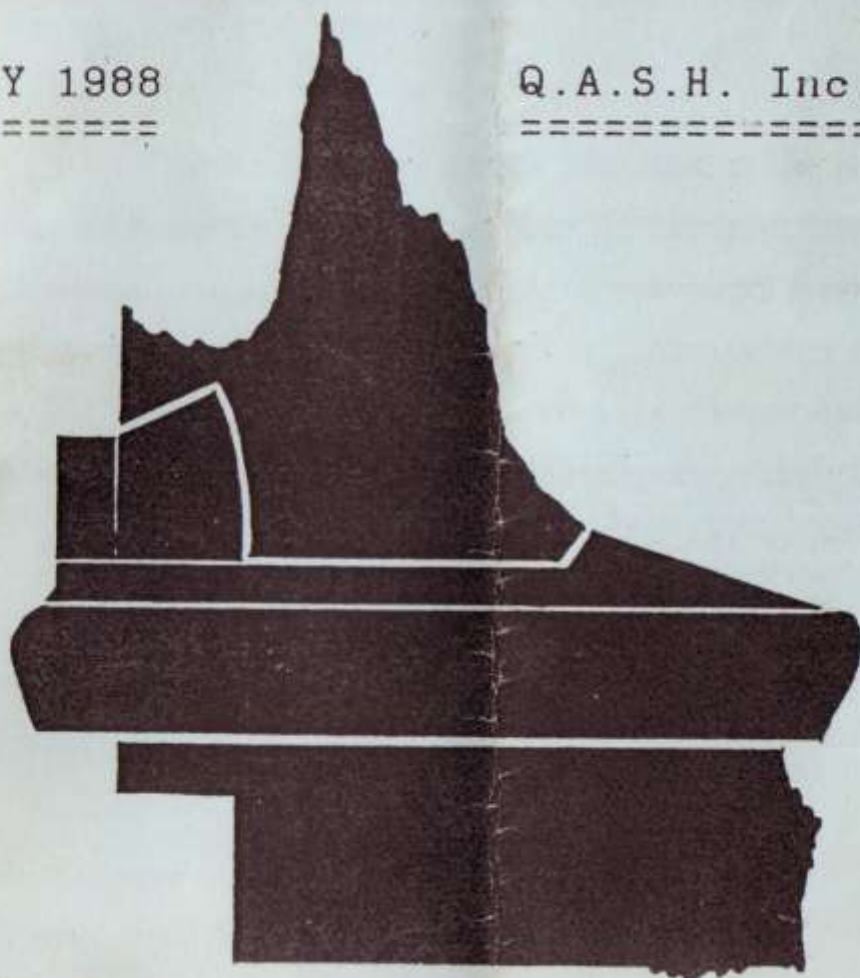


QUEENSLAND AMATEUR SPORTING HOVERCRAFT

FEBRUARY 1988

Q.A.S.H. Inc. 10th EDITION



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AS EVERYONE WOULD REALISE, COSTS NEVER GO DOWN.

THE EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE PREPARATION, PHOTO-COPYING AND POSTAGE
FOR THIS NEWSLETTER ARE A SEVERE DRAIN ON OUR LIMITED CLUB FUNDS.

IF YOU ARE UNFINANCIAL, PLEASE ENDEAVOUR TO MEET YOUR SHARE BY BECOMING
A SUBSCRIBED MEMBER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

TO CURTAIL COSTS, THE MAILING LIST WILL HAVE TO BE REDUCED TO
MEMBERS ONLY IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

QUEENSLAND AMATEUR SPORTING HOVERCRAFT INC.

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SPRINGWOOD. QLD. 4127

PH: 209.8498

Dear Air Cushion Vehicle Enthusiast,

A new trend has emerged within the small circle of operators of light Hovercraft in South-East Queensland.

25. Our Victorian and South Australian friends have taught us the meaning of high speed, (tree splintering) amphibious racing.

I'm afraid to say it, but the Southerners licked us in all the racing events, however, congratulations to Angus Kerr who ran his Turbo 240 in the gruelling race circuit in which even Owen Ellis, who so carefully dodged traffic and pedestrians in the Beyond 2000 film, managed to up-root a 2½" diameter x 6' high gum tree.

Peter Venn's ugly workhorse demonstrated how highly functional a craft with 6,000 hours under its rattly floor boards can be even in a slalom event held with 10-15 knot on-shore wind gusts.

Until now, cruising has been the name of the game and craft have tended to become longer to carry more payload and quieter to appeal to the regular weekend sailor, but the short beamy dough-nutters are out to avenge all else that floats on air and true competition hovercraft racing is about to make a come-back in Queensland. (Vernon Mackay organized all-water competitions in the mid '70's).

Mark Dobson is arranging a race event at the Lakeside Motor Racing Complex and the dam with its sloping lawn banks appears to be an ideal venue. Mark has negotiated with the Lakeside Management and further details will be available at this month's Club Meeting.

4. This urge to race has come about due to our January trip to Victoria for the 4th National Rally :- OZ HOVER 88, KERANG.

Our Club was represented by Mark Dobson, Des Goss, Alita, Angus and Kyle Kerr, Steven Odgaard, Brad Podlich, Bernie Reid, John Russell, Darryl Simpkins, Peter and Danny Venn and 9 of our finest operational cruising Hovercraft (including Brad's turbo).

With 8 craft delicately loaded in a van hauler, together we roamed 1,600 kilometers down Australia's mid-Eastern plains until we arrived at Lake Kangaroo approximately 18 travelling hours from sub-tropical home.

The nights were cold, the ground was parched and the south-westerly winds prevailed. The unsettled wind condition tended to dampen our enthusiasm for cruising and that is how racing came to boom.

Despite this, the event was well represented with 38 craft in total; 23 from Victoria, 9 from Queensland and 6 from South Australia.

On the Saturday night, the local Mystic Park Hotel was packed full of hovernauts, family and friends for a Smorgasboard feast and on Sunday

night a group barbeque was held in the Van Park with the Queensland Flag flying overhead.

For the presentations, Queensland took out 3 awards:-

1. Steven Odgaard for the best plough-in. Prize: Goggles and Snorkel.
2. Angus Kerr for consistency in frolicking with 'Y.L.' passengers. Prize: Twin-lobed umbrella.
3. Mark Dobson for the hovercraft with the loudest noise. Mark was presented with a baby's dummy.

Des Goss suffered a major set-back on the first day when his engine was damaged and lost power but both he and John Russell were stirred by the racing as it was a short plywood turbo similar to their own which took first place in all the amphibious time trials.

Many thanks to Kyle, Alita, Bernie and Darryl for preparing the meals, to Bob Neilsen for the loan of his 3-way fridge and to John Rapley for the loan of his hovercraft.

The question of Federation Insurance was raised as discussed at our last Club meeting. The policy is for Public Liability Insurance of \$1,000,000.00 to cover all financial members participating in official Club events held throughout Australia. The Insurance Company is Lombard in Melbourne and the premium is approximately \$650.00 of which South Australia and Queensland are each required to contribute \$126.00. The figure of \$1,000,000.00 is the total sum set aside for contingencies within the 12 month period and cover does not apply to unregistered members nor to racing events. The Victorian Hovercraft Association has already taken out the cover and will be sending a copy of the Policy, hopefully in time for perusal at our next meeting.

Regarding Private comprehensive insurance for Queensland Members, adequate cover at reasonable premiums in the past depended a lot on the private ACV being correctly registered and the operator being correctly licensed.

Despite the many attempts to raise this matter with the Harbours and Marine Department, our issue has been neglected at the monthly Board Meetings and it seems we shall have to wait until June, when the October, 1972, Regulations for ACV's are to be reviewed. An Insurance Broker at Wynnum, however, has stated he will prepare a package deal for the Club if he received a minimum of ten enquiries in writing. To date, only five members have responded, therefore I have enclosed another copy of the "No Obligation" Insurance Application.

The National Heart Foundation "Club Expo" is to be held at the Sleeman Sports Centre at Chandler on Sunday, 28th February, and four of the Club's regular members have practised in the Velodrome to master the art of low level figure flying, nose peels and high speed bank turns.

This last task is very difficult as the track is very steep and the thought of careering into the access tunnel handrail or the floodlight tower becomes very clear as craft and driver is hurled 5 metres vertically up the slope.

The four entrants for this display are:

1) John Russell, Turbo 225

2) Des Goss, Turbo 225

3) Mark Dobson, Turbo 240

4) Angus Kerr, Turbo 240.

with Peter Venn and Steven Odgaard as Reserves.

In addition, there will be a static display and participants for these are Peter Venn, Steven Odgaard and John Rapley. There is a vacancy for one more craft in the Static Display, but note the craft must be complete and presentable and the owner must be a Registered Member of the Association. All entrants are requested to submit a list of interesting facts about their craft and hovering achievements to assist the Club in producing a suitable commentary. The commentator who kindly volunteered (after much arm bending) is Paul Pekelharing from Beenleigh. Paul is not a member of our Club but his claim to fame is that he has landed more flathead on the deck of a hovercraft during many a wintery night, than any other Queenslander alive. He is also a fine spokesman. The grounds will be accessible at 5.00 am and the static display must be set up by 8.30 am. Entrance is via the main gate in Tilley Road and parking will be sign posted. The dynamic display will be held in the Velodrome for 3 "twenty minute" segments as follows:

1. 10.15 to 10.35 am. 2. 11.40 to 12.00 noon 3. 2.45 to 3.05 pm

The day will finish with a parade on the Velodrome circuit encompassing a record breaking class of approximately 3,000 aerobic dancers. Our Club has been asked to sell four tickets to help break this Australian aerobics record and participants in the class will be eligible to win a trip to Tangalooma Resort for a family of 4 for 4 days - 3 nights.

Tickets are \$5.00 and the holiday will be drawn on the day.

On behalf of the Committee I wish to welcome Bob Neilsen, Vic Trask and Allan Green as new Club Members who signed up in December and January.

The 9th General Meeting is convened for 7.30 p.m., Monday, 22nd February, 1988 at Archerfield Airport in the S.A.A.A. Building.

STEVEN ODGAARD
Secretary.

WANTED TO BUY: FLYWHEEL AND STATOR PLATE FOR AN EC44 PM ROBIN ENGINE
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FAIR CONDITION PRICE: \$2,500
CONTACT: JOHN RUSSELL PH. 3433179.

2. SCARAB 2 HOVERCRAFT PLYWOOD YELLOW WITH TRAILER.
GOOD CONDITION PRICE: \$3,500
CONTACT: DANNY VENN PH. 2072759

3. TURBO 240 HOVERCRAFT FIBREGLOSS 3 TONE BLUE WITH TRAILER.
BRAND NEW CONDITION PRICE: \$12,500
CONTACT: MARK DOBSON PH. 2085796

