

## Twilight Race 4<sup>th</sup> January, Series 2, Race 1

The first race of the New Year for the Huon Yacht Club was the pursuit Twilight race, held on the 4<sup>th</sup> January. Four boats competed in the ideal conditions, 8-10 knots from the west. For once the breeze was reasonably constant in speed and direction for sheltered waters. The course was set from the start/finish line to the mid river buoy to the Hospital Bay buoy, then back to the start/finish line.

John Townsend's yacht *Sabre* competed after a long absence, due to a major refit and paint job. *Stardust Dancer* was the first to start at 6.03 and *Sabre* started 6 minutes later. *French Connection* started at 6.28 and *Another Girl, Another Planet (AGAP)* at 6.34.



At the completion of the first lap all the yachts were holding their order of starting places. The second lap saw *Sabre* a minute and a half ahead of *Stardust Dancer*, and *French Connection* just 6 seconds ahead of *AGAP*. By the time the yachts were approaching the finishing line, all boats were reasonably close together. *Sabre* lead the fleet about 6 minutes ahead of the rest. *Stardust Dancer* just managed to cross the finish line just 3 seconds ahead of *AGAP* then *French Connection* finished fourth 2 minutes later. The handicapping system worked well with all the boats finishing within 6 minutes. The close finish made for exciting viewing for the spectators. It was a great start to the 2018 racing.

The scheduled Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January race to Arch Rock was cancelled due to predicted strong winds and most of the boats skippers not able to compete due to other commitments.