



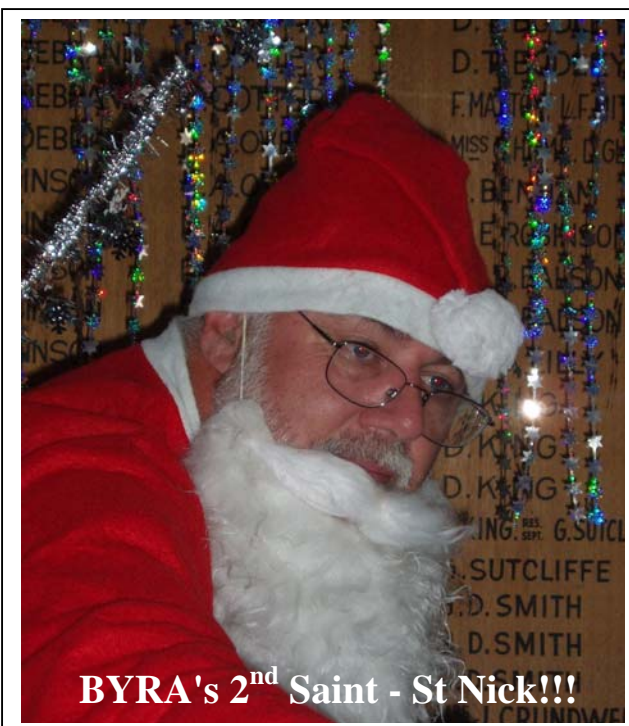
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EDITION SANTA SURVIVES BYRA ATTACK !!



Kids, young & not so young, besiege a very welcome visitor

Santa was first seen coming across the bay and through the moorings in the company of some very shady looking characters, all yelling HO HO HO. What strange behaviour, given a small group of our little darlings wanted to confront him on the deck with the usual welcome...*"throw him in"* they were heard to yell.

Somehow our bearded wonder (*not St Peter for a change*) made it safely up the stairs to a marauding group of kids, who were now contemplating all sorts of unkind acts as he was now in their territory and safely separated from his elves and reindeer. St Peter was heard to yell, *"Not him you fools, if you, and especially me, are to get any presents, you had better be nice to him and all the adults for a change"*



BYRA's 2nd Saint - St Nick!!!

Yet another Junior Committee meeting with our special guest.



It wasn't long before Santa settled into his purpose built pseudo-home (*thanks to the Newland family and their various helpers*), who had added a touch of Christmas spirit...well done everyone. Eventually the Junior Committee forced a right of passage to allow our bearded visitor to breath under all the pressure of a BYRA **MOSH PIT**. Their motives were probably to get to the lollies first, although they pretended to try and help. What a strange lot our juniors are, pink tails, halo's and angel wings . . . at least they should get something appropriate.

Our SANTA escaped down the stairs again after much frivolity with a muttering of . . . never again, never again. This was a huge day with lots of kids enjoying themselves, and nearly as many parents on the deck pretending the kids did not exist (*again*).

SAILING REPORT

Was there sailing this week? Not much wind, lots of capsizes, plenty of coffee for our **HUGE** turnout of parents. We also had our other activities back on the beach, so who cares. Everyone had a great time and that is all that matters at BYRA.

Kim ensuring our special guests Carolyn & Mark Phillips are suitably entertained





Now that's co-ordination, matching suit, bag & socks



REPORT ON THE COACH

Did anyone notice St Peter this week? It just proved that sailing coaches are a strange breed. For a start he had odd socks on (one **red** and one **green**) and tried to convince everyone they were for port and starboard. Everyone knows they stand for STOP and GO.

Then we go to the headgear. It looked like something that belonged in a tree and should only be seen at night. There was a slight hint of Christmas with a VERY, VERY tiny Christmas badge. You had to look close to see the connection.

Next time you see St Peter, please be kind and gentle as he is obviously suffering severe stress.

REPORT ON THE ASSISTANT COACH

It must be the silly season as Christmas has brought out some very strange behaviour. Did anyone notice Andrew this week? Screaming around the bay in his little inflatable, water pistol in hand and aimed at anything that moved, and yelling TALLY HO. Why didn't someone point him in the direction of St Peters hat?

NEWLAND BAKERY NEWS

The Muffin Angels were busy again this week with some FANTASTIC muffins and lots of Christmas cheer. St Peter was seen trying to hide the now familiar basket on his own boat but it was moved to the parent's boats when he turned his back. Great work everyone, let's make him hunt for these things if he wants to wear a hat like that.

HALF YEARLY THANKS

This BYRA thing that we have going is very special. It's not about winning races or spending lots of money, it's about kids having lots of fun as a group and with the parents (*at a safe distance*). It's great to see how you all grow in confidence and meet lots of new friends.



No you can't have any of my lollies!!!!

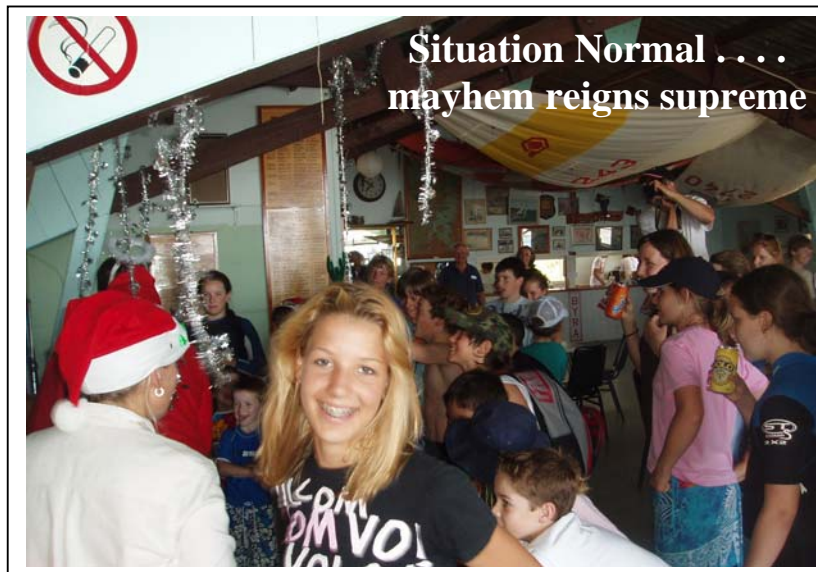
This doesn't happen easily and at Christmas time it is good to reflect on some nice things about how things actually happen to make this opportunity available for everyone.

ST PETER: We may be harsh because we know you like it. BYRA is VERY lucky to have a man of such enormous talent and so willing to give of his time to teach our current kids group.

VOLUNTEERS: There is a large group of BYRA volunteers and parents who

give a lot of their own time for the good of this little project. They join in the fun and quite often lead it and cause a lot of mischief. These people support St Peter and make sure that everyone has a great time (*who says the Kids should have all the fun?*).

JUNIOR COMMITTEE: These kids turn up every week to help out and add their little dose of mischief.



The KIDS: You are what this is all about, so we thank you for supporting us and letting us enjoy you having so much fun. You make us laugh, you make us despair, but you also make us proud when you learn something new about sailing.

This year has been a fantastic success so far and we are only half way through the sailing season. Don't forget all our special events planned for next year.

Thank you to everyone for their contribution, BYRA wishes you all a VERY MERRY Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

We look forward to seeing you all back at BYRA on 16 January 2005.

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