Niesje Hees, Secretary Etchells Melbourne Fleet, National Secretary IECAA, RBYC GC member Mid Gybe Crisis AUS 1277

How did you get into sailing?

I did a beginners course in New Zealand with Penny Whiting in my late twenties. I've been doing some sort of sailing ever since then.

Why did you choose to sail Etchells?

I was invited to do the South Pacific Etchells Women's Keelboat regatta in 1998 in a borrowed boat—and loved it.

What is a highlight of you time in Etchells so far?

Doing the 1999 Worlds in January 2000 up in Pittwater was a big adventure – Pete Stubbings and I shared a truck to get out boats up there. Really, every regatta since then has been an adventure of some kind – and some of the club racing too

What are you plans for the season?

My crew Josh, Cliff and I look forward to a full season of club racing, with the VIC States at RBYC as a highlight to look forward to. Maybe the Nationals in Adelaide as well – we'll see!