

RACING NEWS

By Heidi Pfeiffer & Chris Mandalov

Winter racing has concluded with the final race of the Combined Winter Series with the CYC. It was great to see over 30 boats take to the water each race. The weather provided mixed sailing conditions resulting in Race 5 being abandoned due to strong winds, but nothing stopped most sailors enjoying what winter has to offer. The Plympton Cup saw almost a dozen boats not finishing the race as the wind dropped out as the afternoon went on. The first boat crossed the line in a little over three hours into the race with the remaining boats finishing over the next three hours. Congratulations to *Secret Men's Business* which took out the race, and *3 Cool Cats* for winning the Le Hunte Cup.

The Combined Winter Series was well attended with presentations taking place at the CYC for the 2014-15 season. Congratulations to Winter Series Winner *Taniwha* (Ron Parker) and *Arcadia* (Paul Bogner). Well done to those who also won places in the Combined Winter series: *Arcadia* (Paul Bogner), *Horopito* (Mark Roberston), *Blue Diamond* (Mal Denton) and *Rival* (Stuart Shimeld) for 3rd in Div 2

PHS, 3rd in Div 1 AMS, 2nd in Div 2 AMS and 3rd in Div 2 AMS respectively.

The Port Line Cup was well attended by the Squadron resulting with *Musetta* (Kevin Kelly) taking out first place and *Nerana II* (Chris Perry) in Second.

A club Race Officer's course was held at the Squadron in early August. This attracted a keen group of 15 people from the RSAYS and surrounding clubs. These half day seminars are aimed at educating people who wish to become involved with officiating in the sport of sailing. Race Officers play an important role within sailing, conducting racing at clubs, and enabling organised participation and competition. These courses are run regularly and may be of interest to those who want to contribute to the sport, or volunteers or sailors who no longer actively participate in the sport.

The Coaching series is being held again this month with a number of enthusiastic participants discovering the joys of sailing.

The Summer Series entry is now open to all boats, and if you are unable to commit to a series there is also the option to be casual entrant if you still want to take your boat out for a race.

The new racing season begins on Saturday 10 October with the Inshore Pointscore series, Etchells and Multihull series, with the Women's Series starting on Sunday, 12 October. The Twilight Series commences on the following Wednesday, 14 October. We look forward to a great season ahead with a high level of participation.

If you need to brush up on your skills, Radio Operators courses are run regularly by the North Haven Coastguard. If you wish to attend one, watch our weekly e-bulletin for dates of upcoming courses. Don't forget that all boats operating in unprotected waters must carry a marine radio and that the person operating the radio must hold a marine radio operator's certificate of proficiency.

The Squadron participates in National Discover Sailing Day. This year it falls on Sunday 25 October. This is a great opportunity to showcase our Club and the sport of sailing. Club members and boat owners are encouraged to get involved in a defined role, as a promoter of the day to friends, family and colleagues. Boat owners are encouraged to show their boats or take people out for a short sail.



MUSETTA WINS 2015 PORTLINE CUP

By Kevin Kelly

The 2015 Port Line Cup was a great spectacle on the Port River as over 40 yachts battled it out in windy conditions and close quarters.



Squadron members Kevin Kelly and his crew, Geoff Beacham and Trevor Harper, were successful this year sailing through the course and then taking out the Cup. His boat *Musetta* finished first on corrected time followed closely by *Nerana II* (Chris Perry).

The Port Adelaide Sailing Club (PASC) set a challenging course for its competitors, (course 9 from the racing instructions), involving several loops traversing the river, finding skippers steering in all directions whilst dodging and weaving through traffic. With the slower boats starting first in 15 to 20 knots generally from the north, many tacking duels began to unfold. By the time boats reached the first buoy near beacon 30, the Division 1 yachts had caught the lower divisions and the fleet was bunched up rounding the first mark. From there a loop to buoys near beacon 25, back to beacon 30 and back to beacon 25 before heading back up the river under spinnaker. The dog legs were amazing with close quarters and a procession of boats going in opposite directions.

At the presentations PASC commented on how well skippers handled the course and conditions with only one minor incident occurring. Several boats pushed the race to the edge, that is the edge of the river and found themselves thick in the mud.

Musetta was introduced to the Squadron by its former owner (Lloyd Cushway) in November 2001 and has been actively involved in the racing program over this period. Kevin has entered *Musetta* into the Port Line Cup race for the last five years. In 2011 it came within a whisker of being written off after being T-boned in a nasty port-starboard incident with a keel boat.

After the race Kevin commented on how Geoff Beacham and Trevor Harper worked their butts off during the race and how it was good to have Geoff's big voice on board for the numerous starboard calls. The team was rapt with the achievement and plan to celebrate it in the traditional way.

