

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2020

OFFSHORE

THE MAGAZINE OF THE CRUISING YACHT CLUB OF AUSTRALIA

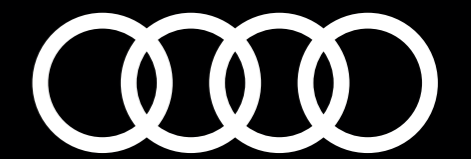


BACK TO BACK FOR ICHI BAN

RACING GETS BACK ON THE WATER

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BIRD ISLAND OPENS THE SEASON



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CLUB INFORMATION

Cruising Yacht Club of Australia
1 New Beach Rd
Darling Point
NSW 2027

CLUBHOUSE

The CYCA is open seven days a week. For the latest on opening hours, please visit our website.

Phone: (02) 8292 7800

Email: cyca@cyca.com.au

Website: www.cyca.com.au

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY

Matt Allen and his crew on *Ichi Ban* have been named Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore Champions for the second year in a row. Credit - CYCA | Hamish Hardy

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Hamish Hardy, ROLEX/Studio Borlenghi

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Noel Cornish, Hamish Hardy, Jordan Reece, DJ Munro, David Hislop

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COMMODORE NOEL CORNISH AM

At the helm



“

...we would like to extend our warmest congratulations to offshore sailor, sports administrator and former CYCA Commodore, David Kellett AM.

”

Dear Members,

The Board and I are thrilled to confirm that the 76th Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race is going ahead on Boxing Day 2020. Our optimism has been buoyed by the Tasmanian Government's opening of its borders on 6 November; earlier than originally expected.

Much work has gone on behind the scenes to ensure that the Rolex Sydney Hobart would be able to run as a COVID Safe event and our thanks go out to the Governments of New South Wales and Tasmania in particular for their continued assistance to help make this a reality. We greatly appreciate the patience, understanding and support shown by all our partners, media, owners, crews and the broader sailing community.

Arrangements for this year's Great Race are still being finalised and we look forward to being able to communicate further updates regarding the necessary changes to Members and race competitors over

coming weeks. We will be including a comprehensive summary of these changes in the following special Hobart issue of Offshore out next month.

Finally, we would like to extend our warmest congratulations to offshore sailor, sports administrator and former CYCA Commodore, David Kellett AM. David is only the twelfth person to be awarded Australian Sailing Life Membership in its 70 year history. His contributions to the sport of sailing both in Australia and internationally is unparalleled and has included key roles as Executive Board Member of ISAF and Treasurer of World Sailing. He is currently the Chair of the Safety of Life at Sea Trusts and has recently been appointed Race Committee Chair for the 2020 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. Many thanks from us all for your outstanding and ongoing contributions.

Stay safe. Our best wishes to all the crews preparing to head south on Boxing Day.

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BELMADAR CONTINUES THEIR SUPPORT OF THE YOUTH SAILING ACADEMY

It is with great excitement that we were able to quietly welcome Belmadar as sponsor of one of the Youth Sailing Academy's (YSA) Elliott 7 yachts. Belmadar has been a Program Sponsor of the YSA for the past three years and have pledged to continue their support for the next two years. Thank you Belmadar for your support!

BOLLE AUSTRALIA MATCH CUP ANNOUNCED

The Cruising Yacht Club of Australia is excited to host a new open matching racing regatta this November. In partnership with Bollé eyewear as part of Ocean Clothing Group, the Club will host the 'Bollé Australia Match Cup'.

The regatta, which will be conducted over four days (24 to 27 November) will see up to 20 teams take part. Currently, the list of competitors includes many notable Australian sailors including America's Cup and Olympic gold medalist Tom Slingsby, former World Match Racing Ranked No. 1 Harry Price, Rolex Sydney Hobart line honours winner and 18ft Skiff World Champion Sam Newton, Olympic silver medalist and YSA alumni Will Ryan plus many former and current youth match racers.

Usually at this time of year the Club is busy preparing for the Musto International Youth Match Racing Regatta. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 travel restrictions in place for both interstate and international competitors, the Club and regatta sponsor Musto Australasia made the decision for the event not to be conducted in 2020 but instead undertake this new formed regatta.

With no open match racing events currently scheduled across Australia, this new format has been designed to bring together some of Australia's best sailing talent with both the Club and regatta sponsor excited to undertake the event.



LEGENDS TO CONVERGE ON SYDNEY HARBOUR

This summer will once again see a celebration of sailing history with the Sydney Hobart Classic Yachts Regatta. The entry list currently contains many Australian offshore sailing legends including *Caprice of Huon*, *Archina*, *Margaret Rintoul*, *Love and War*, *Mister Christian*, *Solveig*, *Fidelis* and the mighty *Kialoa II*.

The regatta, to be held on the weekend of 12-13 December, is being staged jointly by the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron and the Sydney Amateur Sailing Club. It is open to yachts launched prior to 1976 and other relevant classics at the discretion of the organisers.

With a harbour race on each day for spinnaker and non-spinnaker divisions eligible yachts are encouraged to enter what promises to be a spectacular event. As a difficult year for the sport draws to a close, the regatta is sure to be a fitting curtain-raiser to the 76th Sydney Hobart Yacht Race.

Members achieving high awards



Gordon Ingate OAM



David Kellett AM



Matt Allen AM



Daniel Belcher

It has been an exciting time for with many Members receiving some very notable awards, acknowledgements and appointments in the world sailing community.

One of the longest-standing Club Members, Gordon Ingate OAM has been awarded an Australian Sailing Lifetime Achievement Award. Gordon is one of the most accomplished sailors in Australian history and one who has given so much in that time. His sailing resume includes representing Australia at the Olympic Games (Tempest class 1972), in America's Cup Challenges (Skipper of *Grete II* in 1977) and Admiral's Cups (Coves 1965) alongside many national and international titles.

Prominent offshore sailor and Club Life Member David Kellett AM has been awarded Australian Sailing Life Membership. David is the twelfth person in the organisation's seventy years to be awarded this honour, and the first since 2016. Kellett, who was also awarded CYCA Life membership in 2011, was recognised for his outstanding contribution to the sport of sailing, specifically as a competitor and administrator in Australia and abroad.

A Past CYCA Commodore and multiple Tattersall Cup winner, Matt Allen AM was awarded the Australian Sailing 2020 Offshore Sailor of the Year. Matt and his *Ichi Ban* team has dominated the offshore circuit in 2019-20 by winning the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race for the second time in three years, the Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore for the second year in a row and the IRC Nationals for the third year in a row, just to name a few.

The current Australian Sailing President and CYCA Member Daniel Belcher was recently voted in to the position of Oceania representative on the World Sailing Council. Belcher becomes just the third Australian to be elected to Council in nearly thirty years following David Tillett AM (Group L Council Member 1998-2016) and Sarah Kenny. 📍

“
Congratulations to all for well-deserved awards and appointments.”

New CYCA Members

The following have become CYCA Members across October-November 2020, welcome to the Club:

- | | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| • Chris Angus | • Penelope Boyd | • Amanda Corcoran | • June Donsworth | • Tom Granter |
| • Admund Au | • Phill Cameron | • Isabella Currie | • Joe Dusseldorp | • Bridget Gray |
| • Drew Bagnall | • Sil-Nyin Cameron | • Will Currie | • Andrew Ebbott | • Alexandra Griffith |
| • Andrew Bennett | • Jason Close | • Steven Dawkins | • Brenton Fischer | • Richard Hambly |
| • Kane Bennett | • Janet Cohen | • Paddy Diamond-Morrison | • David Gell | • Ben Hawley |
| • Liz Blackford | • Sam Collins | • Wayne Dixon | • Sue Anne Gell | • Tom Hawley |
| • Annie Boxall | • Tom Connolly | | • Grant Grant | • Stephen Heath |

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| • Mike Hecht | • Matt Lorkin | • Kate Moriarty | • Max Rees | • Pat Ward |
| • Paula Horta Baspino | • Stephanie Lyons | • Karen Nonnis | • Glenn Riddell | • Evan Watson |
| • David James | • Jared Macquart | • Ellen O'Connell | • Matt Rockell | • Roelien Westerman |
| • Nina James | • Andrew Martin | • Jen O'Donoghue | • Deborah Ryan | • Morgan White |
| • Sonia Katz | • Anna Mayo | • Chris Ovenden | • Paolo Saltarelli | • Mattijs Willenborg |
| • David Landers | • Adam McGrath | • Anssi Paatero | • Vincent Schade | • Ralph Wintle |
| • Alan Lan | • Avi Melniker | • Theoni Papanikolau | • Lorenzo Schiavello | • Hayden Wittig |
| • Charlotte Leiss | • Pier Merli | • Sarah Peterson | • Nick Steiner | • Claudia Yasukawa |
| • Lucia Lenarduzzi | • Scott Mitchell | • Simon Powell | • Grant Stewart | |
| • Jenny Levy | • Patrick Moloney | • Lucky Ray | • Mitch Sutton | |
| | • Lee Moniz | | • Jacqui Walker | |



Celebration of a great season

Series winner Matt Allen and his team on Ichi Ban during the 2019 Newcastle Bass Island Race.

2019-2020 Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore winners and podium finishers acknowledged

The Club is pleased and excited to announce the 2019-2020 Ocean Racer of the Year Awards and Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore winners.

While recent COVID-19 restrictions may have dampened celebrations for last season's summer sailing, the Club along with series partner Audi Centre Sydney was able to take the celebrations online. With many tuning in from home and attending virtually a long list of winning and place-getters were recognised for their achievements.

The following winners were recognised for outstanding achievement over the 2019/2020 Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore Series:

Ken Holmes – Dreki Sunnan
3rd Commodores Cup

Sebastian Bohm – Smuggler
1st Commodores Cup

Les Goodridge – Wax Lyrical
2nd PHS Division 2 – Commodores Series

Mark Griffith – LCE Showtime
3rs IRC Division 2 and 3rd ORCi Division 2 – Commodores Series

Julian Farren-Price – About Time
1st PHS Bird Island Race, winning the 44th George Barton Trophy

Sam Haynes – Celestial
2nd Commodores Cup
1st PHS Flinders Islet Race, winning the 71st Kings Birthday Cup

David Griffith – Chinese Whisper
3rd PHS Division 1 – Commodores Series
1st Line Honours, winning the Pat Cooper Memorial Trophy – Bass & Flinders Series

Carl Crafoord & Tim Horkings – Sail Exchange
3rd PHS Overall
1st PHS Division 2
3rd ORCi Overall
1st ORCi Division 2
2nd IRC Division 2 – Commodores Series

Tony Levett – TSA Management
3rd Commodores Cup
2nd PHS Division 2 – Tasman Performance Series
3rd ORCi Division 2 – Cape Byron Pointscore Series
3rd IRC Division 2 – Blue Water Pointscore Series

Mark Spring – Highly Sprung
3rd Commodores Cup
3rd PHS Division 2 – Commodores Series
3rd PHS Division 2 – Tasman Performance Series
2nd ORCi Division 2 – Cape Byron Pointscore Series
2nd IRC Division 2 – Blue Water Pointscore Series

Noel Cornish – St Jude
2nd Commodores Cup
3rd Line Honours, 2nd ORCi Division 2, 3rd IRC Overall and 1st IRC Division 2 – Commodores Series
1st PHS Division 2 – Tasman Performance Series
1st ORCi Division 2 – Cape Byron Pointscore Series
1st IRC Division 2 – Blue Water Pointscore Series

Bob Steel & Craig Neil – Quest
1st Commodores Cup
2nd Line Honours, 2nd PHS Division 1, 2nd PHS Overall, 2nd ORCi Division 1, 2nd ORCi Overall, 2nd IRC Division 1,

2nd IRC Overall – Commodores Series
2nd PHS Division 1, 2nd PHS Overall – Tasman Performance Series
2nd ORCi Division 1, 2nd ORCi Overall – Cape Byron Pointscore Series
3rd IRC Division 1, 3rd IRC Overall – Blue Water Pointscore Series and;
1st IRC Bird Island Race, winning the 63rd Janzoon Trophy

Matt Donald & Chris Townsend – Gweilo
1st Commodores Cup
1st Line Honours, 1st PHS Division 1, 1st PHS Overall, 1st ORCi Division 1, 1st ORCi Overall, 1st IRC Division 1, 1st IRC Overall – Commodores Series
3rd Line Honours – Bass & Flinders Series
1st PHS Division 1, winning the Malcolm Halliday Memorial Trophy and 1st PHS Overall – Tasman Performance Series
3rd ORCi Division 1 and 3rd ORCi Overall – Cape Byron Pointscore Series
2nd IRC Division 1 and 2nd IRC Overall – Blue Water Pointscore Series
1st PHS Cabbage Tree Island Race, winning the 47th Woollahra Cup
1st ORCi Cabbage Tree Island Race, winning the EC “Boy” Messenger Memorial Trophy and;
1st IRC Cabbage tree Island Race, winning the 57th Halvorsen Brothers Trophy

Robert Greenhalgh – Ichi Ban
The Tony McLean Memorial Trophy awarded to the mainsheet hand of the Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore Champion.

Davin Conigrave – Ichi Ban
The Roger Hickman OAM Memorial Trophy presented to the Bow Person of the Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore Champion.

Matt Allen – Ichi Ban
The 2019 Audi Centre Sydney Bluewater Pointscore Champion
1st IRC Division 1 and 1st IRC Overall, winning the Jack Halliday Perpetual Trophy and Blue Water Pointscore Series
1st ORCi Division 1, winning the Cape Byron Perpetual Trophy and 1st ORCi Overall – Cape Byron Pointscore Series
1st IRC Flinders Island Yacht Race, winning the Ron Robertson Memorial Trophy
1st IRC Newcastle Bass Island Yacht Race, winning The Solo Trophy
2nd Line Honours – Bass & Flinders Series
3rd PHS Division 1 and 3rd PHS Overall – Tasman Performance Series
2nd Commodores Cup
3rd IRC Division 1 and 3rd IRC Overall – Commodores Series 🇺🇦

CYCA Ocean Racer of the Year awards

MATT ALLEN – OCEAN RACER OF THE YEAR

The Ocean Racing Yachtsperson of the Year is the most prestigious of the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia's five awards, and is presented to the leader of an Australian Ocean Racing campaign who has excelled above others during the qualification period.

Matt Allen, as this year's Ocean Racing Yachts Person of the Year has contributed greatly to the sport, through his leadership at the CYCA and, more recently, as President of Australian Sailing.

Matt has enjoyed plenty of success in sailing throughout his career, especially in recent years with a dominant racing team. His knowledge and experience gained over 40 years of big boat sailing has come to a pinnacle with his latest Ichi Ban. Under his leadership, the *Ichi Ban* team have continued to improve and achieve at the highest levels in Australian Offshore yachting.

His leadership, focus and determination to succeed have resulted in a back-to-back Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore series victories – a massive success against highly competitive fleets.

ANGELIQUE KEAR – SALLY GORDON MEMORIAL TROPHY FOR CREW PERSON OF THE YEAR

This award recognises a non-professional crew member who greatly assists across any aspect of the racing process, from preparation of the yacht prior and post-racing, to assisting with paperwork and other administrative operations for the team.

In 2019, Angelique competed in the Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore on board the yacht *Showtime*, with owner and skipper Mark Griffith highlighting her outstanding dedication and commitment to the program. Her commitment to *Showtime* extended well beyond simply participating in the races. She consistently assisted with the boat preparation, notably organising the provisioning for each race. Something that is not an easy task for a crew of 10!

Her unflinching optimism, dedication and reliability in both sailing and boat preparation inspired the whole *Showtime* crew and is to be highly commended!

KIM JAGGAR – OCEAN VETERAN OF THE YEAR

This is awarded to a stalwart of the sport, who, has either been campaigning for a number of years, or who has returned to offshore racing after a brief hiatus from the sport of sailing.

Kim Jagger undertook his 34th Sydney Hobart Race in 2019 after commencing his first Sydney Hobart in 1976

before campaigning his first yacht, Vanessa III from 1981 to 1986 with great success. In 2018, after several years in retirement from yacht ownership, he bought the Sydney 38 *Cinquante* and set about updating the boat to once again take on the Great Race. 2018 saw a highly successful return which continued into the 2019 race.

Throughout his ocean racing career, he has trained and mentored many young sailors. Most notably, he spent several years working with Sailors with Disabilities, now known as the Making Waves foundation as a crew and skipper for their Sydney Hobart campaigns and circumnavigation of Australia for which they still hold the monohull speed record!

MARK SPRING – OCEAN RACING ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

The Ocean Racing Rookie of the Year is awarded to a competitor that, may be no foreigner to crewing or participating in ocean racing, has for the first time campaigned their own boat within the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia's prestigious Blue Water Sailing Program.

Mark Spring only commenced competitive racing in 2018, having previously owned cruising boats. After purchasing the old Beneteau 45 Balance, he decided he wanted to race to Hobart with his mates. This sailor didn't back down when told it takes hard work, money and perseverance, putting together a crew of his friends, some of whom had never raced offshore before.

Mark and his rookie crew, finished the series off with a very commendable seventh place in IRC division 2 for the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race and has shown to be a very great ambassador for the sport of Ocean Racing.

WILL OXLEY – OCEAN NAVIGATOR OF THE YEAR

The Ocean Navigator of the Year award was instituted in 2008 and recognises the integral role that navigators play in the successful campaign of a yacht.

On board the most successful boat in the Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore Series, Will experienced extreme success locally as well as globally in 2019. With a background in marine biology and countless miles of ocean racing experience, he is a renowned ocean racing navigator.

Fellow *Ichi Ban* crew members have stated that his scientific approach has led to improvements in the boat's performance at every level with his weather and navigation skills continuing to improve every year. This navigator has become one of the leading lights in international yacht racing. 🇺🇦





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Bird Island Race kickstarts blue water racing season



Little and fickle wind challenged competitors in the early stages of the race.

Blue water racing has made a triumphant return to the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia's (CYCA) Sailing Program with the series-opening Bird Island Race.

After the first few races of the Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore (Audi Centre Sydney BWPS) were abandoned due to COVID-19 safety measures, it was wonderful to see so many teams out on the water once again.

A technical, 6-8 knot south-westerly greeted competitors for the 1000hrs start in Sydney Harbour, giving the fleet plenty of time to size each other up for their first hit-out of the season. With 37 teams on the line, ranging in size from Sean Langman's new-look RP 69 *Money Penny* to Shane Kearns' plucky S&S 34 *White Bay 6 Azzurro*, it was a sight to behold as spinnakers were set and the starters gun sounded. By lunchtime, teams were recording almost

30 knots of wind with many hurtling towards the island turning point at over 20 knots.

After a draining day of racing Matt Donald & Chris Townsend's *Gweilo* were able to hold off six rival TP52s and a plethora of strong challengers to claim IRC victory in the 85-nautical-mile race.

"For the start we had very fluky, very changeable conditions in the Harbour, but after the reach out to North Head it was on for young and old" said *Gweilo* co-owner Chris Townsend.

"It was pretty exciting racing, for the TP52s it was effectively an eight-hour match race."



Matt Donald and Chris Townsend's *Gweilo* exiting Sydney Heads after a tactical run down the harbour.

With six 52-foot rivals to contend with upfront, including Matt Allen's two-time Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race winner *Ichi Ban*, the *Gweilo* team had plenty on to ensure their victory.

"When we came into Bird Island it was ourselves, *Ichi Ban* and *Celestial*, all within about 150 metres of each other, doing 20-plus knots - you can't really ask for more exciting racing than that" said Townsend.

"We're very fortunate to have such a high-quality fleet here in Sydney. It's a situation where the little mistakes get punished and all the boats are pushing each other. The little incremental improvements that all the boats are making really do make quite a difference.

"We're also very fortunate with the amount of talent around Sydney to help sail these boats as well."

Carl Crafoord's *Cookson 12 Sail Exchange* was also all-class on the day, managing to lead their IRC Division 2 for most of the race and coming home strong to clinch the divisional victory.

Ichi Ban took home ORCi Division 1 victory with Division 2 going to Ron Forster's Beneteau First 40 *Ariel*, another team who sailed a stellar race leading their division for much of the day.

PHS Division 1 was claimed by Rob Aldis' DK 46 *Khaleesi* who were pipped for IRC victory by *Gweilo* by just two minutes on corrected time, and PHS Division 2 went to *Ariel*.

And, making history, was Rupert Henry's J/65 *Burning Palms* who claimed Two-Handed line honours, IRC and PHS victories after the division's inclusion for the first time in the Audi Centre Sydney BWPS. Jiang Lin's X 43 *Min River* took home Two-Handed ORCi victory, and James Murchison's Tripp 47 *Abracadabra* also put on a stellar show.

All eyes now turn to Race 2 of the Audi Centre Sydney BWPS, the Cabbage Tree Island Race 1900hrs Friday 4 December, and of course the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race on Boxing Day. After their Bird Island IRC victory and other recent strong performances, *Gweilo* will certainly be a team to watch this season.

"We're making the best of a tough year all-round in terms of doing as much sailing as we can. We're just all pretty lucky that the race is going ahead, COVID-dependant, and we have something to look forward to on Boxing Day" said Townsend.

"For Matt (*Gweilo* co-owner) and I, we're loving our sailing, doing the best we can, and we'll keep pushing as hard as we can."

Follow all the Audi Centre Sydney Blue Water Pointscore races through the official website bwps.cyca.com.au with the live tracker, news updates, photos, videos, results and stories from the competitors. Make sure to join the conversation by using the official hashtag #AudiCentreSydneyBWPS on all social media. 📌

2020 ROLEX SYDNEY HOBART FLEET STRONG AS EVER

Photo Credit - ROLEX/Kurt Arrigo



The starting cannon will be fired again on Boxing Day for the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia's (CYCA) 2020 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race.

The prestigious, world-renowned 628-nautical-mile blue water classic will go ahead after a lengthy period of consultation with state governments, health authorities and other key stakeholders. The opening of Tasmania's borders to New South Wales travelers has made the race a reality.

CYCA Commodore Noel Cornish AM was delighted to confirm that the event would be going ahead:

"We are thrilled to have so many yachts participating this year, particularly given the general uncertainty and necessary restrictions placed on many sporting events in Australia over the past six months. The size of the fleet has exceeded all our expectations and is a tremendous show of support for the Race. We are excited that we can host the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race in this challenging year."

"Whilst 2020 has been a very difficult year for all Australians due to the impact of COVID-19, we feel that it is important for the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia and the sailing world to help support the various Governments

goals to assist economic recovery and help communities return to some sense of normality within strict health and safety guidelines."

"We would like to sincerely thank the Governments of New South Wales and Tasmania, their associated health, police and maritime departments, events and tourism authorities, local councils and all our media and corporate partners for their continued support."

Unfortunately, representation from many international competitors has not been possible this year due to ongoing global restrictions. The CYCA's thoughts are with the offshore sailing community around the globe and the Club looks forward to welcoming all sailors, families and support crews back in 2021.

An array of returning yachts are amongst likely contenders for the Tattersall Cup which honours the overall winner on handicap, including previous winners *Ichi Ban* (2017 and 2019), *Alive* (2018) and *Quest* (2008 and also 2015 as *Balance*). Competition from a sizeable fleet of other yachts in the 50- to 70-foot range will be strong.

Should this year's conditions favour smaller yachts, the likes

of *Solveig* (overall winner in 1954), and Noakes Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race winners *Chutzpah* (2018) and *White Bay 6 Azzurro* (2017 as *Komatsu Azzurro*), will give the bigger boats a strong nudge for podium placings.

The super maxis, *InfoTrack* (line honours 2016 as *Perpetual Loyal*) and *Black Jack* (2009 as *Alfa Romeo*) will do battle for line honours to claim the John H Illingworth Challenge Cup.

Importantly, there are an impressive number of yachts entered to compete in the newly introduced Two-Handed division of the Rolex Sydney Hobart, with a perpetual trophy being introduced to honour the division's overall winner.

This year will also celebrate the 75th year of participation by women sailors in the Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. Female crews will be significantly represented across all divisions, including four skippers: Wendy Tuck (*Speedwell*), Sibby Ilzhofer (*Dare Devil*), Genevieve Warlow (*Dodgeball*) and Jiang Hui Lin (*Min River*).

The safety, health and well-being of all participants, families and broader communities has always been the

major focus for the CYCA and its race partner, the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania.

A number of significant changes will be made to the event this year. More focus will be on enhanced digital coverage of the race and all team briefings will be undertaken online. The social events and parties usually held at the CYCA in the lead up to the race in December will not be taking place this year and there will be restrictions imposed across the Clubhouse and marina, spectator fleets and gatherings at public vantage spots for the race start on 26 December. The Hobart Race Village and its associated festivities will be restructured in line with the best practice recommendations from authorities with the Village and marina closed to the general public.

New guidelines and regulations regarding COVID-19 safety, tracking and social distancing are being constantly reviewed and appropriate measures will be strictly adhered to as required.

With the Rolex Sydney Hobart fast approaching, the Club wishes crews and support teams all the very best in preparation for the Great Race. ⚓

Youth Match Racing returns with the Captain John Piper Regatta



The winning crew of Finn Tapper, Tom Grimes, George Richardson, Jake Liddell & Jonah Levi.

FINAL PLACINGS:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Finn Tapper - CYCA | 6. Cam Whiteside - RPAYC |
| 2. Jack Littlechild - CYCA | 7. Maddie O'Shea - RSYS |
| 3. Juliet Costanzo - RPAYC | 8. Chelsea Williams - CYCA |
| 4. Jed Cruickshank - RSYS | 9. Emma McKechnie - CYCA |
| 5. Hugo Stoner - CYCA | |

After 11 months' hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, youth match racing returned in early October with CYCA hosting the Captain John Piper Regatta. The Regatta, which is generously supported by Club Member Dean Harrigan, saw nine teams from the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron (RSYS), Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club (RPAYC) and the CYCA enjoying near-perfect conditions on Sydney Harbour for the two-day, Grade 4 competition.

Having had limited training opportunities over the winter period, all nine teams did extremely well to get back into competition mode. In total across the two days, 56 races were completed using the Club's fleet of Elliott 7s in Rushcutters Bay.

On Saturday 10 October the Race Committee managed to complete the majority of the round robin stage, with competitors battling not only each other but a busy Sydney Harbour. At the end of the round robin, Jed Cruickshank (RSYS) turned out to be the surprise package, remaining undefeated to qualify in the top spot for the semi-finals. Regatta favourite, Finn Tapper (CYCA) followed in a close second, having lost only to Cruickshank in their match.

The close racing on the water was reflected even more so on the scorecard with the next five teams all finishing on a countback for positions third to seventh. Juliet Costanzo (RPAYC) and Jack Littlechild (CYCA) benefited from early round robin victories to progress to the next stage.

After dominating the round robin stage, Cruickshank came undone in his semi-finals with Jack Littlechild dispatching the regatta leader in two quick races to progress to the final. In the other semi-final, Finn Tapper also only took two races to progress, setting up an all-CYCA final.

Both the petit-final and finals featured close racing, with lead changes and penalties throughout the series. In the end, the more experienced crew of Finn Tapper, Tom Grimes, George Richardson, Jake Liddell & Jonah Levi were able to outsail Jack Littlechild and his team of Tom Barrington, Charlotte Alexander, Riley Evans and Hugh Allen to the regatta title. Tapper took out both races to win the 2020 Captain John Piper Regatta.

In the fight for third place, Juliet Costanzo came from behind in both races to take the final podium position 2-0 over Cruickshank. ⚓



Reg Lord and his crew of Murray Jones, Tom Grimes and Ben Lamb (pictured on Boat 8) were able to comfortably come away with the series win.

Tightly contested 2020 Noakes 7s Series

Reg Lord's four-time Australian-national-champion-winning J-70 team of America's Cup sailor Ben Lamb alongside YSA alumni Murray Jones and Tom Grimes won the 2020 Noakes 7s Series. The team dominated the series winning eight of the 13 races to take a comfortable win.

Series Sponsor Noakes Group entered a team into the series with Josh Alexander as skipper and finished in second place while Chris Townsend's took the final podium spot to finish in third.

Conducted over four Tuesday evenings during October, nine teams took to Rushcutters Bay for short sprint races using the CYCA's fleet of Elliott 7s. The small keelboats tested all crews across the 13-race series with each race lasting between 12-15 minutes.

The opening evening saw slightly longer races with seven teams fresh to the series.

Two races were completed with Josh Alexander and Reg Lord taking race wins. Racing on Tuesday 13 October saw Races 3 to 5 completed with Chris Townsend and team taking honours in Race 3 before Lord took a further two wins to extend their overall lead.

Tom Slingsby joined the series on the third evening, replacing Lord who was unable to attend on this

occasion. Whilst the team won all four races on a perfect evening, Josh Alexander came within inches in beating the America's Cup and Olympic champion in Race 8 of the series.

Heading into the final evening Lord had a runaway win in the series whilst the battle for the two remaining podium places couldn't have been tighter between Alexander and Townsend, both tied on 31 points.

Alexander came storming out of the blocks in Race 10, taking their second win in the series. Over the next three races Alexander kept a close eye on Townsend, who even after taking out Race 12, saw Alexander able to claim second overall in the series.

Julian Farren-Price and crew finished the series on a high, taking out Race 13 to be the fourth team to win a race during the series. ⚓

FINAL PLACINGS:

1. Reg Lord
2. Josh Alexander
3. Chris Townsend
4. Andy Kearnan
5. David McCracken
6. Julian Farren-Price
7. Larki Missiris
8. Garth Riley
9. Marco Poli

Racing was tight throughout the series with so many competitive crews involved.





Angelique Kear (right of trophy) after winning the 2019 John Messenger Women's Match Racing Regatta.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Angelique Kear

Get to know a Member who joined in 2010, has competed in multiple Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Races, volunteers as a committee member and been part of the Youth Sailing Academy.

OFFSHORE: Favourite CYCA memory

Angelique: Gosh, there are so many, although lots of the most entertaining ones are probably not wholesome enough to detail here!

I spent the entirety of a decade of my annual leave entitlements doing regattas on Club Members boats. I have met some of my best friends through the CYCA, celebrated milestones here, lived across the road for a few years, represented the Club overseas, had some wins, had a few bad days, but (almost) always finished up with embellishing the days sailing activities over a beverage in the bar after racing.

OFFSHORE: Proudest achievement on water

Angelique: Hard to go past 2013 Hamilton Island Race week, where we finished with a series score of 6 points across 5 races for IRC passage - made all the more memorable by the crews phenomenal apres sailing performance.

OFFSHORE: Bucket-list event still to attend/enter

Angelique: The only place I have raced outside Australia is New Zealand - competing twice in their women's national match racing championships. I'd be so keen to do some more sailing internationally - anything in the med or Caribbean would be amazing!

OFFSHORE: Best thing about the CYCA

Angelique: That Members are genuinely more interested in your day on the water than your day at work. It is the most authentic sailing club I've been to.

OFFSHORE: Favourite CYCA moment

Angelique: Each Hobart I make a point of finding a less hectic spot on deck to take a deep breath, look around the harbour, see the helicopters and the spectator traffic and take it all in. It really is incredible and special and something I feel privileged to experience - plus it helps dissolve the anxiety created by cooking 75 pies and five kilos of roast lamb to package into foil trays on Christmas day!

OFFSHORE: Outside of sailing I...

Angelique: Walk to Manly beach almost every day - whether for dinner, drinks or exercise. Travel as often as I can squeeze in around sailing with my ever tolerant (non-sailing) partner. Other than that, I recently developed an interest in powerlifting - very amateur but getting stronger with practice - I'll still accept a hand lifting a code zero if you're offering though.

OFFSHORE: Advice to my younger self

Angelique: Learn to talk it up - the boys do it so you should too! Ha!

On a serious note though, I'd tell myself to lean in to as many opportunities as possible. Put your hand up. Ask to have a go at everything rather than assuming everyone is more experienced or better suited to the job that needs to be done - often they are but sometimes they aren't. Don't miss an opportunity. 📌



Member Tom O'Callaghan completes epic solo walk from Sydney to Hobart

“
Tom O'Callaghan completed his epic voyage with the final leg walking from his home in Sydney's north shore to the CYCA in Darling Point

Members and guests may remember the Sydney Hobart walking challenge the Club launched all those months ago during the height of Sydney's lockdown.

While Australians were ordered to stay home, we were able to get brief respite with a period of time per day allocated to keeping ourselves fit, healthy and active. And so, the Sydney Hobart walking challenge was born.

On Monday 4 May, in teams of up to 10 people and using an app to monitor progress, Members and guests set off to complete the 628-nautical-mile (1,163km) distance from Sydney to Hobart from the comfort of their own neighbourhood. Whether it was a five kilometer jog to the beach or a walk to the park with their pup, the teams recorded their every step and began to rack up the miles.

But one Member took the challenge to a whole new level, shouldering the task of walking the entire distance by himself! And recently, Tom O'Callaghan completed his epic voyage with the final leg walking from his home in Sydney's north shore to the CYCA in Darling Point for a very well-deserved drink and meal!

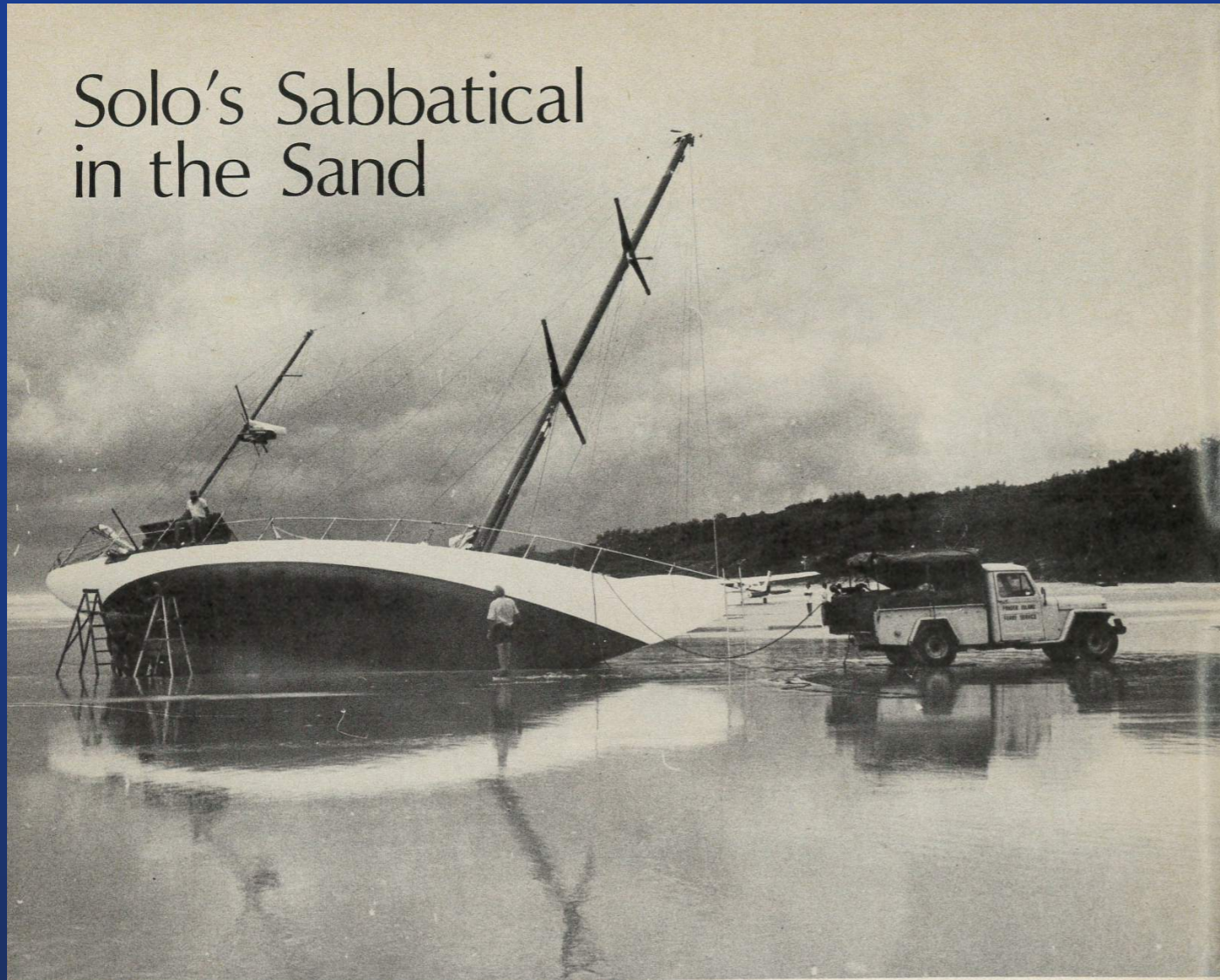
Even more amazingly, Tom's cumulative elapsed time was faster than that of *Wayfarer's* 1945 Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. Of course, *Wayfarer's* 11 days, 6 hours, 20 minutes has gone down in history as the slowest yacht to have ever completed the Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. Now we know it is possible to walk there faster as crews sometimes grumble when struck with light conditions!

Congratulations on your amazing journey Tom, we hope you enjoy our gift to you for achieving this amazing feat. It might be time for a new pair of walking shoes! 📌

From the Archives

Take a glimpse back to one of the legendary ocean racing yachts from the 1950s

Solo's Sabbatical in the Sand



Photos Courtesy MIRROR

In 1955 *Solo* burst onto the scene like a comet. This 56 foot steel cutter was built by Vic Meyer who used to say that he drew up an accommodation plan and asked Alan Payne to design a cruising yacht around it. Be that as it may, she marked a turning point in Australian yacht racing. Her lines combined the best in our own traditional designs with the latest overseas ideas and have a strong affinity with the Tasman Seabirds and *Gretel*.

The lines are all that remain unchanged, for Vic has altered everything inside the ship even to the original accommodation layout. His constant search for perfection has lasted for years.

Solo's first race was a Ladies' Day affair sailed in a screaming westerly. She won handsomely and her head was well and truly wetted in the C.Y.C. bar that night, as anyone who was there will never forget. Then she went from strength to strength. You name the race and *Solo* has won it, most probably. Gladstone, Montagu Island, two Hobarts and just about everything else have been gathered into her collection of scalps. Her record of twelve hours start to finish for a Bird Island race, set in 1956, still stands. So do some of her other records.

Solo was dramatic, and not only for her eye-catching appeal. She was the ideal boat for a hard-driving skipper like Vic Meyer, who never stinted a penny on her and always expected perfection from his crew. She was a powerful racing machine, very comfortable below and, as they say in the navy, a good feeder. But she was hard work as anyone who has spent a four-hour watch taking the stretch out of her yankee jib sheet can tell you. Also she did not have that cow-catcher bulwark around the bow in her early days, and life on the foredeck was hard, wet and exciting.

Solo thrashing through gales or screaming along under a huge kite with water flying everywhere will remain in the memories of hundreds of yachtsmen. To the end of her serious racing career it was an axiom that if a new yacht couldn't hold *Solo*, it was a waste of time and money to build her.

In the early 1960's cruising began to overlap; eventually *Solo* influenced the Australian cruising scene as thoroughly as she had jolted ocean racing. She sailed around the continent, north about, not as the first yacht to do so but certainly as the most efficient. The Pacific Islands began to know her, and later she set out on her first round-the-

world voyage. At that time she was converted from a cutter to a yawl, a change that made for much easier sail handling. This was necessary, for Vic had taken to sailing with girl crews who, he claimed, are much less given to arguing.

With all that mileage under her keel *Solo* has had her share of incidents, such as a prolonged stranding on the Barrier Reef, an almost total shipwreck at Punta Arenas, South America and a dismasting in the Indian Ocean. After the Punta Arenas wreck many would have written the yacht off, but not Vic. He had her shipped to Hamburg where new plates were welded into one side. Then he sailed her back to Sydney by way of Capetown. Later, in 1972-74, another world-girdling voyage was sailed west-about.

Early in April last the yacht left Sydney for Cairns, taking only one crew member, 25-year-old Olga Akacich. Monday April 14th was overcast with no offer of a chance to get a sight. That night the radar and echo sounder broke down, through battery failure it is believed, but there seemed to be no cause for immediate worry. Although a squally sou'-easter was blowing everything pointed to *Solo* being well offshore.

Leaving the auto-pilot in charge for a while, Vic attempted to get the radar going. But while plunging through a squall she went through the surf and onto the beach at Fraser Island at a spot about ten miles south of Happy Valley. The tide was well in and when it receded *Solo* was high and dry.

There she remained for over a month, and recent photos showed her to be well embedded in the sand. A plan to bulldoze a channel to the sea was not practicable, and an attempt to tow her off had failed.

On Thursday May 15th *Solo* was towed in to a hero's reception at Mooloolaba after a month high and dry on the beach. Vic Meyer was reported to be going to marry his crew "as soon as we can get to Cairns". Joe Mills, who operates Happy Valley, a resort on Fraser Island, said Olga had impressed everyone with her loyalty, staying with Vic in uncomfortable and often trying conditions during the thirty-day vigil.

Solo was refloated by Brisbane salvage expert, Joe Engwirda, after a two-day operation which had only one anxious moment — when she was caught side-on by a large breaker a few minutes off the beach. Once clear of the breakers, a diver inspected her and found the only apparent damage was to the rudder. She was towed by Mr. Engwirda's barge to Mooloolaba 50km south.

Solo has had twenty spectacular years on the club register under the same ownership, and her story is a vital part of Australian yachting history. Incidentally, she was named after Vic Meyer's old home town, Solothurn, in Switzerland.

— Jack North



WHAT'S ON AT CYCA



WEDNESDAY TWILIGHT PIZZA & DRINK SPECIAL

After Wednesday Twilight races, order a pizza & drink combo online and we'll deliver it to your boat on the CYCA marina.

Delivery available between 1930 and 2030hrs Wednesdays only.



COCKTAILS ON THE DECK

Enjoy the sun, water and time with friends while you sip a delicious cocktail created by our resident cocktail master. With the menu changing monthly there is something for all.

Fridays from 1600hrs, Sundays from 1400hrs



KINKAWOOKA MUSSELS

From the cool waters of South Australia comes some of the finest shellfish which is beautifully prepared, cooked and served to you at Cafe 44.

From 1200hrs each Saturday



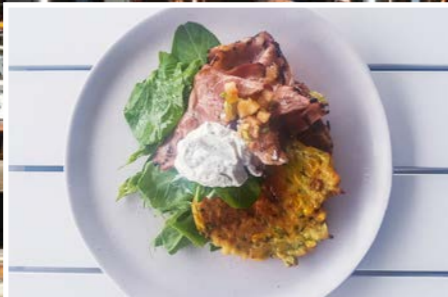
SEAFOOD AND SMALL PLATES

Half kilogram of cooked tiger prawns with cocktail sauce, lemon & soft roll.

From 1200hrs each Sunday

A selection of small plates including cured meats, croquettes with truffle infused aioli, crumbed whiting, chicken wings and more.

1500 - 1800hrs each Sunday



BREAKFAST SPECIALS

Each week a new delicious breakfast treat is available to tempt the tastebuds and kickstart a morning by the water.

0800-1130hrs Thursday -Sunday



\$10 DAILY COFFEE AND BACON & EGG ROLL

An easy start to any morning with a freshly made regular coffee and delicious bacon & egg roll.

Available daily until 1130hrs

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For the latest CYCA racing, events and functions visit www.CYCA.com.au/whatson



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