

## Ho! Ho! Ho! Fat Man Looking For Snow



Yes that rogue in the red suit (aka SANTA and wanted in almost every country around the world) did visit this week again. Did anyone notice he had put on a bit of weight this year?? As usual the kids had to be bribed with promises of chocolates and lollies to bid him welcome, but hey at least they are predictable. Finally they were brought together in the usual rabble, as Santa gave

a brilliant gymnastic display off the back of Juno while pretending to be in his youth again. Many wished he would actually fall in, with even some muttering **PUSH HIM IN!**

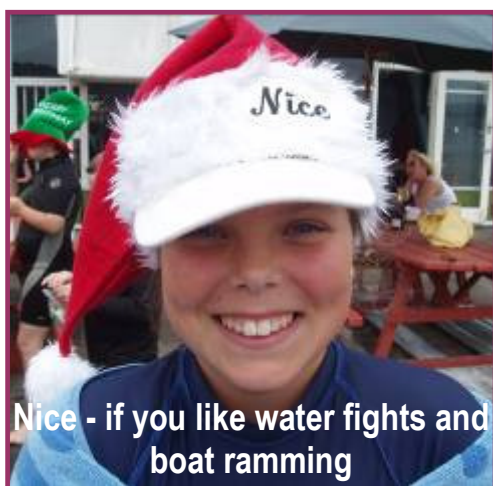


After herding them all onto the sand, our rotund friend led them a merry chase through the shed and up onto the deck where SANTA's special helpers were waiting champagne glasses in hand.

Probing questions from the bearded one (Santa that is, as we all ignored St Peter as usual) on behavioural patterns, compliance



with parents demands and close attendance to all school responsibilities brought the usual response, “yeah yeah yeah”. Santa fell for it and promptly despatched lollies to all and sundry. There was a brief respite from his distribution duties with some of our older “kids” who endured a rather protracted Christmas wish. Anyway he then disappeared as fast as he appeared, with his home grown cheer squad in tow and a huge sigh of relief from everyone till next year. If anyone knows where he went, please phone ahead and warn them.



## Sailing Report

Who cares? This week was all about **FUN FUN FUN**. The really important news is the complete absence of freshly baked muffins and cakes. **Come on everyone**, our support crews are struggling to keep up with the kids and there has been a severe diminution of energy levels.



## Spiral Training Day

Another successful day was held under the watchful eyes of St Murray and St Richard (BYRA sainthood bestows ongoing obligations for all things good at BYRA). Weather was harsh, with some absolute bullets belting out of the south which resulted in many unexpected swims (hey guys it is Spiral sailing after all and you lot were getting complacent). Great day was had by all with some very tired elves at the end of the day. Our newer stars excelled **YET AGAIN** with **Julia** and **Georgina** really rising to the challenge and sticking with it all day. **GREAT WORK** girls. Sarah backed up again on Sunday and blitzed one of the sprint races so great work also (...hint, just cross the line next time before you start celebrating). All of the Spiral sailors (BYRA and our guests from other clubs) had a great time and don't forget the final day is on **Saturday 14 January 2006** and this also includes a race with all the Spiral Oldies. There are rampant emails and SMS messages that this lot are really scared so we say .....**BRING IT ON**.....in the normal Spiral friendly fashion.

## Pittwater Junior Challenge Cup

We had 32 boats from 4 schools contest the first Pittwater schools regatta which was held at BYRA on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December. There were nearly 50 sailors from Newport Public, Loquat Valley, St Luke's and the Northern Beaches Christian schools. We also had three boats from Pittwater Sailability race as well. BYRA threw its support behind this fantastic project to show our commitment to the Schools Program



and also kids sailing generally. On this occasion we also had help from the Avalon Sailing Club and the RYMC, who kindly provided a support boat for the afternoon.

The schools regatta was a terrific success for all the kids, teachers, parents and BYRA volunteers. The Gods smiled on us and gave us a great sunny afternoon with 10 knot NE wind to send the fleet zipping around the course. The regatta was a series of three races held just off the club which allowed many of the parents and teachers to follow the action from the clubhouse. The sailing was with the PJ's and Manly Juniors fighting it out for the line honours in all three races.

St Peter's Friday afternoon "Pink Group" from Newport School figured prominently in the results. This helped Newport School to eventually become the overall winner of this first regatta. Pink Group members, Bree and Ben, accepted the trophy on behalf of the Newport School. All the kids who sailed were presented with a certificate. A number of kids also won trophies for the various divisions.

Due to its success, the regatta looks like becoming a regular event for the junior sailors. If you would like find out when the next regatta is being held or how you can get your school involved, keep an eye on BYRA's website or talk to St Peter. We hope the next schools regatta will be even bigger.

## Tip for Santa

"The kids are supposed to have all the fun NOT YOU". If you want to keep up with our Burlblers next year, eat healthy food, keep off the alcohol, implement a strict exercise regime and get lots of sleep.

## Tip from the Coach

Be nice to your parents at Christmas time, do everything they say, go to bed when asked, get home when told to and then ask them to buy you a boat.

## Christmas Message

Burblers will resume on **Sunday 15 January 2006** and the next half of the year is always a wonderful time with warm water and lots of sun, so make sure you come back safe and sound from your holidays and have some more fun at BYRA before you go back to school.

On behalf of the whole BURBLER crew we wish everyone a **VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS** and a **HAPPY NEW YEAR** and we hope you all have a wonderful holiday and **GREAT FAMILY TIMES**.

See you next year.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**

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