

**Real Life Skills**  
- Build a Yacht!

# 'BugNews 38

**Kids and Adults**  
**Race Together!**

## FireBug 'Camp-and-Sail Weekend' in Beautiful Westland



Sixteen FireBugs went along to the regatta at Lake Brunner, South Island NZ



It was great fun for all, young and old. An amazing new experience for many!

### Camp & Sail weekend on Lake Brunner

Sixteen FireBugs from Christchurch went over the Alps to the West Coast for the three day weekend. The lake is superb, the weather hot and sunny, the scenery spectacular. Simon and Alison Rutherford from **KORE Sailing School** went along with several of their learner sailors and the others were a group of mixed ages. Fantastic fun was had by all. James Palleson won all the races, (James and his brother Nick sailed 'Bugs as boys and have now bought 'Bugs again and are back as adults) Nick was second overall then Arlia O'Sullivan and Nathan Harbutt.

Simon says... 'All the kids had such a good time together that they will remember it for years. The sixteen 'Bug fleet consisted of a mix of sailors - some had been in the fleet a long while and others were absolute beginners. One Dad was sailing for only the second time ever! They came from Pleasant Point Yacht Club, the Waimak Club, Ashburton and Lake Mahinapua. Everyone had an amazing time and as the word spreads we expect a much larger fleet next year!



The KORE 'BugMobile!

### New 'Bug website in Oz

Ross Venner from the **Concord Ryde Sailing Club** in Sydney has produced a class website in Australia and moves are in place to establish a class association to promote the interests of the class with Yachting Australia.

See: <http://firebugdinghiesaustralia.weebly.com>

### Sydney Hobart Race in FireBugs!!!

The Sydney based Concord Ryde Sailing Club has accepted a challenge from the Lindisfarne Sailing Club in Hobart, Tasmania. The Sydney sailors will borrow local boats for the regatta which is to be sailed the weekend of 16 - 17 April. A fleet of at least sixteen is expected. There is still time for sailors from other areas to enter - Melbourne? Carnarvon? Christchurch? Lindisfarne is a top club and the Derwent is a beautiful place to sail. I've sampled their hospitality - it will be a fantastic weekend. Want to join in? - contact Des: [desclark14@gmail.com](mailto:desclark14@gmail.com)



The Regatta will be sailed in these beautifully built Lindisfarne Boats.

### FireBug at the Yokohama Boat Show in Japan

Master boat builder Satoshi Akita from Kyoto is showing a FireBug at the **Yokohama Boat Show**. He is a FireBug fan and is considering supplying precut kits to the Japanese market. Satoshi has been involved with many dinghy classes and also coached at the Biwako Junior Yacht Club. In 2011 as a master craftsman he formed the **Revre Wooden Boat Club**, as part of the Marina Club which is based on Lake Biwa, near Kyoto.



Son Daisuke and grandsons Shinnosuke and Ryunosuke



## New Boats..

**In Noosa Australia..** *Hi Peter, Thanks for your help with the sail and rigging etc. I built the FireBug for my six grandchildren and think they will get plenty of enjoyment learning how to sail! Cheers, Alan Draper*



First sail in Noosa. Great colour combo!

**In Auckland New Zealand..** Jason Smith writes, *My daughter Ella is looking forward to the first sail. The cap and T shirt are from the Volvo Ocean Race stopover last year.*



Ella says "Hurry up Dad, I'm ready to go!"

**In Puerto Rico..** *Hi Peter, the sail has arrived!!! Girls are super excited and we can't wait to start the memories!!! The boat's name is Mareita or 'little tide' in Spanish. This has been an amazing experience! Many thanks for your help!*



Marina and Andrea Cabrer

## Sydney build for Queensland..

David Harrison in Sydney is building this one for family in Queensland.



Classic tool array.



## In Sydney..

Stephen Bloomfield in Sydney is now ready for the deck and is keen for a launching soon.



Stephen having a cleanup.

## FireBugs on Wikipedia!

Ross Venner has put in hours of work to get the FireBug on Wikipedia - the free online encyclopedia. Currently Wikipedia contains over five million articles. See <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Firebug> (dinghy)



## Group Project Starting up in Berlin..

*Hi Peter, On Saturday we had a get together with five families. It seems there is a big interest in a group FireBug build and we are keen to further the project. Thank you again for the plans and info! And good on you for the sailing activities you are involved at. Best Regards Norbert*

## More Action on the FireBug FaceBook Page



Let's get the FaceBook pages up and running! Put up your favourite boat photo or anything to do with FireBugs.. building, sailing, racing, holidaying, capsizing, fishing, camping.. Do it now!

## Just Reward for Antonio

Antonio from the NCBE in Lisbon Portugal has been rewarded for all the charity work he has done for the last years, a new sweetheart in his life! Antonio says "One day she came to the club to discuss work with blind kids, and that's how we met..."



Antonio and Carlota in Lisbon

## Giovanni in Italy Re-paints for Next Generation

*Hi Peter, I hope that my mail finds you and your family very well. I still remember your hospitality and the trip we did with your family boat and son looking at the America's Cup boats. My news is that I just restored my FB 360 for a new generation! Photos attached.. Best Regards to all, Giovanni Toscani*



Giovanni showing off the new paint job on Lake Lugano.

## 'Bugs in the Czech Republic

*Hi Peter, I just got home from New Zealand after touring with my band Praguematic. I went sailing in the Bay of Islands. It was a first time for me and I was really amazed! I became a big fan of sailing and want to continue here in the Czech republic but I live in a small flat in Prague so will have to sort out the practical issues first! Thanks for the plans and Good Luck with the FireBugs, Libor Vanek, Prague.*

## 'Gadget Man' Dugald in Brisbane

Dugald McKellar has bought a second 'Bug' so now has two - one secondhand and one self built. Two boats are more fun with racing and events opportunities.

'Bug #1229 "Leviathan"' was christened at Lake Wivenhoe with a little XXXX poured on the bow, see below. Dugald says, 'My eldest, Chasely age 10, firmly stated that she was not confident that a boat I built would even float, let alone sail, so she selected the bought one for her first sail!



XXXX for 'Leviathan' christening!

## Thanks for the Stories and Photos!

Simon Rutherford, Des Clark, Ross Venner, Dugald McKellar, Antonio Cabrita, Koos Winnips, Eduardo Cabrer, Hugh Blank, Jason Smith, Alan Draper, Stephen Bloomfield, David Harrison. Giovanni Toscani and Satoshi Akita. Some have been held over for the next issue..

All enquiries: Peter Tait, FireBug Yachts  
14 Chapel Street, Russell, Northland 0202  
New Zealand Phone +64 21 128 5324  
pete@firebug.co.nz www.firebug.co.nz