



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE AND WELCOME BACK



We have certainly come back with a bang and we have lots of new faces joining us from recent Learn To Sail classes. Welcome to everyone, and we hope that you enjoy your time at BYRA like the rest of us. For our new parents, we don't have much formality and we always needs lots of help, so don't hang back, just get in and help give the kids a great time. If in doubt, talk to St Peter or Greg. If you don't know them look for the tired old coach with a grey beard and his stressed out helper (*and if you're really desperate, look for Andrew, he's the one dressed in Shrek green, trying to look busy or filling the water cannons*).

JANUARY EVENTS

This month has been interrupted by a number of events at other clubs and lots of travelling and time away at class championships. BYRA juniors were well represented and had a fantastic time.

The second half of the year is normally fantastic sailing and social weather, so make sure you get the most from now until the end of the season. We have LOTS planned and we need your help to make it all fun.



A Spiralling Conversation

PARENT'S CHALLENGE

Are YOU Up to It - This Sunday, No Excuses

We hear all these stories on the beach about how good you **WERE** as sailors, usually about 100 years ago, so here is our challenge for you to show the kids what you are made of. We need parents to challenge the kids in a series of VERY short races and we will have some VERY special prizes that will be given at our BBQ afterwards. If you don't volunteer, then you had better hide when you drop the kids off or we will nominate you (don't worry we have a lot of very large life jackets).

For obvious reasons we will not use the PJ's for the parents, we will be using our Spirals and Pacers for these events and have co-opted a few other boats to make sure that we have plenty of competition. Now is the time for action rather than words so **PLEASE** join in. Come down early and help us get everything out of the shed for the challenge.

Races will be under the sole control of Greg and Jeni who reserve the right to:

- Make unilateral on-course decisions.
- Impose handicaps at will.
- Decide winners regardless of the actual results.
- Change crews to make the racing fairer (in their own eyes)
- Publish compromising photographs.
- Tell any stories in next week's Burbler that they see fit.

*No correspondence will be entered into and all decisions will be final
(however suitable bribes will be considered)*

We want all the Mums and Dads, Grandparents and even Great Grandparents who have at any time bragged about their abilities in the past OR anyone who just wants to have a go, either because they have never tried it or the kids relentlessly nag you until next Sunday.

(kids, take a hint and its over to you)

There will be parents drinks (BYRA supplied and we will need it) on the deck from about 11.30am and a kids BBQ afterwards. Siblings of our sailors are welcome so bring the young ones along to join in the fun both on and off the water.

REPORT ON THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

BYRA was well represented by our Juniors at two recent events:

Flying 11 National Titles sailed at Woollahra

These were sailed over a week in generally 25 to 30 knot winds which tested everyone's ability to survive. BYRA was represented by Bryce & Lizelle, Michelle & Kate and Richard & Genevieve, and we should be proud of all of them. The results are available on the F11 website, however just holding the boat together and finishing in these conditions was a major achievement, so well done to everyone. There is a DVD being made of this series that was shown at the Presentation night, so as soon as we can get a copy we will show it to you, and trust me you, will be in absolute awe of these boats and their sailors.

We were also privileged to have the presence of former BYRA member John Wiley visiting for the series and who was responsible for securing many hours of video film and is now producing his own special brand of DVD. I am not sure if his last one has yet obtained a censorship rating, so this one could take a while yet. John continued his long established tradition of interviewing female crews and taking the mickey out of anything associated with Manly.

Spiral Nationals

These were sailed at Sunshine on Lake Macquarie and were a much more relaxed and social event, with very skilful sailing and close finishes. BYRA juniors again were well represented by Karen, Bryce, Michelle and Richard who joined BYRA seniors Henry Zylmans, Annie Schady, Rob Brewer, Sally Beath, Alan Davidson, Alice Lydement and Craig Smith. The kids made their mark both on and off the water with some truly inspirational competition and good sportsmanship from everyone. The Spiral is a fantastic boat to sail and the class will be very successful for a long time, so BYRA is committed to growing its own fleet as boats become available.



All our Spiral photos are from the recent Spiral Nationals

The State titles are being held at Lake Illawarra at Easter so we are trying to get a large BYRA contingent to make the trip south and have some more fun.

CLUB BOATS

BYRA has been fortunate to secure another excellent Spiral, so we now have a wonderful fleet of boats.

Class	Boat	Current status
Flying 11	Prankster	Operational
	Wonderland	Refitting in progress
Spiral	Swelke	Operational
	Unnamed (No 190)	Operational
	Unnamed (No 393)	Operational
PJ	Unnamed (No 2)	Operational

Remember these boats are available for use by any of our members and **MUST** be booked with Greg (by email) in the week prior, or they will be allocated on a first come first served basis. They are available for use in fleet championships by arrangement with either Greg or Peter and we encourage all our more experienced kids to give it a go with our other BYRA representatives.



If you want to do this, then you will be responsible for the boat from the time that it leaves BYRA until its return with all of the gear. This is not onerous, but you must help us look after these boats and all their gear. These boats are covered by all required insurance for use in title races.

BOAT NAMES

It is about time that we gave our boats some decent names so we want nominations that we are able to both, put into print, and use on the boats to liven up our fleet. Email your suggestions to Greg ASAP and be in the running for a special prize.

This is your chance to leave your mark on BYRA so **PLEASE** give this some serious thought. Greg and Peter will be the sole judges and **NO** correspondence will be

entered into (*unless you choose to donate a boat, then we will let you name it*). You will only be eligible for one prize so get in quick. Entries will close on 6 February.

If you need inspiration, try the Muller family who have names like, Chill Pill, **Not Quite Angels** and **My Uncle has a Mullet**. If you are absolutely desperate, contact John Wiley who also has some similar and seriously demented suggestions that should challenge the older BYRA members.

THANKS TO JENI

St Peter went AWOL during the month, first with the Spirals to Lake Macquarie and then supposedly gliding at Lake Keepit. Thanks to Jeni for filling in and taking control in what were reported as some seriously violent weather patterns. Jeni has put in some very valuable time with our Spiral and Flying 11 kids and both Jeni and Peter were instrumental in getting them to where they ended up at these championships. Thank you very much guys, you made a huge difference.



Jeni has now moved on to our newer kids in both Flying 11 and Spirals with a view to getting them ready to have a go at the upcoming State titles in February (F11) and March (Spirals). Listen and learn everyone as Jeni is off to the UK next year so won't be around to help us.

WHAT ABOUT SAILING Words of Wisdom from Bryce



The most important thing about sailing is to be confident and persistent, being able to see what you are doing wrong in the boat and being able to try and try again to get it right is a fast way to improve (*Dad's been sailing for 104 years and I've only been sailing for 4 years and I still kick his butt*).

Also don't get frustrated, as hard as it can be at times, you actually sail a lot faster and better when you are relaxed and almost carefree. Being relaxed also helps you in situations where quick thinking is needed because you are thinking about the boat and its surroundings instead of trying to find reasons as to why you are angry.



Being one of the coaches from the learn to sail courses, I have found that if some of the “coachees” give up and get frustrated if they can't do something, some even throw the tiller and drop the main, which is almost as bad as jumping overboard and swimming for China (ask St Peter he's tried and hasn't made it yet, although if he tried without all of the soggy biscuits he refuses to hand over he might get further than the moorings 25 metres off shore).

Remember sailing is SUPPOSED to be a fun sport so try not too get to serious just get out on the water and enjoy yourself, and BYRA is a great place to do it.

Bryce

NEW YEARS TIP FROM THE COACH

If I ever go camping and drink red wine, move your tent to a safe distance to avoid repetitive snoring sounds during the night that closely resemble a herd of wild animals. (*registered 3.2 on the Richter scale*)

(*PS. We have found a use for that horrible furry hat St Peter had at Christmas, we just need a volunteer to hold him down*)

QUOTE OF THE MONTH (*or is that Year*)

The Scene:

Second day of Spiral Championships, and Bryce is head to head with the leader (Rob Brewer) coming to the first mark.

The Quote:

Bryce to Rob: “*You had better go first as I don't know what to do next*”

Just proves the worth of training.

BYRA CONTACTS

Chief Coach/Resident Saint:

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