



Yachts ready to set sail

NINETY yachts are registered for the Lexus of Adelaide Bluewater Classic this weekend and Lexus Lincoln Week.

Yachts competing in the 59th Adelaide to Lincoln race leave from the Royal South Australia Yacht Squadron tomorrow at 3pm and start arriving in Port Lincoln's Boston Bay on Saturday morning.

Key competitors include Martin Riley's multi hull "Raw Nerve" from Melbourne and Grant Wharington and his super maxi, "Skandia".

The men have been let back on board Skandia after three years competing with an all-female crew.

One of the male crew will be local sailor Steve Kemp, who will be joined by his daughter, junior Port Lincoln Yacht Club yachtsman of the year Georgie Kemp, 17, in her first Adelaide to Lincoln Race.

The father and daughter team and the rest of the crew are hoping

to make it into Boston Bay before 4.50am on Saturday to break the race record of 13 hours, 52 minutes, and 17 seconds set by Skandia's Grant Wharington on Wild Thing in 2000.

Local sailor Miles Stephens, who skippered last year's handicap winner Full Bore, has chartered another Sydney 32, Slap'n Teakle, for this year's race and hopes to claim the trophy once again.

The Bluewater Classic will be followed by a week of racing in and around Boston Bay with the Lexus Lincoln Week Regatta, which will have more divisions than in previous years, including Etechells.

A strong racing fleet is also registered for the week including Sydney 32's, multi hulls, sports boats and trailerables, and cruisers.

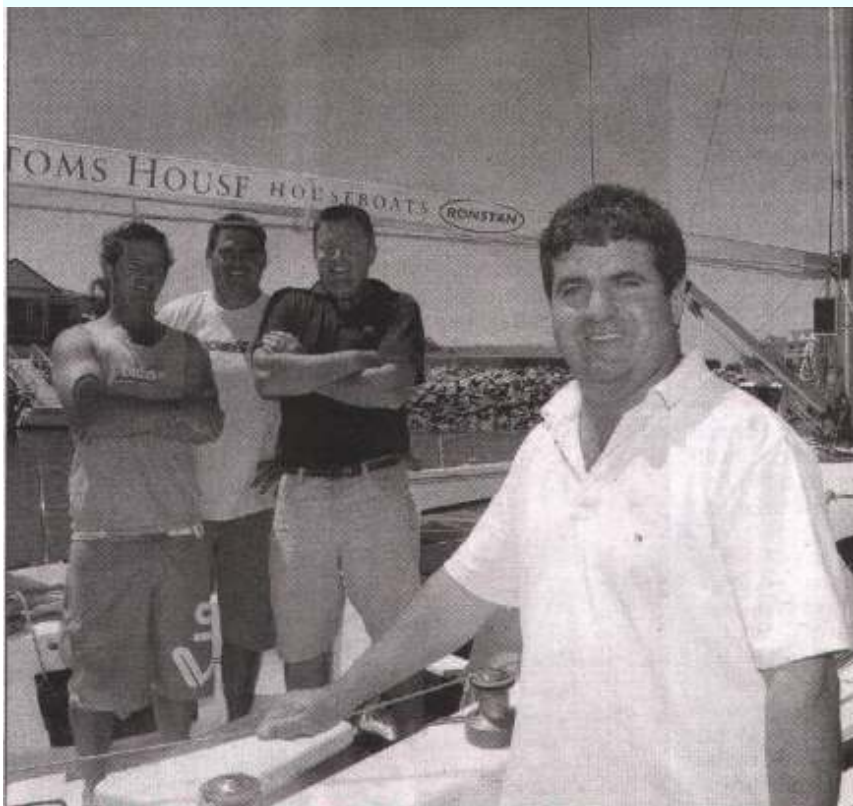
Port Lincoln Yacht Club Commodore Ben Kelsey said the race and the regatta brought Port

Lincoln to life and invited the public to join in the fun.

"It's a really vibrant time to be in Port Lincoln and most nights there's something going on, whether it's a barbecue on the beach or food stalls and live bands on the shore - we encourage anyone who has never been to a Lexus Lincoln Week to pay us a visit and join in the fun, yachtie or not.

"We have watched the Lexus of Adelaide Bluewater Classic grow each year, which is fantastic, but the Lincoln Week Regatta, which was originally implemented to give yachties something to do while they were in the area, has tripled in size and scale."

Find more information on the Lexus of Adelaide Bluewater Classic and Lexus Lincoln Week on pages 50 and 51 of today's Port Lincoln Times.



WINNER SAILS AGAIN: Skipper of the 2007 Bluewater Classic handicap winner Full Bore, Miles Stephens, has chartered Slap'n Teakle for this year's race. He is pictured with crew Byron Russ, Craig Bascombe and Port Lincoln Yacht Club commodore Ben Kelsey before sailing to Adelaide last week ready for tomorrow's race.