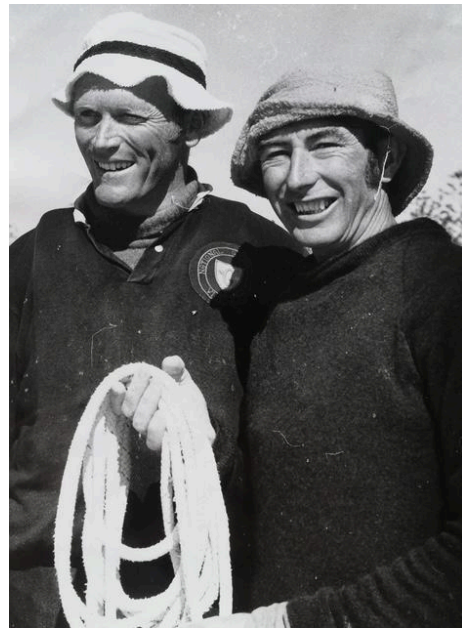


Vale Bryan Inns - IFAA Life Member

(2/12/42 - 30/03/26)

With great sadness, we share the news of the passing of Australian Fireball Life Member and beloved father, Bryan Inns. Not only was Bryan a champion sailor himself, he developed two of his sons Robin and Peter who also became Fireball champions.

Bryan had a great love of the sea. It began simply, with homemade boards at Somerton Beach, but by 17, he had caught the "sailing bug" that would shape the next several decades for the entire Inns family. He was a fixture of the South Australian sailing community, moving from Brighton and Seacliff Yacht Club to Glenelg and finally to the Adelaide Sailing Club, mastering everything from the Rainbow to the Sharpie. But it was the Fireball class where Bryan truly made his mark. Alongside his dear mate Mike Rogers, he didn't just compete; he excelled, winning the National Championships and ultimately placing an incredible 3rd in the 1972 World Championships in North Carolina.



Mike (L) and Bryan (R)



Bryan and Mike sailing to a win in Skedaddle in the 1971-72

Bryan's talent was matched only by his patience. He once built a 125 in the family shed and convinced his wife Pam to crew for him. To the amazement of the fleet, they managed to win the State Championship—Pam happily waving and smiling the whole way. Even when Pam was pregnant with their first son, Tim, Bryan's drive didn't waver; he teamed up with Uncle John to become the inaugural 125 National Champions.

Whether it was in a Sharpie, Tasar, Mosquito cat or the Sabre, Bryan was a true natural at the helm. Even in his later years, his passion never dimmed.

His final years sailing the Farr 6000 at Goolwa showed us a different side of Bryan's sailing—the "gentleman sailor".



Life was too short to sail upwind, preferring to cruise downwind into the reeds for a long lunch, a nap, and a quiet Bacardi back at the marina.

Bryan was always at his happiest with the tiller in his hand and the wind at his back. He was a gentle, kind, caring and humble man. His family are so proud to call him dad. As mates from the Fireball class we are honoured to have known Bryan as a fun, competitive friend always with a smile on shore and focused concentration on the water.

Sail on skinny guts!



Bryan and Mike revelling in performance sailing!