

The Broughton's, C-Dory Version

Five AM Sunday morning, "I'm too excited to sleep". We beat the alarm clock by 10 minutes and start the day. We take a few trips to the boat with the last minute stuff and hit the road. We fill the boat tanks at Costco, Ouch!

We are almost first in line for the Coho, the ferry from Port Angeles to Victoria. Oh yeah, I forgot to mention, we're trailering to our cruising area this year. 10:00 AM, we clear customs and maneuver through downtown Victoria. There's lots of traffic for a Sunday morning.

The day gets better and better, the temperatures climbing into the high sixties. Our new tow vehicle proves its worth over and over with strong pulling power and sure handling. Our stop for provisions in Campbell River takes way too much time and adds more towed weight for the hills ahead.

What are all those cars stopped for? Police action? Collision? No, a Black Bear foraging a few yards off the highway. Our only other wildlife sightings were Hawks and Bald Eagles.

About 12 hours after rising, we arrive at Telegraph Cove. Two resorts, one old and historic, one with new condos, docks and boat ramp. We have dinner while waiting for the tide to come in enough to launch the boat. Once launched, we pick a slip near a power outlet and settle in for the night. We shared a 100 slip marina with 2-3 other boats!



Monday 6/16/08

We sleep in until 7:30 and 8:00 respectively. One pot of de-caf and one of the real stuff and we're alive again. We deal with a trailer issue after breakfast and say good bye to our truck and trailer for 5-6 weeks. Leaving Telegraph Cove, we experimented with lower speeds and single engine operation to reduce fuel usage. Cruising at trawler speeds on one engine seemed to work best and produced 3.3 mpg. Our usual mileage at cruise speed is 1.8-1.9 mpg.

After an hour and a half cruise, we dock at the town dock in Sointula. Originally settled by Finnish settlers seeking to establish a utopian socialist society on the early 1900s. We walked the main street of town. Many of the original buildings are still used for community functions and the original co-op still survives.

A mile and a half from the main town is the municipal marina maintained by the Lions lodge. It's a quiet harbor, mostly fishing boats. There seems to be not much fishing going on however. We find an empty dock space and tie up for the night. We split a Greek burger for a late lunch and return to the boat to share a beer and relaxing. A scrumptious stir fry for dinner wraps up day two of this adventure.

Tuesday 6/17/08

After a leisurely morning, we push off for another short, slow and economical cruise to Alert Bay. We tie up at the Government Marina for 2 hours. We wanted to get to the N. end of town so we could walk to the U'mista Cultural Center. An attraction that shouldn't be missed.

We then motored to the downtown municipal dock and took a look around town. The Totems in the cemetery are very old and impressive. The downtown is rustic and has a good grocery store for restocking if necessary.

Leaving Alert Bay, we motor on to Port McNeill. We tie up very close to our friends, the Swenson's on *Second Love*. Later we spot old friends from our Krogen days. Their Manatee *BB Fine* is anchored out for the evening.

We stop by the *Second Love* for Happy Hour and it turns out to be dinner! Bless their Hearts. It's always great to spend time with friends, at home or far away.

Wednesday 6/18/08

We take Chris' recommendation and have the Huevos Rancheros for breakfast at Bo-Banees. It's now 4:45 PM and we're not hungry yet!

We left Port McNeill at 11:40 and slowly motored into the outer islands. We're anchored now in a cove next to the deserted First Nation village of Mamaliliculla. It's absolutely quiet but for the birds. As we anchored a large Golden Eagle soared overhead and then watched us from a nearby islet. He flew off before we could photograph him.

It's due to be pretty shallow in here by 9:15 AM so we'll be up early weighing anchor.

Thursday 6/19/08,

Well, we're up, it's 9:00 AM, It's not too shallow and the anchor still weighs 22 lbs. We squeeze the last two showers out of the tank and take off at 9:50 AM. We maneuver through Beware Passage and its many rocks. Emerging into Cleo passage we encounter about 1 foot chop and some wind. After slogging for about an hour, we speed up to 21 kts, and hail Lagoon Cove marina. Bill Barber's familiar voice answers with the usual "Sure, we've got space, come on in".

We rest up, fill the water tank and get ready for Happy Hour. All the visiting boaters bring snacks. Added to today's catch of Prawns, it becomes dinner for most folks. Bill's bear stories add to the fun and get laughs from newcomers and veterans alike.

Crabbing and prawning seems to be productive here, so tomorrow we'll give it a try.

Friday 6/20/08

We're up at the crack of 8:00 as usual. Quite a few boats leaving today. We decide to tough it out for a day or two more and set our Crab and Prawn traps. While out of the marina, we make radio contact with Jim and Jan McAvoy aboard *Cast Away*. They are

headed our way and anxious to see the outer Islands of the group. A few hours later, they arrive to a warm welcome from staff here and from us.

At 3:00 PM, we're off to collect our traps. A large collection of crabs meet us, 3 being keepers. The Prawn trap yielded about 18 very large Prawns. We hurried to cook these prizes from the sea before Happy Hour on the dock.

Lots of nice munchies at the daily Happy Hour! Bill's Bear story got it's usual applause and appreciation.

8:00 PM and we're (Janet) still shelling and cleaning crab.

Merv and Kathy should come here tomorrow on their Rosborough. More newcomers to indoctrinate into the Lagoon Cove tradition. Someone has to do it!

Saturday 6/21/08

Weather looks bad for traveling today. We pulled Prawn and Crab traps a couple of times and did moderately well.

In the evening, the West wind rose and we began to bounce at the dock. In true Lagoon Cove style, the dock employees asked if we would like to move behind the dock for shelter. We quickly accepted and circled the dock to hidden spot behind not only the dock but behind a large cruising boat. Mission accomplished, not another bounce from Dreamer.

Sunday 6/22/08

Summer must have arrived during the night! Sunday dawned bright, clear and considerably warmer. Spirits rose as we harvested a few more crab and another dozen large prawns. Janet took a chance and tried a cell phone call to Merv and Kathy aboard Kingfisher II. Success, they were just leaving Telegraph Cove with Bob and Betsy aboard Sea Pal close behind.

As we expected, 2 hours later they were in sight and soon moored close by. The afternoon was spent visiting and tending to the crab and prawn pots. Their first Crab Happy Hour was completed with the "Bear Bone" story.

Monday 6/23/08

Another spectacular morning. We refill water, bring in 8 legal crab, 25 prawns, pay our bills and leave Lagoon Cove. Travelling somewhat together, we traverse The Blow Hole, a shallow passage between Minstrel and East Cracroft Islands. Up majestic Tribune Channel with dolphins playing in the bow wakes. After 3 hours at a leisurely speed, we arrive at Kwatsi Bay.

The tall cliffs loom over the setting and the numerous waterfalls provide constant white noise. A bear was sighted on the shore just this morning. We hope to see one tomorrow. It's raining steadily now but the boat could use a good fresh water wash.

One of the ladies of our group, not Janet, took a fall on the dock and will go to town tomorrow to have her finger looked at. Hopefully it's just a sprain.

Tuesday 6/24/08

Kingfisher II and Anka leave at 6:10AM in search of medical help for Kathy and her dislocated finger. We rise later and enjoy coffee and breakfast. As we leave, we pull up our Prawn trap with 21 nice ones, some huge! We explore Watson Cove, looking for the famous Lacy Falls with its fabulous Photo opportunities. Sadly, despite the rain, the falls was a trickle at best. No magazine cover photos today.

Tribune Channel was as smooth as glass as we cruised to our next stop, Shawl Bay. Sunny skies followed us until evening. Robbi met us on the docks. Our 3 boats were their only guests. Later, construction workers came back from their roadbuilding job a few miles away.

Loren and Shaun still live there year round. Loren has lived there since he was 6, moving from the next bay with his parents. We enjoyed the pancake breakfast and the pies and sticky buns for the next few days.

Wednesday 6/25/08

Leaving Shawl Bay, we continued in our frugal cruising mode and maintained 7 knots. We arrived at Sullivan Bay and greeted Kingfisher II as they rejoined us. Kathy was in a finger splint that looked like a first year boy scout had applied it. This was after traveling to two hospitals and spending \$ 800! Great medical system they have here.

After finding that the chef and waitress had been fired, we enquired about an anniversary dinner. The new chef was on duty, 1st day, and steak and spaghetti were the offered meal. They borrowed decorations from a permanent resident and we had a party! The food was quite good and the good friends made up for anything that may have been lacking in the restaurant. All in all, a wonderful evening.

Thursday 6/26/08

We awoke to rain and low overcast. We concluded it should be a rest and laundry day. We washed 3 bags of laundry and took naps, read and Janet worked on counted cross stitch. It rained off and on all day, good call.

Jim and Jan left us today for Jennis Bay. They'll start working their way back to Telegraph Cove for a weekend departure. We've enjoyed their company and enthusiasm.

Friday 6/27/08

Our 3 remaining boats fuel up at the Sullivan Bay fuel docks before leaving. Our destination is close by. Jennis Bay is a short cruise up Drury Inlet. We negotiate Stuart Narrows against a 2 knot ebb. The long and lightly traveled inlet shows signs of logging and commercial shellfish harvesting. The dreary morning gives way to a sunny afternoon.

We set 3 crab traps and 2 Prawn traps in hopes of reinforcing the food supply.

We suggest a pot luck dinner and invite our hosts Tom and Allison Allo along with their two kids, Orion, who thinks he's Indiana Jones, and his sister Charlie. Jim and Alice of *Phoenix*, join us also. The meal turns out fabulous with Crab Pasta, Spinich salad, Angelfood cake, BBQ ribs and good fellowship around the table.

Saturday 6/28/08

Thick Pea Soup fog greets us this morning. Soon, the sunlight filters through and the clearing starts. By 10:00 AM we're in short sleeved shirts on trap patrol. Bummer, 5 empty traps. We try some new spots and some new bait. We'll check them tonight.

Happy Hour at the gathering house is enough for dinner for most of us. Bangers and Mash are still being cooked aboard Kingfisher II.

Another perfect day in Drury inlet. We'll be back here for sure before we go home.

Sunday 6/29/08

We rise, late as usual, and start our generator on the dock. Of the 4 boats on the dock, 4 have Honda 2000ei generators. They heat the water for showers and top off the batteries in an hour or so.

Tom Allo arrives to check us out. Very reasonable for 2 nights. He takes our photos next to our boats for their album. Good byes are said and we're on our way. All three crab pots come up empty again! Our prawn trap, set in 300' of water, yields 20 nice Prawns!

We slowly left Drury Inlet on an Ebb tide and motored to Turnbull Cove. There were more boats than on our last visit but it's still a special place. We left a Prawn trap outside the cove and put a crab trap inside. We'll see what happens. We're used to cooking and cleaning seafood underway by now. One drives, the other cleans. The other drives and one cooks. Multitasking on a culinary scale!

It's 7:45 and the Sun should set behind the surrounding mountains in a half hour or so. That will be nice because for the first time, it was Hot today. We've had lots of nice sunny days but not hot. Tomorrow, we're off to the Innagural pig Roast at Pierre's at Echo Bay. Tuesday is Canada Day, sort of a big deal up here!

June 30, 2008

Everyone is asked to come a day early for the Pig Roasts. They say it's to assure you a spot, but it also insures Pierre 2 days moorage per boat. We don't mind as it's a fun place and we enjoy everyone there. Our friends from Sequim, the Swensons are there already and help us tie up in the strong tidal current that lasts just a few minutes.

As we enjoy happy hour under the tent, we're treated to the spouting and flukes show of a Humpback Whale. What a treat! We actually fix dinner and turn in anticipating a fun day tomorrow.

July 1, 2008

Canada Day is to Canadians as July 4 is to us. They are very patriotic despite heavy taxation. They too, are tough on their government employees. "How does a government employee wink? He opens one eye".

We are all asked to dress Canadian, talk Canadian, eh? And act Canadian. Lots of Red shirts were sported all day and every sentence ended in eh.

The pig cooked all day in the giant BBQ under the tent. After an hour of drinks and snacks, the tables were called randomly to progress through the numerous side dishes and get a stack of fresh pork. It was incredibly moist and tasty. Pierre has this one down pat.

Blue Grass music by a band from Sointula finished off the evening.

July 2, 2008

Pierre's emptied out pretty orderly Wednesday morning. We poked in to the old location to see the remaining float homes and docks.

We then meandered to Waddington Bay, a well hidden little bay with lots of room to anchor. We picked a spot in the rear, shallow area. With a zero tide forecasted for morning, we picked a spot 20' deep. As planned, we saw 7' below the boat this morning.

July 3, 2008

Rain fell overnight and we listened to a not too far off thunderstorm in the early AM.

Some fog persisted but off the water and just enough to make the small bays and coves mysterious.

We plotted a course around Broughton Island for our return to Sullivan Bay. The fog on the Queen Charlotte Straits made us opt for plan B and a route between the islands. After 3 hours we again tied up, moved and retied at Sullivan Bay.

Looking forward to the 4th of July festivities tomorrow. We've got a lot of Prawns to eat up tonight for Happy Hour!

July 4, 2008

Rain in the AM and off and on all day up to Parade time (12:00) and dinner (5:30).

The parade was lead by Don Filer on his ever present Segway. Lot's of pot banging and whistle blowing accompanied by the girls singing Yankee Doodle Dandy.

The evenings festivities commenced with drinks and a dinner of Burgers, Salmon, Hot Dogs and lots of salads. Next, a comedian warmed up the crowd with a routine accompanied by electric guitar. "I always use ex-lax for a cold, it wont cure it but you sure think twice about sneezing."

Next was a 3 piece rock and roll band with repertoire a mile long. They played till 11:00 PM. We listened from our boat and went to bed when they quit.

July 5, 2008

We've heard about some prize beef that's been flown in to Greenway Sound, so we head that way for provisions, meat, water and ice cream! They also are the only marina that's takes garbage by the bag free. The boat's sitting higher in the water today! Janet does two loads of laundry. We may be set until we get home.

July 6, 2008

After a rainy night and morning, it's clearing up a lot and promises a nice day for a cruise up Drury Inlet. Low tide is about 1130 so we plan on riding the tide in through Stuart Narrows.

And ride the tide we did! Whirlpools, debris swirling in large depressed circles and lots of current. We up the speed to 12-14 kts to maintain control. And then it's over, smooth and no apparent help from the incoming tide. We pick out a nice spot behind a small island in Sutherland Bay and drop anchor. *Sea Pal* is close by. Dr. Bob Austin and his wife Marie are on the other side of the island on their CD-25 *Frequent Sea*.

For being at the far Western end of Drury Inlet, there's a lot going on. A logging operation on the North shore has rafts of logs formed, ready to tow out. 3 other boats

are anchored with the 3 C-Dories. A large floating dormitory for the loggers is tied to the South shore.

We BBQ some Filet Mignon that we scored at Greenway Sound. What a treat! This is wilderness living at it's best. I finish my paperback, Orbit, an exciting read. It's still light at 11:15 but we retire anyway.

July 7, 2008

After a perfectly calm night at anchor, we wake and make Cappucinos, heat some water with the generator and shower. High overcast dominates the sky but the temperature is pleasant. Soon, the dinghys are down and were off in search of the bears Bob and Marie Austin saw before they left this morning. We spot the smaller of the two, about 200 lbs. Bob and Betsy are a few minutes behind and miss the sighting. The larger has apparently tired of whatever it is that they find under rocks and retired to the woods.

We venture East a couple of miles and explore some islands at very low tide. Our only other wildlife sighting is a mother Seal and her pup. As we return to the boats, the Sun comes out for the first time today. Bright intense Sunshine warms us instantly. Then it's gone and cloud cover returns. Both boats are facing East now, into the incoming tide. I have time for a nap before Happy Hour!

July 8, 2008

Rain, rain, rain, It seemed like all night long but I'm sure it wasn't. The Dinghy had a bit of water in it which got all over me when returning it to the roof. Everything got washed down with fresh water which is a plus. We pulled anchor around 10:00 AM in a light mist of rain and some low clouds. We explored the shoreline for bears and headed for a brief exploration of Actress passage.

Bob and Betsy followed us by 10 minutes and spotted a Cougar pacing the shore where the bear had been yesterday.

We motored slowly back to Jennis Bay for their 5th Cajun Night dinner of the season. Janet and Betsy soon found themselves in the kitchen helping to prepare the evening's meal. Roger and Bob found work as dock hands directing and docking arriving boats.

The Cajun dinner was excellent and very filling. We will stay another day and try to get some Prawn and Crab into our traps although this hasn't been our most productive spot.

Our view is to the South tonight into open water. We'll leave that side of the boat uncovered and enjoy the view. Or, as they say, expose yourself to nature!

July 9, 2008

After a leisurely morning, filling tanks and paying fees, we part company with Bob and Betsy on *Sea Pal* for a few days. They head through Stuart Narrows to anchor near Claydon Bay and we head West, back up Drury Inlet.

Our route takes us into new territory, through Actress Passage, Actaeon Sound and past Creasy Bay. We motor on knowing that shortly, the waterways end and the Swensons are somewhere up there. Past England Point, we turn into a large Lagoon and witness an amazing sight. Second Love and Lady Sea are tied up to a 50' by 100' floating dock! An abandoned lumber camp has become our new resort hangout for 2 days. We caught crab off the dock in 30' of water. We had our own private burn barrel for trash. And, thanks to Chris' dinghy, we got to sneak into the Tsibass Lagoon at slack tide. Normally the water rushes in and out hard enough to cover the water with froth.

The Tsibass Lagoon rarely sees visitors and no boats like ours venture into the narrow, rocky entrance. What a treat to see something that untouched in this area of high cruising traffic. Truly a special place that we'll long remember.

July 12, 2008

We are empty in almost every department, water, ice, veggies, toilet chemical (whew). So we reluctantly leave Actaeon Sound. As we leave Drury Inlet through Stuart Narrows, *Evivva* and *Estancia* wait out a log tow to enter the narrows. Their 156' and 115' hulls will be a bit out of character for the end of Drury Inlet that we've seen.



Wondering where *Sea Pal* has ended up, we head for Sullivan Bay to stock up on necessities. We fuel the boat, gas can, Wallas tank and gather some of our required food stuffs. No sign of *Sea Pal* so we motor off to Greenway Sound Marina to finish our shopping and do our final loads of laundry.

We are entertained on the dock by a family of Sea Otters interacting on the nearby shore. Junior gets lost. Junior calls for mom. Mom comes to the rescue. Very cute!

After just a few minutes, we reach *Sea Pal* on the radio. They have been in Greenway Sound! We pass en route and decide that they will fuel up at Sullivan and return to Greenway for the evening. We have a great Happy Hour swapping tales of the last few days adventures. Al from *Lady Sea* joins us for Happy Hour.

July 13, 2008

Low fog greets us as we arise late again. Bob suggests that we visit Belleisle Sound before we move on to Simoom Sound. We agree and add the Magin Islets and Cove to the itinerary. Leaving fashionably late as usual we arrive at Belleisle Sound around 2:00 PM. The freshening wind has been behind us as we plodded up Kingcome Inlet. A pod of grey Dolphin play and jump around the boat as we go up the Inlet. Not looking forward to a trip back down against the wind, we hoped to find an anchorage. Turning the corner to the East at Frances Point, the wind abated and the water turned a light Jade Green. The color is residue from the glacier fed river 40 miles up the inlet.

Kingcome Inlet is a massive array of vertical rock, waterfalls, endless timber and sweeping vistas. So as we turn into Belleisle Sound we wonder what could top this. As happens so many times here. One day's find is topped the next by an even more majestic sight. Even more near vertical cliffs, lush forests and deep, deep water. That means little or no chance to anchor. A flock of Ducks or maybe Geese swim together in a group of 30 or more.

After surveying our options, we make the call and decide to try our luck going back down Kingcome Inlet. This time however, it's not at fuel saving trawler speed. Instead we set the speed at 17 kts and ride comfortably on top of the incoming waves. A half hour later we are in Moore Bay behind Thief Island. We both set some traps and anchor in the Lee of the Island. A very gentle breeze laps at the hulls and we update this log and enjoy libations. How civilized!

July 14, 2008

We awake to an entirely calm anchorage. Bob and Betsy will think it's always like this! We'll let them think it a while longer. We pull anchor with some difficulty and check our Crab trap. 6 Sea Urchins have devoured all the Prawn heads! No Crabs.

We motor out into deeper water where our Prawn trap has soaked overnight in 260' of water. We are now pulling the trap by hand due to an earlier part failure. Well worth the effort, 40 very large Prawns and one scrawny crab! The crab gets a reprieve and the Prawns get a wash down in fresh water.

Our destination for the day is Simoom Sound. We travel it's entire length and anchor in O'Brien Bay a quarter mile apart. While stern tied to the shore, we spot a Black Bear making his rounds a mere 50' off our stern. We watch and snap photos as he meanders along the shore. Bob and Betsy get to watch him too as he explores the beach by their anchorage.

We dinghy over to Sea Pal for Happy Hour and share enough snacks to negate any thoughts of dinner. The shadows are climbing up the peaks now and we are in the beginning of evening. It will be a few hours before it's anywhere near dark.

Tomorrow will mark a month out for us. We didn't know if this small boat would let us accomplish this length of cruise. So far so good! In about 10 Days, we'll be loading up and heading home. It's so true that time flies when you're having a fantastic time.

July 15, 2008

We explore other anchorages as we leave Simoom Sound. Any number of them would be excellent. We take a short detour through the Burdwood Group on the way to Pierre's. We tie up with some incoming current pushing us off the dock. We had the dinghy down already so we rowed across to Windsong Resort and were greeted with a hug from the "Bead Lady". She let us in on the latest news that the new owners had leased the resort to Pierre. He is becoming the land baron of Echo Bay!

After raiding their store, we ate our fill at the Tuesday night "Italian Night". Another heavily attended event at Pierre's. He seems to have the formula for success.

July 16, 2008

By 9:00 AM, we were able to start functioning again. We topped off the water, added fuel, got more supplies at the store and headed out at 12:00 Noon.

We plodded along at our most economical single engine speed, 7 knots. We headed up Tribune Channel and stopped for photos at Lacy Falls. Dropping Prawn traps as we entered Kwatsi Bay, we glided past the full Marina and anchored in the beautiful adjoining bay. We are next to a small waterfall coming out of the forest so we put out a stern anchor to hold our position. Bob and Betsy are a couple hundred yards away, close to shore.

We'll try to get on the dock tomorrow if there's room.

July 17, 2008

No room at the dock, Sorry. Kwatsi is full and overbooked. We pull up 30 prime prawns and head South on Tribune Channel. We first explore Sargeaunt Channel. Funny spelling of a familiar term. It's shallow in spots with steep walls and evidence of slides. We pass up a couple of calm spots off the main channel. This, as it turns out, was a mistake.

As we enter Knight Inlet the wind has picked up considerably. Running across the waves produces a wallowing and bumpy ride. We cross to the South side and enter Tsakonu Cove. It's calmer inside but the Cove runs East-West. The West wind comes over the hills at the head and whistles down the anchorage. We get good sets on our anchors in 30' with a gravel bottom.

The night is filled with brief views to each others boat and checking our relative positions. The wind never stops. The anchors hold perfectly. We don't get much sleep.

July 18, 2008

We get ready for an early departure for Lagoon Cove. Our crab trap comes up empty. Bob's Prawn trap has 20 or so plus some odd creatures. We all watch the Black Bear on the beach for a while. We head out onto Knight Inlet and the continuing wind.

We slog along at 7 knots into 2' chop. Spray covers the boat with salt. The wipers run almost non stop. Finally we reach Chatham Channel and turn South past the deserted Minstrel Island Marina. The Blowhole is calm although pretty thin on water at low tide. We enter Cleo Channel and set our Prawn traps before proceeding to the marina.

Bill uses some of his creative genius to park our two C-Dories. Our bows are hanging out beyond the dock but we're in protected water behind the crab shack and some larger boats. We should sleep better tonight. We fill water tanks and plug into 15 amp power. Life is good again. Happy Hour fulfills our dinner requirements as usual.

July 19, 2008

We wake about 8:00 AM to sounds on the dock. The *Aquaholic* is making plans to leave about 9:00 AM and it would be a lot easier if our boat wasn't there. We roust Bob and plan a pot pulling jaunt while the other boat leaves.

Crab pot, zero! Prawn pot, a fair number and as usual, quite large. Bob's pot has some damage and a broken float. Probably due to being run over by a boat. It will be retired for the duration of the trip.

We cook up the Prawn catch and divide the spoils. Then we wait for the arrival of the bakery lady from Chatham Point. She arrives and we are the second boat to tie up to Hermit Bob's dock. Oh yes! Sticky Buns, Pies, Fresh Bread from the oven, Cookies all nicely displayed in the back of her 16' boat. We pick out our goodies for the next few days and check our Crab trap again. Two Starfish, one 20" across, no Crab! We set two traps in a slightly different location and cross our fingers.

Today we planned the rest of our trip. Tomorrow our two boats will anchor out in Pott's Lagoon, weather permitting. Monday, Bob & Betsy will go the Alert Bay and Sointulla area for two days. We will anchor one last night and join them in Alert Bay Tuesday. Wednesday we will hopefully make the run to Telegraph Cove and retrieve the boats. Thursday, bright and early, we will head down Island and try to make the 7:30 PM Coho sailing. That's the plan, we'll see how it goes.

July 20, 2008

After finding empty Crab traps and 2 dozen Prawns, we depart Lagoon Cove. It's such a fun place, hardly anyone stays only one night.

Leisurely motoring down Cleo channel, we spot some Dolphin playing along the shore. We turn South into Pott's Lagoon and drop anchor in 8' of water. We both get our dinghys ready for action and set out to explore the 3 arms of the anchorage.

Bob has to refuel his outboard before too long and loses the gas cap as the tether fails. We manage a circumnavigation without refueling. Bob's generator gas cap fits the outboard perfectly, problem solved.

By mid afternoon, the wind come up and we're letting out more anchor rode. Later at night, the tide goes out, the wind dies down and THUMP! We find the longer rode has put us further back in our little cove and we're touching bottom. Engines tilt up, rode is shortened and we're back in business. Next low tide is tomorrow morning and it's 3' lower than this one.

July 21, 2008

Another overcast morning and it has rained during the night. The low, low tide is predicted for 10:00 and we're already in 4' of water. Up comes the anchor. We motor 100' forward and reset. Now we have 8' under the boat, plenty comfortable.

Bob and Betsy pull out for their trip to Alert Bay. Winds are about 15-20 knots along the way but we hear from them doing well and close to their destination.

We have a crab trap to pull and nothing else pressing!

July 22, 2008

After another breezy night, we rise early and pull anchor at 6:55. Two keeper Crab come up in the trap and we're off to Alert bay at 7:00 AM. Exactly an hour later we pull into the Alert Bay Municipal Marina. Some 12"-18" chop near Hanson Island was all we encountered. 20 knots from start to finish!

No signs of life aboard *Sea Pal*. We dump garbage, make more coffee and contact the Harbor Master. Bob and Betsy are surprised to see us so early. We go our separate ways until Happy Hour and a nice dinner downtown. The day was picture perfect with clear skies and pleasant temperatures.

July 23, 2008

We're in no hurry to leave as the high tide we need to retrieve the boats isn't until 2:00 PM. *Sea Pal* leaves to explore Sointula and we explore the Pearse Islands. We head to Telegraph Cove under bright blue skies and a light breeze.

We do some truck maintenance and give it a wash while waiting for the water to rise. Bob & Betsy arrive about an hour after we do. Finally, there's enough water and we put *Dreamer* and *Sea Pal* on their trailers.

I drain the oil from 3 wheel hubs to get rid of some water residue and we cook dinner on the boat. Bob & Betsy dine out and we turn in. Tomorrow the adventure ends and we return to reality.