



**Hydro Tasmania**  
*the renewable energy business*



*The Ultimate Endurance Challenge*  
**Hydro Tasmania Three Peaks Race**  
**Conducted by the Port Dalrymple**  
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*Love this challenge*

## **Record fleet likely for 20<sup>th</sup> Race with renewed sponsorship**

The twentieth Hydro Tasmania Three Peaks Race that will start on Good Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2008 has attracted wide interest from potential teams. Over 30 expressions of interest have been lodged with organisers that could cause the past record fleet of 30 teams in the first race in 1989 to be challenged.

Hydro Tasmania also announced its renewed naming rights sponsorship of the race.

Chairman and Race Director, Alastair Douglas, said the committee welcomed Hydro Tasmania's renewed commitment to the race.

"Hydro Tasmania has supported the Three Peaks Race since 2002 and today has committed to a further three years of support," Mr Douglas said.

"This commitment gives us greater certainty in meeting the costs of organising the race knowing we will have \$25,000 in funds available each year for the next three years."

Hydro Tasmania Corporation Secretary, Alan Evans, said that the synergy between the Three Peaks Race and Hydro Tasmania was particularly strong.

"Not only do we share the same reliance on wind and water to achieve our goals, but we also share a synchronicity of values, particularly in our determination to succeed in our various pursuits.

"We are very pleased to be able to share in the celebrations of the 20th year of this extraordinary race."

The organising committee is very confident that the number of yachts will increase substantially from the regular fleet sizes of recent years with the second highest fleet number of 24 to be easily exceeded.

Mr Douglas said the 20<sup>th</sup> race has attracted a large number of new competitors to join those who have races regularly in recent years.

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In addition, a number of competitors from the very early years have also been enticed to compete. Some of these competitors include runner Michael Hirst who ran in the first race in 1989. Michael will compete in his second race next year aboard a comfortable Cruising Division entry *Barcoo* skippered by Richard Gardner.

Ken Gourlay from Launceston, a past race winner in 1994 and now well known for his unassisted solo round the world voyage that earned him the fastest time for an Australian and to become the first Tasmania to have completed a solo circumnavigation. The Gourlay family will be well represented in the race with Ken's two sons Adam and Tristan racing with him and nephew Robert racing in another team.

Seven entries from the list of expressions of interest have been lodged at this early stage. Entries close Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2008 although late entries will be accepted.

Race stalwart Nick Edmunds who has sailed in all Three Peaks races will lead the most experienced team with David Wright who has also competed in every race. Between all team members a total of 67 races can be counted to date.

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