



Media release

Office: 102 North Road, Yakamia
Postal: PO Box 484, ALBANY WA 6331
Phone: (08) 9841 9333
Fax: (08) 9841 4099
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Authorised by: DENNIS WELLINGTON, MAYOR

Clipper fleet leaves Cape Town in pursuit of Kinjarling Cup

The Clipper Round the World yachts have left South Africa and are speeding towards Albany in pursuit of what is sure to be a coveted prize – the Kinjarling Cup.

The winning yacht in the Cape Town to Albany leg of the gruelling race will be presented with the special prize by the City of Albany.

The City is developing the prize in conjunction with local Elders, and while details are yet to be finalised, it is expected to comprise a trophy together with a selection of local produce and Indigenous items.

"Kinjarling" has special significance as it is the name for Albany used by the Minang Noongar Aboriginal people - the traditional owners of the land upon which Albany sits.

Albany Mayor Dennis Wellington said Albany was looking forward to welcoming the Clipper crews and their friends and families with open arms.

"Albany has been closely watching the progress of the Clipper fleet and we will be very excited to see them sail into our spectacular King George Sound in just a few weeks," Mr Wellington said.

"We are proud to honour the traditional owners of our land by presenting the Kinjarling Cup to the first yacht into Albany."

The Clippers yachts will be moored at the Albany Waterfront Marina from about November 23-25 to December 3.

The City of Albany, in conjunction with a range of stakeholders and community groups, has been hard at working preparing for the arrival of the Clipper fleet.

A working group has been meeting regularly which includes the City of Albany, Department of Transport, Great Southern Development Commission, Albany Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Albany Port Authority, Australian Customs, Princess Royal Sailing Club, Albany Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Albany Entertainment Centre Albany Maritime Foundation and others.

As the boats arrive, hungry crews will be able to get a hot meal and drinks at any time of day or night at the Albany Boat Shed, thanks to the Albany Maritime Foundation and the City of Albany. This will continue until all boats have arrived.

A range of supporting events have been planned around Albany during the Clipper period.

- Wednesday November 27 – Nigel Brennan in conversation with Jon Doust (***please note date change***). Albany Town Hall. Brennan is a Brisbane photojournalist who was kidnapped in Somalia in 2008.
- Saturday November 30 – Clipper Festival at Albany Waterfront Marina featuring boat open day, food and wine stalls, chef cook-off and entertainment.
- Sunday December 1 – Boat Shed Market, Princess Royal Sailing Club mini-open day (Albany Waterfront Marina), Clipper recruitment drive and information session (Boat Shed), PRSC Clipper dinner featuring Clipper founder Sir Robin Knox-Johnston (ticket only)
- Tuesday December 3 – Race restart.

A range of schools from across the Great Southern have had the opportunity to adopt their own Clipper yacht and will be closely following the fleet as it moves towards Albany.

Mr Wellington said hosting the Clipper race would throw Albany into the spotlight as a premium visitor destination and would have significant positive economic benefits for the region.

NOTE: The fleet is due to depart Cape Town Monday November 4 at 8:30pm Albany time.

END