



COBRA NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2005



TRAVEL SERIES DATES

Saturday	29 October	Rose festival, Lake Mokoan
Sunday	13 November	Port Arlington
To Be Advised.....		To Be Advised
Monday	5 June Queens Birthday weekend	Sauna Sail

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Finally the season has started, the winter blues are over and its back to our favourite sport!!! What's been happening over the hibernation period?

Well the sauna sail has come and gone (see full report), some of us have sailed at Port Arlington to check out the views, both lease boats have gone to new sailors and everyone is trying to give the incumbent champ' a hard time.

This season we are trying to revive the traveller series with four competitions in various parts of Victoria over the season. We are doing this to raise the profile of the cobras through the state and to give us a more varied season. It would be great to see all cobra sailors supporting this initiative, everyone's welcome more details later.

Nationals organization is well under way with all state's cobra and stingray owners notified! We are sharing the finals with the VS Association, (some will remember the VS Nationals at spears point a couple of years ago). If you haven't already done so, get the dates into your diary Dec 31 to Jan 6 and get your boat in top tune. For those who have not sailed a national series, it is a great opportunity to compare and learn. You learn more in one

week than in a whole season of sailing, and the nationals are open to all levels or experience and ability.

Entry forms available on our website, our class boats are already on the water. Welcome to John Ornsby and Andrew Dixon with their perspective crews. Please make sure they get their share of the famous cobra friendship. Mike has sold his boat but is continuing as our development officer, David has a new sail that looks promising, Rick has his own fleet, Nick is a fireman, Colin is still trying to decide wether he is a sailor or an environmental lout. Mal has finally decided to use one sail, Derek and Pete are going to fix their boats in time for the season (sic), Glenn John and Wes are ready to work their way into the winners circle, Will has (temporarily, we hope) dipped below the radar, Stan has continued to be the best secretary possible and I am now eligible to win the super masters trophy!

Good luck and good sailing in the coming season and remember, as Confucius said, "If your head is always lower than the top of your mast, your not trying hard enough."

Cheers Laurie.

First you'll need to fill in a subscription form if you haven't already done one. You can do this by clicking on this link to VCCA web page, <http://www.cobracat.com>.

Also look at Marine Safety Vic, <http://www.marinesafety.vic.gov.au> with regard to the new rules about small craft that Stan has Emailed to us.

Tune in to the yachting Victoria radio station SEN 1116 at 1116 on the AM dial at 755 am every Saturday morning

For the Notice Of Race for the Nationals click here

http://stanblaz.customer.netspace.net.au/rose_festival_regatta_nor.pdf

Now for some reports on social activities etc...

SAUNA SAIL

This time next year, if your feeling bored as winter approaches and the next sailing season seems, so far away, consider taking your boat, friends and camping gear to the Hazelwood pondage for the annual Queens birthday sauna sail.

This year, Mal, Colin and the Badrocks, (briefly) headed for the Latrobe valley to try our skills against a large facet (130 boats) in the tropical warm waters of the pondage.

Now I have to admit that camping at this time of year is not to everyone's liking, but the LBYC organisers provide a huge camping area next to the lake with provisions for campfires (BYO wood) and excellent warm food from their canteen.

As for the racing, we show them how good cobras are with placings in every race. Laurie won division two overall with consistent results throughout the series. Colin came in close behind with Mal uncharacteristically further back. (He had to operate without a crew, as did we all, and I am avoiding drawing any conclusions from this fact.) David was struck down by the dreaded lurgy and could only cope with one day of the competition before heading back to town.

What did we get from all of this?
A good fun weekend built around our favourite sport
More sailing
Exposure for the cobra class...it was great to see the level of interest the cobras generated,

especially when we placed ahead of a vast group of different cats.

A chance to meet and socialise (especially Colin) with other yachties, to swap ideas and check out new go fast gear.

A new set of mugs/glasses

A discovery...the commodore of Latrobe valley yacht club sails a cobra!!

So if you can spare the time away from your busy life next Q.B weekend, come to Hazelwood, learn how to race in a fleet of 130 boats when you literally can't see any of them, show the world how good cobras are and generally have a great time (provided it doesn't rain). In Dipper's words,

"Be there"!



COBRA SOCIAL LIFE

The Cobra presentation day this year was held at Julie and Mal' Winders place. A big thank you to both of you for allowing us to have the presentation lunch at your home. A very special thanks to Julie for putting together a wonderful lunch for us all. The presentation itself went off without a hitch. Congratulations and well done to all of our season's winners. Following the Presentation lunch we all head off to Keysborough mini golf centre where we all had a bit of fun trying to be like professional golfers! (NOT). Good to see the competitive nature of the Cobras' hasn't slipped yet. I do believe that some of us who shall not be named (Kim and oh yeah Colin

and a few others) were up to the usual tricks of fudging the figures somewhat. Nothing ever changes! All the kids had a ball, Cobras' had a ball and that is all that matters. A really fun day!



On August the 7th Colin Orchard ran a wonderfully interesting and very entertaining car rally. The weather was pretty ordinary but Colin managed to make up for this with ample poetic license scaring the BEEP out of small children on a trek through the Aussie bush. Thank you to Colin for a fun afternoon and for all the hard work and organization that goes with running such a successful rally. Due to inclement weather we all returned to the Thornhills place for a BBQ in more comfortable surroundings and continued on there for the afternoon. Thank you to Derek and Gaye for the use of their home at such short notice it was most appreciated. For those who

did not venture out for the rally you missed a seriously fun entertaining afternoon. Dave and Lisa Badrock and family ended up coming first by about .5 of a point. Very close indeed. Well done and congratulations to us. Hip ray, hip ray, hip ray.(He He!)

Unfortunately the planned winery tour in early September did not take place due to waning interest and spiraling costs. Sorry to all those who were looking forward to this but we will try again next season hopefully with more success.

Instead of the tour a number of Cobra sailors went to Jimmys' Singapore Café in Warrandyte for a pre season get together. The food selection was some Thai with a bit of Western thrown in, very affordable and very nice indeed. A lovely quiet social night was had by all with a lot of talk and banter about the new season looming. Anyway enough from me see you all down at Parkdale Yacht Club for 2005/2006 season. Be there or be square. Catch Ya

Lisa Badrock

COBRA SKIPPER PROFILE

Colin ORCHARD

OCCUPATION: Scenery builder 25 years

TRAVEL: England Tassie

INTEREST AND ACTIVITIES: Sailing 4 wheel driving Dressing up

FAVORITE MOVIE: Secret cabinet of doctor Caligary

1st PART OF NEWSPAPER YOU READ: Don't have time. Might Look at the local front page on the way to the recycle Bin.

SUPER POWER OF CHOICE: Able to babble endlessly

BEST ADVICE EVER GIVEN: Don't buy a boat from Mal

COLIN ORCHARD: Arguably the clubs most eligible bachelor



Pictured above is Colin in his Witch outfit, giving directions for our annual mud puddle car rally. And on that note, stay tuned for hints on next year's rally in future newsletters.

**...stop press for urgent message
deadline for national fees subs at early bird rates is 14th Nov (\$240)**

COBRA CLASSIFIEDS:

(If you have that unwanted something, that old boat, a wetsuit that fit really well last season, or want that go fast gadget or something then place your ad' here in the Cobra Classifieds!)

Only one ad' this month but keep in mind, any boat sold on our VCCA web page, <http://www.cobracat.com> gets:

One full seasons membership of Parkdale Yacht club FREE
One seasons affiliation costs with Yachting Victoria FREE
One seasons membership of the Victorian Catamaran Association FREE

WANTED

W A N T E D

Has anybody seen Wil?

R E W A R D

(Contact Laurie)

Editors note:

see you on the wet stuff,
Nick