

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2003

The Leeuwin Estate 41st Australian Flying 15 Championship was hosted by Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club (RFBYC) over the week 3rd to 10th January. The event was sailed on the Swan River, Perth, WA and attracted fifty-six Flying 15's with representatives from WA, Queensland, Victoria, the UK and Switzerland.

RFBYC is a magnificent club situated on a point with gorgeous river views. The regatta ran very smoothly and enabled the club to show off its excellent facilities and club spirit. The very competitive fleet included past World Champions John Cassidy, Graeme Lillingston and Alan Bax together with previous National Champions Bill Shand, Grant Alderson, Craig Rainey, Ronald Packer and Nick Jerwood.

The nine race series was characterised by light and shifty winds - unusual for this venue. To achieve consistent results, crews needed to be able to start well on the congested start lines and be able to "change gears" in the shifty and changeable conditions. These difficult sailing conditions enabled many different teams to have "moments of glory" at the front of the fleet - often to then have their glory snatched away by a nasty wind shift!
RFBYC members took the first four places overall.

Nick and Janet Jerwood, in Spot the Difference, won the invitation race and then sailed a consistent series of three 1st places, a 2nd and three 3rd places, to finish with 14 points; enough to take the Championship with the final two races still to be sailed.

Rod Beurteaux and Chris O'Keefe, in 16, have made a welcome return to the Flying 15 fleet. Their boat was launched only two weeks prior to the regatta but still managed to finish the week in second place, just one point ahead of Grant Alderson and Dean McAullay. Grant and Dean, in Open the Gate, as always showed great speed and tactical awareness throughout the regatta. They included two 1st places and a second but unfortunately three results of 10th and worse impacted on their final point's tally, placing them in third spot overall.

Ron Packer and Peter Mudford, in Affrodisiac (4th Overall) took the Masters Trophy. Graeme Lillingston, Flying15 legend, crewed for Nils Blumann of Esperance Bay Yacht Club. Their performance improved as the week progressed with a string of good results and a near race win, placing them 5th overall. In 6th place overall were Ashley Smith and Kim Thumpkin in FAB. They had a mixed regatta with two 1st places and two 2nd places but lacked the consistency in this regatta to achieve a better overall placing.

Other race winners were Craig and Ian Rainey from Victoria who won the first race and Tony Lee / Chris Hough from the UK sailing Firefox II and won the penultimate race. The Silver Division was won by Peter Burtenshaw and Paul Stead. The Classic Division winners were Ian Anderson and Richard Blaquiere.

An enjoyable program of social events complemented the racing series, culminating with a prizegiving dinner at the clubhouse. The prizewinners were presented with fabulous hand painted pottery depicting a Flying 15 racing in Freshwater Bay.

Janet Jerwood

**a 44th perspective of the
41st Leeuwin Estate National
Championships in Perth 2003**

After travelling over 3450 kilometres 'Turning Vehicle' arrived at Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club (RFBYC) 10 days prior to the commencement of the 41st Leeuwin Estate National Championships. On arrival we were greeted by Bruce McGeorge ('Clapped out Old Toy Boy') who made Cheryl and I most welcome and showed us around the magnificent club facilities of the RFBYC.

After dumping the boat we went off to enjoy our Christmas holidays with the family in Perth and returned on the afternoon of measurement day to be met by Chief Measurer, Ray Sebo and his band of willing helpers, who made the measuring formalities go smoothly. The registration was well planned with competitor packs prepared for distribution, who managed by another group of tireless workers, the Flying Fifteen ladies of RFBYC.

Welcome night was a hoot, with quantities of *Leeuwin Estate* wine from Margaret River in supply, and tasty finger food – both hot and cold – and of course some cold jugs of *Emu Export*. The invited guests and competitors were greeted by the flag officers and introduced to the Patron of the class Mr Tally Hobbs, who built the first Flying Fifteen in Australia: out of stripped planks and reputedly used 30,000 copper nails and roves. Tally in his mid-nineties spoke of the development of the Fifteen class in Australia, and how he obtained The Coweslip Trophy (Overall National Championship Trophy).

The race management for the event conducted on the Melville Waters, was excellent with several classes having to share the waters to cover other classes National Championships as the Flying Ant, J24 and 14ft Skiff, resulting in some morning starts (9am on 3 days) and 1pm afternoon starts, also with the postponements. The back-to-back race format is the the only way, with more time on the water .

The 41st Australian Championships will be remembered as the year the 'Fremantle Doctor' did not arrive. The last day of competition was when we finally got a taste of the true 'Doctor', when we sailed the early morning scheduled race, heat 9 and two resails. That day was probably the best sailing with three back-to-back short course races – (one sausage and one triangle with a short beat to the finish), resulting in exhilarating flat, warm water racing. The short courses throughout the series, meant close racing and many pile ups on the marks (as the cover shot), and at our back of the fleet we opted for the safer option of wide mark roundings. We managed to achieve our objective of completing every race, not coming last and not being involved in any collisions (which I think was quite an achievement in such a 55-boat fleet.)

Janet and Nick Jerwood in 'Spot the Difference' (WA) won with 14 points. They sailed such a good series with no need to sail the last two heats. Their result was more pleasing because Janet was one of the nine women competing and is a **strong advocate of more women into Fifteens!!!** Second was '16', a brand new boat skippered by Rod Beurteaux with Chris O'Keefe as crew, with 30 points. One point behind was 'Open the Gate', Grant Alderson and Dean McAullay in third place. A total of 55 boats competed in the regatta with five boats travelling from Victoria and four from Queensland. From the perspective of a first time Nationals competitor it was a well run event, with very friendly Western Australians particularly Steve and Jonno who assisted with retrieval and crane operating on the wharf where we used one of the five cranes daily.

Presentation night came and went and many Fifteen stories were swapped. Trophies were presented and a few more glasses of *Leeuwin Estate* produce were consumed. Well done to all at Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club and the many volunteers who made the week so successful and very memorable.

Next year's championship will be held at Tin Can Bay Yacht Club in Queensland, 11 – 16 January 2004.

Peter Taylor

Turning Vehicle 3245

Top Ten Open place getters

Nick and Janet Jerwood	
Spot the Difference (RFBYC WA)	14 points
Rod Beurteaux / Chris O'Keefe	
16 (RFBYC WA)	30 points
Grant Alderson / Dean McAullay	
Open the Gate (RFBYC WA)	31 points
Ron Packer / Peter Mudford	
Affrodisiac (RFBYC WA)	42 points
Nils Blumann / Graeme Lillingstone	
The Last Won (EBYC WA)	47 points
Ashley Smith / Kim Thumpkin	
Fully Active Board (TCBYC Qld)	52 points
James Flower / Steve Tyrrell	
Fast Pretending (RN & SYC UK)	62 points
Craig Rainey / Ian Rainey	
Grin and bare it (GLYC Vic)	70 points
Ian Cleaver / Greg Wells	
Gripple Nipper (RHYC Scot)	74 points
Hamish Carnachan / Ray Sebo	
Relience 17 (RFBYC WA)	75 points

Remaining Victorian place getters

Bill Shand / David Parish	14th place
Relience Ffenty (GLYC)	99 points
Brian Carroll / Lyn Wallace	30th place
iff only it's Supertoy (MSC)	167 points
Peter and Cheryl Taylor	44th place
Turning Vehicle (MSC)	252 points
Wendy and Rod Gardiner	50th place
F'n F (GLYC)	326 points

LEEWIN ESTATE
INTERNATIONAL FLYING FIFTEEN CLASS
41ST AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

FINAL RESULTS

Place	Bow No	Boat Name	Skipper	Total	Net	Heat 1	Heat 2	Heat 3	Heat 4	Heat 5	Heat 6	Heat 9	Heat 7	Heat 8
1	11	Spot The Difference	Nick Jerwood	126	14	3(3)	2(2)	3(3)	1(1)	1(1)	3(3)	1(1)	[56](DNS)	[56](DNS)
2	37	16	Rod Beurteaux	52	30	13	7(7)	2(2)	3(3)	7(7)	4(4)	3(3)	4(4)	9
3	5	Open The Gate	Grant Alderson	60	31	2(2)	1(1)	6(6)	6(6)	10(10)	15	5(5)	14	1(1)
4	2	Affrodisiac	Ronald Packer	82	42	25	3(3)	12(12)	2(2)	15	2(2)	4(4)	11(11)	8(8)
5	16	The Last Won	Nils Blumann	83	47	19	17	8(8)	15(15)	3(3)	9(9)	6(6)	3(3)	3(3)
6	27	Fully Active Board	Ashley Smith	92	52	17(17)	22	1(1)	12(12)	2(2)	1(1)	2(2)	17(17)	18
7	22	Past Pretending	James Flower	128	62	28	13(13)	7(7)	5(5)	38	11(11)	19(19)	5(5)	2(2)
8	51	Grin and Bare It	Craig Rainey	112	70	1(1)	14(14)	19(19)	7(7)	6(6)	18(18)	21	21	5(5)
9	56	Gripple Nipper	Ian Cleaver	153	74	5(5)	23	5(5)	11(11)	11(11)	10(10)	14(14)	18(18)	[56](DNS)
10	4	Relience 17	Hamish Carnachan	119	75	10(10)	5(5)	22	4(4)	16(16)	22	18(18)	15(15)	7(7)
11	6	Escalator	Glenn Porter	139	83	6(6)	8(8)	16(16)	36	17(17)	12(12)	17(17)	7(7)	20
12	44	Felix	David Swan	146	84	11(11)	10(10)	30	9(9)	6(6)	32	25(25)	14(14)	
13	23	Frequent Flyer	Alan Bax	135	96	16(16)	18(18)	11(11)	10(10)	18(18)	16(16)	7(7)	20	19
14	42	Relience Ffentry	William Shand	158	99	8(8)	11(11)	14(14)	16(16)	31	28	12(12)	26(26)	12(12)
15	18	Glamour Buoys	Greg Leaversuch	149	101	12(12)	12(12)	24	18(18)	19(19)	24	10(10)	19(19)	11(11)
16	1	Fast Lane	John Cassidy	187	102	9(9)	[56](OCS)	4(4)	14(14)	14(14)	29	20(20)	28(28)	13(13)
17	41	Red Shift	Geoff Totterdell	158	102	30	16(16)	10(10)	26	23(23)	8(8)	15(15)	13(13)	17(17)
18	20	Southern Star IV	Greg Omay	181	103	20(20)	4(4)	9(9)	20(20)	22(22)	44	13(13)	34	15(15)
19	29	Stress Free Zone	Peter Burtenshaw	168	109	7(7)	9(9)	25(25)	13(13)	20(20)	33	11(11)	24(24)	26
20	9	Catch Me Iff You Can	Chris Wells	169	110	14(14)	15(15)	18(18)	24(24)	29	30	27(27)	2(2)	10(10)
21	17	Lono	Clive Beeton	180	117	21(21)	32	20(20)	27(27)	8(8)	7(7)	31	10(10)	24(24)
22	32	Mon Ami	William Nichols	186	122	15(15)	31	27(27)	19(19)	33	14(14)	8(8)	12(12)	27(27)
23	52	Foenix	John Crosby	196	129	37	21(21)	17(17)	22(22)	5(5)	19(19)	23(23)	22(22)	30
24	19	Big Boys Toy	Brad Logan	210	136	23(23)	20(20)	15(15)	8(8)	13(13)	38	24(24)	33(33)	36
25	47	Gazelle VI	Peter Rooke	246	147	18(18)	6(6)	21(21)	25(25)	21(21)	43	25(25)	[56](OCS)	31(31)
26	36	Dead Calm and Raining	Rupert Leslie	215	148	26(26)	34	23(23)	17(17)	24(24)	5(5)	33	31(31)	22(22)
27	50	Dazed and Confused	John Wallace	253	157	39(39)	[56](RAF)	32(32)	37(37)	40	13(13)	22(22)	8(8)	6(6)
28	24	Panda	Peter Whipp	235	158	22(22)	24(24)	29(29)	34	4(4)	27(27)	29(29)	43	23(23)
29	21	Happy Days	Kim Peaker	258	162	24(24)	30(30)	40	33(33)	34(34)	31(31)	[56](RAF)	6(6)	4(4)
30	39	Iff Only Its Supertoy	Brian Carroll	260	167	27(27)	25(25)	13(13)	29(29)	12(12)	34(34)	37	27(27)	[56](DNF)
31	10	Family Funded	Bill Bland	258	188	34(34)	29(29)	26(26)	23(23)	35(35)	35	9(9)	32(32)	35
32	54	Saturday Matinee	Till Klammer	269	188	29(29)	40	37(37)	30(30)	25(25)	41	28(28)	23(23)	16(16)
33 08A		Firefox	Tony Lee	303	191	31(31)	39(39)	56(DNC)	[56](DNC)	27(27)	21(21)	16(16)	1(1)	[56](DNS)
34	53	The Other Women	Michael Fels	311	199	40(40)	[56](DNF)	39(39)	21(21)	[56](DSQ)	32(32)	30(30)	9(9)	28(28)
35	3	Fudge and Flagons	Craig Hansen	280	202	35(35)	19(19)	28(28)	38	36(36)	40	34(34)	29(29)	21(21)
36	3	Clapped Out Toy Boy	Bruce McGeorge	313	212	4(4)	28(28)	[56](OCS)	40(40)	45	36(36)	39(39)	40(40)	25(25)
37	49	Wild Card	David Dwyer	304	221	41	37(37)	38(38)	42	28(28)	17(17)	26(26)	35(35)	40(40)
38	38	Electric Diamonds	Ian Anderson	315	232	42	41(41)	33(33)	41	30(30)	26(26)	36(36)	37(37)	29(29)
39	31	Fiddle-De-Dee	David Reynolds	333	242	36(36)	35(35)	35(35)	35(35)	39(39)	46	45	30(30)	32(32)
40	28	Phantom	Ken Bubb	339	247	32(32)	36(36)	46	45(45)	42(42)	42(42)	46	16(16)	34(34)
41	7	Alibi	James Healy	328	247	38(38)	33(33)	31(31)	39(39)	37(37)	39	42	36(36)	33(33)
42	15	Alzheimers Express	Alan Sharpe	361	249	44(44)	26(26)	41(41)	31(31)	26(26)	25(25)	[56](DNS)	56(DNS)	[56](DNS)
43	34	Fifty/Fifty	Larry Bardsley	340	249	33(33)	27(27)	45	46	32(32)	37(37)	40(40)	41(41)	39(39)
44	26	Turning Vehicle	Peter Taylor	338	252	43	38(38)	43	32(32)	41(41)	23(23)	41(41)	39(39)	38(38)
45	13	Simpatico	Barry Truman	391	279	45(45)	42(42)	56(DNF)	[56](DNF)	43(43)	20(20)	35(35)	38(38)	[56](DNC)
46	35	C mon Feel The Noize	Richard Shillington	393	287	50	43(43)	34(34)	43(43)	44(44)	[56](OCS)	38(38)	48(48)	37(37)
47	55	Felice	Harry Miller	421	318	51	44(44)	44(44)	52	46(46)	49(49)	47(47)	42(42)	46(46)
48	14	Mexican Wave	Avon Sherwell	431	324	48(48)	[56](DNF)	48(48)	50(50)	51	47(47)	43(43)	46(46)	42(42)
49	25	Sweet Caroline	Tom Thuijs	426	325	46(46)	46(46)	49(49)	47(47)	49(49)	51	50	44(44)	44(44)
50	45	F n F	Wendy Gardiner	429	326	52	48(48)	42(42)	48(48)	48(48)	50(50)	51	47(47)	43(43)
51	46	Yknot	Nick Norris	429	326	47(47)	45(45)	47(47)	44(44)	53	48(48)	48(48)	50	47(47)
52	30	Gazelle III	John Midolo	426	327	49(49)	47(47)	50	49(49)	47(47)	45(45)	49	45(45)	45(45)
53	48	Just Another Victim	Kate Thorne	442	336	53	49(49)	51(51)	53	50(50)	52(52)	44(44)	49(49)	41(41)
54 08 B		Firefox	Philippa Packer	456	344	56(DNC)	56(DNC)	36(36)	28(28)	56(DNC)	56(DNC)	[56](DNC)	56(DNC)	[56](DNC)
55	40	Topaz II	Michael Robinson	471	361	54	50(50)	52(52)	51(51)	52(52)	53(53)	52(52)	51(51)	[56](DNS)

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SILVER DIVISION

Place	Bow No	Boat Name	Skipper	Total	Net	Heat 1	Heat 2	Heat 3	Heat 4	Heat 5	Heat 6	Heat 9	Heat 7	Heat 8
1	29	Stress Free Zone	Peter Burtenshaw	27	16	1(1)	2(2)	4(4)	1(1)	2(2)	6	2(2)	5	4(4)
2	52	Foenix	John Crosby	32	18	8	3(3)	1(1)	4(4)	1(1)	3(3)	3(3)	3(3)	6
3	32	Mon Ami	William Nichols	33	20	2(2)	6	5(5)	3(3)	7	2(2)	1(1)	2(2)	5(5)
4	36	Dead Calm and Raining	Rupert Leslie	38	24	5(5)	7	3(3)	2(2)	4(4)	1(1)	6(6)	7	3(3)
5	47	Gazelle VI	Peter Rooke	48	25	3(3)	1(1)	2(2)	5(5)	3(3)	8	4(4)	[15](OCS)	7(7)
6	21	Happy Days	Kim Peaker	57	33	4(4)	5(5)	9(9)	9	8(8)	5(5)	[15](RAF)	1(1)	1(1)
7	54	Saturday Matinee	Till Klammer	53	36	6(6)	9	8	7(7)	5(5)	7(7)	5(5)	4(4)	2(2)
8	31	Fiddle-De-Dee	David Reynolds	73	54	7(7)	8(8)	7(7)	10	9(9)	9(9)	9	6(6)	8(8)
9	15	Alzheimers Express	Alan Sharpe	86	56	9(9)	4(4)	10(10)	8(8)	6(6)	4(4)	[15](DNS)	15(DNS)	[15](DNS)
10	35	C mon Feel The Noize	Richard Shillington	89	63	11(11)	10(10)	6(6)	11	10(10)	[15](OCS)	7(7)	10(10)	9(9)
11	55	Felice	Harry Miller	101	75	12(12)	11(11)	12(12)	14	11(11)	11(11)	10(10)	8(8)	12
12	45	F n F	Wendy Gardiner	106	80	13(13)	13	11(11)	13	12(12)	12(12)	12(12)	9(9)	11(11)
13	46	Yknot	Nick Norris	107	80	10(10)	12(12)	13(13)	12(12)	14	10(10)	11(11)	12(12)	13
14	48	Just Another Victim	Kate Thorne	112	83	14(14)	14(14)	14	15	13(13)	13(13)	8(8)	11(11)	10(10)

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CLASSIC DIVISION

Place	Bow No	Boat Name	Skipper	Total	Net	Heat 1	Heat 2	Heat 3	Heat 4	Heat 5	Heat 6	Heat 9	Heat 7	Heat 8
1	38	Electric Diamonds	Ian Anderson	11	7	1(1)	1(1)	1(1)	1(1)	1(1)	2	2	1(1)	1(1)
2	13	Simpatico	Barry Truman	31	17	2(2)	2(2)	7(DNF)	[7](DNF)	2(2)	1(1)	1(1)	2(2)	[7](DNC)
3	25	Sweet Caroline	Tom Thuijs	31	21	3(3)	3(3)	3(3)	2(2)	4(4)	5	5	3(3)	3(3)
4	14	Mexican Wave	Avon Sherwell	36	24	4(4)	[7](DNF)	2(2)	4(4)	5(5)	4(4)	3(3)	5	2(2)
5	30	Gazelle III	John Midolo	34	25	5	4(4)	4(4)	3(3)	3(3)	3(3)	4	4(4)	4(4)
6	40	Topaz II	Michael Robinson	52	39	6(6)	5(5)	5(5)	5(5)	6(6)	6(6)	6	6(6)	[7](DNS)