

# THE "RL24" OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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## NEWSLETTER: OCTOBER 1978

The President's Pen: It is Peter who writes out of Sandgate: felicitations and benedictions be to all R.L. 24 boat owners of N.S.W., South Australia and Tasmania (one boat owner) from whom we have heard nihil recently. However we know all are well in the above States. Felicitations and benedictions be to Victoria and Western Australia: to Mike Shannon (apologies Michael on the last newsletter - Tony is another less famous philosopher I know) who must be well as he frequently appears on the best A.B.C. T.V. shows - Christina we all know just how difficult it is to live with a T.V. star!!! Special felicitations and benedictions to the Western Australian Association from whom we receive regular newsletters and have regular contact - thanks Ray Knapp (Lucky Star), Jim Elliott (President) and Helen Walby (Secretary). That Wickham Regatta must have been something. Do we in Queensland read it "right" when we see Ray Knapp in "Lucky Star" frequently ahead of Ken Bartley's "Joken" - Ray and Ken have shown the results to one Mr Barry Arnold who is now repainting the hull of "Coolibah" as he feels he must improve on his Barmera performance!!!

### National Titles 12th to 19th May 1979

All is progressing well. Q.Y.A. have been informed. Hotels and Motels are nearby. The hire of caravans is proving a little difficult as everybody wants to hire vans during the school holidays - but we should be able to get a dozen or so but possibly not the forty we hoped. However I would like to see a Tent City arise during the National Titles at Sandgate. If you wish us to get one for you just let us know. Camping makes for so much togetherness. The Qld Premier "Joh" Petersen promised that a rail bridge would be thrown across the mighty Brisbane River so RL 24s could be railed directly to Sandgate for the Titles - this I am proud to report has now been done!!! Many Southerners have been up cruising the Whitsunday Passage - John Mc Coy has recently left to return home. Prior to leaving John sat in on a National Committee Meeting, and gave his comments on a new proposed RL 24 constitution into which he has put much time and effort. It is proposed to print this constitution and circularise it to all members at a later date for their comments. The State of Queensland and Sandgate in particular have been graced by the presence of Geoff and Archina Olney (SCUD II) and appended below is a brief report on Sandgate that Geoff will flesh out more fully when he returns to his Victorian RL 24 brothers:-

### "SAILOR BEWARE"

The barque called "Thomas King" left Sydney for Manilla and was wrecked on a reef called "Cato's Bank". It was decided that Captain Walker, the only passenger Dr. Hyslop, the second mate and three seamen should take the ship's boat and make for Moreton Bay. The party came ashore in the vicinity of Cabbage Tree Creek in the area called "Warra", meaning "an open sheet of water". From the very first day they were beset by natives and only the Captain and a seaman called Skerry survived the attacks and reached Brisbane. The dense scrub, ti-tree swamps and mangrove flats afford splendid sport in duck shooting while the bay swarms with all kinds of fish. The Governor frequently visits the district for the sake of the sport available.

The period was the mid 19th century, and "Warra" the name given by the natives to the peninsula at Sandgate called Shorncliff. Today's natives are more hospitable, but the "open sheet of water" remains, as does some of the dense scrub and mangrove flats over the creek from the Yacht Club. So to "Warra" we will go for the 1979 Nationals. Ample space for tents and caravans is available close to the facilities of the Yacht Club and launching and mooring sites, shopping etc. adjoins.

The "open sheet of water" is just that; and very suitable for a large Olympic course. It is sometimes smooth and sometimes rough. You may be thankful that you spent all that money on a survival course!

NEWS ITEM DATED 3.10.78

A 2 metre man-eating salt-water crocodile has been sighted in Bramble Bay, and nature lovers are determined that it won't be destroyed.

FOOTNOTE:- By May 1979 it may have grown to three metres.

See you there!

Regards to all,

Geoff Olney.

Many thanks for a beautiful letter from Geoff Olney and wife Archina who have visited Sandgate on behalf of Victoria.

P. JACKMAN  
President.