



Queenscliff Lonsdale Yacht Club....

The Lady Nelson Trophy Race

- Sat April 23, 2016

Our last race for the season - not to be missed...!!

The once delayed Lady Nelson Trophy Race now being run to end a great season for the club on the water.

Gathering at the harbour sees around 36 sailors and 10 yachts chatting over the previous week's efforts and looking at what was milder conditions for this week. The weather promises a light wind toward 15 knots with some cloud and but sunny afternoon.

At briefing it is Acting Commodore John who got things moving drumming up the Presentation Night coming up before handing to Club Captain Brian who briefed the group on the day's race.

Today would be a Stern Chaser as advised on Friday night with all times notified to skippers....Imagine being the back marker this week starting some 59 minutes after the leader!!

OOD Ian Lee indicated the starting sequences and provided advice to skippers on the race. Assisting him today was wife Bev and brother Jock.

Hold everything, Colin Bishop of Tintagel has had his crew dash back home to fetch the jib and sheets from the clothes line after a bit of laundry during the week...now that is dedication to sailing!!



On the course proper Swan was on position with starting buoy and countdown beginning.

Course 7 was set for the race being Grass Beds to Wedge, Drapers, Grass Beds, QA to Wedge, QA to Wedge, Drapers and finish at Grass Beds.

Unfortunately our first boat off in Rosie was absent and then Fancy but over 19 minutes elapsed before her start which was over a minute late across the line. And this was confused as Nellie started perfectly thus taking Fancy on the line.



Tintagel followed by Wave Dancer got to the line in starting the chase with Tiercel close handy and then Valentine took off perfectly. Kinsale3 and Boomaroo had a fair wait before both started on a gap of nearly 4 minutes.

However for Sundance it was a 12 minute wait and her starting just ahead of Imagine by over 2 minutes which had the whole fleet chasing.



The faces on the crew of Imagine looked grimly at Sundance as she passed...daggers boys?

The leaders in Tintagel and Nellie were well past the first mark of Wedge before the fleet was fully racing.

But that was to change...we thought...bit of strong tide makes

a difference but the front runners continue unabated.

Kinsale3 with Doug and crew are making advances on Tintagel and Wave Dancer.

Boomaroo was lacking some pace down in the field whilst the big boys are trying hard with Chris Laker and Imagine try hard to run down Sundance.

Nellie was running a fine race with Tiercel taking the middle road and Valentine taking over from her and Fancy followed with Scot and his young crew Hugh and Riley crewing.

By QA the second time it was starting to sort



out as Kinsale3 looked handy toward the front near to Tintagel whilst Wave Dancer held on grimly as Valentine moved in on her.



Just after this it was Boomaroo who made a move on Wave Dancer on the run to Wedge for the last time and Valentine close at hand.

Tiercel had not made any ground on the fleet at this stage and the big boys were running down the rest.

On the leg to Drapers it was a real test of nerves as Tintagel was gobbled up by Kinsale3 who took the lead and Sundance had overpowered Wave Dancer and Valentine ahead of Nellie, Fancy and Tiercel.

Just behind Sundance was Imagine making every move a winner...well almost but following through the fleet.



Rounding Drapers it was a few in contention....crew were looking at watches as the 4pm finish drew closer as did the yachts Kinsale3 led ahead of Tintagel. Sundance flew her spinnaker just out from the mark and as Imagine rounded she also took to the spinnaker..... but looking back it was the spinnaker of Imagine that took the breath away as the wineglass took over....oh no!!

Toward Grass Beds and around the creek mark it was Kinsale3 easily in front with Sundance taking Tintagel's wind just after the creek to take second spot whilst Imagine battled just behind with colours flying.

Finish at 4 pm and a great win to Doug Curlewis and crew of Kinsale3 over Sundance with Tintagel a whisker behind in 3rd spot followed by Imagine.



Interestingly enough with the finish set at Grass Beds it was a close call as the 4pm time just managed to beat the fleet ahead of the finish mark....great work to the OOD's in a spectacular race to finish the season's racing calendar.

The sun sets on this year's seasons racing...congratulations and thanks to all who competed in it with us.

NO more club racing until the Winter Series starts in June. TBA....



In the meantime the "Grub" will be busy writing up stories including the "Mishap Award" for the Presentation Night



Remember to Book this week with the Secretary for the night of nights...Saturday 14th May at the Lonsdale Bowler.



The latest member of QLYC is Sylvie seen here on Sundance managing the main sheet during the race...got second Sylvie in a great result!