



CAT CHAT

Kurnell Catamaran Club

April 2008 -
May 2008

Phone: 02 96689295
PO Box 255
Caringbah NSW 1495



Aussie (day) Aussie (day) Aussie (day)

OI! OI! OI!

Most Photos in this edition are from Australia Day hydro action
(Town Hall Presentation shown above)

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Many Thanks to outgoing committee, the brand new committee is on PAGE 2.



Kurnell Catamaran Club 2008 / 2009 Committee

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Auxiliary Positions

OFFICER OF THE DAY	As per the ROSTER			
	As per the ROSTER			
DIVISION 1 CAPTAIN	John Riley	H 9527 7900		
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CRUISING DIV. CAPTAIN	Bob Butler	H 9540 1609	M 0418 269 665	barnaclebobster@gmail.com
PATRONS	Malcolm Kerr		John Goodier	

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- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
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President's Report 2007/2008 Sailing Season

What a difference from last season! You may recall that quite a number of race days of the 2006/2007 season were abandoned due to wind strengths being above our allowable limit. The 2007/2008 season had just the one abandoned race, that I recall. Also, wind strengths have nearly all been in the 10 to 20 knots range, providing comfortable and exciting competition.

One of the major issues this year is the completion of our lease negotiations with Sutherland Shire Council. We now have a five year tenure on the property and, provided we meet all the lease requirements, will continue as leaseholders into the foreseeable future.

Negotiations continue regarding additional boat storage and finalising our licence agreement with the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard over use of that area for boat storage.

Regatta wise, we have been successful in running our Top Gun and Cock of the Bay Regattas. Combined with these were the Mosquito, Taipan and A Class state titles. Also the Easter weekend Mega Multi regatta included the Maricat states. Thanks to all those who helped, particularly Bob Butler who put in a big effort to attract the big multis at Easter. Thanks also to Brent Vaughn and Seawind who sponsored this event.



This season's major sponsors were Sydney Ports Corporation and Caltex. This assistance is much appreciated particularly in these times of high fuel costs.

Our safety performance wasn't as good as in previous years, with two members sustaining hand injuries. Lessons have been learnt, so I hope there will be no recurrence of this type of injury.

The desalination pipeline is back in the news and may cause us some angst next season when across the bay construction commences. NSW Maritime is arranging an information session that we will attend and hopefully gain more specific information of how this construction may affect us next season.

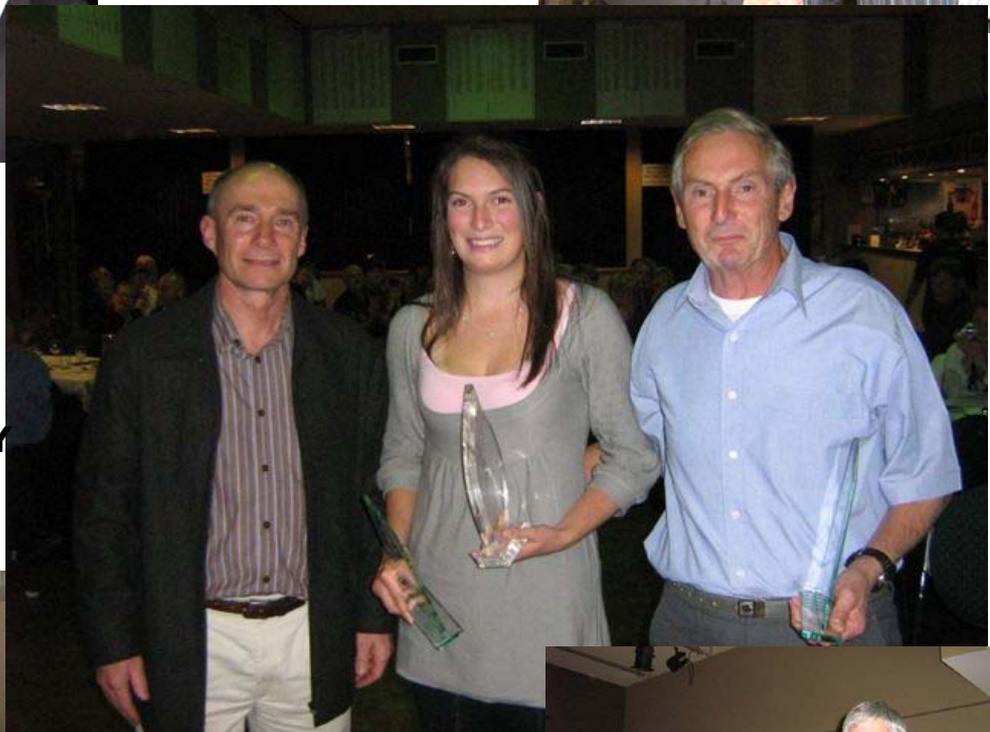
Most of you are aware that we have been approached by a windsurfing group who are very interested in affiliating with us. Preliminary discussions indicate they would sail with us once a month, using our courses and finish line. This group will bring younger people and perhaps some new ideas into the club.

During the off season we will still have working Bs, maintaining the club grounds and carrying out repairs to the club house, boats, etc. Please keep in touch with the website for working B dates and times.

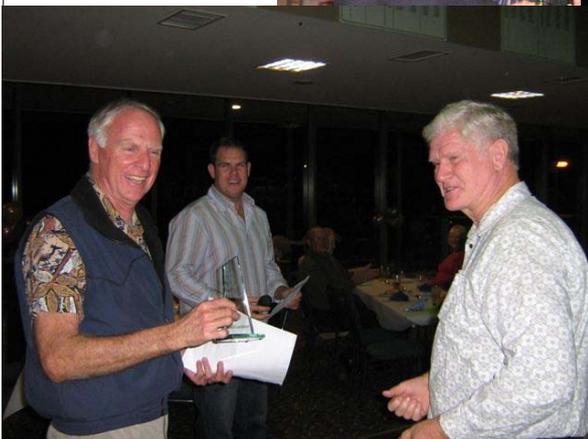
Finally a big thank you to the committee and those of you who have helped with regattas and all matters pertaining to managing the club in a most professional manner

Barry Willis

President KCC



**Classic Division
CHAMPS
2007/8 Peter &
Julia Backhouse
with Shane
Hobday (SYDNEY
PORTS—left)**





Australia Day Report

As I looked at the forecast the day prior, I thought beauty – lighter winds were forecast than last year which suited me perfectly. On Australia Day it did indeed turn out this way with a beautiful blue sky and a 7-12 knot Easterly. This meant only using the trapeze for part of the race.

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KCC would again like to thank Barracouta
for their continued support

At 12 midday with boats starting all around the bay, the KCC small boats and KCC monster (cruising division boats) left the start line, with the larger off the beach cats in hot pursuit 10 minutes later. Right at the start Ted Buys on "In the Mood" showed a good turn of speed, but then standing barefoot on trapeze lost his footing and slid along the side of this boat. As always very composed Ted kept sailing whilst dangling half upside down and slowly regaining his footing to lead the fleet to the first mark at Yarra Bay. Brad Wicht on "196" was sailing in close proximity to the cruising fleet and discovered that their wind shadow is a whole lot bigger than an off the beach cat.

The wind was fairly shifty and the best advantage was gained by playing this and laying off or coming up into the wind on the downwind runs, and this is where I was able to haul in Ted near the second mark. By this

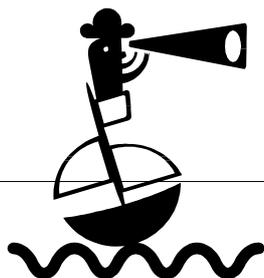
time the division two boats were starting to haul us in, lead by Peter and Julia on "Taipanic" they didn't look back and went on to win the outright event on YA handicap. I got a scare looking back and seeing a Nacra boat I wasn't expecting overhauling me, I thought it was Ted or Barry Willis ready to overtake, so when the visiting 'YUKKA' team of Martin Horder and Domonic Hudson popped up behind me and said "G'Day" I was relieved that it was a friendly 5.8 not a 14sq.

As always there was plenty of diverse traffic on the water for Australia Day, and this made it interesting to negotiate the channel markers and gates up the Georges River.

We only go under the Captain Cook bridge once a year, so it is easy to forget just how tricky it makes reading the wind. A few teams quickly learn't this lesson, and I think I heard a few prayers for the wind to return from Peter and Gary on Taipan "Adrenalin" as they stopped dead under the bridge.

Coming home, out of the river some of us had a musical accompaniment from the various party boats plying the waters for Australia day. It was much trickier to thread the needle of the gate on a starboard tack on the return journey. I tried to do this and failed, by just grazing the gate buoy and having to take a penalty turn for my trouble. Looking back on Australia day it is always a very enjoyable course due to the diversity of long reaches, works, the river and the other traffic and I look forward to 2009 to the challenges of the course again.

Glen Billington, Nacra 14sq #186



On the LOOK Out

Olympic Series 30th of March



KCC Support
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Can it be true, the last races in this series have arrived- Not much life left in this season now. You wouldn't know it from the glorious day that greeted all sailors on the beach that winter is on the way. Good to see some new faces, especially NACRA new faces! in the form of Jamie Potts. Jamie had a beaut looking 5.8 down on the water, and made a great choice of sailor mentor in the class, Australian 5.8 champion Graham Dicker. I noticed an appreciable improvement from this 5.8 "Trouble Maker" just between the first and second races of the day and look forward to seeing more of "Trouble Maker" on the water next season.

Our own trouble makers(!) and series leaders Peter and Julia Backhouse were in good form on the water. During one of the second lap works in the first race I thought, Gee I'm getting extra splashes from somewhere only to find Taipan's bow powering past me 2 metres upwind and going on to take the overall series comfortably. Near the finish with the wind dying, four boats - Merlin, Venomous, In the Mood & Digital Tour Guide (me) were all becalmed within metres of each other, so were able to have a chat while the wind decided what to do. Amazingly the puffs would favour one boat over another all the way to the finish even when only a few metres apart.

In both races the layout of the course favoured a port start with one less tack and better wind on the right side of the course. However it was a little tricky with the current, which took port starters down on to the start boat. Ted Buys discovered this a little late when John Riley asserting his starboard right forced Ted into a stall near the start boat. As bad things come in groups Ted's trap harness also chose this time to let go, so he had an exiting start to the second race, just as well he had already cleaned up the first race with a win!

I watched big grins from team Tornado INOX, which makes sense as Rick "Grinner" Peipman was holding the steering stick. The big kite was certainly looked upon jealously by other boats as the light winds were hard to get any power from. Inox went on to win race two by 10minutes!, an almost unheard of margin. Congrats to Olympic series winners Peter and Julia, and as I came second I vow to make you two work harder next year ! I'm sure third place getters Greg Wyers and Kez Stevens on "Krank the Noodle" will do the same.

Glen, NACRA 14 sq - Digital Tour Guide. #186





John Goodier Challenge

6th of April 2008

Was I imagining it or did the water feel a bit colder when putting my feet in today? The colder weather heralded the last two races in the John Goodier series and club championship.

Even before we hit the water an early casualty was John Riley's much loved, much sailed Maricat "Myra" who was telling him it was time for a break. A break in the rear beam that is!. John wisely decided it was time for Myra to have a break from sailing too. This reminded me of the recently held Maricat States, where Rick Prowse went one better with everything except the hulls broken at the same time. Like John, Rick has a series one Maricat that had seen many seasons.

On the water the racing was close. John Riley still got his feet wet by "upgrading" to sail with Jamie on new NACRA 5.8, Trouble maker (sail 1222) and I can report he had a smile all day, so maybe a permanent move to a NACRA is on the cards?



Other NACRA sailors had some challenges, with Barry Willis fine tuning his clearing mark technique. (i.e. in future he will indeed go around it!). I also had a embarrassing moment when keen to get on trap I jumped out, only to realise I wasn't hooked up when my boat quickly departed from me! Lucky the wind was light and I am a former school champion swimmer as I was able to catch my boat! (Swimming won't win any races at KCC though!)

Series leaders Peter and Julia (Taipanic), if anything lifted the tempo in both races as the wind of around 14 knots was in their "sweet spot", they flew past division one and took both races, with the last race of the series won by an impressive three minutes. Ted Buys kept his chase up for Jeff Reid's second spot beating him on handicap by about 10 seconds in each race, but this wasn't enough to knock Jeff from second place which worked hard all season to earn. Ted had to settle for Bronze this year. I note also that the Barry's (Willis and Argall) have done the politically correct thing and finished on exactly the same number of points after 19 races in the series!

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High performance also had some fun in the conditions and I watched the fancy footwork of team "Terminator 3 Bo" (Richard & Chris Brewin and Dave Elwers) at the bottom mark a few times. Their hard work paid off with a convincing series win over Greg and Kez on last years hi-po champ "Krank the Noodle" who grabbed the silver this year.

Steve Brewin's A class "Bo Brewin Sails" taking third, a top result from the only 11 races sailed by Steve.



You could see sparks were going to fly, and I'm not talking low voltage. We have been very lucky this year with few weather problems however the brooding storms looked ominous and duty holders Adrian Heap, Helen Herbert and Brian Lowder made a wise decision to postpone racing. 20 minutes later huddled in the clubhouse all agreed with this as lighting struck around the club. No damage done and with the storm heading out to sea we were in the clear 90 minutes later.



Peter Backhouse will be running an Advanced Racing Course at the KCC on Sunday 22 June starting at 9am and finishing around 5pm.

Lunch is available at club

Topics the course will include,

- **Goal setting**
- **Boat Preparation**
- **Rig and Sails**
- **Sailing the Course**
- **Rules**
- **Weather, Tides and Current**

Please bring pencil and paper, Rule Book.

Those wishing to attend should contact Peter and indicate if they need lunch, Tel 95226253, Mob 0408942366 or peter-backhouse@optusnet.com.au

Short Course Series 13th of April

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Initially there was little wind after the storm, but a Southerly built enough to give some speed to the boats, the course had a fair bit of reaching in it so some good speeds were seen. I was watching from the clubhouse so

got a good perspective on things. The conditions were Taipan Territory again, Marcel crewing for Peter Backhouse got a dose of speed, as they raced along the reaches. A great contest also unfolded between Taipans "Adrenalin" and "Venomous" The spinnaker boats were pushing to hold a kite on the shy reach, so the sloops took the honours today!.

I was also amazed to see John Riley back on the water so quickly after some serious repair work and a new beam fitting to "Myra" during the week.

**Glen / Nacra 14sq, #186 Digital Tour
Guide**



Darren Lowder Memorial Trophy 20th of April..

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Or

See Peter at Kurnell Catamaran Club on Sundays

As always a fantastic turnout on Silver Beach for the Trophy which marks the 11th year since Darren sadly passed. It took a little while for the wind to kick in but after a lull suddenly there were very distinct patches of strong south Easterly winds that filled out to cover Botany Bay with up to 15 knots and provide some great racing.

It was an interesting day with three different courses to follow, and one of these a starboard course. Division three seemed to have the most trouble adjusting, but I will say no more. For a change I got to witness the division two action up close from the deck of Nacra 5.8 "Flat Chat" - thanks for having me on board Graham.

Some "tuning" had taken place on Brian Chapman's sail and he was consistently fast leading division two in all races with top starts. Also showing a sprightly turn of speed especially at the starts Peter and Gary onboard "Adrenalin" did well out of the start gate. The little Maricat of Adrian

Heap was loving the light conditions in race one to hold out almost all boats on outright starting time to the finish.

Lots of A's were also on the water, making the most of being able to fly a hull in the lighter conditions. A good scrap between Steven Brewin and Andrew Williams looked to be developing, but at the end of the day Mark Johnston's consistency (and ability to follow the starboard course!) got him home as the Darren Lowder Memorial Trophy winner. Brian Chapman in second and Adrian Heap on trusty Marciat "Dakota" meant all three divisions were represented in the top three places.

My first experience on Darren's favourite ride the Nacra 5.8 was great. I was surprised how quickly the huge boat would pick up speed, and I can see with a 20 knot breeze and the ability to comfortably punch through the chop (unlike a 14sq) the 5.8 feels like a freight train. I'll order some more wind next time!

Glen Billington, Nacra 5.8 #1644—FLAT CHAT



Presidents Cup and Captain Cook Trophy, April 27th



The last regular race day of the year had a fresh nor westerly forecast, but there was no sign of it until about 11am when it could be seen approaching from the Airport. Too much for cat rigged Chappo, I think he was de-rigged by the time it hit the beach, but the Nacra contingent and other sloop rigged Taipans were keen to hit water.

We were rewarded with a giant speedy reach across almost the whole bay. All the boats put on a great show for observers in the club with very close racing amongst the leading I4squares - "In the Mood" helmed by Ted Buys and myself on Digital Tour Guide. Ted held the lead from Barry Willis on "Fugacious" and myself for the first 2/3 of the race, as he is always fast upwind. On the reach hanging my butt way out on trap I slowly crept past Ted who wasn't yet on trap, with both boats only a few seconds apart at the bottom mark.

At this point Peter Backhouse and wide eyed Kevin Bessell shot past the I4's. By watching Pete and Kevin we could see what was waiting on the downwind run to the finish. The bullets had built and I saw Kevin and Peter getting "cosy" in order to get all their weight on the back beam and avoid nose diving. Peter and Kevin on board "Venomous" handled the conditions nicely and finished quickly. The I4's with a lot less weight on board weren't quite so lucky! First I was hit with a bullet and plowed the nose in at high speed, being thrown forward my boat tipped to about 60 degrees and as I scrambled back to the stern she settled again and I was lucky. This submarine impersonation had slowed me down again and Ted was now literally on my stern with only a few hundred metres to the finish.

I was ready, saw and dodged the next bullet, looking over my shoulder I saw Ted wasn't so fortunate with a slow motion tip forward as his bows disappeared far below the water, and hung him in the air from a stay!

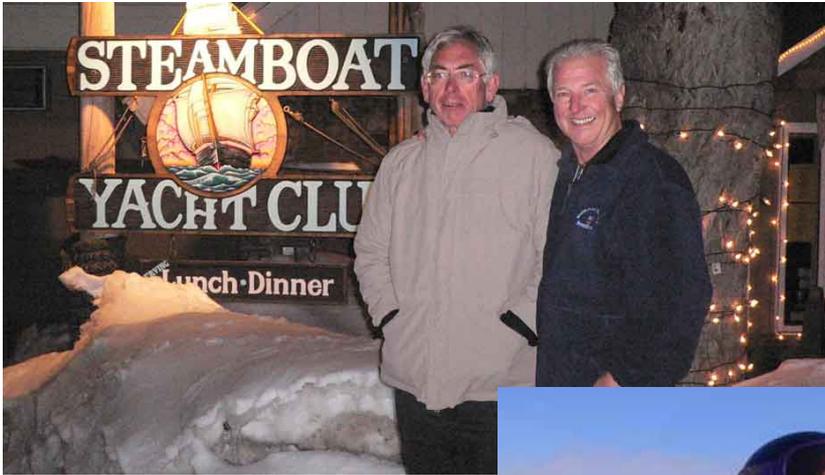
Checking Ted was ok, I then left him to it. It took him a while to get the boat upright due the wind driving from behind. So it took all year, but finally we have confirmation that Ted does occasional capsizes, a lot less than others (like me) though! So whilst not victorious on this occasion, Ted has very much stamped his presence on the fleet at KCC and this season "Uncle ted" is our top ranked I4square, well done!



Glen, NACRA I4 sq - Digital Tour Guide. #186



Adventurers : Gary Selwood and Peter Lane tried to do some “sailing” as visiting sailors but had some questions to answer first



WHERE'S THE WATER FOR THIS CLUB?

Ah, here it is but it's FROZEN !
Oh well we can still sail on a really small cat, some people call them skis.....



Former Member Kev Thomas couldn't give up his love of catamarans with his latest boat being a Cougar cat.

There is some talk of a Nacra 5.8 in the future too for the Raby Bay based Kev



For Sale	Description	Price \$AUD
<p>Beach Rollers</p> 	<p>Beach Rollers with pneumatic tyres on aluminium heavy duty 2" axil. Hull supports are adjustable in width up to 2.4m and would suite Maricat, Hobie, Windrush, Mosquito, Nacra 14s, Taipan 4.9 ETC. Bargain at \$200. Contact Peter 0408942366 or 02 95226253</p> <p>(Ad posted 24/05/2008)</p>	<p>\$200</p>
<p>NACRA 3.6m fold up trimaran</p>	<p>Nacra 3.6m Fold up Trimaran, Contact Scott 0414 903 617, Photo on club notice board.</p> <p>(Ad posted 29/03/2008)</p>	<p>\$1,250</p>
<p>Cat Roller wheels</p> 	<p>White UV stabilized polypropylene 8" by 4 3/4" (wheelbarrow rim but white) with a standard bore for poly bushes to fit a 1" axle. The rims can also be bored out to fit 50mm, 2" and 2.25" axles with no bushing. The tyres are tubeless 18" by 8.5" 4ply nylon radial (wider and larger diameter than standard wheelbarrow tyre) . Tough enough for any gravel or concrete surface yet still suitable for firm sand. An assembly includes 1 wheel fitted with a tyre and valve stem and two bushings. 2 Assemblies in a set.</p> <p>I can also supply a variety of axle types from stainless and corrosion resistant alloy to standard alloy in various lengths. (POA)</p> <p>Any Enquiries please call Peter on 0410 419 982 or email: ics-sales00@gmail.com</p> <p>(Ad re-posted 30/01/2008)</p>	<p>Wheel - \$20.00 ea Tyre - \$66.00ea Bushings - \$2.50ea Valve - \$2.50ea Assembly - \$88.00ea Sets - \$168.00</p> <p>Add \$5 to for each wheel to be bored out.</p> <p>All prices inclusive of GST.</p>

Wanted

WANTED: Nacra 14sq. Prefer an older boat in average to good condition on a registered trailer, or trailer that can be registered with no fuss. Ready to buy. Contact Matt 0423 001 132.

(Ad posted: 25/5/2008)

WANTED - a set of rudder casings and matching rudders for a 20-30 year old A class, any condition is fine, it's not a show boat. Call Tom 0422939902 or email me at madeline_ch@hotmail.com

(Ad posted 17/05/2008)

KCC Crew Link - (Crews looking for rides on Boats!)

Hi My name is Roger. I am 20 years old. I weigh 85kg. Former NSW and Australian Endeavour 26' yacht champion. 3 years experience on 14 and 16' skiffs. Looking for a ride on any of the fast cats. Available most Sundays. Ph 0421929490 e-mail eaton.roger@gmail.com

(Ad posted 19/02/2008)



Kurnell Catamaran Club

CAT CHAT DEADLINES:

11/6/7, 13/8/7, 8/10/7,
10/12/7, 11/2/8, 8/4/8.

PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS

to the editor:

glen_billington@optusnet.com.au

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as per WEBSITE

WORKING BEES:

as per WEBSITE

WWW.KCC.ASN.AU

Phone: 02 96689295
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ABOUT KCC

The Kurnell Catamaran Club Incorporated (KCC) was established in 1972 and encompasses off the beach racing and a cruising division. The Club sails most Sundays from September until May each year.

Boats include:- Tornado, NACRAs, F18, F16, Taipans, Windrush, Maricat, Hobies, A Class, Stingrays, Mosquitos, Prindles and others. In addition the club has a considerable cruising division of larger catamarans. The Club also has on-site storage for boats long term.

KCC operates a "state of the art" Webster's 5.2 metre aluminum boat with a high powered 90hp Yamaha outboard to act as "start boat" and "support vessel" from the commencement of the 2002-2003 season. **KCC is a friendly, family oriented Sailing Club** located on the corner of Prince Charles Parade and Ward Street, Kurnell on the shores of Botany Bay, Sydney, NSW Australia. 2231

