

## Halfway Round Salt Spring and Back Cruise

This was the weekend when summer finally showed up; it was sunny, warm, and there was no wind. This was good news for the cruisers but would prove to be not-so-good news for the racers. First stop was Princess Cove on Wallace Island. By the time that *Nest Egg* (Kim and Karen Laidlaw) showed up, *Shaunsea* (Lorne and Colleen Shantz) and *Switchen to Glide* (Pete and Debbie Brouwer) were already anchored. After a leisurely afternoon of kayaking (Colleen), dog-walking (Deb and Pete), and napping (Kim), the group gathered on *Nest Egg* for Happy Hour. Just into the first round, who should come row-row-rowing their boat from Conover Cove but Jon and Jennifer Healey. They had heard rumours that there was a gathering happening in Princess Cove and they decided to come and join the party. As Happy Hour was winding down, Jon and Jennifer rowed back to Conover Cove and the rest of us headed over to *Switchen to Glide* for potluck dinner.

After a restful night and a brisk walk on Wallace Island, the mighty flotilla of 3 boats headed for Thetis Island. We'd hoped to watch the RSSI race en route but, as we made our way down Trincomali Channel, even the fastest boats were still just specks on the horizon. When we arrived at Thetis Island Marina we were welcomed by Steve and Cindy West on *Bodacious* and Lyle, Perry, Callah, Seija Ruehlen on *Inside Passage*. We had no sooner settled in, when Dennis Fortin and Victoria Skinner cruised into the marina in their new Camano power boat which, until renamed, shall be known as *Lo Lo*. The afternoon weather was perfect for a walk, a swim, some puttering about on the boat, and yes, even a nap. The Ruehlen's checked out a couple of the beaches and reported that the warmest water was found off the beach at the cut. As the afternoon was coming to a close, everyone gathered on the docks in the shade of *Switchen to Glide* to enjoy a festive (h)appy hour followed by dinner at the Thetis Marina Pub. Sunday morning, we awakened to another sunny calm day. After bidding goodbye to Steve and Cindy West and the Ruehlen Family, *Shaunsea*, *Lo Lo*, *Switchen to Glide*, and *Nest Egg* cruised back down Trincomali Channel and arrived at Montague Harbour just in time for everyone to find a mooring buoy. Everyone enjoyed a leisurely afternoon and then convened in the picnic area to savour tasty appies and a variety of potluck dishes. The next morning dawned sunny, warm and calm which made for a pleasant cruise back to the Sailing Club.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the cruise and to Colleen Shantz and Victoria Skinner for the photos. The Cruising Committee invites you to join us on the Summer Solstice Cruise from June 22 - 25. Rob Denny and Nighean Anderson will lead us on a cruise to Mill Bay, Daphne Island, and Cowichan Bay. Refer to the Club Cruising webpage for details or contact Karen Laidlaw at [cruising@saltspringsailing.ca](mailto:cruising@saltspringsailing.ca)















