

Cruising Committee Annual Report

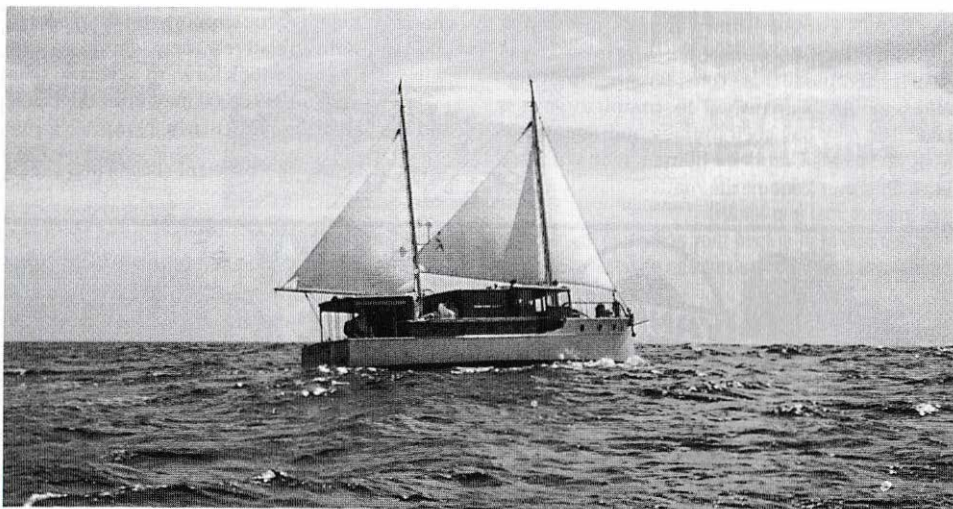
Mike Fowler

This will be my last *Squadron Quarterly* and Annual Report as Chairman of the Cruising Committee. I will keep this first section (dealing with immediate past events etc) brief, as the following Annual Report covers some of the same ground and, let's face it, Annual Reports can be fairly tedious reading.

The Cruising Committee has completed its program for the season 1998-99 and has not yet finalised next season's program. Because of the tight lead-up time for copy for this *Quarterly*, I hope that the Coming Events and dates for the Cruising Committee will be an insert with this publication.

Coming Events

Youth Trophy — the premier South Australian cruising award. It is usually presented in October, with nominations closing on 31 August. The Youth Trophy is awarded to sailors who have completed a cruise of some kind. Immensity of the cruise or hardship is not necessarily going to win the trophy. There is an entry form enclosed that details the terms of reference and the judging criteria. If you know of someone who has completed such a voyage please encourage them to nominate.



Para under sail on the North Coast cruise-in-company. (Mark Dwyer)

The **Birkenhead Tavern Cruise** is held in late October. Last season's was a monumentally successful day with more than 320 people attending. Music was provided by the Squadron Joy Buoys and particularly good catering by the Birkenhead Tavern. Please ensure you book to allow the hotel to cater for the correct numbers. It's an absolutely great day to bring your friends to — just ask around. Look out for the final date and posters.

While on the subject of coming events, the question of the venue for Easter 2000 has been raised. The Cruising Committee discussed at its May meeting the concept of 'Easter at the Squadron'. We agreed that we would prefer to be off cruising over a long weekend such as Easter than staying in town for four or five days (what are boats for?). We further agreed that we would be supportive of a similar promotional event at a time more suited, such as an ordinary weekend or if necessary a three-day weekend.

Events completed since the last *Quarterly* were:

KI North Coast Cruise was conducted by past Commodore Jamie and Anthea Cowell for the second year in succession. An account of this cruise is elsewhere in this publication.

West Coast Cruise was conducted by past Commodore Ion and Margaret Ullett to Ceduna and back. To my knowledge, this is one of the longest organised cruises undertaken by the Cruising Committee. Ion's report is in this *Quarterly*. From the small part that *Piping Shrike* completed, it was great. Unfortunately time prevented us from completing the whole cruise.

The overnight Sundowner to Port Adelaide on March 20-21 did not take place due to some unfortunate event scheduling, but a very pleasant Sundowner was held on the Saturday, finishing in time for the Wine Options night.

In the **Golf Match** between the Squadron and the Kiwi Silver Fern Golf Club on Sunday 18 April on North Haven Golf Course, the Squadron lost five matches to three, but that did not detract from a very enjoyable day. After the competition the very artistically designed trophy (Brian Williams) was presented at the 'victory' barbecue in the Squadron grounds. There will be a rematch next year, so if you have a really good golf handicap (that no-one else knows about) look out for the date.

Considering the time of the year, the weather for the **Anzac Day Weekend** cruise to Stansbury was about as good as you can get. Light winds on Saturday saw most of the 12 boats motor-sail there. *Soleil* and *Piping Shrike* engaged in a multi-purpose-spinnaker 'race' for a fair percentage of the trip, with *Soleil* just winning in the last mile or so. Saturday night at the Dalrymple hotel for tea included Les Harper (Coastguard Oyster Bay) and his wife and about 25 Squadron Members. Coffee and port on *Morning Hustler* rounded off a very pleasant day. Sunday continued fine, with a lunchtime barbecue on the foreshore and pre-tea drinks on *Piping Shrike*. The strong breeze on Monday produced some excellent voyage times. Unfortunately the sudden wind caught a couple of boats with their spinnakers up. It couldn't have been a better weekend.

Sundowner and Information Night (May 1) Following the Sundowner in the afternoon, Captain Martin Price, Assistant Manager Port Operations/Pilot gave an informative and interesting (especially judging by the number of questions) presentation on Pilotage. A good

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