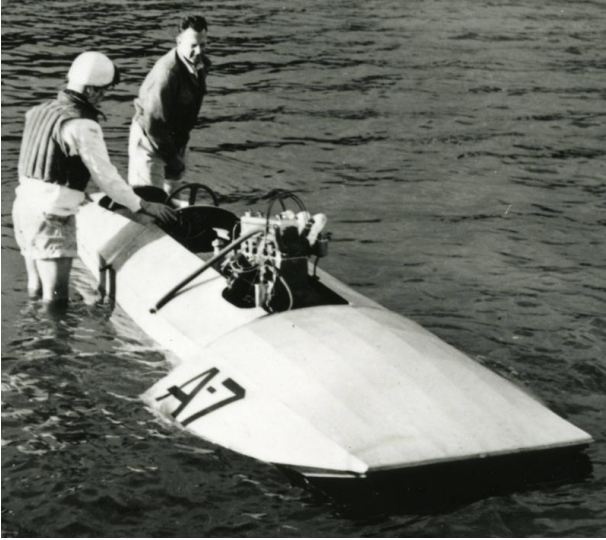


# Basic Detail Report

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## Firefly II

### Vessel number

HV000033

### Date

1949

### Description

FIREFLY II is a 3.8 m long three-point hydroplane, built in wood, plywood and fabric in Sydney NSW. FIREFLY II set a World Water Speed record on the 14th of February 1950 when designer, builder and driver Keith Barry reached

116.34 kph, ( 72.29 mph) a new record for the 91 cubic inch (1500cc) class. Keith Barry and his friends built the boat in 12 days when they heard that a rival driver Ernie Nunn was going to challenge for the world record in the Nunn family's boat DO. They both raced at dawn on Kogarah Bay, NSW in calm water. Ernie's niece Enid started the chase with a new speed of 106.07 kph. 40 minutes later Keith Barry set the new record, watched by a crowd of several thousand on the shoreline. Keith Barry was an engineer and he fitted FIREFLY II with an engine from a friend's MG racing car. Later that year in November the same friend, Bill McLachlan, was given the opportunity to raise the record. Bill was 18 kg lighter than Keith and he steered FIREFLY II to a new record of 125.54 kph (78.01 mph) which stood until 1952.

### Dimensions

Vessel Dimensions: 3.83 m x 1.72 m (12.6 ft x 5.65 ft)