

1965 1966 Australian National Cherub Championships

As published in *Power Boat and Yachting* magazine, February 1966

Redcliffe, Queensland

ACE, skippered by West Australian Gordon Lucas, retained her Australian Cherub Title at Redcliffe on the Humpybong Yacht Club course. Another W.A. boat *Didjeridu*, sailed by Frank Nathan, was runner up. The West. Aussie boys dominated the series, and all but one of the heats was sailed in near gale conditions with large seas making for spectacular sailing. The Invitation was abandoned, the later re-run in conjunction with the first heat, which was won by *Ace*. followed by *Didjeridu* and the Queenslander. *Loyla*, sailed by Gary Smith, third.

The N.S.W. entry, *J.L.A.*, capsized when handily placed, and the time lost righting her left *Ace* in an unbeatable position. In the second heat *Ace* ran away right from the start and was never headed. The Victorian entry, *Encore* challenged hotly early, but *Ace* hauled clear to finish nearly four minutes ahead of *J.L.A.* with close on a minute to *Didjeridu* in third place. The next heat, conditions lightened, and *Rave* (N.S.W.), skippered by M. Ranch, scrambled home 35 seconds clear of *Cupid* (W.A.) and *J.L.A.* The fourth heat saw *Ace* and *Didjeridu* lead them home, with *Encore* in third. place. Conditions turned to heavy again and remained that way for the rest of the series.

Near gale conditions forced the postponement of the fifth heat, and this was resailed on the following day. Boisterous conditions still prevailed for the fifth heat, and *Ace* was forced to retire when a block let go on the mast. *Encore* won this one, with *Didjeridu* runner-up, and *Conformity* in third place. On the final points reckoning it was *Ace*, G. Lucas (W.A.) 6151; *Didjeidu*, F. Nathan (W.A.) 5248 and *Encore*, A. Hollins (Vic), 4403.



The Victorian Cherub team pose with stalwart of the class in Australia, Mr. Percy Fraser.

Reproduced with the kind permission of *Cumberland Newspaper Group*, Australia
www.cumberlandnewspapergroup.com.au