

# Chapter Ten

## 2018 SUMMER CRUISE OF AVANTI

The 28th Voyage Dunedin to Nelson

Bill and Margaret McIndoe

### Passage Making

#### Notes for the Crew on Passage Making

Pictou to Careys Bay is a long way to sail.

Total distance about 368nm (662km)

Average speed 5kts total passage time 74 hours sailing.

You will likely wait, perhaps for a few days, for appropriate weather.

Enjoy the voyage.

Don't be in a hurry - unless it is necessary.

#### Crew

A crew of three is ideal. 4 is too crowded, 2 not enough sleep. But Margaret and I had only the two of us on most of our voyages. But we were younger then.

#### Safety

Wear a harness at sea and clip on. Don't worry about a lifejacket unless swimming seems inevitable.

#### Fuel

Never run out of fuel. Know how to bleed the engine to restart if you do run out. Have the right two spanners to bleed the injectors. A shifter may not do.

Carry enough fuel to motor the distance between reliable fueling points. Carry extra fuel in cans.

Figure out how to get fuel from the cans into the tank in harbour and even at sea.

Fuel consumption approx:

Motor alone - 3 liters per hour.

Motor sailing - 1 liter per hour

Sails alone - Free

#### Batteries

All they need is water. Remember: No batteries - no engine

#### Boat Speed

Wait and pick the weather carefully for each section, and then go for it.

If speed drops to below 4.0kts start the motor. Start at the beginning of the voyage to keep up a good average speed otherwise you will be clobbered by the next adverse weather condition or have to stay at sea for yet another night. Our coast can be a tricky place, don't dawdle.

Don't over-canvass, if the breeze is fresh keep the sails well reefed, especially at night. The less-strong night watch-keepers may not have the physical strength or skill to reduce sail when it comes on to blow.

#### Steering and Navigation

Have a reliable electric self steering unit (essential) or even two units. One of them will always be in the process of breaking down.

Carry two independent chart plotter systems i.e. two iPads (or iPhone with plotter programme) with two GPS units. Make sure your GPS works when off shore and are out of VHF tower range. It may not work on an iPad or iPhone with built in GPS which may rely on short range VHF transmission only.

Carry appropriate charts, second hand or ancient will do.

You will need the New Zealand Nautical Almanac for the tides. Tides on an iPad or iPhone may not work offshore or deep in the Sounds.

Also the NZ Tidal Streams Atlas to work out times, direction and strength of coastal currents.

Purchase the right cruising guide books.

### **Water**

Carry extra water in cans and always use as little as possible. Conserve water on every occasion - being dirty is better than being thirsty. To save water clean teeth in whisky? But seriously use a glass of water for teeth, not running the tap.

To save fresh water fit 12v salt water pump in galley, but also with manual back up.

### **Spares**

Carry spare circulating pump impellers and spare engine belts that fit. Know how to change them and have the tools required including a small tommy bar to tension the alternator.

## **SUGGESTED PASSAGE ROUTE** **Distances Approximate**

### **Ocean Current**

An ocean current flows north along the South Island east coast. The ebb and flood tides around the coast vary the currents speed by adding to it or subtracting from it. The average speed of the current on our southerly course home would be about 0.4kts against us, making south bound speeds over the ground 70% of the north going speeds towards Cook Strait i.e. it is slower going south against the current than going north with it.

### **Passage Plan in nm (nautical miles) at 5kts**

	<b>Distance</b>	<b>Estimated Sailing Hours</b>
Picton to Akaroa	207nm	41hrs
Akaroa to Careys Bay	161nm	33hrs
<b>Total distance ~</b>	<b>368nm (681km)</b>	<b>74.hrs</b>

*Then You would be Home!*

Written by M M (Bill) McIndoe  
Monday 26 February 2018  
Aboard Yacht Avanti  
On 6E Berth 26  
at Waikawa Marina  
Near Picton