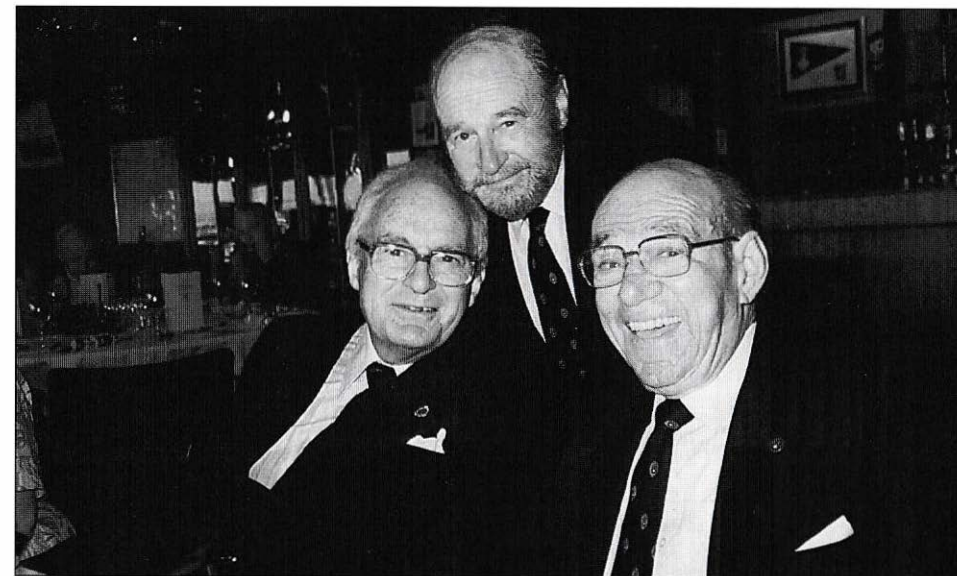


in his only Island Cup race; and *Ruthean* with Bryan Price. *Chloe III* and *Amon Ra* are among others coming readily to mind.

Turning to cruising, he has recollections of happy and memorable cruises aboard a number of Members' fine yachts. The cruise back home after the 1957 Sydney-Hobart race aboard *Tahuna* remains in his memory as perhaps one of the best. Mock Sarah was supreme in the galley. Tasmanian crayfish were a speciality! Henry Wilckens had Colin Haselgrove as his Number One, so Jack says he learned much. He went back to *Seevogel* days; *Tahuna* RSAYS ("Little Toot"); *Ranger* with Phil Henshall and his sons; *Moongara* with Pep Manthorpe; Bruce and David Atterton's *Spindrift*; John Harrison's *Solace*; and Jack Williams' Cole 43 *Minna* and *Allemanda* (which he helped to build); and Merv Butterfield's *Bella*. When only 69 years young, he spent six wonderful months cruising as crew aboard Bryan and Helen Price's 54-foot yawl

*Ruthean* from Outer Harbor (12 May, 1979) to Barrier Reef waters in Queensland, and return. He well remembers the special night for his seventieth birthday, homeward bound at Gladstone. He was pleased to be included as regular crew with Jim Stump and Howard Byerlee aboard Bill Harniman's *Nyroca* for five years.

Bill Jolly went away with Frank and Jack on *Jafra* before building *Wonoka* with the intention to cruise extensively. After Duncan Hart bought *Wonoka* from Don Morton in 1984, he renamed her *Haiku*. Jack has enjoyed great cruising with Duncan and his friends. Early 1985 saw Jack off to New Zealand to tour the South Island before going aboard *Morning Hustler* to be with Jamie and Anthea Cowell. They cruised the magnificent Marlborough Sounds before sailing to Wellington and along the east coast to Gisborne, sundry islands and Auckland, where he left the vessel. There is a nice photograph of Jack sand-



Blythe Lindsay, Bruce Tunbridge and Jack Gamlin at the 1993 Christmas luncheon.

ing the tiller for revarnishing before entering harbour. Another great memory was a month on *Amon Ra* with Don and Anne Burrow.

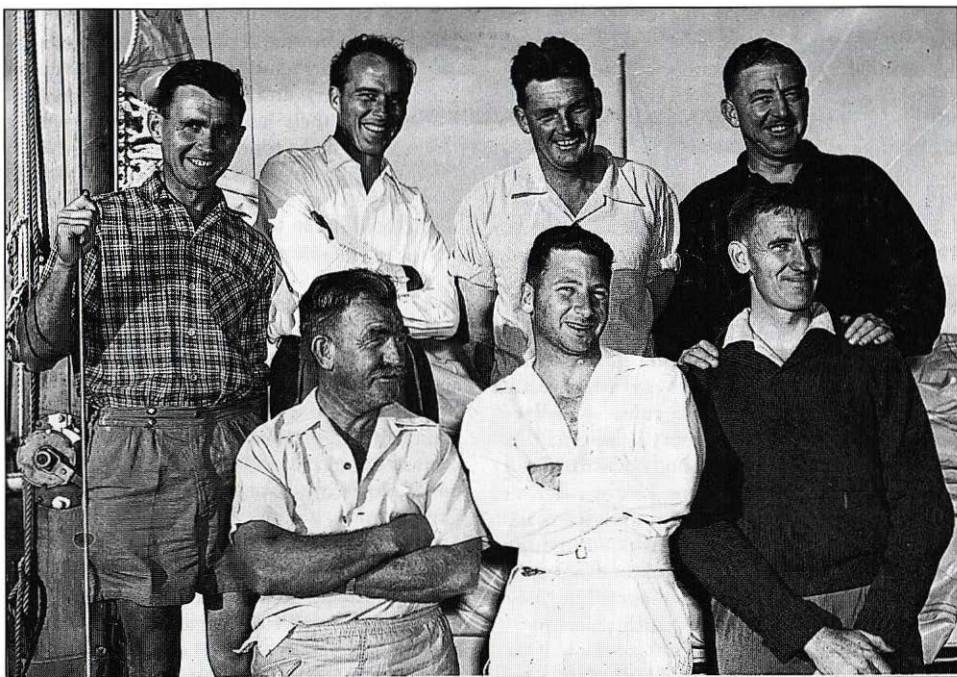
Jack's memories go back to Dr Kyle Gault in *Warrigal* before she passed to Harcourt Doherty and Jim Bullock. George Eimer's strong cigars pervaded *Nymphaea*, but Len Wigan, John Willoughby and John Maitland didn't seem to mind. At American River there was Horrie Ratcliff, who showed remarkable skill at rolling cigarettes with his solitary hand. It's a sad thought that they greatly shortened his life — Ed.] Another personality was "Curly" Dempster, who was totally bald. On New Year's Eve the girls painted a rude face on his scalp with lipstick. Keith Litchfield was a generous host at his shack. Jack raced against *Puana* in George Mayne's time, and cruised in company with John and Nancy Muirhead with their four children packed into the Black Sea *Enchantress*. He remembered helping to refloat Wilbur Tedmanson's *Galatea* when she went up on the spit at Port Vincent (as did *Ruthean* years later). On several occasions *Jafra's* shallow draft was useful in approaching larger vessels which were in trouble. One photograph in his collection is of *Ranger* and *Bella* aground at Stansbury near the site of the old jetty. They came up on the flooding tide.

Chris Wade and his son Bill on Thistle Island were always hospitable, even though Mrs Wade's superb dinners mightn't be served until 11 pm (2300). Sometimes they would shoot a steer, and Jack would use his butchering skills to dress the carcass. On Wedge Island Norm Crowden was one of the first to fly his family to and fro. Here the challenge was to join in shooting parties to try to eliminate the feral goats. The turkeys were gone by then.

Those who have sailed with Jack speak of his unfailing good humour; his infectious enthusiasm; and his ever-ready willingness to use his formidable skills with wood, brush, butcher's knife or anything else that can be of use. And whenever there is water under him, nothing can stop him from fishing. As soon as the anchor is down there will be a squid lure over the side before he baits a hook to see what else may be there.

He would like to wish you all the best, and to say thanks for the privilege and enjoyment of being a Member of RSAYS for the past 44 years. Now in his eighty-fourth year, Jack continues to maintain a keen interest in the Squadron and its doings. Long may this continue!

SQ



Before taking *Tahuna* to Sydney for the 1957 Hobart race: Ken McLaren, Dick Fidock, Peter Warrington, Henry Wilckens, (in front) Mock Sarah, David Judell, Colin Smith.