

W1131 261/00 RMB-G1

NEW SOUTH WALES STATE CORONER'S COURT

STATE CORONER: J ABERNETHY

TUESDAY 1 AUGUST 2000

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5/98 - EVENT OF THE 1998 SYDNEY TO HOBART YACHT RACE

**INQUEST INTO THE DEATHS OF JAMES MICHAEL LAWLER
MICHAEL BANNISTER
BRUCE RAYMOND GUY
PHILLIP RAYMOND CHARLES SKEGGS
JOHN WILLIAM DEAN
GLYN RODERICK CHARLES**

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Mr A Hill assisting the Coroner
Mr R Stanley QC for the Bureau of Meteorology
Mr R Weber for the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia

PART HEARD

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<PHILLIP ERNEST THOMPSON(9.45AM)
SWORN AND EXAMINED

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HILL: Q. Sir, would you give the Court your full name please?

A. Phillip Ernest Thompson.

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Q. And your address sir? Professional address will be fine.

A. Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, Darling Point.

Q. And your occupation?

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A. I'm the sailing manager of the Cruising Yacht Club.

Q. You were appointed sailing manager in 1995, is that correct?

A. That's correct.

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Q. What experience of organising yacht races did you have as at 1995?

A. As of 1995 I'd competed in a large number of Sydney to Hobart races, I'd also competed in international events and I'd undertaken a sports administration course with the Department of Sport and Recreation.

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Q. What experience did you have in organising races?

A. In organising races? I'd worked very closely with the existing management of the club and I had a role in the Sydney to Hobart each year.

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Q. Doing what?

A. Arranging the preliminary work involved in starting and also we had a youth academy which I was involved in which also used to run events so we were running varying sailing events for varieties of competitors.

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