



Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race 2021

Boat Profiles compiled by Di Pearson

ALIVE

SAIL NO: 52566

LOA: 22.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Reichel/Pugh (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2005

TYPE: Reichel Pugh 66

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 6

OWNER: Phillip Turner

SKIPPER: Duncan Hine

CLUB: Derwent Sailing Squadron, Tas

CREW: Duncan Hine (4) – Skipper, Lachie Paramor (3) – Navigator, William Mackenzie (3), Ben Robinson, Shane Gaddes (7), Luke Watkins (2), Jake Erson, Alan Smith, Darren Jones (16), Sam Tiedemann (2), Sam Gilmour (1), Tom Spithill (4)

In the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart, Phillip Turner's Alive was looking good to win the race for a second consecutive time, having claimed overall victory in 2018, but ultimately finished fourth overall to win Division 0. Took line honours in the 2020 Tasports Launceston to Hobart race and chopped just over an hour and a half off the race record in the hands of Turner's regular skipper, Duncan Hine. Before the 2018 Hobart, Alive, an RP66, finished second on line in the Transpac Race for second overall in Division 1.

Turner bought the former Stark Raving Mad/Black Jack in 2014 and finished 72nd in the 2014 Hobart, then 17th in 2016. He broke the 2014 Melbourne Vanuatu record, won IRC Division 0 in the 2015 Hong Kong Vietnam Race, and took line honours, broke the 16 year-old China Sea Race record and placed second overall. As Black Jack, the canting keeled yacht recorded the second fastest time in the 2012 Sydney Gold Coast race, behind Wild Oats XI. Always a good boat, Alive has lost none of her oomph. A well-honed crew includes Darren 'Twirler' Jones, who always brings something good to a boat with his offshore and one-design international expertise, including world championship wins. Sam Gilmour is also aboard and brings his first class experience in match racing and one-design classes.

ARIEL**SAIL NO:** A140**LOA:** 12.6m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Farr Yacht Design (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2010**TYPE:** Beneteau First 40**NUMBER OF HOBARTS:** 5**OWNER:** Ron Forster/Phil Damp**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** Ron Forster (6) – Skipper/Navigator, Mark Lewkovitz (1), Nathan Stanaway, John Naylor (8), Jensen Penney (10), Mathew Short (12), Craig Bathie (2), Luke Bartels, Maximilian Vos, Edward Prideaux (1)

Ron Forster and Phil Damp last headed south with Ariel in 2017 and placed 34th overall to win Division 3. The previous year she finished 21st overall and third in Division 3 ahead of placing third overall, second in Division 3 and third overall in ORCi in the 2017 Sydney Gold Coast race. Forster and Damp were thrilled to finish third overall in the 2014 Hobart after finishing 29th in 2013 and 28th in 2012. The Ariel crew is, as is usual, limbering up in the Blue Water Pointscore ahead of the main event. In early November, they placed 14th overall and second in Division 2 of the Flinders Islet Race. Ariel will be a strong contender if the weather is favourable with a solid crew that includes well-known yachtie, Mat Short.

B52**SAIL NO:** B52**LOA:** 12.5m**CLASS:** PHS**DESIGNER:** Iain Murray (AUS)**YEAR BUILT:** 1995**TYPE:** Murray 41**NUMBER OF HOBARTS:** 3**OWNER:** Daniel Farmer**CLUB:** Southport Yacht Club, Qld**CREW:** Daniel Farmer (1) – Skipper, Andrew McHugh, Cedric Robillot, Cameron Boogaardt, Tanja Prell, Barry Schoonenberg, Mark MacAlister, Greg Black, Jennie Backman

Daniel Farmer sails B52 out of Southport Yacht Club. The Murray 41 has done three Sydney Hobarts, it's first the treacherous 1998 race when owned by Wayne Miller, when she was rolled and dismasted. Tasmanian Hughie Lewis took ownership of B52 and raced her to Hobart in 2000 (25th overall) and 2001 (19th). The boat, designed by Australia's famed Iain Murray, has since undergone a major facelift and has a B52 bomber-themed hand airbrushed paint scheme done by Farmer himself. Apart from the Hobart, the yacht has done six Pittwater to Coffs series' with PHS second and third placings, including PHS second overall in 2012 when owned by Paul D'Olier. Since Farmer's ownership, B52 has competed in the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race from 2015 to 2019, and the last three Brisbane to Keppel races, Airlie Beach and Hamilton Island race weeks.

BLACK JACK**SAIL NO:** 525100**LOA:** 30.0m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Reichel/Pugh (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2005**TYPE:** 100ft Super Maxi**NUMBER OF HOBARTS:** 5

OWNER: Peter Harburg

SKIPPER: Mark Bradford

CLUB: Yacht Club de Monaco, Monaco

CREW: Mark Bradford (13) – Skipper, Alex Nolan (9) - Navigator, Peter Harburg (10), Andrew Henderson (21), Darren Hutchison (13), Anthony Nossiter (19), Silas Nolan (18), Will McCarthy (15), John Flannery (17), Bruce Clark (28), Liam Woulfe (6), Chris Anderson (9), Ryan Godfrey, Graeme Taylor (24), Kevin Costin (16), Vaughan Prentice (12), Sam Newton (5), Adam Beashel

Peter Harburg purchased the former Alfa Romeo/Esimet Europa in mid-2017 and finished 3mins 31secs behind Wild Oats XI in the 2017 Sydney Gold Coast race – the closest finish in 16 years. In the same race in 2018, took line honours from WOXI, Comanche and InfoTrack. Looked strong in the 2019 Sydney Hobart as she approached Tasman Island, but Black Jack crossed fifth over the line of the five supers, in a close finish. In a thriller in 2018, she finished second on line after a race-long battle with the other supers – the top four were just four miles apart – this after placing third on line in 2017, inside Perpetual Loyal's 2016 record. Also took line honours in the 2018 and 2019 Brisbane Gladstone races but was dismantled in 2021 while leading the race.

As Neville Crichton's Alfa Romeo, she took line honours from Wild Oats XI in the 2009 Hobart. Under her former two names, the RP100 claimed 150 plus line honours wins around the world and broke the 2009 Transpac Race record. Before buying the 100 footer, Harburg enjoyed success with other Black Jacks, including the RP66 renamed 'Alive'; which won the 2018 Sydney Hobart under current owner, Phillip Turner, and a modified VOR70 previously known as Telefonica.

BLINK

SAIL NO: B40

LOA: 12.2m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2012

TYPE: Beneteau First 40

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 3

OWNER: Mark Gorbatov/Mark Siebert

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Mark Gorbatov (1) – Skipper, Mark Siebert – Skipper, Rest TBA

This is the former Concubine (original owner Jason Ward finished 43rd in the 2014 Rolex Sydney Hobart) and Bravo (placed 14th overall in 2016 and won Division 3 when owned by Robbo Robertson). She is coming up for Sydney Hobart number four, after her latest owner, Mark Gorbatov, posted 82nd overall in his first Hobart with the Beneteau 40 in 2019. The ophthalmologist's first yacht was a Hanse 385 named 'Out of Sight', which he campaigned out of the CYCA in offshore and inshore races. This is his second Sydney Hobart, and while one might assume the name 'Blink' comes from his profession, the boat was in fact named by his young daughter, for the Dr Who episode titled 'Don't Blink'.

BOWLINE

SAIL NO: 10447

LOA: 13.4m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2005

TYPE: Beneteau First 44.7

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Ian Roberts

CLUB: Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron

CREW: Ian Roberts - Skipper, Peter Hutchison – Navigator, Jodie-Anne Roberts, Seosamh Mac Mathuna, Nick Smith, Jenny Geytenbeek, Andrew Geytenbeek, Bruce Roach, Reid Bosward, Anthony Pennington

This boat, best known as Le Billet when owned by Pittwater's Bill Ebsary and then by Mark Tinworth and Mark Waterhouse. All three campaigned her extensively in major events out of NSW, including Sydney Gold Coast races. She was renamed Bowline by Ian Roberts of South Australia, who purchased her in March and entered her in the yacht's first Sydney Hobart. Bowline races under the burgee of the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron and it is Roberts' intention to campaign the Beneteau 44.7 offshore extensively throughout South Australia to assist the promotion of offshore sailing both locally and nationally. It is also his intention to regularly campaign the yacht with a component of the crew being women and beginners, in support of the sport of yacht racing. In November, Roberts won the 200nm Haystack Island Race a good precursor for the Hobart.

CARRERA S

SAIL NO: AUS49005

LOA: 15.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Reichel/Pugh (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2006

TYPE: Marten 49

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Gerry Cantwell

CLUB: Sandringham Yacht Club, Vic

CREW: Gerry Cantwell (3) – Skipper, Roger Eastham (1) – Navigator, Al McGregor (1), Jackie White (9), Ryan Epstein (6), Bretlyn Brown (8), Katryna Economou (1), David Holter (2), Greg Phelan (3), Alex Mulders, Miguel Molina (1), Gary Donnellan, Rowan Pollard (1), Leigh Johnston

Carrera S contested her only Sydney Hobart in 2019 and finished 67th overall. Owned by Victorian Gerry Cantwell, the Marten 49 arrived in Australia in 2018, after racing extensively in Auckland for 10 years. Since buying the cruiser/racer, Cantwell has competed in the Auckland Noumea Race and the Groupama Race, which takes the fleet around New Caledonia. Carrera S normally races out of Melbourne in between major events and took line honours in the ORCVs 2019 Apollo Bay Race. To prepare for the cancelled 2020 Sydney Hobart, Cantwell started the Noakes Sydney Gold Coast race, but retired due to time constraints. He continued on to Airlie Beach and Hamilton Island Race Weeks where he took on the big guns and finished an excellent fourth at the latter event. In November, the Victorian yacht placed third overall in the 220nm South East Qld Ocean Racing Qualifier.

CELESTIAL

SAIL NO: 9535

LOA: 15.9m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Judel/Vroljik (GER)

YEAR BUILT: 2011

TYPE: TP52

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Sam Haynes

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Sam Haynes (10) – Skipper, Troy Grafton (19), Richard Bott (7), Callum Cecil (6), Johnny Warren, Will Howard (16), Richard Howard, Wulf Wilkens (1), Malcolm Parker (14),

Jack Macartney (8), Lachlan Hornsby (3), Ben Rice (5), Lewis Brake (1), David Chapman, Harry West

Sam Haynes bought his latest Celestial, the former Audi All4One/Beecom/Temptation III, in the run-up to the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart and placed 14th overall that year. The TP52 raced on the MedCup circuit before Chris Dare bought her in NZ and renamed her 'Ambition'. Having experience with the yacht now, Haynes, a vet and a CYCA director, is looking to replicate the incredible success enjoyed with his previous Celestials and started by winning February's 55nm Summer Offshore Series Virtual Mark Race and also won CYCA's 2021 Summer Offshore Series and placed seventh in November's Flinders Islet Race.

In 2018, Haynes sailed his former Celestial to 17th in the Hobart (second best placed TP52 after Ichi Ban), to finish the Blue Water Pointscore (BWPS) second to Ichi Ban. In 2017 he placed ninth in the Hobart to finish runner-up in the BWPS. In 2016, he was 16th for a divisional third, and in 2015 placed 29th for divisional third (his first Hobart with the yacht). With another former Celestial, a Rogers 46, Haynes was second in the 2012 BWPS and won all three (IRC/ORCi/PHS) crowns in the 2014 BWPS - one of the closest on record - including winning the 2014 Sydney Gold Coast race and finished 11th overall for second in Division 2 in the 2014 Hobart, following on from third overall in the 2013 race. Haynes and crew have the runs on the board that make them contenders for the Tattersall Cup.

CHANCELLOR

SAIL NO: 6834

LOA: 12.2m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2010

TYPE: Beneteau First 40

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 7

OWNER: Ted Tooher

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Ted Tooher (14) – Skipper, Fontaine Foxworth, Kurt Brauteseth, Michael Ward (4), Garth Bickford, Stephen Dawson (5), Frederic Chanut, Gordon Howard (2), Isabella Shields, David Thomas (17), Jack Kliner

Ted Tooher, who names his boats Chancellor, has downsized from his Beneteau 47.7 and returned to this Beneteau 40 which he once owned and raced in the 2010 and 2011 Rolex Sydney Hobarts before selling it to Matthew Vadas and Jonathon Stone, who placed 29th in 2012, 27th in 2013, 12th in 2014 and 52nd in 2016. She last raced to Hobart in 2019, as HYC Breakthrough, sailed by Irishman Darren Wright and his Irish crew for Howth Yacht Club and finished 51st overall. Tooher raced his Beneteau 47.7 in the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart and placed 110th overall. He may not finish at the top of the pile, but the genial Tooher gives opportunities to sailors that they might not otherwise get, including those from overseas.

CHUTZPAH

SAIL NO: R33

LOA: 12.3m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Reichel/Pugh (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2007

TYPE: Caprice 40

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 13

OWNER: Bruce Taylor

CLUB: Royal Yacht Club of Victoria, Vic

CREW: Bruce Taylor (39) – Skipper, Kingsley Piesse (37) – Navigator, Gavin Gourley (33), Peter Fletcher (33), Paul Sandles (19), James Permezel (33), Ian Taylor (19), David Watson (2), Lincoln Attersall (4), Andrew Smith (14)

Chutzpah sailed in her favoured downwind conditions in the 2019 race but placed 50th overall for fourth in Division 3 – it was not a year for the smaller boats; the weather played into the hands of the 50 plus footers. In 2018 the Caprice 40 placed 16th for Division 2 second. Each year, owner Bruce Taylor makes an effort to compete in major races out of Sydney, as well as competing in Melbourne. He hit the jackpot, winning the 2018 Sydney Gold Coast race after placing eighth overall and third in Division 2 of the 2017 Hobart. He was second in Division 2 in 2016, after placing 18th overall in the 2015 Hobart, following a painful second to Wild Rose by a little under 39 minutes in 2014 – but he did win Division 2. Other best Hobart results from this Chutzpah and her perennial crew were fourth in 2007 and fifth in 2013.

With various Chutzpahs, Taylor's other best results were second overall in 1990 and second in IMS Division 3 in 1994 (371 boats raced), sixth overall in 2001. Since 1986, he has owned six offshore Chutzpahs, clocking up 33 straight Hobarts and mainly scored divisional places. Taylor and son Drew are the only father/son combination in history to sail 28 Hobarts together and are unlikely to ever be superseded. For the first time, Drew, who lives in Hong Kong, is not able to join the crew this year. Eight of the 10 tight-knit crew can boast 241 races between them – nearly all on Chutzpahs - a record of sorts. Many would love to see these guys win the race.

CINQUANTE

SAIL NO: 5038

LOA: 11.8m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 2002

TYPE: Sydney 38

NUMBER of HOBARTS: 3

OWNER: Kim Jaggar

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Kim Jaggar (34) – Skipper, Bob Thomas (28) - Navigator, Michael Jackson (10), Chris Rockell (21), Matthew Rockell, Michael Bencsik (23), Grant Healy (12), Max Cottier, Lachlan Steel, Marty Watson (6)

Kim Jaggar, a 34 Sydney Hobarts veteran, placed 23rd for third in Division 5 in 2019 and was second in both the Sydney 38 and Corinthian divisions – a good result for the respected high school principal. In 2018, he placed 28th and was second in the Corinthian division after buying Cinquante (It means '50' in French) that year. Its only other Sydney Hobart was 2008 when long-time Victorian owner, Ian Murray, won the Sydney 38 division, when the boat was named Morris Finance Cinquante. Bob Thomas of Midnight Rambler fame is in the navigator's chair, with another 'Rambler', Chris Rockell, joining the crew. If it is a small boat race, Cinquante should be in the running.

CRUX

SAIL NO: MYC8

LOA: 10.1m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Sparkman & Stephens (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2008

TYPE: S&S 34

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Carlos Aydos

CLUB: Manly Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Carlos Aydos – Skipper, Peter Grayson (2) - Skipper

Crux is the last S&S 34 ever built. Her classical design, coupled with a modern vacuum infused vinyl ester construction, ensured she is a very capable cruiser/racer. Owned by Carlos Aydos since 2018, she was previously known as Blondie and won the Fremantle to Geraldton race under that name. Aydos contested the CYCA's Ocean Pointscore series and scored a third in the opening race. He is a member of Manly Yacht Club where Crux gets out on the race track regularly and Peter Grayson is his offside for the race. Crux will join other lovely S&S designs in the race, most notably fellow S&S34, White Bay 6 Azzurro and Love & War, a three-time winner of the Sydney Hobart. Both are sailing fully crewed, though. In November, Crux contested the Two-Handed division of the Bird Island Race and placed sixth overall, bettering that result in December's Cabbage Tree Island Race with second overall in the Two-Handed division.

CRYSTAL CUTTER III

SAIL NO: 6661

LOA: 11.9m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2008

TYPE: Beneteau 40.7

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Charles Parry-Okeden

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Charles Parry-Okeden (1) – Skipper, Adam Leeming (1) – Navigator, Daniel O'Sullivan (1), Ed Strike (1), Mike Cullen (1), James Wentworth (1), David Fair, Jonathan Ward, Gary Vaughan

Crystal Cutter III is the former Tomoka/Bombolo which previous owners sailed up a storm with, but never did the Sydney Hobart, until Charles Parry-Okeden bought her and raced her to 97th overall in the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart. He enjoyed the race and successfully completed the BWPS that year, so returns in 2021. Parry-Okeden previously owned a Beneteau Oceanis 38, Crystal Cutter II, which he sailed in various CYCA races. This latest Beneteau 40.7 is a step up in boats and according to those in the know, Crystal Cutter III is the newest Beneteau 40.7 in the country, having been launched in 2008 and is taking part in the Blue Water Pointscore in the lead-up to the 2021 Rolex Sydney Hobart.

DENALI

SAIL NO: 52569

LOA: 15.9m

CLASS: IRC/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Judel/Vrolijk (GER)

YEAR BUILT: 2007

TYPE: TP52

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Damien Parkes

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Damien Parkes (32) – Skipper, Matthew Cassidy (13), Tony Kirby (35), David McClean (12), Will McVeagh, Drew Van Ryn, Yun Hsu (3), Darryl Bishop, Josh Linnegar (4), Jason Thorne (1), Kate Kenny (1), Mitch Barber, Geoff Nash, Chris Hills, Jacob Broom (9)

Denali is the latest to join the popular TP52 throng in Australia. She was built in 2007 and raced on the TP circuit out of the USA as Matador, before being updated to offshore

standards and raced in the US as Denali. Damien Parkes bought the boat in 2019 and has been putting it to good use – when Covid has allowed. Parkes says the boat has all the right gear and rates well with a good crew to sail it. Gweilo, Parkes says, is the boat to beat, “Ichi Ban, of course, and never underestimate Greenie (Mike Green) on Quest. My crew are still learning, whereas the others have been racing the same boat for 10 years. We haven’t done much offshore but should be up there on IRC.”

Parkes raced to Hobart on his Duende in 2019, joining the crew who sailed her and renamed the boat ‘Happy Wanderer’. His best result from 32 Hobarts was a line honours win on Vengeance in 1981, a maxi he raced to Hobart on four times. On board Denali is helmsman Tony Kirby who did the fourth of his 35 races with Parkes and Matt Cassidy, the sailing master, who has done all 13 Hobarts with Parkes. Others aboard have also raced with the Sydney yachtsman in recent years.

DISKO TROOPER_CONTENDER SAILCLOTH

SAIL NO: AUS99

LOA: 9.9m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Alan Johnstone (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2020

TYPE: J/99

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Jules Hall

CLUB: Double Bay Sailing Club/Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Jules Hall (4) - Skipper, Jan ‘Clogs’ Scholten (18) - Skipper

A Laser sailor these days, Jules Hall has been on and round boats his entire life, including doing some ocean racing through his twenties. All his boats have borne the name ‘Disko Trooper’, which comes from Rudyard Kipling’s Captains Courageous lead character, Disko Troop. “We are proudly sponsored by Contender Sailcloth,” says Hall, whose side-kick is none other than Contender Sailcloth’s Jan ‘Clogs’ Scholten, a highly respected veteran sailor who Hall met racing his Laser.

“With twice the crew that we have on our Lasers, we’re both looking forward to having someone to cook our dinner,” Hall says, tongue in cheek. The pair has been training on Hall’s J/99, which was designed for double-handed racing, but is equally at home in fully crewed mode. The two-man crew have done a lot of training with other two-handers and undertook a practice sail to Bird Island return in a 20-30 knot breeze, then won the Two-Handed division in November’s Flinders Islet Race, backed up with Two-Handed line and overall honours in the later Bird Island Race. Finished second Two-Handed over the line in December’s tricky Cabbage Tree Island Race, which translated to third overall. They are among the favourites to win the Two-Handed division come the Hobart.

DODGEBALL

SAIL NO: RQ4077

LOA: 12.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1998

TYPE: Beneteau First 40.7

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Leith Group Developments

SKIPPER: Ray Sweeney

CLUB: Middle Harbour Yacht Club, Sydney

CREW: Ray Sweeney (5) – Skipper Brian Pozzey (7) – Navigator, Nick Hollingworth, David Walton (1), Jake Gundry (2), Michael Blair (13), Alexander Jennings (3), Chris Evans (2), David Jackson, Emma Baillie

Leith Group Developments bought Dodgeball from Queenslander John Warlow in February. The boat has been racing in RQYS events, keeping the crew together until they could get to Sydney. Warlow raced the Sydney Hobart in 2019, and renamed Ocean Crusaders Dodgeball, she placed 20th for third in Division 6 and went on to win Division 3 of the 2020 Australian Yachting Championships in Hobart. Skipper for the race this year is Ray Sweeney (former owner of the Sydney 38, Mondo). From there, the aim was to arrive at the CYCA in mid-December, to take advantage of the atmosphere before the 628 nautical mile race. Navigator is Brian Pozzey, who is well-known through his Sailing Adventures company, which offers unique holiday experience on luxury cruising yachts.

ENCHANTRESS

SAIL NO: SA346

LOA: 11.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: John Muirhead (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 1983

TYPE: Muirhead 11

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 6

OWNER: John Willoughby

CLUB: Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron, SA

CREW: John Willoughby (7) - Skipper, Geoff Tomlins (3), David Miller, Paul Craig, Mark Maddison, Melanie Walden, Darren Papalexion, Nick Kahl

John Willoughby is keeping his fingers crossed the race will go ahead this year. As is usual, he and the crew sailed Enchantress all the way to Sydney from South Australia last year and arrived to discover the race had been cancelled two minutes before their arrival. Not able to get the boat home in time due to Covid lockdowns, Enchantress has been in Queensland being raced by some of the crew. The Muirhead 11 has contested six Sydney Hobarts and finishing the race 98th overall in 2019. Placed 20th for fourth in Division 4 in 2016, 23rd in 2015 and 19th overall, third in the Veterans 30 Year and fourth in the Veterans 20 Year in 2014. In 2012, her first Hobart, she was 19th for third in Division 4. This lovely red hulled home-designed and home-built boat has raced and cruised since launched in 1983, including approximately 30 Adelaide to Port Lincoln races.

EORA

SAIL NO: AUS169

LOA: 12.2m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Marc Lombard (FRA)

YEAR BUILT: 2021

TYPE: Lombard Class 40

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Rupert Henry

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Rupert Henry (5) - Skipper, Greg O'Shea (2) - Skipper

Eora was launched for Rupert Henry in June 2021. She is the latest generation of yachts to be designed and built to the internationally popular Class 40 rule and is named in honour of the Aboriginal tribes who were the original lovers of the waterways of Sydney and to draw attention to the unfettered rise of commercial activity on Sydney Harbour. Henry has covered thousands of miles in the world with friends, family and solo on his other boats. His co-

skipper for the Rolex Sydney Hobart is friend, Greg O'Shea. The two leapt at the chance to be part of the first two-handed division. Eora was dismantled in November and Henry was anxiously awaiting the replacement from New Zealand.

In 2018, on one of Henry's previous yachts, Chinese Whisper (now known as Whisper), the pair won the 5500 nautical mile Melbourne to Osaka double-handed race across all divisions and set a new race record of 21 days 12 hours in the process. With the next yacht, Burning Palms, they placed second from three boats in the Two-Handed division of the two-race 2020 Audi Centre BWPS with a win and third place in the Bird and Cabbage Island races respectively. With his Lombard 34, Mistral, Henry and O'Shea won the Two-Handed division of the CYCA's 2021 Summer Offshore Series. They are hot prospects for the upcoming Rolex Sydney Hobart for both Two-Handed line honours and overall. This is a speed machine with very capable hands sailing it.

EUPHORIA II

SAIL NO: E2

LOA: 12.9m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1982

TYPE: Beneteau First 42

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Marc Stuart

CLUB: Moreton Bay Boat Club, QLD

CREW: Marc Stuart (5) - Skipper, Richard Combrink (4) - Skipper

Euphoria II has only contested one Sydney Hobart, in 2017, when she finished 61st overall. Purchased by Marc Stuart in Mexico in 2009, this classic cruising yacht was sailed across the Pacific to her new home in Brisbane where she competed in several Brisbane to Gladstone races, and major Moreton Bay Boat Club events. She is also a previous PHS winner and Short Handed winner in the Brisbane to Noumea Race. Lots of "go-fast gear," her owner says tongue in cheek, including a wind generator, Bimini, windvane steering, gas BBQ (perfect for two-handed sailing) and headsail furler. If you want to do it in style and comfort, this is the boat.

EVE

SAIL NO: 8565

LOA: 19.8m

CLASS: IRC

DESIGNER: Sparkman & Stephens (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1981

TYPE: Swan 65

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 3

OWNER: Steven Capell

SKIPPER: Benjamin Roulant

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Benjamin Roulant (1) – Skipper/Navigator, Steven Capell (3), Meg Niblett, Bert Norman (1), Richard Agnew, Robert Warner, John Charles (4), Kate Troup, Elizabeth Tucker, Morgan White (8), Fraser Welch (1), Iain Turner, Joshua Hodgkinson, Catherine Sarah, Allister Purves, Magali Compte

In the 2019 race, Steven Capell's elegant Swan 65 finished 106th overall in 75th race's large fleet of 157 boats. The previous year, Eve was 41st overall, seventh in Division 3, third in ORCi Division 3 and second in the Corinthian division. Capell sailed her in the 2015 Sydney Hobart under the name of 'Ugg Australia' and finished 31st overall. She finished a good fifth

and won Division 2 in the 2018 Sydney Noumea Race. Eve is a classic S&S Swan 65; the 35th of 40 yachts built by Nautor in the 1970s and early 1980's. Launched in 1981 as UK registered 'Cheetah of Hamble', she then became the Italian registered 'Kenta' from whence Eve was imported to Australia by Will Vicars and took up residence in Sydney. Eve is contesting the CYCA's Blue Water Pointscore, of which the Rolex Sydney Hobart is the final race. Won Division 2 of November's Bird Island Race.

EXTASEA

SAIL NO: G10007

LOA: 15.2m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2005

TYPE: Cookson 50

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 8

OWNER: Paul Buchholz

CLUB: Royal Geelong Yacht Club, Vic

CREW: Paul Buchholz (10) - Skipper, Tim Holzer (3) – Navigator, Jasmine Tozer (2), Simon Hunter (4), Jason Hegert, Paul Anderson (1), Dale Laurie (2), James Prascevic, Mick Doherty, Robert Nelson (2), James Hannah, Dustin Popp, Jason Lane (1), James Christensen

This is the former Pretty Fly III and Ubox, purchased in 2019 by veteran Victorian yachting, Paul Buchholz, who steered her to 105th in the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart, still learning how to sail his latest acquisition. Before that 75th race. she last pointed south as Ubox in 2016 with her then Chinese owner, Bin Wang, and finished a brilliant third overall; aboard were Chinese crew and some famous offshore names, including Charles Caudrelier. As Pretty Fly III, her best result from six races was fourth in 2010. Now that Buchholz has a better handle on this great canting Cookson 50 design, his results will improve.

Buchholz's former Extasea was a DK46 that he sailed to 44th overall in the 2018 Rolex Sydney Hobart and had a best result of 17th in 2010. These seasoned Victorians won every local offshore race over a 13 year period with the DK46, culminating in winning the ORCV Offshore Championship four times. In 2015, they took line honours in the Melbourne Hobart race for the fourth time (between 2011 and 2015), excluding 2014, when Buchholz contested the Sydney Hobart and finished 29th overall.

FLAT WHITE

SAIL NO: 1696

LOA: 12.2m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Graham Radford (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 1995

TYPE: Radford 12.2

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 2

OWNER: Jen Linkova

CLUB: Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Jen Linkova (4) - Skipper, Jason Cummings (2) - Skipper

This is the former Red Jacket, bought by Jen Linkova and renamed Flat White. The Radford 12.2 did two Sydney Hobarts, retiring in 1998 and placing 10th and winning division in 1999 when owned by Ron Lally. More recently, it was owned by couple Annette Hesselmans and Gerry Snijders. Hesselmans contested the double-handed Melbourne-Osaka race in 2018 with her brother Andrew. With COVID restrictions and Jason Cummings living in Tasmania, the pair have had little time to sail Flat White together but have sailed together before. The

Sydney Hobart seduced Linkova when she raced aboard another Graham Radford design, Flying Fish Arctos in three Hobarts from 2013 to 2015 (Cummings was the skipper in 2015), and the Beneteau First 45, Dreki Sunnan, in 2018. Linkova has also raced overseas, including crewing on Scarlet Logic in the Round Britain and Ireland Race.

FLYING CLOUD

SAIL NO: 6808

LOA: 12.2m

CLASS: PHS

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2009

TYPE: Beneteau First 40

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: David Myers

SKIPPER: George Martin

CLUB: Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: George Martin (5) – Skipper, Ivan Signorelli (4) – Navigator David Myers, Elizabeth Myers, Jessica Nuel, Andrew Stuckey, Matt Ackroyd, Ian Horrocks (1), Michael Hurst, Peter Schultz

Flying Cloud was previously owned and regularly raced by Howard Piggott, a past CYCA Commodore, who made the boat's racing debut in the Club's Grant Thornton Short Ocean Autumn Pointscore 2010, eventually winning IRC Division 1. Flying Cloud placed second in the CYCAs Spring Series in 2015 and won both races in the CYCAs 2015 Trophy Passage. The Beneteau First 40 also competed in the 2018 Ponant Sydney Noumea Yacht Race and placed ninth overall. Now with a new owner, David Myers, and based at MHYC, Flying Cloud has entered the 2021 Blue Water Point Score in preparation for the yacht's first Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. George Martin, who skippered Flying Fish Arctos in the 2019 race, will skipper the boat south this year.

FLYING FISH ARCTOS

SAIL NO: 7551

LOA: 15.2m

CLASS: PHS

DESIGNER: Graham Radford (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 2001

TYPE: Radford 50

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 14

OWNER: Flying Fish Online

CLUB: Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Drew Hulton-Smith (1) – Skipper, Marty Maher, Anna-Leigh Barker, Matt Smith, Brendan Savage, Ian Graf, Tom Burgess, Tom Alexander Rest TBA

George Martin skippered Flying Fish Arctos to PHS 12th overall in the 2019 race after Andrew Corless steered the Radford designed training vessel to PHS eighth overall in 2018. Best results for the boat include a PHS overall win to win Division 2, beating all Division 1 yachts overall in 2017, with Alex Martin at the helm. The yacht also won PHS in 2010, scored second in 2009 and third in 2012. This snapshot of results is wonderful, as the crew typically consists of a mix of local experience and international trainees, all graduates of the Flying Fish sailing school. The flagship yacht in the Flying Fish offshore training fleet, she is a strong and powerful cutter rigged yacht that was built for Don McIntyre to race around the world. Drew Hulton-Smith helms this time, while crew member Steve Grellis will sail his 30th Sydney Hobart.

FRUIT SALID 3

SAIL NO: RQ334
LOA: 12.6m
CLASS: IRC
DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)
YEAR BUILT: 2013
TYPE: Beneteau First 40
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0
OWNER: Mark Drobitko
CLUB: Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron, Qld
CREW: Mark Drobitko (1) – Skipper, Mick Milestone – Navigator Daniel Scanlan, Chris Dymalovski, Rebekah Blake, Miles Ellery, Sam Johnson, Neil Everson, Clinton Pure

Queenslander Mark Drobitko purchased Fruit Salid in Southampton, England, in 2016. The Beneteau 40 was then sailed to Australia, arriving in late 2017. The passage highlights included first place in the 2016 ARC+ Atlantic Crossing, Caribbean Sea cruising, Grenada Race Week, Panama Canal transit, Pacific Ocean, and time taken enjoying the tranquility of ocean crossings and life at sea. Her Queensland owner says Fruit Salid is in tip-top condition. Her crew are currently working towards the boat's first Sydney Hobart campaign, having originally signed on for last year's race which was cancelled. The boat's intended name was 'Fruit Salad', but a few drinks later, the spelling changed...

GUN RUNNER

SAIL NO: 3867
LOA: 9.2m
CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian
DESIGNER: John King (AUS)
YEAR BUILT: 1988
TYPE: Jarkan 925
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 3
OWNER: Army Sailing Club, NSW
SKIPPER: Murray Stewart
CLUB: Army Sailing Club, NSW
CREW: Murray Stewart (3) - Skipper, Luke Le Grand, Jordan Cox, Chris Connelly, Daniel Lynch, Nicholas Shuey, Marty Bowen, Alec Michie

Murray Stewart is in the skipper's chair on Gun Runner, the smallest boat in the fleet this year and the boat he sailed the last two Sydney Hobarts on. Reece Young skippered the boat to 114th overall in 2019, after skippering the Jarkan 925 to 50th overall for fourth in Division 4 and won the Corinthian trophy. In the 2017 race, and second smallest boat in the fleet, they finished 77th. Owned by the Army Sailing Club, the Aussie designed boat will feature the usual new-look crew of trainees. The Army uses the boat to train its personnel and teaches the Army values of courage, initiative, respect and teamwork. Gun Runner also takes part in the ADFSA Inter-Service Championship each year and puts in plenty of training ahead of the big race. They will also be out to wrest the Oggin Cup (awarded to the first armed services yacht on corrected time) back from the 2019 winner, Navy 1.

GWEILO

SAIL NO: 052
LOA: 15.9m
CLASS: IRC/ORCi
DESIGNER: Judel/Vroljik (GER)
YEAR BUILT: 2011
TYPE: TP52
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 2
OWNER: Matt Donald/Chris Townsend

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Matt Donald (2) – Skipper, Chris Townsend (2) - Skipper, Andrea Green (9) – Navigator, Peter Merrington (23), Adam Brown (33), Andrew Cribb (13), Ben Psaltis (3), Justin Mulkearns (8), Kyle Dodds (1), Nicolas Partridge (22), Simon Cunnington (8), Oliver Scott-Mackie (4), William Sykes (7), Rafa Trujillo (6)

In Gweilo and her owners only second tilt at the Sydney Hobart, they finished second overall and second in Division 1 to Ichi Ban in 2019, with Wade Morgan skippering the TP52. This finish also gave them second in the 2019 BWPS. Gweilo (Cantonese slang for 'white man' or 'ghost man' - with the ghost livery to match) is the former Container/Calm 2/Viento II and was new to Australia and the Sydney Hobart in 2018, when Matt Donald and Chris Townsend sailed her to 22nd overall, with Sydney Hobart veteran, Mike Green in the skipper's chair.

The TP52 finished fourth overall in 2019's Sydney Gold Coast race and scored a trio of third places in the inaugural Brisbane Hamilton Island race, the Flinders Islet Race and Newcastle Bass Island Race. Won the 2019 Bird Island Race from Khaleesi and Ichi Ban. Finished third to InfoTrack and Black Jack in the 180nm Cabbage Tree Island Race in December 2019. In 2020, won the shortened BWPS, culminating in Donald and Townsend being crowned the CYCA Ocean Racing Yachts Persons of the Year. Placed third in the 2021 Port Hacking Race and fourth in November's Flinders Islet Race, then followed up with second in the Bird Island Race and third in the Cabbage Tree Island Race. Hot to trot, she will give the TPs and the rest a run for their money.

HARTBREAKER

SAIL NO: B330

LOA: 14.2m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Reichel/Pugh (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2004

TYPE: Reichel Pugh 46

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 11

OWNER: Antony Walton

CLUB: Royal Brighton Yacht Club, Vic

CREW: Antony Walton (6) – Skipper, Gordon Buchan (7) – Navigator, Robert Pollock (5), Stuart De Poi (4), Alistair Holmes, Louis Irving (6), Catherine Parsons (2), Alvaro Maz, Marcus Morris (4), Charles Stott (8), David Kneen, Paul King (6), Sara Ladd

Owned by cardiologist Tony Walton, Hartbreaker is a 46-foot Reichel Pugh based at the Royal Brighton Yacht Club in Melbourne, Victoria and has successfully campaigned the last six consecutive Rolex Sydney Hobarts. Originally built as 'Hardys Secret Mens Business 2' in 2004, and previously known as 'Shamrock', she has been campaigned as Hartbreaker since 2013, based on the Hart marine built boat that was somewhat 'broken' in separate incidents at (and on the way back from) Hamilton Island in 2008, along with Tony's professional interest in hearts.

Hartbreaker placed 80th overall in the 75th Sydney Hobart in 2019. She was 43rd in 2018; after placing 55th in 2017, 67th in 2016, 41st in 2015, 66th in 2014 and 49th in 2013. As Shamrock, the yacht retired from the 2010 Sydney Hobart with rudder damage. As HSMB, placed 20th in the 2004 Hobart, eighth in 2005 and 18th in 2006. Hartbreaker and this year's Corinthian crew can't wait to get back out onto the blue water and open seas after spending the past two years mostly under Covid lockdowns and restrictions in Melbourne.

HASTA LA VISTA

SAIL NO: M25

LOA: 11.7m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 2000

TYPE: Sydney 38

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Richard Grimes

SKIPPER: Jessica Grimes/Tom Grimes

CLUB: Lake Macquarie Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Jessica Grimes - Skipper, Tom Grimes - Skipper, Rebecca Grimes, Richard Grimes (30), Tim Cummings, Ian Davis (28), Matt Hall, Eric Sparkes, Anthony Young (6), Paul Simmons

Jessica and Tom Grimes, 23-year-old twins, will skipper Hasta La Vista, while 25 year-old sister, Rebecca, is in a navigating role. It is the trio's first Sydney Hobart and they will be under the watchful eye of their father, Richard, an eminent navigator, and another ex-Lou Abrahams crew member, Ian 'Ox' Davis. The twins are products of the CYCA's Youth Sailing Academy and are two-time youth world match racing champions. Joining them is current Red Bull air race champion, Matt Hall, who is tackling his first Sydney Hobart. The pointy end of the Sydney 38 will be led by Tim Cummings.

Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) is supporting the air combat veterans, and Cubic Defence Australia is supporting the youth part of the program. "We wanted to get the maximum number of Youth Sailing Academy participants with a 50 percent male/female mix and train the Academy crew into offshore racing," Grimes said. "We're also aiming to emulate Lou Abrahams' achievements in the Sydney 38. Anthony Young, a former line honours winner on Brindabella, and Ian Davis, two-time Tattersall Cup winner with Lou Abrahams, are mentoring the youth. "Around Tasman Island, the crew hopes to spot the rarely seen hairy back turtles that are native to the east coast of Tasmania," Grimes declared, laughing.

HELLS BELLS

SAIL NO: B3200

LOA: 10.1m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Andrieu Yacht Design (FRA)

YEAR BUILT: 2009

TYPE: Jeanneau Sun Fast 3200

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Geoff Dews

CLUB: Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron, Qld

CREW: Lincoln Dews (1) - Skipper, Andrew Scott (10) - Skipper

Lincoln Dews will sail his dad, Geoff's Hells Bells, in the Two-Handed division. His co-skipper is Andrew Scott, whose experience includes winning the 2014 Sydney Hobart with Roger Hickman on Wild Rose. Dews and his family have practically lived on the water all their lives through sailing and surf life saving and are powerhouses in stand up paddle boarding. Dews has done a lot of ocean miles and contested many events on the Sunshine Coast, along with Brisbane to Gladstone races and one Sydney Hobart. Dews sailed Hells Bells to third in the Two-Handed division in RQYS's Short Passage Race in September this year. He and Scott are racing in support of the Shake It Up Foundation, where Lincoln is an ambassador in support of his dad, who was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease almost three years ago.

HIGHLY SPRUNG

SAIL NO: AUS7771

LOA: 13.7m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Beneteau (FRA)

YEAR BUILT: 2008

TYPE: Beneteau First 45

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 6

OWNER: Mark Spring

CLUB: Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Mark Spring (1) – Skipper, Patrick St John - Navigator, Andrew Pearson (19), Craig Banister, Stuart Milne, Phil Peterson, Greg Burke, Tanguy Fournier LeRay (2), Matt Lumsdaine, Anthony Bruce (7), Scott Poole, Jeremy Goodall, Timothy Longstaff

Well-named Highly Sprung is owned by 2020 Ocean Racer Rookie of the year, Mark Spring, who purchased the Beneteau 45 in 2018. In 2019, Highly Sprung scooped IRC, ORCI and was second over the line in the Pittwater to Paradise race. Spring scored second place in IRC and ORCI division in his first full year of racing in the 2019 BWPS. That year, he placed 44th in the Rolex Sydney Hobart. The former Lady Courier/Balance/Peugeot Surfrider did her first Hobart in 2008, and her then French owner placed 37th overall. Paul Clitheroe bought her and placed 62nd in 2009, 18th in 2011 and 37th in 2013. Chartered in 2012, she placed 21st as Peugeot Surfrider. This is the third Highly Sprung for Spring, who has done just the 2019 Hobart, and he is still in awe of this famous race.

HIP-NAUTIC

SAIL NO: 7811

LOA: 10.1m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Andrieu Yacht Design (FRA)

YEAR BUILT: 2020

TYPE: Jeanneau Sun Fast 3300

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Jean-Pierre Ravanat

CLUB: Derwent Sailing Squadron, Tas

CREW: Jean-Pierre Ravanat - Skipper, Drew Meincke (21) - Skipper

Jean-Pierre Ravanat has smartly co-opted the services of Drew Meincke, a navigator with 21 Sydney Hobarts behind him. The Tasmanian is also a highly qualified Master Mariner and has worked around the world. He is also a qualified marine surveyor. Hip-Nautic was christened by her French owner, Jean-Pierre Ravanat, last November. She is one of the many Sun Fast designs in the race that Jeanneau tailor made for short-handed sailing, making them popular for those who enjoy the sport in this way. Ravanat may be new to the race, as is Hip-Nautic, but he is a seasoned sailor and skippered his new yacht to third under IRC in the 2020 Launceston to Hobart race. The versatile yachtsman also skippered Slingshot to third catamaran to finish the 2011 Three Peaks Race among other results. Hip-Nautic placed seventh in November's 180nm Maria Island Race.

HUNTRESS

SAIL NO: 888

LOA: 12.3m

CLASS: IRC

DESIGNER: Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 2005

TYPE: Sydney 39 C/R

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Brent Dowton

CLUB: Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron, Qld

CREW: Victoria Logan – Skipper, Brent Dowton – Navigator, Adam Goode (10), Natasha Edwards (2), Rik Thompson, Marcus Carter, Gavin Douglas, Angelina Hadwen

Huntress is a development of the Sydney 38 from the Australian Murray Burns Dovell stable. Queenslander Brent Dowton took charge of his newly purchased Huntress late last year when the Sydney 39 cruiser/racer was sailed up from Sydney where previous owner, Philip Grove, raced her regularly out of the CYCA and up north, with wins at Airlie Beach and Hamilton Island Race Weeks. Since his purchase, Dowton has sailed her to ninth overall in the RQYS's Short Passage Race in September. The boat is skippered by experienced yachtswoman, Victoria Logan.

ICHI BAN

SAIL NO: AUS001

LOA: 15.9m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Botin Partners (ESP)

YEAR BUILT: 2017

TYPE: TP52

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 3

OWNER: Matt Allen

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Matt Allen (30) – Skipper, Will Oxley (19) - Navigator, Gordon Maguire (20), Davin Conigrave (10), James Paterson (9), Jeremy Rae (27), Matiu Te Hau (4), Sean O'Rourke (4), Timothy Sellars (14), Ben Lamb (10), Dick Parker (1), Craig Garnett (18), Tim Ryan, William Parker (8), Noel Drennan (33)

After winning the 2017 Rolex Sydney Hobart with this TP52, Ichi Ban, Matt Allen was over the moon to win again in 2019, especially as it was his 30th Hobart in the 75th race – and because it earned him Blue Water Pointscore (BWPS) victory. Allen went on to win Division A of Australian Sailing Champs for a third year running in January 2020 and finished second in the shortened 2020 BWPS with a pair of third places in the Bird and Cabbage Tree Island races. Won his third consecutive Adelaide Port Lincoln races and Lincoln Race Weeks in February 2021. She remains the benchmark in the fleet, but others have beat her in recent times. Finished second on line and second overall in November's Flinders Islet Race and then won the subsequent Bird Island Race and placed second in the Cabbage Tree Island Race, showing they in good form.

Ichi Ban has been a standout boat since launching in late 2017, taking the line and overall double in the 2017 Newcastle Bass Island Race, her maiden race. In 2018, she finished the Hobart best of the TP52s in fifth place after being caught by the infamous 'Derwent shutdown', but still won the BWPS by 14 points. That year, she also won the Brisbane Gladstone and Brisbane Hamilton Island races and placed second in the Sydney Gold Coast race, which she repeated in 2019. Ichi Ban was a finalist in World Sailing's 2019 Goslings Boat of the Year Award for her performances. Allen is hoping to join the club of only two other boats to win the race three times.

INUKSHUK

SAIL NO: SA982

LOA: 11.6m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Hank Kaufman (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 1989

TYPE: Northshore 38

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Robert Large
CLUB: Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron, SA
CREW: Robert Large (3) - Skipper, Christopher Riggs - Skipper

Inukshuk is the re-named New Morning III, now in the hands of Robert Large whose name we know from Sydney Hobarts on another South Australian yacht, Enchantress. His co-pilot is fellow South Aussie yachtsman, Chris Riggs, who owned Helsal II and has vast sailing experience. This Northshore 38 is a new entry to the race and is set up for short-handed racing. In preparation for the Two-Handed division of the 2021 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race, Large raced her in the RSAYS Short-Handed Series, and won the light-air second race. The name Inukshuk means 'a structure of rough stones stacked in the form of a human figure', traditionally used by Inuit people as a landmark or a commemorative sign and symbolises safety, hope and friendship – which resonates given the race and the world's current Covid predicament.

JOKER ON TOURER

SAIL NO: MY1250
LOA: 12.5m
CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed
DESIGNER: Greg Elliott (NZL)
YEAR BUILT: 2012
TYPE: Elliott 1250 Tourer
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0
OWNER: Grant Chipperfield/Peter Dowdney
CLUB: Martha Cove Yacht Squadron, Vic
CREW: Grant Chipperfield (2) - Skipper, Peter Dowdney (17) - Skipper

This Cruising Elliott Tourer 1250 was launched in 2012 for Grant Chipperfield, who previously co-owned Geomatic Joker on which he contested the 2009 and 2010 Sydney Hobarts. Joker on Tourer is roomy and comfortable, fitted out for short-handed cruising and racing, with a cruising rig and lifting keel, perfect for the race's new Two-Handed division. Chipperfield has chosen his co-skipper well; Peter Dowdney has enjoyed many career highlights, including getting the call up to do bow on Steak 'N Kidney in the 1986-87 America's Cup as a 20 year-old, and racing at other major events around the world. 'The Kid' has long worked at Ronstan, so is handy for repair and replacement of gear at sea. The two have raced the boat both fully crewed and double-handed, including placing third overall in the open fleet in the 2020 Melbourne to Devonport Race (Rudder Cup) double-handed.

KAYIMAI

SAIL NO: MH46
LOA: 14.0m
CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed
DESIGNER: Rob Humphreys (UK)
YEAR BUILT: 2015
TYPE: Azuree 46
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1
OWNER: Rob Aldis
CLUB: Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW
CREW: Michael Bell (12) – Skipper, Matt Bell - Skipper

Mike 'Zappa' Bell and will sail Rob Aldis' Kayimai two-up in this year's race with ocean racing novice son Matt, 26, a surf life saving iron man, competing in the likes of the Coolangatta Gold. When not competing, Matt is a physical training instructor who sailed dinghies and skiffs as a kid. Zappa is coming up for his 13th Hobart. A former rigger, Zappa's skills will come in handy. "We've been training on Pittwater and will continue to do that and

race. As to the competition, Zappa cites Disko Trooper-Contender Sailcloth as competition. "You have to look at them because of Clogs' (co-skipper Jan Scholten) ability and tenacity. Rupert (Henry) with his new rocket ship Eora, too. If we can be in the mix with them, I will be happy." The Bell's finished third two-handed over the line in December's Cabbage Tree Island Race for sixth overall.

The yacht, owned by Rob Aldis, takes its name, Kayimai, from the Kayimai clan of Aboriginal people who lived around the Manly foreshore. Aldis purchased the Azuree 46 and raced her to Hobart in 2018, placing 30th overall. The same year, they also did the Sydney Noumea Race and placed seventh for third in Division. He says comfort is built into this slippery design.

KHALEESI

SAIL NO: 46

LOA: 14.1m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Mark Mills (IRE)

YEAR BUILT: 2005

TYPE: DK46

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 4

OWNER: Rob Aldis

CLUB: Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Neal Farquharson (1) – Skipper, Damon Zemanek (1) – Navigator, Elizabeth Charles (1), Andrew Forbes (6), James Farquharson, Skye Paton (1), Gerard Smith, Brad Allen, Jim Colley (1), Peter Winter, Alastair Hunter

Owned by Rob Aldis of Kayimai fame, Khaleesi remains at MHYC where Aldis has sailed events such as the SSORC in which he finished third in Division 1 in 2020 and placed second in the Bird Island Race, beating all the top grand prix boats including Ichi Ban. This is the former Shogun/Exile and was last owned by Andrew and Pauline Dally, who renamed the DK46 Khaleesi and placed 24th in the 2014 Rolex Sydney Hobart. Raced again in 2017 and finished 48th before placing third in Division 2 of the 2019 Australian Yachting Championships in Melbourne. In 2016 she scored a trio of IRC second places in the CYCA's SOPS, MHYC's IRC Open Point Score and Division 1 of the Sydney Harbour Regatta and placed 12th in the Pittwater Coffs race. To be co-skippered by Aldis and Sandy Farquharson, Khaleesi is primed to do well.

KIALOA II

SAIL NO: AUS7742

LOA: 23.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Sparkman & Stephens (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1964

TYPE: S&S Yawl

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 4

OWNER: Patrick and Keith Broughton

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Patrick Broughton (12) – Skipper, Lindsay May (47) – Navigator, Keith Broughton (5), Chris Harmsen (10), Grant Chessells (14), Aero Leplastrier, Dallas Kilponen (10), Paul Runyan (1), Dave Cummins (4), Jeff Beaton (12), Andrew Cutler (14), Matthew Souter (15), James Sellors, Stuart Holdsworth (19), Jono Pryke, Mallee Lambert, Ek Lambert Leplastrier

This famous aluminium boat was first owned by American, Jim Kilroy, who converted her from a sloop to a yawl in 1968 and brought her to Australia in 1971 for just one Sydney Hobart. The rest is history – Kialoa II took line honours in little more than three and a half

days. She also took line honours in the 1966 Newport Bermuda and San Diego Acapulco races, won the 1969 Transatlantic Race from Newport to Cork, finished second on line in the 1969 Fastnet Race and took the double in the 1972 Trans-Tasman Race from Hobart to Auckland. Kilroy's name lives on.

Forty-five years later, brothers Paddy and Keith Broughton purchased the classic S&S design, gave her the treatment, and finished the Rolex Fastnet Race in the UK in 134th overall from over 300 entries. Then they sailed Kialoa II to Australia and placed 56th overall in the 2017 Sydney Hobart. The focus was on beating Kialoa II's 1971 finish time – and they did, shaving seven hours off it. In 2018 they finished 38th overall, and nearly an hour faster than in 2017. Heading back to the UK, she finished second in Division 5 in the Transpac Race before contesting the 75th Sydney Hobart last year to place 70th overall and third in Grand Veterans division. Lindsay May will sail a record 48th consecutive Hobart on this boat.

KING BILLY

SAIL NO: 4966

LOA: 11.5m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: John King (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 1992

TYPE: John King/Custom

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 5

OWNER: Philip Bennett

CLUB: Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron/Royal Prince Alfred YC, NSW

CREW: Philip Bennett (7) – Skipper, Bill Wright (18), Chris McCormack (1), Michael Scott, Joshua Thomson, John Taylor (16) Simon Estella (2), Manny Scott, Deborah Dalziel (2)

Phil Bennett skippered King Billy to 75th overall in the 75th race in 2019. Built from King Billy Pine by Sailors Bay Boatshed (now known as Northside Shipwrights) in Northbridge, the aptly named boat was designed by Australian John King. Bennett's other Hobarts with King Billy were the 50th in 1994 when she placed fourth in Division F, and in 1995 finished 50th overall. Along with the bulk of the fleet, he retired from the 1998 race. The two returned for the 2015 Hobart and placed an excellent 14th and second in the Corinthian division. They have also contested four Lord Howe Island and 10 Pittwater Coffs races and has won the Gascoigne Cup twice.

LAWCONNECT

SAIL NO: SYD1000

LOA: 30.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Juan Kouyoumdjian (ARG)

YEAR BUILT: 2008

TYPE: 100ft Super Maxi

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 6

OWNER: Christian Beck

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Christian Beck (3) - Skipper, Brad Kellett (28) - Navigator, Tony Mutter (5), Charlie Wyatt, Mitch White (17), Matt Pearce (21), Ty Oxley (15), James Corrie (8), Lucas Chapman (7), Ryan Phillips (1), Mustafa Ingham (2), Chris Nicholson (7), Alan Turner, Alexander Gough (2), Rachel Williams, Troy Tindill (11), Russell Ely (1), Sebastian Figg, Selma Raso, Gavin Smith

InfoTrack has been renamed LawConnect. She wowed with her brilliant second over the line in 2019; 44mins 18secs astern of Comanche after a five way super maxi battle to Hobart - and placed third overall in Division 0. Christian Beck's boat returns a hot prospect for line

honours. She finished a close fourth over the line in 2018 after a protracted battle with WOXI, Black Jack and Comanche, in conditions not suited to her weight. In 2020, she took the line/overall double in the Cabbage Tree Island Race in light breeze. 18mins faster than Black Jack over the line. Since then, Beck has added a larger bowsprit to the boat to enhance her performance. Since then, they took Cabbage Tree line honours by nearly an hour to SHK Scallywag 100 , but fortunes were reversed in the SOLAS Big Boat Challenge. However, she won the inaugural Income Asset Management Australian Maxi Champs, of which the SBBC was the final race.

Software guru Beck bought the former Speedboat/Rambler/Perpetual Loyal from Anthony Bell in 2017, renamed her InfoTrack, and finished fourth on line in the 2017 Hobart, inside the Sydney Hobart record set by this boat when owned by Bell. However, the declaration was not lodged, so a 20 percent penalty dropped InfoTrack down the board to 24th. Despite a few bumps along the way, this boat continues to defy her critics. When owned by Bell, it retired from the 2014 and 2015 Hobarts (damaged after hitting an object and rudder damage respectively), after finishing second on line in 2013. But Bell more than made up by taking line honours and the race record in 2016. Beck continues the tradition of taking a few employees along for their first taste of the race – an unbelievable opportunity for them to do the race – and with pros such as Tony Mutter and Chris Nicholson.

LCE OLD SCHOOL RACING

SAIL NO: 8338

LOA: 14.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Mark Mills (IRE)

YEAR BUILT: 2004

TYPE: DK46

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 6

OWNER: David Elliott

SKIPPER: Mark Griffith

CLUB: Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Mark Griffith (2) - Skipper, Rob Buchanan (11) – Navigator, David Elliott, Matt Jensen (8), Todd Anderson, David Taylor (6), Paul Freeman, Angelique Kear (2), Benjamin Crichton, Simon Brown, Danielle Ovenden (4), Tim Lake, Mark Hellyer

David Elliott has bought the former Dekadence, originally owned by Victorian, Phil Coombs. The DK46 then went to Tasmanian David Creese, Victorian Ken Simpson, Queenslander Stephanie Kerin and then, Queensland's Drew Carruthers, who placed 42nd overall for third in Division 3 in 2019 under the name Bounty Brassware Our Rush. Before that, Kerin finished 53rd in 2016, retiring the previous year. Simpson placed 54th in 2012; Creese recorded 21st in 2009, while Coombs, who also did the double-handed 2007 Melbourne Osaka with her, placed 19th in 2005 and 10th in the tough 2004 Hobart. Elliott has renamed her 'LCE Old School Racing'. Due to lockdown, Elliott and crew have not had as much time on the water with LCE Old School Racing, but did win PHS Division 1 Race 4 in May's Lion Island Series and placed a good 10th overall (IRC) in November's Flinders Islet Race.

LOCAL HERO

SAIL NO: 1236

LOA: 11.0m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 1995

TYPE: BH36

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 8

OWNER: Mark Ayto

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Mark Ayto (7) – Skipper, Antony Sweetapple – Skipper (13)

Local Hero will be skippered by Mark Ayto and Anto Sweetapple in the new Two-Handed division. While Ayto is at home in the double-handed world, Sweetapple is best known as the co-owner and skipper of Quetzalcoatl, a fully crewed boat which he scored a PHS win and second and third PHS in past Sydney Hobarts. The pair dipped their two-handed toes doing the CYCA's 2020/2021 Two-Handed series, placing second in Race 1 and was the only finisher in Race 2. In the 2021 Blue Water Pointscore's Bird Island Race in November, the pair placed fifth overall and backed up with fifth in the Cabbage Tree Island Race in early December.

Shane Connelly skippered this BH36 to 83rd overall in the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart. Before that, Chris Matthews bought the boat from long-time owner Peter Mosely in 2016 and finished 29th that year. Mosely retired from the 2015 race with hull damage, and was 54th in the 2014 race, PHS fourth in 2012 and IRC 20th and third in IRC Division 4 in 2010. The BH36 did her first Sydney Hobart as Local Hero XII (skippered by Geoff Howison, a business partner of the boat's designer, Iain Murray and builder, the late Ian Bashford) and placed 14th. In 1996, entered by next owner, Kevin Wood, she was 35th.

LOVE & WAR

SAIL NO: 294

LOA: 14.2m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Sparkman & Stephens (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1973

TYPE: S&S 47

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 17

OWNER: Simon Kurts

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Simon Kurts (21) – Skipper, Joseph Earl (4) – Navigator, Stephen McCullum (24), Peter Sheldrick (28), Erik Adriaanse (29), Michael Heenan (21), Phillip Kurts (5), Robert Woodman (1), David Powys, Kirk Mitchel, Matt Tomaszewski (3)

This famous classic Oregon and Maple built boat launched for Peter Kurts in 1973, can count among her many victories winning the Tattersall Cup three times: 1974, 1978 and 2006 – joining Freya as the only yachts to win the race three times. Her last win came after Peter Kurts' son Simon loaned her to Lindsay May. Simon last raced her south in 2019, placing 64th overall for third in Division 7, with second in the Grand Veterans division, and before that, 2016 (15th overall, third in Division 4 and second in the Corinthian division).and 2014 (seventh overall and second in Division 4, winning the 30 year Veterans and placing second in the 20 year Veterans.) Love & War was the favourite of all yachts owned and raced by the late Peter Kurts in Australia and at the 1975 Admiral's Cup, and the only one kept by him. Love & War still has what it takes to win.

LUNA BLUE

SAIL NO: 7809

LOA: 14.1m

CLASS: PHS/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Philippe Briand (FRA)

YEAR BUILT: 2008

TYPE: Beneteau First 45

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: David Watson/John Turnbull/Andrew Silk

CLUB: Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: John Turnbull - Skipper, David Watson - Navigator, Steve Kellaway, Patrick James, Michael Turnbull, John Nell, Bill Kay, Andrew Benefield, Peter Kelly, Andrew Spearritt

One of a few boats new to the Sydney Hobart, last year, Luna Blue was bought by John Turnbull and David Watson, (former owners of the yacht Reverie, the RPYC blue water champions in 2013/2014 and runner-up the following season) and Andrew Silk. Launched in November 2008, this Beneteau First 45 was purchased out of Adelaide where it had raced and was the fastest Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron entry in the 2009 Adelaide Port Lincoln Race. Her now owners sailed Luna Blue from Adelaide to her new home on Pittwater. Other Beneteau 45s have done well in the 628 nautical mile race in the past with divisional placings, so no reason why this one can't too.

MAKO

SAIL NO: N40

LOA: 12.0m

CLASS: PHS

DESIGNER: Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 1999

TYPE: Sydney 40

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Paul O'Rourke

CLUB: Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Tim Dodds – Skipper, Adam Manders – Navigator, Paul O'Rourke (1), Greg Busch, Marcus Busch, Simon Macks, Hugh Dodds, Adrian Kiely, John Searl, Steve Robinson (4)

Newcastle Cruising Yacht (NCYC) CEO Paul O'Rourke chose the 75th running of the Sydney Hobart in 2019 to represent his club with Mako and they placed 60th overall. Formerly Questionable Logic, this Sydney 40 was built for the 1999 Admiral's Cup and was part of the winning Dutch Team, sailing as 'Trust Computer Products'. It was also known as Pride and raced in several Fastnet races. In 2018 it was bought by a large syndicate out of NCYC to compete in regattas on the east coast. The owners take it in turns to skipper the boat at various events on the east coast of Australia and it works for them.

MARGARET RINTOUL V

SAIL NO: SYD5

LOA: 18.0m

CLASS: IRC/Corinthian

DESIGNER: German Frers (ARG)

YEAR BUILT: 1996

TYPE: Frers 61

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Damien King

CLUB: Sandringham Yacht Club, Vic

CREW: Damien King (2) – Skipper, Jeremy O'Connell, Mark Turnbull, Ben Morrison-Jack (4), Eliza Solly, Lockie Dare, Grant Allen, Mark Byrne, Matt Mullins, Jonathan Orr

This is the last of the Margaret Rintoul's built for Stan Edwards, a sailing figure of note during the 70's, 80's and 90's, who competed for Australia and internationally with previous Rintouls. This one has competed in the Pittwater to Lord Howe and Pittwater to Coffs races, amongst her expansive repertoire with Edwards, and then with Graham Buckeridge and partners, who purchased it in 2007. Melbourne sailor Damien King owns the yacht now, with its composite hull of epoxy/Kevlar over balsa core, a keel and rudder developed from America's Cup technology and a carbon fibre mast.

During the '90s, King campaigned in the Olympic 470 class. He is better known these days as a dab Etchells sailor with an Australasian title and top three Etchells Worlds results. Crew will include Olympic 470 gold medallist Mark Turnbull, and dab young sailors who crew for King on his Etchells; Eliza Solly, a past Olympic 49erFX campaigner and Jeremy O'Connell, a former Australian Sailing Squad member in the Laser and Lockie Dare, a good all-round dinghy sailor. King likes to travel in style, and the best news for the crew on his German Frers designed boat is that prominent Victorian publican, Matt Mullins, has promised the crew restaurant quality food. Aren't they lucky!

MARITIMO

SAIL NO: USA16

LOA: 16.3m

CLASS: IRC

DESIGNER: Carl Schumaker (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1996

TYPE: Schumaker 54

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Bill Barry-Cotter

SKIPPER: Michael Spies

CLUB: Southport Yacht Club, Qld

CREW: Michael Spies (43) - Skipper, Murray Spence (20) - Navigator, Cooper Ellis (2), Anthony Arends (3), Scott Kaufman (14), Peter Jones (24), Richard Roberts (8), Steven Jackson (2), Neil Sherring (2), Stuart Graham (2), Tristan Hamilton (2), Michael Hughes (14)

Originally launched as Swiftsure II, this Schumaker 54 was dominant under various measurement systems in San Francisco, winning the Rolex Big Boat Series an unprecedented eight times. Bill Barry-Cotter, a leader in the Australian boat building industry, purchased the boat last year. He had the intention of competing in the Tahiti Transpac, but the race was canned due to Covid, so the boat was shipped to Australia where it underwent a refit and upgrade at Barry-Cotter's Maritimo's Gold Coast facility in readiness for the Hobart. The boat program supports youths and this year, Cooper Ellis will have the benefit of sailing with some ocean racing greats.

For the 75th Sydney Hobart, Barry-Cotter entered Katwinchar, the oldest boat to ever do the race. He was unable to go, but his brother Kendal was aboard as skipper, along with notables Michael Spies, Scott Kaufman and Robert Case. They placed 62nd overall for second in Division 7, won the Grand Veterans division and finished third in the Veterans division. Maritimo took line honours in the 2021 Brisbane to Gladstone race, won the Queensland Yachting Championship and in mid-November, won the 220nm South East Qld Ocean Racing Qualifier. Has to be considered as an overall chance. Kaufman, a renowned Australian boat designer and sailor, is here from New York again to join the crew.

MAVERICK

SAIL NO: SM3600

LOA: 11.3m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Andrieu Yacht Design (FRA)

YEAR BUILT: 2016

TYPE: Jeanneau Sun Fast 3600

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Anthony Hammond

CLUB: Sandringham Yacht Club, Vic

CREW: Rod Smallman (1) - Skipper, Leeton Hulley - Skipper

Rod Smallman sailed Maverick to 89th overall in their first Sydney Hobart in 2019. He has since sold the boat to Tony Hammond and the pair will do the race in the new Two-Handed division of the Rolex Sydney Hobart this year. Smallman and this Jeanneau Sun Fast 3600 are at home double-handed racing, having finished third overall in the 5500 nautical mile Melbourne Osaka double-handed yacht race in 2018 with his son Tyson. Maverick has continued to race double-handed in ORC events as she prepares for her assault on the 628nm Sydney Hobart. Victorians Hammond and Smallman will provide serious competition for the other double-handers in the race, Smallman's experience giving them a good shot at the Two-Handed overall win.

MAVERICK 49

SAIL NO: GBR4945R

LOA: 14.1m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Hugh Welbourn (UK)

YEAR BUILT: 2016

TYPE: Infiniti 46R

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Quentin Stewart

CLUB: Guernsey Yacht Club, Guernsey

CREW: Quentin Stewart (2) – Skipper, Steven Thomas (1), Shaun Lane (2), Finn Alexander, Shaun Connor, David Gilmour (1), Nic Lesiuk, Tom Burton

Quentin Stewart comes to the start line for a second time with Maverick 49. He was disappointed with 13th overall (despite scoring third in Division 2) in the 75th race in 2019, after looking to make the overall podium up until their last day on the water. Stewart and Shaun Lane have been honing their tight crew work via the pair's MC38, Lazy Dog, which won both the 2020 and 2021 Australian Championships. Stewart has again enlisted the stars of the small boat brigade, such as 2012 Olympic Laser gold medallist Tom Burton, Tokyo Games 49er Olympian David Gilmour and Laser Olympic campaigner Finn Alexander.

This Hugh Welbourn designed Infiniti 46r has been touted as the 'fastest 46-footer in the world'. She has a canting keel and DSS foils – the only 40-footer to utilise twin foils when built in 2016. Her best results before Stewart bought her include winning IRC Zero in the 2016 RORC Transatlantic Race; third overall in the 2016 Middle Sea race; won Class 16 in the Open Division of the 2018 Newport Bermuda race and won the 2019 SoCal 300. On paper, they are serious contenders for an overall win - if the weather suits.

MAYFAIR

SAIL NO: M16

LOA: 14.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Simon Rogers (UK)

YEAR BUILT: 2006

TYPE: Rogers 46

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: James Irvine

CLUB: Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron, Qld

CREW: James Irvine (4) – Skipper, Shawn Butt (4), Mark Carter (1), Jamie Pirret (4), Steve Brierley (4), Robert Cordingley, Leon Thomas (1), Xavier Doerr, Ben Davis (6), Simon Griffiths, Justin Smith (1)

James Irvine's latest Mayfair was one of the long list of Robin Aisher's yachts by the name of Yeoman. The Rogers 46 was purchased last year by the Queensland yachtsman from Lake Macquarie yachting identity, Doug Coulter. The latter sailed her as Shakti and took line

honours in the 2017 Club Marine Pittwater to Southport race and won IRC and ORCi into the bargain. Irvine previously owned a Beneteau First 40, also called Mayfair, with which he contested the 75th Sydney Hobart in 2019 and finished 48th overall. Moving up to a faster Rogers 46 should fulfill his need for more speed. Mayfair has a distinct royal blue hull. In November, Mayfair placed second in the 220nm South East Qld Ocean Racing Qualifier.

MIDNIGHT RAMBLER

SAIL NO: ST36

LOA: 10.8m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 2005

TYPE: Sydney 36

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 2

OWNER: Ed Psaltis

CLUB: Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Tas

CREW: Ed Psaltis (38) – Skipper, Andrew Davison (9) – Navigator, Daniel Matzolic, Timothy Edwards, Donovan Oak, Anne Stewart, Glenn Stewart (1), Tim Jones

The seventh Midnight Rambler is returning after a disappointing 74th overall in the 2019 race, followed by fifth in Division C of the 2020 Australian Yachting Championships, not Ed Psaltis' usual fare. He scored third in Division 4 in the 2018 Hobart and has won every major offshore race on the east coast of Australia with various Midnight Ramblers, including the Gosford Lord Howe Island and Sydney Mooloolaba races (twice each) plus Sydney Gold Coast and the fatal 1998 Sydney Hobart. The Tasmanian 2019/20 sailing season was a successful one, the Sydney 36 winning the Combined Clubs Pennant among and the Crown Series in 2020 and 2021.

This season is going well; Psaltis won the tough 180nm Maria Island Race (which he also won in 2020) under AMS and placed second in IRC - a positive outcome ahead of the Hobart. After the disappointment of last year's cancellation of the race, Psaltis, originally from Sydney, says, "I am hoping my crew's mix of experience and youth will Midnight Rambler the edge in the race back to my new home waters." An all-Tassie crew with a great mix of youth and experience for all races in the season, includes Sydney Hobart first timer, 19 year-old Anne Stewart (she was on the crew list for last year's cancelled race), whose father Glenn is aboard again.

MILLE SABORDS

SAIL NO: 7174

LOA: 11.7m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 2000

TYPE: Sydney 38

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 5

OWNER: Paul Jenkins

CLUB: Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Paul Jenkins (3) – Skipper, James King (4) – Navigator, Ian Jones (4), Mark Loneragan (7), Peter Graham (1), Bill King (1), Anthony King (1), Julian Lydement, Neil Carroll (2), Wesley Allen (4)

Paul Jenkins purchased Mille Sabords in January to campaign in offshore races. The Sydney 38's last owner was Robert Frayne, who placed 45th overall and third in Sydney 38 division in the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart, following his 65th in the 2018 race. Before Frayne, Mille Sabords was owned by Stephane Howarth who had purchased Mille Sabords in May

2010. She was the first women skipper to cross the line in the 2010 Rolex Sydney Hobart and as a consequence, was awarded the Jane Tate Memorial Trophy. Was also fourth in the Sydney 38 Division that year and raced to Hobart again in 2011 with a 40th overall. Horwath did one more Hobart with her in 2013 and finished 35th overall. Jenkins is doing the Blue Water Pointscore, which includes the Hobart, and placed 20th in the Flinders Islet Race.

MIN RIVER

SAIL NO: AUS888

LOA: 12.5m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Niels Jeppesen (DEN)

YEAR BUILT: 2018

TYPE: X4.3

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Jiang Hui Lin

CLUB: Balmain Sailing Club/Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Jiang Hui Lin - Skipper, Jean-Charles Ledun (1) - Skipper

This X4.3 is the first of her model and arrived in Australia in July 2018. She is a 41ft cruiser with which Jiang Hui Lin and her co-skipper, Frenchman Jean-Charles Ledun, have done the Two-Handed series at the CYCA, winning the Two-Handed division of the two-race Audi Centre BWPS in preparation for her entry in the new Two-Handed division of the Rolex Sydney Hobart – her first tilt at the race. Jiang Hui Lin has also been racing in the twilight and Sunday summer series at Balmain Sailing Club, which in 2015 named her as the Most Improved Keelboat Sailor, just three years after she began sailing. Jiang Hui Lin grew up in China and named her boat Min River for the river in Fujian, which flows through the province where her parents lived.

MINERVA

SAIL NO: 6837

LOA: 13.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Reichel/Pugh (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2002

TYPE: DK43

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 6

OWNER: Timothy Cox

SKIPPER: Edward Cox

CLUB: Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, NSW

CREW: Edward Cox (4) – Skipper, Jim Walsh (5) – Navigator, Mark Hewitt-Park (10), William Cox (4), Ian King, Jerome Johnson (1), Brad Greenrod (3), Peter Craig (6), Michael Formosa (27), Robert Carlile (16)

This is Hobart number seven for Minerva, which broke a rudder bearing in the 2019 race, one of only three retirements. In 2013, skippered by owner Tim Cox's son William, the DK43 finished 16th overall. Prior to that, she was 44th in 2011. This year, Cox's younger son, Edward, is in the skipper role. Minerva is a regular in the CYCAs Short Ocean Pointscore series. Over the past few summers it has competed alternately in the Sydney-Hobart and Coffs Harbour races. Formerly known as Pla Loma IV, it contested three Sydney Hobarts, retiring from the first in 2004, and going on to place 47th in 2006 and 57th in 2008. In December last year, finished Division 2 fourth in the 180nm Cabbage Tree Island Race.

MONEYPENNY

SAIL NO: AUS1

LOA: 21.5m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi
DESIGNER: Reichel/Pugh (USA)
YEAR BUILT: 2008
TYPE: Reichel Pugh 69
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 2
OWNER: Sean Langman
CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW
CREW: Sean Langman (29) – Skipper, Matthew Humphries (10) – Navigator, Josh Alexander (17), Ed Powys (2), Geoff Bauchop (22), Oliver Court (2), Brett Van Munster (6), Nina Curtis (2), Harry Hall, Joe De Kock (13), Josh Porebski, Mark Horton

Sean Langman bought Moneypenny from the US owner in 2018 and raced her as Naval Group to 39th overall with a number of 'green' sailors aboard. He lengthened the Reichel/Pugh design from 65 to 69ft in 2019 and placed 10th overall for second in Division 0 with more regular offshore crew aboard. Finished second on line in the 2020 Adelaide Port Lincoln Race, inside record time. The yacht returns to the Hobart with her original name. Langman, who also sails an 18 foot skiff to stay fit and keep his inshore skills intact, continues to bring something different to the race each year – from Maluka, the smallest and oldest boat in the fleet, to downwind flyers, maxis and super maxis.

Moneypenny was second over the line in November's Bird Island Race and finished fourth overall and in early December, finished fifth over the line and overall in the Cabbage Tree Island Race. The sleek black RP69 was over the line early in the SOLAS Big Boat Challenge, had to restart and proceeded to mow the fleet down, finishing fourth over the line and fourth in the Mini Maxi division of the three-day inaugural Income Asset Management Australian Maxi Championship. Based on recent results, the grand prix yachts in the 60 to 80ft range are in for a thriller to the end. Crew includes UK sailor, Matt Humphries navigating, along with 2012 Olympic silver medallist Nina Curtis, who these days races on the SailGP circuit with Tom Slingsby. Skiffie types Brett Van Munster and Ed Powys are also aboard. A solid crew mix with good BWPS results are all positives for Langman this year.

NAUTICAL CIRCLE

SAIL NO: A169
LOA: 12.0m
CLASS: PHS/Corinthian
DESIGNER: Joubert/Nivelt (FRA)
YEAR BUILT: 2006
TYPE: Archambault 40
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 3
OWNER: Robin Shaw
CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW
CREW: Robin Shaw (3) - Skipper, Timothy Bye (2), Alexander Bye, Mitchell Bye, Robert Palazzi (2), Dermot Ryan (2), David Holmes, Campbell Thornton (15), Adam Cameron (2)

Robin Shaw last pointed Nautical Circle south to Hobart in 2019 and placed Placed PHS seventh overall for fourth in Division 2. With Ian Prentice as skipper in 2013, and Shaw second in command, she finished 40th overall. These results followed a disappointing retirement in 2010, her first tilt at the race. Before the 2019 race, Shaw put the Archambault through her paces in the 2019 Noakes Sydney Gold Coast race and finished PHS eighth, and IRC 12th in the Newcastle Bass Island Race. In between, Prentice competes in local events with good results. Man and boat will pit their performance against the likes of Reve and Flying Fish Arctos.

NAVY ONE**SAIL NO:** 0404**LOA:** 12.6m**CLASS:** IRC/Corinthian**DESIGNER:** Farr Yacht Design (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2011**TYPE:** Beneteau First 40**NUMBER OF HOBARTS:** 3**OWNER:** Royal Australian Navy, NSW**CLUB:** RANSA, NSW**CREW:** Nathan Lockhart (1) – Skipper, Tracey Magyar – Navigator, William Sherman, Matthew Dawe, Angus Ekberg, Tori Costello, Kieran Davis, Kate Millward, Kellie Nash, Damon Jackson

The Royal Australian Navy is sailing this Beneteau First 40 for a second time after placing 84th overall in 2019. She was launched as 'Lunchtime Legend' for Queenslander Robbo Robertson in August 2011 and won IRC Division 2 of the Rolex Trophy Rating Series and scored third in IRC Division 4 of the Rolex Sydney Hobart that year – finishing with the exact same corrected overall time as sistership, Two True, winner of the 2009 Sydney Hobart. In 2012, Robbo won IRC Division 3 after finishing 17th overall in the 2012 Hobart. The boat was sold and became 'Outlaw' and the Navy then renamed her 'Navy One', after purchasing her four years ago for initial entry officer sail training for the RAN at HMAS Creswell in Jarvis Bay. In the 2019, Navy One, with Nathan Lockhart in command, won the Oggin Cup and plaque for the first Armed Services Yacht on corrected time. They need to keep Gun Runner at bay to take it home again.

NO LIMIT**SAIL NO:** AUS98888**LOA:** 19.2m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Reichel/Pugh (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2008**TYPE:** Reichel Pugh 63**NUMBER OF HOBARTS:** 5**OWNER:** David Gotze**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: David Gotze (9) - Skipper, Steve Kemp (22) - Navigator, David Allen (8), Ian Walker (32), Julian Freeman (31), Tony Ellis (52), Aaron Cole (18), Jade Cole (9), Rowan Leaper (16), Matt Wenke (12), Clynton Wade-Lehman (16), Andrew Simpson (8), Declan Brennan (18), Duncan Macleod (23), Stefan Treurniet (7), Adam Schlipalius (4), Charles Gundy (4), Scott Alle (15)

David Gotze bought this RP63 in 2019 and was thrilled with seventh overall and second in Division 2 in the 75th race that year, after a season of good results mixed with mishaps and breakages. Extra cause for celebration was crew, Tony Ellis, celebrating a record 52nd Sydney Hobart and he is aboard again for his 53rd, a record that is likely to go down in history. No Limit was originally christened Limit, then later named Aszhou and Voodoo. As Voodoo, Hugh Ellis finished the 2018 Sydney Hobart third overall to win Division 1, shortly after buying the yacht out of the US. As No Limit, it led the 2019 Flinders Islet Race, but was pipped for line honours by Chinese Whisper – just 37 seconds separated them at the finish. Followed up with ninth overall in the Bird Island Race.

As Limit, when owned by Alan Brierty, she last went to Hobart in 2010 and finished 14th overall. Launched three weeks prior to the 2008 Rolex Sydney Hobart, she finished seventh and then won Auckland Noumea Race line honours and every class (IRC/ORCi/PHRF) overall. Upon returning to Australia, she retired from the 2009 Hobart with rigging issues. This is an excellent all-round boat, and a near sistership to the 2011 Hobart winner, Loki. Before this yacht, Gotze campaigned the LC60, Triton and finished 25th in the 2018 Hobart. Earlier again, he raced other offshore and one-design yachts with success. Some of Australia's sailors are aboard, which helps Gotze's chances of an overall win.

OROTON DRUMFIRE

SAIL NO: CAY6536

LOA: 24.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Hoek Design (NED)

YEAR BUILT: 2007

TYPE: Hoek TC78

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 2

OWNER: Will Vicars

SKIPPER: Phillip Neil

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Phillip Neil (2) – Skipper, Adrienne Cahalan (29) - Navigator, Geoff Little, Stacey Jackson (13), Adam Hickey (1), Christopher White (2), Jane Vicars (2), Katy MacDonald, Harry Bethwaite (3), Brandon Buynik (1), Michael Ritchie (2), John Alvarez, Duncan Campbell, Owain Brady, Vincent Kennedy, James Whelan (4)

A particularly attractive Hoek design, Drumfire is named for the long-distance desert race horse of the same name. She placed 65th in 2019's 75th Sydney Hobart and in her first Hobart in 2018, with updated rigging, sails and other modifications, the 24-metre yacht finished 45th. This luxury yacht's exterior and interior are beautifully kept, and her timber interior has been personally designed. She features a double cockpit and double coach roof. Before she was purchased and brought to Australia in 2015, Drumfire, which draws admiring glances wherever she goes, won the 2011 Superyacht Cup Palma. Another interesting crew mix includes Adrienne Cahalan and Volvo Ocean Racer Stacey Jackson who skippered Wild Oats to second overall in 2018.

OSKANA

SAIL NO: AUS5299

LOA: 15.2m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2006

TYPE: Cookson 50

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 13

OWNER: Michael Pritchard

CLUB: Derwent Sailing Squadron/Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Tas

CREW: Michael Pritchard (3) – Skipper, Jason Wilkie (3) – Navigator, Patrick Copeland (4), Geoff Tuck (1), Robbie Tuck (1), Michael Hutchinson (5), Charlie Goodfellow, Silas Hamilton, Richard Goodfellow, Oliver Pritchard, Jack McCullum (5), Paul McCartney, Elliott Noye (1), Edward Snowball (1)

The 2019 race was disappointing for Michael Pritchard and Oskana. They placed 103rd after breaking gear and finding a wind hole. Placed a much better 23rd in the 2017 Sydney Hobart. The Tasmanian missed the race in 2018, instead taking line honours in the Melbourne to Hobart race. Mike Pritchard has his 18-year-old son Oliver sailing his first Hobart, though this year marks his fourth delivery to Sydney. Crew member, Richard Goodfellow, was aboard

Tasmania when it took line honours in the 1994 race when a record 371 boats took part. He is joined by 18-year-old son Charlie, sailing his first Hobart. Brothers Geoff and Robbie Tuck are also aboard. Pritchard says he is hoping the two first timers will bring them some luck. This Cookson 50, touted as Tasmania's fastest offshore yacht, was the 2013 Rolex Sydney Hobart winner under the name Victoire, when owned by Darryl Hodgkinson.

Before she won the Hobart, the boat was known variously as Jazz, Evolution Racing, Quantum Racing and launched as Aero, carrying with each name an exemplary offshore racing record. Brian McMaster chartered the then Victoire for the 2016 Hobart, finishing 10th, after the owner, Darryl Hodgkinson, retired from the 2015 race, when he suffered injuries in a fall in stiff seas. In 2014, 'Dr Darryl' placed 45th for second in Division O. Before that, Ray Roberts owned the yacht he named Evolution Racing, taking the line/overall double in the 2007 Sydney Gold Coast race and placed 17th for second in Division O in the 2009 Hobart. Chris Bull bought and renamed her Jazz to finish second in the 2010 Hobart, then fourth for the Division O win in 2011 and fourth for divisional third in in 2012. Oskana and her crew still have the goods to win the race.

OZ DESIGN PATRICE SIX

SAIL NUMBER: 7779

LOA: 12.5m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Niels Jeppesen (DEN)

YEAR BUILT: 2007

TYPE: X-41

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 8

OWNER: Alexander Flecknoe-Brown

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Alexander Flecknoe-Brown - Skipper, Mattijs Willenborg (1) - Navigator, Grant Parkhurst (3), Matthew McKenzie (1), Benjamin Aquilina (1), Greg Antipas (2), Duncan Sim, Jonathan Low (1), Andrew Byrne (8), Stephen Lipman (7)

Patrice Six, now known as OZ Design Patrice Six, last contested the race in 2016 and placed 30th overall after finishing 43rd overall in the 2015 race under the ownership of Shaun Lane. Previously, was one of Tony Kirby's many yachts named Patrice, which he skippered to 32nd in the 2012 Rolex Sydney Hobart. Kirby also sailed this X-41 to a best Hobart result of fifth overall for third in IRC Division 3 in 2009, initially sitting in the hot seat to win. In 2008, he finished 31st. Shaun Lane bought the yacht in 2013 and raced it locally. She has since been purchased by Alexander Flecknoe-Brown who raced a Jeanneau beforehand. The current owner and crew have been contesting numerous CYCA races since 2020.

PATRIOT

SAIL NO: SM133

LOA: 13.1m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Rod Johnstone (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2004

TYPE: J/133

NO. OF HOBARTS: 3

OWNER: Jason Close

CLUB: Sandringham Yacht Club, Vic

CREW: Jason Close (2) – Skipper, Cathryn Furey (2), Andrew McGrath, Peter Chalkley (3), Stuart Schafer, Graeme Smith (6), Jordan Sunkell-Lozell (2), Cameron McKenzie, Tony Hutchinson, Greg Coutts (2), Lex O'Connor (3), Lawson Shaw

The disappointment of retiring with a broken rudder in the 2018 Rolex Sydney Hobart may well have been the catalyst of Jason Close returning to the race with Patriot in 2019. It was well worth it, as they placed ninth overall to win Division 5 by nearly two hours from Sail Exchange. Patriot's only other Hobart was 2010, after being purchased by her former owner, Queenslander Tony Love that year, and they finished 25th overall for second in Division 3. Otherwise, the J/133 has been lightly raced. Originally from the US, Patriot competed on the Great Lakes. She was the second US built J/133 to be imported into Australia and has a great cruising fit-out with solid offshore pedigree. The pressure is now on Close to finish the race and try to replicate or better her 2019 result.

PHILOSOPHER

SAIL NO: 20

LOA: 11.3m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Sydney Yachts (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 2008

TYPE: Sydney 36CR Mod

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: David Henry

CLUB: Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron/Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: David Henry (7) – Skipper/Navigator, Maclean Paton (2), Stephen Prince (4), Courtney Macris, Mathieu Girolet, Riccardo Adirosi, Bob Paton, Thomas Vincent

Now owned by David Henry, this Sydney 36CR was previously known as The Philosopher's Club when owned by Peter 'Sorro' Sorensen and then Philosopher and Willie Smith's Philosopher when owned by Tasmanian, Shaun Tiedemann, from 2016. Tiedemann raced to Hobart in 2019 and placed 15th overall to win Division 6. He placed third in Division 3 in the 2020 Australian Yachting Championships (AYC) after winning division the previous two years. Before that, Sorro, won division in the AYC in 2008 and 2011. This is a first Hobart with the boat for Henry, who entered his Sweet Chariot in 2019, with son and Two-Handed Sydney Hobart entrant (Eora), Rupert aboard. They placed 51st in ORCi. With broad sailing experience, both racing and long cruising miles, and a credentialled boat, Henry could be in the money, should the weather play into the hands of the smaller yachts.

PRETTY WOMAN

SAIL NO: 545

LOA: 13.8m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1996

TYPE: IC45 modified

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 2

OWNER: Richard Hudson/David Beak

CLUB: Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Richard Hudson (11) – Skipper, Alice Tarnawski (1) – Navigator, Antony Hawke (1), Juliet Costanzo, Liam Bennett (1), Jon Bassinder (1), Matthew Gerethy (1), Wendy Tinning, Francois Naef (1), Will Hardcastle (6), Jessica Angus (1), Anneliese Scholten

Richard Hudson heads up the team for Pretty Woman's third assault on the Sydney Hobart. In 2019 they finished 58th overall after placing 25th in 2007. Hudson races regularly out of the RPAYC. In January 2019, took line honours in the 2020 Pittwater to Paradise (Southport) race, with a second place overall. David Beak, of Mr Beaks Ribs fame, and the former owner of an offshore racer of the same name, is now part owner of the boat, so the crew will be well fed. Hudson again blends experience with some younger sailors from the RPAYC on the modified IC45 design, giving them opportunities to try out offshore racing at its toughest.

Among them this year is navigator Alice Tarnawski, a versatile 26 year-old former Youth matching racing champion and one-design sailor and first-timers 22-year-old 2018 Australian Women's Match Racing champion Juliet Constanzo and 22-year-old Anneliese Scholten.

PROTAGONIST

SAIL NO: H140

LOA: 12.2m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2011

TYPE: Beneteau First 40

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Nick Foa/Justin Hanney

CLUB: Hobsons Bay Yacht Club, Vic

CREW: Nick Foa - Skipper, Darrin Pearce - Navigator, Justin Hanney, Megan Gault (1), Lynda Brayton (2), Rick Rogers (2), David Stoopman (1), Leon Berry, Paul Beresford

Taken over by Nick Foa, who will have Justin Hanney as co-skipper, this Beneteau First 40 had been thoroughly raced out of Melbourne by David Stoopman, including the Melbourne to Stanley Race and Melbourne Launceston races. Protagonist had also been a regular on the Derwent River sailing scene in Tasmania. Under Stoopman, she did her first Sydney Hobart in 2019, choosing the 75th race (as did many others) to make her debut and finished 93rd overall. Enter Nick Foa, who like Stoopman, represents Hobsons Bay Yacht Club. Protagonist will have other Beneteau 40s to gauge his performance against, among them Ariel, Navy One and others of a similar ilk. The former crew of Samskara will shape the nucleus of the crew.

QUEST

SAIL NO: 52002

LOA: 15.9m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2005

TYPE: TP52

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 8

OWNER: Craig Neil

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Mike Green (41) – Skipper, James Walker (1) – Navigator, Craig Neil (3), Max de Montgolfier (8), Will Sargent, Erik Alston (1), Clinton Evans (7), Tom Brewer, Ryan Brook (1), Ben De Coster (17), Nick Mrdjen (4), Matthew Bassett (8), Don McPhee (1), Shaun Moran

When Bob Steel couldn't race in 2019, then co-owner (and now sole owner) Craig Neil and skipper, Mike 'Greenie' Green, were left to bring home the bacon - and they almost did. Quest led at Tasman Island but fell into a big hole on the Tassie coast and ended up third overall for third in Division 1, leading to third in the CYCA's BWPS. Quest next placed fourth in the 2020 Australian Yachting Championships. Steel originally owned Quest and won the 2008 Hobart with her. He handed her to Paul Clitheroe for a spell and the 'Money Man' won the 2015 Hobart to also take out the BWPS. Neil took line honours in February's Lion Island Race to finish fourth overall, was eighth in November's Flinders Islet race and sixth in December's Cabbage Tree Island Race. This is a very tough offshore boat with solid crew.

Steel also placed second to Ichi Ban in the 2017 Sydney Hobart – 20 minutes separated them overall. Steel also won the race with his previous Quest in 2002. While in the hands of Clitheroe, he skippered Quest to fourth overall to win Division 1 in the 2016 Hobart. The 'Money Man' also set a new race record in the 2016 Sydney to Newcastle race and scored a

clean sweep of IRC/ORCi/PHS wins. This boat has enjoyed remarkable results, and if the weather gets rough, this is the boat to watch. Their main rivals will be Ichi Ban and Gweilo, both of which beat her in the short distance Flinders Islet and Bird Island races in November.

REVE

SAIL NO: 5930

LOA: 14.0m

CLASS: PHS/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Philippe Briand (FRA)

YEAR BUILT: 1991

TYPE: Beneteau 45 F5

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 4

OWNER: Kevin Whelan

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Kevin Whelan (3) – Skipper/Navigator, Judell Johnston, Pierre Briand (1), Kate Lynch, Matthew Cameron (1), Simon Barrington (1), Juan Munoz, Charles Todhunter, Tom Barrington

In the 75th in 2019, Kevin Whelan skippered Reve to 16th under PHS. The pair enjoyed a good result in 2018 with PHS fifth after placing PHS eighth in 2017. The Beneteau 45 F5 placed PHS 11th overall in her maiden Hobart the previous year. Whelan was thrilled to win PHS in the 2017 and 2018 Sydney Gold Coast races. A regular CYCA competitor, he also won PHS in the 2019 Newcastle Bass Island Race. Reve raced locally in Sydney from 1998/2002, before setting out on a worldwide cruise, sailing back to Australia in 2011 following a complete circumnavigation. Ready to race with a conservative flavour, Reve's crew are in warm-up mode for the Sydney Hobart. With a multitude of skills on board, and more ocean miles than you can poke a stick at, Whelan plans to up the ante in the PHS class.

ROGUE WAVE

SAIL NO: 6921

LOA: 11.0m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: David Thomas (UK)

YEAR BUILT: 1983

TYPE: Sigma 36

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Kevin Le Poidevin

CLUB: Port Stephens Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Kevin Le Poidevin (1) - Skipper, Darrell Greig (1) - Skipper

Sailed fully crewed in the 2019 race, Rogue Wave placed 115th overall. This time, Keith Le Poidevin and Adelaide's Darrell Greig, will sail in the new Two-Handed Division. Greig was with Le Poidevin in the 2019 race, but the pair has sailed double-handed since 2012 as well. This time, the two long-serving Airforce aviators will use the race to raise money for two charities: Brain Tumour Alliance Australia and Soldier On. Both charities support their Airforce mate who, in their words, "continues to kick goals in his battle with brain cancer." For the past 10 years, Rogue Wave has been in the care of Le Poidevin. He says, "The Sigma 36 is a delight to sail. It's set up for solo and short-handed sailing but is equally happy being sailed fully crewed." The aim for the 2021 Rolex Sydney Hobart is to beat Rogue Wave's 2019 elapsed finish time of 5 days, 6 hours, 42 minutes.

RUM REBELLION

SAIL NO: 1808

LOA: 9.9m

CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed/Corinthian
DESIGNER: Alan Johnstone (USA)
YEAR BUILT: 2021
TYPE: J/99
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0
OWNER: Shane Connelly
CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW
CREW: Shane Connelly (3) - Skipper, Graeme Dunlop (4) - Skipper

Rum Rebellion is a J/99 launched this year for Shane Connelly, who did the 2016 and 2018 Rolex Sydney Hobarts on Pelagic Magic with his co-skipper for this race, Graeme Dunlop. Her campaign follows on from the successful two-handed campaign of Connelly's previous boat, Local Hero (he skippered it fully crewed in the 2019 Hobart), in the inaugural CYCA Two-Handed series. The pair are contesting the Blue Water Pointscore in the Two-Handed division. They have already produced top results in the first two races: third in the Flinders Islet Race and second in the Bird Island Race. At 9.9 metres, she rates among the smaller boats in the fleet that appear to be favoured by many Two-Handed entries this year.

For the historians, the yacht's name and sail number reflect the infamous Rum Rebellion of 1808, Australia's first and only military coup. Appropriately, her motto is New South Walers don't hide under the bed! Connelly says he and Dunlop look forward to competing against fellow two-handed sailors and will continue to promote the CYCA's "great new category of sailing."

SALT SHAKER

SAIL NO: 5826
LOA: 10.9m
CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed/Corinthian
DESIGNER: Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)
YEAR BUILT: 1998
TYPE: Sydney 36 Cruiser
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0
OWNER: Peter Franki
CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia/RANSA, NSW
CREW: Peter Franki (3) - Skipper, Andrew Jones - Skipper

This is a first Sydney Hobart for Salt Shaker, an Aussie designed Sydney 36 Cruiser, and a first for co-pilot Drew Jones. Peter Franki is no sailing novice and is well-known in sailing circles and as competitor in various races and regattas. Jones has plenty of boating experience on both sides of the fence, as a racer and because he is Roads & Maritime's Senior Special Aquatic Events Officer.

Salt Shaker is a modified Bashford Howison 36 commissioned in late 998 as a charter boat with EastSail (Peter Franki was the co-founder) at Rushcutters Bay. Now retired from charter work, Salt Shaker has been fitted with newer sails and races from the CYCA. Franki is also a regular at major regattas, such as Sail Port Stephens. In November, Salt Shaker placed second in the Two-Handed division of the Flinders Islet Race, just eight minutes on corrected time behind the winner, Disko Trooper-Contender Sailcloth. She followed up with second on line and third overall in the Bird Island Race. Initially leading the Two-Handed division in in December's tricky Cabbage Tree Island Race, Franki and Jones finished fourth over the line and fourth overall.

SECRET MENS BUSINESS 1

SAIL NO: 8300
LOA: 12.8m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi
DESIGNER: Murray & Associates (AUS)
YEAR BUILT: 1996
TYPE: Murray 42
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 10
OWNER: David De Coster
CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW
CREW: David De Coster (16) – Skipper, Mark Loader (1), Brian Aldridge, Steven Ewin, Michael Giles, Michael Davies, Chris Matthews (14), Sean Inkley, Bruce Morrow

Secret Mens Business 1 was purchased by David De Coster and Sally Armati in May 2018 and was optimised to maintain its competitive edge before the pair sailed it to 63rd overall in the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart. The Murray 42 was originally owned by South Australian Geoff Boettcher who had little luck with it in the Sydney Hobart, having retired from the 1996, 1998, 1999 and 2001 races. He did finish 18th overall in 1997 and 20th overall in 2003 before she was sold and went to Melbourne for a spell. She was purchased by Ross Trembath and Rob Curtis in 2006 and renamed Secret Mens Business #1. They raced her in the 2007 (55th), 2008 (63rd) and 2010 (41st) Sydney Hobarts before it was sold and moved to Western Australia, where it spent the next six years before De Coster and Armati bought it.

SHE'S THE CULPRIT

SAIL NO: 370
LOA: 12.0m
CLASS: PHS/Corinthian
DESIGNER: Inglis/Jones (AUS)
YEAR BUILT: 1994
TYPE: Inglis/Jones 39 Mod
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 8
OWNER: The Culprit Syndicate
SKIPPER: Glenn Bulmer
CLUB: Lake Macquarie YC/Newcastle Cruising YC, NSW
CREW: Glenn Bulmer (8) – Skipper, Glen Picasso (12) – Navigator, Robert Jarvie (2), David Edwards (1), Mark Virtue, Wade Croak, Felix Prince, Mark Graham (9), Courtney Smith, Brad Dodds (1), Oonagh O'Donovan (3), Anthony Jurd

This well-known yacht owned by a fun group of sailing friends from around 'The Lake' and Newcastle, finished PHS 20th overall in the 75th race in 2019. 'The Culprits' finished PHS second overall for second in Division 2 in 2017 and third in Corinthian division, then PHS fifth overall for third in Division 2 in the 2015 race after winning PHS in 2014, when she won the York family Corinthian trophy. In 2013, then owners Glenn Bulmer (Tac), Glen Picasso (Cyril), who purchased the boat in 2011, and David O'Dowd sailed the Inglis/Jones 39 to PHS fourth overall in the Hobart for third in division.

Launched as Top Cat for the double-handed Melbourne Osaka race, the Inglis/Jones yacht relocated to Tasmania under the name 42 South. Todd Leary bought and renamed her 'She's the Culprit', campaigning her in three Hobart's from 2008 to 2010. A few more friends were added to the syndicate last year, including Kristen Anderson. This boat is always well sailed and a credit to the clubs she represents.

SHK SCALLYWAG 100

SAIL NO: HKG2276
LOA: 30.0m
CLASS: IRC/ORCi
DESIGNER: Andy Dovell (AUS)
YEAR BUILT: 2014

TYPE: 100ft Super Maxi
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 5
OWNER: Seng Huang Lee
SKIPPER: David Witt

CLUB: Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, Hong Kong

CREW: David Witt (24) - Skipper, Chris Wild – Navigator, Larry Jamieson (34), Nick Meyer, Ben Piggott (5), Luke Parkinson (5), Phil Harmer (12), Scott Salter, Alby Pratt (22), Andrew Hay (6), Harley Spreadbury-Key, Ayden Menzies (2), Greg Homann, Luke Payne, Tim Westwood, Tom Clout (6), Peter Cumming, Trystan Seal (2)

Looking hot throughout the race in 2019, SHK Scallywag 100 ultimately finished fourth on line to WOXI in a thriller – just 38 seconds the difference. Seng Huang Lee's super maxi, skippered by Dave Witt, was an early retirement the year before when the bowsprit broke. She went on to take line honours in the Antigua Bermuda and Transatlantic races. She missed the 2017 Hobart, her new keel not ready. In 2016, Witt took third on line in the Hobart; one of a trio to break Wild Oats XI's standing 2012 record. She scorched FfreeFire's 2001 San Fernando record by over 15 hours and won overall. Was second on line in 2019s Fastnet Race. In December, she finished second over the line to LawConnect in the Cabbage Tree Island Race. Took SOLAS Big Boat Challenge line honours from LawConnect in sensational style after the latter had a big lead past the halfway mark.

Seng Huang Lee bought the former Ragamuffin from Syd Fischer in 2016, making mods before breaking the Groupama Race monohull record that year, for second overall. She then smashed Beau Geste's (TP52) Hong Kong to Hainan record. As Ragamuffin, she contested her first Hobart in 2014, finishing third on line, then second on line in 2015. In the lead-up, she took line honours and broke the Hong Kong Vietnam Race record Fischer set with his Ragamuffin 90 in 2013. The hull of this yacht was designed by Andy Dovell, but her modified deck came from Investec Loyal, which Fischer purchased from Anthony Bell and raced to Hobart in 2012 and 2013. These days, Scallywag's goal is promoting competitive sailing in Asia, while building a long-lasting youth sailing legacy in Hong Kong, in conjunction with the HK Sailing Federation.

SIDEWINDER

SAIL NO: 112

LOA: 12.0m

CLASS: PHS/Two-Handed

DESIGNER: Marc Lombard (FRA)

YEAR BUILT: 2011

TYPE: Akilaria RC2

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Rob Gough

CLUB: Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Tas

CREW: Rob Gough (1) - Skipper, John Saul (9) - Skipper

Rob Gough and John Saul have teamed up to sail two-up on Sidewinder in the Rolex Sydney Hobart's new Two-Handed division. Saul has done the race in the past, including in 1998 when he was 15th over the line, just one of 44 finishers with Computerland, his modified Inglis 47. Gough is best known as a former windsurfing and Moth world champion, and top SB20 sailor. He dabbles in ocean racing and did the Sydney Hobart with Saul on Oskana in 2019. "When we heard about the new Two-Handed division, we wanted to be on the start line," Gough said. "We're really looking forward to the race. We did the 2020 Maria Island Race in no wind, but we learnt a lot.

Sidewinder was previously named 'Jasmine Flyer' and successfully raced out of Britain in the Normandy Channel Race, RORC Caribbean and Global Ocean Race with some big

international names aboard, so she is well set-up. Gough and Saul bought the boat out of Adelaide in July 2020 and sailed her to Hobart – the last stretch in a 30 knot westerly!

SMUGGLER

SAIL NO: 6952

LOA: 15.9m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Judel/Vrolijk (GER)

YEAR BUILT: 2007

TYPE: TP52

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 9

OWNER: Sebastian Bohm

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Sebastien Bohm (7) – Skipper, Steve Taylor (3) – Navigator, Steve McConaghy (20), Mark Feilberg (10), Ashley Major (10), Tom Wormald (1), Nicholas Armstrong (6), Bradley Madders (1), Jake Newman (12), Timothy Davis (13), Sam Price (14), Mario Marfella, Andrew Ebbott (5), Peter Tarimo (14)

Before Sebastian Bohm bought this former Celestial in 2019, Sam Haynes sailed it to 17th overall in the 2018 Sydney Hobart. Since renamed Smuggler, Bohm finished eighth overall in the 2019 race and placed second to the latest Celestial in February's 55nm Summer Offshore Series Virtual Mark Race, was second in the Port Hacking Race and third in Race 7 of the SOPS in late February. She placed sixth overall in November's Flinders Islet race and 10th in the following Bird Island race.

Previously, Bohm capped off a solid season with his former Smuggler (a Rogers 46, also ex-Haynes), including a best place of sixth for divisional second in the 2017 Hobart, and 24th in the 2018 race. He also won the IRC/ORCi/PHS triple in the 2018 Sydney Noumea race and placed 17th for third in Division 2 in the 2019 Sydney Gold Coast race. Smuggler will be amongst the TP52 action come the big race.

SOLERA

SAIL NO: G1350

LOA: 13.5m

CLASS: PHS/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Greg Elliott (NZL)

YEAR BUILT: 2013

TYPE: Elliott 1350 Tourer

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: Stuart Richardson

CLUB: Royal Geelong Yacht Club, Vic

CREW: Stuart Richardson (4) – Skipper, Brenton Carnell (20), Jason Boyle (6), Adrian Harmsworth, Danielle Fraser, Jennifer Carnell (1), Tom Kelly (2)

Stuart Richardson purchased Solera in November 2020. She was previously owned by her prominent Kiwi designer, Greg Elliott, who named her Fortuna. Solera is one of two Elliott Tourer's in the race, the other being fellow Victorian entry, Joker on Tourer, which is slightly smaller at 12.5 metres to Solera's 13.5m. Richardson last raced to Hobart as skipper of Moody Buoys in 2019 and placed second overall in PHS and second in PHS Division 2, so is worth keeping an eye on for PHS victory this year. He says, "Solera is looking forward to the Sydney Hobart and hopes to continue with lots of offshore racing in 2022." In the meantime, boat and owner have been tuning up in local races out of Royal Geelong Yacht Club.

SOLVEIG

SAIL NO: CYC54

LOA: 11.0m
CLASS: IRC/Corinthian
DESIGNER: Trygve Halvorsen (AUS)
YEAR BUILT: 1950
TYPE: Halvorsen 36
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 5
OWNER: Annie Lawrence/John Whitfeld
CLUB: RANSA, NSW
CREW: John Whitfeld (26) - Skipper, Anne Lawrence (15) - Navigator, Neil Tavener (16), Andrew Taylor (18), Allan Grundy (11), Campbell Isherwood, David Sharp (15)

A famous yacht, designed, built and raced by an equally famous seafaring family and still carrying her original CYC sail number. Solveig was built by Lars Halvorsen Sons in 1950 for Lars' famous sons, Trygve and Magnus Halvorsen. Trygve, Magnus and their equally famous navigator, Stan Darling, first raced her to Hobart in 1950 for fifth overall, then sixth in 1951, and eighth in 1952. Solveig took line honours in 1953 for second overall and won the race in 1954. The brothers sold Solveig in 1955 in Hawaii and she was returned to Sydney in 2017 by Bob Allan. This year marks 71 years since her first Hobart. The boat is now owned by Annie Lawrence, who has 15 Sydney Hobarts behind her – six as navigator. Lawrence and her skipper husband, John Whitfeld, have stripped Solveig back and returned her to offshore racing capability.

SPEEDWELL

SAIL NO: B347
LOA: 9.9m
CLASS: IRC/Two-Handed
DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)
YEAR BUILT: 2006
TYPE: Beneteau 34.7
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0
OWNER: Colin Geeves
CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW
CREW: Campbell Geeves (11) – Skipper, Wendy Tuck (13) – Skipper

Wendy Tuck, the only woman to win an around the world race (in 2018), and with 13 Hobarts behind her, was thirsting for new adventure, so entered the race's new Two-Handed division. The Sydneysider's co-skipper is Campbell Geeves, whose dad Colin loaned them his Beneteau 34.7 – one of the smaller boats heading south. Tuck is one of only two women to have won the Jane Tate Memorial Trophy (for the first female skipper to cross the finish line) twice. She says, "I'm grateful for the loan of the boat and looking forward to the challenge." A winner of many awards, she has kept busy as guest skipper on Maiden's (Tracy Edwards) global voyage in 2018 in support of The Maiden Factor Foundation while maintaining her work as a chief sailing instructor and training hard for the Hobart.

In November, Geeves and Tuck placed fourth overall in the Bird Island races' Two-Handed division and upped the ante taking Two-Handed line honours and Two-Handed overall victory in the Cabbage Tree Island Race, Geeves citing Tuck's steering skills as paramount to their win. They also did a remarkable job on their 9.9 metre boat to finish 13th overall in the open fleet in what turned out to be a big boat race. Tuck knows the Rolex Sydney Hobart race track well and as skipper of Sanya Serenity Coast, was the first Clipper boat to cross the finish line in the 2017 race. She went on to win the Clipper Race overall, when she docked in Liverpool, UK in 2018.

STEFAN RACING

LOA: 24.0m

CLASS: IRC
DESIGNER: Botin Partners (ESP)
YEAR BUILT: 2013
TYPE: Botin 80
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 3
OWNER: AUS 80 Pty Ltd
SKIPPER: Grant Wharington
CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW/Royal Queensland YS, Qld
CREW: Grant Wharington (27) – Skipper, Carl Crafoord (34) – Navigator, Paul Heyes (16), Zac Heyes, Oliver Wharington, Doug Sallis, Jarrod Sallis, Adrian Seiffert, Mark D' Emilio, Curtis Skinner (9), Peter Cosman (16), Josh Torpy, Dean Williams, Andrew McCole (6), Bryce Edwards, Jim Close (3), Rory Cox (7), Ben Mann

This yacht was bought late last year by the AUS 80 Pty Ltd syndicate, headed by 27 Sydney Hobarts veteran Grant 'Wharo' Wharington. Top sports boat sailor Paul Heyes, marine auctioneer Adrian Seiffert and Doug Sallis are co-owners. The boat is called 'Stefan Racing', and is sponsored by Stefan Ackerie, owner of a chain of hairdressing salons who was best known during the seventies. He is also a power boating enthusiast. This Botin 80 is the former Beau Geste and was fifth to finish on line in the 2017 Hobart and the last of five inside the 2016 race record. It was also fifth over the line in 2016 and 2013. A consistent performer, she was sailed from America (where it had been sailing as Cabron) and arrived in Australia in December 2020.

An all-carbon canting yacht, it has similar foils to a V70, with daggerboards and had been optimised to suit the IRC rule. However, Wharo says it slowed the boat down, so they have gone back to larger sails and water ballast. "We want to go as fast as we can. Its real strength is big breeze upwind and reaching. It's a very powerful boat." Wharo's eldest son, 25 year-old Oli will do his first Hobart, as will Sallis' 25 year-old son Jarrod and Heyes' 18 year old-son, Zac. Stefan Racing did November's and aimed to be in Sydney on 1st December in time for the Cabbage Tree Island Race and the Australian Maxi Championship. Took line honours and placed fourth overall in the 220nm South East Qld Ocean Racing Qualifier. With his former super maxi Skandia, Wharington took line honours in 2003.

SUPERNOVA
SAIL NO: 6499
LOA: 11.0m
CLASS: IRC/Corinthian
DESIGNER: Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)
YEAR BUILT: 2005
TYPE: Sydney 36
NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0
OWNER: Alex Seja/Felicity Nelson
CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW
CREW: Alex Seja (17) - Skipper, Felicity Nelson (24) - Skipper, Lauren Connors (2) - Navigator, Michael Doherty (18), Frederico Momigliano, Owen Kenny (1), James Kilpatrick, Scott Cotton (1)

Felicity Nelson and Alex Seja have purchased Supernova from Matthew Hanning who was a consistent performer out of Middle Harbour Yacht Club. Nelson and Seja make the move from sailing the race on other yachts, such as Azzurro and Arch Rival, to make their own mark on the race with this Sydney 36. Nelson has 24 Hobarts to her credit; it would have been 26 but for the withdrawal of her ride in 2018 and the cancellation of last year's race, which would have also added two races to her tally. This year's race means she becomes just the second woman to make the '25 Hobarts' board, joining the famed Adrienne Cahalan. Seja and Nelson, both proficient yachties, now hold their destiny in their own hands.

TSA MANAGEMENT**SAIL NO:** MH60**LOA:** 11.8m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)**YEAR BUILT:** 2003**TYPE:** Sydney 38**NUMBER OF HOBARTS:** 15**OWNER:** Tony Levett**CLUB:** Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** Tony Levett (16) – Skipper, Andrew Buckland (24) – Navigator, Tim MacGillivray (11), Nelly Poyuzan (2), Colin Dagger, Garth Sundberg, Thomas Dillon (1), Peter Bremner (16), Adrian Dunphy (20), Pierre Jubien

Tony Levett sailed TSA Management to 49th overall in the 2019 race. The boat has done more Sydney Hobarts than any other Sydney 38 around, with 15 to its credit and having contested every Hobart since 2004, barring the 2016 race. Levett sailed her to 37th in 2018, after placing 36th in 2017 for third in Division 3. He finished 11th in 2015 and sixth overall in 2014. In the 2013 Hobart, the boat known variously as TSA Management, Eleni and Horwath BRI, placed 39th, retiring in 2012 with a broken rudder. Won the Sydney 38 OD division of the 2010 and 2011 Sydney Hobarts and was third in the Sydney 38 OD Division in 2008. Always well-sailed, the boat should finish at the top end of its division. Andrew Buckland re-joins the crew for his 25th Hobart. Buckland, sailing with Iain Murray and Don Buckley, were the first of just two crews to with the 18ft Skiff JJ Giltinan World Championship six times.

URM**SAIL NO:** AUS72**LOA:** 22.0m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Reichel/Pugh (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2008**TYPE:** Reichel/Pugh Maxi 72**NUMBER OF HOBARTS:** 1**OWNER:** Anthony Johnston**SKIPPER:** Marcus Ashley-Jones**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** Marcus Ashley-Jones (16) – Skipper, Anthony Johnston (2), Yvette Heritage (4) – Navigator, Steve Jarvin (31), James Wierzbowski (1), Peter Harris (4), John Walton, Nick Davis (9), Harry Smith, Jason Waterhouse, Philip Marshall (4), Stewart Wells (1), Aron Ormandlaki (4), Nick Johnston (1), James Dorrton, Jasper Warren, Seve Jarvin (4), Morgan Frew (7), David Johnston (1)

Anthony Johnston bought URM, a Reichel/Pugh 72 and she arrived in Australia in October 2019. Fighting the clock to get her ready in time for the 2019 Sydney Hobart, she made it and placed 19th overall and ninth on line. She surprised by dicing in the top four on line until late in the race, despite her hurried preparation. This maxi was originally Shockwave, built by John McConaghy for Neville Crichton. He raced her successfully overseas, including winning the IRC Maxi division, of the 2010 Giraglia Race. American, George Sakellaris, was her next owner and he took her first in the Mini-Maxi division at the 2015 Giraglia Cup. She was the oldest there, but as he said, “the best one there. We’re looking forward to what transpires in this year’s race, because this is still a very good yacht.”

URM took line honours for third overall in the Bird Island Race and then fourth over the line for fourth overall in the Cabbage Tree Island Race. Placed second in the Mini Maxi division

of the SOLAS Big Boat Challenge, converting to second in the inaugural IAM Australian Maxi Championship. URM will be skippered by Marcus Ashley-Jones, who combines offshore races with 18ft skiff racing. Crew includes many '18s' sailors, including navigator Yvette Heritage. Also aboard is Jason Waterhouse, a double Nacra Olympian who claimed Silver at the 2016 Rio Games and who warmed up in December's SailGP as crew for Tom Slingsby. Steve 'Mothy' Jarvin and son Seve are aboard too. Sr holds the record for the most line honours victories in the Hobart, while Jr is one of only two skippers to win the coveted 18ft skiff JJ Giltinan (World) titles six times – Iain Murray was the first).

VAMP

SAIL NO: 43218

LOA: 14.9m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: John Corby (UK)

YEAR BUILT: 2002

TYPE: Corby 49

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 6

OWNER: Donald Graham/Leander Klohs

SKIPPER: David Stephenson

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: David Stephenson (20) – Skipper, Daren Castle (2) – Navigator, William Moya, Greg Marshall (9), Andrew Marr (1), Ashleigh Larkin, James Keane, Samuel Foale, Serge Vegh (2), Stuart Richardson (3), Graham Howe, Peter Jenkins (4), Emma May (6)

In the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart, Vamp, under the name Abbots Vamp, was raced by WA sailors Paul Eldrid and Chris Higham to 72nd overall after borrowing the boat from David Fuller and Donald Graham. Graham, a 14 Sydney Hobarts veteran, now owns the Corby 49 with Leander Klohs. Neither are aboard for the race. Graham will again be aboard JBW, the Radio Relay Vessel, from where he will follow Vamp, while Klohs is on the CYCA Sailing Committee and will be in Hobart, so will see the boat finish. The Corby 49 previously went to Hobart in 2011, on loan to Peter Wrigley, who finished 26th overall and won Division 2. With the late Roger Hickman as sailing master, Vamp placed ninth overall and second in Division 2 in 2010. As Flirt (when owned by Chris Dare) she finished 14th in 2005 and 32nd in 2006. As Limit (when owned by Alan Brierty) she was 13th in 2007.

WAX LYRICAL

SAIL NO: 248

LOA: 15.2m

CLASS: PHS/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Niels Jeppesen (DEN)

YEAR BUILT: 2011

TYPE: X-50

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 6

OWNER: Les Goodridge

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Les Goodridge (11) – Skipper/Navigator, Louise Stevenson (14), Julia Owens (8), Jonathan Allatt (7), Jeremy Spear (6), Greta Quealy, Les Davison (1), Brett Smith (23), Alexander Salmon, Hamish Vass

Wax Lyrical starts this race having won PHS overall in 2018 and Division 1 in 2019, so Les Goodridge and his team of regulars have a lot to live up to. The X-50 design also finished third in the Corinthian Division in 2018. In 2017, they placed PHS seventh overall, moving up from PHS ninth in 2016, after finishing PHS third overall and second in Division 2 of the 2015 Hobart and PHS fifth overall in 2014 – her first Hobart. Goodridge finished PHS fifth in the 2019 Sydney Gold Coast race and in October's Newcastle Bass Island Race. He says the

women of this tight-knit crew, such as Louise Stevenson and Julia Owens, keep body and soul together when the going is hard on this Corinthian team. Wax Lyrical is easily identifiable by her pirate skull and cross swords, rather than bones.

WHISPER

SAIL NO: AUS13

LOA: 18.9m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Judel/Vrolijk (GER)

YEAR BUILT: 2009

TYPE: JV62

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 4

OWNER: David Griffith

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: David Griffith (8) – Skipper, Michael Bellingham (29) – Navigator, David Ward (15) – Navigator, Grant Simmer (19), Michael Coxon (30), Ian McKillop (2), Sam Hunt (26), Doug McGain (12), Tom Braidwood (22), Lindsay Stead (11), Kurt Sullivan (1), Cameron Gundy, Robert Greenhalgh (4), Nick Beaudoin (8), Kashi Saunders, Charles Kosecki (5), Frank O’Leary (8), Jeronimo Harrison

Now known as Whisper, David Griffith sailed the JV62 to fifth overall to win Division 2 of the 2019 Hobart as Chinese Whisper, after winning Division 0 in the 2019 Sydney Gold Coast race and taking line honours in the 2019 Flinders Islet and Newcastle Bass Island races. As Whisper, broke the 2020 Adelaide Port Lincoln record and placed third overall. A new deeper keel, new fin, longer bowsprit and new sails later, Griffith scored the line/overall double in the 2021 Flinders Islet Race, then placed fifth overall in the Bird Island Race. Won the Mini Maxi division of the SOLAS Big Boat Challenge, cementing Whisper’s win of that division in the three-day Income Asset Management Australian Maxi Championship. His crew includes long-time friends - four-time America’s Cup winner Grant Simmer, and Michael Coxon, along with noted British sailor, Rob Greenhalgh.

When he was sole owner, Rupert Henry delivered the JV62 to ninth on line and ninth overall in the 2016 Hobart race. In 2018 he adapted the boat for the 5500nm Melbourne Osaka double-handed yacht race and took line honours, smashing the 1995 record by over five days, the same year the 60-66 footers prevailed in the Rolex Sydney Hobart. Henry had purchased the yacht formerly known as Jethou from Europe and finished fifth overall for first in Division 0 in the 2015 Hobart and finished runner-up in the BWPS on countback to Balance after the latter won the Sydney Hobart.

WHITE BAY 6 AZZURRO

SAIL NO: 3430

LOA: 10.1m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Sparkman & Stephens (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1981

TYPE: S&S 34

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 7

OWNER: Shane Kearns

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Shane Kearns (16) – Skipper, Duncan McCrae (18) - Navigator Jim Nixon (26), Adrian Herington (5), Aaron McKibben (2), Michael Rowe

Another name change for Azzurro, now sponsored by award-winning boatyard, White Bay 6 Marine Park, located at Balmain, where Azzurro is dry stored. Shane Kearns sailed his S&S 34, then named Komatsu Azzurro, to 52nd to win Division 7 of the 2019 Sydney Hobart. He

finished the previous two races in 53rd overall in consistent performances. In the 2016 Hobart, the 'little boat that could' finished 13th for second in Division 4. The year prior, it nearly snatched overall victory from Balance, but lack of breeze on rounding Tasman Island pushed her down to third for second in Division 4, but with wins in the ORCi and Corinthian divisions.

Kearns' sailed his first Hobart with her (as Quickpoint Azzurro), in 2014 and finished 33rd. He won Division 2 in the December 2020 180nm Cabbage Tree Island Race, in the same race this year, White Bay 6 Azzurro claimed eighth overall and won ORCI – the little S&S34 the only small boat among the TP52s and maxis that dominated the top ten. This was yet another case of Kearns being on the brink of an upset. Maybe this is the year...

WHITE NOISE

SAIL NO: SM1245

LOA: 12.5m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Mark Mills (IRE)

YEAR BUILT: 2019

TYPE: M.A.T. 1245

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Daniel Edwards

CLUB: Sandringham Yacht Club, Vic

CREW: Daniel Edwards (1) – Skipper, John Neville – Navigator (1), Dan Cave, Stuart Stirling (2), Andy Roper (1), Ben Frecheville (3), David Richards (4), William Sheers (1), Sam Harrington, Blake Anderson (9)

In her first race since launching in October 2019, White Noise placed second AMS in the Melbourne to Stanley Race, giving her a run-in ahead of her first participation in the Rolex Sydney Hobart – the 75th running in 2019 – and they finished 54th overall. Subsequently, this new M.A.T. 1245, the third of her design to arrive in Australia, blitzed the field in the ORCVs 49th King Island Race in March this year. With his previous White Noise, Edwards was crowned the Ocean Racing Club of Victoria's Offshore Champion for 2016-2017. Edwards and crew are from Sandringham Yacht Club and are more than capable of a better result than that of 2019.

WILD OATS

SAIL NO: 4343

LOA: 13.1m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Bruce Farr & Associates (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1985

TYPE: Farr 43

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 17

OWNER: Brett Eagle/ Gordon Smith/Mark Skjellerup

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Brett Eagle (3) - Skipper, Drew Bagnall, Marc Skjellerup, Evan Watson, Clifford Fairbrass (1), Reece Theedam, Marike Koppenol (3), Peter Carpenter, Sharon Bartle (1), Muir Watson (2), Gordon Smith (4), Saul Davidson

Brett Eagle purchased Wild Rose in 2020 and reverted to her original name 'Wild Oats'. The late Roger Hickman, crewed by male and female amateurs, won the 2014 Hobart and scored wins in the Australian and NSW IRC Championships, among many great victories with this famous yacht, including taking Division 4 of the Hobart in 2011, 2012, 2013. 'Hicko', with Bruce Foye and Lance Peckman also won the 1993 race (IOR) with the boat, alongside IMS winner, Cuckoos Nest. Her last Hobart was 2015, when Hickman skippered her to sixth

overall and third in Division 4. New owner, Eagle, raced on Ted Tooher's Chancellor for three years as second in charge and navigator prior to buying this boat. He has given Wild Oats a new paint job, with the rose remaining between the two words of its name. Eagle and crew are in still in the early days of learning this beautifully set up boat.

WILLOW

SAIL NO: ITA70

LOA: 21.5m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Juan Kouyoumdjian (ARG)

YEAR BUILT: 2007

TYPE: Volvo Open 70

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 3

OWNER: Jim Cooney/Samantha Grant

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Jim Cooney (10) – Skipper, Andrew Cape (19) – Navigator, David Burt (9), Nicholas Bice (9), Edward Jenkins, Josh McKnight, Douglas Cooney, Sven Runow (29), Joey Newton, Nathan Ellis (11), Daryl Wislang (5), Kyle Langford (2), James Cooney (4), Rodney Daniel (16), John Hildebrand (11), Louis Sinclair (3)

Having sold Comanche following a successful run, inclusive of a new race record in 2017 and line honours in 2017 and 2019, Jim Cooney and Samantha Grant return with the ex-Maserati, now named Willow, named for the Australian Technology Company Cooney became a Board member of in 2019. Skippered by Jim Cooney, this yacht finished sixth on line and seventh overall in the 2016 Hobart – the last of the bigger boats to finish before the breeze shut down, therefore locking out some of her main rivals. The yacht was chartered to Polish sailors in 2019, who finished 73rd overall and 12th over line. Cooney and Grant bought this former VOR yacht (originally known Ericsson 3) in 2016, after legendary Italian Giovanni Soldini raced her to fourth on line and 22nd overall in the 2015 Hobart.

Should we get a traditional hard race, Willow could do well in the race for line honours – and overall. An eclectic crew includes Cooney's son, James (who has tasted line honours victory on Comanche) and Douglas sailing his maiden Hobart. Aboard are Hobart heavies, such as Sven Runow; double America's Cup winner, Joey Newton who has just signed up for another with Team UK; former Moth world champion, Josh McKnight, double VOR winning Kiwi Daryl Wislang versatile sailor Kyle Langford of America's Cup, SailGP, one-design, and match racing fame and expat Aussie, Andrew Cape a respected navigator with an America's Cup win, multiple VORs and 19 Sydney Hobarts. These join some of Jim's stalwart regulars.

WINGS

SAIL NO: 07

LOA: 14.0m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Judel/Vroljik (GER)

YEAR BUILT: 2017

TYPE: Dehler 46

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 2

OWNER: Ian Edwards

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia/Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Ian Edwards (2) - Skipper, Elyse Guevara (1) - Navigator, Helen Buckland (5), Mick DiMunno (2), Gregory Baker, James Whittle (6), Piergiorgio Merli, Bridget Gibbins, Fabio Alfonsin (1), Janease Graham (1), Sunny Singh, David Cunningham (6)

In 2019, Northern Beaches yachtsman, Ian Edwards, sailed Wings to 53rd overall with a blended male/female crew. In her first Hobart in 2018, Wings finished 47th. Launched in

November 2017 for Lindy and Ian Edwards, this Dehler 46 is a comfortable fast cruising boat that also goes racing. In 2018, the well-travelled Wings sailed the RPAYC Pittwater to Paradise Race, Sydney Noumea and Groupama races, enjoyed some Pacific cruising, then competed at Airlie, Hamilton Island and SeaLink Magnetic Island race weeks. Edwards says: "We have built a great team. We will sail safe enjoy the journeys, and sail as fast as we can. In longer offshore races we always have the best boat food!"

WONDERLAND

SAIL NO: GBR9166T

LOA: 14.3m

CLASS: PHS/Corinthian

DESIGNER: Groupe Finot (FRA)

YEAR BUILT: 2005

TYPE: Beneteau Oceanis 473

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 1

OWNER: Rebecca Connor

CLUB: Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: Rebecca Connor (1) – Skipper, Carolyn Abblitt, Lindsay Paterson, Simon Ramsey, Daniel Keegan, Kyle Hancock, Simon Marrable

Wonderland, a dark blue cruiser/racer, was purchased by Rebecca Connor in September 2017 from Yeppoon in Queensland, and now lives in Newcastle where Connor has been racing her. In the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart, Connor sailed the Beneteau Oceanis 473 to PHS 25th overall. It was both her and the boat's first tilt at the race and Connor will be targeting a better result this year. The design is one of the most outstanding productions yachts of all-time and one of Beneteau's most successful models. Wonderland is classic, yet strong. She was ahead of her time, with a larger stern and huge cockpit and a fast ocean going hull.

ZARA

SAIL NO: 1612

LOA: 15.0m

CLASS: PHS/Corinthian

DESIGNER: A.E. 'Bill' Luders Jr (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1974

TYPE: Cheoy Lee 47 Ketch

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 0

OWNER: John Griffin

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: John Griffin – Skipper, Simone Hill, Emanuel Josserand, Michael Tilden (9), Henry Sturrock, Ramandeep Kaur, Damian Fox, Stephen Chelli

Zara was designed by A.E. 'Bill' Luders, Jr., and built by Cheoy Lee Shipyards in Zhuhai, China. The elegant 47 is designed to be a fast cruising yacht, and its construction is the result of over 90 years of yacht-building knowledge and experience, utilising the best materials and perfected for the most rigid standards and longevity. The yacht is typical of all Cheoy Lee yachts; designed for performance and built for stamina. The strength and durability of her solid fiberglass construction is beautifully concealed above deck and below by rich Burma Teak overlays. Griffin and his crew will be praying for strong winds to propel her to Hobart in a reasonable time for Zara's first Hobart. He and Zara are regulars in the CYCA winter series, and also race from Sydney Amateur Sailing Club.

ZEN

SAIL NO: 52001

LOA: 15.9m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Botin Partners (ESP)

YEAR BUILT: 2011

TYPE: TP 52

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 2

OWNER: Gordon Ketelbey

CLUB: Middle Harbour YC/Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Gordon Ketelbey (11) – Skipper, Tom Barker (14) – Navigator, Clare Costanzo, Tim Austin (6), Mark Langford (3), Sean Kirkjian (23), Daniel Williams (10), Matthew Daniels, Shane Guanaria (13), Tony Powell (19), Rebecca Gmuer, Jack Andrew

Gordon Ketelbey, an avid one-design sailor, joined the TP52 class with his latest Zen, purchased in 2018 out of Europe. He retired on the first night of the 2018 Sydney Hobart, after enduring rig damage. Since then, Zen has been pushing the top TP52s in various races and regattas. Zen finished the 2019 Rolex Sydney Hobart in 11th place and followed up with second at the 2020 Australian Yachting Championships in Hobart in 2020. Ketelbey raced Sydney 38s in previous Hobarts, the last one, also named Zen, in 2014, and before that Wadadli. Best result was fifth overall for third in Division 3 in 2014. He also won the Sydney 38 Division in 2013. In 2016, he co-owned and skippered the Cookson 12, Philosophers, to 50th in the Sydney Hobart.

This year, Zen won February's Port Hacking Race and placed fifth in the Lion Island Race and sixth in November's Bird Island Race. Ketelbey and crew were thrilled to win the tricky Cabbage Tree Island Race in early December, beating Ichi Ban and Gweilo to the punch. Crew includes former youth match racer, Mark Langford and talented young match racer, Clare Costanzo, who are sailing alongside those with serious Sydney Hobart cred, such as Sean Kirkjian and Tony Powell.

RADIO RELAY VESSEL JBW

LOA: 20.0m

DESIGNER: Ian Perdriau (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 1997

TYPE: Long Range Displacement Motor Yacht

NUMBER OF HOBARTS: 16

OWNER: John Winning

SKIPPER: Andrew Copley

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: Boat Crew: Andrew Copley 26 (14 on RRV), Doug Cameron 5 (4), Radio Crew: John Woodford 32 (14), Donald Graham 14 (3), Colin Tipney 35 (16), Colin Wildman 50 (18), David Davies, Damon Lambert

The Radio Relay Vessel, JBW, was conceived by master craftsman Ian Perdriau, with the lines drawn by Faustman, resulting in a very sea-kindly and comfortable vessel of 20 metres. She is built of Oregon planking on Queensland maple frames, covered with epoxy fibreglass sheathing and is beautifully appointed below decks. Since 2005, John Winning AM has kindly loaned the vessel to the CYCA.

CYCA Past Commodore and Life member, David Kellett AM, has been the Chief Radio Operator aboard the Radio Relay Vessel since 2000, but this year has been engaged as Deputy Race Director, so will not be aboard. John Woodford, his back-up for the last 14 races, will lead the team as Chief Radio Operator in 2021. Most of the current team members have gone the distance with Kellett, racking up more than 30 Sydney Hobarts each.