



QLYC.... Channels Race - Sat January 26, 2013

Well it was Australia Day – They did us proud!!

Apart from the flags it was the doggedness of the crews and skippers that saw them front the OOD for a good old Australia Day clash in the Channels Race to St Leonards and return.

At briefing the Sailing Captain Ian sauntered up in a casual manner with our Commodore Jill declining any news that might put off the concentration on the faces of those trying to interpret the jottings on the board of our Captain!



Traditionally this race takes us down the West Channel around Tuckey No 2 to the Channel Mark and then across toward St Leonards and around the Red (port hand) Mark off the pier then returning via the Coles Channel (using all marks) before rounding the White Lady (Coles Channel Mark), across and round Swan Spit before heading home to Grass Beds and finish!



(and look who has returned to sail with us ...our right Honorary Member – Alex Eagleson (escorted by Catherine of Crossword fame! -crosswordsforfun.com.au)

Post sign on there were 7 yachts competing with 23 sailors facing the starter....OOD today being Commodore Jill and Brian G and Jennifer Gilbert.

Weather looked to be moderate with winds to 18 knots and a flood tide with ebb later.



It was starting to look ordinary from the OOD perspective as the time for launch of Div 1 came around, and they took to it easily as Indulgence took a good look at Rosie as they crossed the line...."flying" was the word as they headed to Tuckey #2.

In Div 2 it was four keen and did they show it. Whilst Zen and Christabelle got a clean start, it was Lionheart that broke rank as they approached the line, right on time, and took a gybe to port in front of Wave Dancer.

There was little sound but the faces of Dave and Ross said it all....Wave Dancer shot around the bow of Lionheart as she veered down the line and Lionheart went around for

another go!! And as above.... as the OOD saw it happen!!!*&%^^\$

And of course there was “Maud”, the understated excellence of professionalism and deep thought They came bounding to the line for Div 2 start almost in time to mix it with Div 3!!

There is something about that name!! (Look it up on Google – a worthy poet wrote!)

Div 3 was a great start with only Imagine taking a great line and right on time!

Sundance was missing and has taken her final bow and will be off to Tassie next Saturday for the VDL (Van Diemens Land – circumnavigation....good luck to all who sail on her.

With the fleet disappearing into the distance the OOD’s lunch was served and they await news of the fleet in their journey.



There was some controversy over the Zen passing Tuckey incorrectly but, alas, no report and their confirmation of “all’s well” decided the issue.

On the return down the Coles Channel from St Leonards it appeared that Zen and Rosie whilst well out in front of the field thought that a “straight line” is a preferred course and in doing so missed one of the “Green Marks” on their way until others looked like doing the right thing.....but that “they know what they are doing” and a quick “U Turn” saw everyone back on track!! Many thanks for the rear vision mirrors!

On returning to scale at Grass Beds Imagine stormed out of the mist and grabbed line honours ahead of Zen, Indulgence and Wave Dancer.

Others followed in Christabelle, Lionheart and finally Rosie.

A lovely Channels race with all the makings of tide, wind and brisk conditions.

On Handicap it was Wave Dancer that took the honours with Imagine second and finally in third place Indulgence to take her first podium finish in racing with QLYC.

Well done to all and great race dun and dusted!

To the right...Indulgence getting it right with Geoffrey Mathews conferring with the bridge!!



Next Club Event –

*Saturday 2nd February –
THE FIRST RACE of the
Cec Anderson Series.*

First start 1-30 PM.

Briefing and sign-on at MIDDAY,
in front of the Queenscliff Harbour Office.

