

By Peta Stump

## A different experience when one no longer has to return home within a given time

**M**ANY members of our Club have had many more years of cruising the delightful ocean anchorages of South Australia than have Phil and I (onboard *Erica*) and their tales (both tall and true) have been shared over many years.

However, our recent seven-week sojourn encompassing parts of Yorke Peninsula, Eyre Peninsula, Kangaroo Island and several smaller islands such as Reevesby and Althorpe, highlighted a few differences that can come as a pleasant surprise.

Freed from short-term time constraints, your cruising 'plans' can become quite flexible:

- **Having fun with other yachties or friends ashore?**  
Why not stay an extra day or so and create memories to treasure forever, share sundowners with other crews, or maybe a game of bocce ashore?
- **No phone or internet coverage in this beautiful bay?**  
What a wonderful opportunity to go for a longer walk, have a swim or an uninterrupted nap, read that book you've always wanted to, play games, do puzzles, listen to music meaningfully, or simply savor the pleasure of soaking up a peaceful backdrop of crystal clear water, pristine sandy beach, a gull gracefully gliding by, a seal sliding along in the shallows, or a pod of dolphins delightfully sharing their love of the ocean with you. For the anglers among you, more time to catch that elusive squid or whiting for a sumptuous seafood feast.
- **Weather turns stormy or too unpleasant to leave your sheltered anchorage?**  
No problem – ensure the anchor is securely dug in and there's enough chain out of the locker, stow away those loose items and literally 'batten the hatches' ready to sit-out whatever comes your way, for however long it takes. Now, how to fill in time?

### Easy:

- \* Every boatie has a maintenance list and spare parts onboard. This is your opportunity to actually tick off a task or two.
- \* Personal grooming not attended to lately because you've been too busy passage-making and falling into bed exhausted after each leg? No problem – now there's time to wash your hair, have a shave, cut your toe nails, wash your smalls, whatever takes your fancy.
- \* Cook up a storm – it's always fabulous to have a few extra meals pre-prepared in your fridge and/or freezer for those times when you're much too busy to be tied to the galley.
- \* Weather forecasts and marine radio communications can receive more of your attention, and influence more effectively your flexible route planning and associated navigation. Team work settles into an easy groove in a more relaxed setting.
- **An essential piece of equipment ceases to function as it should** eg battery, chart plotter, fridge condenser, hot water service or bilge pump? Now you have more time to problem-solve and work towards a successful solution. It doesn't matter if you need to return to civilization temporarily for repairs – you have time on your side ...
- **You can even stop along the way for long luxurious lunches in beautiful anchorages.**

All of the above is greatly enhanced if you properly plan ahead, pack appropriate supplies and have a healthy dose of good humour, boating experience and appreciation of the benefits of lifelong learning. We wish you continued Happy Cruising!



Peta at Althorpe Island



Beach Bocce - Stumps and Holdens at KI



Morning tea - Peta and Wickhams on Koorinal

**T**HIRTY-FIVE members, guests and a passers-by, some wearing the No 1 rig, personal and family medals and service regalia, gathered on the Quarterdeck at 1100 hrs to reflect, reminisce and acknowledge sacrifices made by so many who stepped forward to serve our country.

Ken Case welcomed members and guests, including John Hardy and his family, and acknowledged Port Adelaide Sailing Club's Commodore Kel Watson. He spoke of famed medic Simpson and his donkey, telling of his heroic short time at Gallipoli bringing countless injured soldiers back to the beach for care. We remembered the many nurses who served in the Middle East working tirelessly to tend the wounded in pretty awful conditions, and several diary excerpts of South Australian Irene Bonnin were read.

Looking at the Honour Board on the stairwell in the Clubhouse you might be surprised to see the dates 1914-1919. Lynda Walsh explained that at the end of WWI there were more than 35,000 diggers waiting to come home. The delay led to some fighting on the Russian front, extending the date to 1919. One name on the Board was famous sailing legend Tom Hardy, grandfather of Squadron Member John Hardy.

Special guest John Hardy gave an interesting talk on his grandfather's WWI exploits, bringing some memorabilia to show us. After enlisting in the Australian 9<sup>th</sup> Light Horse in 1915 Tom Hardy embarked for the Middle East, subsequently transferring to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Machine Gun Squadron after being 'Distinguished in a Lewis Machine Gun Course'. Wounded in 1917, he was later sent to a training facility in Egypt and then to London where he worked with EGR Wingham to develop the 'Wingham-Hardy Protractor for Solution of T.O.G.s' (Trajectory of Gunfire/Trajectory over Ground) considering distance, wind and other factors.

Lynda Walsh spoke of Tom 'Diver' Derrick's time in WWII in North Africa and New Guinea where his leadership and great bravery led to the posthumous award of the Victoria Cross. The Port's favourite son is buried in Labuan Malaysia. Alan O'Donnell gave a first-hand account of the training and culture developed in conscripts during the Vietnam War. Trevor Manoel took to the mic recalling his first sail in 1962 on Tom Hardy's second yacht, *Noralie*, then owned by Captain Frank Duplock.

After a minute's silence Barbara Adams recited the Ode and finally John's son Alex, holding his own son, formed a three-generation picture as he raised the flag during the playing of The Rouse.

Lynda invited attendees to join in a barbecue on the Quarterdeck or lunch in the Dining Room.

The Squadron is not just about boats but is a Club where people share their lives, passions and camaraderie – and on this occasion their stories.



Some members on the Quarterdeck



Ken Case welcoming members and guests



John Hardy sharing his grandfather's story



Three generations of Hardys at the flag raising