

## REVIEW

**'ROUND THE WORLD WITH ROSINANTE – Jeremy Firth. Published in soft covers by the author [[jwfirth2@bigpond.com](mailto:jwfirth2@bigpond.com)] at AU\$45.00; p&p AU\$3.50 within Australia, AU\$12.00 elsewhere. 225 235mm x 170mm pages, most containing at least one colour photograph or plan. ISBN 978-0-6469-3284-2**

*'Round the World with Rosinante* comprises a series of despatches sent home during a voyage undertaken nearly 20 years ago. Recently edited and polished into a whole, it reads with the immediacy of a blog. The action really started a decade earlier, when Jeremy started to build the 40ft (12.2m) steel cutter, a task which – combined with earning a living – took nearly ten years, from 1979 to 1989. She is still part of the family.

The starting point for the circumnavigation was Hobart, Tasmania so it was never likely to be the standard coconut milk run that has been described by many. Instead, *Rosinante* and her intrepid crew followed the lonely Southern Ocean route for long stretches of the voyage. This enabled a truly impressive mileage to be covered and an eclectic series of cruising grounds to be thoroughly explored in just three years. These include the Beagle Channel and Patagonia, the east coast of South America, and the Caribbean. From there they headed across the North Atlantic to western Europe, where the canals of the Netherlands, Belgium and France followed the Göta Canal and the Baltic. The following year they took in the westerly sea areas of the UK and Ireland. Finally, it was time to leave Falmouth for the last time for the voyage home – via Brazil and Cape Town.

*'Round the World with Rosinante* is lavishly illustrated with hundreds of photographs and annotated maps, and the overall production is excellent – not always the case with privately published books. It is a book that anyone contemplating a cruise in the waters covered will want to have aboard as a helpful and entertaining guide. For those who will never set sail, this is a tale to dream by.

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