

The storey of “ANTARES”, prepared by Bruce and Jill Roach V2 541 words

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Antares is a Schionning “Wilderness”, catamaran, measuring 10.3m x 6.2 m with a draught of 1.8m with daggerboards down. The boat has one central motor being a 25HP Yamaha outboard motor with a SA designed “Hy-Drive hydraulic link” between the helm, rudders and the motor.

Multi hull boats in 2005/2006 were not in demand at the time, albeit we had Tonto and Summer Breeze in the pool at the Squadron. The marketplace was clearly interstate and particularly in Queensland where we found Antares. We eventually negotiated a price and sailed her from Redcliff down to Adelaide in the Christmas period of 2006-07 with Squadron friends, including Ian and Di Moncrieff, Bruce Macky and our good friend Ron Godfrey.

The sail down the east coast took 4 days to Sydney where our kids, Julianne and Adam joined us for Christmas. It took another**days to sail from** Sydney to Adelaide arriving onJanuary 2007

The current home of Antares is Berth K24, alongside My-Love 2 owned by Alby Watson, and anyone who has seen the space allocated would know how accurate you have to be on entering and departing this berth. Alby and I don't mind the closeness as we can lay up against each other in strong winds.

We have sailed the boat in and around Gulf St Vincent from 2007 to current day, with day sails and joining in with our cruising friends travelling across the gulf to Stansbury, Port Vincent and Black Point on many occasions.

We have also been to Kangaroo Island and Bay of Shoals, on one occasion in company with Last Tango (Peter and Noelene Cooling), and Erica (Phil and Peta Stump). The weather conditions were quite blowy in the bay, with many yachts also taking refuge and dragging during the night. Coming back to outer harbour was lively to say the least with 30knots, plus and large swells to surf down.

Unfortunately, Antares has not been used as much as we could have over the years and has taken second place while I was a flag officer from 2013 to 2019, until the end of my tenure as Commodore.

Antares badly needed a refurbishment, so from July until November 2019 we took on board the complete internal and external renovations. This included completely rewiring the vessel, installing new lights, wind and depth instruments, carpets, vinyls and a complete new resprayed. We were delighted to have her completed just in time for Opening day in 2019.

When we thought all was going to be a great start for the cruising year, there was a fire in the boat on the day of the Adelaide to Pt Lincoln yacht race in February 2020. It was only sheer luck that I was on board at the time and was able to put it out in less than 60 seconds. It was a scary moment when I saw

the flames and smoke, which became quite toxic in just that short time.

Now that I have semi-retired and Jill has completely retired, our plans for the “new” ANTARES is to do more cruising this summer.