



Wilderness
students
celebrate
winning the
first-eight
Florence
Eaton Cup

Sunday mail 30/03/03

Head of the River winners celebrate

ST PETER'S College's boys' team won the Gosse Shield and Wilderness School lifted the Florence Eaton Cup, both in thrilling style in the Head of the River first-eight races at West Lakes yesterday.

Saints' triumph did not come without a fight from all five crews in the final race — and a heated battle in the end from an unexpected quarter.

There was nothing between the five crews for the first half of the 2000m race until favourite St Peter's pulled its boat to the lead.

Fierce rival Prince Alfred College simply could not compete, however, the Pembroke crew did.

With a fast finish, the Pembroke crew gained on St Peter's with just a half-length margin at the end.

Last year's winner, Prince Alfred, was a further two lengths back.

The girls' first-eight was also a sensation, with Wilderness beating Walford by just 0.7 of a second.

Walford led at both the 500m and 1000m mark by 2m.

Wilderness lifted its stroke speed to 37 over the last 100m, breaking away from the tight contest to win one of the closest-fought girls' races in Head of the River championship history.

- Phil Mangelsdorf

Sunday mail 30/03/03