

## Winds light to variable By Jeremy Brown

Light and variable winds were the order of the day for the six competitors of the final Huon Yacht Club Twilight race in the first series, held last Thursday. The race was shortened due to the fickle breeze, which started out as an east-southeasterly, backing to the south at times.

Even so, all boats finished very close together, with 16 seconds between winner Mick Bartlett's *Another Girl Another Planet*, and Jeff Sharp's *French Connection* in second place. Third place getter Phil and Julie Mitchell's *Kalista* led the back of the fleet a few minutes later, 2 seconds in front of Stan Pickering's *Obsession*, who finished 12 seconds ahead of John Flowers' *Mistral*, with Will Meure's *Stardust Dancer* bringing up the rear 20 seconds later. *Kalista* and *Obsession* were trailing *Mistral* until the last leg, but a final brief gust enabled them to catch up and overtake her on the finish line. All boats had trouble with patches of no wind at times – conditions were really a bit too light for effective racing.



*Obsession's spinnaker is perilously close to The Yoop in a duel to the line*

Saturday was the fifth race of the HYC Harbour Series. The winds were fickle again, mainly from the west – never more than 10 knots and disappearing altogether at times. There were four boats out for the competition, with Rod Coomb's *The Yoop* making her first appearance this season. *French Connection* took line honours followed by *Obsession* then *The Yoop* with *Stardust Dancer* a long 15 minutes later. However on corrected time *Stardust Dancer* was first, then *Obsession*, *French Connection* and *The Yoop* in that order. It was another photo-finish for *Obsession*, beating *The Yoop* to the finish by two seconds with just enough wind in her spinnaker to push her across the line in front.

Next Sunday is the second race of the Fred McLaren Perpetual Memorial Trophy. This race is a HYC harbour Race, starting at 1:00 PM.

The HYC combined Harbour Race 4 and Surges Bay Race for the JR Cairns Memorial Trophy has been rescheduled for Saturday December 17 at 2.00 PM.

The first race of the second HYC Twilight Series will be held in the new year on Thursday January 5.