

INQUEST INTO THE DEATHS IN THE 1998 SYDNEY TO HOBART YACHT RACE

STATEMENT OF LORRAINE GABLE

On April 2000 I, **LORRAINE GABLE** of Unit 5, 52 Darling Point Road, Darling Point in the State of New Wales, Function Manager, say:

1. In 1998 I was the Function Manager at the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia ("CYCA").
2. Prior to and during the 1998 Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race ("SHYR") there was a sticker on my CYCA telephone which had contact numbers for key people for the 1998 SHYR. As far as I am aware all telephones in the CYCA had this sticker on them.
3. As far as I am aware anyone telephoning the CYCA and asking for Phil Thompson's mobile number would have been given it as that is one of the numbers which is on the sticker.
4. On 26 December 1998 I left the CYCA at approximately 11.00am on a spectator boat to watch the start of the 1998 SHYR.
5. The boat I was on followed the fleet out of Sydney Heads. The boat then returned to the CYCA marina. This trip took approximately 3 hours. I returned to the CYCA marina at approximately 2.30pm.
6. I remained on the deck of the CYCA marina for approximately 1 hour and then, went home, which would have been approximately 3.30pm.
7. I do not recall anyone saying, while I was standing on the deck of the marina, that someone from the Bureau of Meteorology had telephoned looking for Phil Thompson in relation to a storm warning or any other matter.
8. At the time of the 1998 SHYR I did not know Ken Batt. My first contact with Ken Batt was in relation to organising safety seminars. The first safety seminar was held in June or July 1999.

9. I am no longer an employee of the CYCA. However, from June/July 1999 to March 2000 I spoke to Ken Batt approximately 6 to 12 times and have corresponded with him by letter and facsimile in relation to the safety seminars. -

Dated

18th

April 2000



Lorraine Gable