

## A Bit About Kenn

Kenn worked for the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) for 40 years in all Australian states (as well as 2 years in Antarctica) before retiring in August 2015. He still continues to do some forecasting contract work for the BoM.

Kenn holds a Masters degree in Mathematics/Meteorology as well as a Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment.

He holds memberships of the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania as well as the Port Cygnet Sailing Club. He currently owns and sails an Etchells class yacht which is moored in Port Cygnet.

Kenn is an elected Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society and a member of the American Meteorological Society.

He was awarded the Australian Sports Medal in 2000 for services to the yachting community.:

Kenn has been a very successful crew member as well as weather strategist and tactical navigator on ocean racing yachts competing at different venues in Australia and around the world over the years. For example, my yacht took out IOR handicap honours in the 1993 Sydney to Hobart Yacht race. In 2001, the yacht that I was co-navigating in the Annapolis to Newport Rhode Island Race, took line honours and “smashed” the race record by some five hours.

Some Key sailing highlights are listed below.

- Late 1960's to early 1970's as a skipper or crew member, I represented at state, national and International levels in various centreboard class and keel boat yachts.
- Upon joining the BoM in 1975 and up until I was posted to Sydney in late 80's, serious sailing became a little restricted due to shiftwork and working in remote areas such as Antarctica. Nevertheless I did fit in some serious racing on various keel boats during postings to Brisbane (Brisbane to Gladstone race), Darwin (Darwin to Dili race), Hobart (State and National championships in keelboats) and Melbourne (State and national championships in keelboats).
- 1991 Sydney to Hobart Yacht race on Wild Oats (43 footer) sailing in position as trimmer and weather strategist. 2<sup>nd</sup> in our Division.
- Commenced presenting the Sydney to Hobart mass race weather briefing on behalf of the BoM. This continued each year until the 2003.
- 1992 Sydney to Hobart. *Wild Oats*. Weather strategist and trimmer.
- 1993 Sydney to Mooloolaba and Southport races on *Wild Oats*. Weather Strategist and trimmer. Placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respectively.
- 1993 Sydney to Hobart. *Wild Oats*. Weather strategist, steerer and trimmer. 1<sup>st</sup> on IOR handicap. Winner of Southern Cross Cup as well.
- 1994 Sydney to Mooloolaba race. *Wild Oats*. Weather strategist, steerer and trimmer. 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall.
- 1994 Sydney to Hobart race. *Wild Oats*. Weather strategist, steerer and trimmer. Placed 4<sup>th</sup> overall.
- 1995 Forecaster for *Sydney95* syndicate in San Diego for the America's Cup.
- 1995 Sydney to Hobart race. *Ragamuffin* (50 footer). Navigator and Weather Strategist. Won Southern Cross Cup as a member of the Australian team.
- 1996 Phuket Kings Cup. *Millennium*. Navigator and Weather strategist. Placed 4<sup>th</sup>.
- 1996 Sydney to Hobart race. *Wild Oats*. Navigator, steerer and weather strategist.

- 1996 Gosford to Lord Howe Island race. *Brindabella* (maxi-yacht) Weather strategist. Line honours.
- 1997 BT Global Challenge. Presented weather briefing to fleet for Sydney to Cape Town leg on behalf of BoM. Assisted the eventual overall winner *Group4* with weather strategy for that leg also.
- 1997 Weather briefing for Sydney based AIRS regatta (Olympic class yachts)
- 1997 Sydney to Mooloolaba race. *Yendys*. Navigator and weather strategist.
- 1997 Assisted *Merit Cup* in Whitbread around the World race.
- 1997 Sydney to Hobart race. *Nicorette* (maxi-yacht). Navigator and weather strategist.
- 1999-2002 Forecaster attached to Sydney to Hobart Race Committee.
- 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games Sydney. Yachting forecaster (and also the 3 year workup towards the Games). Manager of Sailing Office at Rushcutters Bay.
- 2000 Presented with the Australian Sports Medal for services to the yachting community.
- 2001 *Assa Abloy* Volvo Ocean Race Team. For 3 months developed the weather program for this team whilst based in UK and Sweden.
- 2001 Chesapeake Bay to Newport Rhode Is race. *Carrera* (US pocket maxi yacht). Co-Navigator and weather strategist. 1<sup>st</sup> overall. Smashed the then existing record by some 5 hours.
- 2001 Gotland Runt *Assa Abloy*. Navigator and weather strategist. Placed 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- 2001-2002 Volvo Ocean Race. Weather strategist for *Assa Abloy* Team via Lance Leslie's Hi-Res model. Commanders Weather did the lions share of the work.
- 2003 Sydney to Hobart race. *Zaraffa* (US pocket maxi). Co-navigator and weather strategist.
- Since 2003 have prepared high resolution forecasts for both Airlie Beach and Hamilton Island Race weeks held in August each year.

Furthermore I'm familiar with the following race venues and ocean areas in Australia and around the world:

- Port Phillip Bay
- Sydney Harbour
- Offshore Sydney
- Bass Strait
- Derwent River Hobart
- Waterloo Bay (Brisbane)
- Lake Burley Griffin
- Mooloolaba
- Airlie Beach
- Hamilton Island
- Fremantle local waters
- Perth Water
- Darwin
- Tasman Sea
- Chicago (USA)
- Rhode Island (USA)
- Chesapeake Bay (USA)
- San Diego (USA)
- Florida local waters (USA)
- Osaka (Japan)
- Phuket (Thailand)
- Various locations within the Mediterranean Sea
- Kiel (Germany)
- Baltic Sea
- The Skagerrak (Sweden)
- Gothenburg (Sweden)
- Oslo local waters (Norway)
- Denmark local waters
- North Sea

- Solent (UK)
- English Channel/Irish Sea (Fastnet Race)