

September Victoria Inner Harbour Cruise

September 28-October 1, 2021

There was significant interest in the cruise to Victoria this year with 11 boats and 29 members signing up to participate, five of whom were to drive. Unfortunately, as the departure date approached, and weather forecasts and personal commitments impinged, the actual number of boats and members to attend waned to five (*Nest Egg*, *Nutmeg of Consolation*, *Yin Yeng*, *Second Wind*, and *Dixey-Rose*) and 13 respectively. Regardless, however, aside from a few short spells of inclement weather and lumpy seas, the conditions turned out quite favourable.

As always at these events, there are memorable incidents that arise, and this was no exception. In brief, Nest Egg's kayak (*IwanaBfree*) prematurely disembarked on the approach to the Trial Islands. Thanks to Ellen Vesterdal's report of a drifting kayak to the Coast Guard, it was recovered and returned to the rightful owners within hours.

Due to COVID protocols, the behind-the-scenes tour of the Royal BC Museum was changed to a short talk by curator Lorne Hammond about the new Orca exhibit, of which he was one of the three curators. Regardless of the last-minute event change, it was an interesting opportunity to not only hear how such exhibits are planned and constructed but also, to see firsthand.

To continue the cruise tradition of interchanging dinner with appetizers (and abundant libations), the van Soerens generously hosted h/appy hour in the spacious cockpit of *Second Wind* at both RVicYC as well as the Inner Harbour. Many thanks to them!

Finally, thanks to Chris and Ellen of *Nutmeg of Consolation*, a typically uneventful departure from Victoria's Inner Harbour was 'spiced' up somewhat with *Nutmeg's* apparent attraction to *Dixey-Rose*. No harm, however, and everyone headed on their way for a calm journey home.

Thank you to all those who participated for making this a successful cruise.

Arne Hetherington, Fleet Captain Cruising

