



# 'Aye skipper' as youngster takes charge

## ■ SAILING

By REECE HOMFRAY

KINGSWOOD uni student **Jonno Bannister** has been sailing his entire life and is about to call the shots as skipper for the first time on Friday (February 22).

The 22-year-old member of the Brighton and Seacliff Yacht Club is leading a young crew aboard *Another Challenge* in the Bluewater Classic – a 156-nautical mile race from Adelaide to Port Lincoln.

Fresh from competing in his first Sydney-to-Hobart Yacht Race in December, Bannister has also invited his father, **Kym**, to take part in the journey.

Earlier this month the engineering student took three days to sail *Another Challenge* from Melbourne to its mooring site at Outer Harbour.

Despite taking the reigns for the first time, Bannister said he wasn't nervous.

"We haven't got any expectations," he said.

"We're just going for the adventure."

Bannister first stepped aboard a boat at the age of one when his dad was doing casual sailing.

Six years later he had a boat of his own, a Holdfast Trainer, which helped fuel a passion for the sport.

Bannister has competed in three world championships – placing eighth in 2003.

He has only missed the Bluewater Classic once after debuting with *Legs Eleven* in 2000.



**YOUNGSTERS SET SAIL:** Jonno Bannister of Kingswood and Alex Saies from Unley aboard *Another Challenge* – the boat they hope to sail from Adelaide to Port Lincoln this weekend.  
Picture: Stephen Laffer.