

MEDIA RELEASE



THE HEART OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
25 November 2022

Eureka II to Cross the Line with Sailing Royalty

'Knight of Queensland' Sir Robbo (Bob Robertson, navigator) and his nephew Malcolm Robertson (skipper) have been officially invited to race in the 75th Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race. The event will see the pair and their crew race 308 nautical miles from Morten Bay to Gladstone on board Whitsundays vessel Eureka II from 7 - 9 April 2023.

Ties to sailing run deep in the Robertson clan. A boatbuilder by trade, Sir Robbo finished his boat building with one last boat, Eureka II in 2000. Nephew, Malcolm, caught the sailing bug from a young age and has been operating overnight sailing tours and commercial and recreational sail training programs in The Whitsundays for more than 30 years. Malcolm took over the operation of Eureka II 18 years ago and hasn't looked back. Chalking up over 90 inshore, offshore and blue water events between them, Sir Robbo and Malcolm come together for Sir Robbo's swansong onboard Eureka II.

Eureka II owner, Malcolm Robertson said being able to race with his uncle on possibly his last race was something he'd cherish.

"Being officially invited to one of Australia's flagship races is an honour for Eureka II and for me personally. Eureka has a long racing history, and we're keen to add this historical race to her card.

"The Whitsundays is the Heart of Sailing and after competing in the Airlie Beach Festival of Sailing and Hamilton Island Race Week each year, I'm excited to get out there and represent The Whitsundays on the water," added Mr Robertson.

Tourism Whitsundays Chief Executive Officer, Rick Hamilton said it is fantastic to see a Whitsunday boat heading down south to participate in the race.

"The Whitsundays has been the Heart of Sailing for so long now and there are boats coming here all year for sailing feats. So, it's fantastic to see our vessels travelling out of the region to race and subsequently fly The Whitsundays flag.

"We're looking forward to another big year of sailing with the Airlie Beach Festival of Racing and Hamilton Island Race Week on in August. These events are a drawcard for The Whitsundays with hundreds of entries from local, intra and interstate participants," added Mr Hamilton.

Keen to pass on his skills and knowledge to others, Malcolm Robertson runs national and international sailing accreditations in The Whitsundays onboard Eureka II.

Eureka II will be offering sailing training on all passive legs of her journey and participant seats on the race leg.

For full details please contact Whitsunday Sailing Adventures on 4940 2000.

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To view a Word Document of this release and supporting images, [click here](#).

To view The Whitsundays destination video, [click here](#).

About Tourism Whitsundays: Tourism Whitsundays (TW) is the organisation responsible for destination marketing and visitor attraction for the Whitsunday region. It is the lead agency recognised by Tourism and Events Queensland and the Whitsunday Regional Council to lead the promotion of the region as a tourism destination. Tourism Whitsundays markets all aspects of the region including the Great Barrier Reef, Whitsunday

Tourism Whitsundays

PO Box 479 | Cannonvale QLD 4802

1/5 Carlo Drive | Cannonvale QLD 4802

+617 4948 5900

www.tourismwhitsundays.com.au

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FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES, CONTACT:

Cait Fleming
Publicity & Communications Executive
Tourism Whitsundays
Ph: +61 417 765 736
Email: pr@tourismwhitsundays.com.au

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