



James Kennedy in Hot Buggy

'BugNews..

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FireBug Build-a-Boat, ideal for Families, Clubs and Schools.



'Tuk' in the Netherlands



Students at the SDAHs building 2 'Bugs.



The Rosmini College building team.



Glenfield College students with Bruce Charles

Signs of Life in Schools At Last! Building FireBugs in the Classroom and Teaching Sailing!!

Seventh Day Adventist High

Twelve Students at ASDAHS have begun working on 2 FireBugs. "The students after raising funds by selling chocolates door-to-door are enjoying this unique project and are able to earn valuable credits that go towards their N.C.E.A grades. The FireBug is a great project for our school. It promotes team work, exposure to New Zealand's boatbuilding industry and when the work is finished you can go sailing", says Mr Wastney (Design Tech teacher). If anyone has any questions about starting a FireBug project in a school situation, Bryce would be pleased to hear from you: Email: bryce@asdah.school.nz

Rosmini College

"Year 13 students at Rosmini last year completed four boats as part of their unit standard Marine Technology course. The boats were launched on Lake Pupuke. Special thanks to the Wairau Paint Centre who have sponsored the course by generously providing the paints and epoxy glue. We also wish to thank Peter Tait from FBHQ for his help."

Glenfield College

Glenfield College on Auckland's North Shore currently has three FireBugs underway. The one shown is from last year. The fittings, rig, centreboard and rudder etc have just been delivered so the boat won't be far from launching day. Tutor Bruce Charles says "Bug building is a great way to learn and it is being enjoyed by all."



James Pritchard at FBHQ.

Lawn Sailing in the 'Kingfisher'

James Pritchard from New Plymouth called in to FBHQ to check out a real live 'Bug. Seen here doing some 'lawn sailing' James applied for a job with a local boat builder and was told "You need some experience with boats. Go build a boat and learn to sail. Then you can have a job."



Proposed front cover for the June issue of AABM Magazine.

Australian Amateur Boat Builder

Thanks to the AABM Magazine for on-going support for the FireBug, It's most appreciated. They share the FBHQ philosophy 'To foster amateur boat building skills and get people (especially children) afloat cheaply.' For those interested in boat building the mag is always an interesting read and is available worldwide by post. Email: info@boatbuilder.com.au



The Team at Duck Flat Wooden Boats.

Duck Flat Wooden Boats Like 'Bugs

Over the past few weeks there have been enquiries regarding building FireBugs at schools and clubs in South Australia. The guys at DFWB report: "There is strong interest being shown in bringing the Firebug to South Australia. The success of past SA Wooden Boat Festivals have led to youth related grants, which look like going to the local schools to build a fleet of Firebugs. The proposal is that locally based 'Goolwa Wooden Boats Co' will facilitate the construction. The attraction includes the availability of modestly priced kits, buildability in a limited space by first time builders, the early prospect of completed boats and future racing in a growing international fleet.' DFWB can supply hull kits to builders in SA.





Photo: Anna Kennedy

Sailors experienced strong winds and fast sailing in the 2003-4 S I Champs at Pleasant Point Yacht Club

South Island Championship

The SI Camps were held at the PPYC in Christchurch during March. Strong winds played havoc with the program but enough races were sailed to get a result (see top right). Extreme weather usually makes for memorable sailing and this series was no exception. One gust of 40 knots wiped out the whole fleet. Well done to Benny Butcher for winning the John Spencer Memorial Trophy for overall points.



Prize winners in the 2003-4 South Island Champs

Latest on the Website

The latest improvements on the award winning Firebug website include another page of boat and sailor photos (have you sent yours in yet?) and a new page covering 'Bugs in schools. Have a look: www.firebug.co.nz

Kit Delivery by Sea

Jeremy Atkinson on Waiheke Island in the Hauraki Gulf recently received his rig kit by the FBHQ yacht 'Julius Pleazar'. We stayed overnight in Jeremy's bay, enjoyed some of his fish for breakfast ("Did you catch fish just out there!??") and after a lot of emailing got to meet over a morning coffee.



Morps rowing the rig kit ashore.

MiniBugs at Rotorua Boys High

Top school, RBHS under the guidance of teacher Roz Wallis is building several 800 mm scale model 'Bugs. Last year one was set up with a radio control kit supplied by FBHQ and it has been a lot of fun. There's a chance it may appear in Auckland soon for a tune up and photos. The plan is for more RC boats this year and then some full size ones.



Rotorua Boys High student with model.

First Boat from the New Plans

Pete Robson in England was the first to complete a hull from the new documentation. It measured up OK and the first time builder reports it was a fun build. Most of the construction was carried out outside and you can see why in the pic. There's no room to swing the cat in the workshop! Pete was also pleased when his team won the Rugby World Cup, against all the odds!



Pete's crowded workshop and mobile jig.

Good newsletters require photos and good stories. Please send them in now!

South Island Champs Results

Final Results are as follows:**Novice**
 1st Pl'sant Bug Richard Kennedy PPYC
 2nd Namu Kate Rutherford PPYC
 3rd Pyromaniac Michael Power PPYC
Junior [under 16 years]
 1st Strider Benny Butcher QCYC
 2nd Flamingo Nicky Kennedy PPYC
 3rd Funky Bug Loren Collett PPYC
Senior
 1st Lazy Bug Tom Arthur PBBC
 2nd Sparky Nick Palleson PPYC
 3rd Just-in Justin Dowell PPYC
Overall combined placings
 1st Strider Benny Butcher QCYC
 2nd Lazy Bug Tom Arthur PBBC
 3rd Flamingo Nicky Kennedy PPYC

'Bug Sailing at Panmure Lagoon



Fire! BUGGER!'s first sail at the PLSC.

The Panmure Lagoon Sailing Club in Auckland races every second Sunday year round with mixed fleets and is keen to see more 'Bugs sailing. Race entry for Juniors is just \$1. Contact Trevor House on 275 6430.

School 'Bugs Take it in Style



Look why all the kids want a 'Bug!.

The photo shows the prestart for the Secondary Schools Regatta in Christchurch. The Bugs were sailing with the P Class. Nicky Kennedy came in first ahead of all the Ps. The two James's came in second and third. What a boat - looks good, sails good too!

Thanks to Koos Winnips, Ray O'Brien, Chris Spooner, Pete Robson, Tom and Thysje Arthur, Bryce Wastney, Trevor House, Alex at Rosmini College, Anna Kennedy and Roz Wallis for sending photos and stories, it's appreciated.

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