



March News



It's been a busy few months since our December newsletter. Our J/122 'Jackpot' has shown her true potential in both racing and cruising circles. The J/109 'Sweet Chariot' is continuing her winning ways with her new owner. The new J/97 was launched at the Paris Boat Show and the new J/95 is nearing completion. Please read below for further details.

J/122 'Jackpot' equal first in CYCA SOPS IRC Autumn Series



J/122 'Jackpot' first in Short Ocean Point Score

The **J/122** 'Jackpot' came equal first in the CYCA Autumn Short Ocean Point Score Series – a six race series commencing with the 173rd Australia Day Regatta. The Australia Day race was sailed in a 10-12 knots southerly breeze with a race fleet of 35 yachts sailing a course from Sydney to Botany Bay and return. The Australia Day race was closely contested with 'Jackpot' coming 3rd on IRC. "We came in 3rd which was a great result for our first serious race, however we couldn't believe it when we found we had missed 2nd place by just 1 second. 1 second in a 4 ½ hour race could have been lost on so many things but we decided we'd blame the guy with his finger on the stopwatch!"

"The last race was a nail biter from start to finish as we tried to hold on to first place. We had some exciting tactical racing against the rest of the fleet just to get out of the harbour. It was a long beat in the 12-15 knot n/n'easter taking us over an hour to get to the top mark, by which time the 50 and 60 footers had established an impressive gap. The quality of the fleet sailing in the CYCA SOPS series certainly gets you focussed and accelerates the fine-tuning process. We tied equal 1st on points in the series with a Swan 60, skippered by professional yachtsman Gordon Maguire. The series would have been ours except for that one second lost in the Australia Day Regatta!"

Thanks to the CYCA for running an excellent series, to all the competitors for their skilled sportsmanship and camaraderie, our crew for their teamwork and to **Ian Short** and his team who did an outstanding job on the sail wardrobe. It's great to be able to prove the J/122 racing pedigree here in Australia, to match it's success in Europe and the US where it has won RORC Best Overall IRC Yacht of the Year, Best Series-Produced Yacht, wins in Newport-Bermuda race, Chicago-Mackinac race, Rolex Big Boat Series in San Francisco & numerous event wins in the UK to name a few.

Short Handed Cruising in the J/122

The **J/122** showed her dual purpose capabilities during our Christmas holiday cruise down to Jervis Bay. JBoats have done a great job in designing a yacht which is proven on the race course, yet still provides a luxurious and comfortable interior for cruising with family and friends. The J/122 comes with a 3 cabin interior (or the option of 2 cabins and 2 heads), full galley with 2 burner gas stove and oven, large fridge, hot and cold pressure water in the head and galley, functional forward facing nav station with plenty of room for electronics, large drop-leaf table, full headroom and plenty of ventilation.

Below is a short story of how easy and comfortable the J/122 is to sail when short handed.



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We headed out of the harbour, and what started as a quiet, foggy morning with 'Jackpot' gliding along in the light n'easter, soon became superb sailing conditions with the J/122 reaching at 14+ knots with the 140 sq.m spinnaker up and the boat feeling like she was on rails. We decided to douse the spinnaker as the wind started to gust over 20 knots and was forecast to increase. The J/122 was flying down the coast with just the no.1 jib and full main up, and with the wind coming over the port quarter she was at one stage hitting 15.6 knots. The miles certainly count down quickly with those extra few knots of boat speed. South of Kiama, the BOM issued a storm warning, and sure enough an ominous green/ grey cloud rolled in from the south west. We doused the main completely and mostly furled the jib, and kept sailing through hail storms, lightening and big seas until the front passed. It was reassuring to know the mast and stanchions are all grounded to the keel. The wind peaked at 48 knots, with 'Jackpot' handling these rough conditions in her stride and still making excellent progress south.

We spent a relaxing few days in beautiful Jervis Bay, combining our time between Callala Bay and Hole-in-the-wall. The sail back to Sydney started with a southerly and at Wollongong turned into a light n'easter. We had a great sail finishing the trip in 13 hours, not touching the engine once and coming through the heads just in time to see the 9pm NYE's fireworks. The following day we headed up to Pittwater to catch up with friends to spend some lazy languishing afternoons in complete comfort, with the J1/22 becoming the party boat with 12 friends enjoying the surroundings in the cockpit.



J/122 'Jackpot' sailing in 28 knots in cruising trim with dodger and partially furled jib. Dry, comfortable and in complete control



Interior shots of the J/122

J/109 'Sweet Chariot' continues her winning ways

The new owner of the **J/109** 'Sweet Chariot' was ecstatic to find he finished first in the combined RMYC & Cronulla YC Port Hacking to Sydney and return race. The J/109 handled the off shore race with ease in varying wind conditions, with the crew able to stay overnight in complete comfort, ready for the return race the next day. The reason we love the J's is that they certainly know how to design dual purpose yachts. We can't justify having a yacht just for racing, and when we cruise we want a yacht that will get us to our destination quickly, safely and comfortably, and importantly with the capability to be sailed short handed. The range of J Boats fits these requirements superbly.

J/120 'Euphoria' wins at RSYS

Congratulations to the **J/120** 'Euphoria' for winning her division over the Australia Day weekend, beating all comers including the new Beneteau 45 by an impressive 16 minutes on the water.



J/109 'Sweet Chariot' and J/122 'Jackpot' meeting up at the CYCA after their respective wins



J/120 'Euphoria' winning at RSYS

New Release J/95... Sails in 3 feet of Water

Building is in high gear with the new **J/95** within two weeks of completion at CCF Composites. The deck is down, the rudders are in, and the keel goes on this week. Launching and sea-trialing will take place out of Portsmouth, RI.



Fitting the deck on the new J/95



Finishing Touches to the J/95 – deck and twin rudders fitted

		US (ft)	Metric
	LOA	31.20	9.51
LWL	28.40	8.66	
Beam	10.00	3.05	
Draft	3.0'/5.5'	0.92/1.68	
Displacement	6,000	2,722	
Sail Area	450	41.8	
Engine	15 hp	15 hp	

Look out for our J/122 'Jackpot' cruising in Pittwater over Easter. The third J/122 is due in the country in April after cruising the Mediterranean and the Bay of Islands in NZ. This J/122 will be sailed across the ditch and is then planning to compete in some of the Sydney Harbour winter series events.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have an interest in test sailing the J/122, or would like information on any yachts in the JBoat range.