



**MEDIA RELEASE FEBRUARY 29, 2008**

**ROUND THE WORLD YACHT RALLY TO VISIT MACKAY MARINA**

Mackay Marina Village has been chosen as the new Australian Port of Entry for the Blue Water Rally.

The Blue Water Rally is a biannual event which enables cruising sailors to fulfil their dream of circumnavigating the world in their own yachts, accompanied by families and friends. Safe passage is made possible by a dedicated support team. This is the seventh world Rally organised by Blue Water Rallies Ltd and the fleet is made up from 30 yachts from 9 nations. Currently in the Galapagos Islands the yachts are due to arrive into Mackay in August for a 10 day stopover before continuing on to Darwin.

Rally Director, Peter Seymour who visited Mackay in January commented: "I was delighted with my visit to Mackay Marina and to the city. Australia has always been an important stopover for our crews, who particularly need good boatyard facilities for refitting their yachts halfway round the world.

"Mackay Marina has everything we need and everyone I met has a 'can-do' attitude, which is so often lacking elsewhere. Crews will also be looking for excellent shore facilities for both R&R and tourism and they will clearly find these here as well.

Our visit to Mackay promises to be a great success and we look forward very much to arriving in August."

Further details of the Blue Water Rally with stories and pictures from the fleet as they sail towards Mackay can be found at [www.bluewaterrallies.com](http://www.bluewaterrallies.com).

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