

Shaggers Chronicle

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NEWSLETTER@SICYC.COM.AU

Monthly

March 2021 UPDATE - Edition 84 (and a half)

- Season of Sail -

Pittwater

RENDEZVOUS UPDATE

Below is the latest update from the Crew at Pittwater.

This event marks the commencement of our 2021 sailing season - let's make it a year to remember. Afterall, we've got a lot of catching up to do.

You can see more information, as it comes to hand, for the entire Season of Sail events as they unfold up the East Coast at <https://sicyc.com.au/season-of-sail/>

A PDF of the Pittwater Rendezvous Update is also attached.



Shag Islet Cruising Yacht Club Pittwater Rendezvous

HOSTED BY ROYAL PRINCE ALFRED YACHT CLUB



14 - 21 May, 2021

Friday 14th May - Dinner at RPAYC
Sunday 16th May - BBQ at Bobbin Head
15th - 21st May - Estuary Cruise

Proudly Supporting
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More details and bookings: rpayc.com.au/sailing/cruising



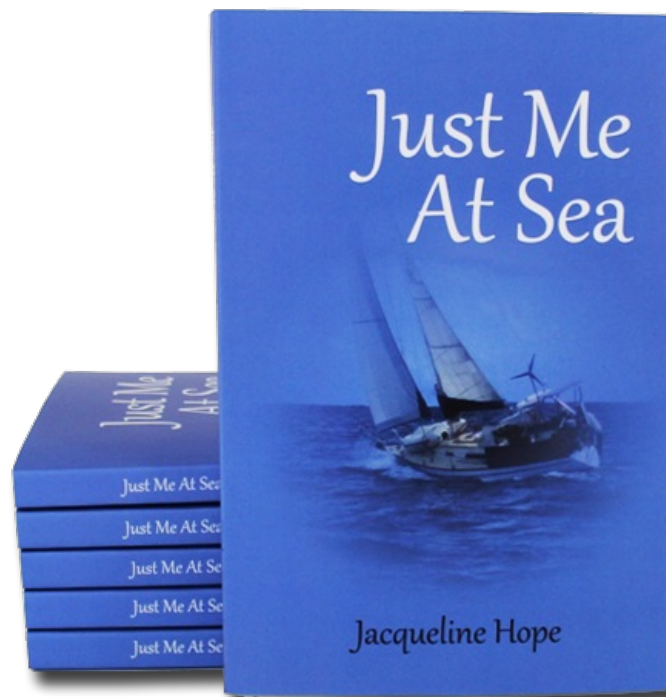
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BOOK LAUNCH

Available while stocks last - order yours now.

"Just Me at Sea"

by Jacqueline Hope
(SICYC Member)



To travel around the world is the ultimate bucket list item, but to do it on a sailing boat, far more daunting. Go further, sail solo - wow. And then just to make it a bit harder, let it be a woman. But, for Jacquie Hope, she pushed it even further - not setting off until she was a 65 year old grandmother!

Recently returned from the epic four year journey on her Sadler 32', she took advantage of lockdown in Melbourne to write the first draft of her amazing story. And this month it is being launched to the public. Available from the SICYC (Shag Islet Cruising Yacht Club), part of the proceeds goes to the worthy cause: Prostate Cancer. It's an amazing read, which will cater to a wide variety of readers.

It's a sailing adventure: where 'there was no one there to help haul a fallen spinnaker back on deck or to dive mid-ocean to free a rope from the propeller. There's a collision with an Indonesian fishing boat, rigging failure and terrifying storms as well as joy, wonder and amazing beauty.' It's a journey where love is never far away, which also threatens to end the whole enterprise. For those with a similar burning ambition, this book is an introduction into 'how to' for wannabe sailors and more than anything else it is a 'celebration of life', 'a soul searching introspection and self-discovery that solitude brings'.

The long passages alone at sea gave Jacquie plenty of time to think. The sea, she says, teaches you is that you can't always get your own way, often you have to learn to accept what life throws at you. In the past, landlubbers may have had a hard time relating to life at sea, but since Covid curtailed autonomy, a far wider readership will appreciate some of the fears, frustrations and challenges that Jacquie faced as she sailed away from Australia. Imagine yourself sailing across the Indian Ocean, round the southern point of Africa, across the Atlantic Ocean, up the Caribbean, through the Panama Canal, and then, spending seven weeks alone at sea before making landfall in Tahiti, wondering if there was enough food, water and fuel to make it? And then there was the time she was wracked by stomach pain. Out of radio contact, all she could do was consult her medical book onboard. 'It sounded like a burst appendix, and if that was the case, there was nothing I could do.' The home leg was back across the Pacific Ocean, the largest ocean in the world, to eventually sail back into Bundaberg, and make it home to her children and grandchildren.

The 'dream' to sail around the world, was one she had from the age of seven, but family, a career and other worldly interruptions meant that the 'window of opportunity' didn't manifest itself until she was well into her sixties, when her children were grown, but her elderly father was still healthy. Then there was the matter of finding a boat suitable to face the ultimate sailing trip and prepare 'Shanti' for the voyage ahead. Jacquie writes well and the story is engrossing.



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