

Hit the Mark!



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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN J24 ASSOCIATION

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From the Editor...

"I try to leave out the parts that people skip". So said Elmore Leonard when asked about writing. A philosophy that I will be adopting in my tenure as the editor of your new Vic J24 Newsletter, *'Hit the Mark!'*. The objective of this e-letter is news, information and fun delivered in a light hearted and sometimes irreverent way... don't worry, your granny could read it and not be offended!!

I am told that the lifeblood of any publication is its interaction with its readers. Holding that thought, I ask you to send in my direction ideas, articles, tips, funnies, photographs, letters, moans, aches, pains, complaints and suggestions. Don't let your writing skills stand in the way... there's a team of two hundred hacks here at the news and features desk that will craft your utterances into a form that would credit any wordsmith. (Word documents please!)

Please note that I will be writing very much in the first person, as it is after all, a letter, of sorts! So, without any further ado and without telling you that before now I have never edited so much as a postcard, I shall ask you, fellow J lover, to enjoy what follows.

Before I sign off... thanks to Sarah Thompson for proof reading, content check and ideas and also to Peter Holmes of Iguana Design, who sails on *Crackerjack*, for the layout and design.

Doug MacGregor

Editor

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J24 Winter Series!!!

No more coital shenanigans of a Sunday morning... sailing here we come!! J24 Winter Series starts Sunday 20th June and then every second Sunday thereafter providing a total of eight race days. First race is at 1000hrs. Most probably it'll be self starts but I hear there is a chance we that we may have a start boat, though negotiations are still being held with a SYC boat owner and the SB3 Association. Either way, we are back on the water folks!

Return of the Winter Socials

Put down your 'long dark evenings' knitting project!!! Yes, by popular demands these social events are back. Three are planned... two of which will involve guest speakers and food provided by the Vic Association. The best news is that one of them is going to be a celebration in the form of a fund raiser for *Hyperactive* and *Vice Versa* World Championship crews... I am told music and dancing will ensue together with raffles for some very exciting prizes.

Partners and friends, cats and dogs, vicars and tarts, skippers and crew all are welcome!!

Please note it starts at 1pm, yes 1300 hours! See the details below and stick 'em all in your diary, iPhone, Blackberry, Blueberry, Chuck Berry (that's the latest kind), your purse, your wallet... carve these 'not to be missed' dates on the back of your hand with a rusty pen knife if you have to. Be there!

Winter Socials Dates

Thursday, 17th June

Michael Lewenhagen's place at 63 Park Street, St Kilda West. 7pm. Food provided, BYO grog. Guest Speaker... Dave Suda (No kids allowed).

Saturday 3rd July

OTB at SYC, 1pm, \$10 BBQ, BYO grog, fund raiser for *Hyperactive* and *Vice Versa*.

Date for the third J social to be confirmed.

World Championships Sweden

13th-20th August 2010

Abba, Volvo, Abba, Volvo, Abba, Volvo, meatballs, our very own Michael Lewenhagen and the midnight sun... no wonder J World is flocking to Sweden! *Hyperactive*, led by Robyn Coombs, and *Vice Versa*, led by Hugo Ottaway are our reps. It is a huge undertaking to compete in a World Championship and it really is the most exciting thing happening for the class in Victoria. I asked Robyn and Hugo for a brief run down on their challenges to date. However... they were too busy!! As mentioned (twice!!) elsewhere in this newsletter there is a fund raising event on Saturday, 3rd July.

Important dates

May 31st	Committee meeting
June 17th	J night at Michael's
June 20th	First J24 Winter Series
July 3rd	Fund raiser/Party BBQ, OTB at SYC
July 4th	Second J24 Winters Series



The Definitive J24 must... repeat, must, have it on board list

Cat and dog. Chalk and cheese. Black and white. Men and women. Venus and Mars.

There's been so many conflicting ideas around what must be on board a J24 that I asked Mark Houghton, one of our Vic measurers, to pull together the definitive list for what we in the J's should be complying with. This does not include optional equipment. It is a combination of Cat 6, what the local water authorities demand and the J24 rules.. (2, yes 2(!!!) fire extinguishers... did you know that?).

Watch this space in the July Newsletter for the A-Z of 'must haves'.

'Or... there's Scott Salisbury'

WTF... Who's boat is that??!

The men with smiles like a Cheshire cats and the gaits of a proud new fathers are Warren Campbell and his co-owner Brad Cahill. They've been sailing for 18 months and 2 months respectively. Warren has been crewing with Tommo (*Kicking Bottom*) for a season. Warren and Brad managed to get the boat here from Adelaide with the help of Peter Stevens, from SA, who delivered it in time for the Vic States and raced it with the now infamous Janette Syme—Tommo's (very tall) sister—at the helm. If I can be so bold as to speak for all of the J's... let's hope the lads change the name! Meantime a slap on the back and a 'well done and welcome' is due to both owners... so don't be shy!



Membership

"I wouldn't join any club that would have me as a member"

Groucho Marx really had a point when he said that... but did he sail Js? I think not! So here is some very important news. All crew sailing in SYC events (which excludes our self starts) must be fully paid members of Yachting Australia and also the Australian J24 Association. Day passes, available at SYC, will meet this regulation. Boat owners will be required to sign a declaration that everyone on board meets those conditions. Failure to provide such a document or failure to make certain all on board are members, and in effect insured, means your boat will be ruled DNS. Did not start... there will be tears!!! There are moves afoot to include these membership conditions in the NOR, so stay awake!

The options are... join Sandringham YC (why wouldn't you!?!), join ORCV or buy a day pass every time there's a regatta or an ODR... and ensure your J24 membership is paid also. Looks like no pay, no play to me!!

FYI: The membership year has been altered and will now run from 1st October to 30th September each year.

Just before you bite that biscuit!!

The One Design Sprints for the coming season will see a stricter regime... crews will be weighed on each of the race days!! Jenny Craig's number is easily Googled for any of you struggling!!...

J is for Joke... or J Quote

"Once you start, you just can't stop"...

"No mate, you can't!!"... Jack Crawford and Gus McKechnie at The Asia Pacifics in Adelaide last year... they were talking about... wait for this... shaving their legs! (don't ask!!)

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