

# Home is the sailor . . . to watch Cup T

New Zealand yachties have been flocking home from Australia to watch the telecast triumphs of NZL32 at San Diego — but none with the passion or the purpose of Mr Terry Hammond.

Mr Hammond, now aged 67, now lives in Brisbane, but by last weekend he could no longer stand the suspense.

"Even when OneAustralia was still going, we got miserable coverage from San Diego. With the Australians out, we get even less — perhaps a few seconds of news coverage.

"So I contacted my sister in Auckland, jumped on a plane and have not missed a second of the cup coverage."

Mr Hammond, a top bluewater navigator in the late 1940s and early 1950s, navigated the 54ft Tauranga yacht Leda to the fastest time in the 1951 Auckland-Sydney race.

Eleven years later Mr Hammond achieved more worldwide fame when, as navigator in the Australian challenger Gretel, he was regarded as the first New Zealander to sail in an America's Cup challenge.



Terry Hammond cheers the Black Magic crew on yesterday.

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