

RL24 Owners Association of Australia Inc.



Rob Legg Yachts.net

<u>"The Legacy"</u> ROB LEGG Memorial DAY

Media Release #1 Aug 2022 "50 Years The Legacy" Rob Legg Memorial Day and 50th RL24 National Championships.

Southport Yacht Club Inshore Division Holywell, as it is now known, will proudly host the 50th RL24 National Championships 8th- 13th January 2023 and provide the venue to celebrate a very special Rob Legg Memorial at Hollywell on Sunday 8th January.

50 years after the first RL24 Nationals were sailed at Holywell Sailing Squadron, the RL24 Owners Association of Australia (RL24OAA) is excited to return to where it all started.

The class thought it fitting to return to where the first RL24 National Championships were sailed and revisit the Rob Legg's stomping ground to celebrate this milestone and honour the designer of this class.

It all started on the Gold Coast over 50 years ago, Rob Legg designed and build the first RL24 from timber, her name was "Tiki II". "Tiki II" sailed very well and following a few tweaks Rob was keen to go into production. At this time Rob was helping Bruce Harris with construction of the first fiberglass "Shark Cats", it wasn't long before Rob understood fiberglass construction and how it would benefit his RL24 design. After striking up a deal with Bruce at "Shark Cat" Rob stayed on at the factory and production of fibreglass RL24s began alongside the Shark Cat boats.

The first fibreglass RL24 was launched in July 1973 and displayed at the Brisbane Boat show, after spending a weekend at the show Rob came home with five orders, and many requests for demonstration sails.

Rob and his wife June raced wherever and whenever they could to showcase their new design, besides local events they raced successfully in Brisbane's Lord Mayors Cup, and won the "Bribie Island Cup" by half an hour.

By 1974 there were fifty RL24s sailing around Australia and the Association had been formed.

The first National Championships were held in August 1974 at Holywell Sailing Squadron, with boats coming from three states, and as far afield as Whyalla and Port Pirie. The series was won by "Scarlet Lady" (Des Stanaway) of Brisbane, his boat was still being finished off during the series.

For more information please visit Website Rob Legg Yachts or follow us on Facebook RL24



RL24 Nationals Southport 1983, photo thanks to Damien Berry.