

### **National Sports Museum pays tribute to the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race**

As the excitement builds for the 2012 Rolex Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race, the National Sports Museum is set to unveil a special exhibit on 21 December, *Across the Strait: the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race*.

Sailing greats such as Lou Abrahams, Syd Fischer and Adrienne Cahalan will have items on display, making for a very special collection of sailing artefacts.

Visitors can get up close to awe-inspiring items such as the 2010 line honours medal awarded to Adrienne Cahalan, who will race again this year as navigator on the renowned Wild Oats XI. Or take a moment to view the trophy awarded to Lou Abrahams for his 40<sup>th</sup> race in 2002. Mr. Abrahams' last race was in 2007 at the age of 80 years.

Also included in the display is Lisa Chamberlain's *Rani Trophy for Outstanding Seamanship*, awarded for her cool-headedness during last year's race when her boat was holed and filling with water. The experience did not deter Ms Chamberlain, though, who will be sailing the 2011 race with Jessica Watson, as part of the youngest ever crew to contest the race.

These great stories are complemented by historic sailing equipment, photographs and trophies that all have a breathtaking tale to tell.

Margaret Birtley, General Manager of the National Sports Museum, is excited for the arrival of this new display. Ms Birtley said: "The Rolex Sydney to Hobart has such a strong presence on Australia's sporting calendar. The National Sports Museum is pleased to pay tribute to this great event and the inspiring individuals associated with it."

Visitors can see *Across the Strait: the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race* at the National Sports Museum, alongside the most comprehensive collection of sporting memorabilia in Australia, including the recent exciting addition of a bike ridden by Cadel Evans on the final day of the 2011 Tour de France.

*Across the Strait: the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race* will open on 21 December and will remain on display until July 2012.

The National Sports Museum is located at Gate 3 of the MCG, Yarra Park. Entry is included in general admission prices.

-ends-

**MEDIA ENQUIRIES:**

Cynthia Lucas  
Haystac  
Tel: (03) 9693 2260  
Mobile: 0439 909 349

Shane Brown  
Communications Manager  
Melbourne Cricket Club  
Mobile: 0418 353 431

**Quick links:**

Website: [www.nsm.org.au](http://www.nsm.org.au)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nationalsportsmuseum](http://www.facebook.com/nationalsportsmuseum)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/NSMNews](http://www.twitter.com/NSMNews)