

~~From the Press~~

From FF World Mid 1978

AUSTRALIAN NATIONALS: Westward Ho!

After trailing their boats 8000 km, three Western Australia FFs filled the first three places. It was sixteen years since the last W.A. victory. Next year Geoff Black and Gazelle will be defending on their own water, the Swan River, during the week before the Worlds.

The series, sailed on Lake MacQuarrie, NSW, attracted 54 entries. It seems to have been sailed in predominantly light winds, although there was quite a bit for the first race. Defending Champions, Ken Jenyns and Ray Reynolds, won by over a minute from the early leader, Nils Blumann, and Peter McCauley's Innisfree; it seems there was some confusion in the finding of the wing mark in this race.

Race 2 was in lighter winds, and went comfortably to Dick Kernot from fellow West Australian, Richard Verko. Ken Jenyns made a late run through the fleet to third place. By now Geoff Black had collected himself a couple of fourths, and he added a win to these in the third race, coming home ahead of Tony Wood. The early leader had been 20-year-old David Lowe, who had built his own boat; unfortunately he lost places through not covering, apart from which he sailed an excellent and most exciting race. Ken Jenyns was third again, and indeed yet again in Race 4: a 30° shift was best anticipated by Messrs Jenyns and Verko, with the latter moving away to win from Dick Kernot, with Ken apparently affected by a tide which had caused no-one any concern earlier.

Race 5 was a long duel between Geoff Black and Peter McAuley, with the honours eventually going to Geoff, together with the overall lead in the series. Bill Shand gave a great exhibition of sailing, moving through the fleet to third. He was second to Richard Verko in the 6th Race, with John Smith 3rd. This left three boats in it: Gazelle (Geoff Black), Secret Flyer (Ken Jenyns) and Charisma (Richard Verko).

In the last race, Secret Flyer couldn't find the boatspeed to break away from the pack in light airs, which left Gazelle and Charisma to decide the title: they sailed a close race to the top mark, and then Charisma broke well away. At the finish she needed only two more points to take the title. The race was won by John Smith, from Dick Kernot (taking overall 3rd place) and Nils Blumann.

- 1st Gazelle (1900), Geoff Black & Ian Ritchie (W.A.)
- 2nd Charisma (1724), Richard Verko & David Smallwood (W.A.)
- 3rd Don Quixote (2105), Dick Kernot & John Wilson (W.A.)
- 4th Secret Flyer (1398), Ken Jenyns & Ray Reynolds (Qld)
- 5th Cervantes, Tony Wood (W.A.)

Many of the trophies to be won at the 1978 National Championships were made from the timbers of 'Gretel 11'.

Gretel 11 is internationally famous as the strongest challenger for the America's Cup in the last 43 years. Only one other yacht has won a race against the Americans since 1934. This was Gretel 1 which won one heat in 1961

Gretel 11 won two heats against Intrepid in 1970 under the hand of Jim Hardie. Gretel 11 had to eliminate 'France 1' first for the right to challenge.

Gretel 11 is also well known for her 4:3 elimination series which she lost in 1977 to a highly competitive 'Sverige'. Although she was old for a contender she showed that she could provide a viable challenge against new and expensive yachts.

Before leaving for the United States in 1977 a major over-haul and refurbishing took place. Some of the timber removed was given by Halvorson and Gowland to the Lake Macquarie fleet for trophy making.

Each of the heat winners and best entry from each state and overseas will win trophies made from this timber. Where original paint or varnish remained on the timber, it has been left, even if marked, to retain the authenticity. In addition ALL entries will be presented with a small piece of the rib and planking from Gretel 11.

A lot of trouble has been taken to cut a meaningful piece of timber. Almost every piece shows:-

1. The laminated rib section
2. The outside planking and paint
3. The dowell (tree nail) which holds the planking to the ribs.
4. The wedges within the dowell which spread the dowell at both ends.
5. The plug to cover the dowell.

Many people of course think that yachts are nailed or screwed together. This often is true, however, Gretel 11 was craftsman built and is fastened together with hundreds of these dowells which reduce the stress by distributing the load over a greater surface area.

We at Lake Macquarie hope and feel that these small pieces of history will have some intrinsic value to each entry for many years to come. In addition the name of the entry will as far as possible be inscribed on the memento.

AUSTRALIAN FLYING FIFTEEN ASSOCIATION

16TH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

LAKE MACQUARIE

2ND - 10TH JANUARY, 1978

<u>YACHT</u>		<u>HELMSMAN</u>	<u>1st HEAT</u>		<u>2nd HEAT</u>		<u>3rd HEAT</u>		<u>4th HEAT</u>		<u>5th HEAT</u>		<u>6th HEAT</u>		<u>7th HEAT</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Place</u>
<u>NAME</u>	<u>NO.</u>		<u>Plce.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Plce.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Plce.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Plce.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Plce.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Plce.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Plce.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	
ASSAGAI	581	M. Graham	46	52	51	57	51	57*	39	45	47	53	40	46	47	53	363	306	49
BLACKBEARD	2107	P. Van Rugge	42	48	44	50	49	55	52	58*	51	57	47	53	45	51	372	314	50
BLUEBELL	1370	J. Smith	12	18	8	14	18	24*	7	13	7	13	3	5.7	1	0	87.7	63.7	7
CERVANTES	2103	A. Wood	6	11.7	5	10	2	3	9	15	17	23*	4	8	7	13	83.7	60.7	5
CONCORDE	1203	A. Horton	DNF	62*	12	18	19	25	27	33	27	33	11	17	26	32	220	158	21
CURRAWONG	583	C. Villa	25	31	DNF	62*	15	21	22	28	35	41	31	37	29	35	255	193	30
DEEBAN	1199	R. Martinsen	41	47	45	51*	43	49	37	43	33	39	26	32	40	46	307	256	40
DON QUIXOTE	2105	R. Kernot	17	23*	1	0	12	18	2	3	4	8	7	13	2	3	68	45	3
EMMA II	2118	R. Armstrong	18	24	28	34	8	14	11	17	12	18	48	54*	24	30	193	139	17
EXCALIBUR	1725	D. Lowe	5	10	7	13	3	5.7	8	14	11	17*	5	10	10	16	85.7	68.7	9
FLIGHTY	1894	M. Hopkins	36	42	25	31	42	48*	29	35	8	14	21	27	33	39	236	188	28
FFOX II	2108	R. Davies	19	25	32	38	32	38	43	49*	28	34	35	41	41	47	272	223	35
FORTUNA	1362	G. Hood	14	20	16	22	9	15	6	11.7	24	30*	20	26	15	21	145.7	115.7	12
GAZELLE	1900	G. Black	4	8	4	8	1	0	4	8	1	0	9	15	12	18*	57	39	1
GEORGIE GIRL	1665	R. Beard	33	39*	13	19	24	30	15	21	15	21	14	20	18	24	174	135	16
GHOST	1175	B. Jordan	DNF	62	43	49	45	51	53	59	53	59	DNF	62	DNF	62*	404	342	54
GOOSE	1409	A. Lidgett	27	33	36	42	22	28	45	51	38	44	49	55*	49	55	308	253	39
GUMLEAVES	1881	B. Phillips	38	44*	19	25	25	31	30	36	21	27	33	39	30	36	238	194	31
HUNKEY DORY	2109	N. Davies	8	14	11	17	5	10	14	20*	5	10	8	14	9	15	100	80	10
INNISFREE	1410	P. McAuley	3	5.7	9	15	7	13	10	16	2	3	13	19*	5	10	81.7	62.7	6
KALIDOSCOPE	1720	E. Villa	45	51	50	56	52	58	49	55	54	60*	52	58	51	57	397	335	53

YACHT		HELMSEMAN	1st Heat		2nd Heat		3rd Heat		4th Heat		5th Heat		6th Heat		7th Heat		Total Pts.	Net Pts.	Place
NAME	NO.		Place.	Pts.	Place.	Pts.	Place.	Pts.	Place.	Pts.	Place.	Pts.	Place.	Pts.	Place.	Pts.			
LIME SPLICE	1717	P. Cummings	DNF	62*	29	35	48	54	34	40	39	45	39	45	36	42	323	261	43
LOCKINVAR	1884	R. Reid	35	41	40	46	44	50	24	30	44	50	46	52	27	33	302	250	38
MACH II	1201	D. Bennett	16	22	30	36	33	39	19	25	31	37	22	28	43	49*	236	187	27
MIDGET	1052	B. McKensey	44	50	49	55	DNF	62*	36	42	49	55	50	56	28	34	354	292	46
MOLLY-O VI	1774	A. McCutcheon	34	40	41	47	34	40	46	52*	34	40	28	34	37	43	296	244	37
MOODY-BLUE	2113	M. Holmes	32	38	37	43	29	35	44	50	46	52*	37	43	46	52	313	261	42
MOTHERBIRD III	1949	G. Birdsall	39	45	DNF	62*	46	52	38	44	52	58	44	50	50	56	367	305	48
MUSKRAT RAMBLE	1679	N. Peck	15	21	46	52*	39	45	25	31	36	42	29	35	38	44	270	218	34
PHILANDERER	1380	L. Bach	26	32	17	23	14	20	13	19	22	28	6	11.7	34	40*	173.7	133.7	15
QUARTET	706	Russell Reid	DNF	62*	20	26	30	36	50	56	37	43	27	33	16	22	278	216	33
RAPID	972	J. Handford	11	17	21	27	36	42*	33	39	24	30	25	31	14	20	206	164	23
RELIENCE III	1663	K. Billings	37	43	47	53	47	53	51	57*	45	51	36	42	44	50	349	292	47
RELIENCE IV	1677	P. Craig	22	28	14	20	40	46*	35	41	19	25	34	40	32	38	238	192	29
RELIENCE V	2115	T. Shand	7	13	6	11.7	23	29*	16	22	3	5.7	2	3	6	11.7	96.1	67.1	8
RENDEZVOUS	1885	A. Kiely	40	46	48	54	50	56	47	53	50	56	51	57	52	58*	380	322	51
ROLLINGSTONE	2104	J. Rowling	31	37	35	41*	26	32	12	18	20	26	18	24	20	26	204	163	22
SECRET FIFTEEN	1398	P. Clauson	DNF	62*	39	45	20	26	48	54	42	48	38	44	48	54	332	270	44
SECRET FLYER	2111	K. Jenyns	1	0	3	5.7	4	8	3	5.7	6	11.7	16	22*	13	19	72.1	50.1	4
SEVENTH HEAVEN	545	D. Walbourn	DNF	62*	52	58	35	41	31	37	32	38	41	47	31	37	320	258	41
SINIT II	1171	J. Carr	24	30	22	28	27	33	20	26	40	46*	17	23	11	17	203	157	20
SSNAP	1701	N. Blumann	2	3	14	20	DNF	62*	32	38	26	32	19	25	3	5.7	185.7	123.7	13
STAR DUST	1889	G. Coulton	23	29*	10	16	11	17	17	23	18	24	15	21	22	28	160	131	14
SUNDERLAND	1941	T. Stokes	47	53*	26	32	6	11.7	42	48	41	47	45	51	39	45	287.7	234.7	36
SUPARGOGE	1718	B. Shirtley	21	27	31	37	37	43*	28	34	29	35	12	18	19	25	219	176	25
TWO-7-CIRC	1675	B. West	28	34	34	40*	13	19	5	10	13	19	24	30	17	23	185	145	18