



WEH (Eric) Strain/ Gold Cup

I have been writing a book on the history of the Dragon Class in Australia for about 10 years and still going due mainly to the distance between states. I have been writing it as a story from each of the States with chapters from those people involved.

Having been involved since 1948 I thought I better get a move on before it's too late. Incidentally I sailed against Ole Bernsen in 1959 in Copenhagen in the Gold Cup and in Geelong Australia in the Worlds and I promised him I would Sail in the Worlds and the Gold Cup when I was one year older than he was when he died.

Getting to the point on the first Sunday in September 1949 I met an Irishman wearing a British Olympic Blazer from the 1948 Olympics, the rest is Dragon history in Australia Eric was the driving force in the class in Australia and mentor to my father and myself. In 1956 Melbourne he was appointed Reserve Skipper to the British Team and spent a lot of time helping Graham Mann Alister and I don't remember.

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In the 1948 Olympics Eric was leading with one race to go and according to an eye witness Uffa Fox his tactics were impeccable but a split in the fleet cost him and Britain the Gold. Eric Sailed his cousin W Barnett's boat Ceres2. In the Gold Cup 1946-7 Eric won the Gold Cup again in his cousin's boat the older Ceres. In the official results on your website of Gold Cup Results you have the skipper of Ceres as W Barnett. Defiantly not rite. If you could fix this entry Eric can rest in peace.

Alwyn (Jarman)

NB We have, of course amended the Gold Cup Winners List (IDA)