

We're on the Web! _____

The Squadron is now on the World Wide Web. If you want to check on a race date, on recent race results, or on coming events, just call up the RSAYS page and there it is. And there's the current SA waters weather forecast, and a whole heap of interesting links to yachting all round the world. All you need, of course is a PC complete with an Internet browser. Surely, everyone has one of those, these days?

THE WEB ADDRESS:

<http://www.adelaide.net.au/~rsays/>

Our first edition of the RSAYS site (published in early October) was a popular success, but it showed just a bit of its amateur origins. Now Member Roger Oaten has taken over design and maintenance, and we're very well presented on the Web. Committees are invited to submit coming events and special notices for the RSAYS Web Page, through Squadron Manager David Harries.

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Mike Hambidge _____

Michael Hambidge, Chairman of the Sailing Committee, is the owner-skipper of *Escapade* and is married to Dorothy.

He started work as a journalist and retired for the first time in 1988, as proprietor of the Murray Bridge local newspaper and printing office. His third and final retirement, this year, followed stints in a computer typesetting partnership and as a computer typesetting consultant for country newspapers.

He has been sailing since fifteen, in VJs, Rainbows and trailer sailers on the Murray and the lower Murray lakes, and three different keelboats — all of which (as with nine years of midget speedcar driving) have produced lots of pleasure and strictly limited competition success.

Mike's current ambition — 'To keep on mucking around with yachts'.

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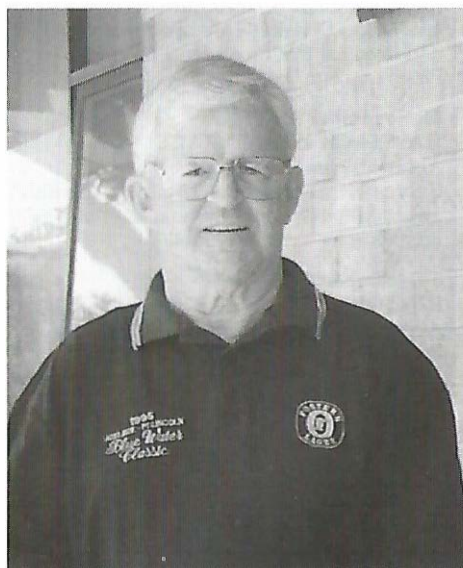
Yacht Charter in Pittwater

Charter a luxury Catalina yacht from Ausail's base at the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club and experience a backdrop of natural bushland which has remained unchanged for thousands of years, as you cruise the peaceful waterways of Pittwater.



Situated only 40 minutes drive from the Sydney CBD, the area is renowned for its tranquility.

Contact the Squadron Office for details
or phone Richard & Pam Hamilton
(02) 9999 3477 (02) 9999 4456



Circumnavigators Settle Down – for now at any rate _____

Di Moncrieff

World circumnavigators and high sea adventurers Colin and Jeanne Harrison, whose intriguing story was told in *Squadron Quarterly* March 1996: 14–17, have become landlubbers. Many will remember Col marrying his bride, then Jeanne Howden, on *New Address* at the Clubhouse pontoon the summer before last. They left soon after that for a leisurely cruise along the Australian east coast. Colin already had in mind a spot to settle down long term, but he had to check it out with Jeanne.

On sailing into Port Stephens, north of Newcastle NSW, Jeanne loved it. There is a large protected harbour, with impressive heads on entry; bushlands on the sometimes steep slopes; bird life; the wandering backwaters leading up to the Myall Lakes; and a wonderful climate. So they went house-hunting, ostensibly for an 'investment, let's settle later' house. A very impressive pole house, too large but within budget, was available in the township of Nelson Bay. With typical enthusiasm, plans changed. The house was bought, and Pillinda Lodge Bed and Breakfast was registered just in time for last minute summer bookings. They were in business, and business was brisk!

New Address was sold, and Colin helped the new owners take her home to Melbourne. A thirty-footer, more suited to the local inland waters, is coming from Sydney as I write. When visiting this winter past (by air and train, not by sea), Ian and I had an opportunity to check out Pillinda Lodge and catch up with good friends. Stunning!

Views from the balcony of the headlands at the entrance to Port Stephens (Toomere and Yacaaba) are magnificent, and the surf on the beaches facing the Tasman Sea can be seen clearly. Our climb up Toomere was

not too arduous. The offshore islands, coves and beaches, and abandoned gun emplacement from the Second World War and the mighty ocean beyond were exciting to see from the high vantage point.

As to be expected, Jeanne and Colin welcome visiting yachties and offer hot showers and good yarns. If you are travelling north of Sydney, we can recommend Pillinda Lodge and Nelson Bay as a special place to break a journey. Jeanne sends the following information on Port Stephens:

'We hope that you will put PORT STEPHENS on your cruising itinerary, for this is where we have decided to relax and enjoy life. Since there is no industry in Port Stephens, the water is pristine. The beaches are lovely, and diving is very popular, especially at the Marine Reserve at Fly Point, near the Coast Guard Station. Swimming is discouraged at Fame Cove, since this has been a shark breeding area, but the numerous other beaches, both on this side and on the Tasman Sea side of the peninsula are popular swimming areas.'

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When you stop in Port Stephens NSW, give us a call at Pillinda Lodge Bed and Breakfast. You are welcome to come up for a shower and a few yarns. We also welcome you if you come by road and want to stay for Bed and Breakfast, but if so, please call us first to be sure we're not booked out. We live up the hill, just below the Telstra towers in Nelson Bay.

Telephone: 049 81 4499
Colin and Jeanne Harrison,
formerly of *New Address* RSAYS