

Circulation 1600+

The Best Sailors Build Their Own Boats!!

'BugNews 29

"Real Life Skills - Build a Yacht and Learn to Sail!"



Powered up 'Bug



Hugh Stevens, Wellington



Packing up at sundown, Tbilisi Lake, Republic of Georgia

News from Irakli in the Republic of Georgia.. 'Hey Peter! Last summer was kinda dead here in terms of sailing. Didn't really have time due to the war with Russia..

But am trying to be more active this summer. So I took firebug to Tbilisi Lake.. Sailing was pretty good. I initiated one of my friends in the "art". After a little trouble in the beginning and a capsized, he eventually got it.. It was funny though, he could not figure out how to right her, and I had to ask boys in an inflatable cayak to row me up there. It was pretty funny, and I felt like a real sailing trainer, giving instructions and all :)))) Kinda enjoyed the role too! Speaking of trainer - I was thinking the other day how cool it would be to have a mini sailing club on that lake and teaching kids how to build 'Bugs and sail them. But I guess I would need a professional sailing license :))



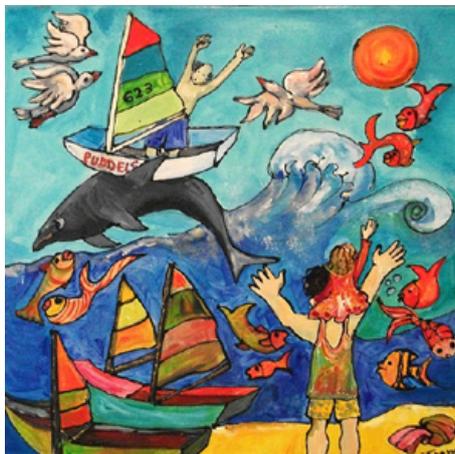
Irakli's Sailing School and horse swim in Tbilisi Lake

OK, back to Firebug, sailing her was very nice again with all her agility and grace on the water.. Although the wind is little weird on Tbilisi lake, you can never guess from where it is blowing exactly and it is constantly changing the angle.. Than eventually it died completely and I had real trouble getting back to shore, it took a while.. :))

Let me know how are you? What is new and exciting at FBHQ?

With very best regards, Irakli'

Thanks Irakli, great to hear your news! Can we help somehow with the 'mini sailing club'? Although it sounds like you might already have one - just tell more people!- Peter



Dad and Moko playing, Stephane and Yasmine waving!

Games with Dolphins.. 'Hi Peter, a couple of years ago my Dad celebrated his 75th birthday and I decided to buy him a boat! It needed to be small and light, yet big enough for an older adult to sail, in a word, a FireBug.

We sail at Mahia, on the East Coast of NZ, the home of Moko the dolphin. We soon discovered that Moko thought the 'Bug was fun to play with! He would deliberately swim in front of the centreboard, bringing the boat to a sudden stop then swim around to the stern and push on the rudder, causing the boat to perform a complete circle!

Other tricks included rubbing up alongside the boat and showering us with spray from its blowhole and sometimes he would wait until the Firebug got up to speed, then surf alongside, disappear under the stern and lift the back of the boat up so that the nose would dive under!

Moko passed away about a year ago, but gave us experiences we will never forget. 'Puddles' the trusty Firebug continues to sail the waters of Mahia and is now giving the next generation of family members, see below, their own fond sailing experiences to remember. Regards, Stéphane Tiedemann'



Yasmine (3) sailing 'Puddles' at Mahia



"Captain Cook! we've a Firebug on the port quarter!"

FireBug at the Australian National Maritime Museum.. Ross Venner's FireBug was on display at the Maritime Museum's Classic and Wooden Boat Festival in Sydney. Ross reports a lot of interest, a lot of people took pamphlets and he also met two guys who already have plan sets and said they must get moving!



Carnarvon kids trying out the new boat

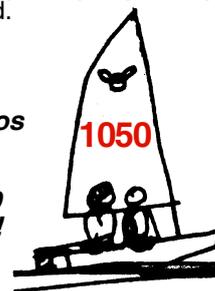
Ten New 'Bugs in Carnarvon WA The Carnarvon Yacht Club think their tryout 'Bug is great and are now doing an instant fleet of 10 more. Government funding is 'assisting'!



Denis and David trying out the new drill

New 'FireBug in Mansfield, Brisbane. Grandad Denis Cassar and David are building a FireBug and going sailing when it's finished.

FireBug plans/regs have now passed 1050 in 29 countries!





Nineteen boat fleet for the South Island Champs. 'High tide' all the time at Lake Hood meant good spectating.

2010 South Island Championships

The winner, Tom Arthur writes.. 'The regatta with 19 entries was in my opinion one of the most enjoyable in my sailing career to date, and that has nothing to do with winning it. We had perfect Firebug conditions, mostly lightish winds and flat water, ideal for the lightweight youngsters. Plus being at an away venue we all got to mix more and get to know the sailors and their parents and friends from different clubs.' Results: 1st Tom Arthur 2nd Ian Douglas 3rd Jesse Woods 4th Amy Lindford 5th Colin Rossie 6th Josie Dawber.

Derwent Fleet gets a Start..

John Slevin in Hobart has launched the first of his 3 Bug fleet, more soon!



Lesson 1 on the Derwent

Te Anau 'Bug.. Steve Hall has 2 'electronic helpers' working on his boat and below is his CadBug!



Steve with PhotoShopped helpers.



Steve's CAD drawn FireBug

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2010 Canterbury Firebug Champs

The 2010 Canterbury Firebug Champs were hosted by the Pigeon Bay Boating Club in December as part of their Christmas Regatta. Six races were held over the 2 days with a wide variety of sailing conditions, varying from a strong gusty and shifty easterly to almost drifting conditions. Results: 1st Tom Arthur 2nd Ian Douglas 3rd Simon Rutherford 4th Lauren Spyker.



Nice colourful sight on Pigeon Bay

Shaken then Flooded! Pleasant Point Yacht Club, FireBug HQ in Christchurch NZ has been badly knocked around by the earthquakes which have struck the city then heavy rain flooded the seriously damaged buildings. Meanwhile facilities at an adjacent club are being 'borrowed'.



Busted club facilities at PPLYC

Victoria Camping Holiday.. Richard Lozell has been holidaying with 'Bug and 5 kids under 7 at Barwon Heads on the south coast of Victoria. Fun for all!



Young person on the helm.

Recent Launchings..



B-Bug with full crew in Wellington.

'Hi Pete, finally launched "B-Bug" on Saturday. Thank you for your help through this project. It was greatly appreciated. - Hugh Stevens'



Steven Hall relaxing on Lake Te Anau

'Hi Peter, launched the Bug today, very light winds but she went well. Very happy! Cheers, Steve Hall, Te Anau'



Launching in Amsterdam.

Andrew Hypher launched his 'Bug in Amsterdam in October just before the winter weather arrived and is looking forward to some sailing next summer.



First sail on Wivenhoe Dam

Tim and grandfather John Hoerlein trying out their 'Bug on Wivenhoe Dam just outside of Brisbane. Nice job!

'BugNews gets Better and Better

Thanks for great photos and news: Simon and Alison Rutherford, John Slevin, Andrew Hypher, Ray O'Brien, Richard Lozell, Peter Hoerlein, Hugh Stevens, Steven Hall, Ian Douglas, Tom Arthur, Stéphane Tiedemann, Irakli Kutsia, Russell Lund. Moko artwork by Dutch artist Fran. Some are held over for the next issue.

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

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