

# River Rumours

## MANAWATU POWER BOAT CLUB INC. NEWSLETTER

### CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

February 2012

21st & 22nd January 2012

## 41st Manawatu Gold Cup

Story & Photos by Phillip Hoskyn

Sadly the Weather was not kind to us for our Regatta. The wind was relentless and did not turn like the forecast said it would. Saturday looked promising but we only got through 5 races before the water was too rough to continue. We had a great turnout out of Boats with 33 entered for Racing. Everyone put a lot of work into making the Regatta a successful one and despite the lack of racing a good time was had by all in the Campground.



Heat 1 North Island Clubman's Championship: Only 6 Boats had entered the Championship all were Manawatu Boats. This race was first on the Programme and the Start was an eventful one with Vicki Marshall "AWOL" 5th into turn one saw her roll out of the boat in the wakes of the first 4 craft. Vicki and the boat were both ok. The restart we were down to four starters with

Bayden Sprozen in "Mad Dog Maddi" late trying to get the boat to fire. The race was a procession led by Ross Ledger "Dire Straits" from Phillip Hoskyn "Pincoya", Bryce Bennett "Rampage" and Rochelle Dennis in "Anarchy".

Heat 2 North Island Clubman's Championship: Race two and "AWOL" wasn't yet ready to run. The Start was bang on by all Boats and turn one was very interesting with Boats looking for room. The run to the second turn saw even more action with 2nd placed "Anarchy slipping back to 5th as she went wide and everyone slipped up the inside. "Dire Straits" passed "Rampage" on Lap 2 and slipped away to win by half a lap. "Anarchy" pulled out with the conditions a bit rough. The Battle for 2nd was a three way Race right down to the line "Mad Dg Maddi", "Pincoya" and "Rampage" all swapped positions the throughout the Race these Boats are very evenly matched. "Mad Dog Maddi" just piped "Pincoya" on the line but cooked the Motor doing so.

Final Championship Results:

- 1st Ross Ledger "Dire Straits"
- 2nd Phillip Hoskyn "Pincoya"
- 3rd Bryce Bennett "Rampage"
- 4th Bayden Sprozen "Mad Dog Maddi"
- 5th Rochelle Dennis "Anarchy"



#### Series 3000 Scratch Race:

Series 3000 Boats Paul Robertson "Going Going Gone", Bruce Packer "Brooster" and Alan Steiner "Misty Blue" were joined by Steve Williams "Rip it Up". The Boats all crossed the line at the same time on the start but "Misty Blue" and "Going Going Gone" lead away with "Misty Blue" holding the inside racing line making "Going Going Gone" work very hard to try to make a pass the water was not kind to the Flatties in the Turns and this was the deciding factor in the race. "Misty Blue" 1st with "Going Going Gone" 2nd, "Rip it Up" 3rd and "Brooster" coming home 4th



#### V8 Inboard Scratch Race:

The Big V8's had a field of 6 starters with the conditions in favour of the Skiffs Ben Ryan "Dancing Bear" and Jeff Robinson "Bavarian", the Flatties were going to be up against it. Going into to Turn one Ian Warmington "Razzle Dazzle" went in first with two boats on his outside but then headed for the trees much to Ben Ryan's Surprise. Ben had to give Ian a friendly bump or two as the trees were brushing off his Helmet. Steve Denham "Inject the Venom" cut back inside of these two to avoid hitting them right into the path of "Bavarian" who

jumped on the go peddle to get out of trouble. After lap 1 the two skiffs were side by side but "Inject the Venom" was done with and started to peg them both back. "Razzle Dazzle" pulled out with a mechanical issue and Paul Read "Undacover" and Dean Probyn "Lucky Break" were both happy to settle in at the back and get some drive time in. Going into the Last lap and "Bavarian" pulled the pin when his engine started to overheat. "Inject the Venom" gave it one last shot down the straight but the Flattie had to bow to the skiff "Dancing Bear" in the turn. A great race and good win to Christchurch's Ben Ryan "Dancing Bear"



#### Hydroplane Scratch Race:

This was raced in very doubtful conditions and the 5 starters looked to take things easy at first Tracy Gapper "Tempo Too" hit the line first with Daniel Hall "Foreno Tapware" and Daniel Pollack "Undertaker", Steve Mathieson "Midnight" was happy to sit back in 4th and drive to the conditions. Brodie Mathieson "Dtect Motorsport" was late on the start and looked to run very hard to catch up to the leaders he soon stormed passed "Midnight" and then "Tempo Too" and set about chasing down the two Daniel's in front. "Foreno Tapware" in the 3lt Hydro was keeping to the pole line not an easy thing to do in the bigger Hydro and "Undertaker" the smaller 2lt hydro was driving hard around the outside. It took all 4 laps but "Undertaker" prevailed at the end in a great display of driving skills.



The club would like to thank the following sponsors of the 41st running of the Gold Cup

The Trust Community Foundation  
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Stokes Valley Collision Repair Ltd  
Tate Engineering  
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O'Malleys  
Foreno Tapware  
Dennis Beggs  
Mobile Mechanical Solutions

All the money received was spent putting on the 41st Gold Cup Regatta and unfortunately the club would be unable to gain a second round of funding so cannot host a re run this year.

We do however appreciate everyone's enthusiasm and we look to next year when we

are looking to run later in the season in the hope of more settled weather.

The Carl Augustin Challenge Trophy and the North Island Formula 3 title will now be run at Wanganui on the 10th and 11th March.

The club would like to sincerely thank the following people who volunteered their time to help run the event:

Dennis Dustin – Race Controller  
Bill Gaudin – Zone Steward  
Andrea Robinson, Sheree Dunlop and Raewyn Palmer in the control tower  
Julie Robertson, Sharon Hall and Anne Arthur for the wonderful driver's lunches  
Bob Smith – flags (with training from Leigh Marsden)  
Paul Hartle – gate  
The Tararua 4 wheel drive club for helping launch boats  
Craig Southey & Tim Fellows out on the water  
Joe Booth – Ramp Steward

### **11th & 12th February Matt Morrison Memorial Wellington Regatta Story & Photos by Phillip Hoskyn**

13 Manawatu Boats travelled to Wellington to support the Clubs Regatta this past weekend. Sadly Kent Dunlop in Razors Edge was unable to partake after the Engine continued to cause headaches.



The Matt Morrison Races were held in some pretty rough water and this was not that suitable Steve Denham in Inject the Venom. The Denham's were having their first taste of rough water in the new boat. Steve set the second fastest time in the Hot Laps but in the race conditions slipped back to finish 6<sup>th</sup> in race 1 and 4<sup>th</sup> in race 2. Mike Wotton won the first heat of the MMM, Mike took the lead from turn one and was uncatchable. The race was stopped on Lap 3 when Evan White Fell out of his Firewatch Racing Flattie. Race 2 was down to just 5 starters but it was a very close race between Richard Smith, Ben Ryan and Mike Wotton. Richard Smith held on for the win over Mike Wotton and Ben Ryan.

Final Points

- 1st Mike Wotton "Bowtie Boogie" 700pts
- 2nd Richard Smith "Ballistic" 625pts
- 3rd Ben Ryan "Dancing Bear" 525pts
- 4th Steve Denham "Inject the Venom" 394pts
- 5th Dean Probyn "Lucky Break" 296pts

North Island Modified Hydroplane Title Hopes were high for this title with 4 Manawatu boats Armageddon, Tempo Too, Fast FWD & Foreno Tapware taking on the man from Bluff Allan Ballantyne in Rage.

Sadly all the Manawatu Craft had problems throughout the weekend with Armageddon pulling out during practice. Foreno Tapware had computer trouble and didn't start the two heats. Both heats were identical finishes with the Rage boat having too much pace for Tempo Too and Fast FWD.

Final Points

- Allan Ballantyne "Rage" 800pts
- Tracy Gapper "Tempo Too" 600pts
- Tony Arthur "Fast FWD" 450pts



Scott Dennis had his Formula 3 boat at wellington but he was also having a few problems and did not get out to race.

Clubman's were struggling to get a field together for Wellington but some late entries saw 7 Manawatu Boats make it there and they had some pretty good racing. Tony Arthurs "Buzz" had a new engine and a new driver and after a few set up problems this boat was going well by the end of the weekend. Vicki Marshall had a new Hull for AWOL and is looking to improve on its set up. The Saturday races were a bit rough for some and they took it easy. Sunday's water was smooth and everyone had a great time on the water.



*Phillip flying!*

## MEMBER PROFILE

### Story by Tony Hall

#### Don Hall

DON HALL 1920- 2002

Donald Stuart Hall was born in Havelock in 1920. He left school at 12 & helped to run the small family property. After 5 years in the Army mainly driving Tanks during World War 2 & later becoming a Trainer for the Americans who took back the Islands from the Japanese. He brought his first Butcher shop in 1948 & started boat racing the same year.

Tempest was an early World War 2 American Fighter plane, which Don was impressed with. So all his 5 race boats were named after that fighter plane

His first 2 TEMPEST's were both Cracker Box'es. Tempest 3 though was a stepped Hydroplane, Tempest 1V was a square fronted Hydroplane, which was well before it's time as there were no engines around powerful enough to lift the boat off the water properly.



*Tempest I*



*Tempest III*



*Tempest IV on the right*

*Tony Shuttleworth 'Flak Too' in the middle and Arnold Johnson in 'Atom' on the left*

Tempest 5 was an American "Champion" design 13' 6", built by Don Tyrell in Blenheim & was one of the first real Hydroplanes, as we know them today. Don is best known for driving of this craft "TEMPEST V".



*Tempest V*

He raced this 13ft 6" V8 266 cu in Champion designed Hydroplane for 30 x 266 cu. inch class rolling starts & was never beaten in a 266 cu in class race.

"Tempest V" was the one of the first 3-point Hydroplane to break the 60 mph barrier. This was achieved along the Nelson waterfront in 1953.

The Ernie Combes anchor he won for this feat is one of my most precious possessions & is permantly on show in my house.

He held the 266' cu in class N.Z. water speed record 5 times (the fastest being 78mph 130 klms) & won the Pelorus Jack Cup Trophy Race 3 Times. He finished 2nd twice in the Masport Cup.

Don won 5 National Titles, 8 South Island Titles & 3 North Island Titles.

After retiring from racing he stayed on the N.Z Powerboat Association Executive until about 1968.

He sold his Hydroplane to a member of the Manawatu Club ( Hec Bramley,) I think & the "Tempest" name was raced here by several driver's the best known being Ross Knight.

Don was a personal friend of Sir Len Southward & "Redhead" often stayed at our family home in Blenheim when I was growing up, as Len often raced his Masport & Griffith Cups at Picton.

Don remained interested in boat racing all his life & attended a Manawatu A.G.M. Dinner in 1998 /1999, when we had 3 generations of Hall boat races in attendance. He continued to crew with me right up until his Death in 2002.

Don brought a lot of new driver's into the sport, the most famous one being Jack Ryan from Christchurch. Jack at the time was a life saver at New Brighton.

He was biking home when he heard this almighty roar coming from the Estuary & went down to have a look.

Jack has told me that the magnificent sight of this V8 powered "Tempest V" Hydroplane travelling at over 60 mph, inspired him to not only become a race driver. But to go on & design his own exceptionally fast Hydroplanes. How many Ryan's drivers did that event put into the sport???

Don's grandson Brenden now races a Ryan Craft "Armageddon", which is one of the best river Hydroplanes ever built in New Zealand.

The Hall family still holds the "Tempest" name & hope to include it back on one of our current race boats shortly.

## JOKE OF THE MONTH

### Submitted by Colin Robertson

A man worked in a post office, His job was to process all the mail that had illegible addresses.

One day a letter came to his desk, addressed in a shaky handwriting to God. He thought, "I better open this one and see what it's all about"

So he opened it and it read:

"Dear God, I am an 83 year old widow living on a very small pension. Yesterday someone stole my purse. I had a hundred dollars in it which was all the money I had until my next pension check."

"Next Sunday is Easter, and I had invited two of my friends over for dinner. Without that money, I have nothing to buy food with"

"I have no family to turn to, and you are my only hope. Can you please help me?"

The postal worker was touched, and went around showing the letter to all the others.

Each of them dug into their wallets and came up with a few dollars. By the time he had made the rounds, he had collected \$96 which he put into an envelope and sent to the old lady. The rest of the day, all the workers felt a warm glow thinking of the nice thing they had done.

Easter came and went, and a few days later came another letter from the old lady to God. All the workers gathered around while the letter was opened.

It read, "Dear God, How can I ever thank you enough for what you did for me?"

"Because of your generosity, I was able to fix a lovely dinner for my friends. We had a very nice day, and I told my friends of your wonderful gift"

"By the way there was \$4 missing. It was no doubt those thieving b\*sta\*rds at the post office"

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **3rd & 4th March**

#### **Lake Karapiro**

100th running of the EC Griffiths Cup

### **10th & 11th March**

#### **Wanganui Motor Boat Club**

Regatta

North Island Formula 2  
North Island Formula 3  
North Island Pro Com  
King of the River  
River City 3000  
Goldmist Hydro Cup  
Fred Robinson Memorial Cup  
Carl Augustin Challenge Trophy

### **17th & 18th March**

#### **Rotoiti Power Boat Club**

Regatta

South Island Mod VP  
South Island U/U  
South Island Formula 2  
South Island Pro Stock  
Arthur McCaa Memorial  
Round 3 NZ F1 Powerboat Tour

### **24th & 25th March**

#### **Southland Power Boat Club**

Regatta

South Island FV  
South Island Clubmans  
South Island Mod H  
South Island Formula 3

### **24th & 25th March**

#### **Manakau-Auckland Speedboat Club**

Regatta

Masport Cup  
North Island GN  
Moult Gold Cup

*That's all for Now*

*Regards*

*Rochelle Dennis*