

GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB - Newsletter

Issue 166 March 2026

Adelie trucking downwind!



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Race results

		Feb		January /February		
TLC	Gross	7	net 4			
Bumpercar	9		5	Peregrine	26	21
Paragon	14		10	TLC	25	22
Peregrine	21		16	Paragon	28	23
Wings II	23		16	Bumpercar	27	23
Adelie	23		17	Wings II	31	24

Still a few outstanding memberships due.
Please contact David to support The Garden Bay Sailing Club.

David Twentyman <davidtwentyman@dccnet.com>

Club Cruises. A few dates are now set....

First - Secret Cove - May 23/24 - Geoff Chambers on Comfortably Numb

Second - Van Anda - July 25/26 - The Hanson's on Cielo

Third - Round Nelson - mid to late September - Peter Jones on Fourth Quarter

Movie Night - March 12 - 5-:30

Videos & PHRF Presentation by Peter Jones

Bring your appetite and enjoy the evening



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A couple of the dates are now set for the GBSC Club cruises.

First one is to Secret Cove on May 23/24.

This involves a race starting on the Saturday outside the harbour and we make our way down to the the green can buoy near Secret Cove. Everyone gathers at Secret Cove Marina for a pot luck on the dock and a wonderful social get together.

Sunday morning we meet outside near the green can buoy and race back to Pender. The winner is a total of both races.

In the past the finish/start line near Secret Cove has been somewhat... umm, blurry. It's a very long line and judging if you're over or not is difficult. I'll say that this only works in one way. I've yet to see a boat cross the line, sail on a ways, and then report in that they are over. If anyone has any ideas in this regard, let's hear about it.

You must individually get in touch with Secret Cove Marina and reserve your slip for the night. If you've done this with them in the past it's very easy to do online.

secretcovemarina.com

The date for Van Anda is also set for July 25/26. More on this as we get closer.

Other races...

Comox to Powell River - May 16

Round Bowen - June 13

Malaspina Regatta - June 20/21

Gibsons Regatta - July 18/18



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Here is a fun race report from a couple weeks ago
Written by Chris on the Cal 20

I have been sailing/racing for a little over 5 years now. Every boat we race against has a skipper/crew that know a lot more and have more experience than I do. If I want to do well I assume the only thing I can do is work harder than the fleet to try and make up for that. And get lucky.

So yesterday the lesson was:

There is a difference between trying to outwork the fleet and just gambling.

Just Adelie and I today. We had a rare downwind start. Breeze is much lighter than forecasted probably 4-5 knots. I am on the side I want but second row. I was outmanoeuvred by Wings. Not much I can do to force the situation there haha I pop the chute and off I go. I sail around the outside then through the fleet. Eventually leading. Conditions ideal for Adelie vs a fleet of bigger heavier boats and two Martin 244's that don't have kites. Steady light breeze, flat water. I have a sizeable lead out of the harbour. Conditions change from flat to a .3 swell. Wind also gets tricky to gauge. The swell is rolling the sails around faster than the apparent wind plus there are stronger gusts. It's a mess haha but I drop the kite, make the mark, head up and go upwind to sail between the two islands around then around one of them.

The wind drops in the shadow of the Martin Isle. Meanwhile the two Martin 244's are making good time on me. They seem unaffected by swell and light wind ...also sailed by two of the strongest skippers in the fleet.

As I scratch and claw my way around the little Isle the Martins are on my heels. The first, TLC, manages to scoot by me. I'm sure my mouth was agape as they nonchalantly passed me to leeward doing double my speed. The second Martin, Bumpercar, gets close then gets trapped in the lack of air.



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As TLC and I round the isle I catch up then give a bit of ground. Just happy to make it. Going 1.5 knots in front of a Lee shore at one point haha. So we round the corner and TLC starts zig zagging heating up the angles. I'm reaching and surfing doing hullspeed towards the next mark. I am thinking TLC and I have the same VMG towards Nares and they owe me time.

I then get greedy.

I thought I can reach at this angle under spinnaker. So I decide to deploy the kite from the companionway.

I ready the pole, jump back into the cockpit and start hoisting... Foot of the kite is caught on the pulpit, fixed, small twist at the top. Lower a bit, on the deck, untwist, fixed, back in the cockpit. Trimmed! And there goes the mark....

I hop up to the deck, jibe the pole, back to the cockpit jibe the boat. Seas are lumpy, wind is dying a bit, kite is hugging the forestay, back on deck, fixed, trimmed...

I look around, TLC meanwhile is much higher and way out of reach by now almost at the the mouth of the harbour. Bumpercar has rounded the island, the mark and is also sailing much higher than me. All I see is stern. I watch my speed drop and watch the two Martins take off.

At the mouth of the harbour the wind dies and the Martins continue to disappear... I bob listening to my sails slap in leftover swell from last night. As I do Paragon sails up and just past... also trapped but had more inertia. I'm shocked at how close she gets to the giant Red/White marker. Peter seems very relaxed. The two of us then watch Wings II come screaming in then halt.

We start to chat. Andy complemented my spinnaker start. I then tell him about how I got greedy and ended up in my present position.

The wind picks up just enough and we three start to glide down the harbour.



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Ah ha !! This is my chance! I deploy the kite again. It's a bit of a mess again. And then the wind is flukey, coming from all directions. By the time I drop the kite I am looking at the sterns of two bigger boats.

Greedy! Again!! After telling Andy how I was greedy not 5 min before...

After that is a drift towards the line in "the toilet bowl" sometimes the three of us all on different tacks heading the same way. I'm lucky having the small boat with a clean bottom. I eak my my to the front of the trio and the breeze starts to pick up... it's a 15 min drag race to the line at 2-3 knots of boat speed. I pip Paragon with Wings II closely behind. I also could have very easily finished behind both of them.

We also had Imagine out racing but she got trapped at the island and gave up, motored past us. I think maybe the most impressive part of the race was anything getting past Martin in that sea and wind combo.

I knew right after taking the kite down the second time it was a mistake. I didn't go any faster and it was a distraction from the course and tactics. I then did it again 20 min later lol

The kite is a weapon here but not under all circumstances. Learning learning.

If I stayed under jib on the way back I had chance of winning the race. As it stood I was third, 3 min behind Bumpercar and 13 min behind TLC on corrected time. Or maybe I still get trapped at the mouth of the harbour? Racing... who knows. I am however learning that gambling and sailboats do not mix...

Got a story or an idea for Newsletter content?

Send it to.... <BadleyBuilt@gmail.com>

