

CORRUGATED IRON YOUTH THEATRE for the Saltwater Peoples' Festival 1998

Silver Seafarers



Writer/designer:
Suzanne Spinner

Director:
Maggie Miles

Soundscape:
Mark Ovenden

Sail the Silver Seas on a Virtual Voyage.
Race from Darwin to Ambon
with a crew of Territory teenagers.

@ Maritime Boatshed
Museum & Art Gallery
of NT

Fannie Bay

Thurs July 16 - Sat 19

Wed 22 - Sat 25

starts 7.30pm

Tickets \$6/\$12

Bookings CIYT

ph: 8948 3200



SILVER SEAFARERS-----
by suzanne spinner**PRODUCTION SCRIPT**

Darwin/Melbourne (c) 1997/8

While the tangled trceries
of bamboo and tamarind,
and palms that tropic suns caress,
far and bright and shadowless,
gleams the blue of dazzled seas.

Where the curve of jetty swings,
and the pearling luggers ride
in the ripple of the tide,
quietly with folded wings
comes a snatch of island tongue
in across the water blown
or the sleepy monotone
of a Koepang chantey sung,
or swift oars, with dip and flash,
break the silver with a splash,
where a black man rows alone

extract from "Darwin" by Ernestine Hill,
THE GREAT AUSTRALIAN LONELINESS

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SILVER SEAFARERS by Suzanne Spinner

a site specific play was commissioned and first produced by CORRUGATED IRON YOUTH THEATRE for THE SALTWATER PEOPLES FESTIVAL in The Maritime Boatshed at THE MUSEUM & ART GALLERIES of the NT, Darwin on JULY 16, 1998

The intended audience For SILVERSEAFARERS is young people between the ages of eight and twenty five

The cast for the first production was made up of young people aged from fourteen to twenty five, and one older male actor who played among other roles, Ian Fairweather.

SILVER SEAFARERS is dedicated to the memory of Sally Kay Bishop who loved the sea

SILVER SEAFARERS

CAST:-----

CREW of 6 teenagers plus two adult skippers

WATCH I - Miranda, Isabel and Martin with Jimbo

WATCH II- Tim, Frankie and Rolo with Maddie

THE CREW -----

1. MIRANDA - The Celestial Navigator, vegetarian, New Age type, knows without learning
2. TIM - The Weatherman, the charismatic leader. Always knows where the wind is
3. ISABEL- The Joker, who keeps Miranda awake during watches, sings a lot
4. MARTIN - The Panic Merchant, quiet , inscrutable the one who hyperventilates
5. FRANKIE - Romantic, poetic, worries out loud, gets seasick
6. ROLO - The Food fanatic, the video maker who eats the chocolate rations

The couple FRANKIE and TIM

THE SKIPPERS-----

MADELEINE MADDIE NEWMAN- calm and practical, panics quietly, loves sailing and wants everyone else to enjoy it as much as she does.

JAMES JIMBO NEWMAN - The Boss, shouter , gruff with a sea quote for every occasion, always concerned about the state of his boat

THE BOAT/ THE MIDJANGA

They are on The Boat, The Midjanga all the time
The Boat refers to a platform stage construction or in the case of the first production, a template of an archetypical boat shape marked out in salt on the floor of The Maritime Museum.

SILVER SEAFARERS _____

THE OFF BOAT CAST -----

THE VIRTUAL MARITIME MUSEUM

Museum Guide

ABC Radio Commentator

The Spice Trader

Darwin Old Salt

John Lort Stokes

James Wickham

Philip Parker King

Lte Mathew Flinders

William Westhall, artist on The Investigator

Pobossa - Macassan Captain

The Anthropologist

The VOC(Dutch East Indie Co.) Official

* Japanese Pearl Diver

* Malay Tender

* Torres Strait Islander Shell opener

* Greek Master Pearler

Ian Fairweather

Captain Robert Gurrie RAN Naval Patrol

Nameless Vietnamese Boat people

Two intrepid Tiwi picture goers

Balinese Fisherman

** Larrakia man out fishing

AMBON

Ambonese Official

Lord Mayor of Ambon

Lord Mayor of Darwin

ALSO a group of Singers and Puppeteers/ Dancers
but these could be roles shared between them.

NOTE- in the first production

* These characters were replaced by a video sequence on
the history of pearling

** This character was replaced by a video interview with
a Larrakia Elder

THE VIRTUAL MARITIME MUSEUM-----

THE AUDIENCE FOR THE PLAY ARE ALL MILLING AROUND OUTSIDE AMONGST THE BOATS, SOME ARE STILL BUYING TICKETS FOR THE EVENINGS PERFORMANCE, WHEN SUDDENLY A SEARCHLIGHT IS TURNED ONTO AN INDONESIAN FISHING BOAT AND A LOUD VOICE BOOMS OUT

MEGAPHONE VOICE FROM NAVY PATROL BOAT .

CAPT. GURRIE-

This is Captain Gurrrie of the Australian Navy, commander of HMAS BUFFALO. Are you the captain?

VAGUE NONCOMPREHENDING RESPONSE

DO- YOU-Know- Where-YOU-ARE?

SHAKE OF HEADS

We do. You are well past the Ashmore Reef and fifty kilometres inside Australia's territorial waters. My men have been observing you for some hours. We have seen you bring up nets of fish and we have reason to believe you have been catching shark in gillnets. Gillnets are illegal. Do you have anything to say?

MORE INDICATIONS OF NON COMPREHENSION.

We are placing your boat under arrest . We shall escort you back to Darwin. Your boat will be confiscated. You will be detained. You will have to go to court. Do you understand what I am saying?

MORE INCOMPREHENSION

You will turn around now- we are going to Darwin.

CAPTAIN BEGINS INDICATING BY GESTURES THAT THEY ARE TO TURN AND FOLLOW HIM. THEY FINALLY INDICATE THEY UNDERSTAND HIM.

You will all follow me. The police will meet us in Darwin. The fishing's over.

THE CAPTAIN MARSHALLS THE AUDIENCE AND LEADS THEM INTO THE MARITIME MUSEUM AND HANDS THEM (THE AUDIENCE) OVER TO THE MUSEUM GUIDE

ANNOUNCER : Welcome to The Virtual Maritime Museum

MUSEUM GUIDE- Thank you Captain and Good Evening Everyone. I am pleased to see so many of you have booked for this evening's tour of the Maritime Boatshed. Now just follow me through these doors. These boats may look solid and shipshape but they are surprisingly fragile, you need only ask our conservators. So please don't touch the boats!

MUSEUM GUIDE

We at the Museum are very proud of our Boat Collection. We owe its existence to the foresight and maverick collecting policy of our previous Director. He purchased many of these boats long before this magnificent building was even dreamt of..

For years many of these boats were stored in the cavernous space of the old Parap Cinema, others were exhibited in the grounds of the Museum. In those days you really could play pirates on the pearling lugger.

This evening's tour will introduce you to the many of our historical boats and the stories behind them.

Follow me to the next exhibit.

We are a modern museum. Not for us the dioramas, or antiquated models of the past. Take this first exhibit here- our pride and joy, the pearling lugger, VIVIENNE which was owned and operated by Paspaley Pearling and donated to this Museum in 1983.

VIDEO SEQUENCE : ON THE PEARLING LUGGER VIVIENNE -----

OLD STYLE PEARL DIVER IN SUIT HARD HAT AND HEAVY BOOTS. HE IS CONNECTED TO A BOAT WHICH WE CANNOT YET SEE BY HIS AIR LINE AND ANOTHER SIGNAL LINE. THE DIVER IS WALKING IN SLOW MOTION ON THE SEA BED COLLECTING PEARL SHELL - THE ROPE BAG AROUND HIS NECK IS NEARLY FULL. HE PUTS ONE LAST SHELL IN IT AND TUGS ON HIS MESSAGE LINE. HE TIES THE NECK BAG TO A ROPE AND IT IS HAULED UP THEN WE SEE A MAN ON THE LUGGER TIP OUT ON THE DECK A BAG OF SHELL AND THEN TIE THE EMPTY BAG ON THE LINE AND LOWER IT OVER THE SIDE. ANOTHER MAN IS SITTING NEARBY ON AN UPTURNED CRATE OPENING SHELL WITH A KNIFE. HE OPENS AND DISCARDS TWO OR THREE SHELLS, THEN CONCENTRATION, ANTICIPATION AND HE HOLDS ALOFT A PRIZE PEARL

SHELL-OPENER- You beauty, You little beauty!

THE OTHER CREWMAN RUSHES UP TO HIM

TENDER - Number One Pearl

OPENER- Boss, Boss

THE PEARLING MASTER RUSHES ON TO SEE WHAT THE COMMOTION IS ABOUT

OPENER- First Class, Boss.

MASTER- Number one alright. First class.

MUSEUM GUIDE-

Now Follow me and spread out along the railing- Over here on the right is our collection of Balinese fishing boats or JUKUNGS . They all sailed here from Bali in 1992 in The Great Jukung Race, which some of you may remember. A JUKUNG is made from a single tree, a quick growing softwood called BELALU. You will note the Lanteen style sail, like a crab claw. These days it's made of rice bag plastic. Note also the big bamboo poles which give JUKUNGS their stability. As you can see its rig is very like a modern Windsurfer.

A STRAW-HATTED BALINESE FISHERMAN APPEARS WADING IN THE SEA NEAR THE JUKUNGS

BALINESE FISHERMAN- JUKUNG can ride the wave and surf over the reef to take us where the sweetest fish in the greatest number swim . We still catch fish in JUKUNG going from beach at SANUR every morning.

When we make our JUKUNG we always paint eye on the prow to show us the way through the sea. And we carve the head of GADJA MINA, half elephant, half fish to make the boat strong. The eyes look out and protect us from bad spirit and the capricious God of the Sea, we call DEWA BARUNA.

MUSEUM GUIDE-

The theme of a perilous journey to Darwin is featured in our next exhibit, the Vietnamese refugee boat THINH VUONG over here. Please follow me Boats like the THINH VUONG travelled over three thousand, five hundred kilometres from Vietnam to Darwin, navigating with only the aid of a school atlas.

THE SMALL WOODEN BOAT IS CROWDED WITH PEOPLE - MEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN TATTERED CLOTHES - THEY ARE WAVING AT US BESEECHING AND IMPLORING US TO TAKE THEM IN, GIVE THEM A REFUGE.THE HORDES OF PEOPLE COULD BE MADE FROM PUPPETS MANIPULATED BY TWO PUPPETEERS WHO ALSO PROVIDE THE VOICES

- REFUGEES Food, Food, water, water
- REFUGEE 1 We are going to Australia.
- REFUGEE 2 Food, water, only rice and fish.
- REFUGEE 1 Water all finish
- REFUGEE 2 How far is Darwin?
- REFUGEES Food, water! Australia - how far?
How far Australia?

THE ARNHEMLANDERS AND THE LIPA LIPA DUGOUT CANOE

MUSEUM GUIDE: This exhibit is a LIPA-LIPA or Dugout Canoe. LIPA-LIPAS were introduced to coastal Arnhemland Aborigines by the Macassans. This LIPA-LIPA was specially made at Maningrida for the Museum. The Macassans introduced axes with iron heads which were invaluable tools for making dug-out canoes. Tall straight Paperbark trees are most commonly chosen as canoe trees and The sails are woven by the women from Pandanus.

LIPA-LIPAS or dugout canoes enabled coastal Aborigines to venture further out to sea to hunt dugong and turtle. Prior to the introduction of LIPA- LIPAS they were restricted to using paperbark canoes like the one other there, but these weere not as seaworthy and exposed the hunters to the risk of crocodile attacks. Arhenland Aborigines called the Maccassans, BALANDA or Hollander men, and BALANDA is today the name used for all white people.

NARRATOR: These Makassar men come long, longtime ago in my grandfathers's grandfathers time, long time before you mob. They tell us about White People. They call him Balanda, Hollander men. Now we call your mob, Balanda. Makassar men come first in their ships with sails, little ships with sails. Not big tallships like you mob

Makassar men come up all along Arnhemland coast, all around they camp. round Yirrkala, Maningrida, Millingimbi way, out the islands Croker and Groote too. But Makassar men went, when the wind changed, when MAMARIGA, South East Wind come up, they went off back to their own country. Everytime my people sad and cried. Old people sing songs and make things on the beach to bring them back. Next time, BARRA, North East Wind come up, they come back.

Makassar men teach us smoke pipe and makes canoes like them cut from trees, with weaving sails, pandanus sails. Our women weavin sails. Lot of work weavin sails. Plenty good sails.

We make boats from canoe trees, callim LIPA LIPA. Plenty good for hunting turtle and dugong and they not sink like bark canoes, so crocodiles can't get you. This one paperbark log, chop him axe, make him proper shape.

MUSEUM GUIDE-

Please follow me to the next exhibit

Now you have all no doubt had experiences of Touch Screens, well we have something more advanced, The Taste Screen.

SNAPS A LAPTOP LIKE CASE WHICH CONTAINS TWO SAMPLES OF WHITE CRYSTALS.

Come forward and taste these.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS HAVE A TASTE.

MUS/G What is it?

AUD/M Sugar

MUS/G Yes , and this one ?

AUD/M Salt.

MUSEUM GUIDE- Yes, and do you know, they were all that was found in that canoe down there.

GUIDE LEADS THEM TO ON A SMALL WOODEN CANOE DRAPED IN A RED SAIL.

MUSEUM GUIDE-

It is a GOLEKAN type of canoe made in East Java. It was discovered by a Darwin fisherman in the mangroves at Grose Island over on the Cox Peninsula. In it under a red sail was a dead man and the only supplies found with him were a jar of salt and a jar of sugar. It is understood that he had set off months before intending to sail to Australia. How he got here is a great mystery. Did he die at sea and drift here on the tide? The sea has many secrets and this is one of them.

KNOT KNOT NEVER NO MORE KNOTS-----

ANNOUNCER - The Trainees train and tie some knots

THE ENTIRE CAST OF YOUNG PEOPLE SITTING ALONG THE EDGE OF THE WALKWAY LEGS DANGLING OVER THE SIDE AS IF THEY ARE ON A PIER OR WHARF. THEY ARE ALL ENGAGED IN TYING CERTAIN SAILING KNOTS IN SMALL LENGTHS OF CORD. JIMBO, THE SKIPPER IS WALKING UP AND DOWN CHECKING THE PROFFICIENCY OF THEIR KNOTS AND BARKING ORDERS AT THEM. MADDIE IS ASSISTING IN THE DEMONSTRATION.

JIMBO - OK gang, let's go over them all again.

1st TRAINEE - Why do we have to tie these knots over and over again?

JIMBO - Because, I say so!

ISABEL - Is that a rope I see before me?

JIMBO - This is the standing part, this is the bitter end and this is the bight. Repeat - Standing part- Bitter End -Bight. Everyone with me ?

THEY ALL REPEAT HIS WORDS AND DEMONSTRATE WITH THE ROPE.

2nd TRAINEE - To the bitter end

JIMBO - Now the REEF KNOT or?

FRANKIE - SQUARE KNOT

MARTIN - Also known as the sailors knot

JIMBO - Yes, Why - you?

ROLO - You use it all the time

JIMBO - Yes, what for, what for?

3rd TRAINEE - Tying lines together...

ROLO - When you reef a sail...

JIMBO - Ye-ses. So Left over right and under then right over left and under and pull snug. OK Everybody make me a Reef Knot and be quick about it.

MIRANDA - That's all it is - See, easy peasy!

FRANKIE - This is right isn't it?

TIM - Yes

MARTIN - Mine looks right , but...

JIMBO - You just reversed what I did - do it again.

ISABEL - It does look pretty

JIMBO - And what's its next best feature? Anybody?

2nd TRAINEE - Unties easily

3rd TRAINEE - How many more times do we have to tie this knot?

ISABEL - Knot Knot Never no more, no more knots

JIMBO - The BOWLINE- what are its salient features?

ROLO - It won't slip or jam...

JIMBO - And?

MIRANDA - It's easy to untie.

JIMBO - Right and what else?

MARTIN - You can use it when you need a loop at the end - a noose..

TIM - It's good for tying to an anchor

MADDIE - But ideally you should tie an anchor with?

ROLO - An anchor hitch.

MADDIE - However there are many uses for the BOWLINE.

JIMBO - OK? How does it go?

ISABEL - First catch a rabbit

JIMBO - There's always has to be one comedian.

MADDDIE - Make a loop -call it the rabbits hole- right, if you don't get this loop right it won't work . Then rabbit runs out of the hole- like this- runs around the tree then what?

FRANKIE - He sees the farmers gun

TIM - Gets a fright, and runs back down the hole.

1st TRAINEE - Mine looks wrong

MIRANDA - What do mean which way round? It has to go like this. See!

ROLO - You're meant to have a loop there - not there

TIM - We did this in abselling

2nd TRAINEE - Mine looks funny but it's right

MARTIN- I'm doing exactly as you told me and its not working

TIM - We had to be able to tie them behind our backs

JIMBO - You will be master of the bowline - when you can do it, underwater, in the dark and with one hand only.

FRANKIE - I never have enough to go round the tree

ROLO - Close enough?

THEY ALL FINISH THE SENTENCE IN UNISON
ALL - Is not good enough

FRANKIE - Mine looks like one of those things people dunk in coffee.

MADDIE - The loop has to stick out or it won't work

JIMBO - Now how do you untie it? Anyone?

ISABEL - Call the farmer

MADDIE - The farmer pushes over the tree, pulls out the rabbit and?

MIRANDA - Ohh, I like this bit

MARTIN - You couldn't, you're a vegeterian!

MIRANDA - Snaps its neck.

JIMBO - We're not going anywhere till you've learnt this one.

3rd TRAINEE- Put him back in and grab his neck

ISABEL - Stupid rabbit

MIRANDA - Mean farmer

FRANKIE - Does it go through his head or the burrow?

MARTIN - Look at mine - its perfect- Snnaap!

FROM DARWIN THEY COME TO AMBON THEY GO-----

A FINELY DRESSED EAST INDIES MERCHANT SITS ON AN UPTURNED WOODEN BARREL, BESIDE HIM THERE IS AN OPEN BARREL FULL OF DRIED CLOVES, THE MERCHANT TAKES UP HANDFULS OF CLOVES AND RUBS THEM BETWEEN HIS HANDS AS HE SPEAKS

A TATTILY DRESSED DARWIN SAILOR OF THE OLD SCHOOL SITS ON A BEATEN UP ESKIE WITH ANOTHER ESKIE FULL OF ICE AND TINNIES HE PULLS THE TOP OFF A CAN AND DRINKS AS HE SPEAKS

OLD SALT- This race used to be the Darwin to Dilli Dash - more a way of life than a proper race, but after seventy-five, Timor was no go, so it changed to Ambon. Now its a race alright, and they come from all over the world - just to get a permit from the Indonesians, so they can island hop afterwards. It's all changed- some of these sailors are serious.

SPICE TRADER- We called the Molucca Islands, The Spice Islands because there we found cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg, pepper and mace. The finest clove trees were growing on AMBOINA. Clove trees grew on some of the other islands to the North but we destroyed them- cut them down, burnt them afterwards. What's the use of the trade, if you haven't got the monopoly?

So AMBOINA became the only place for cloves and it was ours- a Dutch proterate and our ships plied between Amboina and BATAVIA in Java and from there back to the bondhouses of Amsterdam.

Our boats were full to the gunwhales with Cloves, EUGENIA CAROPHYLATA, that's their botanical name Cloves are named after another Latin word, CLAVUS meaning a nail, which the dried flowerbuds resemble.

In the Old World of Europe, cloves were a valuable commodity. We prized them as an antidote to putrefaction, and to mask the stench of our preserved meats.

The natives of AMBOINA call them LUANG KERABU. They believed cloves had magical properties which protected them and gave them courage. Certainly they were very good fighters but no match for us and Amboina was colonised.

SHADOW PUPPET EFFECT LIGHT THROUGH A CLOVE SAILING BOAT

OLD SALT- From Darwin we come. Yachties in thongs and stubbles, with eskies bulging, sinking tinnies waiting for the wind to pick up, becalmed off Bathurst without a sniff of a breeze, drowning our miseries in coldies, going through the Johnnny Walker duty free and getting down to the last of the Bundy OP.

Damm this for a joke! Turn the engine on or we'll miss the party at the other end. There's ice cold Bintang waiting, lets get going!

SELECTING THE CREW-----

JIMBO GOES ALONG AND SELECTS SIX OF THE KNOT TYERS AS THE CREW FOR THE RACE. THEY FOLLOW HIM TO THE BOAT AND PUT ON MATCHING POLO SHIRTS EMBLAZONED WITH THE NAME OF THE BOAT- MIDJANGA AND SPONSORS LOGOS ON THE BACK. THE FULL COMPLEMENT OF THE CREW THEN BEGIN GETTING HER READY TO SAIL. THE REMAINDER OF THE KNOT TYERS DISAPPEAR.

1st TRAINEE - And I thought this was an excuse for a free trip to Indonesia

3rd TRAINEE - Yeah that's what I thought - what a joke!

JIMBO - The Moment of truth has come, Boys and Girls. You, you, you, you , you and you!

TIM - Wow! That's ace, but I'll have to get all my extended essays finished early. Yuk!

1st TRAINEE - I knew he'd be picked. I get seasick -every time.

ISABEL - I didn't think I'd be picked.

2nd TRAINEE - You can't just sit there like a dummy. You have to sail, it's too much like hard work. It'd be good though , eh?

MARTIN - Wow, I'm really happy to be picked. I missed out last year.

FRANKIE - Why did he pick me? I'm only fifteen. How can I say "No, I don't want to go"?

3rd TRAINEE - It's all champagne sailing anyway.

ROLO - I was a reserve last year, but somehow this year, I knew it would happen

2nd TRAINEE - She went last year so I knew she'd be picked. I think I just wanted a holiday.

MIRANDA - I thought they'd select me. All the teachers like me -I can't help it, they just do.

JIMBO - Lets go crew!

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SONG : WHERE THE TRADE WINDS BLOW -----

Where the Trade Winds Blow
We're sailing the seas
Want to trade places with me
going places you'll never see

Flying high on the sea
with the wind in my hair
and the sails running free
on an ocean of stories

We're sailing the seas
on an ocean of stories
where the trade winds blow
to the islands of spice
far away from here

We're sailing the seas
We're sailing the seas
Where the Trade Winds blow
Come sail! Come sail! Come sail with me!

ANNOUNCER - The Darwin to Ambon Race Start Broadcast

ABC RADIO

A record field of one hundred and one yachts are about to set sail in the annual Darwin to Ambon race. This year the race has attracted fifty international competitors, and the fleet is the largest overseas bound fleet to leave an Australian port.

AUDIO SEQUENCE- VOICES OF ASSORTED PARENTS, FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS FAREWELLING THE MIDJANGA CREW

Goodbye and Good Luck

You're so lucky. Make the most of it!

Look after them!

You haven't got a hope of winning, but Good Luck!

Good Luck, Safe Sailing

Oh, I wish I was going!

We'll feed your fish

Don't fall overboard!

Good Luck and Don't get wet!

Don't forget your socks!

Good Luck!

Selamat Jalan and don't forget your journal - every day in Bahasa - No English!

Hope you drown!

Goodbye, Goodbye.

Good Luck Have Fun!

Bon voyage!

ABC RADIO

Four divisions compete in the Darwin to Ambon - the Racing division, Cruising monohulls, a Multihull division and a rally division. Results are decided on handicap in the Racing and Cruising divisions. Among the many local entries in the premier racing division are the favourites Aurora, Northern Spirit, Pandemonium, Marine Maiden and MIDJANGA!

VIDEO SEQUENCE - MEET THE CREW-----

ROLO - Welcome to, "This Is Your Boat", a real life documentary about a crew of six teenagers who have been selected through a rigorous process over the last six months to crew The Midjanga, a thirty eight foot racing yacht. After tearful farewells on the beach as we clambered into the water taxi, from anxious parents, jealous siblings and envious friends, we have stowed our gear and set our minds to the - Race ahead
I am your host ROLO Moore, I'm sixteen years old and doing year 12 - my interests are but enough of me. Lets go and meet the rest of the crew. What are they up To ? Oh look, guess who 's manning the sail - or should I say personning it? Because its ISABEL Maritski from Nightcliff. Isabel, what are you doing ?

ISABEL - I think its obvious Rolo.

ROLO - No, Isabel tell the viewers at home

ISABEL - I am tying a knot in a sheet that holds the clew of the sail.

ROLO - A sheet, but its a rope. Funny? On a boat a sheet is a rope and a sail is a sail, even though it looks like a sheet. And Isabel what knot are you using?

ISABEL - Rolo- rack off!

ROLO - Here's someone else who's very busy - What are you doing MIRANDA Myers from Nakara? Miranda is in Year 11 and her special interest is celestial navigation, could you tell us a bit about it?

MIRANDA - Stars - at night- to work out where you are.

ROLO - Of course this is a modern boat and has a GPS which is an acronym for a Global Positioning System so it can tell us where we are even when there are no stars.

TIM - Rolo turn it off and go away!

ROLO - That interjection came from TIM Connors. Tim is in year 12 and is a maniacal rock climber. What are up to Tim?

TIM - I am fixing my sunglasses - they broke - in the excitement of getting on the boat - perhaps they were torn from me, by somebody swinging wildly with a video camera - who knows?

MARTIN TAKES COMMAND OF THE CAMERA

MARTIN - MARTIN, Martin Malone , champion footballer, and world class yachtsman. Year 11 future uncertain - possibly a marine biologist or a merchant banker, it all depends on the fall of the dice.

ISABEL - And he is currently scratching his nose after applying the pink zinc mark M for Midjanga on his forward thinking brow. And don't pick your nose, Martin-ugh!

MARTIN - It's dead skin- sunburn.

ROLO - Thank you Martin that'll be all. Here's someone who's very busy - FRANKIE Johnson from Driver what are you doing?

FRANKIE - Checking, checking whether I've forgotten anything...

ROLO - And have you?

FRANKIE - Probably, but I'm not sure - four t shirts, six knickers, sailing gloves, zinc cream, sunscreen, waterproof, 15 plus, Clearasil medicated face wipes- 3 million, 6 kitcat, 3 marsbar, 3 Bounty Bars, black jelly beans, eight sachets vegemite

ROLO - I think we'll let her get on with it. That's about it for us.

VIDEO SEQUENCE ENDS AND ACTION CONTINUES LIVE

 DARWIN YOU CALL IT

ABC RADIO

The yachts sail the 600 nautical miles between Darwin and Ambon in three to five days making the most of strong 10 to 20 knot breezes from the south east.

TWO 19th Century ENGLISH NAVAL OFFICERS- Lte STOKES AND Lte WICKHAM -ARE SEEN . THEY TAKE UP A COMMANDING VANTAGE POINT AND COMMENT ON THE SCENE AND THE RACE PREPARATIONS.

STOKES Darwin? Did someone say Darwin? I called it, Talc Bay when I first saw it .

WICKHAM On account of the quantities of talc slate which we found embedded in quartz on that point over there.

STOKES But later on, I decided to name this great sheet of water, Port Darwin to perpetuate the name of my shipmate and friend, Charles Darwin, with whom I'd sailed on my previous voyage.

WICKHAM We named that far point over there, Point Charles in his honour as well.

STOKES After all our ship, The Beagle had been his, and he its naturalist.

A THIRD ENGLISH NAVAL OFFICER ENTERS, WICKHAM AND STOKES JUMP TO, AND SALUTE

KING - Captain Phillip Parker King. You two are obviously like myself members of her Majestys Royal Navy.

STOKES Indeed we are sir, Lieutenant Stokes and my compatriot, Lieutenant Wickham

THEY SHAKE HANDS

WICKHAM Delighted to meet you sir.

KING Ah, I see you have entered and mapped, what I only guessed at twenty years ago. How wrong I was. I did not think this expanse of water of great importance.

STOKES - They have built a fine city on its shores but who could have predicted that?

KING Indeed I did not, but in one respect I was right. It is nowhere near as commodious a harbour as Port Essington, though easier to enter, I grant.

STOKES See that table shaped hill over there- between the two arms of our harbour, we called it, Kings Table. In your honour, sir.

KING Very decent of you chaps, and very fitting.
Come, a glass of Marsala, while we wait for this blasted
race to start.

KING TAKES OUT PLASTIC WINE GLASSES AND A HIP FLASK

STOKES Yes, it's been delayed.

WICKHAM There was an announcement.

KING I do wonder though, about the chain of command,
these modern sailors are a somewhat slack, to my mind.

WICKHAM To be fair sir, the breeze is light and they
are only sailing vessels afterall.

STOKES Sailing vessels still depend on the wind, sir,
however many things have changed.

KING Indeed they have! On some of these boats there
are young lasses! Wouldn't have stood for a woman manning
the tiller in our day ,eh chaps?

THEY ALL NOD IN AGREEMENT

WICKHAM The fleet will be a fair sight coming round
this point.

STOKES Indeed she will, shame the winds not up in the
hindquarter, we might have ad some spills.

KING Then we'd see what sort of sailors those lasses
are. A spot of weather would test their mettle.Eh, chaps?

THEY SETTLE BACK AND TAKE OUT BINOCULARS TO WATCH THE
SAIL PAST

SKIPPERS AND TACTICS-----

ANNOUNCER- Skippers, Tactics and Spinnakers

ABC RADIO

The outside favourite in the Racing division is the well-known Darwin boat, MIDJANGA. Again this year MIDJANGA is being crewed by six Territory teenagers and skippered by local yachting legends, James and Madeleine Newman. They'll be out to show the oldies they're better and faster.

ROLO IS CONTINUING MAKING HIS VIDEO, INTERVIEWING THE SKIPPERS

ROLO - You've met our crew, but what about our esteemed leaders? The Skippers!

ISABEL - Skipper Number One James Newman, Jimbo to us all, Hail Captain for whose fame, the ocean sea is not sufficient room, would you care to give us an insight into your tactics for this race.

JIMBO - Just remember girls and boys, he who commands the sea has command of everything.

ROLO - And of tactics sir?

JIMBO- We shall win, we shall trounce our opponents

ROLO - But which way shall we go round Bathurst Island?

JIMBO - The best way, the quickest way.

ROLO - But..

JIMBO - The quickest way in the long run

ROLO - So we shall go the long way?

JIMBO - We might and pick up a faster wind on the other side. For the sweetest way to me is a ship's upon the sea in the heel of the Southeast Trade

ROLO - So the aim is to go the shortest route as fast as you can?

MADDIE - We'll follow the Rhum line as we almost always have. But enough of this! There's work to do - put that thing away.

ROLO - The voice of Equal Skipper Number One - Maddie, she who speaks quietly and is always obeyed.

MADDIE - Everybody to their places - and look sharp we've got a race to win.

WITH SPINNAKERS SET -----

ABC RADIO-

And What a sight they are, their colourful spinnakers ballooning out, as they jostle for position at the starting line. The scene is dominated by the imposing bulk of the grey naval destroyer, from which in a few minutes, the Administrator of The Northern Territory will fire the cannon, that marks the start.

SOUND OF GUN

TIM - That's the Five Minute Gun.

MADDIE - Get ready to say, Goodbye to Darwin!

MIRANDA - Everyone's got their spinnakers set. Don't they look fantastic. They're my favourite sails.

FRANKIE - Mine too, they're like a field of - flowers !!

SOUND OF NEWS HELICOPTERS OVERHEAD

MADDIE - They must be getting some great footage. One day I'd like to see the start from up there

MIRANDA- But right now I'm pleased to be here.

JIMBO - Trim the mainsail - pull it in!

ABC RADIO-

The Boats will sail with the same seasonal breezes, or Trade Winds, that united Australia with the Indonesian islands long before the arrival of Captain Cook.

TOO MANY COOKS SPOIL THE TRADE-----

A DUTCH VOC OFFICIAL ENTERS AND HIS WORDS ARE OVERHEARD BY A MODERN DAY ANTHROPOLOGIST.

VOC OFFICIAL - You English sailors, you think you discovered the world from Plymouth, planting flags all over the place, claiming countries in the name of your dyspeptic majesties. Captain Cook discovered Australia!

ANTHROPOLOGIST - In certain areas of Arnhemland there are groups who have incorporated Captain Cook into their cosmology, as one of my informants said- "We got him Captain Cook. Captain Cook Number One, Captain Cook number Two. All the same Captain Cook"

VOC OFFICIAL - It wasn't Captain Cook! Phhh!. It was our ships, the ships of the VOC. The Vereenigde Oost Indische Compagnie, the Dutch East Indies Company you call it. We knew there were treasures to be had in the Moluccas but we had no charts of those seas so we commissioned "The Duyfken" to find a route from Batavia. During that voyage she sailed further south and landed on the Eastern coast of the Gulf of Carpentaria. Twenty years later, we instructed our Governor in Ambon to send two ships, "The Pera" and "The Arnhem" to seek out Noava Hollandia. They made a landing on the Western coast of the Gulf and named it Arnhemland. That was one hundred and fifty years before Captain Cook had even left on his Great Voyage of Discovery.

ANTHROPOLOGIST- As I was saying, Arnhemlanders regard Captain Cook as an ancestor, and they say "See too many Captain Cooks, coming and going all the time. This one Captin cook, that one Captain Cook." However it's possible they have conflated the memories and stories of earlier seafarers into this Captain Cook.

VOC OFFICIAL- The native inhabitants had no knowledge of gold, silver, iron, tin, lead or copper. Even the wondrous spices of our own Paradisus Batavus - nutmeg, pepper and cloves - failed to impress them. So we abandoned the idea of trade with these Arnhemlanders, and left them alone to be "discovered" by you.

ANTHROPOLOGIST - He's right. There are numerous examples in rock art of images of sailing ships and European seafarers, which predate the British invasion of Australia.

THE ANTHROPOLOGIST AND THE VOC OFFICIAL EXIT IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS EACH PREOCCUPIED WITH HIS OWN THOUGHTS.

FINALLY THE START-----

ABC RADIO-

It is only at the start of the race that the whole fleet is bunched together and this is the time when collisions happen, as every skipper jostles for the best position. The aim at the start is to get away as fast as you can. Once the gun is fired the fleet will spread out remarkably quickly.

SOUND OF CANNON

MADDIE - And she's off and away

JIMBO - Sheet on! Watch the spinnaker.

MADDIE - Its ok she's holding

JIMBO - Now make for Talc Head and keep the sandbar to starboard, and let her fly. Martin, You watch those boats out there and Miranda, you watch them on port

MADDIE - Keep an eye on The Maiden she might be up to something.

JIMBO - Frankie watch that trim and let her out a bit when you can

FRANKIE - Got ya!

MADDIE - How are we Miranda? We don't want anyone elses dirty air.

ROLO - We're not talking about pollution, dirty air's something else , I'll explain later.....

LARRAKIA SONG

Waves coming up, high waves coming up
against the rocks breaking, shi , shi,

When the moon is full with its light upon the
waters
High tide, tide flowing through the grass
Breaking, shi, shi,

Waves coming up against the rocks,
High waves
Breaking, shi ,shi

(from a song collected by R&C Berndt and cited in
Bill Day's book- Bunji)

THE LARRAKIA SEQUENCE IN PRODUCTION WAS REPRESENTED BY A
VIDEO INTERVIEW WITH AN ELDER WHO TALKED ABOUT THE
LARRAKIA OWNERSHIP OF DARWIN HARBOUR
THE VIDEO WAS PROJECTED ONTO THE SAIL OF THE PEARLING
LUGGER.

TRAVELLING IN SALTWATER COUNTRY -----

THERE IS A DREAMING TRACK RUNNING THROUGH DARWIN HARBOUR CONNECTING LARRAKIA LAND ON THE COX PENNINSULA ON ONE SIDE WITH THE TOWN OF DARWIN VIA KULALUK ON THE OTHER SIDE.

LARRAKIA MAN OUT FISHING IN HIS TINNIE (an Aluminium Dinghy with an outboard) ON DARWIN HARBOUR. AS HE FISHES HE POINTS OUT SOME OF THE IMPORTANT PLACES AROUND THE HARBOUR

Oh you got a lot of dreamings round here, see round the coastline here. We Larrakia, this is our proper country, Saltwater Country and we true Saltwater People. We got Dreaming in this water here.

AS HE SPEAKS AND POINTS OUT THE PLACES HE FINISHES FISHING AND COMES TO SHORE, WADES IN AND DRAGS HIS TINNIE UP ONTO THE BEACH, ENLISTING THE AID OF AN AUDIECE MEMBER TO HELP HIM.

Give us a hand mate . Put him away eh?

HE UPTURNNS IT AND LEANS IT OUT OF THE WAY AGAINST A BACK WALL, TAKES THE OUTBOARD AND HIS FISHING GEAR OFF AND EXITS

Thanks Mate , and remember 'bout lookin' after all them dreamings, I bin tellin' you about.

A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS-----

ANNOUNCER- Racing: Day 1 Saturday Afternoon
Getting round Bathurst Island

ROLO - Now that we're off and running- Dirty air refers to someone else's sails getting the wind first. So in terms of getting away cleanly avoid dirty air. No-one wants the wind taken out of their sails, do they?

ISABEL LEADS THEM IN A SILLY SONG

Farewell to Old Darwin forever
Farewell to our old friends as well
Farewell to the well known old college
Where I once used to cut such a swell

Singing Toora Li Oora Li At a Dee
Singing Toora Li Oora Li Ay
For were bound for Ambon Bay

ROLO - And how about our sponsors, Isabel?

FRANKIE - I'm wearing their cap. I like the cap

MARTIN- The shirt's a bit...

ISABEL - Daggy? Was that it?

MIRANDA - Well I like the colour and you've got to name them all so ..

FRANKIE - No, its too crowded.

TIM - We'd really to thank all our sponsors for making our participation in this race, possible.

ISABEL - Yeah! We'd be lost without you. And the cap is good, but?

ROLO - You've got to have a collared shirt. It keeps the sun off your neck.

ISABEL - At least undo the top bottom Rolo

MADDIE - Off everyone, hats back in the bag! We want them clean and dry for Ambon. Goodwill Ambassadors can't look scruffy.

JIMBO - Ready about! Get ready to gybe.

EVERYONE - Yep, OK.

JIMBO - Gybing!

GOING ROUND BATHURST-----

JIMBO - It looks like we'll stay with the pack for a while, but once we're round Bathurst we ought to be able to make a break

MARTIN- The Tiwi used to paddle their dug out canoes over to Darwin and got into skirmishes with the Larrakia.

MIRANDA- That's right Mindil Beach was a burial ground

ROLO- Yeah, before they built the casino.

FRANKIE- Heck of a long way to paddle

JIMBO- There's usually a breeze to pick up off the tip of Cape Fourcroy.

A TIWI DUGOUT CANOE IS PADDLING FROM BATHURST ISLAND TO DARWIN WITH A CREW OF TWO

MARTIN- Hi Ho Silver!

TIM - What? Ehh? Silver?

MARTIN- Hopalong Cassidy, Goin' to the pictures,
Star Pictures on Smith Street

TIM Hi Ho Silver? Silver? Hopalong Cassidy's horse.
I remember, Hi Ho Silver Away!

IF YOU WERE A BOAT WHAT WOULD YOU BE? _____

ROLO - Now for more probing questions of the crew.
What do they really think? Let's find out.
Tim, where do you most like to be on the Boat?

TIM - At the helm, steering.

ROLO - Isabel?

ISABEL - in the middle

ROLO - Frankie?

FRANKIE - Safe in the cockpit or in bed

ROLO - Miranda?

MIRANDA - Right here where I am.

ROLO - And if you were a part of the boat, what would you be?

MIRANDA - The head of the mast because then I'd light up at night and people would know there was a boat there.

ROLO - Isabel?

ISABEL - The spinnaker because then I'd be able to fly right up in front

MARTIN -and be full of hot air. I'd like to be the wind hawk at the top of the mast cause I'd have the best view.

ROLO - Frankie?

FRANKIE - The bow so I could carve the waves and see the dolphins playing around me, but I'd also like to be the mast and be really, really tall.

TIM - What about you?

ROLO - I reckon I'd be the foredeck, then I'd be important.

ISABEL - But we could walk all over you, and we would.

MORNING RADIO SKED-----

ANNOUNCER - At Sea Day 2: Sunday Sailing On A Reach

ROLO - Eighty boats are going to call in and tell us where they are. This is Maddie turning on the radio. This is our radio. Maddie is tuning our radio. What can we hear Maddie?

MADDIE - All those funny noises are the other ships tuning in their radios.

ISABEL - Good Morning Darwin!!

ROLO - Selamat pagi Ambon!!

ISABEL - You're on radio All Out To Sea Triple S four four point three at sea - All out to sea , and coming up is Radio Skeds or "Talkback by Numbers" followed by the 6.30 am news bulletin and then some classic rock and roll. But back to Maddie who's still twiddling that dial.

ROLO - All the boats have to radio in twice a day to the RadioShip, who then relay everyone's positions back to Darwin Sailing Club.

ISABEL - So that our Mums and Dads can check, exactly where their sea treasures are, on the big whiteboard back at the ranch.

MADDIE - Midjanga, zero, nine, four, seven South, one two eight, two, one East. Repeat Midjanga zero, nine, four seven South, one -two-eight, two-one East.

ROLO - Maddie is reading the numbers off the screen.
Well done Maddie!

MANTA RAY DISPLAY

TWO MALE MANTA RAYS AND A FEMALE ARE SIGHTED. THE FEMALE GLIDES ALONG JUST BELOW THE SURFACE OF THE SEA. THE TWO MALES SHOW THEIR COLOURS IN A COMPETITIVE DISPLAY, RISING UP COMPLETELY OUT OF THE WATER. THEY LOOK LIKE GIANT ORIGAMI SHAPES OR A DOUBLE DOONA COVER, AS THEY REVEAL THEIR PURE WHITE UNDERBELLIES IN A BID TO ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF THE FEMALE. THEY ARE CREATED AS CLOTH AND BAMBOO PUPPETS MANIPULATED BY DANCERS.

MIRANDA- Did you see those?

MARTIN- Yeah, wow, Manta Rays -cool eh?

MIRANDA- They only do it at this time of year,
Its a mating dance thing.

ROLO- Speccy isnt it?

MARTIN- Yeah, real cool, specially that back flip!

HARDLY EVER SICK AT SEA-----

FRANKIE IS THROWING UP AND GROANING.

ROLO - When's lunch, I'm starving I feel like extra hot salami with little bits of white fat, curried eggs with heaps of Tabasco

FRANKIE- I feel sick

TIM - It was the curried eggs, no wonder

ISABEL - Na it was the little bits of white fat- Pitiful isn't it?

ROLO - Followed by a double layer peanut butter - crunchy - and honey sandwich, oh and a few olives and a can of coke and a double choc malted

ISABEL - Stop it Rolo!

ROLO - Oh I'm never, never, never sick at sea

ISABEL - What Never?

ROLO - Hardly ever

ISABEL - Oh he's hardly ever sick at sea

TIM - Dry Saladas, with dry toast, hold the butter , hold the cheese, hold the ham hold the lot and - chuck

FRANKIE THROWS UP AGAIN.

ROLO - Who's on galley duty?

FRANKIE - Me

ISABEL - Ha! Rolo you'll have to make your own

TIM - Are you alright?

FRANKIE- No..

ISABEL - Wrong way Frankie- other side.

MIRANDA - Get her a towel Rolo.

ISABEL - Yeah, stop gawking. It could be you

ROLO - Not a chance, I've got my tabs right here.

ISABEL - Frankie does it drug-free. What a gal!

FRANKIE - I'm going to lie down

FRANKIE GOES BELOW AND THE REST OF THE CREW BEGIN AN INCREASINGLY RAUCOUS RENDITION OF Ten Green Bottles in Bahasa Indonesian UNTIL SHE IS PROVOKED

THEY ALL KNOW THE SONG HAVING LEARNT IT AT SCHOOL, SO AFTER A COUPLE OF ROUNDS LED BY ISABEL, THEY SUBSTITUTE "pelaut" meaning sailor for "bottol" to produce Ten Green Sailors -IT IS A RAUCOUS PERFORMANCE THAT CONSTANTLY BREAKS DOWN AS PEOPLE FORGET SAILOR AND SAY BOTTLE. IF TEN GREEN SAILORS SHOULD ACCIDENTALLY CHUCK!

Sepuluh bottol hijau
Di atas pagar
Kalau satu bottol hijau
JATUH

Ada sembilan bottol hijau
Di atas pagar
Sembilan Botol hijau
Di atas pagar
Sembilan Botol hijaut
Kalau satu botol hijau
JATAH

ADA delapan botol hijau
Di atas pagar
Tujuh botol hijau
Enam Botol "
Lima botol "
Empat botol "
Tiga botol "
Dua botol "
Satu botol "
Kalau satu botol hijau
JATUH

Tidak ada botol hijau
di atas pagar

FRANKIE - SHUT UP YOU MOB!! Shut up!!

VIDEOING THE SUNSET-----
 ISABEL IS VIDEOING THE SUNSET. ROLO IS DIRECTING IT.
 THE OTHERS ARE LAZING ABOUT ENJOYING THE END OF THE DAY

ISABEL - How long do we want Rolo?

MIRANDA - Once it hits the water it takes two and half minutes to go down completely

TIM - I reckon a minutes long enough for a sunset unless you want to put a song behind it.

ISABEL - Then you need four minutes tops

MADDIE - Oh, this is the life isn't it?

FRANKIE - Just look at that sunset

MADDIE - Yeah, you guys have done a great day's sailing. We're keeping up with the leaders and if we can make some more time tonight, tomorrow mornings sked could be very satisfying.

JIMBO- It could and shall be. The way of a ship in the midst of the sea is a thing too wonderful for me.

FRANKIE- Where are the others ? I know they can't be that far way but...

MARTIN- All day long they sailed
 but nothing did they find
 But a ship a sailing, a sailing with the wind.

ISABEL- Wind? Wynd?

MARTIN- Ohhh?

ROLO - Who's watching The Traveller?

FRANKIE - Me!

THEY ALL LAUGH.

MIRANDA - With the wind in my hair which is filthy but the wind's nice, and the red sun is dropping like a...

ISABEL- And the red sun is dropping like a ripe tomato...

MIRANDA - Ughh!!

FRANKIE - like a ripened ruby sphere into the soft slivery silver sea

ISABEL - Wonderful

ROLO - So what's for dinner ?

JIMBO - Chile con carne

ROLO - Great, hope you've made heaps, I'm starving

ISABEL - I'm shocked.

TIM - Are you up to it?

FRANKIE - I feel much better now.

ROLO - Sea spirit anyone?

ISABEL - Yeah please double coke on ice

JIMBO - G and T for you Maddie, my Sea Queen

TIM - Triple Coke neat thanks .

MARTIN - I reckon the dips are the best meal of the whole day. Give us more of that salsa. Mucho chilli, muchos gracias and don't hog those chips?

ANNOUNCER- Second Night At sea

JIMBO - I've got you lot on the Grave Yard watch with me, so get some sleep. We want to sail hard tonight.

MARTIN - Sure, sure aye aye skipper.

ROLO - When I'm on night watch sometimes the weirdest things come into my head...

MARTIN - Like what?

ROLO - Penguins, sheep and water tanks

MARTIN - That's weird

ISABEL - All I can think about is sleep

MIRANDA - Sometimes, I can't stop thinking about St Elmo's fire.

MARTIN - Do you? I'd forgotten about it But I won't be able to stop now.

MADDIE - I'm usually too busy steering down the waves and not letting her breach, to think about anything else.

FRANKIE - I think about what's beyond the stars.

ROLO - When you're at the helm what do you think?

ISABEL - "Steer Boat"

TIM - Am I getting the best possible speed?

MARTIN - Is that boat further away than it was a minute ago? What am I doing wrong?

TIM - I love being at the helm in charge. You're all asleep and its my boat a-ahhh

MARTIN - I'm off to bed.

ISABEL - Me too

ROLO - I'm bored, tease my brain, troops

OF FISH AND LADDERS LATERALLY -----

TIM - The crime scene: Two dead bodies male and female, young, in their prime let's call them Romeo and Juliet - a mysterious double homicide. Their naked bodies are cold - let's put a blanket over them. But before we do, note there are no bruises marks or obvious injuries. They are lying a pool of water and the crime scene is littered with broken glass. So what has happened? Any ideas team?

FRANKIE - Were they lying in each others arms?

TIM - Close together but not in each others arms.

ROLO - Was there a broken widow nearby?

TIM - No

FRANKIE - Had there been a flood?

TIM - No

ROLO - A tidal wave?

TIm - Nooo

FRANKIE- Were they lovers?

TIM - Possibly hard to tell at this stage.

ROLO - Was the murder weapon found nearby?

TIM - You have everything you need to solves the crime

FRANKIE - Could they swim?

TIM - Yes, very well, both were excellent swimmers

ROLO - I've got it - they're tropical fish and their bowl had been smashed by agents unknown. Right?

TIM - Right !

ROLO - Do you want to do another one?

TIM - Na, I'd rather read, where's your torch?

FRANKIE - Here. What have you got ?

TIM - The Loaded Dog by Henry Lawson

FRANKIE - I like that, it's about fishing and dogs.

TIM - Dynamite more likely. Just lie back on that winch and relax.

ROLO - Maddie, I've got one for you. You'll like this one, it's technical. There's a boat at anchor and its got a rope ladder that goes over the side, and five of the rungs of the ladder are underwater. Got the picture?

MADDIE - Yes Rolo, ready, go on.

ROLO - If the rungs of the ladder are 30 centimetres apart and each rung is three centimetres thick, how many rungs would be underwater four hours later, if the tide rises at 35 centimetres per hour?

MADDIE - So we're not talking about Darwin harbour are we? Because the tide rises at 70 centimetres an hour, Ambon harbour's a bit slower - more like fifty I guess. Jimbo how fast does the tide rise at Ambon?

JIMBO - Inside or at the entrance?

MADDIE - It doesn't matter, this is an example.

TIM - So that's a metre thirty divided by thirty three

FRANKIE - But it's one less isn't it because each gap is between two rungs ...?

TIM - Yeah, yeah, you're right.

MADDIE - Five! Five rungs would be underwater.

ROLO - Right. Right as always, Maddie.

TIM - How, how did you do it?

MADDIE - As the tide rises, Tim, the boat rises, as no doubt you have observed.

FRANKIE - Oh, so it doesn't make any difference.

TIM - Right- that's enough of ladders! I'm off to bed.

MADDIE - Frankie can you go wake the others. And the rest of you get some sleep.

THE OLD MAN ON THE RAFT-----
DURING NIGHT WATCH ON THE ARAFURA SEA EN ROUTE TO AMBON,
ONE OF THE YOUNG CREW MEMBERS ON "THE MIDJANGA" DREAMS OR
CONJURES UP ANOTHER SAILOR, THE ARTIST, IAN FAIRWEATHER

TIM- I was dreaming.....
I thought I saw an old man on a raft- made of petrol
tanks and bits of driftwood with a sail of rags. He was
stretched out on it, half under water with a rope between
his teeth

OLD MAN- They're belly carriers- aircraft gas tanks
and I cant steer otherwise. If I stand up, I can't see
through the sail

TIM- Where have you come from?

OLD MAN- Bullocky Point, Darwin, and prior to that-
the world.

TIM- Where are you heading old feller?

OLD MAN- To Portuguese Timor

TIM- How will you get there?

OLD MAN- On the tides and the currents if I'm not washed
to the Indian Ocean first, in a Cock Eye Bob

TIM- When did you leave?

OLD MAN- On a king tide ten days ago,
a fortnight maybe, I dont know

TIM- You must be lonely

OLD MAN- There are plenty of birds. Terns and cormorants
come and fish from my pleasure craft and the sharks are
following - waiting. I lash my feet to the mast in case I
doze off and the pearly buggers start nibbling at my
nether regions.

TIM- What else have you seen?

OLD MAN- Marvellous dancing figures stretched on the
mosquito net of the stars. Pictures, better than I would
ever dare draw myself

TIM- You an artist?

OLD MAN- A painter, but I lost my way.
Which way is Timor? Am I heading in the right direction?

TIM- Fairweather? They've been looking for you

OLD MAN- I heard the planes, I waved, they missed me and
buzzed off. What's new?

TIM- They've written you off

OLD MAN- It's not the first time

TIM- Your obituaries have been in all the papers.
Getting lost has made you famous.

OLD MAN- The philistines and doubters - hmph!
They love a dead artist. "Lost at sea"
It's got a ring to it

TIM- What will you do?

OLD MAN- Keep drifting. I steer by the moon but she is a
cunning queen, she keeps on moving.

TIM - I know what you mean

OLD MAN - I have a compass on my wrist and I can just
make out the moving needle- its blind stabbing at best
but when is it not? Sunlight and starlight burns, my eyes
have crusted over but the scales have fallen away...

THE IMAGE DISSOLVES, THE OLD MAN DISAPPEARS SINGING TO
HIMSELF- "I'LL TAKE THE HIGHROAD AND YOY TAKE THE LOW
ROAD AND I'LL BE IN TIMOR, BEFORE YE...." AND ANOTHER
CREW MEMBER WAKES THE YOUNG MAN FROM HIS DREAM

FRANKIE - WAKE UP! WAKE UP! TIM, this is your life and
it's your turn to go on watch.

TIM- It cant be, Ive just been on

FRANKIE- I was only kidding- you were talking in your
sleep- you woke me!

SAILING ON A REACH -----

ANNOUNCER: Racing Day 3: Monday Morning and Lots To See

JIMBO - Ah the sea, the sea, the open sea,
The blue, the Fresh, the Ever Free

ROLO - Another glorious day - when will it end?

MADDIE - Soon, too soon for me

FRANKIE - Morning Everyone! Now for my sea shower.

MIRANDA - Another Bucket ?

ISABEL - Yes

TIM - Martin, give us the binoculars

MARTIN - Ah, I see you nymphs are bathing

ISABEL - Hair washing - it's revolting! Not really cold
but-ughhh!!!

MIRANDA - More?

ISABEL - Yeah, it just won't lather

TIM - Don't do that again Isabel

JIMBO - You girls, when you're doing that, you ought to
have your harnesses attached.

ISABEL - Aye Aye, Captain, sir, we aint gonna fall off -
dis liddle boat's as steady as a rock.

JIMBO - For the moment

MARTIN - This really is sailing.

TIM - Hey look out there, a school of flying fish -
flying and leaping. What a sight.

FRANKIE - Hand over the glasses.

MARTIN - No wonder the Macassans came back every year,
sailing these winds is...something, eh?

FRANKIE - They weren't sailing in a race. They came for
sea slugs. Uughh! Do you want a go?

MARTIN - I was worried yesterday that we might have
missed the Trades, and we'd start going backwards.

MADDIE - Yeah, we've really found the wind now.

ROLO - This is a good moment for a Vox Pop - How do you
know where the wind's coming from?

MIRANDA - I always know, I just look at the hawk

TIM - I just know.

MARTIN - I look at the waves

MADDIE - I do too, but some of them are irregular

FRANKIE - I never know

TIM - You must

FRANKIE - I don't, really I don't.

ROLO - You must by the look and the feel

FRANKIE - Na.

ROLO - Right, you can see how effective our training has been.

FRANKIE - Well, it's like the bowline, I know how to do it, but I've never used it.

ISABEL - I think Frankie means she's an intuitive sailor.

ROLO - Right, I had failed to grasp that point. I'm so glad to be on watch with you.

MIRANDA - So long as the wind doesn't change.

TIM - Well fortunately, it probably won't.

MADDIE - Let the main sail off! And bear away.

ISABEL - Frankie, pull the brace on!

ROLO - Take your eyes off Tim for a minute.

GALLEY DUTY-----

ROLO - Isabel- galley duty, cooking?

ISABEL - I try to scum out of cooking- but I do it in the end, it just takes me a while.

ROLO - Martin, what happens when you're at the stove?

MARTIN - I spill things -they just fly out of my hands.

ROLO - And Frankie?

FRANKIE - I throw up. What about you?

ROLO - I cook perfectly edible meals

ISABEL - And eat, which reminds me, where have all the Bounty Bars gone? Somebody's eaten all those de-vine choc coconut Bounty Bars, the entire supply.

MARTIN - This is a case for mutiny.I accuse you Rolo Moore of eating more than your share. How do you plead?

ROLO - Guilty, Guilty, Guilty.

TIM - Three strikes and you're out, take him down

ISABEL - Anyone who eats more than their share of chocolate ...

FRANKIE - Or Coke

ISABEL - It's the plank

ROLO - What's the problem? It'd give you all a chance to practice "Man overboard" drill.

FRANKIE - I think we might just forget what to do.

MIRANDA- It's amazing when you think of it how Matthew Flinders charts of bits of this sea are still being used.

TIM- Yeah, cool, they must be over a hundred - and fifty- sixty years old ?

MIRANDA - He was sailing here one hundred and ninety years ago!

TIM- Amazing!

FLINDERS MEETS THE MACASSAN FLEET

FLINDERS STRIDES ABOUT THE FLOOR MEASURING DISTANCES WITH HIS FEET HIS ARMS, HIS WHOLE BODY AND CALLS OUT COORDINATES AND DEPTHS AS HE GOES TO WILLIAM WESTHALL, THE SHIP'S ARTIST WHO CARRIES HIS SKETCHBOOK, ROLLED UP MAPS AND A TELESCOPE. WILLIAM SPREADS OUT THE MAP AND MARKS THEM IN IN PEN, AS FLINDERS STRIDES.

SONG : PRECISE AND EXACT MARITIME CHARTS
(PLAINSONG STYLE CHANT)

All the lands, islands, points, turnings,
inlets, bays, rivers, shoals, banks, sounds,
cliffs, rocks, and reefs

FLINDERS
135 21 East, 11 17 South, 15 fathoms falling to 12

SONGand the rest of all that is within the bed
and border of the sea, which you may meet
with and pass, you will duly map and describe

FLINDERS
135 25 East 11 16 South, 9 fathoms and falling

SONGFor not the least of the many decorative
and ingenious of arts
precise in versimilitude
and exact in magnitude
is the drawing of maritime charts-
exact and precise maritime charts

SONG -(CHANGE STYLE OR TUNE OR GO SOLO)

Mapping coastal zones is his special-i-ty
Drawing lines and mapping, mapping, mapping
Making charts, finding shoals and plotting reefs
making maps of undiscovered territor-ies

FLINDERS - One day a fleet of ships with sails of straw.
I spied

TAKES TELESCOPE FROM WILLIAM

FLINDERS
They were Makassarmen not ships of war

William, remark the distinctive tripod mast

WILLIAM - Should I sketch it sir?

FLINDERS -Yes, yes, everything must be recorded

Where are you going Makassarmen? I cried

POBASSO, THE MACASSAN CAPTAIN IN MUSLIM CAP, JACKET AND
BATIK SARONG WEARING A KRIS ON HIS BELT STANDS ARMS
AKIMBO NEXT TO AS IF ON THE DECK OF THE HATE MAREGE.

POBASSO- From UJUNG PANDANG, Pobasso comes,
On the Trade winds we sail to TANA MAREGE,
The Land of the Black People

FLINDERS- And what do you there Makassarmen? I said

POBASSO- We seek out the golden slug on the warm sea bed
the tripang thats found in prodigious number

FLINDERS- Beche de Mer- Sea Cucumber

POBASSO- From Chinaman growing fat,
tripang make our masters rich
and feed our families- on rice

FLINDERS- You come every year, sixty boats at a time?

POBASSO- Sometime more, sometime less,
but every year- Yes
By way of Flores and Kisar, from Selayar,
Kebeana and Buton we come

FLINDERS- Then you know these seas,
where they begin and where they end

POBASSO- We know the wind and where it takes us

FLINDERS- For hundreds of years,
you have sailed back and forth

POBASSO- For hundreds of years the wind and fate has
brought us to the fringe-ed shores of TANA
MAREGE and home again

FLINDERS- Then you must have charts, maps.
Where are they? I must see them.

POBASSO- The roads of the sea are written on our hand,
in the vein of our arm, its highway unfold on
our eye, we can read the wind-
and have faith in ALLAH

FLINDERS- No charts, no maps, none, none at all.
This is a marvellous feat.
You have made no marks of your travels?

POBASSO- None but the seed we left behind in the
Tamarind tree that wave to greet us on TANA MAREGE.
None but the name of the place we camp-
Limboo Moutiarta, Limboo Tordi, Amba, Oojoung Turu,
Limboo Katona, Pulo Dylompo, Churapee, Mungoola, Wakea,
Denna Seeda and Pulo Tiga in TANA MAREGE.

FLINDERS- And I could find no nautical instruments among
them, other than a very small pocket compass, apparently
of Dutch manufacture. Yet, their annual journey by PRAU
covers a thousand miles of open sea and they accomplish
it in two weeks of steady sailing.

SINGERS

So two great captains met,
the Macassan Pobasso and
Lieutenant Matthew Flinders
met on a distant sea
met far from their home ports.
two great captains met
met on a distant sea

FLINDERS- I named our anchorage Malay Road
and the Island nearby Pobasso's Island.
He called it after me, Limboo Raja, which
I took to be a great compliment.

FLINDERS WAVES FAREWELL TO THE MACASSAN CAPTAIN WHO
READIES HIS SAIL

FLINDERS Finished, William?

WILLIAM All done Captain Raja Sahib.

WILLIAMS PACKS AWAY HIS SKETCH BOOK AND THEY DEPART

WHALE WATCHING -----

MADDIE - Watch the trim!

MARTIN - Can you really imagine what's down there, below us in the depths of the ocean?

ISABEL - Yeah, we could be sailing over a whale right now and we wouldnt even know.

MIRANDA - I would really like to see a whale spouting

JIMBO - You're more likely to see a submerged shipping container

MARTIN - And we wouldn't see it- til it was too late

TIM - Ripping an enormous great hole in our keel

MIRANDA- I know, submerged containers are all over the worlds'oceans. Sea junk, its terrible!

ISABEL- Like all those millions of rubber thongs that turn up on the beaches.

MARTIN- They're supposed to come from Indonesia - aren't they?

TIM- They all say "Made In Indonesia" but anyone could have been wearing them.

FRANKIE- What I'd really like to see, just once, is an albatross

MARTIN- An albatross?

FRANKIE- Like in The Ancient Mariner

JIMBO- Don't wish for an albatross! Or It'll be round our necks.

FRANKIE - We wouldn't kill it.

MARTIN - No way!

MADDIE - Martin, take the helm!

ISABEL - Go Marty!

LIVING AT CLOSE QUARTERS -----

MARTIN - It's that time again everyone, Rolo's on the prowl.

ROLO - What have you learnt from the experience of living so closely with seven other people, day in, day out on a forty foot boat?

MARTIN- That it's very cramped

ISABEL - What about you, Rolo, what have you learnt?

ROLO- How much I must annoy people.

ALL- True!

ROLO- And What's happening to the boat? . .

MIRANDA - All I know, is it's more untidy. Why don't people put their stuff away?

MARTIN - It's got more comfortable

ISABEL - Oh, yeah just like home, I really miss my own bedroom

FRANKIE - And hot showers

TIM- I miss nothing, everything I want now is here.

DUGONGS AND MERMAIDS-----

FRANKIE - Dolphins , Look dolphins off the starboard bow

MIRANDA - That's not dolphins. They're mermaids -
Look at the tails. See, watch now!

ROLO - Dont be stupid! There's no such thing as mermaids.
They must be dugongs

TIM - Sailors desperate for female company often mistook
dugongs for mermaids

ROLO - How desperate can you get?

MIRANDA - What, to think a dugong looked like a mermaid?

ROLO - Na, being desperate for female company -
Half their luck

FRANKIE - Even Sinbad the sailor said he saw a fish
that looked like a cow and gave milk to its young

TIM - He thought a whale was an island

MARTIN - And what's that over there then?

ISABEL - Not a whale, an island

TIM - Not an Island, a volcano

FRANKIE - Where?

ISABEL - Over there

FRANKIE - A real volcano

TIM - A real island volcano - Wow!

THE SKIPPERS COME CLEAN-----

MIRANDA- Maddie and Jimbo you haven't said anything. Come on, come clean, tell us what drives you mad about us?

MADDIE- We weren't asked

MARTIN- You are now

ROLO- Hang on I want this on tape

ISABEL - Maddie you go first!

MADDIE- I wish that you all didn't let your harnesses drag on the deck - you're all like escaped convicts, clanking about in chains.

ISABEL - OK, we'll all try harder to do them up. Won't we everybody? So Jimbo, spill the beans?

JIMBO - I wish in my heart of hearts that you had all brought less stuff with you. Some of you could sail around the world with half the stuff you've got

ISABEL - It's not me, I only brought one small bag

ROLO - And a bag of cassettes

ISABEL - Your're no better, what about your emergency rations? That's a bag in itself

ROLO - I've eaten most of them.

MADDIE - But I do have to say that I am especially pleased, at how well you're all doing.

STARGAZING AT SEA-----

ANNOUNCER- Third Night At Sea Riding The Trade Winds

ISABEL - Sailing round the world in a dirty old gondola
Oh to be back in the land of sleep and coca cola

MARTIN - Oh look at those stars

MIRANDA - Amazing aren't they

MARTIN - What have you found?

ISABEL - Well, that lot up there, looks like an old man
on a bike with a basket on his handle bars - I've called
it Basketbike.

MARTIN - Can see the bike, not the basket - but over
there, see, Italy lying down kicking a house with a
pointy roof. Can you see it ?

MIRANDA - No, but that's actually part of Scorpius, and
over there you can see Centaurus, and the Crux which is
our version of the Pole Star.

ISABEL - What's that over there?

MIRANDA - Corona Australis

MARTIN - So are we on track according to your
calculations Madame Starwoman?

MIRANDA - I've been using that big yellowy star up there
and according to my calculations, we are one two nine
thirty five East and eight, fifteen south

MARTIN - And the GPS confirms your calculation allowing
for a standard deviation of ...

MIRANDA - What?

MARTIN - Ten minutes

MIRANDA - Which way

MARTIN - East

MIRANDA - Are you sure ?

MARTIN - Yeah.

MIRANDA - Back to the drawing board then.

ISABEL - How do you do it? In words of one syllable.

MIRANDA - For the purposes of Celestial Navigation,
the navigator is the centre of her universe.

ISABEL - I understand that perfectly.

MIRANDA - The point directly above me is the top of the world, or the zenith. Then I subtract the observed altitude from ninety degrees to get the zenith distance and this determines a circle on the globe called a circle of equal altitude and I know that somewhere in this circle I am, or we are.

ISABEL - Right?

MIRANDA - ...and then I consult my Nautical Almanac

ISABEL - I can see clearly now.

MIRANDA - It isn't really difficult once you understand the principles.

ISABEL - Ohh look at that - its so booti-full, the sea really is silver

MARTIN - I love it when the wake churns it up, its like tin foil confetti

ISABEL - I think I'll write a poem about it- The Silver Seas of phosphoresence

MIRANDA - Look! Port at thirty degreess, a shooting star

ISABEL - I saw it!

MARTIN- What a beauty!

MIRANDA BEGINS SINGING IN BAHASA, BINTANG KECIL- "TWINKLE TWINKLE LITTLE STAR"

Bintang kecil di langit yang biru
Amat Banyak menghias angkasa
Bintang kecil di langit yang biru
Amat Banyak menghias angkasa
Aku ingin terbang dan menari
Juah tinggi ke tempat kau berada

COCKPIT AEROBICS-----

MARTIN - Anyone for a cup of coffee?

MIRANDA - Me, Me

ISABEL - And me, poetry makes me sleepy, a burst of cockpit aerobics is what we need.

MARTIN - Yeah

ISABEL - Get the Water, get the water,
Pump the Toilet, pump the toilet,
Make the coffee, make the coffeee,
Trim the sail, trim the sail

MARTIN - Steer the boat, Steer the boat
Pump the Toilet, Pump the Toilet
Get some sleep, get some sleep
Trim the sail, trim the sail

ISABEL - Stay Awake, Stay Awake, Stay AWAKE!

MARTIN - Get the water, Get the water. Kettle's Boiled

ISABEL - Two for me, None for you,
And loads of milk for Miran-da
one and and half and four bikkies
Four bikkies for Jim-bo.

THE STEERING'S GONE -----

JIMBO - Shite, Shite, Shite!!!!

MARTIN - Quick What's up?

MIRANDA - I think the steerings gone. Jimbo's off...

ISABEL - What?

MARTIN - We've lost steering.

JIMBO - Get that Spinnaker down and quick

ISABEL - Should I get everybody up?

JIMBO - Yes! Wake the rest of them. All hands on top,
Pronto!! Don't stand there get below- get em up. QUICK!

ISABEL - Right, Right

JIMBO - We're taking water, shite! We must have a hole as well. Martin, Get down there, Take this torch and see if you can see the rudder. Get a look at it, see if it's there, while I try to hold her straight.

ROLO- I fell out of bed, What's up?

FRANKIE - Me too! And I hit my head.

JIMBO - Get your harnesses on

ROLO AND FRANKIE - Yes! Yes!

TIM - Help me with the spinnaker you two.

JIMBO - Get it down! She's going round in circles

MADDIE - Miranda grab that sheet! Tim you get the other one.

JIMBO - Where is the hole? Where? What's up Issie?

ISABEL - Have a look at this

JIMBO - Take the helm. Where is all this water coming from? Rolo, pull hard on it and tie it back tight.

ISABEL - It looks like the collars slipped

JIMBO - It has, its worked its way down, that explains it. Right everyone stay in your positions. Maddie you helm. I think I can fix it, where's the tape and my spanner?

MADDIE - Frankie, watch that boom , straighten it off

JIMBO - Its Ok, the collar's back in place and it ought to hold at least till its light.

MADDIE - Just keep everything short for a while, just in case. And pack that spinakker in the bag, Rolo. We won't risk it until Jimbo's checked that it's properly secure.

DID YOU PANIC?-----

ANNOUNCER - Day 4 :Tuesday The Morning After

ROLO - Now what I want to know everybody is- Did you panic last night?

MIRANDA - No

MARTIN - No

ISABEL - No?

MARTIN - I just started hyperventilating

FRANKIE - I know I heard you. I panicked, when Jimbo was yelling about the holes in the boat

ROLO - I knew we couldn't be sinking

ISABEL - I knew we'd be ok because you two were there.

MADDIE - We were all there, all in it together. She's seaworthy. She's designed to do what she's doing.

TIM - And she's got eight tonnes of lead in the keel. What more could you want?

JIMBO - We had a calm sea, we would have been ok, whatever happened.

FRANKIE - But at night the sea's so- black

MARTIN - Very black and very cold.

MIRANDA - The sea seems faster at night

MADDIE - You can't afford to panic. It wastes valuable time. You've just got to focus on finding the problem and fixing it, and thats what you did. Good work team.

FRANKIE - It's bad enough packing the spinnaker bag in daylight, last night it was...

ROLO - A challenge.

DREAMING OF AMBON -----

FRANKIE - Oh, I just remembered, I had the most awful dream last night

MARTIN - I never dream - what happened?

FRANKIE - I dreamt we were crossing the finishing line in Ambon and I was asleep. And none of you woke me. It was terrible.

TIM - We'll wake you, promise.

FRANKIE - Oh, but I do love the way the waves lull you to sleep at night.

ISABEL - Yeah, well you're not sharing a bunk with her. You might be lulled. I am buffeted, on every side. She kicks.

ROLO - This is Miranda on her off watch that is to say she is off watch and not watching anything. The others are watching for - whales?

MIRANDA - I wasn't asleep, I heard everything. There were some dolphins but you missed them. However a special viewing can be easily arranged at a price.

MIRANDA AND ISABEL PUT ON A LITTLE PERFORMANCE WITH THE DOLPHIN TORCHES

ISABEL - How much you pay ? Barappa Ruppiah? How much you pay?

MIRANDA - Where you from? Where you going? I can show you best dolphin.

ROLO - Thank you girls, what would we do without you? No I was wrong they are playing "Where's the island?" What's the island called that we're looking for?

MARTIN - Don't know, but there's two of them and the other one starts with D.

AFTERNOON SKED-----

MARTIN - Do we know who's out there?

JIMBO - We soon will

TIM - What do you reckon that is- about 90 degrees on port?

JIMBO - Could be the Maid, don't think it'd be Aurora that close.

ROLO - Here's Maddie at the radio - again! And what are we especially interested in this afternoon, Maddie?

MADDIE - We want to know where our competitors are.

ISABEL - All of them, Maddie?

MADDIE - No - there are a few, we're particularly eager to check on

ISABEL - Our arch rivals- The Competition! The Maid, Aurora and Pandemonium.

MADDIE - Wait on, here we are, Northern Maid is 126, 55 east and 5,17 south, that means they're only four miles ahead, on the same longitude as us but four miles North, which is - that way...

ROLO - They've certainly made up a lot of time overnight

TIM - Well they probably didn't lose their steering, did they?

MARTIN - Oh come on, considering what happened we hardly lost any time.

ISABEL - Just a lot of sleep

ROLO - So where are they?

MADDIE - Just out there almost directly in front of us

TIM - So that must have been who we saw

MADDIE - Hang on a sec. That's Pandemonium coming up now Zero, six, four, four South, one two nine, five nine east. They're a long way behind.

TIM - Yeah, They must have gybed too early

ISABEL - How sad for them

MADDIE - They might still pick us up. The race is only over at the finishing line

ROLO - And where are we?

MADDIE - Reading off the screen we are zero three one three south and one two nine, five three east. Copy, Midjanga zero three, one, three South, five three east, Roger out.

JIMBO - The thing I like about this race is, how long it is, but how close the finish is.

ROLO - There we've told them where we are.

ISABEL - And we know where they are. So we are no longer at sea, although still at sea.

ARRIVING IN AMBON-----

ANNOUNCER - The Last Night Coming Into Ambon Bay

MARTIN - Look, what's out there?

TIM - It's a big boat, Martin

MIRANDA - We're being welcomed into Ambon harbour by the Indonesian Navy.

TIM - Lucky we're following international yachting protocol and are flying the Indonesian flag

FRANKIE - I think the sailors are waving at us. Look on the bridge.

MARTIN - Wave back!

ROLO - Maddie's gone to call them up on the radio. They will be very impressed with our grasp of Bahasa Indonesia.

JIMBO - Frankie, not that way! That's the distress signal!

MIRANDA - He's waving out of that lower porthole .

JIMBO - Wave back but get it right, this time

ISABEL - Like this, Frankie. Do it gal!

ROLO - Just to bring you up to speed, we're approaching Ambon Bay and we'll cross the finishing line tonight. However there is one more potential obstacle. Tim, will explain.

TIM - Yes, well. The Bay of Ambon is notorious for the wind dropping off, so it all depends on the wind. The other hazard is...

MARTIN - The bullets

TIM - Yes, bullets, sharp gusts of sudden wind that come rocketing out of the narrow valleys between the mountains

MIRANDA - Yeah, Ambon Bay has these really spectacular mountains

TIM - So you have to watch out for the bullets

ISABEL - And dodge 'em!

MIRANDA - You can see them coming on the water

TIM - So you have to let the sail out to spill some wind

MADDIE - As always, the wind rules.....

JIMBO - Maddie, you watch the water. Tim, you're on the mainsheet?

TIM - We're ready skipper

MADDIE - Bullet coming! 5 seconds

JIMBO - Get ready! Dump the mainsheet!

ROLO - Rolo Moore reporting, on board The Midjanga, as dawn is breaking in Ambon Bay. General jubilation has broken out -we've just crossed the line. Aurora was five minutes ahead of us but we think, on handicap, we might just....

EVERYONE - WIN!!!

WE HEAR OVER A LOUDSPEAKER THE INDONESIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM "INDONESIA RAYA" FOLLOWED BY AN ANNOUNCEMENT

AMBONESE OFFICIAL- Welcome to Ambon Manise, Beautiful Ambon. We are proud to have you as our guest. The Lord Mayor of Ambon will now say a few word to you.

THE MAYOR'S SPEECH BEGINS IN BAHASA AND FADES IN AND OUT SO WE CAN HEAR WHAT THE CREW ARE SAYING

MADDIE - How do you feel ?

MIRANDA - I really miss the boat

MARTIN - You're joking I just wish I could walk straight

MAYOR OF AMBON - Ladies and Gentlemen, Saudara- saudara sekalian yang saya hormati Lomba perahu layar Darwin- Ambon yang merupakan salah satu jenis Olah Raga yang setiap tahun dilaksanakan ini, merupakan arena pertemuan antar bangsa-bangsa dimana diantara kita dapat saling....

TIM - That was the best shower I've ever had.

FRANKIE - Amazing what soap will do in fresh, hot, water

TIM - Bubbles - yeah

MAYOR OF AMBON - Bertukar pikiran dan pengalaman dalam berbagai hal serta merupakan sarana guna mempererat persahabatan dan persaudaraan diantara kita...

ROLO - What have you got?

ISABEL - This is really yummy

ROLO - What is it?

ISABEL - Some sort of spicey fish.

MIRANDA - Ikan Panggang -Heaps of chillies?

ISABEL - Biggest mobs- and what's that? It looks like prawn heads.

MIRANDA - It is, Sambal Kepala Udang

ISABEL - Well I'm going back for Pisang Goreng

ROLO - I'm still trying to work out how to say, French Fries and Coke

ISABEL - French Fries and Coca Cola!

AMBON MAYOR - Untuk itu maka Kota Ambon yang merupakan titik akhir dari lomba layar, selalu siap untuk menerima kehadiran saudara-saudara sekalian Selikan Makan!

FRANKIE - I understood that- Makan Makan. You ought to try this, it's great!

JIMBO - I've had it before special yellow rice for festive occasions, Nasi Kuning Lengap. It is very good.

FRANKIE - Ohh, and what's that?

JIMBO - Ginger tea with palm sugar

MARTIN - Rolo, Did you leave any pineapple for anyone else?

ROLO - There was heaps...

AMBON MAYOR - Kepada pemenang lomba, saya ucapkan selamat ata kemenangan yang Saudara raih dan mudah-mudahan kemenangan tersebut akan memacu prestasi Saudara di masayang akan datang. Sekian dan terima kasih!!

AMBON OFFICIAL - Give a big hand please everybodies. Big hands for all of them. Ladies and gentlemens, The Lord Mayor of Darwin. Welcome please.

DARWIN MAYOR - Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls or should I say, Good Morning sailors, boys and girls. You have been carried safely or should I say sped, across the seas in your bonnie boats to the fair shores of Amboina for yet another year. And now you are all at anchor on the beaches of Amandusa in the province of Maluku and we are all glad you made it.

ROLO - Where did you get the sates?

MIRANDA - That table over there, Sate Ayam, can you get me another one, and a bottle of water too, terima kasih.

DARWIN MAYOR - This great race not only promotes the international maritime spirit, it strengthens the already strong ties between Australia and the people of Ambon which were forged in World War 11 when Gull Force was stationed here and fought side by side with the Ambonese against the Japanese.

TIM - I feel like sleeping for days

FRANKIE - I dont ever want to leave my room- it's so still

ROLO - Where did you get those?

TIM - Someone just offered them to me.

ROLO - Where? Who?

THE DANCERS HAVE GATHERED AND PREPARE FOR THE TRADITIONAL STICK DANCE.

DARWIN MAYOR - In 1942 more than one thousand men who formed Gull Force also sailed from Darwin and landed here in Ambon. They left three years later leaving 700 Australian soldiers buried here on Ambon. And today I see Australians and Ambonese standing side by side .What better symbol of our continuing relationship is there, than this race which gets bigger and better every year.

MIRANDA - Tomorrow we visit schools, I cant wait

MARTIN - OHHH!!!

MIRANDA - And speak nothing but Bahasa to everyone we meet.

DARWIN MAYOR - Congratulations to the intrepid sailors and their generous sponsors. We are proud of the people who have won the trophies and congratulate the crews on all the boats. You sailors are what makes this race. I understand that after the presentation of prizes there will be a display of Ambonese traditional dance. I'll just hand over to the head of the Race Committee to announce the winning places.

ABC RADIO - This year the honours go to a boat with an excellent track record. Last year they came third, the year before, second. Yes MIDJANGA has won! What a triumph for its teenage crew!

ISABEL - Yeah Let's party !

EVERYONE - YEAH!

THE DANCERS PERFORM A TRADITIONAL AMBONESE STICK DANCE AND THE CREW JOINS IN

.....

Indonesian National Anthem
INDONESIA RAYA

.....

Indonesia tanah airku
Tanah tumpah darahku
Disanalah aku berdiri
Jadi pandu ibuku

Indonesia kebangsaan ku
Bangsa dan tanah airku
Marilah kita berseru
Indonesia bersatu

Hiduplah tanahku
Hiduplah negriku
Bangsaku, rakyatku semuanya
Bangunlah jiwanya
Bangunlah badannya
Untuk Indonesia Raya

Indonesia Raya, Merdeka Merdeka
Tanahku Negriku yang kucinta
Indonesia Raya, Merdeka Merdeka
Hiduplah Indonesia Raya

Indonesia Raya Merdeka Merdeka
Tanahku Negriku yang kucinta
Indonesia Raya Merdeka Merdeka
Hiduplah Indonesia Raya !

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SOURCES for SILVER SEAFARERS

THE DARWIN TO AMBON RACE (D2A)-----

INTERVIEWED the 1996 crew at the Darwin Sailing Club (DSC) and subsequently compiled a QUESTIONNAIRE which was sent to the 1996 and 1997 crew and the skippers, VIEWED VIDEOS which one of the teenage crew made of the 1995 and 1996 races.

Newspaper reports of the race over the last three years and videos of ABC television coverage of the race start.

The experiences of my son who had done sailing courses at DSC with Jenny Simondson and my husband who sailed on the D2A in 1995

My own experiences of sailing on Darwin harbour, and of watching the race start both from the water on a boat and from the land, and my experience when my husband sailed in it, of going to the Sailing club morning and afternoon to check on the plotting of positions of each boat after the twice daily radio skeds.

Information Booklets, brochures and Leaflets about yachting safety and International Yachting Federation racing rules and regulations - available from Ambon Office at DSC

Winter School of Sailing - which is run by Jenny Winter Simondson - Course Notes and exam papers

General Books on Sailing

Easy on The Helm: Boat Handling under power and sail - Tom Cunliffe

Small Boat Sailing- Rigby Instant Books

How To Sail- Gary Jobson

ALSO - Spinnaker: A Yacht Race Board Game

Celestial Navigation- Information panels at MAGNT on the history of navigation, The Book of The Stars for Southern Hemispheres star maps

HISTORICAL-----

The information panels at the MAGNT, and other material there and at the NT Pearling Museum in Darwin

TERRA AUSTRALIS; The Furthest Shore, William Eisler & Bernard Smith, AGNSW, 1988

Dutch Contributions to the Study of exotic natural history in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries- Johannes Heniniger

Golden Opportunities in Geopolitics: Cartography and the Dutch East India Company during the lifetime of Abel Tasman- Kees Zandvliet

Australia and the cartography of the late eighteenth century expeditions- T.M.Perry

Books on maritime exploration of the Northern coast including various accounts of Stokes, Wickham and Kings' voyages and surveys of Darwin harbour

Various accounts of Matthew Flinders meeting with the Macassans

Ernestine Hill - The Territory
The Great Australian Loneliness

Kieth Cole- Groote Eylandt
- Seafarers of the Groote Archipelago

NATURAL HISTORY:-----

The Marine Fishes of North- Western Australia -: A Field Guide for Anglers and Divers - Gerald R. Allen & Roger Swainston

Sea Cucumbers of Northern Australia- L.R.G. Cannon & H. Silver

LITERARY SOURCES:-----

Sinbad the Sailor , from The Tales of the Arabian Nights

Capricornia and various other stories by Xavier Herbert

Ian Fairweather - various reports of his raft journey

CD Rom Microsoft Bookshelf searches of literary allusions to the sea.

NT RESOURCES:-----

NT Reference Library especially The North Australia Collection

Northern Land Council Library- for The Kenbi Land Claim - Claim Books, Site Register and Transcripts of Evidence from Land Claim Hearings also; Bunji by Bill Day. IATSS

NT Environment Centre- resource files for material on Darwin Harbour, including the recent survey on the use and management of the harbour.

Arafura: A Magazine about the Sea - Newspaper supplement to NT News, July 1997 produced in association with the Saltwater Peoples Festival.

Map of exploration and naming of places in Darwin harbour produced in 19889 for The Sequicentennial of Port Darwin's Naming (1839-1989)

My own libray on Aboriginal art sourcing sea imagery in paintings and carvings and especially for representations of Macassan praus in NE Arnhemland Art

AMBON AND INDONESIAN CULTURE

Maluku Ambon Island - produced by Maluku Regional Tourist Office- Ambon

Tourist information, guide books, art and culture and cookery, additional material gleaned from the Ambonese representatives at NT Expo in Darwin.

My own experience of travelling in Indonesia. My childrens textbooks and school projects during their study of Bahasa Inonesia, which is complusory in primary school for all children in the NT.

RESEARCH FOLDERS-----

I have put together various folders of research material comprising articles and visual sources on

- Maritime history
- The Darwin to Ambon Race including photographs
- The Macassans, Flinders and dugout canoes
- Sailing Course Material

all of which will be available to the the director and cast during the workshop/ rehearsal phase next year .

QUESTIONNAIRE for Skippers and Crew of THE ZANZIBAR in
the Darwin to Ambon Race

NAME:

AGE

ADDRESS

PHONE :

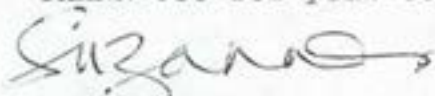
SAILING EXPERIENCE

OTHER INTERESTS and OBSESSIONS

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE IS LARGELY IN THE FORM OF FINISH THESE SENTENCES, AS I WANT TO GET A SENSE OF THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE IN YOUR OWN WORDS HOWEVER THERE ARE SOME OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS AND PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ADD ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE EXPERIENCE WHICH I HAVE OVERLOOKED. NOTHING YOU SAY WILL IDENTIFIABLE AS YOURS AND THE CREW WILL BE A FICTIONAL DRAMATISED CONSTRUCT BASED ON ALL OF THE RESEARCH

Some of the Questions Might NOT MAKE SENSE TO YOU or YOU MAY FEEL YOU HAVE ANSWERED THEM ALREADY , JUST IGNORE THOSE ONES. However try to write something for most of them BUT DONT AGONISE, THIS SHOULD BE QUICK AND INTERESTING FOR YOU TO DO, first responses are RIGHT.

I REALLY WOULD APPRECIATE A FAST RESPONSE - COULD YOU RETURN THEM IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED BY AUGUST 1
THANK YOU for your co-operation.



Suzanne Spinner



PRE- RACE

The training was..... than I expected

The worst part of the training was.....
.....

The best part of the training was.....
.....

I was really pleased with myself, the first time I
.....

My favourite knot is..... because
.....

I never thought I'd get the hang of
.....but.....

I glad I learnt..... during the
training

During training I always forgot.....
.....

The training didn't include.....
.....

The thing I remember most about the training was...
.....

I expected to be picked for the crew because.....
.....

I never thought I'd be picked because I
.....

I think the training really tests.....

The other kids at school thought the D2A was just.....
.....

Some of the kids who dropped out during the training
thought.....
.....

When you got picked you felt.....
.....

GETTING READY FOR THE RACE

Missing school to go on the race meant that.....
.....

You had to bring
.....

I also brought.....
with me.

To get me through nightwatches I brought
.....

The most useful thing I brought with me was.....
.....

I could have left.....at home,
I never needed/ used it/them

I wished I had..... with me.

On the boat my personal survival kit consisted of.....
.....

The main thing / the last thing my parents said to me
was.....

My friends all said..... to me
before I left

My teachers said.....
.....

I watched all the other crews getting ready to go and
felt.....
.....

We felt we were in the same boat as them because.....
.....

Being on our crew you felt different from the other crews
because while they were we
were

I couldn't wait to get going so.....
.....

I didn't want to leave in case.....
.....

Looking around at all the boats at the start I felt.....
.....

THE RACE ITSELF

On the boat my job was to.....
.....
but really I was there to.....

At the beginning of the race it's really important to....
.....

Once we'd left Darwin behind I felt
.....

We were really determined to win to
.....

Once you get going, you're separated from the other boats
and it feels.....
.....

The thing I like about sailing in this race is.....
.....

It's not like other races I have sailed in because.....
.....

The skippers decided the best tactic was to.....
.....

If I had been skipper I would have.....
.....

I liked waking up each morning and seeing.....
.....

Breakfast was the best/worst meal of the day because....
.....

When I was on galley duty I always.....
.....

If I was in the kitchen everyone expected.....
.....

The Best meal was
.....

The worst meal was.....
.....

My favourite snack was.....

My favourite place to be on the boat was.....
.....

If I was a part of a boat I'd be the.....
because then I'd.....

The thing I hated most about being on the boat was
.....

I never liked having to.....
.....

Sometimes I got so bored/ tired of doing
that I would.....
.....

Getting to sleep was easy but.....
.....

I always knew where the wind was coming from but.....
.....

The best way to tell where the wind's coming from is
.....

I like sailing best when
.....

My favourite sail is..... even
though.....
.....

When you're part of a crew you don't feel.....
.....

The thing that surprised me about everyone else on the
crew was.....
.....

When you're part of a crew that's working well together
you.....
.....

Sometimes it seems like you're out of sync with everyone
like the time when
.....

There were moments with the rest of the crew that were
exactly like things that happen with my friends like the
time when.....
.....

I liked being on night watch because you
.....

I kept myself awake on night watch by.....
.....

Sometimes when I was on night watch, the weirdest things
would come into my head, and I'd find myself thinking...
.....
.....

I liked being on night watch with Xbecause they always

I hated being on watch with Y because they never

When you're woken up to go on watch the first thing you do/feel is.....

When you're at the helm you think

Sometimes when we were sailing I would imagine

Other people drove me mad when they

Living together with other people was

Living on top of other people makes you realise

Everyone has different patterns and rhythms. Mine were..... Other peoples were.....

Things that happened on the boat reminded me of

Being on the boat I really missed

When I wanted to get some space for myself I

I really felt that the boat was part of me when.....

As the race progressed the boat seemed to get

When you're racing you need to concentrate on..... and forget about.....

I rarely got annoyed with the others except when they

You always feel safe on the boat because

Did you have any accidents on the boat? If so- what?
When? How? WHY?.....
.....
.....

Did you ever think you were going to fall off/out? If so
When? What happened?.....
.....
.....

I always loved the feeling of

I surprised myself when I

While I was asleep I dreamt I was.....

Another time - possibly when I was half asleep or
daydreaming I really thought.....

At sea I used to think of the boat as.....

While we were sailing we saw.....

At the end of a day's sail at sunset I felt

Nobody likes having to.....

My..... kept on breaking /coming apart so
I had to.....

I would lie on the deck and watch.....

When things look like they are getting out of control I
just.....

I more or less never panic, but I did when

I always knew when X was panicking because they.....

I deal with panic by

At night the sea seems

I would look up at the stars and
.....

As a sailor the thing I am best at is.....
.....

At sea your perspective on things change I noticed I no longer.....
.....

I never felt seasick because.....
.....

I liked hearing the afternoon radio sked and hearing
.....

At sea I think of the wind as
.....

I was never worried except when
.....

During the race I think of the other boats as.....
.....

I wished I had seen just one.....
while we were out there

On the boat my idea of heaven was.....
..... and hell was.....
.....

If I had the chance I again I would make sure.....
.....

I really wanted us to win so that.....
.....
.....

I couldn't wait to get to Ambon so
.....

I didn't want the race to end I just wanted.....
.....

ANY OTHER COMMENTS.....
.....