



fortissimo

The quarterly newsletter of
Flying Fifteen International - Victoria Incorporated

Registered in Victoria A0023907L

President's Report

April 2005

It's just as well Fifteens are sailed around the state, the country and the world – if it were only on Port Phillip Bay there would be very little to talk about this year! I cannot remember a season with as many lost race days – and races in light, flukey zephyrs. I'm looking forward to next season already.

Our State Championships were no exception, with large 'holes' mysteriously appearing and disappearing around the course. But as always, the sailing and hospitality were enjoyable at Gippsland Lakes, and the fleet of 30 boats showed the class continues to be well supported. It was also great to have visitors from SA and the ACT adding to fleet and the competition.

There was an air of inevitability about Bill Shand taking the title, but not without some close racing. Clive Arnold took home the Classic title to Adelaide, and GLYC won the teams event on a countback. Thanks to the GLYC folks for putting the regatta and social functions together so well.

At the AGM the current executive were re-elected, with the exception of Mike O'Connor, who did not stand. Thanks for your support again, and we will keep working at growing the class. We need a new Treasurer/Membership person (or people), and would like some 'volunteers' to step up. Please think about helping, because it's not much work and a lot of fun.

Important issues raised at the AGM included the Victorian fleet agreeing to take on FFIA management from next January, so again we need some people to put their hand up. With two Nationals and the Worlds here over the next four years, it is an important time for Victorian Fifteens and makes sense for the national body to be based here.

The Travellers Series has been abandoned due to lack of interest; the committee is tasked with creating a new event worthy of the Ossie McCutcheon trophy, and there will be more on that soon.

Venues for state titles, and the method of choosing was a hot topic. Mordialloc will be our hosts next season, and the Committee has been asked to introduce a rotation system that allows all **ff** clubs the opportunity to run the event.

And there's more..... the Docklands event received great support and will be on Sunday May 15. Looks like as many as 30 boats could be there, which will be a wonderful promotion for Fifteens. The regatta will be run off North Wharf at Victoria Harbour, with the course going up to New Quay. If you are not sailing, come along and support your club.

Yardsticks, and the use of were debated, with the outcome being a new trophy from next year for the State yardstick champion. It will be interesting to see how it works.

World Titles. It's been a bit of a secret, but the Worlds in Auckland were won by Nick and Janet Jerwood, a fantastic effort in a big fleet and very light weather.

National Titles. Late breaking news is that the Classic result has been changed by the regatta committee, and none other than the intrepid Les Kearney/Reagan Burden Bear Duo have been awarded the chocolates. That's back to back wins. Well done!

Sandy Boat Show. We put the Fifteen on display at this sailboat show, and thanks to all that helped, particularly Michael Harrison for making the display panels, and Brian Carroll for lending his boat. A lot of interest, a few tyre kickers, but a good way to keep the boat in front of sailing people, and a good long-term strategy.

With the season almost over, its time to plan for bigger, better regattas next season. But first, I'll see you at the Docklands.

Doug Bell
Lean & Mean



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Cairn Curran Sailing Club Report

There was considerable anticipation at Cairn Curran, as a fleet of four boats was going to the state titles. The team reflected the broad spectrum that is the Cairn Curran fleet. Alan Carson and Tim Dean arrived with a brand new boat (the plastic fantastic) and just managed to get it measured and registered the day before the titles started. However the budget suffered a financial blow out even greater than that of Spencer Street Station, such that the boat could not be named and Alan could only afford to have the "3" of the four digits on the sail. Darren Carson and Michael Monk teamed together on Alan's Mark 1 "Reliance VI" to provide a high level of enthusiasm on a fairly quick Classic boat. Andrew Pollard and Mike McCartney were fine tuning "The Duff" and renewing their Flying Fifteen days after a somewhat sordid flirtation with a Flying Dutchman and they had several very competitive races with Alan and Tim in "Reliance VI". Chris Weight remembered the last regatta at Paynesville, which happened to be his first, where it blew solidly for a week. So he enlisted the services of brother Tim, a local from Paynesville and Eagle Point. Bob Beard was heard to utter: "You will be hoping for winds in excess of 20 knots I imagine." Chris and Tim took great umbrage at such a statement, one that they greatly resemble (I mean resent). The last time Tim raced was with Chris in the late seventies in a Gwen 12, so a very steep learning curve was needed. It was his first sail in a Fifteen and he was instantly enamoured with the class. So GLYC, you have an opportunity to sharpen your persuasive skills. It was a pity that the prevailing winds did not allow the boat to plane on the reaches. The team stayed at Tim Weight's and all had a great time talking, eating, drinking and dreaming sailing. Thank you for the hospitality, Tim and Jayne.

The Cairn Curran team was reduced to three when Andrew Pollard had to pull out at the last minute. This was a bitter disappointment as he and Mike McCartney had spent considerable time preparing the boat and it was ready to go. Alan Carson and Tim Dean in "No Name" or is it "Plain Wrap" came ninth overall and were very pleased, especially as the boat was not tuned prior to the regatta. Michael Monk and Darren Carson in "Reliance VI" were consistent in the mid twenties and Chris and Tim Weight in "Force Five" would have done considerably better if the fool of a skipper had remembered to sign on for the first two races.

As a little aside many may remember that "Force Five" had a timber deck that was always in pretty good nick, but that the hull, keel and rudder looked as if they had encountered many a submerged object and the hull looked like a

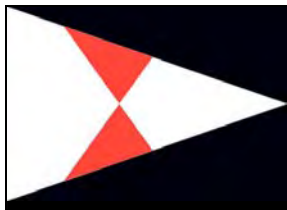
white shirt that had gone very grey with age and no matter how hard you scrubbed the stains would not disappear. Well, a greater wife hath no man than she (Mary-Louise Weight) who will think of arranging for Craig Ginnivan to reglass the keel and rudder and clean up the hull and respray it and arrange for the sign writing and instil the enthusiasm into Craig and Alan Carson (who helped with the preparation and delayed the completion of his new boat) to achieve all of the above within one week as a surprise 50th birthday present.

Flying Fifteen sailing has slowed somewhat at Cairn Curran since the state titles. The lake is dropping quickly as Goulburn Murray Water think that tomato growers, dairies and other irrigators downstream have priority. I suppose if it were not for those industries we would not have a lake at all. "Fast Forward" struck a rock in Woolshed Bay and damaged her keel, several trees are emerging from the water and there have been some close calls with large submerged objects. The old homestead is again high and dry. We have had enough of the history lesson and wish for it to become as Atlantis again.

Some of us have been travelling; "Force Five" went to Lake Boga at Easter, only Fifteen present. As James Weight has gone to the Northern Territory a'droving and we don't know where he are (apologies to A. B. Paterson) I had Nick Weight aged eleven as crew and helm as the situation warranted and we had a most enjoyable regatta albeit in light winds. We moored the boat rather than retrieve it each evening. It looked a picture of elegance silhouetted in the full moon, a good advertisement for the class. Andrew and Mike have taken "The Duff" to Yarrawonga for ANZAC Regatta.

Cairn Curran will enter a team in the Docklands Challenge as a last hurrah for the season. To say more would remove the element of surprise.

Chris Weight
"Force Five" 1682



Davey's Bay Yacht Club Report



Apollo Bay Sailing Club Report

What a frustrating season it has been. I cannot remember so many days of light winds. We lost about 9 days out of 25 at Davey's Bay and when you consider we had light winds at the States and Nationals (apart from the glorious last day). I have forgotten what it is like to plane down a nice one metre swell – let's hope next season brings better winds.

Our fleet has slowly grown over the season and we had 10 boats on the start line for the last race. Richard Bath (an ex Fireball sailor) managed the last couple of races, crewed by his son Toby, hopefully we will see more of them next season.

Since the last issue we have managed to sail all of our trophy races, although the series races will be determined on the minimum this year.

The Davey's Bay Cup was won by Alasdair & Tracy West in 2988 Forever Fifteen, they then went and added the Easter Cup to their sideboard.

The Commodore's Cup was won by Hardy Juraschek and Greg Foster in 2909 O'Kaye.

The Club Championship – the Arthur Peck Memorial Trophy, was won by Athol Lidgett, mostly crewed by John Pollock in 3669 Oomps. They sailed consistently all season and are deserving winners, second was City Lights and Watches of Switzerland was third.

The Stonewall Trophy for the handicap series run concurrently with the Arthur Peck was won by Michael Clark in City Lights frequently crewed by Adam Hicks, Chris Mason & Mike Oxley were second in Watches of Switzerland and Forever Fifteen was third.

The Autumn Aggregate was won by City Lights with Richard Bath in Sam II second and Michael Harrison and Cameron Taylor in Tis Irish Luck third. On handicap Tis Irish Luck came out best with City Lights second and Sam II third.

Athol Lidgett had a lucky escape as he broke the stainless plate that holds the jib furler and thus the whole rig, as it was only blowing 5 knots they managed to avoid any further damage to the boat or mast.

DBYC is looking forward to hosting the Teams Racing in Docklands, we believe this will be a fun event and anticipate having two teams racing in Victoria Harbour.

Michael Clark
City Lights

Apollo Bay has averaged 3-4 fifteens on the water each week in what has been a light weather season. Only just enough races to constitute a Club Championship Series and the weather is not totally to blame for this. A bad run of rescue boat stuff ups has left 2 of the club champs ruled as invalid.

Anyone who has ever sailed one of our club races would know the drill in Apollo Bay. After every race we gather around the 'ff esky' and give out the 'Apollo Bay You Idiot Award'. This generally goes to some poor sailor who has made some stupid mistake that has maximum embarrassment and entertainment. Like a few weeks ago when Dougy (Miss Molly's crew) put the spinnaker pole aft of the shroud and snapped the pole. He didn't get the award that time but he did when he repeated his efforts the week after. The 'You Idiot' award has twice been awarded to the Officers of the Day! Carnage and Pete Depps being the idiots. Carnage succeeded in confusing the entire fleet with his semaphore skills whilst Pete Depps started a second race before all the fleet had finished the first.

Apollo Bay is looking forward to coming to town to play at Docklands. Madeline and I will also compete in the Womens Keel Boat Regatta in June this year. Brrrrrrr.

Lisa Deppeler
Black Pearl



Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club Report

The "Weather-Gods" smiled on GLYC during the weekend of the 12th and 13th of March for the Victorian Flying Fifteen titles at the Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club. We had sunny weather and despite some light winds we were able to complete the five race series. The start lines were well laid and despite the shifty wind conditions the marks were well placed. Launching the 32 boat fleet went smoothly. Everyone enjoyed the social events put on by the club and the BBQ and presentation nights were well attended. GLYC was well represented in the titles by a fleet of seven boats.

The first day of racing started at 1:00 pm in light to moderate wind conditions. The fleet was off the line in both races without any recalls which was quite surprising. Throughout the first race the fleet was close together with the top five boats opening a lead about half way though the course with Bill Shand being the eventual winner. For the second race of the day the wind started to pick up but soon dropped back to light to moderate conditions. Again Bill Shand and David Parish kept a strong grip at the front of the fleet crossing first. The race was followed by a sumptuous BBQ. As usual the club put on a great meal and the atmosphere was very friendly with much banter about the race.

Sunday's races were to start at 10:00 am but the lake was like glass and there was no wind to be seen. One postponement followed another until at last a light wind began to fill in from different directions and finally settled in the south east between 5-10 knots. A closely contested race ended with Bill & David taking out another first. The fourth race of the series started in good wind conditions and David Williamson with Craig Morton who had always been a close contender for Bill Shand took out the first position. The last race of the series was raced in diminishing wind conditions that

proved very tricky. At the final mark of the course the wind dropped out which made finishing the race hard work for everyone. It was about 6:00 pm by the time all the boats got in. With the presentation dinner set for 7:30 it was time to pack up the boats, clean up and get seated for the presentation dinner! The final overall results were Bill Shand and David Parish first, David Williamson and Craig Morton second and Brian Carroll with Phil Parish third. It was great to see Bill and David receive the trophy for winning the titles and the first win at the Victorian titles in 15 years, well done guys.

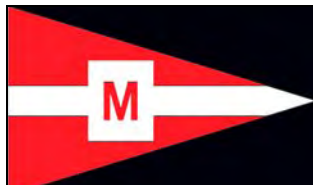
Clive Arnold made the trek from Adelaide with his old Mk 1 2251 liffy and brought Graham Giles from Canberra as crew (obviously devoted "pot hunters"), who managed to justify the trip by taking the Classic prize from Paul Woodman & Simon Youl in 1401 MAG. Reagan Burdon Bear & Maddy Deppeler didn't settle into Lock n Load as well as expected but still managed third.

We have had a new addition to our fleet with Fred Steinkellner buying White Pointer and Brendan and Terrie Pembertin buying Fed's Folly. It is great to have new boats join us and we are hopping for another addition next season. After the titles our fleet numbers have been a bit down with Craig and Ian Rainey in New Zealand doing the World titles and other sailors busy off the water. Congratulations to Craig and Ian placing in the 30's in New Zealand in light winds and unfamiliar sailing conditions. As for most of Victoria the sailing conditions in March and April have been in mostly light conditions and we are all hoping for a bit of wind in the coming weeks.

Jim Callahan
F'nF

The first leg on Saturday





Mordialloc Sailing Club Report

1. State Titles Update:

Mike O'Connor seems to be able to open every newsletter – we always thought his boat was fast, but 63km/h in Stratford (with the mast down) is really quick, but it's true – he's got a photo to prove it.

Who saw those sneaky motorcycle cops on unmarked sports bikes? – Gleason apparently did – just in time!

Otherwise the State Titles were great in almost all respects, and what a fabulous venue. Bob Beard offered for Greg Gleason to meet his sister (I hate it when people mix Gleason & I up) Greg's response – "Don't worry Bob – I brought my own". Jokes aside, GLYC gets the nod for a very well run series.

Loved Dave & Craig getting out the tuning guide on Sunday morning – if they'd got it out on Saturday morning, would they have come first?

Yahoo for Greg & Chris who found, to their horror, that they'd stepped their mast in the wrong mast step gate. It was rectified on Saturday evening, but the boat actually went worse on Sunday – go figure???

2. Club Scuttlebutt:

Make that 16 boats at Mordy, fellahs!! Firstly, I can't count (it was 15 last time), and there's been yet another – the old Pyffo – she may well be gracing the club on a regular basis.

A number of people talking about upgrading, too. More later.....

Rumour has it that twin rocket launchers will appear on Slytly Ffirmer – only problem is that the plans Dave is using make lunar travel look simple. According to Dave "it'll work, Gunwhale Bum, it'll work". We'll see, Dave.

Applications are being sought for FF sailors to join an anti green boat society – with Fizz, Slytly Ffirmer and Supertoy Plays all sporting the "green boats go fast" look, the rest of the Mordy fleet are chanting "green boats go home."

Plans are already under way to host the next State Titles here at Mordy – if we go back to a rotational system, it'll be our last chance for 10 years, so we're making the most of it. Gates at the club to be locked as soon as everyone arrives, we'll have a 5000% mark up on all food and drink sold at the Club, plus a \$200 per boat departure tax at the conclusion of the series. If little Johnnie can do it, why can't we?

3. Progressive Results:

The results table is a bit misleading - with no drops taken into consideration, some average points to be adjusted, the results table might look quite different by season end. I can hardly wait.....

Standings are as follows:

	Aggregate	Championship	Perpetual
1	Fflagship Gleason/Flack	Fflagship Gleason/Flack	Supertoy Plays Carroll/Parish
2	Supertoy Plays Carroll/Parish	Supertoy Plays Carroll/Parish	Fflagship Gleason/Flack
3	Turning Vehicle P & S Smith	Turning Vehicle P & S Smith	Miss Behavin Signorini/Various
4	Miss Behavin Signorini/Various	Miss Behavin Signorini/Various	15 Carat Vandestadt/Prendergast
5	15 Carat Vandestadt/Prendergast	15 Carat Vandestadt/Prendergast	Fizz Carew/Collings

Till next time – good sailing
Gunwhale Bum

Mordy Sailing Club Roving Correspondent



Mornington Yacht Club Report



Royal Brighton Yacht Club Report

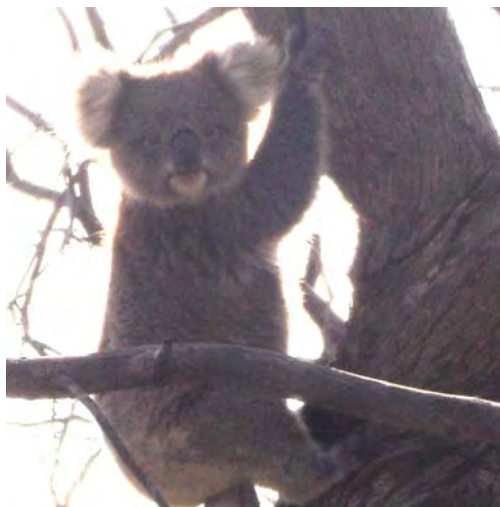
I'm sure there is a word I can use to describe the frustration of sailing at Mornington this season, but it doesn't come readily to mind. Perhaps forgettable would be the best I can do.

We have finally had a few Championship races, and Finnigan has shown her true colours, not to mention a new mast and sails, to put together three straight wins and looks like taking the title again. The handicap series is wide open, and newcomer Roland Joseffson, with old hand Joe Etherson helming just might steal the prize.

With such a dismal end, we can only look forward to next season, and we expect Joe to be back in another boat (it's the worst case of post-sale depression I have ever seen!), Peter Green is keen to upgrade, the our all-girl crew of Jenny Thom/Sally Neate promise to return with another boat. All up we expect a bigger, better fleet so we can meet Davey's Bay on even terms and hopefully win a few races.

Despite all this woe, we'll be at Docklands, and looking forward to the challenge.

***Doug Bell
Lean & Mean***



***Seen at the States, but not on the water!
He was actually awake & moving.***

Team Brighton now proudly sponsored by Barloworld Mercedes-Benz Brighton will be at Docklands for the Teams Event scheduled for 15th May.

All our six team boats will be competing with similar crews.

Each time we compete in a Flying Fifteen event we try to introduce one or two more juniors from our cadet group.

They say they enjoy the involvement. We think this a positive result for our juniors, our Club and Flying Fifteen International Victoria.

It seems we have created a very effective flow through system for our juniors, not previously available at RBYC.

With the State Titles experience under our belt we hope to do better against our rivals from Apollo Bay.

On Wednesday 20th April a meeting was held between RBYC and Davies Bay's Mike Clark to commence the planning of the 2007 Australian Titles, we thank Mike for his advice and assistance with this matter.

As we move closer to the event we hope to have all those of you intending to compete in the 2007 Nationals to visit RBYC for a series of warm-up events.

We look forward to seeing you all on the 15th May.

***Paul Woodman
Chairman of Cadets-Flying Fifteens***



Who's Who

President

Doug Bell
36 Birdrock Avenue
Mount Martha 3934
Home 03 5976 3841
Mobile 0418 399 296
hellbell@satlink.com.au

Vice President

Michael Clark
PO Box 1014
Mornington 3931
Home 03 5976 2277
Mobile 0418 148 240
michael@nwh.com.au

Secretary

Richard Trembath
89 Walkers Road
Mount Eliza 3930
Home 03 9787 9686
richard@satlink.com.au

Treasurer

TBA

Committee

Michael Harrison
39 Derinya Drive
Frankston 3199
Home 03 9787 7558
Mobile 0413 270708
michael.j.harrison@bigpond

State Measurer

Bob Beard
390 Balfours Road
Granite Rock
Via Bairnsdale 3875
Home 03 5156 8607
Fax 03 51568605

Robert Signorini
29 St Claire Walk
East Doncaster 3109
Home 03 9842 8665

Above the deck measurers

Ian Rainey
Home 03 5143 2792
Les Kearney
Home 03 5343 2323

Club Delegates

Apollo Bay Sailing Club

Lisa Deppeler
Home 03 5237 7727

Cairn Curran Sailing Club

Chris Weight
Home 03 5439 3219

Davey's Bay Yacht Club

Michael Clark
Home 03 5976 2277

Gippsland Lakes Yacht Club

Ian Rainey
Home 03 5143 2792

Lake Learmonth Sailing Club

Les Kearney
Home 03 5343 2323

Mordialloc Sailing Club

Brian Carroll
Home 03 9557 1162

Mornington Yacht Club

Doug Bell
Home 03 5976 1162

Royal Brighton Yacht Club

Paul Woodman
Home 03 9596 7317





Calendar of Events Flying Fifteen International Victoria 2005 - 2006

15 th May 2005	FFI-V Teams Racing at Docklands	Davey's Bay Yacht Club
8 th – 13 th January 2006	44 th Australian Championships	Canberra Yacht Club
11 th – 13 th March 2006	Victorian State Titles	Mordialloc Sailing Club
5 th -12 th January 2007	45 th Australian Championships	Royal Brighton Yacht Club
January 2009	Australian & World Championships	Royal Yacht Club of Victoria

Boats For Sale

AUS 3761 Supertoy Plays	18 months old Ginnivan-built foam-sandwich hull. 14.5kg correctors. Harken fit-out. SuperSpar mast and boom. Several sets of Horizon Sails, less than nine months old, some only nine races old.	Brian Carroll 0411 743 602
AUS 3723 Watches of Switzerland	Gale & Rimington hull fully fared by Blue Marine, baked finish painted hull, Proctor Epsilon mast and Proctor boom, new Gale & Rimington CM1 sails still to be made, cover, trailer, all spectra controls, carbon tiller. \$16,000	Chris Mason 03 9555 5639 cjmason2@hotmail.com
AUS 3099 Shipping News	Current class measurement certificate, Gale & Rimington hull. New sails, standing and running Rigging 2004, New Boat Cover 2003 and New Wind Indicator 2005,Trailer, New Tyres and Dolly wheel 2003 . Competed in State Titles 2004, Club Aggregate 2002-2003-2004 Shipping News is ready to race. \$7850.00	Peter Green 0419 006 398 pgsails@relax.com.au
AUS 2911 Split Enz	Currently at Davey's Bay Yacht Club waiting for some tender loving care and restoration. It has not been sailed in the past 4 years. about \$3,000.	Tony Oldjohn - Business Hours 03 8549 9253 Oldjohna@nobleparksc.vic.edu.au
AUS 2832 Liffe is a Cabernet	previously "Banana FFritter" & "Harro". Shand cut Mk2 Hull. Excellent condition with new Gold Spar mast, good trailer and many spares. lying Geelong. \$4,000-00	Neville Stuchbery 0417 820 122 nevilles@kempeint.com.au
AUS 2403 Cheeky Chic	ex World Titles boat built in the UK. She is in good condition although she has not been sailed for a number of years. She has not been sailed for a number of years & has been stored under cover when not in use Needlespar mast, 2 sets sails cover, trailer & spare mast. \$5,000	John Tadich 0402113078 03 59 788 459
AUS 2344 Luffin it Up	previously "Morna 2" FF Shand built balsa core has been cut, Sails and hull are in very good condition. Sails new for 2001/2002 Nationals. Goldspar mast, central control box on good resisted trailer. Boat in Tura Beach 5km from Merimbula. \$8000	Tim 0414 646 550/ 02 6495 9302