



Tracy Edwards Log Book

12th February 1990

We actually had some wind today from the front that is passing over us. But, of course, it was right behind and we were going dead downwind and not managing course most of the time – with lousy speeds. It is still quite mild – about 9°C and it's sunny when there are no squalls. Every time a squall went through we had to gybe.

I got some weather maps though. There is no more wind further south and the centre of the Low coming up is at 57' so we are now heading for 59' instead of 60'. It will mean a shorter course, because I can't see us going to 60'S at all. We should take some time from Schlüssel and L'Esprit today and tomorrow.

The compasses are messing about again. Sometimes they go back to normal, sometimes they are 10' out each way! Scream! I wonder what it is like to set a course and know you are going to do it. Our seven person gybes are getting really good with no shouting; very smooth.

The front went through during the chat show with about 35 knots of wind from behind. Then it swung 100' in a couple of minutes and started going north. I ran up on deck and told them to get the spinnaker down and to gybe.



I got the positions and zoomed back up to do the runner. The deck was being lashed by driving, freezing rain.

Dawn crash gybed, which is all too easy to do with this boat in these conditions, and Miki got hit on the head by the boom. She was unconscious for about 5 minutes. She is OK but a bit wobbly and she has a horrific lump on her head. We got back on course and put the Flanker up. There was chaos on deck – knitting as we call it, halyards and sheets everywhere!