

SYDNEY GOLD COAST YACHT RACE 2013



LIST OF ENTRIES AND BOAT PROFILES*

* SUBJECT TO CHANGE, CREW DETAILS AS PER INFORMATION
PROVIDED TO THE
CYCA BY 24 JULY, 2013

FOR UP TO DATE CREW LISTS, PLEASE REFER TO
[HTTP://GOLDCOAST.CYCA.COM.AU/THE-YACHTS/](http://goldcoast.cyca.com.au/the-yachts/)

COMPILED BY JENNIFER CROOKS AND DI PEARSON



CRUISING YACHT CLUB OF AUSTRALIA

ABRACADABRA**SAIL NO:** 5612**LOA:** 14.3m**CLASS:** PHS**DESIGNER:** Bill Tripp**YEAR BUILT:** 1991**TYPE:** Tripp 47**OWNER:** James Murchison**CLUB:** Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, NSW**CREW:** J Murchison – Skipper/Navigator, J Wallis, J Walsh, M Short, S Wallis, M Formosa, P Craig, P Stratton, P Loxton, C Loxton

Abracadabra last went to Southport in 2007 and finished ninth overall in PHS, so James Murchison and his crew can only go up from there. In last year's Rolex Sydney Hobart, *Abracadabra* finished fifth in PHS Division 2 and 49th on line. In August last year, *Abracadabra* finished fifth overall in the Sydney Amateur Sailing Club's Lion Island Race and finished eighth in the PHS Division of the Cabbage Tree Island Race in November in the lead up to the Rolex Sydney Hobart.

ACCENTURE YEAH BABY**SAIL NO:** 8362**LOA:** 12.8m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Botin & Carkeek (ESP)**YEAR BUILT:** 2007**TYPE:** GP42**OWNER:** Marc & Louis Ryckmans**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** M Ryckmans - Skipper, O Andersen - Navigator, L Ryckmans, E Vieytes, L Antonini, O Gill, R Donraadt, J Vincent, E Walker, T Jensen

Accenture Yeah Baby is the second boat of that name owned by twins Marc and Louis Ryckmans and is a Botin Carkeek modified GP 42 formerly *Fermax*. The crew is under no illusion that they will be chasing their rating all the way to Southport but if the weather gods look favourably on *Accenture Yeah Baby*, the crew could be in for a fast wet ride north.

AMANTE**SAIL NO:** 6609**LOA:** 11.0m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Murray Burns Dovell**YEAR BUILT:** 2006**TYPE:** Sydney 36CR**OWNER:** Dennis Cooper**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** D Cooper - Skipper, K Robinson – Co-navigator, A Belford, C Sternberg, S Giugni, M Lennon, M Hardiman, S Thomas,

Dennis Cooper has been a consistent campaigner in the Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race and the Pittwater to Coffs Harbour race in recent years with his Sydney 36CR *Amante*. The boat's best results include a fifth in division in last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, second in division in the 2009 Audi Sydney Offshore Newcastle Yacht Race; and second in division in the 2007 Audi Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race. Her best result in the Gosford-Lord Howe Island race was in 2009, when *Amante* placed second. In 2010, she was only one of less than half the fleet to complete the race.

ANGER MANAGEMENT**SAIL NO:** 11011**LOA:** 13.1m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** John Corby**YEAR BUILT:** 2007**TYPE:** Corby 43**OWNER:** Phil & Richard Arnall**CLUB:** Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** P Arnall - Skipper, R Arnall – Navigator, B Hardy, B Dixon, G Marsden, N Kibble, P Rees, R Ferguson, S Buckingham, O Riorden, M Jones, C Jones

This is Phil Arnall's third *Anger Management* and was formerly known as *Full Metal Jacket*. In this year's Pittwater to Coffs Harbour race, *Anger Management* finished eleventh overall and ninth in her division. In the 2011 Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, she finished 25th on line and ninth in her division. Best results in his previous boats include a fifth in division and 14th overall in 2010 Pittwater to Coffs Harbour race (Farr 40) and finished first in IRC division 3 in the inaugural Audi Sydney Offshore Newcastle Yacht Race in 2008 with his Beneteau 40.7.

AUDI SUNSHINE COAST**SAIL NO:** A5**LOA:** 15.2m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Hugh Welbourn**YEAR BUILT:** 2000**TYPE:** Welbourn 50**OWNER:** Rodney Jones**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** R Jones - Skipper, J Walker - Navigator, G McAllansmith, K Timm, J Jannink, P Bailey, D Sharp, B Donovan, M Chew, L Down, T Shardlow, S O'Rourke

Rod Jones, a two-time Australian IRC champion and one of three Queensland entrants, will bring his Welbourn 50 *Audi Sunshine Coast* to the start line for this year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race. Built in Gosford and originally launched as *Heaven Can Wait*, Jones has optimised and tweaked *Alegria V*. In this year's protracted Gosford Lord Howe Island Yacht Race, Jones finished third on line and won the PHS division.

BALANCE**SAIL NO:** 7771**LOA:** 13.68m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Beneteau (FRA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2008**TYPE:** Beneteau 45**OWNER:** Paul Clitheroe**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** B McRae - Skipper, N Scott-Perry - Navigator, A Cribb, A Tam, D Keddie, D Taylor, M Balsom, M Craig, N Gillies, S Collibee, C Ferris, J Bloomfield

Balance is the fourth yacht of that name skippered and owned by money media commentator Paul Clitheroe. Clitheroe began campaigning this Beneteau 45 in 2009 and has come away with some great results: winning overall honours in IRC Passage at the 2009 Audi Hamilton Island Race Week with four seconds and a first; second in the 2009 Rolex Trophy Series; first in IRC Division 2 at the Audi Sydney Harbour Regatta 2010 and second in the CYCA's 2009/2010 Ocean Pointscore Series.

In October 2010, *Balance* won the Hempel Paints 37th Gosford to Lord Howe Island Yacht Race and won the Gascoigne Cup in November. 2011 was another good year for *Balance* – results included second in the production division of the Audi Docklands Invitational, winning the Milsons Cup in February; winning division two of the NSW IRC Championships; third in division of the Audi Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, *Balance* finished third in her division; second in IRC Division B at Audi Hamilton Island Race Week and finished second in IRC & ORCi Division 2 in the Rolex Sydney Hobart.

Clitheroe entrusted his Beneteau to an expat French crew for last year's Rolex Sydney Hobart, and the crew notched up a third in IRC Division 3 and second in ORCi division 2. In last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, *Balance* finished eighth in IRC Division 2 and 10th in ORCI Division 2.

Earlier this year, *Balance* won the City of Sydney Cup (Australia Day Race) and won IRC & ORCi division 1 in the Sydney Harbour Regatta.

BLACK JACK**SAIL NO:** 52570**LOA:** 21.5m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Juan Kouyoumdjian**YEAR BUILT:** 2011**TYPE:** Volvo 70**OWNER:** Peter Harburg**CLUB:** Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron, QLD**CREW:** M Bradford – Skipper/Sailing Master, P Elkington - Navigator, P Harburg, B Hilliar, B Clarke, D Hutchison, G Van Lunteren, P Dowdney, R Godfrey, S Jackson, V Prentice, A Smith, A Nolan, J Flannery, M von Bibra

Peter Harburg purchased this Volvo 70, previously raced as *Telefonica* in last year's Volvo Ocean race, earlier this year. She won the first three legs of the Volvo race and finished fourth overall. Harburg had the boat shipped to Australia where it has undergone some modifications to bring her in line with Australian standards.

"The boat was purchased with the idea of racing closer to the top end of the fleet and shortening the gap to the super maxis," Mark Bradford, sailing master, said. "We think the boat will rate well under IRC but we're also thinking of line honours too.

"One of the main reasons for purchasing the boat was that it was manageable and Peter (Harburg) could run the program he wanted to for the size of boat that we have – doing it properly with the right people and the right equipment.

"We've brought a couple of Volvo specialists into the crew for this race including Ryan Godfrey (*ex-Puma*) but it's essentially our core crew from the 66 footer," Bradford added.

The 66 foot *Black Jack* is a near-sistership to the highly successful *Wild Oats X*, and the two have crossed swords on many occasions with almost even results. Bradford and Harburg have produced solid results, including line and overall honours in the 2008 and 2009 Brisbane-Keppel races, in which they broke their own 2008 race record in 2009, in the new time of 29 hours 24 minutes 11 seconds.

Named for Harburg's friend, Jack Brabham, the previous *Black Jack* finished sixth across the line in the 2008 Rolex Sydney Hobart and went on to win back to back line honours in the Brisbane to Gladstone race (2009 and 2010). In August last year, Bradford skippered the canting keeler to second over the line and recorded the second fastest time ever in the Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, breaking Brindabella's (a conventionally ballasted yacht) 13 year-old record. *Black Jack* also claims the second fastest time for the Open record after finishing in 26hrs 24mins 2 secs. She was also the first Queensland boat home. In last year's Rolex Sydney Hobart, the 66 footer was fourth on line, third overall and won the ORCi division overall.

BLACK SHEEP**SAIL NO:** 33345**LOA:** 13.7m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Phillip Briand, FRA**YEAR BUILT:** 2008**TYPE:** Beneteau 45**OWNER:** Derek and Martin Sheppard**CLUB:** Wollongong Yacht Club, Greenwich Flying Squadron and Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** D Sheppard - Skipper, J Kolsky - Navigator, M Sheppard, P Allen, W McKinnon, C O'Neill, W Taylor, M Outhred, M Jones, M Ramsay, T Rodwell, P Amos

Black Sheep (formerly *Honeysuckle*) was acquired by brothers Martin and Derek Sheppard in April this year with a goal of pursuing both ocean racing, including the Rolex Sydney Hobart, and regatta sailing. She sails under the burgee of three clubs: Wollongong Yacht Club, Greenwich Flying Squadron and the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia. The crew is an assembly of three previous yacht crews including family and friends with a mixture of racing experiences from east coast offshore races to dinghy racing. The Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race will be the first major ocean race for this boat with her new owners. Our priority is to have fun racing in the company of other like-minded competitors and hopefully collect a few stories worth telling over a glass of champagne and/or beer at the end of the day's sailing!

BRANNEW**SAIL NO:** 9988**LOA:** 12.6m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Farr Yacht Design (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2012**TYPE:** Beneteau First 40 Cr**OWNER:** Chris Bran**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** C Bran - Skipper, G Cooper - Navigator, I Short, J Craddock, J Penney, L Derwent, M Feliberg, M Short, G Vaughan, S Tornai

Brannew, an apt name for this near-new boat, purchased by Chris Bran last year. The Beneteau First 40 Cruiser Racer is one of the youngest boats in the fleet, having being launched on the 29 February 2012. Bran used last year's Winter Series for crew training and to explore the inner workings of the boat, prior to her first major offshore outing – the Audi Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race. Bran was most happy with 18th overall and an IRC Division 3 win. This was followed up with a strong performance in the Rolex Sydney Hobart where *Brannew* finished 18th overall, second in IRC Division 3 and sixth in ORCi Division 3.

Sail maker, Ian Short of Ian Short Sails, acts as Sailing master and his extensive knowledge in producing optimised sails for Beneteau yachts is invaluable. Some of Short's own long-term crew will be aboard, along with a few of Bran's own long term crew from his previous boat.

BREAKTHROUGH

SAIL NO: 6834

LOA: 12.2m

CLASS: IRC

DESIGNER: Farr Yacht Design (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2010

TYPE: Beneteau First 40

OWNER: Jonathon Stone and Mat Vadas

CLUB: Double Bay Sailing Club, NSW

CREW: M Vadas - Skipper, C Bowling - Navigator, A Paul, V Pankanin, G Donohoe, P Goyen, B McGrath, B Short, S Ford

Breakthrough, previously sailed as *Chancellor* under former owner Ted Tooher, was purchased by medical research academics, Jonathon Stone and Mat Vadas, last year to replace their Davidson 34 workhorse, *Illusion*, which is also in the race with new owners. They are putting together a team to compete in the east coast ocean races and are hoping their strong experimental design skills will be supplemented by favorable winds. In last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, *Breakthrough* finished 35th overall and placed ninth in IRC Division 3. She followed this up with an eighth in IRC Division 3 and finished 29th overall in the Rolex Sydney Hobart.

BRINDABELLA

SAIL NO: 10000

LOA: 24.1m

CLASS: PHS

DESIGNER: Scott Jutson (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 1993

TYPE: Jutson 80

OWNER: Jim Cooney

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: J Cooney – Skipper, O Schenk - Navigator, B Sykes, B Kellett, R Bott, T Cross, A Simpson, B Taylor, H Burke, J Coleman, P Morrish, P Jenkins, S Gajic, F Khoo, M Phillips, N Armstrong, S Wells, S Don, T Gango, D Goff

Australia's most famous maxi, *Brindabella*, won line honours in the 1997 Hobart and broke the record for a conventionally ballasted yacht (1d, 20h, 46m, 33s) in 1999, when she finished second on line to the water ballasted record breaker, *Nokia*. Designed by Scott Jutson, *Brindabella*, until August last year, held on to the Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race record she broke 13 years ago – also in 1999. In 2010, *Loki* finally broke the Bird Island Race record *Brindabella* held for 15 years.

In fact, the maxi held onto many of her east coast records for some time and still holds the record for Sydney Mooloolaba, Sydney Wollongong and Sydney Noumea Races. These races are no longer in existence, so unless they are reignited, those records will always belong to then owner, George Snow, and *Brindabella*.

Under the ownership of Jim Cooney since 2010, had her *Brindabella* overhauled and refitted. If nothing else, this yacht has worn better than any other maxi yachts and still turns heads today with her sleek lines. She has a slick crew, including some *Brindabella* stalwarts who have stayed with the yacht for more than 10 years. Others include Brad Kellett, who takes pride in the yacht and provides the media with some of the best race reporting from the race course each year.

Cooney and his crew are happy to be back in this famous and tough race and will be doing their best to keep her at the front end of the fleet. Should it blow, and they get it right, *Brindabella* could come into her own.

CELESTIAL**SAIL NO:** 421**LOA:** 14m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Rogers (UK)**YEAR BUILT:** 2007**TYPE:** Rogers 46**OWNER:** Sam Haynes**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** S Haynes - Skipper, P Blair - Navigator, B Decoster, C Janes, D Cataldi, T Davis, D Palazzi, K Clarkson, M Nolan, S Clarkson, S McConaghy

Celestial is a well-campaigned Rogers 46 owned by Sam Haynes that was finished runner-up to Loki in last year's CYCA Blue Water Pointscore. *Celestial* also won the Cape Byron Series (ORCi division of BWPS) and placed third in the Tasman Performance Series (PHS).

Haynes is on a mission and his program has benefited since the addition of Steve McConaghy and his tactical skills. They performed well in last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, with a second in IRC Division 2. Haynes followed up with a third in the Flinders Islet Race and scored a hat-trick of IRC, PHS and ORCi wins in the Bird Island Race in September.

In last year's Rolex Sydney Hobart, Haynes was determined to make amends for his disappointing performance in the previous two Hobarts, and finished 19th on line, 22nd overall, third in IRC Division 2, and won ORCi Division 2.

Some will remember the yacht was previously owned by Victoria's Rob Hanna and raced as *Shogun*. She did not show her potential, and Hanna, impatient for good results, sold her after realising some mediocre results. However, Haynes saw the yacht's potential, and after cleaning the hull and doing a bit of tweaking, has found the boat a good one.

Celestial will once again be crewed by mostly regulars that have been with the boat since the CYCA sailor purchased it. She is once again sponsored by Sydney Animal Hospitals and Pirelli and is sailing to raise funds for Assistance Dogs Australia

CHANCELLOR**SAIL NO:** 8824**LOA:** 14.8m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Farr Yacht Design (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2004**TYPE:** Beneteau 47.7**OWNER:** Edward Tooher**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** E Tooher - Skipper, B Penty – Navigator, M Ward, S Dawson, M Meehan, K O'Reilly, B Hudson, J Drysdale, R Grubb, M Wrigley

This is the third Beneteau owned and sailed by Ted Tooher, under the name *Chancellor*. Formerly *Pretty Fly II*, the boat was campaigned extensively by her previous owner Colin Woods, and clocked up thousands of sea miles along the eastern seaboard with her highlight - a second place in the CYCA's Blue Water Pointscore in 2005/06. Tooher has had the Beneteau 47.7 refitted and is looking forward to race success throughout the upcoming CYCA Blue Water Pointscore Series. Tooher's previous *Chancellor*, the Beneteau 40.7, had a strong offshore racing pedigree including five Rolex Sydney Hobarts and four Audi Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Races.

CHUTZPAH**SAIL NO:** R33**LOA:** 12.32m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Reichel/Pugh (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2007**TYPE:** Caprice 40**OWNER:** Bruce Taylor**CLUB:** Royal Yacht Club of Victoria, VIC**CREW:** B Taylor - Skipper, K Piesse - Navigator, G Gourley, J Permezel, M Bagley, P Sandles, P Fletcher, L Smith, J Conway

This is Taylor's sixth *Chutzpah*, a Reichel/Pugh Caprice 40 built by Mal Hart, a builder of note from Victoria. In her first Rolex Sydney Yacht in 2007, *Chutzpah* won Division C and placed fourth overall and in 2008 scored another IRC 2 Division win, with a 2009 and 2010 third in division.

Taylor's best result in the Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race has been winning IRC Division 2 in 2008. In last year's race, *Chutzpah* finished third in IRC Division 2 and 12th overall.

In his 31 years of competing in the Rolex Sydney Hobart, the Victorian dentist has notched up a second and third overall, and an amazing 10 divisional wins. In last year's blue water classic, *Chutzpah* finished 25th on line, 42nd overall, fifth in IRC Division 2 and sixth in ORCi Division 2.

CLOSE HALLED**SAIL NO:** M3**LOA:** 12.5m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Bruce Farr**YEAR BUILT:** 2009**TYPE:** Beneteau First 40**OWNER:** Graeme Hall**CLUB:** Lake Macquarie Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** G Hall - Skipper, J Doyle - Navigator, A Hampo, B Taylor, B Lancey, G Johnson, M Rhys-Jones, N Lancey, P Gardner, S Shutz

Past Commodore of the Lake Macquarie Yacht Club, Graeme Hall's three year old Beneteau First 40 *Close Halled* made her ocean racing debut in the 2010 Audi Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race and placed third in IRC Division 3 in the 2011 and 2012 race. In the 2011 Pittwater to Coffs Harbour Race, *Close Halled* finished third overall and second in IRC Division 2, and finished second in IRC Division 2 in last year's race. Hall is hoping the boat continues to deliver pleasing results.

COPERNICUS**SAIL NO:** 6689**LOA:** 11.99m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Radford Yacht Design (AUS)**YEAR BUILT:** 2008**TYPE:** Radford 12m**OWNER:** Greg Zyner**CLUB:** Manly Yacht Club and Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** G Zyner - Skipper/Navigator, A Seja, D McRae, F Nelson, G Wilkins, I Fitzgerald, K Terrens, M Doherty

Since her launch in January 2008, *Copernicus*, a regular in CYCA races, has competed in most east-coast offshore races, including all the big ones; the Sydney Gold Coast, Hempel Gosford Lord Howe Island and Rolex Sydney Hobart races. The Radford 12 won the Tasman Pointscore in 2008 and 2010 and placed third in IRC Division 3 in the 2010 Hobart.

Copernicus placed second overall in the 2011 Audi Sydney Offshore Newcastle Yacht Race with long time crew, Jim Nixon, at the helm, and followed up with a second in the 2011 Hempel Gosford Lord Howe Island Race. Prior to that, she scored a divisional third in both the 2009 and 2010 races to Lord Howe.

In last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, *Copernicus* won ORCi Division 2 with her previous best result on IRC a second in the 2009 Gold Coast race. In last year's Hobart, *Copernicus* finished fourth in ORCi Division 3. Greg Zyner's other sailing highlights include second in Division in the 2007 Rolex Sydney Hobart and a divisional first in the 2007 Pittwater to Coffs race with his previous boat, *Morna*.

FLYING CLOUD**SAIL NO:** 6808**LOA:** 12.2m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Beneteau**YEAR BUILT:** 2009**TYPE:** Beneteau First 40**OWNER:** Howard Piggott**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** H Piggott - Skipper, P Copeland - Navigator, D Watson, D Endersbee, G Johnstone, G Piggott, R Mannering, M Ajanko, M Lynch

CYCA Commodore Howard Piggott's Beneteau First 40 *Flying Cloud* made her racing debut in the CYCA's Grant Thornton Short Ocean Autumn Pointscore 2010, eventually winning IRC Division 1. In her maiden offshore race, the 2010 Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, *Flying Cloud* finished twelfth in her division. She improved on her results in 2011, taking the IRC Division 3 win and last year she placed second in IRC Division 3. Howard and his son George are just one of many father and son combinations competing in this race.

FRANTIC**SAIL NO:** M111**LOA:** 15.9m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** James Donovan (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2004**TYPE:** TP52**OWNER:** Michael Martin**CLUB:** Lake Macquarie Yacht Club and Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** M Martin – Skipper, B Brown – Navigator, B Leask, G Waterson, K Saladine, L Chapman, M Dean, M Davies, M Jensen, J Roberts, R Epstein, E Wilson, N Wilson

Mick Martin's three year search for a slick offshore TP52 came to fruition last year when he purchased the former *Strewth*, previously owned by Geoff Hill. Having looked at other TP52s in Australia and being gazumped on V5 in New Zealand, the deal for the newly named *Frantic* was too sweet. "A mate pulled me into the *Strewth* deal. We observed it getting some bulkhead and reinforcing work done at Noakes. While it's a bit heavier than the other TP52s, it means the boat will still be going when the weather gets foul," explained Martin, who played with the Wallabies in the early 80's.

The reason for the upgrade from his Sayer 40, *LMR Solar/Frantic*, was a purely personal one. "I felt the need for more adventure, downhill speed and a bigger work pit," Martin said laughing. "Plus I don't want to be on my deathbed saying I was going to buy one and never made the purchase!"

Martin raced *Frantic* in the 2012 Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, but she was forced to retire with a broken boom. Her Hobart campaign was better finishing ninth in IRC Division 1 and 11th in ORCi Division 1. Martin has also been campaigning *Frantic* in the TP52 Southern Cross Cup Series this year and won this year's Gosford-Lord Howe Island Race overall.

ICEFIRE**SAIL NO:** R6572**LOA:** 13.85m**CLASS:** PHS**DESIGNER:** Alan Mummery**YEAR BUILT:** 1988**TYPE:** Mummery 45**OWNER:** Peter Tucker, Alan Mather, Thyge Trafford-Jones and Malcolm Griffiths**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia**CREW:** A Mather - Skipper, N Tisdale - Navigator, B Hunter, I Krakouer, P Tucker, R Dawson, T Trafford-Jones, S Walsh, M Tobin, A Bailey, R Stone, M Trafford-Jones, I Douglas, S Cullen

Icefire returned to racing in 18 months ago after a six year absence under new owners, Peter Tucker, Alan 'Big Al' Mather, Thyge Trafford-Jones and Malcolm Griffiths. A downwind flyer *Icefire* has been a very competitive boat since her launch in 1988 and has many podium finishes in her race history log. *Icefire* thrives in heavy weather downwind conditions and Mather is hoping for similar conditions to last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race. He knows that while the yacht was up there with the best when she was launched, *Icefire* is now over 20 and does not rate well against some of the newer boats.

ILLUSION**SAIL NO:** 5356**LOA:** 10.25m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Laurie Davidson (NZL)**YEAR BUILT:** 1988**TYPE:** Davidson 34**OWNER:** Kim Jaggar and Travis Read**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** T Read – Skipper, K Jaggar – Skipper/Navigator, M Butler, P Hopkins, D Marks, J Marks, T Wilson, D McClean

Kim Jaggar and Travis Read purchased the 1998 Hobart winner *Illusion* in April last year. In her heyday, she was among the smallest yachts to win the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race at 34 feet for her original owner, Gino Knezic from Melbourne. Although the yacht was designed to the old IOR rule, she performs well under IRC. Expect good things if conditions are favourable for the smaller yachts; Jaggar is an experienced and competent ocean racing helmsman. In last year's Rolex Sydney Hobart, *Illusion* placed fourth in IRC Division 4 and sixth in the CYCA's Blue Water Pointscore Series.

KERISMA**SAIL NO:** 11033**LOA:** 11.3m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Ker (UK)**YEAR BUILT:** 2001**TYPE:** Ker 11.3**OWNER:** Grant Dawson and Brent Lawson**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia and Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** G Dawson - Skipper, J Bury – Navigator, M Daniels, R Howell, M Bassett, A Sims, M Miller, S Jackson

Kerisma is a Ker 11.3 with a history of sailing in the Mediterranean and successfully campaigning in several Middle Sea races. *Kerisma* is sailing under burgees of the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia and Middle Harbour Yacht Club, and is contesting her fifth season in Australia waters with owners, Brent Lawson & Grant Dawson. This will be Kerisma's third Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race with her best result a second in IRC Division 2 in 2010.

LAHANA**SAIL NO:** 10081**LOA:** 30m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Brett Bakewell-White (NZL)**YEAR BUILT:** 2003**TYPE:** Bakewell-White 30m maxi**OWNER:** Peter Millard and John Honan**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** P Millard – Skipper, C Crafoord - Navigator, A Stafford, A Pryer, M Souter, M Demilio, R Moore, J Love, G Maguire, C Skinner, J Beaton, A Hearder, P Magee, D Williams, P McEnearney, G Chessells, P Sheldrick, S Price, G Crolepy, C Shelley

Lahana is a fixed keel water ballasted 98ft yacht, built in 2003 in New Zealand. She was the most modern yacht of her time and originally owned by Stewart Thwaites who variously named her *Zana* and *Konica Minolta*, before Peter Millard and his brother-in-law purchased her in 2009. The duo is committed to improving her performance, which showed up in the results in 2011 Rolex Sydney Hobart, where she finished third on line, sixth overall, second in IRC Division 1 and fourth in ORCi Division 1 and in the 2012 Cabbage Tree Island Race when she finished second on line to *Wild Oats XI* and a good third overall.

In last year's Rolex Sydney Hobart, *Lahana* finished third on line, eighth overall, fifth in IRC Division 0, and 7th in ORCi Division 1. In 2011, *Lahana* claimed line honours in the Brisbane to Gladstone and was declared the overall winner of the Club Marine Brisbane to Keppel Tropical Island Yacht Race.

L'ALTRA DONNA**SAIL NO:** 6935**LOA:** 10.7m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Mark Mills**YEAR BUILT:** 2009**TYPE:** Summit 35**OWNER:** Andy Kearnan**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** A Kearnan – Skipper/Navigator, A O'Brien, A Kear, S Hunt, H Hardy, A Pratt, R Wilmot, H Townsend

L'Altra Donna or *the Other Woman* is a Mark Mills designed Summit 35, a little sister to the King/Summit 40. Owner Andy Kearnan bought her with a vision to competing in the 2011 Audi IRC Australian Championship, in which the boat finished second in Class C. *L'Altra Donna* also won the Rolex Trophy Passage Series in December 2011. In last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race *L'Altra Donna* finished 15th overall, third in IRC Division 4 and third in ORCi Division 2.

LOCAL HERO**SAIL NO:** 1236**LOA:** 10.97m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Reichel/Pugh (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 1995**TYPE:** BH 36 MOD**OWNER:** Peter Mosely**CLUB:** Canberra Yacht Club, ACT**CREW:** G Stromov - Skipper, I Brokenshire, H Buckland, M Koppenol, H Schlimbach, C Latham, T Chapman

Local Hero continues to remain highly competitive both offshore and inshore. Owner Peter Mosely has been campaigning strongly throughout the past couple of seasons and has notched up some good results. Third in division in the 2010 Rolex Sydney Hobart, *Local Hero* ended up fifth in division in the 2010 Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, scored a PHS overall and divisional win in the 2010 Brisbane to Keppel Yacht Race and was second in division at Airlie Beach Race Week.

From there, Mosely followed up with a divisional win at Audi Hamilton Island Race Week, placed fourth in the 2010 Audi IRC Australian Championship and was the lucky winner of the Audi A5 Sportback in the Drive Challenge. After the exhilaration of last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, where the yacht finished fourth overall in PHS, the crew secured another fourth overall in PHS in last year's Rolex Sydney Hobart and finished third in PHS Division 2. The boat and combined crew from Manly and the ACT are looking forward to some great rides and challenges that this race can serve up.

MIDNIGHT RAMBLER**SAIL NO:** 8338**LOA:** 12.2m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Ker (UK)**YEAR BUILT:** 2011**TYPE:** Ker 40**OWNERS:** Ed Psaltis, Bob Thomas and Michael Bencsik**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia**CREW:** E Psaltis - Skipper, B Thomas - Navigator, N Harrington, C Rockell, M Bencsik, W Howard, G Livingstone, A Psaltis, T Barker

The experienced team of Ed Psaltis and Bob Thomas and new partner, long-time crew mate Michael 'Mix' Bencsik, launched this new *Midnight Rambler*, a Ker 40, in September 2011, but were disappointed with their 43rd overall in the 2011 Hobart race. The owners have sailed in a combination of 75 Hobart races and no fewer than 17 Hobarts together, including their overall handicap victory in the 1998 Hobart race aboard the little Hick 35, *AFR Midnight Rambler*.

Midnight Rambler has gone on to score several podiums places including: second overall in this year's Gosford Lord Howe Island Yacht Race; second in IRC Division 2 and third in ORCi Division 2 in last year's Rolex Sydney Hobart; third in the CYCA's Blue Water Pointscore series and second in the Cape Byron Series (ORCi division of the BWPS); and second in IRC and PHS of the 2012/2013 Grant Thornton Short Ocean Pointscore Series.

Their last *AFR Midnight Rambler* (a modified Farr 40) delivered them multiple divisional wins, including a well-sailed 2006/2007 BWPS and SOPS win in the same season.

As well as their Hobart victory, Psaltis and Thomas have won every offshore race on the east coast including the Gosford Lord Howe Island and Sydney Mooloolaba races twice, and finally succeeded in winning the Audi Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race in 2009, having previously won their division three times. Joined by their regular crew, the team are ready to repeat their Gold Coast divisional success of last year but aim to go one better with an overall win in this year's race

MORTGAGE CHOICE RUMBA**SAIL NO:** 6232**LOA:** 11.21m**CLASS:** PHS**DESIGNER:** Northshore**YEAR BUILT:** 2002**TYPE:** Northshore 370**OWNERS:** Robert Carr, Stephanie Cook and Kerry Burke**CLUB:** Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** R Carr - Skipper, K Burke - Navigator, J Dearlove, K Bromwich, L Meads, M Nyman, N Farquharson, R Lamb

Mortgage Choice Rumba was launched in 2002 by co-owners Robert Carr, Stephanie Cook and Kerry Burke. Based at MHYC *Rumba* has been a regular competitor in the MHYC Inshore Series and the CYCA Winter Series for a number of seasons. Recent results include first overall in PHS in the 2010 Pittwater to Coffs Harbour race, second in PHS Division 2 in the 2010 Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race and third of last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race. *Rumba* finished second in Division F of this year's CYCA Winter Series for the second consecutive year.

NAUTICAL CIRCLE**SAIL NO:** A169**LOA:** 12.00m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Joubert/Nivelt**YEAR BUILT:** 2006**TYPE:** Archambault 40**OWNER:** Ian Prentice, Greg Beard and Robin Shaw**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** I Prentice (Skipper), A McGuigan, G Weise, G Beard, I Gleichman, R Shaw, T Bye, S Powell, T Munns

Nautical Circle is an Archambault 40 which was built in 2006. Her current owners Greg, Rob and Ian competed in the 2010 and 2012 Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Races with her best result a tenth in IRC Division in last year's race. The trio are excited to be back on the blue water and hoping for southerly breezes!

NINE DRAGONS**SAIL NO:** 18889**LOA:** 14.10m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Mills Design**YEAR BUILT:** 2004**TYPE:** DK46**OWNER:** Bob Cox**CLUB:** Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** B Cox - Skipper, R Allanson - Sailing Master, A Dally - Navigator, C Cox, D Hart, J McCuaig, N Rechlin, D Woodhead, S Hinton, D Bridges, S McKnight, J Meggison

Nine Dragons has been successfully campaigned over the past two years since Bob Cox acquired her in September 2011. Her first offshore race for her new owner was the 2012 Pittwater to Coffs Harbour race, where *Nine Dragons* finished second overall on IRC.

In last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, which was dominated by downhill racers, *Nine Dragons* finished fifth in IRC Division 2. She followed this up with a third in IRC Division 1 behind *Wild Oats XI* and *Black Jack* in the Club Marine Brisbane to Keppel Tropical Yacht Race.

OCCASIONAL COARSE LANGUAGE ONE**SAIL NO:** 8009**LOA:** 12m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Farr Yacht Design**YEAR BUILT:** 2000**TYPE:** Cookson 12**OWNER:** Robert Alder and William Bailey**CLUB:** Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** R Alder (Skipper), R McClung (Co-Navigator), F Walker (Co-navigator), M Jeremy, T Sutton, W Bailey, C Davey, G Edwards, S Scott, E Watts

Robert Alder and William Bailey have campaigned the Cookson 12 *Occasional Coarse Language One* with moderate success over the past two seasons since acquiring the boat. In April this year, they finished third IRC Division 2 of the NSW IRC Championships, following on from their sixth in IRC Division 2 of the Pittwater to Coffs Harbour Yacht Race. The crew are aiming to better their 2012 Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race result – an 11th in IRC Division 3.

OCCASIONAL COARSE LANGUAGE TOO**SAIL NO:** 8008**LOA:** 13.1m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Jason Ker (UK)**YEAR BUILT:** 2011**TYPE:** Ker 43**OWNER:** Warwick Sherman**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** W Sherman - Skipper, B Filby – Navigator, A Paterson, G Van Dijk, P Williams, T May, T Poulson, J Anderson, A Motte, R King, R Howard, C Wade-Lehman

Since her launch in July 2011, Warwick Sherman's latest yacht, a Ker designed Sydney GTS43, *Occasional Coarse Language Too*, he has spent the two seasons getting to know the boat and how she performs in all conditions and now has his boat up to speed. *Occasional Coarse Language Too* finished second in PHS Division of the 2011-2012 Grant Thornton Short Ocean Spring Pointscore and won Division A2 of the Audi Winter Series 2012. In her first major offshore outing, last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, Sherman was forced to retire with a steering problem. However, he finished fifth and 10th respectively in the Flinders Islet and Bird Island races, won the Gascoigne Cup in October and won IRC Division 1 of the Lion Island Botany Bay race in December. In Sherman's first Rolex Sydney Hobart, *OCL Too* won IRC Division 2 and finished 16th overall; and finished fifth in CYCA's Blue Water Pointscore.

PAPILLON**SAIL NO:** 6841**LOA:** 12m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Joubert/Nivelt (FRA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2009**TYPE:** Archambault A40rc**NUMBER OF HOBARTS:** 2**OWNER:** Phil Molony**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** P Molony – Skipper/Navigator, R Makin – Deputy Skipper, J Plant, M Tilden, P Seager, S Grellis, T Boothby, R Oechsle, P Seager, S Jackson

Papillon is one of the successful Archambault designs that made its way to Australia three years ago. Phil Molony has been ocean racing *Papillon* for three seasons since she made her debut in the 2010 Rolex Sydney Hobart. In last year's Rolex Sydney Hobart, she finished 31st overall and ninth in Division 3, following on from her 42nd overall and third in Division 3 in the 2011 race. Molony finished 15th in the CYCA's Blue Water Pointscore Series, with a best result of eighth in the Flinders Islet Race. *Papillon* sailed to 33rd overall in last year's Sydney Gold Coast race. With his previous *Papillon*, also an Archambault 40, Molony was second in the CYCA's 2008-09 Tasman Pointscore Series, an annual offshore series hosted by the Club.

PENNANT HILLS FORD**SAIL NO:** 6755**LOA:** 14.33m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Farr Yacht Design**YEAR BUILT:** 2002**TYPE:** Beneteau 47.7**OWNER:** Ian Creak**CLUB:** Greenwich Flying Squadron, NSW**CREW:** I Creak - Skipper, G Sanford - Navigator, D North, B Moore, I Arnold, J Lelliott, L Byrant, R Lees, M Pinter, K Robertson, N Birt, P Atwood, A Lelliott

Pennant Hills Ford, a Beneteau 47 that has also raced under the name of *Caliban II*, will once again contest the Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race. Our crew of highly experienced 'professionals in the bar' are excited about the prospect of racing competitively once again and are hoping to improve on last year's position, 44th overall and 12th in division, if 'Huey' brings in the westerly breeze.

PISCES**SAIL NO:** 6197**LOA:** 11.5m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)**YEAR BUILT:** 1998**TYPE:** Sydney 36 Modified**OWNER:** David Taylor**CLUB:** Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, TAS**CREW:** D Taylor – Skipper/Navigator, A Herington, C Oh, C Walker, D Steel, J Nixon, P Alexander, S Baldwin

Pisces is a modified Sydney 36 that races out of the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania. She has completed two Rolex Sydney Hobart races and has performed well over the years winning the Battery Point Trophy for the first small boat across the line (Rolex Sydney Hobart), the King of the Derwent, and PHS in the Launceston to Hobart Race. *Pisces* has also recorded a win in the fully crewed division of the Three Peaks Race. The crew that includes seven Tasmanians in the crew and one Sydney member with Gold Coast Race experience are hoping for a good result in warmer waters.

PRETTY WOMAN**SAIL NO:** 545**LOA:** 13.8m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Farr Yacht Design**YEAR BUILT:** 1996**TYPE:** Farr 45**OWNER:** Richard Hudson, Michael Lockley, Russell Murphy**CLUB:** Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** R Hudson -Skipper, M Lockley - Navigator, A Stormon, M Bennett, M Gordon, P Antill, R Murphy, S Lawson, T Lake, T Spithill, W Taylor, J O'Keefe

Pretty Woman is owned by Richard Hudson, Michael Lockley and Russell Murphy. All are active RPAYC members and the crew includes a few of the RPAYC's Youth Development Program graduates. The trio have campaigned *Pretty Woman* extensively in east coast offshore races including Rolex Sydney Hobart, Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, Pittwater to Coffs Harbour, Audi Hamilton Island Race Week and Festival of Sails (previously known as Geelong Race Week).

This will be the boat's 11th Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race and skipper Richard Hudson's 26th race. Richard has previously won the Gold Coast race twice (and achieved three divisional wins and three divisional places over the years). Hudson has also won the Brisbane to Gladstone race five times, Sydney Mooloolaba race four times and Pittwater to Coffs Harbour race twice.

QUEST**SAIL NO:** 52002**LOA:** 15.85m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Farr Yacht Design (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2005**TYPE:** TP52**OWNER:** Bob Steel**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** R Steel - Skipper, B Kelly – Navigator, A Pearson, C Evans, M Green, N Mrdjen, N Newton, B Gardiner, J Dock, P Messenger, J Dibble, C Percival, S Moran

Winning the 2002 Rolex Sydney Hobart with a former *Quest*, Bob Steel won the 2008 Rolex Sydney Hobart with this TP52, also named *Quest* and returned to the race last year following a two year break from serious ocean racing. Since arriving in Australia, Steel's third boat of the same name has won every major race on the eastern seaboard, including Audi Hamilton Island Race Week, Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race and Geelong Race Week.

Steel won the 2003 Ocean Racer of the Year against a hefty field including Neville Crichton, Bob Oatley and Colin O'Neil. The three could not match the 'Man of Steel's' 2002 Hobart win and 2002-2003 Blue Water Pointscore victory among other accolades.

Upon his return to ocean racing last year, Steel put his TP52 through a minor refit and invested in some new sails. He has recruited his old friend, sailing master and 33 Hobart veteran Mike Green back to the cause and Andrew Pearson, both of whom were with him for his two Hobart victories. Steel made an impressionable return to major ocean racing last year with a second place overall in the Cabbage Tree Island Race in November and placed seventh overall and third in division in the Rolex Sydney Hobart. *Quest* also won the IRC Division of the 2012-2013 Grant Thornton Short Ocean Pointscore earlier this year.

SCARLET RUNNER**SAIL NO:** SM11**LOA:** 15.99m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Reichel/Pugh (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2009**TYPE:** Reichel Pugh 52**OWNER:** Robert Date**CLUB:** Sandringham Yacht Club, VIC**CREW:** R Date - Skipper, C Evans – Navigator, B Howland, B Averay, S Chandler, T Kenner, A Thompson, C Hawes, D Snoad, D Van Teylingen, M Witter, B Acaster

Since her launch in July 2009, *Scarlet Runner* has competed in a number of inshore and offshore races. Her first race was the Audi Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race where she achieved first in IRC Division 1. Following on from this, *Scarlet Runner* returned to Melbourne and claimed line honours and a new race record in the ORCV's Cock of the Bay race.

Podium results include: winning the IRC Division of the Lexus Lincoln Week regatta this year (following on from Date's 2011 win); and scoring the double win of line and IRC honours in the Adelaide to Port Lincoln Race in 2012 and 2011. In January 2010, she won the Audi Docklands Invitational and the Adelaide to Port Lincoln race in February 2010.

This year, the Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race marks the beginning of an 18 month voyage around the world for Date and his crew before returning to Australia to compete in 70th anniversary edition of the Rolex Sydney Hobart.

SHEPHERD CENTRE**SAIL NO:** 11407**LOA:** 11.92m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Farr Yacht Design (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2005**TYPE:** Beneteau 40.7**OWNER:** Hugh Torode**CLUB:** Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, NSW**CREW:** H Torode - Skipper, A Lawrence - Navigator, B Salisbury, D Sharp, G Healy, J Whitfeld, D Brooks, H Ray, M Graham

Dr Hugh Torode has continued his support for the *Shepherd Centre* once again by renaming his boat from *Pelagic Magic* to *Shepherd Centre* for this race. In the 2010 Rolex Sydney Hobart, *Shepherd Centre* finished fourth in IRC Division 4 and third in ORCi division 3 and in the 2011 Hobart, *Shepherd Centre* was scored DNF due to a failure to report at Green Cape (Sailing Instruction 44.1). The crew are hoping for another strong result in this race and are excited and proud to be representing the *Shepherd Centre* which assists 200 deaf children aged 0-5 years old, every year. It costs \$15,000 per year per child of which 75% has to be generated through fundraising.

SHE'S THE CULPRIT

SAIL NO: 370

LOA: 11.96m

CLASS: PHS

DESIGNER: Jim Inglis (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 1994

TYPE: Inglis/Jones 39 Mod

OWNER: The Culprit Syndicate

CLUB: Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club and Lake Macquarie Yacht Club, NSW

CREW: J Lattimore (Skipper), G Picasso (Navigator), A Boslem, D O'Dowd, G Benson, G Bulmer, M McDonald, M Graham, R Jarvie, T Butler, M Denton

She's the Culprit is an Inglis 39 owned by a syndicate of four mates from Lake Macquarie and Newcastle that have sailed thousands of sea miles together. The boat was originally built in 1994 by Hart Marine and launched as *Top Cat* for the Melbourne Osaka Yacht Race. She then raced in Tasmania under the name of *42 South* before being sold to Todd Leary who changed her name to *She's The Culprit*, campaigned her on all the long distance races out of Bellerive Yacht Club and competed in three Rolex Sydney Hobart races (2008-2010).

Her first major race for the current owners was the 2012 Pittwater to Coffs race where she achieved a win in her division (PHS Div 2) and then followed this up with a PHS Division win in last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race. *She's The Culprit* also placed second in last year's LMYC offshore pointscore and second in the NCYC offshore pointscore. *She's the Culprit* has quickly earned a local reputation of being a very social boat and her crew of experienced and inexperienced offshore sailors are looking forward to both the race north and are looking forward to defending the title from last year's race.

SOUTHERN EXCELLENCE II

SAIL NO: AUS03

LOA: 21.5m

CLASS: IRC

DESIGNER: Don Jones (AUS)

YEAR BUILT: 2005

TYPE: Jones 70 Custom

OWNER: Andrew Wenham

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: A Wenham – Skipper, R Buchanan – Navigator, D Burt – Sailing Master, R Burns, I Broad, M Lewkovitz, J Turner, D Wenham, D Hogben, K Swiney, P Meakins, A Burt, A Chase, M Tyrrell

Andrew Wenham purchased the former *Ichi Ban* in March this year and won line honours in the Gosford Lord Howe Island yacht race in a time of 63 hours, 45minutes and 22 seconds; which was one of the longest in the race's recent history marred by light and fluky winds.

Wenham has upgraded a number of systems on the boat to improve her IRC rating and to suit his requirements. Whilst it's a little older, Wenham still thinks *Southern Excellence II* will be competitive against the newer Volvo 70, *Black Jack*, and Jim Cooney's Jutson 80 *Brindabella* and his crew will be pushing hard for a podium finish.

This ex Volvo Ocean Racer reaped some great results for former owner Matt Allen including second on line in 2006 Rolex Sydney Hobart and third in 2007 and 2008. He has come so close winning the Hobart overall too; fourth in 2006 and fifth in 2007. In that no-man's land 70ft range, it takes special weather and the right moves to place this boat which finished 6th on line and 11^h overall last year.

SWISH**SAIL NO:** 226**LOA:** 13.4m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Kernan Yacht Design (USA)**YEAR BUILT:** 2012**TYPE:** Kernan 44**OWNER:** Steven Proud**CLUB:** Middle Harbour Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** S Proud – Skipper/Navigator, A Brown T Woodcock, A Proud, B Gordon, B Todter, J Higgs, K Meyboom, P Curtis, P Bevan, J Scholten, E Smith

Swish is a brand new boat from the design board of Tim Kernan from Long Beach, California. A long waterline for her length of 44 feet, moderately light displacement, high righting moment and plenty of sail area make this an exciting yacht. Proud used this year's CYCA Winter Series to fine tune the boat finishing fifth in Division A1.

THE BANSHEE**SAIL NO:** 4001**LOA:** 12.5m**CLASS:** PHS**DESIGNER:** Murray Burns Dovell (AUS)**YEAR BUILT:** 1995**TYPE:** MBD41**OWNER:** Corinne Feldmann and Rob Francis**CLUB:** Cronulla Sailing Club, NSW**CREW:** R Francis (Skipper), C Feldmann (Navigator), B Elphinstone, B Edwards, C Cleaver, N Constable, P Bannon, P Edwards, R Cox, S Shateev, T Wadsworth

The Banshee (formerly *Terra Firma*) is a MBD41 that has competed in ten Rolex Sydney Hobarts, winning overall in 1995. New owners Rob and Corinne successfully campaigned *The Banshee* to a third place in PHS Division 1 in the 2011 Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race. In last year's Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race, the boat finished fifth in the PHS Division. More recently, *The Banshee* won Cronulla Sailing Club's Navigator's Cup. The crew is a mix of experienced offshore sailors and young talent who are all hoping for plenty of action of the race track.

UPSHOT**SAIL NO:** NZL8425**LOA:** 16.0m**CLASS:** PHS**DESIGNER:** Greg Elliott, NZL**YEAR BUILT:** 1995**TYPE:** Elliott 52**OWNER:** Wayne Keavy**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW**CREW:** W Keavy – Skipper, S Usher – Navigator, B Sinton – Sailing Master, R Saleh, O Hartas, W Tuck, C Koole, R Speedy, S Kirkman, R Cunningham, H Deans, M Riding

Upshot is a Greg Elliot designed 52 foot canting keel sloop that was bought over from New Zealand earlier this year and competed in the CYCA Winter Series. Formerly raced as *Hydroflow*, she was a well performed boat in many inshore and offshore races.

VICTOIRE**SAIL NO:** AUS5299**LOA:** 15.2m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Farr Yacht Design, USA**YEAR BUILT:** 2006**TYPE:** Cookson 50**OWNER:** Darryl Hodgkinson**CLUB:** Cruising Yacht Club of Australia**CREW:** D Hodgkinson - Skipper, Craig Simpson- Navigator, Duncan Rutherford – Navigator, M Slinn, D McConville, S Guanaria, S Francis, N Stansell, S Kirkjian, A Henshall, T Powell, T Tubman

Hodgkinson, the 2012 CYCA Ocean Racer of the Year, has stepped up from his Beneteau 45 to the 'new *Victoire*' a Cookson 50, formerly *Jazz*. Under Chris Bull's ownership, this canting keeled Cookson 50 was second overall, first in IRC Division 0 and first overall in the ORCi division in the 2010 Rolex Sydney Hobart after also finishing second in 2000. Throughout 2011, Bull raced *Jazz* in the Caribbean, the USA, Transatlantic and the Rolex Fastnet Race, and returned to the Hobart race with a fourth overall, first in IRC Division 0, with second in ORCi Division 1.

2011 was a great year for Hodgkinson and his Beneteau 45 *Victoire*. He won the CYCA Blue Water Pointscore Series and claimed the Class B win in the Audi IRC Australian Championships after a third place in Audi Victoria Week, second in the Audi Sydney Harbour Regatta, and two firsts in division in both the Audi Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race and Hamilton Island Race week.

WEDGETAIL

SAIL NO: AUS11888

LOA: 16.8m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Reichel/Pugh (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 2006

TYPE: Custom 55 Grand Prix

OWNER: Bill Wild

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW and Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron, QLD

CREW: B Wild (Skipper), W Oxley (Navigator), D Senogles, A Hunn, J Muir, A Deeks, C Anderson, T Rowell, K Costin, J Gower, R Chamberlain, I Davis, S Hunt, V Dudley

Bill Wild returned to ocean racing earlier this year after an 18 month break from the sport and immediately reaped rewards securing the line honours win and finishing second overall (to Syd Fischer's TP52 *Ragamuffin*) in this year's Pittwater to Coffs Harbour race.

Taking ownership of *Wedgetail*, the former *Yendys*, in 2010, Wild sailed her in the Rolex Sydney Hobart that year and finished ninth on line, sixth overall and third in IRC Division 1. The custom Reichel/Pugh 55 has an impressive racing record that includes placings in the Rolex Trophy Series, the Sydney Gold Coast Yacht Race and a sixth in IRC Division 1 in the 2009 Rolex Sydney Hobart, 6th IRC overall and 1st in Division 1 in the 2006 Hobart and 3rd in Division 1 in the 2007 Rolex Sydney Hobart

Wild has upped the stakes for this adding *Loki's* navigator Michael Bellingham and it's boat manager, Darryl 'Dags' Senogles to the crew. Other big names aboard are Neil Pryde, the Hong Kong based yachtsman/designer and Queensland names Kevin Costin and Ian 'Ox' Davis. His previous *Wedgetail*, the Welbourn 42, had a strong offshore race record, including 6th overall in the 2005 Rolex Sydney Hobart and wins and places in all the major offshore races.

WILD ROSE

SAIL NO: 4343

LOA: 13.1m

CLASS: IRC/ORCi

DESIGNER: Bruce Farr (USA)

YEAR BUILT: 1985

TYPE: Farr 43

OWNER: Roger Hickman

CLUB: Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, NSW

CREW: R Hickman - Skipper, P Inchbold – Navigator, A Scott, A Fong, D Williams, D Morris, J White, K Ketelbey, P Warburton, P Sayer, P Endersbee

Wild Rose was commissioned in 1983 as *Wild Oats* by Bob Oatley for the 1987 Admirals Cup and has been owned for some years now by one of Australia's most experienced offshore yachtsmen, Roger Hickman. In partnership with Bruce Foye and Lance Peckman, Hickman sailed the still named *Wild Oats* to win the 1993 Hobart race overall under IOR (there was also an IMS overall winner, *Cuckoos Nest*), the last time the IOR rule was used for the race. Since Hickman took singular ownership, the 27 year-old Farr 43 boat has been known as *Wild Rose*. 'Hicko' won the 2011 Audi Sydney Offshore Newcastle Race overall and the Gosford Lord Howe Island race.

In last year's Rolex Sydney Hobart, *Wild Rose* finished 15th overall beating all Division 2 and 3 boats home. She also secured the IRC Division 4 win for the second successive year and placed second in ORCi Division 3. Each year, Hicko trains up a balance crew of male and female sailors, many of whom become regulars. They are looking forward to a challenging 2013 Blue Water Point Score Series, after finishing fourth last year and third in the Cape Byron Pointscore (ORCi division of the BWPS).

WILD THING**SAIL NO:** M10**LOA:** 30.48m**CLASS:** IRC**DESIGNER:** Don Jones (AUS)**YEAR BUILT:** 2003**TYPE:** Jones 100 Maxi**OWNER:** Grant Wharington**CLUB:** Southport Yacht Club, QLD**CREW:** G Wharington – Skipper, D Turton – Navigator, P Cosman, S Gaddes, D Sudano, C Williams, J Brown, K Mathews, M Buchbach, J Torpy, G Torpy, A Gough, J Plante, K Bradburn, T Lees, J Chilman

Grant Wharington's *Wild Thing* won line honours in the 2003 Rolex Sydney Hobart, but the following year, leading the fleet to Hobart, she lost her canting keel, capsized and the crew abandoned ship. *Wild Thing* was rebuilt and went on to take line honours in the 2005 Sydney Gold Coast, Sydney Mooloolaba and Sydney Mackay races. In the 2008 Rolex Sydney Hobart, the super maxi finished second to *Wild Oats XI*.

Last year, Wharington made modifications to *Wild Thing*, which include extending her to 100ft and improvements on her original hull shape. Earlier this year, Wharington secured a line honours win in the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race.

XS MOMENT**SAIL NO:** 11744**LOA:** 13.3m**CLASS:** IRC/ORCi**DESIGNER:** Niels Jeppesen (DEN)**YEAR BUILT:** 2011**TYPE:** XP44**OWNER:** Ray Hudson**CLUB:** Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, NSW**CREW:** R Hudson – Skipper, B Newton, C Grant, F Hudson, J Atkinson, J Mulkearns, T Guy, A Milln, G Holder, S Russett, B Mulkearns, F Hudson

This luxury 44 foot racer cruiser, boasts two fridges and a microwave, and is the first of a new series of X Yachts from the design stable of Niels Jeppesen in Denmark. X Yachts sailed this boat in the UK IRC Championships in April 2011 before Ray Hudson purchased it in November 2011.

Hudson has campaigned *XS Moment* throughout RPAYC's sailing calendar over the last 18 months with some success including placing eighth in Division 1 of this year's Winter Series; and seventh in RPAYC's 2012-2013 Blue Water Series; and sixth in the Short Ocean Pointscore Series. *XS Moment* has proven to be a quick and good all-round boat. "We purchased the boat as we were looking to have more downwind speed. She's also quick upwind too but can lack a little bit of pace when she is just off the breeze," Hudson said.

Hudson debuted *XS Moment* in the 2012 Pittwater to Coffs Harbour Race and took the boat to Audi Hamilton Island Race Week where she was well- matched against other cruiser- racers including the Beneteau 45 *Victoire*, whom she beat across the line in two races.

Hudson's previous boat *Next Moment* was an X-442 which he campaigned strongly for over five years and his most memorable result was a second in the PHS division of the Pittwater to Coffs Harbour Series in 2008/2009.