

## **Feedback - Hatfield's Beach Saturday 23 April 2011**

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**Hi all, I hope you had a great Easter and Anzac day.**

Well we had a blast on Saturday, pretty casual start we met at 11ish, set up and hit the water at 12. 3 boats Malcolm and Neil, Dean and Grayson, Zane and Nikki.....



With the south east facing beach we were in flat water as we set off, 6knot North easterlies and flat water.

With blue skies and amazing high cloud patterns we sheeted on hard and pointed out to sea. Moving past the wind shadow of the point the wind picked up to 8, with the odd 10 getting us 1 up on the wire and bursting through ½ meter wind chop! The boats were launching ¾ out of the water with spray flying off the hulls on re-entry, it wasn't a race, but there was that certain facial expression, and obvious glance from boat to sail to other boat

from the skippers, covertly trying to beat the others!!

What a fantastic piece of water and coastline up past Martins, Sullivan's and Mahurangi. Starboard tack had the swell more aft, and tended to be the favourable, with only one freak moment as I thought we were going to hit the reef, then for some odd reason thought it was a crocodile??!!? Turned out to be a log!!



We pulled up on Saddle Island for lunch, basked in the sun, met some friends of Neil's then headed off for the home run. Nice spot for a picnic!

Taking off we had some 12 knot gusts getting the boats into a lively aft of the beam blast almost surfing down the small swell. In an effort to please the adrenal gods we tightened up to reach / run back having some exciting moments, sailing through birds working, passing folk fishing and ending with a drag race between Neil and Zane!

After some big cheesy grins and packing up we headed to Neil's diff top B & B for Sausages, Mussels, salad and beer.

All in all another awesome Hobie day with good sailing, views and great company.

**Special thanks to Neil for the outstanding food and being our host.**

**You guys really should join us some time, Zane**