

Circumnavigate Quadra Island 2018 Cruise

Unfortunately, the cruise leaders for this trip were unable to participate due to health issues and a death in the family but thanks to Ted and Joy and Ray and Kathy for all the initial planning. Only two boats, Gavinia and Scherzando, completed the circumnavigation but various vessels came and went along the way as noted below.



1Scherzando and Friendly Cove rafted at Rebecca Spit welcoming the Vrooms

Four boats were to be found at various spots in Drew Harbour the first night of the cruise. Scherzando (David and Kate) arrived late afternoon and happily found her mothership, now Friendly Cove (Gill and David), nestled in the prime spot behind Rebecca Spit and were once again welcomed to raft up. Gavinia (Robert with friends Nancy and Dale) was subsequently found at Taku Resort and Finally (Penny and Paul) was anchored further south off Rebecca Spit.

As per the original plan, we all departed for the Octopus Islands on the morning of [Sunday June 10](#). We endured a hailstorm waiting for slack at Beazley Passage, but the rain was off by the

time we got up to Wyatt Bay where we all opted to anchor in the bay in the northwest corner where Janet and Brad were "at home" on Long Reach. Vrooms on Finally hosted a happy hour.

On [Monday](#) we again followed the plan and did a hike up to Newton Lake where the hardy amongst us did some skinny dipping off the rocks to clean up for happy hour aboard Friendly Cove. [Tuesday](#) dawned damp and grey but that didn't stop two other boats joining the group, K'adalawi (John and Debbie) and Tracer, David and Gill's friends from Seattle. Many of us took a dinghy ride to the "museum" on one of the Octopus Islands.



2Exploring the Octopus Islands mariners' museum

There was a large and unfortunate oil slick moving around the bay, source unknown, but we all did checks on our respective CVYC boats to make sure it was not one of us. The Rothwells hosted that evening's happy hour after Friendly Cove and Tracer had left to catch favourable winds in Johnston Strait for their trip north.

Wednesday, June 13 saw the rest of us scattering to the four winds: K'adalawi heading back home as John had had an e-mail requesting he return to work, the Vrooms off to Gorge Harbour for the warmth of the hot tub, and last, but not least Gavinia and Scherzando continuing with the planned cruise!

We had a bit of drama in the Upper Rapids as Gavinia lost motor power close to slack. Cool heads prevailed and they thankfully got their outboard running again after successfully throwing an anchor out to hold them while they problem-solved 25 yards off a rocky point! Scherzando and Key of Sea stood by, the latter responding to a radio request as we were not sure that Scherzando's 13hp engine could tow Gavinia anywhere but sideways in the current! Everyone continued happily on their way, Key of Sea out to Johnson Strait and Gavinia and Scherzando to Small Inlet. We found safe harbour in the inner inlet and happy hour aboard

Scherzando was particularly happy after the day's events. A meeting of the minds found us deciding that due to a big blow forecast for two days hence that we would move south to April Point Marina the next day rather than staying to explore the inlet.

So on **Thursday June 14** we followed the advice of the Rothwells and tried to catch



4The Tilley Hat Twins



3At April point with the crews of Gavinia and Scherzando

eddie's in our favour on the west side of Discovery Passage to get down to Seymour Narrows in time for slack. Mission accomplished and Gavinia and Scherzando were docked at April Point Marina by 1410. A beautiful evening with dinner at April Point Lodge watching the cruise ships go by.

And it did blow hard the following day, so we happily explored Quadra walking to "the mall" to discover a fantastic food truck for lunch and the fact that we could get a fill-up of our propane tank at the gas station. Tea and yummy baked goods on Gavinia.

The next morning the wharfinger kindly gave David a ride to refill the propane tank as walking a few kms with it would have been a little onerous. The crews of both Gavinia and Scherzando had time for farewell morning coffees in the [sun](#) on the patio at the Lodge as we waited for the tide to turn in our favour. Murphy's Law prevailed for the return trip. After winds too strong to venture out the previous day, the wind died on us and we had to motor most of the way home on [Saturday, June 16](#).

A thoroughly enjoyable adventure to many anchorages/docks new to us,

David and Kate Clark, quasi cruise directors!