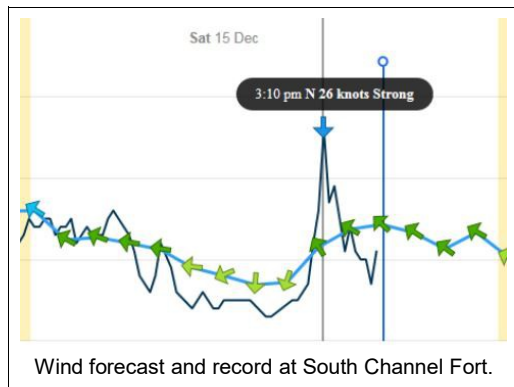


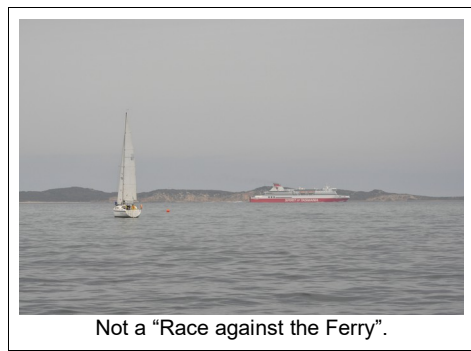
Attempt at Ray Maki 6. 15th December 2018



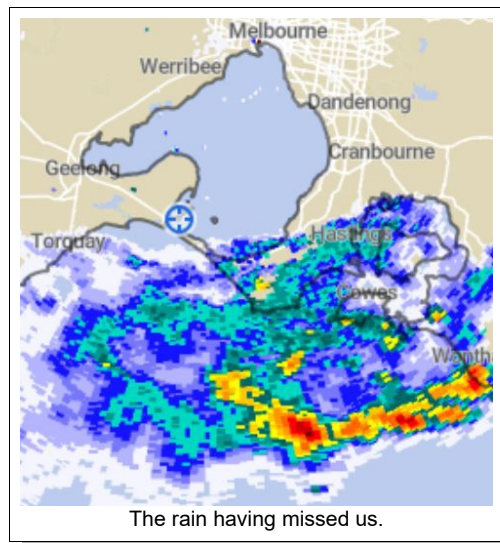
A pity about that – but we tried!

After days of equivocal weather forecasts – any wind? and how much rain? - the prospects seemed reasonable with a better forecast and apparently (on the day) some sea breeze.

Despite the unavailability of Tintagel and Sundance, not to mention the approach of Christmas, crews for 6 vessels appeared for briefing, these being Imagine, Boomaroo, Tiercel, Valentine, Warrior and Drizabone. Hopes were high for a relatively gentle day with moderate risk of a bit of rain. A sensibly modified course 9 was chosen to avoid drifting across the ferry's path.



However, on the water the wind dropped to almost nothing and we swanned around Swan and its AP flag for quite a time, with or without anchors or motors. By the time a little breeze had sprung up locally, the rain radar showed a huge patch of heavy rain heading rapidly our way. With some concern for what might lurk in the midst of that, the pin was reluctantly pulled and the race postponed. In reality, the rain storm split up and most of it missed us. Nonetheless, the wind did reach the "strong wind" of 26 knots which would be invigorating on a pleasant day but a bit ordinary had it been combined with pouring rain. Thanks to Swan crew Andy Doolan and Graeme Frankpitt for laying the course and being there.



The conditions did not prevent a convivial gathering at the evening barbeque however, at which good food was complemented by a beautiful evening although by now there was enough wind for the eating to be inside.

Finally, the Committee extends best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all those who read this page and indeed all members. And remember the Champagne Stern Chaser and post-race gathering on 29 December.



Swans on their Bay.



Another 15 birds



And two more



Dante's in pursuit



Of the thong



The all-important BBQ and facilities