



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

The Queenscliffe Maritime Weekend

- Fri, Sat & Sun March 27, 28, 29, 2015

This weekend had everything!!

Here we are again, in 2015, celebrating the heritage that is Queenscliff.

We thank Queenscliff Harbour and a few others for the joy of boating around Queenscliff.

Friday evening March 27 at the Museum Shed!

This weekend started with "Fishy Tales" held in the Maritime Museum Shed filled with many people with fond memories and a longing to hear more of the history of Queenscliff doings!

A sensational night of stories of the Coxswains and Pilots and their work combined with some anecdotes of incidents, people and vessels cemented in a spellbound series of photos through a slideshow.

Thanks go to the volunteers for such work, refreshments and enthusiasm in making it happen!

Saturday in the Harbour – blessing of the fleet, memorial sail past and racing!

Saturday dawned a pleasant day with light winds and, whilst many activities revolved around the Maritime Museum at the harbour, the Coutas and sailing vessels of all description poured into the harbour.

QLYC held a briefing in our usual spot, with the afternoon memorial sail past and independent racing sorted, before everyone tucked into "fish & chips" as part of the entry fee for the weekend.

Unfortunately whilst the Commodore and Club Captain were torn away to the country for the day, it was the races that held the interest on the water. Having participated in the "Blessing of the Fleet" it was all hands to the vessels.

On the water, the sight of so many vessels, especially the number of Coutas sailing past Skipper and Fisherman Lewis Ferrier on "Rosebud", was a spectacle which all visitors and locals alike, looking on from shore held as a permanent memory of the day.

QLYC's OOD in Ian and Bev Lee stood off Grass Beds, and as the fleet sailed from the memorial sail past, they prepared Swan for the racing, taking into account light winds and tide on a flat sea. Their choice was Course #9 with avoiding the leg to #3 West Channel Pile.

The Course was Grass Beds, Swan Spit, GB, Wedge, GB, Drapers and finish at GB. In the end the race finished at Grass Beds on the second lap due to time constraints.

Tintagel was the only vessel in Div 1, with Geoffrey making good on the spinnaker haul and from there it was Tintagel's race...leading all the way. Others in Div 2 were Valentine, Tiercel and Regardless who literally flew around the course in the light airs, making mockery of any handicap wows and finishing 30 seconds ahead of the other Div 2 vessels!

In Div 3 it was Imagine and Sundance who swapped places a few times, with Sundance making it 25 seconds ahead at the finish.

Handicap times resulted in Tintagel taking the double of over the line and handicap honours by 66 seconds. Others followed in Regardless (DSQ with no sign on!), Tiercel and Valentine with Sundance and Imagine a good last.



In the State Championships of the Couta Boats held off Queenscliff alongside our race, it was our fleet of Couta's that took a lump of the winnings in Div 2.

Over the line it was Defiance 2nd with Fancy 4th Nellie 7th and Drizabone 8th. But on handicap it was Defiance 1st Fancy 3rd Nellie 5th and Drizabone 8th.

On handicap it was Defiance with Dave Cross that pulled 1st place, with a creditable 3rd place to Fancy with Paul van Prooyen, followed by Nellie 5th and Drizabone in 8th. Murray McKay in Jadda was an early withdrawal due to technical difficulties! Thanks to Tom and Janet Fricke for the two pics of the fleet.



Another White Jumper to Crossy (Congratulations!!)... his third we believe!!

Finally amongst QLYC representatives at the Dinner, at QCYC hosted in conjunction with SSCBC were John Barry, Brent Willing from Sundance, Tom and Janet Fricke of Drizabone, Russell from Nellie, Dave Cross and Tom Cambridge from Defiance, Murray and Julie McKay from Jadda who all enjoyed the ambience and awards for the Couta Boat State Championship performance by QLYC's vessels.

Sunday 29th and the QLYC race plus Race the Ferry.

If Saturday was good ... it was excellent on Sunday as the Skippers and crew gathered for briefing at Noon in the Harbour. The weather was picture perfect.

Commodore Jill started by congratulating all skippers on the performance of our Fleet in the SSCBC Couta Race, especially Dave Cross, who took it off again this year, and of course our own winner in Tintagel, with Colin Bishop and his crew of Ian and Geoffrey.



Today the briefing was about QLYC having a short race early, and then to meet at the Annulus, before racing the Searoad Ferry as the annual last event of the weekend.

For the early race the Club Captain with the OOD in Ian Lee outlined a short Grass Beds to Swan Spit, to Drapers, and off to the Annulus to finish.

At the start it was Div 1 away at 1330 but wait...it was Tintagel driven by the



enthusiasm of yesterday's win, that spurred Ian and Colin to get first to the line...oops a minute early (instead of late!) and jumped the start with a quick DSQ ...sorry lads. But Rosie with Dave Coales got to it and did the right thing.

At Div 2 it was Tiercel and Valentine that breasted the line together and Tiercel managed a gap with spinnaker flying ...whilst Steve Lee in Valentine got it all wrong with his spinnaker, and let Tiercel have the first 300 metres before tackling the course in earnest.



In Div 3 it was a lonely start for Sundance, with John Barry and crew doing a good spinnaker run up the bay in a bid to outrun the leaders.



Around Swan Spit and down toward Grass Beds, it was Rosie that became the tailender and Tintagel taking off with speed out into the bay, whilst all others made rhumb lines toward Drapers.

Nearing Drapers it was Tintagel from Tiercel with Sundance, followed by Valentine and Rosie, and this remained so as the fleet headed over toward the Annulus, with a finish line between the Annulus and the Wedge Pile mark.

Although Sundance was making good ground from third around Drapers, it was no match for Dr Colin in Tiercel, with a burst of speed to take line honours ahead of Sundance, Tintagel, Valentine and Rosie.



On performance handicap it was Tiercel, in another double with Sundance second by 20 seconds, to Rosie third, a further two and half minutes astern of Valentine fourth and Tintagel DSQ.

A wait for the ferry ensued, and whilst we saw the ferry approaching the OOD held the horses in the gates, before letting the race begin...well we all followed the ferry that made sure that it finished well in front of the fleet.

Bugger...even Valentine's spinnaker was no match for the ferry's speed and

whilst Rosie shot out of the blocks well..



again it was the Tintagel slipped under the guard and finished first, with Rosie second, followed by Tiercel, Regardless, Valentine and lastly Sundance.

Thanks for a small and eventful race "Gus of Ferry" Fame!

A fabulous weekend was then completed as we all trooped into the Maritime Museum for Drinks and nibbles kindly and well supplied by our volunteers who maintain the historical part of our heritage and do a mighty job...Thanks to John Barrett and crew who presented awards to our sailors for weekend triumphs with handouts of beautiful framed posters to Colin Bishop (Tintagel), Colin Gibbs (Tiercel) and Steve Lee (Valentine).

The final award was to Clare Dyer on behalf of Searoad Ferries (Thanks Matt)

Next Weekend for Club Racing

REMEMBER

SATURDAY April 4th at 12 Noon for

The Easter Regatta with two (2) Sprint Races



Come sailing!!