

# Forster Regatta 2008 Report

## *The KCC representation*

Peter Lane and Gary Selwood - Taipan

Kevin Bessell and Ross Cicognani - Taipan

Julian – A Class

Mr Brewin senior – F18

Steve Brewin A Class

Arrived Friday morning about 11.30am at Forster Sailing Club to find most camp spots taken so we headed for the end and managed to find high ground to set up on, this we found later to be to our advantage. We quickly set up camp, rigged the boats establishing our access to the waterfront. Les Porter from Port Kembla dropped in for a chat a few times to talk about the upcoming nationals, he sailed sloop rigged the week end. We did not dare to move our cars, soon as you created a space either a trailer, tent or boat suddenly appeared.

There were 80 Boats registered over the weekend broken into 6 classes. The Taipans started as Div 1 with Misc 1, which included Nacra 16 square, 14 footers, Nacra 5's.

<b>F18,</b>	8 Boats	won by Brewin senior
<b>A Class,</b>	19 Boats	won by Steve Brewin
<b>Hobie 16,</b>	23 Boats	Waterhouse team
<b>Taipan 4.9,</b>	10 Boats	Steve & Lesley Kiely
<b>Nacra 5.8</b>	5 Boats	Ian Bowles
<b>Misc 1&amp;2</b>	15 Boats	Goodall team



Saturday we had three races, windward return and 1 triangle, downwind to finish.

The first race 8 to 12 knots, I found myself chasing a local from Fortser, Kingsley Pursch in a Taipan crewing on his own boat, Kingsley was demonstrating the Taipan 4.9 to Vanessa Dudley editor of Australian Sailing magazine. So keep a eye for upcoming articles.

2<sup>nd</sup> race 10 to 16, we managed a good start, running round the top mark around 3rd till we came off a amazing reach looked up, gained control, proceeded to sail right over the top of the clearance mark, straight between the hulls. We looked around and heard, you have to do a 360. We came in 6<sup>th</sup> in the fleet

During the same race Peter Lane was struggling to hold his boat down with his new standby crew of the age of 12. The final crunch came when he capsized and decided to put his feet through his mainsail. Peter retired after this event.

3<sup>rd</sup> race 16 to gusting 25 knots was hair raising, especially off the reach we managed to hang on to finish 4<sup>th</sup>



Upon our return to the beach, we were hit with a really good thunderstorm, torrential rain. The storm managed to supply two waterfronts, the lake and the pond in front of our tents, Two families camped in front were flooded ankle deep in water and mud.

Julian arrived, with his red A class strapped to a metal frame on top of his Holden Ute. Julian also retired that day with his traveller base, ripping off the crossbeam. He was later wondering the camp with this hunk of twisted aluminium looking for someone who could help. It was Mr Bunning's who finally came to the rescue the next morning. Julian fixed just in time to start the days racing.

Sunday Morning, started out at blowing a very strong westerly but soon abated to nothing at 10.00am we all still headed out in nil wind living in hope. Gary Selwood joined us that morning to the relief of Peter Lane, the Adrenalin team once more united to sail. The wind did come in from the south and created a great day. Four races with 80 boats in all directions. The powers to be added a extra windward return to the Taipans as we were finishing too early. Greg Goodall won his Misc 2 class with the Viper F16. Greg was battling to beat the F18, I do not know who won between the two. The day ended perfectly with a good sunset over the water. The big screen set up for the footy final followed by movie clips of the days sailing.



Monday started out with nil wind with 20 to 30knots forecasted. We all once more paddled out to the other side of the lake for the start only to hear, called off so we all paddled back to the beach. The wind made another appearance so off we went again. We drifted around the start boat for hour or so, what seemed. Again it was cancelled so back to the beach for rush hour, derig , presentation and hit the road home. However we chose to stay the night, have dinner at the local in Forster. Upon our return we found the camp area almost deserted with a westerly blowing about 30 knotts on shore. We parked the cars, trailers and boats in front of our tents for a windbreak to last the night. It would have been the worst night in a tent I have ever experienced. Three rigged Hobie 16's were left on the beach overnight we sighted them next morning in tangled mess in the bush.



The Forster experience was a overall enjoyable one with a lot of effort from the Forster Sailing Club members. The event was I thought well run and worth the effort to attend. Who is coming next year !