

Cruising Committee Report

John Wickham

Well, five months into this season, it will soon be Christmas and I hope you will all have your vessels ready for the cruise to Kangaroo Island at Christmas and New Year.

The World Chart. All is a bit quiet, as the east coast group are all heading south. *Crusader* is spending the summer at Rosslyn Bay. *Earanne* plans to be at Sydney for Christmas and back in Adelaide early in the New Year.

Let us look back at the past events.

Labour Day weekend 28 September to 1 October. We planned to cruise to Black Point, and meet for the usual barbecue but we didn't make it, due to the weather (apologies to Pat & Jane Hill). Three vessels left on Friday: *Amarina*, *Idle Eyes* (on their first crossing of the Gulf), bound for Port. Vincent and *Camelot*, headed to Stansbury for Friday night. By Saturday four

vessels were moored at Port. Vincent, including *Bluewater I*, who had been there since Tuesday. All were invited for morning tea on *Camelot*, and discussed the weather for the weekend. With strong northerly winds forecast for Sunday, followed by a west to southwest change later, we decided to stay and have the barbecue at the usual place next to the kiosk. A great day was had by all. Sunday morning was still calm so *Camelot* decided to make a dash back to the Squadron. The northerly picked up as we approached the Outer Harbor breakwater, and while motoring past the signal tower we were experiencing 30 knot winds with gusts to 40 knots. The other vessels rode it out at Port Vincent, and fortunately it only lasted two hours. A strong westerly came through early Monday morning, yes 0200, as it always does, but it had abated by daybreak.

All had a pleasant sail home, except for *Idle Eyes*. While approaching the channel at dusk the

skipper started the engine, but the yacht would not move forward. There was something wrong. All of a sudden, with what wind there was, the boat moved towards that beacon! Attempts to steer clear failed, and despite fending off, the boat nudged the beacon. It turned out that the propeller shaft had disengaged from the coupling, moved back and the propeller jammed the rudder.

For the Birkenhead Tavern Day on 21 October we were blessed with good weather again, as in past years. The new owners of the Tavern have been there for one year; they have extended the old dining room, and added a gaming room. The hotel, managed by Anthony Smith, made a great improvement on the past few years. The lawn was cut; tables and chairs were out, a marquee was set up to serve the meal and there was a wine bar. The food was good quality at a fair price. Even though the band 'The Wise Guys' led by Squadron Member Brian Davidge (*Bloody Mary*) was a bit loud for some, most thought they were excellent. Alan Rice (*Tarooki*) won 'Best Dressed Vessel', and the 'Lucky Spot' was won by Dick & Kay Turpin (*Thorfinn*). Manager Anthony Smith decided to present his own prize for the 'Best Dressed Crew'. Winner was the crew of *Idle Eyes*, who had gone to the trouble to dress up as pirates and looked just great.

It was good to see 22 vessels anchored in the basin, approximately 120 meals were served and everyone had a great day.

I would like to thank our sponsors, Fitch the Rubber Man (the people to see for a new Zodiac, sound insulation and a wide range of rubber products) and Klaus Becker (just give him a call if you require any shipwright repairs). Their support helped to make the day such a success. Thanks also to the Junior Committee for the tender and the tireless efforts from driver, Darren Baylis.

The Committee has resolved not to award the **Cruising Award**, the **Youth Trophy** this year. We believed that the criteria were not achieved.

With the number of vessels away cruising at present, we can look forward to some excellent entries in the future.

Port Vincent Cruise, Saturday 17 November: another classic. This event will have happened during the time that this *Quarterly* has been closed off by the Editor, and it should be posted out by then. I thus can neither remind you, nor give you a report. You will have to wait until the next issue of the *Quarterly*. But I can briefly mention the plan for the weekend. Cruise over at your leisure, as there may be some wishing to sail over on the Friday morning. Let the Committee know if you can make Friday. Saturday morning 1100 hrs: story telling at the Ventnor Hotel. I mentioned this in the last *Quarterly*, so I am looking forward to some good stories. The evening finishes with the BYO barbecue at Phil Tassicker's place. Phil & Marlene arrived back in Adelaide mid-October.

Watch the notice boards and the Squadron's web sight for coming cruising events. We have an Overnight event planned for 1 December, the weekend of the on-the-water boat show at the Club. Plan the weekend, come down, stay the night, and join in on the evening.

Kangaroo Island - for New Year's Eve at Rocky Point.

West Coast Gulf St Vincent - Wirrina etc on the Australia Day Weekend. This year the weather was unfavorable, and we shall try again next year. Plan to come anyway, we always have an alternative plan.

As always, for any further information, just phone one of your Committee, and we look forward to hearing from you. 50

New Vessels on the Squadron Register

<i>Appledoor II</i>	Rod and Libby Page	<i>Debonair</i>	Greg and Judy Hamlyn
<i>Mizpah</i>	Forrest (Fred) Driver	<i>Musetta</i>	Lloyd Cushway
<i>Pisces II</i>	Anthony Thus		



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