

SECOND LIFE FOR REVAMPED CAT

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A luxury catamaran was re-launched in Lyttelton harbour recently after being washed up on the rocks in Nelson and rebuilt here in Christchurch.

The Cattiva was looking like the cat's pyjamas in Lyttelton's inner harbour following an extensive makeover by Ian Franklin boat builders in Bromley. Owners Joan Gregor and Chuck Pelly divide their time between their home in Los Angeles and New Zealand from where they explore the South Pacific. The 13m luxury yacht suffered extensive damage last year when it lost its moorings in Nelson and was washed up on the rocks during a storm.

"We got that dreaded phone call from the captain looking after our boat. It was shattered from the waterline down," Joan says.



The Cattiva was rebuilt, refurbished and returned to the water last week. It had new engines installed, the keel modified and a revolutionary new "Kiwiprop" installed, made from lightweight, composite blades. The yacht is capable of withstanding the wildest weather, Joan says, and they have encountered some serious storms on their voyages in the South Pacific. However, just because the waves are crashing over the cockpit, that's no reason to be uncomfortable.

Descending polished wooden stairs past the enclosed cockpit, the yacht opens out into a sumptuous lounge with gleaming maple cabinetry and a white leather lounge suite curving around the walls.

The kitchen sparkles with a stainless steel gas hob and a microwave/convection oven. Cutlery is neatly stacked in concealed drawers with individual wooden dividers. It is the perfect combination of form and function with a place for everything and everything oozing style.



The yacht comes with two double cabins, two bathrooms and all rooms have ocean views that can be freshened up on a whim and wind change.

Cattiva's stylish interior would be no surprise to anyone who knows the intrepid sailors. Chuck and Joan are both world renowned designers and Chuck designed much of the Cattiva with careful attention to every detail. It even has a mini instrument panel in the aft cabin which can be read from the bed.

Cattiva has everything they need to survive life at sea and to see life in the South Pacific from the comfort of the floating home.

Telltale fishing rods are stacked in the cockpit. "We have had people on board who love to cook – fresh fish most of the time," Joan says.

The name Cattiva means "naughty woman" in Italian, Chuck says. "She is a little naughty sometimes. She sails so smoothly, so quickly but if she gets mad she will bite."

