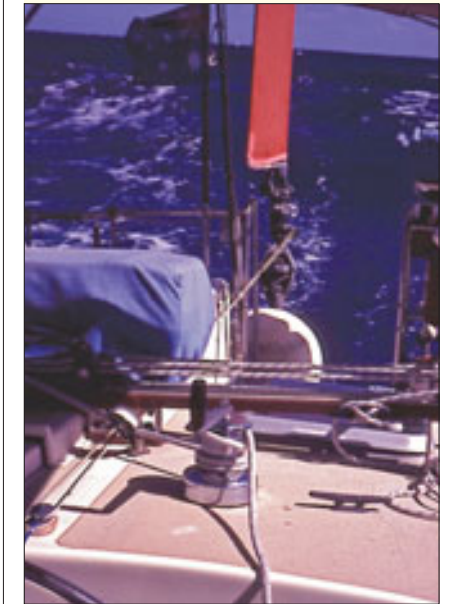




Thinks... "Now that looks like a bloody good idea!"

**Below:** We named our Hydrovane Derek after the genius who invented it. I spent many hours during our 3 week Atlantic crossing mesmerised by its marvellousness. A revelation indeed.



**Below:** Doing the deed on the hard in Malta before our Atlantic crossing. Grafting another metre and a half onto Stylo's stern looked great, worked well and was structurally strong enough to mount an auxiliary rudder/wind-vane Hydrovane self steerer.

"Up in the air . . . is it a bird, is it a plane? No, it's a catamaran . . ."

# Living With Airberths

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**T**here are times in the lives of those with an inclination to analysis that are true revelations. Times when you sit back and think: "Yes. This guy has got it right. This is the way to go on this issue."

I have had many such times. Most are small. Frequently at work I have thought: "Now that is a natty little gizmo. Just the job for this problem."

Others are bigger; some much more so. Four of the bigger ones spring readily to mind: Sociobiology, transom

**For a one-time globe girdling cruising yachtsman settling down to land life in FNQ after 10 years at sea was hard enough, but they had to get their 25 Cougar Cat sorted so they could access the beautiful waters of the surrounding Great Barrier Reef now on their doorstep.**

extensions, windvanes and Airberths.

When I put down Richard Dawkins's seminal book, *The Selfish Gene*, in the late 70s, I felt a great sense of relief and understanding. Revealed within was a mechanism and a level of function that made evolution as a process understandable to me. Now I could work out much of why animals behave as they do and why the world is as it is. Not all revelations are quite so life changing and my choice of the other 3 are of a more nautical application.

