



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

With the QCYC Goorangai from Brighton and our own QLYC Swan Bay Picnic Race...a busy day!

- Sat Nov 16, 2013

The weather improves and we look to get in a sail – BUT is it all plain sailing?

A busy weekend this week with two of our vessels taking part in the QCYC Goorangai Trophy Race from Royal Brighton to Queenscliff and our own Swan Bay Picnic Race in moderate conditions forecast by our friends at the BOM.

The Goorangai:

On Friday the two Goorangai participants left for Sandringham overnight, being Sundance with John Barry, Jean Monger, Frank McMahon and Patrick Roberts plus Tradition skippered by Murray Mackay and crewed by Jill and Brian Golland.

A lovely sail up on the sou'wester (pic as shown) and about four odd hours saw the crews enjoy some conviviality with a number of others from Geelong before bedding down for the night...there were however some intrepids who took some time to party before settling!!

The weather took charge early on, with twelve yachts participating and in the fresh sou'easterly to southerly which freshened further along the way. Most vessels could only point toward Portarlington before tacking across to the West Channel Pile to finish the shortened course. Wind commenced around 14 knots but quickly moved to 17 and eventually at the finish was gusting up over 23 knots.

This made the journey a long one, at around five and half hours, and due to swells, produced a wet deck for most of the distance....Sundance was overpowered with a No 1 and full main, and deciding to change down to their only other sail on board a No 4not only took time but doused the crew fairly significantly in the process...!! The No 1 almost went overboard during the change...not good Jean!

Unfortunately neither of the QLYC vessels appear to figure in the race results but the memories will take some time to subside!!

The Swan Bay Picnic Race:

Unfortunately the "Grub" was missing for this race but there were glimpses of this race caught on VHF during the course of the day ... plus a number of whispers on goings on during the course of the day surfaced following the race!

Briefing was relatively small with six contenders fronting the starter ..err OOD With Ian and Bev Lee plus Jennifer Gilbert assisting...The course was simple with a run up past Swan Spit around the White Lady to the entrance of Swan Bay and following the channel marks to McDonalds Jetty for the first



leg, having a social lunch on the vessels and reverse the course, returning via the Coles, Swan Spit and finishing at Grass Beds.

Yachts participating were: Valentine – Steve Lee, Wave Dancer – Dave Hatton, Tiercel – Colin Gibbs, Fancy – Paul van Prooyen, Rosie – David Coales and Indulgence – Colin Bishop with a total of fifteen sailors There being only one start to simplify proceedings and with the larger vessels missing.

As previously mentioned the breeze was a moderate around 14 knots and sou'easterly making the journey from start to finish on the outbound quite easy...depth of water it would seem continuing to play a part in this race as in previous years...!!

Colin Gibbs on Tiercel therefore had an issue with the approaches to Swan Bay to enter the channel up to Macs Jetty and ran aground, withdrawing from the race and making it a lunch at the moorings back at Queenscliff!!



The other vessels took to the complete journey and whilst making some creatures quite nervous in the channel, did make the finish line and a good finish particularly as a brisk flood tide was running to assist to their efforts. (Only Indulgence took longer than an hour to reach the finish!) However several fishermen were disturbed during the journey to the jetty

After lunch Bev Jennifer and Ian sent them the starters off at 1-30 PM which also saw the breeze move toward a sou'sou'easterly direction on one start.



All vessels were able to exit Swan Bay and the channel to gain Port Phillip without tacking (all on starboard). Whilst all vessels enjoyed the last of the flood on the sail back it became quite lumpy as the breeze picked up and the ebb most likely had commenced. This made the journey toward Tuckey 2 a might lumpy!



The finishing order ultimately was identical to the inward journey gained in Swan Bay.

Valentine with Steve, Ross and Graham crossed the line 25 seconds ahead of Wave Dancer with Dave and Ross and 3 minutes in front of Fancy with Paul, Peter and Mandy on board.



Taking both results for the race on handicap it was Fancy with Paul van Prooyen first...congratulations again! Second was Rosie and third Wave Dancer in a fairly tight race with only just over 7 minutes between all finishers on handicap.

At the end it was said that it was a most enjoyable sail, with no tacking although a fairly low high tide presided over all competitors.

And a thanks to our OOD's...again.



**Next Club Racing start:
Is on....**



SATURDAY November 30th at Noon Briefing for - The Champagne Stern Chaser

followed by:

The Commodore's Champagne Reception at the Club House on Swan Bay!!

