

## Raft-up at Hen and Chicken Bay, 26-29 January

By David Salt



Five Squadron Boats sailed or motored up to Hen and Chicken Bay and anchored off the old Animal Quarantine Station after enjoying the various Australia Day festivities. Our company comprised: *Metung*, *Rapunzel*, *Saliere*, *Can Can* and *Mercier*.

We gathered on *Saliere* for pre-dinner drinks prior to the planned BBQ ashore. Some time later it was agreed that we were having so much fun, it would be easier to cook and eat aboard, so everyone returned to their boats to collect meat and salads which were all cooked on the trusty Galleymate BBQ. Some time later everyone returned to their boats for a fairly peaceful night, only disturbed at dawn by the slap slap of early morning rowers' oars. This went on for most of the morning and was the object of much interest as we watched the different levels of rowers from Juniors to First Eights.

*Mercier* left on Friday to return to the Squadron for Friday Night Twilights followed by *Metung*. Later that day the remaining crews went ashore and availed themselves of the electric BBQs and tables. It was sad to see an old yacht which had escaped its mooring and settled on the beach. Efforts to pump it out and re-float it were unsuccessful and it appeared to be a hopeless task. On Saturday, Richard and Sandy left for the afternoon Squadron races, *Saliere* went for a lovely sail out to sea with a glorious North Easter and *Can Can* meandered home after a very social few days in a lovely bay.

