

December 1984

Mainsheet

RUSSELL BOATING CLUB (INC) NEWSLETTER

It's early December, the month for festivities, and this newsletter is partly to remind members about a busy and interesting few days in the near future: On Saturday 8 December there's the CHRISTMAS PARTY. It's for kids and adults, and starts at 3 pm. Santa will be there, and there'll be a rowing boat race, a meal and a band.

On Sunday 9 December (if you're feeling quite well after the Christmas Party) there's a PICNIC ... Check the Boating Club or the 4-Square on the Strand for the destination and other details.

There has been a further kind donation to the Club: Epiglass has provided eight four-litre tins of E-Type antifouling, eight two-litre tins of White Glasscoat and eight one-litre tins of Goldspar. These prizes are being divided between the first three place-getters of each Epiglass race.

The committee members who were most closely connected with arrangements for the Coastal Classic (Lidgards) want to thank all the members who helped in so many ways during Labour Weekend.

The loan of a microwave oven that weekend proved so helpful that the Club now has its own... (Just like Lion New Zealand). Does Great Pies.

Your author regrets that the last Mainsheet was printed with material on the back that was many months old and to be disregarded. The front side only was to be read. I would like to blame the guy who programmed my Multi-function Touch-screen Daisy Wheel Word Processor ... but alas it has to be the responsibility of your digitally equipped Imperial 55 operator. He hopes there wasn't too much confusion.

The Club can claim an innovator in its ranks. Initial trials of a new high-cut Yankee proved completely successful, with Graham Wright, the inventor, coming home first on Hope in the Russell Hardware Trophy race. The jib was turned the right way up sometime during the race, no doubt to confuse the observers from Hood, North and Willis Sails who were hiding in the ti-tree with powerful binoculars. (Is a Mylar/Kevlar radial head version on the drawing board?). Esprit and Celox were second and third.

Don't be offended if you are asked by the bar staff if you are a fully paid up member. They are volunteers, we now have a fairly large membership and there are many visitors in town. The facilities are for member and their invited guests who are welcome and who should be signed in.

Last weekend saw excellent performances by Russell yachts in the Epiglass series hosted by the Opuia Cruising Club. On Saturday John Grant in California Jack was first on handicap, and on Sunday, first on handicap was Joe Cotton on Celox with Roy Hornell on Macushla second.

There are plans to enhance Small Boat Race nights (alternate Wednesdays see your programme) with video presentations of the racing (so you can see where you went wrong) and possibly there may also be some videos of big boat races.