

crowd of approximately 50 people attended. Unfortunately the Racing Committee Prize Night was scheduled for the night before and possibly detracted from the number who could attend. Nevertheless, once again it was a great night.

Annual Report for the Season 1998-99

On behalf of the Squadron and myself, I thank most sincerely the members of the Cruising Committee for their support, efforts and determination to succeed in achieving the objectives of the Cruising Committee for 1998-99. The Committee has been a pleasure to work with and I appreciate their patience with me as Chairman.

Alan Duncan, Ian Sando, John Wickham, Clive Arnold, Bernie Matzat and myself (Mike Fowler) comprised the Cruising Committee for 1998-99.

Unfortunately time moves on, and Alan, Ian and myself will be standing down from Cruising Committee. However John Wickham and Clive Arnold will be continuing while Bernie Matzat, Harry Wynbergen and Jamie Cowell have nominated for the coming season. I hope that profiles (CVs) of your new Cruising Committee members will be published with the next *Quarterly*.

Both Alan Duncan and Ian Sando have contributed greatly to the success of many Cruising Committee events. Ian has been on the committee for two years and Alan for four years. Alan was also Committee Treasurer for three years and Secretary for the past year.

Finsbury Press are to be thanked for their support of the Squadron via Foyer and boat show montages, and for Cruising Committee posters, printing of programs, use of office facilities for meetings, photocopying, phones, etc. Pity about the wine bottle opener though.

The Objectives of the Cruising Committee have been achieved to varying degrees of success for the season 1998-99.

The objectives of the Cruising Committee are:

- to encourage the development of cruising skills and knowledge that will enable members to enjoy safe cruising in SA waters;
- to develop and conduct a program of events that fosters good seamanship and fellowship, promotes the enjoyment of

sailing and encourages the sharing of knowledge and experience;

- to promote enjoyable Cruising presentations and information exchange;
- to acknowledge the achievements of cruising Members.

The Cruising Committee endeavours to foster seamanship and fellowship among Members by conducting a variety of events that are worthwhile (without being over-the-top gung-ho), enjoyable, social, and informative. Emphasis is placed on enjoyment. If you don't enjoy what you are doing then just why are you doing it?

During the year many people (and not just new sailors or new boat owners) experienced 'firsts' in their sailing lives by participating in Cruising Committee events.

The Cruising Committee does not use numbers attending as an indicator of a successful event. A successful event is one that is enjoyed by all who participated. For those who like statistics, the numbers attending Cruising Committee events were:

- Barker Inlet (last season): 15-20 boats
- Birkenhead Tavern: 320+ people
- Black Point: 11 boats
- Pt Vincent overnigher: 20 boats
- Rocky Point: 20-25 boats
- Edithburgh: 7 boats
- Stansbury: 12 boats

Information Nights —

- 11,000 Miles Across the Pacific: 180
- Ocean Rescue: 100
- Youth Trophy: 80
- Hi-Tech: 80
- Boats that go vroom in the night: 50

Sundowners: on average 6 boats
West Coast Cruise: 4 boats all the way, 5 for part of the way

KI Cruise: 6 boats

Because of bad weather, unfortunately the annual dinghy race had to be cancelled.

We are satisfied that sufficient people (Members, friends, non-sailors) gained enjoyment, knowledge and seamanship skills from these events, making the organisational efforts worthwhile.

Although numbers participating in the Sundowners were disappointing, they provided enjoyable afternoons, followed, on most days, with a barbecue and fellowship. They also encouraged people who might not have gone for a sail on that day to venture forth. Various challenging activities (navigation, retrieval, questions, sailing speed, estimations of time/distance etc) were incorporated into the Sundowners.

Consideration is being given to incorporating the Sundowner concept for the coming season with cruising boats that might like to race and cruising boats from the CYCSA. The Cruising Committee will probably organise more day or overnight cruises in local waters as an adjunct to these regular Sundowner events.

The Youth Trophy is the most important and prestigious award made by the Cruising Committee. The quality of entries is always superb, and the number has been increasing over the last few years. It is hard to judge who should win, because each entry is worthy of winning the award on its own merits. Members may or may not be aware of the numerous long/hard/rewarding/life-changing voyages made by members of the SA sailing fraternity. We get only a small proportion of these voyages presented for consideration. It would be good if cruising sailors were not so reticent about accepting the recognition that most of their voyages deserve.

This year the trophy was won by the Goodall family of the CYCSA for their voyage in *Mirage*. Entries were received from John Smith (*Oberon*), David and Dee Henshall (*Lara III*) and Marlene Jay (*Crusader*). Unfortunately all could not be winners.



Franklin Island. (Ion Ullett)

All the local cruises were well attended, with generally good weather and excellent company. Thanks must go to Pat Hill (Black Point) and Phil and Kate Tassicker (Port Vincent) for their hospitality at those two cruises.

The Cruising Committee has not seen itself as a fund-raising adjunct of the Squadron and endeavours merely to cover the cost of events. It has managed, however, to conduct its many events with a surplus over expenditure (as at May 1999) exceeding \$300. This is after paying sundry levies imposed on standing committees by the Squadron for such expenses as Easter, Port Lincoln, Boat Show, etc.

Committee-members took turns to organise and conduct events. This spread the workload evenly and, I believe, is a practice to be continued with.

As mentioned at the start of this report Alan Duncan, Ian Sando and myself will be standing down from the Cruising Committee this season. They have been committed to the Committee and any functions organised and I thank them personally.

I have had a rewarding six years on the Cruising Committee, with the last two as Chairman. I will miss being on and being involved with this very rewarding committee. As Helen and I hope to be taking off later this year for an extended cruise to destinations unknown, my limited time will be taken up with boat preparation. This unfortunately precludes me from continuing on the Cruising Committee for the foreseeable future.

Alan, Ian and myself wish the incoming Cruising Committee every success in their activities. SQ