



QLYC Sailors report on the Van Dieman's Land Circumnavigation of Tasmania Mar 6, 2011

A number of our members are currently undertaking the bi-annual Circumnavigation of Tasmania sail held in conjunction with Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania and Royal Geelong Yacht Club.

Our QLYC members in Steve Lee sailing on Sea Bird and Murray Mackay and Brian Golland on Tradition are sailing in the cruise, with Sea Bird commencing Geelong and Tradition from Hobart.



Tradition has now completed over half of the lap of Tassie having arrived at the Stanley Harbour last night 5th March with Sea Bird having started in the Tamar River is currently in the Hummock Islands Group but heading to Strahan currently.



This report covers the adventures of Tradition as she ventures around the Isle.

Tradition left Hobart from Royals on Wed 16th Feb taking off around the southern extremities of Tassie to Port Arthur on our first night anchoring off for the night following a terse afternoon beating into a rough northerly.

On Thurs we headed around to Fortescue Bay and as a southwester hit, we changed plans and hid in Canoe Bay behind a an old wreck from 1953 (William Pitt) set to provide a cover for fishing boats.



On Friday we took off and set course for Bryan's Corner in the Schouten Passage - a distance of approx 60 Nm. A BBQ and meeting of many crews on the beach late afternoon saw everyone gather with forecast changes in weather for the next few days.

Saturday saw a difficult day on the anchorage with increasing wind resulting in a dragging anchor just before midnight, when a decision was made to make a dash for Wineglass Bay rather than try re anchoring or moving

closer to another anchorage .

This saw Tradition sail in 2 to 3 metre seas under medium conditions with a following sea and wind to Wineglass Bay arriving around 2.30am. We settled on a quiet glass of Maple Syrup Whiskey before retiring.



Thus Sunday was windy and disturbed but two of the crew decided on adventures ashore and took off in the dinghy in 34 knots of breeze! Tacos and hot scones late afternoon provoked the crew's return and a quiet night with iPod music from our Canadian crew member eased us to bunks later in the night, still in Wineglass Bay.



Monday the 21st saw us decide to take off in brisk conditions out of Wineglass around 10am making up the east coast past many favourite towns including Bicheno and St Helens before anchoring in Skeleton Bay at 7.40pm having progressed around 60 Nm for the day.

We had anchored 200 metres from shore in the lee of the township just outside the kelp beds to the south west.

