



# Tracy Edwards Log Book

## September 9th 1989

A lovely day again: sunny. The wind dropped during the day though. We gybed at 0900 because the wind has swung so far. I plotted a new course of 210' which puts us following Merit which has to be a good thing. Not only that but we were able to steer the course in the day. It's a real test of concentration for the girls to go between speed and course. We wait for 1100 like doomsday.

1100 and 2300 are the times for the chat show when all the yachts call the 'host boat' to give their positions. We get the Argos Satellite positions of course but the human contact of the chat shows was good. We would also listen to the other groups and them to us. In all it was a valuable safety channel and at times when we all feel slightly alone out here it helps to hear other voices.

I have started writing down the positions of the whole fleet now, how far they have to go and making comparisons with us. It's a good way to keep us on our toes and keep us racing which can be difficult when you can't see your rivals.

We have done really well and gained on everyone in our class. We have also overtaken With Integrity. Hurrah! Everyone cheered and clapped. Plotted some of the positions on the chart as we passed Madeira.

Steinlager is way out in front; we were right to hold on as long as possible before gybing; phew! It is so great when something goes right because you make a correct decision.

Lots of sunbathing today with not a lot of clothes on! Everyone is very comfortable with everyone else though, even the new girls. A bit frustrating for boat speed though. Still trying to balance speed and course; everyone is improving in leaps and bounds. I am still not happy steering though as I know I am probably the worst helm.

Caught the sun on my bum today - we are all a bit red! I spoke to Simon via Portishead, he's fine. Slept in the afternoon. Another amusing evening on deck. The wind had dropped before sunset and then came back again after dark; very pleasant sailing with a helpful sea state. Position 31' 03" N 19' 54" W