

trailer-sailers

A guide to Australian trailer sailers
possibly written by Bob Ross circa late 70's.

Compass Careel 18

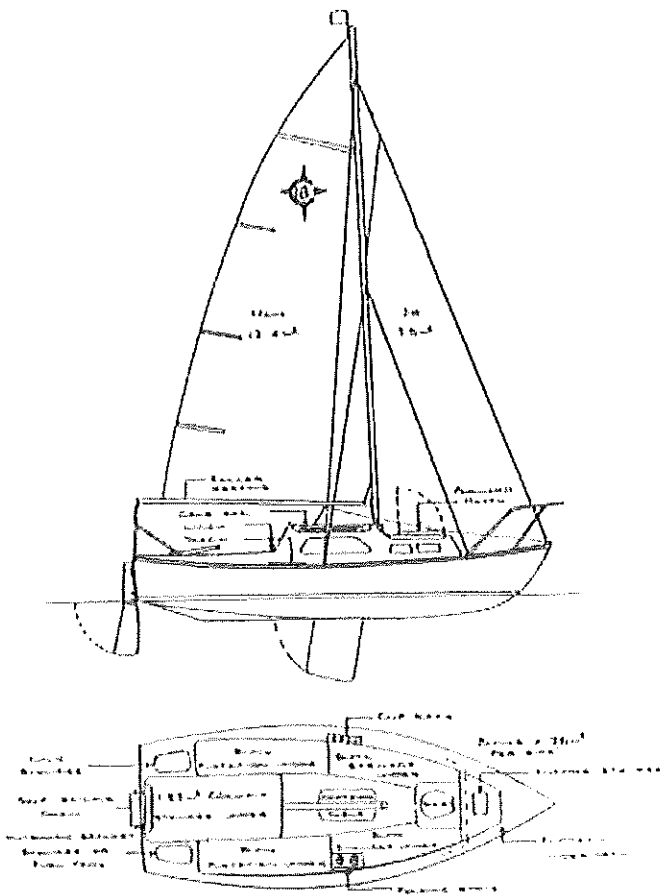
This pretty little trailer-sailer has been around the yachting scene probably longer than any other except the Hartley series. It began life almost twenty years ago under the Duncanson name, when it was manufactured in South Australia. For a while it had a chequered career until it wound up as the first of the now excellent stable of trailer-sailer yachts produced by David Rose Yachts Pty Ltd, Sydney. David Rose, himself a keen yachtsman, saw the potential in this boat as a family unit which could also, if enough of them were sold, compete in class racing.

Enough of them *were* sold, and currently the Careel 18 enjoys some of the best class racing for boats of its size and type in the world. Having been constantly updated and improved, it is now a modern, sophisticated boat, which can be easily trailered by any family car to any waterway across the continent. The interior accommodation has also been developed to the point where it provides comfortable, though somewhat confined due to the boat's length, accommodation for a small family either in the water, or on the trailer as a caravan.

The Careel 18 has not the sophistication of its big sister, the Careel 22. But then you would hardly expect this in a boat 1.2 metres shorter and considerably cheaper. As she stands, the '18' offers one of the best values in trailer-sailer buys on the market today. Quite apart from the fact that she is built and fitted like a miniature yacht, the quality of the workmanship in her build is identical to that of the '22', a feature of which her manufacturer is justifiably proud. Her warranty period for the fibreglass in her construction is a remarkable two years.

Unlike the '22', the Careel 18 makes no pretence of being a luxury vessel. You can't make luxury vessels out of 5.6 metre sailing boats anyway. But with four adult bunks, a toilet, galley, a 1.8 metre cockpit, to say nothing of a remarkable list of extras, you have the closest thing to a luxury yacht that can be fitted into a 5.6 metre boat. She has a centreboard which makes her easy to trailer, a broad beam which makes her stable, and a simple sloop rig which makes her easy to put together

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when the ramp is reached.

The Careel 18 is, as no doubt the manufacturer will agree, a large sailing dinghy in terms of handling and performance. She should be sailed this way and not as a deep-keel yacht. Whoever heard of a 5.6 metre deep-keel yacht! When under sail, this snappy little boat offers all the thrills of open boats of her size, yet the stability of much larger yachts. Add this to the comfort of all appointments, and you have some idea why this boat has reached such popularity. I have sailed in Compass Careel on a number of occasions through her varied career, and can say without any hesitation that the modern version produced by David Rose is a trailer-sailer that would delight anyone who knows anything at all about sailing. It will also delight those who look to her as simply a comfortable cruising yacht which can be sailed on virtually any waterway across the country.

There is a saying that good things come in small parcels, and this is without doubt applicable to the Compass Careel 18 trailer yacht.

SPECIFICATIONS

<i>LOA</i>	5.6 m
<i>Beam</i>	2.25 m
<i>Maximum draft</i>	1.21 m
<i>Minimum draft</i>	0.305 m
<i>Displacement</i>	544 kg
<i>Ballast</i>	45.5 kg
<i>Hull material</i>	Fibreglass
<i>Keel type</i>	Centreplate
<i>Jib</i>	7.52 m ² —storm jib 2.52 m ²
<i>Main</i>	12.44 m ²
<i>Genoa</i>	10.08 m ²
<i>Berths</i>	4
<i>Motor</i>	4 hp (2.98 kW) outboard
<i>Price</i>	
<i>Basic moulding</i>	\$1,895
<i>Sail away</i>	\$3,095
<i>Luxury version</i>	\$3,295
<i>Manufacturer</i>	Compass Yachts (Aust) Pty Ltd 9 Production Avenue Kogarah NSW 2217

