

Race in the Sisterhood, July 19th, 2020
Report by Tony Brogan
Pictures by Bob deRoos

A quick welcome home to Damian, who completed what he has described as a sometimes harrowing circumnavigation of Vancouver Island, on his new boat: Muse. Congratulations Damian – FCR

We ventured into Captains Passage three times this Sunday propelled by a modestly fresh breeze with a couple of minor variations up and down.

The morning dawned with a clear sky but not the promised 16 knots with gusts up to 21 wind.

At the dock at 0900 the wind was 6-9 knots from the north east. It looked like more on the water and so we debated between the 115 jib or the 135 genoa plus spinnaker ready. We opted for both.

The skippers meeting was brief and we were reminded of next weekend's Cruise/Race designed in the same fashion as last month's Montague event. The destination is yet to be determined.

Our course announced was Past Second Sister. Sharp left to Martins Mark (S) in Welbury bay. Turn right for U62 across Captains Passage(S). Back to Martins Mark(S). Around to Horda Shoals(S). Back to Martins Mark (P). Out to Batt Rock(S) and home for a total of 13 miles.

Now on the water, we hoisted the jib and main and went for a trial run down the harbour. The wind was oscillating and was anywhere from a broad reach to forward of the beam reach.

It looked dicey to try the spinnaker. We changed from the jib to the 115 genoa as the wind seemed settled at the 8-12 knots range. Coming back to the line we counted 7 boats plus ourselves . These are the Keeners!

With a nimble start and boats each side we took the long port tack to up the central channel. Ogopogo, never wasting a second on the start line, was already ahead. Pturbodactyl was with her, and soon passed into the lead. Nothing favours a tri like a reach and all day they took advantage. *(John said that they were doing 16 knots going out of the harbour. That is white-knuckling it – FCR)* In a SE breeze we would have had a lot of tacking but the wind gods favoured the speedsters and the long water length boats today.

Shingebiss showing a turn of speed was soon in third place. Such was the order around the Second Sister which was not to change to the finish line. Further back was Skeena Cloud intent on reducing her handicap today and Second Wind too. Then was Phoenix and Stargazer having some fun in the puffs.

The wind never achieved the forecast highs and sometimes dropped to low single digits but generally held enough for a quick scurry around the course and as planned, with the back and forth layout, all boats were in full sight of each other all race.

We were never able to gain on the leaders and were not able to separate from those behind so I fear it is time to inspect the bottom and see if we are "mussel bound". (Strong but with little speed as I found in my boxing career.)

(Noting Tony's earlier comment about racing in a steady line, upon being lapped by Ogopogo, Paul yelled out, 'if I knew this was to be a bloody parade, we would have decorated for it.' – FCR)

It was another great day of sailing. The winds this year have been good. Those that do not come out miss a "good time".

Après sailing there were jovial words passed around (physical distanced, of course) at the picnic table on the dock before we departed with smiles all around.

(And a huge shout-out to Doug Manton on Star Gazer who completed his first race. He did it the hard way. But he doggedly got it done. Congratulations Doug!!)

See you on Wednesday

Bob came out with friends in his Zodiac and took some great shots of us rounding Martin's Mark





Club	Boat	Skipper	Finish Time	Corrected Time	Place	Rating for Next Race
316	SKEENA CLOUD	Taylor	13:36:17	02:24:50	1	307
220	SECOND WIND	van Soeren	13:24:46	02:33:31	2	214
375	PHOENIX	Lipsett	14:07:37	02:38:03	3	372
134	SHINGEBISS	Keating	13:12:13	02:41:13	4	134
50	OGOPOGO	Faget	12:57:20	02:48:01	5	53
129	RADIANT HEAT	Brogan	13:21:06	02:51:22	6	135
375	STAR GAZER	Manton	15:08:00	03:21:54	7	384
21	PTURBODACTYL	Tulip	dnf		8	21

July 19 K Race