

There's a Storm approaching!

The organisers of the Wooden Boat Festival of Geelong are ecstatic as our 20th entry for the 6th Whyte, Just and Moore Wooden Boat Festival is none other than the divine Storm Bay, owned and skippered by Mr Tim Phillips. Storm Bay is a beauty to behold and has been lovingly restored by Tim over many years since purchasing her in 1996.

Storm Bay was designed and built at Battery Point in 1925 by the legendary shipwright Percy Coverdale. Planked in huon pine she is 54 ft on deck with a 13 ft beam. Her ten year restoration is testament to Tim and the works carried out by his craftsmen at the Wooden Boat Shop in Sorrento.

To watch her sail is poetry in motion. Her lines are based on the most famous ocean racing yacht, Winston Churchill. Winston Churchill was tragically lost in the 1998 Sydney Hobart Race which makes Storm Bay's restoration not only more poignant, but important historically.

Storm Bay was built for well known Tasmanian fisherman George Bridge and she stayed in the family as a working boat until her sale in 1962. After her sale she continued as a working boat, with the addition of a large dog house and with cut down rig.

With her stunning huon pine deck and classic lines it's hard to believe she was once a fishing vessel and sadly she is one of only 2 or 3 that still exist today. So to have her take part in the Festival this year is a real honour and a privilege. Make sure you see her as she holds pride of place at Royal Geelong Yacht Club during the Wooden Boat Festival.



