

John Maddox, PO Sydney (31st December) – The legendary *Dorade*, a classic 52-foot, 87-year-old yawl, now owned by **Matt Brooks** and his partner Pam Rorke Levy, competed in the 2017 Sydney Hobart Race. *Dorade* was designed in 1928 by the 21-year-old Olin Stephens and built by his brother Rod on City Island, New York.

Since she was sold by the Stephens brothers in 1935, she has had five owners. Her design was quite different to broad-beamed schooners that were the fashion for racing yachts of the 1930s. She is narrow, with fine ends.

While owned by the Stephens brothers *Dorade* was second in the 1931 Bermuda Race and won the Transatlantic Race in that year, then the Fastnet Race in 1933. Later the second owners had line honours in the 1936 Transpac Race.

Matt and Pam bought *Dorade* in 2010 and in 2013 she was first in the Transpac Race, finishing in 12 days 5 hrs 23 mins. Matt says that they had to do considerable work to be able to take *Dorade* to sea again but they consider the effort well worthwhile.

2017 saw *Dorade* compete in another Transatlantic Race, completing it in 14 days 22 hrs and 55 mins.

In the light airs of the 2017 Hobart Race, *Dorade* took 3 days 6hrs 37 m for the 628 nm Race but Matt and crew really enjoyed the Hobart hospitality and the challenge of participating in such a well-known ocean race.



Photographs are courtesy of Rolex/Studio Borlenghi

With 40M to go to Hobart, here is *Dorade* reaching in a fresh nor'easter with a fine view of the dolomite cliffs on the SE coast of Tasmania

