



## NSW/ACT Laser State Championship 2012

The Titles were conducted at the Canberra Yacht Club (CYC) with Lake Burley Griffin turning on a range of sailing conditions that were both challenging and extremely rewarding for sailors backing their judgement and making the best use of shifts and pressure. Saturday saw an excellent thermal breeze allowing three races for each division with tight mark roundings and actively contested starts.

Sailors travelled from Victoria and all over NSW with 43 Full Rig, 36 Radials and 18 Juniors in the 4.7 Rig. Many radial sailors took the opportunity to jump into a full rig and this paid dividends for Bruce Paine who won the full rig title from CYC followed by Shane Gaddes from Canberra and Rob Lowndes from Middle Harbour in third place. Bruce had excellent pace in the Canberra conditions and showed strong tactical judgement finding the right line of breeze upwind and off wind to score a well deserved win and receive the Laser State title block with names such as Tom Slingsby, Michael Blackburn, Colin Beashel and a history of Who's Who in the Laser class on it. Matthew Owen CYC CEO hopped into a full rig and was pushed around on the start line by some of the juniors he has trained.

The Race Committee and CYC volunteers did an excellent job of running the regatta with the club lawn rigging area easily handling the 97 boats entered.

With the upstairs part of the Club being operated by the Southern Cross Club the Lasers provided the perfect back drop to two weddings; one where the bride arrived on a Harley and parked next to Michael Mills' Performance Sailcraft truck making for multiple photo opportunities.

The radials had a strongly contested fleet with Cam Hooper leading the way followed by the NSWIS Team members Nicholas Connor and Christopher Andersen from Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club. Cassandra Schlimbach from CYC was the lead female helm with Anita Smith in second. Many of the younger sailors in the radials are now preparing for Sail Melbourne and Sail Sydney events.

The racing in the 4.7 rig was tight and closely contested with Shaun Connor winning the series with Brodie Crossman in second and Christopher Phillips in third. Kelsey Hanrahan and Noah Taylor from CYC enjoyed the local conditions with Noah scoring a bullet in race 4.

The talent emerging through the 4.7 and Radials sees the class well positioned for and strong future and CYC looks forward to hosting future regattas.

**by Cam Scott**

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# Commodores Report

The sight of kids and adults learning to sail has been great to see down at the club over the summer period. The numbers that have been through the various programs has certainly been very high. Special thanks are due to all those involved, from those that provide support, instructors and to those providing overall management. Steve Cartwright seems to be almost living down at the club. Getting people out in the fresh air is fantastic and hopefully we will see some continuing on in sailing.

As you may have seen, Emily has decided to pursue her teaching career and has been replaced by Cass Schlimbach as Office Manager. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Emily for her efforts during her time with the club. Please say hello to Cass when next you are in the club.

The Centenary of Canberra celebrations will include a race on the 11th of March. There will also be lots of activities around the lake, with some very unusual acts planned. Our own CEO has been heavily involved in working with the organising committee. So if you can spare the time, come down to the lake, go racing and enjoy the entertainment around the lake afterwards.

For those who may be reviewing some of the key documents on the website you would have noticed that the current Strategic Plan runs to 2013. Which means that the Committee is currently in the process of reviewing the plan with a view to producing a new 3 year plan. The Committee is keen to receive members views in relation to the plan, so if you do have any please talk to a Committee member or send us an email. Remember this is your club.

See you on the water

**Howard**

# From the office

Crazy!! is the word we have used for a description of the last seven weeks. The team at the sailing school are catching their breath after our busiest school holiday period ever. With 298 kids going through our programs and large groups of adults it set the CYC up for a very busy second half of the season.

We have been very pleased with the ACT Government announcement of a grant to help fund the expansion of our Tacker Opti boat fleet which is now up to 21 boats. These boat are fantastic for getting young sailors on the water in a safe and non-overpowered boat which allow the kids to learn to survive (which was the case with most of our learn to sail experiences).

Buoyed Up has exploded and now has 102 kids talking part in weekly programs managed by the CYC and Communities @ Work. We have 5 classes taking part from Palmerston Primary, Ngunnawal Primary, Gilmore Primary School and two classes from Richardson Primary. We are currently involved in a study on the effects of the sailing program on these kids with a group of PHD students from University of Canberra. This should give us all an insight into the educational and behavioural changes these sailing courses have on the kids. We have had some great news that Middle Harbour Yacht Club and Noosa Sailing Club have agreed to take on Buoyed Up and will be starting their programs in Term 2. We are still short on the fundraising side of the program so if your company or you personally wish to assist with funding please go to the front page of our web site and give generously. All donations are tax deductible.

The Laser class has been very active in their coaching program with Stuart Allen and Bruce Paine out most Thursdays passing out their expert knowledge on the newer members of the Laser Fleet. The CYC is very happy to assist with coach boats and rooms for these events, so contact the office if you are interested.

The ACT Youth Championship sponsored by Capital Insurance Brokers was a great and testing event. Whilst I had the great pleasure of watching and attempting to do the results, the best sight was the involvement of our Opti and Tacker Green fleet "racing" right off the CYC Tower with a large group of parents, enjoying the smiles of the kids competing in their first regatta. A big thanks to ( new National 505 Champion crew Daryl Roos ) for coaching the racing Opti's and the multiple parents who assist each week. And Steve Cartwright who somehow manages to do this on top of all the other programs we conduct.

Happy sailing and see you all on the water.

**Regards Matt**

## ACT Youth Championships

The Youths was a very interesting event. A one day regatta, yet very challenging due to the shifts and light winds at points. One moment it is 20 knots, next it's about 5 knots.

It was a good experience and good for all the young Opti kids to jump in and start racing.

Tackers gave it a shot, which was very well done. It was their first race, they haven't ever raced before, and at the age of 7 to 11 to just get out there and start racing is really good.

Cass showed the way with Duncan and myself pushing hard, I won a race on handicap which I was really pleased with.

Tom, Sean, Elise and Amelia all did really well to sail the 3 races, even though it was pretty cool. They all had some really good moments over the regatta.

Sophia did great to win the Toppers, after being convinced to sail by Elise and Amelia! Oliver sailed consistently after doing the Holiday courses, Carly also did well

and was unlucky to damage her sail during the last race. Isabelle kept at it all afternoon and she improved heaps even though she had not sailed during the holidays.

The Optimist division was won well by Reagan, who took out all 4 races, she was challenged by Tegan and Mark who both sailed consistently to take 2nd and 3rd. Flynn and Konrad surprised everyone with their efforts and improved all the tie.

**By Noah**







# Sailing School

This season's holiday courses were a tremendous success, with a number being extended to cope with the demand. Approximately 300 children attended our courses, with over 40 Tackers sailing in one week alone!

Steve Hart has been a terrific asset for the CYC Sailing School, keeping his many assistants cracking through each day of a long hot summer. Be it between total glassouts or storms Steve led the instructors well, while bringing on the ever expanding group.

The instructors did a great job of keeping the kids amused between Tacker games and sailing. They were led most weeks by Kelsey Hanrahan and Dillon McGrath, who had great assistance from a number assistants and splashers.

Currently there are 13 CYC members participating in the Powerboat and Safety Boat Handling course, run by Keir Malpas. I would like to thank Keir for his involvement in the program. There is planning underway for another course, so if interested get in touch with Cassandra in the office.

We now have 21 of the OziOptis (Tacker Optis) in our fleet. All these boats are in action on Saturdays with our Tackers 2 course booked out. We are also running Tackers 1 on Saturday mornings as well as another Tackers 2 on Friday afternoon.

The Sailing School are selling off some of the fleet including a number of Optimists and Spirals so please contact the office if you are interested. We have a range in price from \$700 to \$2500. There are a number of 1 regatta old sails which are also available for \$200.

With over 70 adult graduates already through our Sailing School this year we have a demand for interested crewing opportunities. If you are looking for crew send an email to Cass in the CYC office who is maintaining a crew list.

Due to the demand in adult sailing we have added a Level 2 course to our program so again get in touch with Cass in the office if you are interested ([admin@canberrayachtclub.com.au](mailto:admin@canberrayachtclub.com.au)).

**By Steve Cartwright**





## Australian Youth Champs

On the 6th of January, just a mere two days after the AUS laser championships was the Oamps Australian Youth Championships. There were over 150 entries and the lasers were the biggest fleets with 51 laser 4.7's and 42 laser radials.

The first day of racing was cut short due to strong winds, with the lasers only getting in 2 races. The gusts were exceeding well above 25 knots which was the supposed max wind strength for the regatta, with large chop and races going for around an hour, it was extremely hard work for all the sailors.

With the strong winds predicted for the rest of the regatta the race committee decided to shorten the races somewhat and shorten the time between them.

On the second day of racing the wind was close to a due west which meant the wind was coming over Mt Wellington and the breeze was incredibly shifty and puffy. It was also one of the coldest days all week in Hobart, the sailors were not very keen to hit the water at all, especially after they found out that the apparent wind temperature was only 6 degrees. After launching at 9am the lasers first race was abandoned on the last lap as the work became a reach. So we all went back to the start boat and waited for the race committee to relay the marks, trying our hardest to stay warm and not cramp up.

The third and fourth day of racing was once again windy, although we had a southerly breeze come

through, which meant swell as well, so it was very challenging with the big chop, swell and tide. Many people retired from racing that day, however, the race committee needed races to get the series in so they did not abandon the racing.

Overall the CYC kids did an incredible job sailing, especially after just competing in the laser nationals the week before hand in the same conditions. In the Radial fleet Cassandra Finished 29th out of 42 entries and the 7th girl, amongst the 4.7 fleet the Canberra kids did well with Elizabeth finishing 45th and Christopher finishing 40th, an amazing effort on all the Canberra kids part.

**By Cass**





# Spiral Nationals

The 2013 Spiral Nationals was a really good event besides the wind factor, which was a challenge for sailors and the Race Officer.

The back to back racing had intense mark roundings, and the competitive racing was clean and fair. Coming out of that regatta I felt like I had given my best shot.

Chris Eddes completed his back to back Nationals win with a dominating final race. He showed by being near the leaders in most races, his final score would be enough to take the title. Although challenged by the light air races, Chris was always working the Rogue Racer.

For Elise, Sean and Jordan, it was a great experience to attend their first National Title on home waters. They learnt a lot, but importantly had a great time.

Cass, Kelsey and I also enjoyed a more relaxed regatta than usual, and it was great to be able to return to the comfort of home each night.

The CYC members put in an amazing effort to keep us fed and hydrated, and did really well to get the series completed over a challenging 3 days.

**by Noah**



## Flying Fifteen Nationals

After Andrew and I competed at the last Flying Fifteen worlds in England we made plans to use what we learnt in building a campaign for the next worlds in Hong Kong in October/November 2013. To qualify for the Australian team we needed to have a result in the top seven at the national titles at Davey's Bay on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria. Andrew and I looked at our old warhorse "Form 3020" and knew it would be a big ask of the old girl to be competitive in the Port Phillip Bay chop. She is a rocketship on flat water but her older fatter design and flat keel would make it hard for us to make the Aussie team.

Enter Steve Langland who very generously offered his boat which was a modern design and lightly used. We only used Steve's hull as we took our mast, boom and sails.

We had quite a bit of work to set the boat up to our rig settings including removing the mainsheet traveller, associated ropes and pulleys and installing end boom sheeting which is the norm of the class. Unfortunately I was flat out at work so Reedy did an amazing amount of work setting

the rig up to the very important tuning guides. The problem we have in Canberra is an inability to accurately speed test the boat in the changing wind so we had our tuning partners and all round good sailors Adam Hawkins and Ben Jones ready for two days of sailing before the nationals started.

We used these days like gold as we did some serious sailing getting the ship up to speed, we felt on the pace in the windy breeze but we had a heap of work in the lighter sloppy waves (not much change of training for that in

Canberra!!!!)

The regatta started very well for us with a 2nd in a windy invitation race!! Then the wheels fell off for the first race. We had a shocker first beat but battled back to an 11th. Good to get your drop over and done early! A 5th in the second race that day got us back in the hunt.

There were some big shifts on the race course and unfortunately for us some very talented sailors in the fleet add 38c each day it was a tough playground. We were struggling for speed in the light to medium breeze.

After powering up the mast we started to plug in some good keeper scores in the top 5, despite breaking the tiller, which dragged us up the ladder to 4th going into the last day.

We smashed the fleet and won the first race. To bring us down to earth, after savagely overlaying the top mark we rounded with 4 boats behind us. We enjoyed the high winds and massive seas to get back to 11th. With those results we lifted up to 3rd overall which we were very, very happy with as our goal was top 6.

Could we have won? Unfortunately for us no, Andrew and I did not sail at our normal level, good starts, bad first beats. With a new boat we struggled to be comfortable/ fast in the light choppy conditions and spent too much time with our heads in the boat. Did we have fun? A big yes, great fun regatta.

Big thankyou to the Davey's Bay club members who put in a huge effort.

Bring on Honkers!

**Regards Matt & Reedy**





# Sydney to Hobart

**Yet again the Canberra Yacht Club was well represented in the 68th Sydney to Hobart, with a number of CYC sailors participating in the racing.**

I was lucky enough to join the eight strong crew on the only ACT registered boat, CIC Technology Inca, which again made its biannual pilgrimage South. It was a tough race with the majority of sailing in upwind conditions. After some minor sail damage off the NSW coast (fixed with some metal strap and bolts) the unpredictable weather finally blew the genoa in half. We had only just rounded Tasman Island and then spent the next 16 hours sailing through Storm Bay and up the Derwent River (with only what could be described as a handkerchief sized storm jib).

The end of our race was capped off with a fireworks display for New Years Eve as we crossed the finish line. Due to the sail damage we ended up last in the division but could be happy with the achievement of making it across the line. Congratulations to our very own CYC member Grish Stromonov who skippered Local hero achieving third place in their division and winning the Battery Point Trophy for first small boat to Hobart.

**by Robin Malpas**

# Member Services Group (MSG ) upcoming events

**2013**

Wednesday 20 March – End of Twilight BBQ

Sunday 14 April – America's Mug - Hot Dogs

Saturday 18 May – Presentation Dinner

**Sara Kennedy**

Rear Commodore Member Services

## RESULTS PROCESS

**We are sure that you will all agree that Jenn Nielsen has done an amazing job of tirelessly producing the clubs racing results over the years and we are very sad to see her go.**

With Jenn leaving, the Committee has been undertaking rigorous results training and will look to implement a procedure for managing results which will be trialled over the Winter Series.

We ask that members bear with us as we bed down the process. Thanks again Jenn



Photo: CIC Technology in Sydney to Hobart 2012



# Nominations for the CYC 2012–13 Major Awards

Members are asked to consider making nominations for the major Club Awards to be presented at the CYC presentation dinner on 18 May 2013. Without nominations from members it's possible that very worthy recipients may not be considered – the Committee does not see all!

We ask that you closely consider the criteria of the award being proposed (see below) and that nominations cover each of these and be a minimum of 100 words.

**Nominations may be submitted by email to [matt.owen@canberrayachtclub.com.au](mailto:matt.owen@canberrayachtclub.com.au), posted to the CYC at PO Box 7169 Yarralumla 2600, or dropped in to the CYC office.**

**Close of Nominations is 5pm Friday 26th April 2013 at the CYC office.**

*Please note the junior awards are allocated by the Sailing School.*

## Yachtsman of the Year

This is based on performance in International/national and State events, performance in Club events, performance in the current season, contribution to the general sailing activities of the Club, sportsmanship, leadership qualities and outstanding seamanship.

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## Crew of the Year

This is awarded for reliability, seamanship, tactical ability, enthusiasm, contributions to the general sailing activities of the

Club, participation in Club events other than sailing events.

## Most Improved Senior Skipper

This is based on performance during the current season but with consideration of previous years performance as well as willingness to travel to State or National events to increase experience and ability.

## Club Member of the Year

It is awarded for a special contribution to the activities and objectives of the Club either in the current year or over a number of years.

## The Family Trophy

It is awarded for a special contribution of a family to the activities and objectives of the Club either in the current year or over a number of years.









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Designed by Angela Cumming

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