



# From the Bridge!!

AHOY !

**Last Saturday..** I am a bit short on detail about the ocean race as Jenny and I were on our way back from a few days visiting family at about the time you were all motoring home. Very disappointing, however I am sure we will have another before long. Have not heard much about the inshore race so far but understand that it was light and fluky also...Certainly pretty fluky for Rumbo and crew who were sorting out a few sails prior to the start when they found a metre long black snake in one of the sailbags! Would have been quite interesting had they hoisted it with the spinnaker, visions of mass disembarkation's come to mind!. Certainly would have destroyed any last traces of concentration on a shifty day! (Note to self: Must get one of those plastic ones and toss it on to Rumbo a few seconds before the start!)

**Commodore's Trophy.** Notice of race will be on the board at the Clubhouse but broadly it is as follows: Date, Friday evening 28th November, (last Friday of this month), Start is at 1600 hours on the same basis as our normal Wednesday Twilight, handicaps similar, course will be Start to Wedding Cake, to West Bank to finish. Anyone not finished by 1800 hours will be disqualified! Trophy is a bottle of best Club Champagne to be presented to all female crew on the winning boat at the Social that evening. If she or they are not present the trophy goes to the next in line! Lets hope for a 10 to 15 knot North Easter!

## From the Board Meeting

The new Blue Books will be available from YA, Whitworth's or Bias etc. after the 24th of this month. We did discuss getting a bulk order but the savings are not great and the quantities too large to make it a worthwhile proposition. As soon as I can find out the finer details, I will summarise the changes and when they come into effect.

**Discounts for Club Members.** Mike Lee asked me to remind members that he can supply most items of Chandlery and rigging supplies at the right price and he is also a Club Member, contact him on 4984 9360 or 0438 541 019 for any of your requirements. Have a look at his website on [www.yachtmasts.com.au](http://www.yachtmasts.com.au)

## Hint of the week.

One of the things that my father taught me many years ago was when approaching our mooring under sail, always have the main halyard undone to the extent that it was only held by one turn around one horn of the cleat and preferably with the tail in someone's hand.. We used to keep his yacht in Middle Harbour and, as any of you would know who have sailed there, it is prone to the odd unexpected gust, especially in a Westerly. Nothing like having a turn of the bouy rope around the mooring cleat when you get hit by a foul puff! No prize for having the bouy neatly anchored to the boat and the mooring heading for the deep!

## Clear Air.

It is a common belief that the only way to pass another yacht when you are both on a reach is to either go to windward of it or to pass a long way to leeward. In actual fact the blanketing cone of the sails on a yacht do not extend further than two to two and a half mast lengths down wind. If there is a choice, the leeward side is often the best as you do not run the risk of being carted well above the next mark. You will sometimes gain by "surfing" down the waves, letting your mainsheet off as you pull away and "flattening" your boat as much as possible by getting your crew to swing out as far as possible. When you harden up to make the mark, your boat speed will increase considerably, often much more than the yacht that you are attempting to overtake.

## FINAL NOTICE!

**Oar Storage** Not a big response from my oarful message in last week's FTB but we now have to give a final warning as the oar storage is being moved to the shed at the North West corner of the Clubhouse and those who have oars in the present location are going to need new keys. If you have oars in the present storage, please contact Peter Ballard as they will all be moved by the end of next week. (30th November) We have placed white tape on all of the oars that we cannot identify and if they still do not have an owner by the time we move them, we will have to consider selling them. This is all necessary as we are installing a burglar alarm in the Clubhouse and the present storage will be protected by it.

**We are now on the World Wide Web.** Stuart Manley has now put all the back copies and the current issue of "From the Bridge" on our website. I am thining about changing the name as it is a bit close to Peter Foster's "From the Bilge" Maybe CRAP (Commodores Really Absorbing Publication) although that might lower the tone a little too much!

Happy Sailing.

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