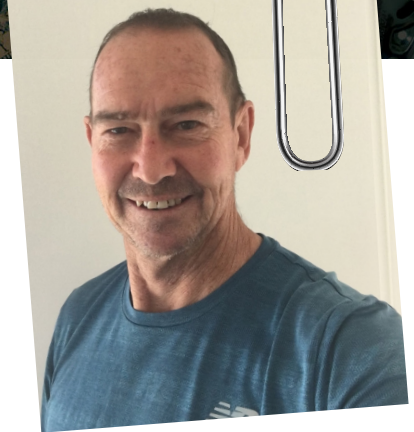


# MEET THE SKIPPERS



INTRODUCING RACE COMPETITOR

## ALAN YARDLEY



Alan is a Kiwi skipper, who came to sailing fairly late at the grand old age of 32 having spent most of his younger years in Surf Life Saving, Triathlons, and Surfing. He'd never stepped on board a yacht until he was in England on his OE, and it immediately grabbed him as a great way to see the world and compete in events that challenged him.

He started doing odd jobs on Corinthian boats in the summer sailing seasons, and doing RYA yachting theory courses during the winters.

It was inevitable that Alan would buy a yacht, and his first was an Albin Vega 27. Over time he graduated to a Kauffman 42 which he owned and campaigned for nearly 20 years including RORC series, Fastnet, 3 x trans-Atlantic (the first a 2 x handed race from Canaries to St Lucia, the other 2 were solo Westabout and Eastabout), and a Solo Transpac. In 1999 he brought the boat to New Zealand to enjoy the America's Cup, and did a couple of solo Tasman's in 2007 and 2010, taking the IRC win in 2010.

In 2009 Alan came close to gaining sponsorship from a large French multinational to do the Around Alone. He traveled to Paris to discuss the deal and look at IMOCA 60's available at the time. But the sponsorship deal was not to be. He sold the Kauffman and focused on the great racing in and around Auckland, especially the Richmond Yacht Club Single Handed Series.

Alan now has a fantastic 'tough built' Elliot 9 that is safe, strong, and fast, which he has campaigned very successfully. Alan hopes he can live up to his 3rd Solo Tasman against some very worthy and respected competitors!

**BOAT:** Melting Pot

**TYPE:** Elliot 9

**HOME PORT:** Mongonui YC, NZ

**PREVIOUS COMPETITOR:** Yes, 2010

**TIME:** 9d 19h 3m



RAY WHITE NEW PLYMOUTH  
**SOLO TRANS-TASMAN  
YACHT CHALLENGE  
2023**