

REPAIRS

There is no mystery to repairing boats or machinery, no matter how or where they were built, in fact, with an instruction manual relevant to the job in hand, it would seem that anyone can do it. Great, you say... let's get stuck in, and sure enough, off you go. Suddenly... **CRUNCH!**, you realise that the instruction manual, comprehensive though it might be... **NEVER** takes into account that the engine... or whatever, due to the ravages of nature, lack of maintenance or **DISUSE**, will probably have just about everything seized or mucky.

Next comes the **BAD DREAM**, the maintenance manual explains it all from the viewpoint of air conditioned comfort, in clinical conditions while using a spotless workbench and special tools. **NOT SO!** When things need attention on **YOUR** boat, you're going to be forced to work on red hot machinery in a cramped engine room, or the confines of some other inhospitable place. As if that isn't bad enough... add to the recipe, heaving seas, storms, coral reefs or lee shores, plus a sprinkle of family aggro and no spare parts... thus, you are guaranteed a very serious case of *browntrouseritis* with nothing on the roll holder... **Yes, you are well and truly IN IT!**

This of course is the worst scenario, and although it really does happen... often... to **ILL-PREPARED FOLK**, you can rest assured... **IT WON'T HAPPEN TO YOU...**

WHY?... *Because you're going to do it RIGHT.*

If you've done your maintenance, carry the appropriate spares, and are equipped with top quality tools as per the suggested inventory, you will be able to tackle every task... and it's unlikely you'll ever suffer a breakdown.

My analysis of repair manuals is true, they **ARE**, by necessity based on equipment which disassembles easily, but by carefully following the step by step sequences of workshop manuals, having patience and strictly adhering to the tolerances permitted, you'll find "there is no such thing as an impossible job". Ideally, to avoid the dreadful scenario above... the secret is to do **all** repairs **BEFORE** you sail.