



# The Carbine Club of NSW

## Sir James Hardy OBE

**Born: November 1932**

**Carbine Club Member since: 1979**

**Sir James Gilbert Hardy** OBE AASA is an Australian winemaker and businessman who is also noted for his yachting achievements.

A descendant of the South Australian winemaker Thomas Hardy, James Hardy was born at Seacliff, South Australia.

His father, Tom Mayfield Hardy, who was appointed chairman and managing director of Thomas Hardy and Sons in 1924, was one of those killed near Mount Dandenong on 25 October 1938 in the crash of the plane "Kyeema". Tom Hardy was a noted sailor, associated with the yacht *Nerida* at the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron.

Hardy was educated at Brighton Primary School, St. Peter's College and the South Australian Institute of Technology. On leaving school, he spent two years share farming at Port Vincent, South Australia, then joined the family wine company Thomas Hardy and Sons in 1953, working as a shipping clerk. He then served as Sales Supervisor from 1957 to 1961, then as Regional Director for the Eastern States of Australia, when he and his family moved permanently to Sydney with a residence at Manly.

He was appointed chairman in 1981 and non-executive director in 1992 when it merged to become BRL Hardy Wine Company.

A renowned world champion yachtsman, Hardy represented Australia at two Olympic Games (1964 in Tokyo and 1968 in Mexico City), skippered three America's Cup challenges in 1970, 1974 and 1980), and competed in four Admiral's Cup Ocean Racing Championships.

Hardy has served 25 years on the executive committee of the Neurosurgical Research Foundation of South Australia.

He was Chair of the Federal Government's Natural Heritage Trust Advisory Committee for 8 years.

He is a former Chairman of the Landcare Foundation.

In 1975, in recognition of his contribution to sailing and the community, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE).

In 1981 he was invested a Knight Bachelor by Queen Elizabeth II, for services to yachting. In 1994, Hardy was inducted into the America's Cup Hall of Fame. In 2000 he was awarded the Australian Sports Medal.

He was Chairman of Sydney's Australia Day Regatta, serving from 2004 until 2011, and is a patron of numerous organizations and charities.