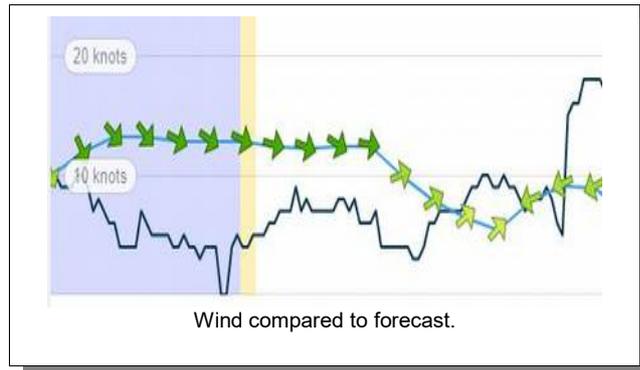
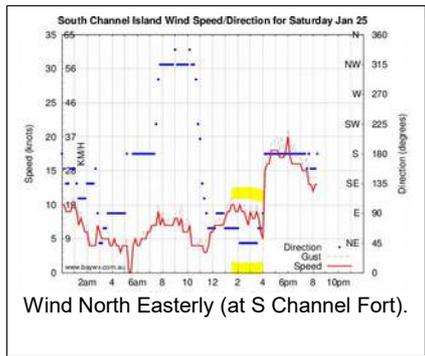


Cec Anderson Series, Race 1. 25th January 2020.



With the forecast having a near 180 degree change mid-race (fear of calm?) it was good that the change came early so the NE had set in before we started. Course 14 was confirmed, for the 7 vessels competing. These were Imagine, Sundance, Boomaroo, Tiercel, Valentine, Tintagel and Drizabone. All vessels carried good crew numbers, even Swan with 4 on board. It proved a good day for a few crew members returning to or new to the fleet, with enough wind to keep moving with no fear of overpowering.

In Div 1, Tintagel got away OK but Drizabone made a late start setting her back by more than 2 minutes. Div 2 started close to the appointed time, despite Tiercel having to duck Valentine. Div 3 saw Imagine right on time and Sundance seconds later.



Imagine and Sundance.



Drizabone

Despite the moderate weather the day was not free of angst with a bit of gear failure here and there. In the first leg from near QA to W#3, most vessels opted to tack offshore early to benefit from the flood tide, and Valentine did so (either by coincidence or quick reflexes) just as Tiercel did so, thus sending some bad wind her way.

Course 14 consists largely of relatively short legs between the vicinity of QA and round W#3. On this day the decisions were largely how to do the rather short downwind legs – spinnakers or not, and goose-winging or not. Some compromises were made between going faster and the



Tiercel in a calm spell.

risk of losing it (and more) in sail changes. With some wind changes occurring as well, these legs and associated decisions were the challenges for the day, and a few odd sail configurations were seen.

The fleet appeared to be quite bunched up mid-race as the bigger boats caught up and passed the others. In the end the order over the line was Imagine, Sundance, Valentine, Boomaroo, Tiercel, Drizabone, Tintagel.

With the wind dropping off after half the fleet had finished, the tail-enders paid a price in slowing down as the ebb tide got going (following slack around 3 p.m.).

On handicap the order was Valentine, Drizabone, Boomaroo, Tiercel, Imagine, Sundance, Tintagel. So congratulations to Valentine, but also to Drizabone for picking up the lost time from starting late and challenging the handicapper with the 'clamping' of an increasing handicap.

Thanks to the crew of Swan for race management duties, those people being Jennifer Gilbert, Ian McKenzie, John Sisley and Graeme Frankpitt. Thanks also to Geoffrey Mathews for the photos.



Divisions 2 and 3 seen from Tintagel on the run towards QA. .