

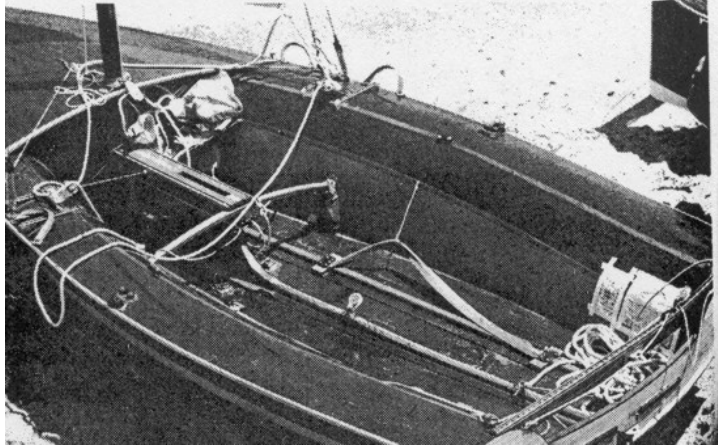
## 1968 1969 Australian National Cherub Championships

by Ray Laird

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### Parkdale, Victoria

The heavy conditions prevailing on Port Phillip Bay over the Christmas period really suited the Cerutti boys from Tasmania and their boat *Dia-Jo*. Convincing performances in the first four races placed them in an unbeatable position before the start of the fifth heat. Although 17-year-old John, *Dia-Jo's* skipper, is not used to sailing in rolling and breaking seas he was able to read the wave formations to obtain the most out of them. At home he is a keen surfer and he was readily able to adopt surfing techniques to use the many lifts missed by others.



*Tasmania's Australian champion, Dia-Jo featured simple cockpit layout with transom sheeting, four-way jib sheet adjustment and transom draining floor.*

*Dia-Jo* also was ideal for the prevailing conditions. Built by the boys' father, *Dia-Jo* is beamy across the stern and with less camber on the underside of the hull she was faster off the wind in the heavy seas. She is 10 lb overweight. A new set of Cassidy sails and a Chivers mast stood up well in the strong winds and a complete set of heavy duty fittings ensured that no breakages hindered the boat in the series.

Ports in the stern of *Dia-Jo* were vital in keeping the boat free of water and four-way adjustable jib leads were an asset in sail setting. Other features of *Dia-Jo* were stern sheeting, the horizontal centrecase and adjustable jib luff.

Final six:

*Dia-Jo* (J. Cerutti, Tas)

*Celeste* (M. Wall, WA)

*Drumbeat* (M. Green, NSW),

*Sandy K* (R. Swanson, WA)

*Lovable* (M. Raphael, WA).

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