

This Sporting Life

Smythe J. Scoops the Pool in Third Great Bar Boat Race

Sydney Harbour turned on a glorious day for the Third Great Bar Boat Race with warm, sunny conditions and a lively 15 knot south-east breeze.

The conditions were perfect for the skippers and crews of the 30 boats that faced Buckworth's starting gun. A late inclusion was "Ragamuffin" the 70 foot maxi that took line honours and added yet another illustrious name to the Race's history.

The event provided a showcase for the skill and mastery of Smythe J. who won the race on handicap and took the Law Book Company sailing trophy. He was also the winner of the inaugural "Chalfont Cup" for competition amongst Judges and Silks kindly donated by Chalfont Chambers in honour of A.J. Bellanto Q.C. He was closely followed by Foster J. in "Bonfire" who took third position and was presented with a pewter donated by the Bar Association. The Bar was able to take second place with a good performance by Tomasetti in "Aston". As far as



"... Tomorrow the America's Cup!"

the silks were concerned — the less said the better! It is understood that Shand Q.C. has threatened to take himself off a grinder and on to a tiller for this year's race!

The precision crew work on "Ragamuffin" was in stark contrast to the activities on board the 80 foot ketch "Devine Decadence" skippered by Williams (of Kiwi Magic loyalty). Its name did not betray its true essence! Notwithstanding its good handicap it almost caused a complete pile up of boats near the Bradley's Head buoy as it came onto a port tack and stalled, forcing at least 4 or 5 competitors, who had right of way, to take evasive action in order to avoid collision. The boat was last seen passing into history as it headed towards the Rose Bay Wintergarden.

Kelly in "Blind Justice" at one stage was seriously challenging the ultimate winner in the run towards the Manly buoys. The pressures of the race obviously proved too much for him! As he rounded the buoy, he either came into collision with or failed to give right of way to several boats, bringing about much clenching of fists and profuse apologies on his part. He was fortunate to come home 4th in the race ahead of the fast-finishing Curtis in "Dilemma", whom he beat across the line by one second.

"Misty", skippered by Egan, could see the race slipping from his grasp. As he raced towards the Manly buoy he was seen to head out towards the Heads — no doubt to pick up a wind shift or passing breeze. Neptune was not to come to his aid!

The many incidents during the race became tales of heroic deeds and great seamanship as the post-race social activities gathered pace on Store Beach.

The handicapper, David Goode, again produced a close result amongst the leading boats and the race proved to be a very successful event. The social activities were enjoyed by all who were involved and the race is fast becoming one of the leading events in the Bar's annual calendar.

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The Featherless Kookaburra

Note: Norrish has pointed out he was **not** the semi naked man identified as him in the report in the "Winter" 1986 issue of Bar News. — Ed.

Chacun à son gout

Three Sydney Silks take their leisure in different ways.



Meagher lunches



Gleeson goes running (and smiling)



Shand is sheepish