



Sydney Amateur Sailing Club  
**MOUNT GAY**  
**National Gaffers Regatta**  
28th October 1990



*"Hoana" A100*

A 30ft. gaff rigged yacht, "**Hoana**" was built in 1920 by J. Hayes & Sons, Sydney. "**Hoana**" has been extensively refitted by her present owner, SASC member Martin Van der Wal, and despite her age, is still winning races.

The graceful yacht completed an epic circumnavigation of the world between 1963 and 1968.

*Photograph by Tim Robinson*

SYDNEY AMATEUR SAILING CLUB  
Green Street Cremorne 2090 Tel: (02) 953 1433 Fax: (02) 953 0898

---

## Sydney Amateur Sailing Club

# NATIONAL GAFFERS REGATTA HISTORY

---

The first Gaffer's Day was held in 1972 to celebrate the Centenary of the Sydney Amateur Sailing Club.

A yacht is usually said to be gaff rigged when its mainsail is hoisted on a spar (gaff) laid back at 45 degrees, from the mast. The qualification for entry in the Gaffer's Regatta has been broadened to include all vessels which hoist a spar, including gaff, gunter, lug, sprit, square, junk, and lowering wishbone rigs.

By 1950 it was rare for a new yacht to hoist a spar, and the 1972 regatta was a salute to history. It was held in bright sunshine with a gentle north-east breeze. 39 yachts started in three divisions. Sir Jim Hardys "**Nerida**" won division 1, with all twenty of her crew in Edwardian dress. Many crews dress in period costume for the regatta, which adds colour to a day intended to display the boats and rig to best advantage. The regatta takes the form of informal races to enhance the effect.

Further regattas were held in 1975, 1978, 1981, 1983, 1985 and 1988. The weather was generally kind, and all were successful, with many spectators in boats and on the harbour foreshores. Many entries have been extensively restored and the event has so stimulated interest that today there are more gaffers than in 1972.

This year picnic races will be held for three divisions—two for yachts and the other for open boats—all starting together with handicaps applied at the start.

One of the most beautiful and historic yachts in the fleet will be the National Maritime Museum's "**Akarana**". She will be joined by other historic and well known yachts like "**Nerida**", "**Yendys**", "**Vagabond**", "**Careel**" and "**Ranger**".

From early in the day many boats will be on display at the SASC wharf where guests and participants will be welcomed before the sailing begins. The regatta (races) will start off Clark Island, and finish there. The Water Police and Coastguard have kindly agreed to help control the event.

# Sydney Amateur Sailing Club

## PROGRAMME

SUNDAY 28TH OCTOBER 1990

Members and friends will gather at the clubhouse at 10am for viewing the Gaffers.

The Rally for vessels which hoist a spar starts at 2.30pm.

**STARTING LINE** — between the Schooner “**Boomerang**” and the Steam Schooner “**Ena**”, East of Garden Island.

## COURSES

### **DIVISION I**

*Course A* — Start – Chowder Bay – Shark Island – Chowder Bay – Shark Island – Finish

*Course B* — Start – Neutral Bay Mark – Neilson Park Mark – Clark Island – Shark Island – Finish

### **DIVISION II & DIVISION III**

*Course A* — Start – Taylor Bay – Shark Island – Chowder Bay – Finish

*Course B* — Start – Neutral Bay – Neilson Park Mark – Finish

**FINISHING LINE** — between the Schooner “**Boomerang**” and Steam Schooner “**Ena**”.

Yachts will be classified into three divisions as listed hereafter.

Division III is an event for open boats.

Spinnakers or ballooners may not be set by vessels taking part.

Crews are requested to wear clothing appropriate to the yachting scene at the turn of the century.

---

STEAM LAUNCHES IN ATTENDANCE

“**S.L. Kelly Jean**”, Grant Holmes

“**M.L. Swan**”, Colin Wear — First Motor Launch in Australia

# Sydney Amateur Sailing Club

## MOUNT GAY

### NATIONAL GAFFERS REGATTA — 28TH OCTOBER 1990

#### GUEST OF HONOUR

Rear Admiral A.R. (Tony) Horton AO RAN, Flag Officer Naval Support Command, accompanied by Mrs Margaret Horton

#### SYDNEY AMATEUR SAILING CLUB OFFICERS

Commodore	Robert Lawler
Vice Commodore	John Morris
Rear Commodore	Charles Maclurcan
Chairman of National Gaffers Committee	Bill Gale (SASC Life Member)

#### FLAGSHIP

T.S.M.V. **"Silver Cloud"** the Hon. Derek Freeman and Mrs Phyllis Freeman

#### STARTING LINE

Schooner **"Boomerang"** — Sydney Maritime Museum  
Steam Aux-Schooner **"Ena"** — Ena Steam Yacht Company

### PROGRAMME — SUNDAY 28TH OCTOBER 1990

- 10.00 am
- Assembly and review of yachts at SASC, Mosman Bay
  - Jazz Band will play until 1pm
  - Light Refreshments available
- 11.00 am
- Arrival of Rear Admiral Horton and Mrs Horton
- 12 midday
- Welcome—Commodore Bob Lawler
  - Reply on behalf of guests—Rear Adm. Horton
  - Reply on behalf of visitors—Milton Green — **"Jessie"**
- 12.50 pm
- SASC Official Guests, Club Officers, Directors and their partners board **"Silver Cloud"** and **"Ena"**
- 1.30 pm
- Members, families and friends board **"Royale"** at SASC to view regatta (Tickets \$10 Adults, \$6 children under 12).
- 2.30 pm
- Regatta will commence east of Garden Island

### WEDNESDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 1990

Presentation of trophies to regatta vessels skippers at SASC Clubhouse.

**SPONSORED BY MOUNT GAY RUM PROMOTIONS**  
*Mount Gay Rum, the drink preferred by experienced sailors.*

## DIVISION I

A19	<b>JUNEBIRD.</b> 28' x 10' designed built Hayes 1914 owned for many years by Cliff Gale	Kep Enderby	16
A143	<b>REVERIE.</b> 28' Sloop M. Griffiths design	Adm Nigel Berlyn	16
92	<b>SOLILOQUY.</b> Yawl 36' x 12'. Beam, 14 Tons. Harrison Butler design built South Australia 1934	Bob Hawke	15
A100	<b>HOANA.</b> 30' L.O.A., designed and built for Lex Buckle by Frank Hayes, 1920.	Martin Van der Wal	15
A47	<b>VALIANT.</b> Sloop 25' L.O.A. Built Hoyle Drummoyne 1939 for Os Dowling. Similar Ranger	John Crawford	14
A35	<b>ENTRENNE.</b> Raised Deck Sloop, 24' O.A., 9' Beam. 4.5 tons disp. Design modified Ranger. Built Les Steel, Lake Macquarie for Bert Grout	Dermer Bennett	12
Anchor	<b>YENDYS.</b> Reconstruction of Norman Blackman's famous 18 footer. Work carried out by VICKERS COCKATOO	George McGoogan	11
A191	<b>VAGABOND.</b> Raced SASC before WWI by C. Gale was Victorian fishing boat returned Gaff 1988	Ian Lewis	11
A181	<b>CAREEL.</b> Smaller sister, Ranger, built Mr. Fisher	Linton Morris	9
A15	<b>WUNGARRA.</b> Built 1910, gents daysailer, Perth WA	Bruce Stannard	8
A135	<b>YEROMAS.</b> Designed Cliff Gale 1930. Built Steve Gale 1985 21' L.O.A.	John Diacopolous	8
33	<b>NERIDA.</b> Topsail cutter 45ft. O.A., 11ft Beam. 16 tons disp Sail area 1,105 sq ft. Designed Alfred Milne. Built South Australia 1934 for Thomas Hardy	Sir James Hardy	6
A3	<b>KILKIE.</b> Sister Ranger, built Mr Holmes	Alick Osborne	5
A1	<b>RANGER.</b> Raised deck sloop 24' O.A., 9' Beam. 4.5 tons disp. Sail area 552 sq ft. Designed Cliff Gale, built W. Fisher, La Perouse 1933 for Cliff Gale	Brian Gale/ Mark Bethwaite	3
CB44	<b>JESSIE.</b> Cousta Boat, Victorian entry	Milton Green	Scr
CB80	<b>SYLVIA.</b> Cousta Boat	Philip Kinsella	Scr

### *“Boomerang” — 1903*

This graceful auxillary schooner was built by Holmes of Lavender Bay in 1903, and designed by renowned naval architect and “*Lady Hopetoun*” designer, Mr Walter Reeks.

“*Boomerang*” was originally named “*Bona*” by her first owner, C.D. Wallace, despite the fact that there was a celebrated 50ft racing yacht by that name already in existence.

“*Boomerang*” is 84ft long, 16ft 9in wide, with a draught of 7ft 9in. She is constructed of hardwood frames with kauri decks and deck beams.

The “*Boomerang*” joined the Sydney Maritime Museum’s fleet of historic working vessels in October 1987.

## DIVISION II

LFB1	<b>CINEMA.</b> Snapper Boat 1920	Helen Wood	30
JN	<b>JESBON.</b> 22' ship's lifeboat	Richard Evans	29
TA	<b>TARRA.</b> Replica Capt. Slocum's "Spray" first to sail the globe single handed.	Barry Heaton	28
HULL PZ101	<b>MERLIN.</b> replica 19th Century, Cornish fishing lugger 22'	Ray Rowe	23
P	<b>THE PLAYMATE OF MALDON.</b> Topsail Cutter 33ft O.A. 10ft. Beam. 12 tons disp. Sail area 840sq ft. Built England 1896	Gino Coia	21
R.T.	<b>RETREAT.</b> 26' x 10' Beam. Built 1939 by Hoyle for P.Pine. Similar Ranger.	Graeme Proctor	18
WM	<b>WILDERNESS.</b> 40' Two master	John Pearson	15
A188	<b>KELPIE.</b> Gaff Cutter. 30' O.A., 24' L.W.L. 7' Beam. 7 tons disp. Built 1893 by E.J. Thompson to order of Dr. E. Sinclair	John Wood	14
ST	<b>SABOT.</b> Cruising Ketch, from Canada 38'	Dick Stresau	12
WM	<b>WASSERMAN.</b> 24' Steel Cutter	Chris Ryan	11
TW	<b>TAWHIRI.</b> 35' cutter built NZ, registered UK	Keith Stocks	10
WD	<b>BETTY.</b> 22 ft O.A. 9' Beam. Designed and built by Golding pre WW1.	Bruce Wallis	10
6	<b>KODAMA.</b> 52' Trading Schooner	Chris Grover	9
CL	<b>CLASSIC.</b> 29' Sloop	Jay McCord	9
EA	<b>SEA GYPSY.</b> 50' Schooner ex J. Griffin	Michael Lockwood	8
SA	<b>SAO.</b> Cutter 23' O.A., 7' Beam. Sail area 380 sq ft. Built 1905.	John Dark	8
A144	<b>SANA.</b> Tri Topsail Ketch. 40' L.O.A. 16 tons lowering wishbone.	John Howard	7
BE	<b>BARNACLE.</b> 24' Sloop	Adrian Lane	7
V	<b>VAGRANT.</b> Raised Deck Sloop, 24' O.A., 9' Beam. 4 tons disp. Modified Ranger design. Built 1937.	Edward Ryan	6
NA	<b>NARA.</b> Coachouse Sloop 26'	Peter Cahill	5
JW89	<b>JENNY WREN.</b> Built 1989 by T. Cubbitt, Sydney. Designed Walter Reeks 28' x 20' x 6'6" x 5'4".	Doug Garrod	Scr

### "Ena" — 1901

The steam auxillary schooner "Ena" was constructed by Watty Ford of Berry's Bay to the design of Walter Reeks and the order of Sir Thomas Dibbs. She is 117' tip to tip and is powered by a coal or oil fired compound steam engine built in 1884 by Plenty & Sons.

This superb yacht was restored between 1984 and 1986 by Nick Masterman and belongs to the ENA Steam Yacht Company.

## DIVISION III

WE	<b>WEE GEORGE.</b> Replica Sydney 6 footer built R. Tearne 1988	Campbell Wallace	30
WT	<b>WATER RAT.</b> Drascombe lugger (yaw) famous British design	Otto Kelfkens	28
Waratah	<b>JANIS.</b> 10 footer based on 1900 Qld design built R. Tearne 1989	Bob Tearne	26
1	<b>RED.</b> Island class dingy ex RAN Naval Reserve Cadets Training Ship Sydney		21
2	<b>BLUE.</b> Island class dingy ex RAN Naval Reserve Cadets Training Ship Sydney		21
3	<b>GREEN.</b> Island class dingy ex RAN Naval Reserve Cadets Training Ship Sydney		21
4	<b>GREY.</b> Island class dingy ex RAN Naval Reserve Cadets Training Ship Sydney		21
—	<b>SPIEGEL.</b> Mirror Class 11' (red sails)	S. Delaney	21
—	<b>SEEING RED.</b> Mirror Class 11'	D. Allen	19
V	<b>VIOLA.</b> Replica 1900 Parramatta River 10 footer Built Reg Barrington 1989	Peter Notley	18
—	<b>KNOT SIRIUS.</b> Mirror Class 11'	M. Prentice	17
—	<b>DEMON'S REVENGE.</b> Mirror Class 11'	P. Hook	17
—	<b>TIGER'S TAIL.</b> Mirror Class 11'	Michael Delaney	17
—	<b>SYNCOPATION.</b> Mirror Class 11'	B. Britts	15
AE	<b>RAGTIME.</b> 12' x 5' example of famous cadet clinker dinghy built N. Masterman 1982.	Brian Langford	14
Crescent	<b>ASTER.</b> S.F.S. 18 footer built H. Gardiner Balmain 1911	Harry Brown	5
53	<b>JOYETTE.</b> 20' Heavyweight sharpie designed Holland 1932 Queensland entry.	Peter Sutherland	Scr

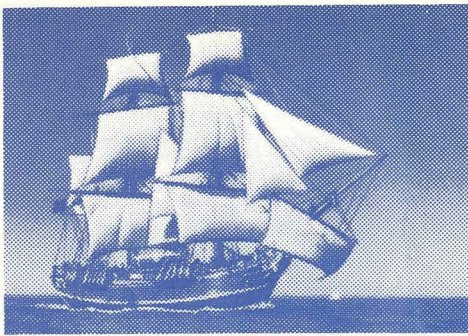
### *SAILING SHIPS IN ATTENDANCE*

*“Bounty” “Svanen” “Solway Lass”*

These vessels will possibly cross the starting line approximately two minutes after the scratch yachts.

---

The Couta Boat **“Thistle”** will be manouvering in the area. **“Thistle”** has been beautifully restored for the Australian Maritime Museum by Tim Philips at Sorrento. These boats were used to catch barracouta under sail and average 26 feet length, 4 tons displacement and have about 600 square feet of sail area.



### *"Bounty"*

The barque **"Bounty"** was built in Whangarei, New Zealand in 1979. Externally, the ship is a replica of the English collier built in 1772 which became famous as Captain Bligh's ship of the 1789 mutiny.

The present **"Bounty"** featured in the 1984 *"Mutiny on the Bounty"* and has since appeared in other films and television series. **"Bounty"** participated in the 1987-88 First Fleet re-enactment voyage and has since become a familiar sight around Sydney and the South Pacific.

**"Bounty"** is nearly 134 feet long overall, has a beam of 28 feet and a mast height of 96 feet. She displaces 360 tons.

### *"Solway Lass"*

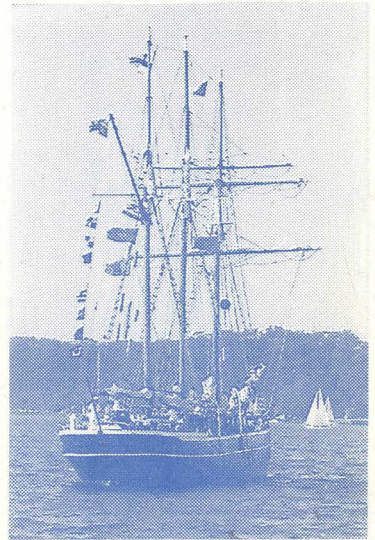
First named **"Adolf"**, **"Solway Lass"** was built in Holland in 1902. She traded in the North Sea, without an engine, under the German flag.

Captured by the French in World War I, the ship was to be taken by the Germans in World War II. Sunk in a German harbour, she was later raised and repaired.

After sailing to the Pacific, she visited the Gilbert and Ellice Islands and was sold to a local shipping company. It was here that Tim Lloyd, who had been looking around the world for such a vessel, found her and bought her on the spot. The ship arrived in Sydney in 1983. A book could probably be written about the monumental task of restoration.

Today **"Solway Lass"**, a topsail schooner, is a familiar sight on Sydney Harbour.

If you would like to sail on **"Solway Lass"**, or arrange a function on board, contact Matilda Cruises at Pier 26, Darling Harbour, telephone 264 7377.



### *"Svanen"*

Built in 1922 in Denmark, the vessel traded as a grain carrier between Denmark and Greenland until 1969 when it was converted to privately owned and extensively refitted. Eventually it went into service as a sail training vessel with the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets.

1982 participated in tall ships race across the Atlantic.

1986 saw **"Svanen"** at the Canadian '86 Expo

1988 Australia's Bicentenary Tall Ship Event. **"Svanen"** formed part of the First Fleet re-enactment 11 ship fleet from England to Australia.

1990 **"Svanen"** now gracing Sydney Harbour available for day or night events.

**On Sunday 28th October 1990, board the barquentine "Svanen" at 10am at d'Albora Marina at the Spit to sail all day on the harbour and view the regatta.** Tickets: \$40 adults, \$20 children. Light refreshments will be available; bring your own picnic lunch.

SVANEN CHARTERS TEL (02) 698 4456