

Circulation 1200+

Real Sailors Build Their Own Boats!!

'BugNews 27

"Real Life Skills - Build a Yacht and Learn to Sail!"



Bill Park's 'Black Pearl'.



Mike Greene in Hobart



Six square riggers and 525 wooden yachts on display at the AWB Festival in Hobart - wooden boat nut's heaven!

Australian Wooden Boat Festival

Not at all like a conventional boat show this festival was a great big, 4 day party for wooden boat nuts and about 40,000 of them came out of the woodwork for the occasion! There was all types of nautical entertainment for the crowds including a.. you guessed it - a 'BugBuild. Many thanks to: **BoatCraft Pacific** for the building space, local 'Bug owners Mike Greene and Frank Eaton who brought their boats along and helped out, and the show organisers who were a pleasure to deal with.

Two Top Oz Clubs Keen on 'Bugs: Concord Ryde Sailing Club Sydney

In Sydney the CRSC is expecting a bigger fleet this year as new boats get completed and secondhand ones acquire keen new owners.

Contact: Ross - Phone 0418 457 020 or see www.concordrydesailing.org

What a ship! Star of the Festival!

The 1880s sailing ship, James Craig which was once a rusting hulk in a bog, is now restored and based at the Maritime Museum in Sydney. The ship sailed to Hobart for the wooden boat festival and I was lucky enough to do a harbour cruise for the end-of-show fireworks display, and even better, see the sun setting and the full moon rising over the Derwent - what a sight!

**Auckland was the JC's home port for many years and I think we should ask for her back! The old beauty would look great tied up at the Viaduct!



Square rigger sunset over the Derwent.

Auckland Boat Show

The **International Paints** stand this year featured 'Little Blew' Dave Shepherd's new 'Bug. A tight promo budget unfortunately meant no building action this year, just a static display.



Family interest at the Auckland Boat Show



Two local 'Bugs' on display at the AWB festival



Late in the day sailing at CRSC

Mordialloc Sailing Club

In Melbourne the MSC are organising a building scheme which will see a good fleet of 'Bugs' on the water for next season. Contact is Richard Lozell: richard.lozell@getintosailing.com www.mordiallocsc.yachting.org.au



Scott from BoatCraft & Frank Eaton BugBuilding



Connor Sunkel-Lozell and the first of the Mordialloc Sailing Club boats in Melbourne



Tom Stegink from Tannum Sands with a kite up! Great stuff Tom!

963

FireBug plans/regos have now reached into the 960s in 32 countries.

All Enquiries: Peter Tait FBHQ
PO Box 47 042 Ponsonby Auckland 1144
New Zealand Ph/Fax +64 9 360 1076
email: pete@firebug.co.nz
website: www.firebug.co.nz



Work/Fun in Progress..

'Bugs, new and old are on the mind in all regions. Thanks to those who have sent in photos and news..



Liam and Joshua Treacy, Melbourne.



Irakli and Mom in the Republic of Georgia.



Brian Jones with a FNC boat, Open Day.



Portland Central School pupils nutting it out, near Bathurst NSW



Eidi and Izzie at Tutukaka, Northland NZ



Club boats with new paint for the new season!

Good newsletters require photos and good stories. Please send yours in now!



The CYC FireBug fleet stopping for lunch after a fun day sailing the bar.

Winter Visitors to FBHQ

FireBug visitors to FireBug HQ over the winter included Ray O'Brien from PPYC in Christchurch NZ and Chris Spooner and his boys Ben and Sam who normally reside in Gladstone but are currently making a 'bob' in the big sand pit, Dubai!



The Spooner boys from Gladstone



Ray O'Brien from PPYC

South Island Owner's Group

Many of the sailing clubs in NZ's South Island now have Firebugs so an owners group has been formed to oversee the sailing program and keep things running smoothly. Simon Rutherford of the Canterbury Sailing School has teamed up with the PPYC Commodore, Ian Douglas to keep things on the right track. Simon says 'The Bug is the ideal club boat for young and smaller adults!' Contact Simon to get on the 'Bug emailing list: simon@canterburysailing.co.nz Web: www.canterburysailing.co.nz or Ian at frogfrog@xtra.co.nz

South Island Championships

The next Firebug South Island Champs are to be held on March 13 and 14 at Lake Hood, just south of Christchurch. The lake is an excellent venue with modern facilities, no tide issues, close-up spectating and near to NZ's tourist highlights for any Aussies who would like to come over, borrow a boat! This will be a fun regatta by PPYC with a big fleet expected. See www.lakehood.co.nz

Nice Sailing Photo

These South Island boats are powering along and it's easy to see how other small boats are left in their wake! The skippers are a mix of young and old making for fierce competition.



'Bugs in top gear, youngsters in front!'

Multinational Build In Mornington

Terry Treacy writes: Yes Peter. I am very proud of having finished the 'Bug, right at the end of last summer so I haven't sailed it yet. We will join one of the local sailing clubs and the kids will get training starting in October. We have three adopted African children.



Joshua and Terry with their hull just off the jig.

**All Enquiries: Peter Tait FBHQ
PO Box 47 042 Ponsonby Auckland 1144
New Zealand Phone ++64 9 360 1076
Email: pete@firebug.co.nz
Website: www.firebug.co.nz**

'BugNews gets Better and Better-

Thanks for great photos and news to: Ross Venner, Ray O'Brien, Andrew Fagan, Bill Park, Simon Rutherford, Dirk Stegink, Forster Neighbourhood Centre, Richard Lozell, Terry Treacy, Mike Greene, Frank Eaton, David Hogan, Ian Douglas, T Bellas and.. Some have been held over for the next issue.

More at - www.firebug.co.nz

