

May, 2009

Background: McIntyre ADVENTURE

Don McIntyre, 54 and his wife, Margie McIntyre, 48, from Hobart, Tasmania, are best known to Australians as "the Antarctic Couple" who in 1995 endured a year of total isolation, living in a box, chained to rocks at the windiest spot on the face of the earth, Cape Dennison in Antarctica, the site of Mawson's huts.

Prior to this life-changing endeavour, Don had raced 27,000 nautical miles solo around the world in the 1990/91 BOC Challenge and in 1993 he first sailed to Antarctica with 200 teddy bears, raising funds for the Camperdown Children's Hospital.

In 2000, with sponsorship support from Dick Smith, the McIntyre's purchased a 36m, 600 tonne, helicopter-equipped ICE ship in Finland and embarked on three years of Antarctic expeditions and a treasure hunting expedition into the Philippines.

To keep their land legs active and "for something different" they both took on another challenge - racing Tarmac Rally cars with some success in the Targa Tasmania Rally. In 2007 Don completed a world-first solo ultra light Gyro-copter flight around Australia, flying 13,000km in 22days.

Their next big adventure www.bountyboat.com kicks off in April 2010, when Don McIntyre and a crew of three, will attempt to sail a 7.5m open boat, 4000 miles across the Pacific from Tonga to Timor, retracing the legendary voyage of William Bligh. Bligh's epic fight for survival following the Mutiny on the Bounty is considered the greatest open boat journey in maritime history.

In the true spirit of their adventure partnership, Margie McIntyre will provide logistics support to the Bounty Boat project.

Supporting Adventure

The McIntyre's commitment to adventure has seen them support many other adventurers in their efforts to achieve individual dreams, by assisting with cash, equipment, advice or encouragement. For some time Don & Margie have been concerned that the spirit of adventure may be disappearing among young adventurers, who sometimes don't even know how to dream, or lack the confidence to believe in themselves and "have a go".

To foster the spirit of adventure among young Australians, the McIntyre's have committed to promote the ideals of adventure by providing real assistance, advice, mentoring and encouragement to young adventurers aged 16 to 25 years.

The McIntyres are passionate in their belief that "responsible risk taking - adventure" is a fundamental feature in developing a strong character in any individual.

"Having achieved something extraordinary, they can become excellent communicators, with passion and confidence, inspiring others to push beyond the boundaries in their chosen field. Often these adventures develop into entrepreneurs, community and business leaders and become "Australian" characters who help to define our culture," Don McIntyre said.

The McIntyres will look for opportunities to provide real logistics, hardware, advice, opinions and encouragement to young adventurers and will seek out like-minded corporate partners and individuals in various disciplines to provide mentoring and other support.

In the future, the McIntyres may also launch new adventures involving young Australians, seeking their active participation.

"We intend to provide support and possible funding from our own resources to ensure the spirit of adventure continues to thrive in Australia," Don said.

Previous Adventurers Supported by Don & Margie McIntyre

Over the years, the McIntyre's have provided a variety of support to a wide range of adventurers from Australia and around the world. Some of this support has included:

- Dick Smith & John Wallington...Trans Australia and Trans Tasman Balloon flight...Equipment support
- Phil Kavanagh...Trans Australia Balloon Flight...Equipment support
- Kay Cottee....Solo Circumnavigation...Equipment support
- Ian Kiernan...Solo Circumnavigation...Equipment support
- Jessie Martin...Solo Circumnavigation...Equipment support
- David Dicks...Solo Circumnavigation...Equipment support
- Mike Perham...Solo Circumnavigation..Logistics support
- John Saunders...Solo Circumnavigation..Equipment support
- David Scott Cowper.. Three solo Circumnavigations...Logistics support
- Jean Luc Van der Hede..Solo Circumnavigation...Logistics support
- Minoru Saito....Four solo circumnavigations..Logistics/equipment/ boat provision and support
- Alan Nebauer...Solo Circumnavigation..Equipment support
- Jack Christophisen...Solo Circumnavigation attempt...Equipment support.
- Harry Mitchell...Solo Circumnavigation..Equipment/logistics support
- Russel Salmon...20 ft Trans Tasman sail..Equipment support
- Shigeo Saito...Solar boat challenge...Logistics support
- Wade Fairley...Antarctic kayak expedition...Equipment support
- Ben Tucker...Antarctic Sailing expedition...Equipment support
- Tim Edkins...Antarctic Sailing expedition..Equipment support
- Malcom Douglas..Kimberly expedition...Equipment support
- Chris Bray & Clark Carter...1000 hour Day Arctic trek...Major sponsorship support
- David Pryce...Blizzard Antarctic Expeditions..Equipment/logistics support

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