

LEARN TO FLY



Arrange a Trial Instructional Flight with the

ILLAWARRA FLYING SCHOOL

D.C.A. Approved Flying School



HANGAR 276, BANKSTOWN

UY 1631

"Westward" Again—1948



Record-breaking passages, breath-taking spinnaker runs of more than 200 miles, a 300-mile thrash to windward, smashed spars, sails in shreds, a man overboard, flooded cabins, scaldings and a fire were the ingredients that made the fourth Sydney-Hobart race a real thriller. Despite all this, some of the contestants made easier passages than in the previous races. With four boats built specially for the contest, and with better trained crews, the prizes were more hotly contested than ever before.

Once again the Hobart cutter, "Westward," sailed this time by owner, George Gibson, won the main trophy, breaking her previous time by 23 hours 1 min. 32 secs., and beating the second placegetter, South Australian cutter, "Seevogel," by a little more than 3 hours on corrected time.

Big Sydney cutter, "Morna," skippered by her recently-knighted owner, Sir Claude Plowman, broke all known sailing records to cross the line first, 4 days 5 hours 1 minute 21 seconds out from Sydney; this record was to stand until Xmas, 1951.

First thrills came less than two hours after the start, when a freshening nor-easter split "Morna's" long spinnaker and snapped eight-metre "Sandra's" spinnaker pole.

All contestants made Eddystone Light in record time, and the leaders found themselves racing neck and neck from there on. "Mistral V" was doing well when a bad leak forced her crew to abandon the race.

From Eddystone to Tasman Light was a heavy thrash into head winds and rising seas. The larger vessels benefited greatly from their size. "Morna" forged ahead to take the final lead and rounded Tasman Island before noon with her spinnaker set for the home run, finishing one minute after 4 p.m. and breaking her previous record by 21 hours 52 minutes 12 seconds.

OFFICIAL PLACINGS

(Times are given in hours, minutes, seconds.)

Pl.	Yacht	Owner	Div.	El. Time	T.C.F.	Cr. Time
1	"Westward" (Winner, Division 2.)	G. C. Gibson	2	110-17-32	.7232	79-45-48
2	"Seevogel"	W. Harris	2	110-24-3	.7597	83-52-17
3	"Archina" (Winner, Division 1.)	P. G. Goldstein	1	107-28-10	.7900	84-54-3
4	"Moonbi"	H. Evans	2	125-1-53	.6807	85-6-32
5	"Nerida"	C. P. Haselgrove	2	115-45-10	.7415	85-48-20
6	"Sandra"	M. M. Creese	1	104-58-25	.8278	86-53-50
7	"Peer Gynt"	T. Halvorsen	2	131-52-21	.6853	90-22-20
8	"Mistral II"	R. F. Evans	1	104-20-13	.8945	93-19-46
9	"Morna"	C. Plowman	1	101-1-21	.8243	93-22-30
10	"Merlan"	W. L. Curtis	2	124-11-58	.7560	93-53-41
11	"Southern Maid"	W. Trautwein	1	124-11-48	.7964	98-41-12
12	"Gymea"	G. Carter	2	147-31-0	.6721	99-8-45
13	"Alice"	J. Callahan	1	192-10-15	.8327	160-1-14

Retired. "Lass O' Luss," "Wanderer," "Aloha," "Mistral V," "Nell Gwynn."