

WHAT'S IN A BOAT NAME?

Peregrin

Rob Diamond

Peregrin is a 34 foot Duncanson which featured in an earlier edition of Squadron Quarterly. (She is repaired now, incidentally, and thanks to all who showed friendly interest while she was laid up).

Understandably, many think her name is a misspelling of 'Peregrine' – the falcon, which would be a fair name for a boat, what with the admirable qualities we attribute to a handsome bird which can fly at 300 kph. But the spelling is correct because she is named after 'Peregrin Took,' one of the main Hobbit characters in Tolkien's 'Lord of the Rings' saga.

I know this to be so because about a year ago I met the original owner who named the boat. (His first name is Christopher – and I have lost his surname. It is probably on board, along with everything else I have misplaced since I bought her.) Anyway, Chris explained that he simply liked Tolkien's Peregrin character, so called the boat after him. Things might have been worse: Peregrin Took is also known as 'Pippin' and 'Ernil I Pheriannath'. If I would be uncomfortable with a boat named Pippin, I would be downright awkward with one called Ernil!

Having no contact with Chris I cannot say why he admired Peregrin Took but those who know the story will recollect that the character was a bit immature, not too good at handling a drink, prone to inadvertently doing the wrong thing and was a bit of a worry to Gandalf the Wizard, though he came up trumps in the end. I am still hopeful that *Peregrin* the boat will ultimately do the same.

Finally, an interesting coincidence is that Peregrin Took went on to marry someone named 'Diamond'. That's my surname and I sure do feel married to *Peregrin*, if not exactly always living in wedded bliss with her.



ROMANCE AT THE SQUADRON

***Asherah* sails into the sunset with the Vice-Commodore and new Bride aboard**

Vice-Commodore Peter Kelly and his fiancé Carol Wellman chose the Squadron as the venue for their wedding reception on Easter Saturday. The event had a formal nautical flavour with code-flag bunting decorating both the Quarter Deck and various vessels moored in front of the Clubhouse.

Carol and her retinue of bridesmaids were dressed in soft colours reminiscent of the interior of shells, and their bouquets and the table centers also had a coral and sea theme. The guests included many of Peter and Carol's Squadron friends as well as interstate relatives and a large number of actors and dancers from their professional networks. Entertainment for the reception featured performances by many of these talented guests. Carol surprised everyone, including Peter, when she changed out of her wedding gown and appeared in one of the song-and-dance numbers!

The afternoon culminated with the newly-wed's spectacular sunset departure aboard their yacht *Asherah* complete with a "Just Married" banner flying from the mast-head.

Newlyweds sail into the sunset aboard *Asherah*

