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COVER PHOTO : KATIE photographed at Black Point in 1905 after alterations to her rig involving stepping her mast further forward and shortening her bowsprit. She belonged to Perc and Laurie Howie. Perc wrote the club's history and was subsequently granted Life Membership. Laurie (Past Commodore Keith Flint's father-in-law) was an official war artist during WWI and became the Principal of the Adelaide School of Arts during the 1930's. KATIE was sold to Tom Hardy Snr in 1914.

Commodore's Message

EXCELLENT!

On behalf of the Squadron may I convey my best wishes to you all as we embark upon our Christmas and New Year sailing.

Five Squadron yachts are preparing for this year's Sydney-Hobart Race - ANACONDA II, GAMBOL, HELSALL II, RIMFIRE, and TRADITION. Let us not under-estimate the effort which is involved for South Australians in the long haul to represent us at this international event. This is the 15th occasion on which ANACONDA will participate in the race and the 26th occasion that Josco Grubic has himself taken part; the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia has drawn our attention to ANACONDA's entry as creating a record for the event. The race has attracted 103 entrants this year, including entries from all Australian States, New Caledonia, USA, Soviet Union and New Zealand; an Irish team has chartered three Australian boats.

I mention also David Henshall who will take part in the Etchell National Championship in Sydney and I remind you of the planning which is taking place for our own Christmas race to Robe. Our Juniors are at present taking part in the elimination series to represent South Australia at the Stonehaven Cup in Largs Bay.

The Adelaide-Lincoln Race starts on 17th January 92 and despite the heavy Christmas programme I urge you all to support this event and to meet up again in Port Lincoln and exchange experiences.

On the local scene we welcome DNEIPER from the Ukraine which is at present moored as a visiting yacht in our pool.

Opening Day this year took place in ideal conditions in the presence of our Patron, Dame Roma Mitchell, who (after naming 3 new dinghies for our Junior Fleet) took the salute of 251 boats. It is notable that the behaviour of our members and guests was impeccable and I thank skippers for looking after their vessels and their guests so well. (The debate as to whether we should sail past on or off the wind



continues). We missed Lance LeCornu this year as Official Vessel; we have enjoyed his generosity for many years aboard LAURIANA and MISS MICHELLE. However, our facilities are not designed to accommodate Lance's new vessel but I was pleased to acknowledge him in the sail past and to receive his very gracious note from the deck of SOUTHERN CROSS II wishing us well on the day. I thank Lance for making his boat available to us in the weeks before the Opening so that we could assess our own capabilities in relation to such a magnificent vessel.

I thank many of our cruising members who sent me messages for our Opening Day. I mention in particular Colin Smith aboard RAPID and Ion Ullett aboard FINE ROMANCE.

If the goodwill which yachties can generate could be translated into the community generally it would alleviate our present most difficult economic times. May the New Year see a return to prosperity. Seasons greetings and good sailing!

TIM WILLIAMS