10269 Heronasaurus
2. 10274 Fatty & Skinny
3. 10281 Overtaking Layne
4. 10237 Drop Bear
5. 10264 The Avengers

**Race 4**

Back to back races for the first time in the regatta, and with a steady breeze holding and the occasional heavier gust making for some exciting sailing for race 4. After a clean start the race settled into an interesting tussle of upwind tactics and downwind surfing. Little Miss Magic led around the first mark with blistering pace upwind in fresh conditions. Heronasaurus rounded second with Grumpier (David McClean and Thom Harding), Fatty & Skinny and The Avengers close behind. Racing was tight on the second work with no clear advantage shown between the genoa and small jib boats in the mix. On the third beat, the lead changed a few times until Fatty & Skinny with a smart tactical move at the top mark saw Heronasusarus do two tacks which secured the win for Jason and Isabella. Fatty& Skinny now had an ominous lead on the scoreboard. Heronasaurus maintained 2nd over Grumpier sailing well into 3rd place. A little further back saw Rippa, sailed by Peter Carrick and Ella

Stevens, and sporting a sail made from re-cycled main sails, was having his best race of the series coming in 28th and enjoying the heavier breeze.

1. 10274 Fatty & Skinny
2. 10269 Heronasaurus
3. 10184 Grumpier
4. 10264 The Avengers
5. 10280 Little Miss Magic

**Saturday 16 January**

On advice from the weather forecast the race officer made a decision to change the schedule for the day by holding a morning race followed by a break and an afternoon race. The breeze was light and looking to fade over the next two days so grabbing the morning breeze proved to be a good decision.

**Race 5**

With a return to the lighter easterly breezes the racing turned to a fascinating struggle of fleet tactics. At a port end bias start line there was an individual recall signal with two boats judged to be over the line. Overtaking Layne led the fleet form the start and was never headed. Heronasaurus again sailed well, this time in the light air, crossing the line in 2nd only to find that he was one of those two boats. Drop Bear and Fatty & Skinny again showed great form taking out 2nd and 3rd. Sobraon, sailed by past national champion and national president John Nobbs, sailed well for 4th, while local boat Isabella, sailed by Ben and Mitchell Kelsey were quietly putting together a very consistent regatta coming in 5th.

1. 10281 Overtaking Layne
2. 10237 Drop Bear
3. 10274 Fatty & Skinny
4. 7814 Sobraon
5. 9947 Isabella

**Race 6**

After a short break for lunch the fleet were sent out into a light and fading afternoon breeze. Some big shifts made for exciting racing which saw Grumpier lead from the outset and maintain a comfortable lead with great speed to go to win. Fatty & Skinny took 2nd, who at this stage was starting to look very hard to beat with a display of consistent sailing in all conditions. Bugger, sailed by Mark Barwick and Indiah Kelsey had been sailing well all regatta and converted on their good form to take 3rd. Heronasaurus continued his series of ups and downs taking 4th from the ever-consistent Isabella in 5th. Not too far behind, another boat in Turbo, sailed by Craig Cameron and Ben James was starting to show the form that would eventually take them to first in the overall handicap honors. Craig and Ben sailing Turbo to 25th in this heat and demonstrating their rapid improvement.

1. 10184 Grumpier
2. 10274 Fatty & Skinny
3. 10188 Bugger
4. 10269 Heronasaurus
5. 9947 Isabella

**Sunday 17 January**

The final day of racing for the 57th National Heron Championships and the race office was facing a light and dying breeze with still two races to be sailed. Race officer Rob Hughes faced a task more challenging than Matthew Flinders in trying to chart a course for the fleet to complete the full eight races. But just like the English explorer Rob did an excellent job in guiding the fleet through.

Race 7, winds were light with pockets of breeze wafting across the course. Overtaking Layne, this time, crewed

by the boat's namesake Layne Phillips, took the lead at the first mark and was never seriously challenged. Isabella continued to relish the light breezes to finish 2nd and Fatty & Skinny doing all that was needed to claim victory in the regatta by finishing 3rd. Jason had sailed a master class in consistent sailing across all conditions with his worst result being 4th when other boats were carrying a 7th or higher. Jason and Isabella sealed his first national championships with one race to spare. Well done Jason and Isabella. Heronasaurus came in 4th with Sobraon again sailing well late in the regatta to come 5th.

1. 10281 Overtaking Layne
2. 9947 Isabella
3. 10274 Fatty & Skinny
4. 10296 Heronasaurus
5. 7814 Sobraon

**Race 8**

The final race, and although first place had already been decided the remaining places were still up for grabs in the light and shifty conditions. The fleet proved a bit too eager at first attempt and after a general recall the race officer activated the last minute rule, (meaning that any boats over the line in the last minute would be disqualified). Unfortunately for Fatty & Skinny and Grumpier this proved to be the case and they were both judged to be OCS and stripped of their 2nd and 3rd places across the line. Heronasaurus led around the track and took the win, followed by Flaw Show having their best race since winning the invitation race only to find themselves OCS on that occasion. Isabella finished 3rd and Grey Pearl, sailed by Anthony and Caitlyn Roe finished 4th in their best performance for the regatta. Also keeping the best till last was Cheeky sailed by junior sailors Cameron Forbes and Gil Casanova who finished race 8 in 14th position and claimed the First Junior trophy.

1. 10269 Heronasaurus
2. 10232 Flaw Show
3. 9947 Isabella
4. 10252 Grey Pearl
5. 10236 Skinny Dip

**Trophy Winners**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| First Overall | 10274 Fatty & Skinny | Jason Groves and Isabella Brewin NSW |
| Second Overall | 10281 Overtaking Layne | Mark Phillips & Hugh and Layne Phillips NSW |
| Third Overall | 10237 Drop Bear | Phil Kelly & Tyler Cameron SA |
| Fourth Overall | 9947 Isabella | Ben Kelsey & Mitchell Kelsey SA |
| Fifth Overall | 10269 Heronasaurus | David Johnson & Lachlan Johnson Qld |
| Sixth Overall | 10101 Abracadabra | Michael Groves & Ashleigh Brewin NSW |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| First Handicap | 9910 Turbo | Craig Cameron & Ben James SA |
| Second Handicap | 10157 Cirrus | Wayne Spencer & Katherine Spencer NSW |
| Third Handicap | 10127 Popeye | Hannah Lees & Jared Stevens SA |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| First Lady Skipper | 9915 Squib | Michelle De La Perrelle & Cassie Paynter SA |
| First Junior Skipper and Crew | 7265 Cheeky | Cameron Forbes & Gil Casanova SA |
| First Unplaced Veteran | 10232 Flaw Show | Richard Gibson & Therese Nolan SA |
| First Family Skipper and Crew | 10264 The Avengers | Mark Conry & Darcy Conry SA |
| Encouragement Award | 10268 Rippa | Peter Carrick & Ella Stevens NSW |

## Overall Results: 57th Heron Nationals 10 January – 17 January 2016 Port Lincoln Yacht Club

| Pos | # | Boat Name | Skipper | Crew | State | Score | Ht 8 | Ht 7 | Ht 6 | Ht 5 | Ht 4 | Ht 3 | Ht 2 | Ht 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | 10274 | FATTY & SKINNY | Jason Groves | Isabella Brewin | NSW | 16.0 | [39.0U] | 3.0 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 4.0 |
| **2** | 10281 | OVERTAKING LAYNE | Mark Phillips | Layne Phillips | NSW | 30.0 | 10.0 | 1.0 | [12.5] | 1.0 | 6.0 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 7.0 |
| **3** | 10237 | DROP BEAR | Philip Kelly | Tyler Cameron | SA | 38.0 | 6.0 | [18.0] | 15.0 | 2.0 | 7.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 1.0 |
| **4** | 9947 | ISABELLA | Ben Kelsey | Mitchell Kelsey | SA | 39.0 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 8.0 | [39.0C] | 11.0 | 5.0 |
| **5** | 10269 | HERONASAURUS | David Johnson | Lachlan Johnson | QLD | 41.0 | 1.0 | 4.0 | 4.0 | [39.0O] | 2.0 | 1.0 | 18.0 | 11.0 |
| **6** | 10101 | ABRACADABRA | Michael Groves | Ashleigh Brewin | NSW | 54.0 | [12.0] | 10.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 10.0 | 6.0 | 6.0 | 8.0 |
| **7** | 10236 | SKINNY DIP | Matthew Stephens | Deanna Henderson | SA | 56.0 | 5.0 | 9.0 | [16.0] | 12.0 | 9.0 | 12.0 | 7.0 | 2.0 |
| **8** | 10264 | THE AVENGERS | Mark Conry | Darcy Conry | SA | 58.0 | 8.0 | 8.0 | [21.0] | 15.0 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 8.0 | 10.0 |
| **9** | 10252 | GREY PEARL | Anthony Roe | Caitlyn Roe | SA | 63.0 | 4.0 | 6.0 | 8.0 | 11.0 | 12.0 | [14.0] | 13.0 | 9.0 |
| **10** | 10188 | BUGGER | Mark Barwick | Indiah Kelsey | SA | 65.0 | 7.0 | 15.0 | 3.0 | [19.0] | 17.0 | 11.0 | 9.0 | 3.0 |
| **11** | 10232 | FLAW SHOW | Richard Gibson | Therese Nolan | SA | 66.0 | 2.0 | 13.0 | 9.0 | 6.0 | 14.0 | 8.0 | 14.0 | [19.0] |
| **12** | 10184 | GRUMPIER | David Mcclean | Thom Hardman | NSW | 70.0 | [39.0U] | 20.0 | 1.0 | 10.0 | 3.0 | 16.0 | 5.0 | 15.0 |
| **13** | 7814 | SOBRAON | John Nobbs | Kaitlyn Davison | QLD | 75.5 | 16.0 | 5.0 | 12.5 | 4.0 | 11.0 | 7.0 | [21.0] | 20.0 |
| **14** | 10280 | LITTLE MISS MAGIC | Justin Carey | Mollie Carey | QLD | 76.0 | 11.0 | 7.0 | [19.0] | 18.0 | 5.0 | 13.0 | 10.0 | 12.0 |
| **15** | 9953 | UNIQUE | Davis Perin | Joseph Perin | SA | 78.0 | 9.0 | 19.0 | 10.0 | 14.0 | 13.0 | 9.0 | 4.0 | [32.0] |
| **16** | 10128 | MICKEY MOUSE | Bronte Flint | Holly Gale | SA | 95.0 | 20.0 | 11.0 | 14.0 | 9.0 | 18.0 | 17.0 | [39.0F] | 6.0 |
| **17** | 10277 | VALKYRIE | Simon Olding | Gabby Burke | TAS | 99.0 | 13.0 | 14.0 | [27.0] | 13.0 | 16.0 | 10.0 | 12.0 | 21.0 |
| **18** | 9998 | GOLDEN FOX | Geoff Nash | Hanna Nash | NSW | 129.0 | 17.0 | 23.0 | 22.0 | 16.0 | 15.0 | 20.0 | 16.0 | [36.0] |
| **19** | 10259 | ON & ON | Don Rantanen | Alicia Gaffney | SA | 131.0 | 18.0 | 12.0 | 20.0 | [25.0] | 19.0 | 21.0 | 23.0 | 18.0 |
| **20** | 10278 | SILVER FEATHER | John Veale | Lesley Veale | NSW | 131.0 | 15.0 | 16.0 | 18.0 | 17.0 | [27.0] | 23.0 | 25.0 | 17.0 |
| **21** | 10271 | SLIPPERY WHEN WET | Andrew Nelson | Barbara Bohdanowicz | NSW | 139.0 | 21.0 | 21.0 | 17.0 | 21.0 | 21.0 | 15.0 | [28.0] | 23.0 |
| **22** | 10241 | ASTRO BOY | Glenn Wilson | Holly O'Shea-Wilson | VIC | 147.0 | [39.0U] | 17.0 | 11.0 | 20.0 | 24.0 | 28.0 | 34.0 | 13.0 |
| **23** | 10279 | BATMOBILE | Brian Hopping | Aleksandar Hopping | SA | 162.0 | 39.0C | 39.0C | 6.0 | 8.0 | [39.0F] | 25.0 | 17.0 | 28.0 |
| **24** | 7265 | CHEEKY | Cameron Forbes | Gil Casanova | SA | 165.0 | 14.0 | 24.0 | 30.0 | 22.0 | [39.0F] | 24.0 | 20.0 | 31.0 |
| **25** | 9915 | SQUIB | Michelle De La Perrelle | Cassie Paynter | SA | 167.0 | 19.0 | 25.0 | [32.0] | 29.0 | 25.0 | 26.0 | 29.0 | 14.0 |
| **26** | 10260 | CRASH TEST DUMMIES | Chris Sant | Zoe Sant | ACT | 171.0 | 22.0 | 35.0 | 28.0 | 26.0 | 20.0 | 18.0 | 22.0 | [35.0] |
| **27** | 10127 | POPEYE | Hannah Lees | Jared Stevens | SA | 178.0 | 25.0 | 22.0 | 29.0 | 24.0 | 29.0 | [35.0] | 19.0 | 30.0 |
| **28** | 10230 | LITTLE RED HEN | Brooke Gaffney | Greg Gaffney | SA | 180.0 | 28.0 | 29.0 | 24.0 | [30.0] | 22.0 | 22.0 | 26.0 | 29.0 |
| **29** | 10157 | CIRRUS | Wayne Spencer | Katherine Spencer | NSW | 187.0 | [39.0U] | 26.0 | 23.0 | 23.0 | 26.0 | 32.0 | 35.0 | 22.0 |
| **30** | 10235 | APACHE | Jeremy Brown | Lachlan Brown | WA | 189.0 | 26.0 | 27.0 | [33.0] | 27.0 | 31.0 | 29.0 | 24.0 | 25.0 |
| **31** | 9481 | GOLD RUSH | Madeline Harris | Samantha Whillas | SA | 192.0 | 27.0 | 31.0 | 26.0 | 31.0 | [35.0] | 34.0 | 27.0 | 16.0 |
| **32** | 10231 | SNAIL PACE | Lauren Henderson | Jayden Gale | SA | 200.0 | 39.0U | 28.0 | 31.0 | 34.0 | 23.0 | 19.0 | [39.0C] | 26.0 |
| **33** | 9911 | TAWNY PORT | Robert Lees | Matthew Monti | SA | 201.0 | 30.0 | 32.0 | 35.0 | [37.0] | 32.0 | 33.0 | 15.0 | 24.0 |
| **34** | 9741 | HARDY HAR HAR | Andrew Hardman | Rachel Hardman | NSW | 209.0 | 24.0 | 30.0 | [36.0] | 33.0 | 30.0 | 27.0 | 32.0 | 33.0 |
| **35** | 8585 | JID | Cathy Clapham | Sachi Clapham | NSW | 216.0 | 23.0 | 36.0 | [38.0] | 28.0 | 33.0 | 31.0 | 31.0 | 34.0 |
| **36** | 10150 | UPUTU | Warren Hodgkins | Nigel King | NSW | 226.0 | 31.0 | 34.0 | 34.0 | 36.0 | 34.0 | [37.0] | 30.0 | 27.0 |
| **37** | 9910 | TURBO | Craig Cameron | Ben James | SA | 227.0 | 29.0 | 33.0 | 25.0 | 32.0 | 36.0 | 36.0 | 36.0 | [39.0F] |
| **38** | 10268 | RIPPA | Peter Carrick | Ella Stevens | NSW | 232.0 | 32.0 | 37.0 | 37.0 | 35.0 | 28.0 | 30.0 | 33.0 | [37.0] |

## Series Results [PHS] up to Race 8 (Drops = 1)

| Place | Ties | Sail No | Boat Name | Skipper | Crew | From | Type | Sers Score | Race 8 | Race 7 | Race 6 | Race 5 | Race 4 | Race 3 | Race 2 | Race 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | 9910 | TURBO | Craig Cameron | Ben James | SA | | 82.0 | 11.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 35.0 | 2.0 | 31.0 | [39.0F] |
| 2 | | 10157 | CIRRUS | Wayne Spencer | Katherine Spencer | NSW | | 87.0 | [39.0U] | 23.0 | 8.0 | 5.0 | 2.0 | 9.0 | 36.0 | 4.0 |
| 3 | | 10127 | POPEYE | Hannah Lees | Jared Stevens | SA | | 89.5 | 23.0 | 5.5 | 21.0 | 3.0 | 13.0 | [36.0] | 4.0 | 20.0 |
| 4 | | 10232 | FLAW SHOW | Richard Gibson | Therese Nolan | SA | | 93.0 | 3.0 | [33.0] | 16.0 | 4.0 | 19.0 | 6.0 | 16.0 | 29.0 |
| 5 | 2.0S | 9998 | GOLDEN FOX | Geoff Nash | Hanna Nash | NSW | | 95.0 | 15.0 | 30.0 | 22.0 | 13.0 | 5.0 | 8.0 | 2.0 | [36.0] |
| 6 | | 7814 | SOBRAON | John Nobbs | Kaitlyn Davison | QLD | | 95.0 | [32.0] | 9.5 | 24.0 | 7.0 | 6.0 | 3.0 | 20.0 | 25.5 |
| 7 | | 10269 | HERONASAURUS | David Johnson | Lachlan Johnson | QLD | | 102.0 | 4.0 | 19.0 | 20.0 | [39.0O] | 7.0 | 1.0 | 29.0 | 22.0 |
| 8 | | 9953 | UNIQUE | Davis Perin | Joseph Perin | SA | | 104.0 | 9.0 | 34.0 | 14.0 | 23.0 | 10.0 | 13.0 | 1.0 | [37.0] |
| 9 | | 10252 | GREY PEARL | Anthony Roe | Caitlyn Roe | SA | | 106.5 | 19.0 | 7.5 | 13.0 | 22.0 | 12.0 | 20.0 | [27.0] | 13.0 |
| 10 | 5.0S | 9741 | HARDY HAR HAR | Andrew Hardman | Rachel Hardman | NSW | | 110.5 | 5.0 | 5.5 | [32.0] | 27.0 | 20.0 | 14.0 | 15.0 | 24.0 |
| 11 | | 10278 | SILVER FEATHER | John Veale | Lesley Veale | NSW | | 110.5 | 10.0 | [28.0] | 9.0 | 6.0 | 27.0 | 21.0 | 23.5 | 14.0 |
| 12 | | 10241 | ASTRO BOY | Glenn Wilson | Holly O'Shea-Wilson | VIC | | 111.0 | [39.0U] | 26.0 | 5.0 | 10.0 | 9.0 | 26.0 | 30.0 | 5.0 |
| 13 | | 10150 | UPUTU | Warren Hodgkins | Nigel King | NSW | | 113.0 | 24.0 | 13.0 | 12.0 | 12.0 | 31.0 | [37.0] | 11.0 | 10.0 |
| 14 | | 10259 | ON & ON | Donald Rantanen | Alicia Gaffney | SA | | 114.5 | 17.0 | 17.0 | 11.0 | [28.5] | 14.0 | 19.0 | 21.5 | 15.0 |
| 15 | 1.0S | 8585 | JID | Cathy Clapham | Sachi Clapham | NSW | | 115.0 | 1.0 | 16.0 | [37.0] | 9.0 | 30.0 | 22.0 | 9.0 | 28.0 |
| 16 | | 10277 | VALKYRIE | Simon Olding | Gabby Burke | TAS | | 115.0 | 8.0 | 18.0 | [38.0] | 15.0 | 22.0 | 7.0 | 12.0 | 33.0 |
| 17 | | 10280 | LITTLE MISS MAGIC | Justin Carey | Mollie Carey | QLD | | 115.5 | 20.5 | 12.0 | 27.0 | [36.0] | 3.0 | 17.0 | 17.0 | 19.0 |
| 18 | | 10260 | CRASH TEST DUMMIES | Chris Sant | Zoe Sant | ACT | | 116.0 | 6.0 | 32.0 | 26.0 | 31.0 | 11.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | [34.0] |
| 19 | | 10268 | RIPPA | Peter Carrick | Ella Stevens | NSW | | 117.0 | 18.0 | 22.0 | 30.0 | 24.0 | 8.0 | 12.0 | 3.0 | [35.0] |
| 20 | | 10281 | OVERTAKING LAYNE | Mark Phillips | Layne Phillips | NSW | | 120.5 | 31.0 | 3.0 | [36.0] | 14.0 | 17.0 | 18.0 | 21.5 | 16.0 |
| 21 | | 9481 | GOLD RUSH | Madeline Harris | Samantha Whillas | SA | | 121.0 | 26.0 | 24.0 | 2.0 | 8.0 | [36.0] | 35.0 | 19.0 | 7.0 |
| 22 | | 1025 | CHEEKY | Cameron Forbes | Gil Casanova | SA | | 123.0 | 2.0 | 15.0 | 33.0 | 17.0 | [39.0F] | 16.0 | 8.0 | 32.0 |
| 23 | 4.0S | 10264 | THE AVENGERS | Mark Conry | Darcy Conry | SA | | 123.5 | 16.0 | 14.0 | 34.0 | [34.0] | 4.0 | 15.0 | 23.5 | 17.0 |
| 24 | | 9915 | SQUIB | Michelle De La Perre | Cassie Paynter | SA | | 123.5 | 7.0 | 9.5 | [31.0] | 26.0 | 16.0 | 28.0 | 26.0 | 11.0 |
| 25 | | 9947 | ISABELLA | Ben Kelsey | Mitchell Kelsey | SA | | 124.0 | 28.0 | 4.0 | 15.0 | 16.0 | 23.0 | [39.0C] | 32.0 | 6.0 |
| 26 | | 10184 | GRUMPIER | David Mcclean | Thom Hardman | NSW | | 128.0 | [39.0U] | 37.0 | 4.0 | 25.0 | 1.0 | 25.0 | 6.0 | 30.0 |
| 27 | | 10271 | SLIPPERY WHEN WET | Andrew Nelson | Barbara Bohdanowicz | NSW | | 128.5 | 27.0 | [31.0] | 7.0 | 21.0 | 26.0 | 4.0 | 18.0 | 25.5 |
| 28 | | 10235 | APACHE | Jeremy Brown | Lachlan Brown | WA | | 129.5 | 20.5 | 2.0 | 29.0 | 18.0 | 28.0 | [29.0] | 14.0 | 18.0 |
| 29 | | 10230 | LITTLE RED HEN | Brooke Gaffney | Greg Gaffney | SA | | 135.0 | 30.0 | 25.0 | 10.0 | [35.0] | 15.0 | 11.0 | 13.0 | 31.0 |
| 30 | | 10279 | BATMOBILE | Brian Hopping | Aleksandar Hopping | SA | | 143.0 | 39.0C | 39.0C | 6.0 | 2.0 | [39.0F] | 24.0 | 10.0 | 23.0 |
| 31 | | 10101 | ABRACADABRA | Michael Groves | Ashliegh Brewin | NSW | | 144.0 | 25.0 | [29.0] | 19.0 | 19.0 | 21.0 | 23.0 | 25.0 | 12.0 |
| 32 | | 10236 | SKINNY DIP | Matthew Stephens | Deanna Henderson | SA | | 144.5 | 14.0 | 20.0 | 25.0 | 28.5 | 25.0 | 31.0 | [35.0] | 1.0 |
| 33 | | 10188 | BUGGER | Mark Barwick | Indiah Kelsey | SA | | 146.0 | 13.0 | [35.0] | 3.0 | 30.0 | 34.0 | 30.0 | 34.0 | 2.0 |
| 34 | | 9911 | TAWNY PORT | Robert Lees | Matthew Monti | SA | | 148.0 | 22.0 | 11.0 | 23.0 | [33.0] | 32.0 | 32.0 | 7.0 | 21.0 |
| 35 | | 10274 | FATTY & SKINNY | Jason Groves | Isabella Brewin | NSW | | 158.0 | [39.0U] | 21.0 | 17.0 | 32.0 | 24.0 | 27.0 | 28.0 | 9.0 |
| 36 | | 10128 | MICKEY MOUSE | Bronte Flint | Holly Gale | SA | | 160.0 | 29.0 | 27.0 | 18.0 | 11.0 | 33.0 | 34.0 | [39.0F] | 8.0 |
| 37 | | 10237 | DROP BEAR | Philip Kelly | Tyler Cameron | SA | | 165.0 | 12.0 | [36.0] | 35.0 | 20.0 | 29.0 | 33.0 | 33.0 | 3.0 |
| 38 | | 10231 | SNAIL PACE | Lauren Henderson | Jayden Gale | SA | | 166.5 | 39.0U | 7.5 | 28.0 | 37.0 | 18.0 | 10.0 | [39.0C] | 27.0 |

**Craig Cameron Turbo 9910.....a view from 'somewhere in the fleet' January 2016 on Boston Bay**

I was introduced to sailing 4 years ago when my then 8 year old son decided that he didn't want to play the sports I had grown up with; being cricket and tennis; however he thought that the boats he could see on the bay from our lounge room might be fun. I had never been involved with sailing nor did I know anyone that was involved, but I now had a son who desperately wanted to try it out. I took him down to the club one Saturday afternoon and made some enquiries, to be told come down next Saturday and "we will put him in a boat". That was where it all began and he really enjoyed being involved. I spent the next few years out on the water helping in the pickup boats and watching my son sail. During this time I listened to people on the boat coach and train the kids, shouting "pull the Jib on", "pull the main on", "point up" and "watch your tell tails".

Last season I felt that I had gained some basic knowledge from all of the instructions I had been hearing and perhaps it was time to give sailing a go myself. I spoke to a few people who encouraged me and with that, I dug out an old Pacer from the Club shed and found a keen youngster who was doing the learn to sail program who was willing to give it a go with me.

We were lucky enough there were plenty of seasoned sailors who were happy to assist us to set the boat up and pass on a few more pointers before we hit the water. I remember we tipped over 9 times that day and my crew spent the whole time emptying water from the boat. Despite this, we both had a great time and decided we would give it another go. In the coming weeks we sailed another 4 times. Each time we got more comfortable in the boat and felt we were improving, having less tips. At the end of that season I felt I had achieved something which I would like to continue with. I discussed with various club members the possibility of me continuing to sail in the next season and what boat would be an option for me to continue to learn in.

With the Port Lincoln Club holding the Heron Nationals in the following season, it was suggested that this would be a perfect opportunity for me to be involved. After giving this some thought I decided to find a boat to purchase and spent some time searching on the internet and discussing with other sailors. I found that people were extremely helpful and assisted me with the pros and cons of various boats.

After some time I found 'Turbo 9910' and made the purchase. Everyone at the Club was very supportive and willing to help and teach me how to set up my boat, advising on what they believed needed repairing or improving. I managed to get on the water about 5 times prior to the Nationals, again obtaining a crew from the 'Learn to Sail' program. The Nationals approached fast and to be honest I was feeling a bit apprehensive about the event as I didn't feel I had achieved control of my boat and I certainly was very sketchy with the rules of racing. I managed to secure my 'Pacer' crew who had been crewing the season in a '420'. This was a relief as he now had knowledge which would be helpful. The regatta was upon us and I was overwhelmed with the support and

Craig Cameron with crew Ben James in Turbo

friendliness of all the competitors. I found myself with a massive ‘pit crew’ who would assist with the set up of my boat each day; adjusting, changing and repairing things on the boat in order to improve it and make it easier for me to sail. I was inundated with encouragement and advice on things to do and adjust to improve my sailing.

The week was like an intensive training course, each day heading out with fresh advice and new techniques to incorporate with those that appeared to have worked in the past. Over the week I could feel myself improving as things were starting to happen more easily and some advice making sense. The weather was quite different each day and I found the lighter days much harder to sail in, as I realised after speaking with others after the race, that I managed to have everything set wrong for such conditions. I must say I do prefer the windier days as it was easier to keep the boat moving, even if things weren’t set quite correctly.

I have to say that I found the start line to be very daunting and whilst I attempted to keep my nose clean and clear of the experienced front runners, I did find myself in a predicament a couple of times where I got squeezed into a hole with no escaping. I managed to come out unscathed and am thankful for the understanding and patience of the other competitors.

I thoroughly enjoyed the event and whilst it was both physically and mentally tiring, I have learnt a new and exciting sport and met some very friendly and encouraging people from all parts of Australia. I am looking forward to continuing my sailing and I’m hoping my daughter will become my crew next season. When I entered this event I never considered I would be collecting a trophy of any kind at the presentation. When I was told I had come 1st on Handicap, I was in disbelief. It was a great feeling to think that I had achieved this result and I am thankful for all the support I had been given.

**Social Report 57th National Heron Championships – Port Lincoln Sailing Club, S.A.**

Another year gone and it is back into "Nationals mode" again. This year off to Port Lincoln, on the Eyre Peninsula, S.A. for 57th National Heron Championships with 38 entries – a great effort.

20 S.A. 12 N.S.W. 3 QLD. 1 Victorian 1 W.A. 1 Tasmanian

**Welcome BBQ** – (after Invitation Race) was held upstairs in the Port Lincoln Yacht Club – what a lovely clubhouse with a beautiful view over Boston Bay. Great to see so many of the sailors from past regattas and met some new Heroners. I was indeed surprised to see Don Rantanen and Alex Hayter whom I hadn't seen for many years, probably in the 90's. Memories from those days, when instead of Heron Idol Night we had similar but each state put on an act – there were some beauties and we reminisced these times.

**Official Opening & Flag Raising Ceremony** – Conducted by Ben Kelsey, Vice Commodore, P.L.Y.C.
Jonathon Newbery, Commodore, P.L.Y.C. welcomed everyone from all states to Port Lincoln and wished everyone an enjoyable series.
Richard Gibson, President S.A.H.A. (whose grandfather Captain Tom Gibson was Commodore P.L.Y.C. 1934-35 and was also a Life Member) thanked P.L.Y.C. for hosting 57th Heron Nationals.
Neville Stark, representing the Mayor, officially opened the Regatta on Boston Bay (which was named by Matthew Flinders in 1802)

The flags were raised by - Gabby Burke, Tasmania
Lachlan Brown, Western Australia
Holly O'Shea-Wilson, Victoria
Mollie & Jemina Carey, Queensland
Layne Phillips & Isabella Brewin, New South Wales
Alexander Hopping, South Australia
John Nobbs, National President, raised the National Flag.

The Briefing was then conducted by Rob Hughes, Race Officer for the Regatta. He wished all competitors fair winds and good sailing. His first regatta in a Heron fleet was in 1973 with over 130 boats on the starting line.

**Seafood Night** also held upstairs at Yacht Club. This was certainly a great opportunity to sample some of South Australian great seafood – delicious.

**Heron Idol Night** – highly anticipated evening, compere Richard Gibson
Impartial Judges were Glen Wilson, Vic. - Kate Carey, Qld. -Lesley Gentilin, Music teacher Port Lincoln
There were 14 acts in total with some very talented and entertaining people in the Heron Class (with a wide cross section of the meaning of entertaining) but there were only 3 winners

1st Matthew Monti, Singer from S.A.- Crew on Tawny Port
2nd Mollie & Jemima Carey, Singers with Ukulele accompaniment from Qld.
3rd Layne Phillips, Singer from N.S.W.

Richard, Therese & Lesley (one of the Judges) gave us much enjoyment with their ukuleles & singing.

**Presentation Night** again at Yacht Club – M.C. for the evening was Richard Gibson

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Placegetters | 1st Unplaced Veteran | Flaw Show, Richard Gibson & Therese Nolan, S.A. |
| | 1st Lady Skipper | Squib, Michelle de la Perrelle & Cassie Paynter, S.A. |
| | 1ST Junior Skipper | Cheeky, Cameron Forbes & Gil Casanova, S.A. |
| | 1st Family Boat | Avengers, Mark & Darcy Conry S.A. |
| | 1st on Handicap | Turbo, Craig Cameron & Ben James, S.A. |
| | 2nd on Handicap | Cirrus, Wayne & Catherine Spencer, N.S.W. |
| | 3rd on Handicap | Popeye, Hannah Lees & Jared Stevens, S.A. |
| | Encouragement Award | Rippa, Peter Carrick NSW & Ella Stevens, S.A. |

Now to Top 6 Placegetters

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st Place | Fatty & Skinny, Jason Groves & Isabella Brewin, N.S.W. |
| 2nd Place | Overtaking Layne, Mark, Hugh & Layne Phillips, N.S.W. |
| 3rd Place | Drop Bear, Phil Kelly & Tyler Cameron, S.A. |
| 4th Place | Isabella, Ben & Mitchell Kelsey, S.A. |
| 5th Place | Heronasaurus, David & Lachlan Johnson, Qld. |
| 6th Place | Abracadabra, Michael Groves & Ashleigh Brewin, N.S.W. |

Interesting to note that 1st & 6th placegetters, are father & son, Michael & Jason Groves, with crews, Ashleigh & Isabella Brewin, granddaughters of Michael and nieces of Jason. A great number of boats in this regatta fit into this category - Mum or Dad being the skipper with their children as crews. Just going to prove that Herons, although down in numbers from 80's & 90's is still truly a family class.

State & National flags were returned to be hoisted again at St. Leonards, Vic.
Glen Wilson from Victorian Heron Association invited all competitors to come to St. Leonards for 58th Heron Nationals from 29th December, 2016 to 6th January, 2017.

Thanks to Richard & Therese and the wonderful group of volunteers, from P.L.Y.C., both on and off the water. The on water team did a fantastic job ensuring the safety of skippers and crews. The off water volunteers kept us fed and watered both from the canteen at lunchtimes and high quality and presentation of dinners at the social functions. Thank you all involved in organising a most successful & enjoyable regatta and I am sure all competitors would agree.

See you at St. Leonards, Sue Carrick.

**STOP PRESS!**

The results of the 51st SA state champs, sailed at Largs Bay Sailing Club 12-13th March:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 10232 | Flaw Show | Richard Gibson | Therese Nolan |
| 2 | 10279 | Batmobile | Brian Hopping | Aleksander Hopping |
| 3 | 10259 | On and On | Don Rantanen | Bethany Clough |

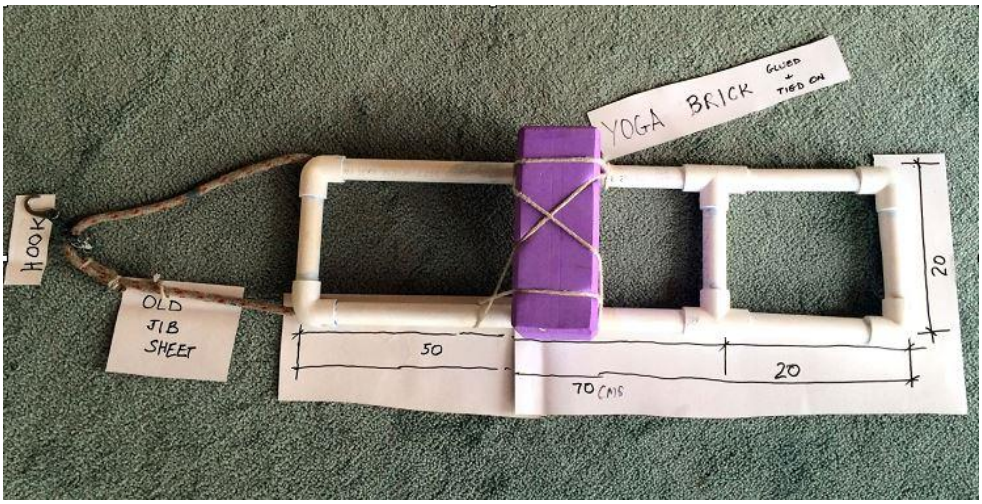
1st Fair Go (Handicap)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8366 | Classic Mess | Paul Townsin | Esteban Cure |

Left: South Australian sailors Peter Nicholson and crew Stephanie Jones. At 80 years Peter is still sailing strongly. Peter created the beautiful trophies for the most recent Nationals.

# Heron Rescue Ladder

Frank (86) and Micky (83) are regular Heron sailors at Middle Harbour, as part of a small fleet of retirees, and are sailing as well as ever. As an experienced sailing couple, capsizes are infrequent. After a recent one, Frank was able to scramble back into the boat with the aid of a “Ted rope”, but Micky was unable to. Micky was eventually rescued by fellow sailor John Veale and all ended well, but we thought that Frank and Micky might be reluctant to join us again on the harbour. Undeterred however, next week they turned up again with a prototype “rescue ladder”. After tests and modifications, a satisfactory design was achieved – as shown below. Feel free to copy should you feel it useful! We are all extremely pleased that they are back and look forward to enjoying their company on and off the water for many more years!



Heron rescue ladder, left, and method of attachment, right. 20mm thin walled pressure water pipe and fittings are used, with an old jib sheet threaded through the pipe before gluing. The ladder weighs .75 kg. A Yoga brick from Clark rubber helps keep the ladder vertical against the side of the dinghy.

## Single Handed Heron Championship

Port Hacking Open Sailing Club recently staged what is believed to be a world first – a Single Handed Heron Sailing Championship – open to all Heron sailors. The race over the standard PHOSC NE course was keenly contested by 8 boats in a good northeasterly breeze. Local sailor Paul Armstrong in Flat Chat was the clear winner, with Peter Connor (Abracadabra) second. Visitor Andrew Nelson (third in Slippery When wet) believes he now has the “local knowledge” that will enable him to be more competitive in next year’s championship. Club members believe that winner Paul Armstrong is entitled to “World Champion” status since no other competition of this description is known. Port Hacking is a great venue, the locals are very friendly, and next year’s competition is keenly awaited.