

Port Douglas Yacht Club

Newsletter

Volume 4 January 2013 Issue 28

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2013 Season of Sailing Now Open

Exemplar Clipper Cup Regatta

Notice of Race and Race Entry Forms
available online now

With the new year in and the season of sailing officially opened, (heralded by a breakfast and an abandoned cruise) the 2013 Exemplar Clipper Cup Regatta is once again on the radar.

Pictured here is racing from the original event staged in Hawaii sometime between 1978 and 1984. The image is courtesy of PDYC Exemplar Clipper Cup Race Officer John Graham. John sailed in the original series and now 30 years later is a driving force behind the resurgence of the event in Port Douglas.

With such tradition to live up to now is the time for PDYC in 2013 to deliver a regatta worthy of the magnificent trophy and the international heritage of the Clipper Cup.



Dog Policies, Future Plans and Club Renovations

In response to a members enquiry the committee has agreed on a policy regarding dogs at the club. Having browsed the legalities there are no legal restrictions preventing dogs on the property relating to licensing laws or in our food service areas. This is because the whole place is classed as outside. The committee came up with a simple policy aimed at keeping everyone happy (especially Deck Dog Roxy pictured below receiving the Christmas Cup in December). Details of the dog policy can be obtained from staff.



Also on the agenda at every meeting is the clubs Future Plan. As the club grows from strength to strength it's vital that we have a documented path to follow as we sail over the horizon of constant change.

Members are encouraged to be involved in determining the future of the club and you are invited to have your say. You can talk to the committee, put pen to paper or send an email to let us know what you think.

Three items high on the agenda are the pontoon, the decking and the bar.



A Challenge to all boat owners

The red yacht pictured above has a history closely linked to PDYC. Seen here in the '80s racing in Hawaii (for the Clipper Cup) Challenge II found a new home in Port Douglas in the 90's.

So the challenge is through these pages to recount the colourful history of the boats in our fleet past and present. Every boat has a story to tell, so what's yours? Write it down and send it in and let's share the stories of the local fleet.

Colin's Column

This is my first contribution to our wonderful newsletter, and my aim is to keep members informed of what is happening at the committee level.

The cyclone preparation night hosted by the Club was well attended, with over 60 people present. MSQ, Police, Coast Guard and SES addressed the audience and fielded questions.

Concerns were raised about the inadequacy of the catamaran mooring area due to the increase in the number of multihulls in Port Douglas. Advice has been received from MSQ about a catamaran area being available further upstream. See the noticeboard in the club for details. (This is particularly important to both myself & the Immediate Past Commodore!)

The committee is in discussions with both the Department of Natural Resources and Mines and the Cairns Regional Council over the state of the concrete blocks protecting our land from Dickson Inlet. Council, as the trustee for our lease with the Department are responsible for the works, however various permissions are required prior to commencement.

The committee has requested that Council install some lighting on the boat ramp adjacent to the club, and council have responded positively, advising that temporary 12V lights will be installed early this year.

Maintenance around the club is ongoing, with the safety gate installed on the pontoon ramp and a downpipe cut under the path to facilitate drainage away from the kitchen. A new, larger urinal has also been installed. Thanks to Ken, Vic, Graham & Graham for getting all this done.

Early in February a number of tripping hazards around the club will be attended to, and then in March works will commence on the new bar.

It would appear as though MSQ are enforcing the laws in relation to dinghies. A number of members have been booked, primarily for not having the correct wording on the tender. I have ordered 50 copies of the latest rule book and they are available at the club.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the clubhouse which was opened in December 1993. The committee has decided that the Christmas Party will also be our 20th birthday party, and we have invited Sir James Hardy (who officially opened the club in 1993) back to the celebrations. We will be attempting to contact as many former members as possible, and may need help contacting those members who have fallen off our mailing list.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe 2013. Colin

Do you have anything you'd like to discuss with the PDYC committee?

Colin is keen to hear what's on your mind and he'll help with any club business that you might like to know more about or if you just want to have your say.



Low Isles Cruising, The Season Opener and Summer Rain

It was to be a season opener like no other, with a free bbq brekkie at the club followed by a sail by as the fleet cruised out of Dickson Inlet and set course for a night of revelry at Low Isles.

Alas it was not to be, for the dawn that day gave us what we all expected as the wet finally arrived.

Even the ardent diehards on Sun Block and T Bag reversed their resolve of the previous evening to go come what may.

The gallant crew of Sinabada were all set to brave the elements until they heard the stories of past encounters with 20 knot northerlies while anchored in the lagoon and the dangers of alternative anchorages. They too abandoned the idea as the rain continued to fall.

It takes a lot more than a bit of weather to keep the yachties away from a free cooked brekkie though and a good number enjoyed a hearty feast of sausages, bacon and eggs. Captain Ken came to the rescue inviting all to set course up the hill for a party on the decks 422m above sea level - in Julatten!



Planning for the wet season

It has been said that we shouldn't try to arrange any sailing until at least April as the weather is so unpredictable. Maybe that's not such a bad idea. If we had nothing planned from the middle of December right through to April that would give us all three and a half months to do all those other things we have in our lives.

Perhaps it would really build some momentum to get everybody itching to get out on the water once the season started again.

We could of course organise a sail on any weekend that looked like the weather was up for it and perhaps spend three months just 'playing it by ear' without any scheduled race days or weekend cruises.

What do you think?

Captain's Log Saturday 19th January, 2013

By Newsletter roving reporter Trudy Erdmann

07:00HRS PDYC generous breakfast provided.

09:30HRS Cancellation of cruise to Low Isles, BBQ & over nighter due to adverse wet conditions. Amended course destination: 16.5463°S 145.3652°E, altitude: 422.306m.

Cruise above Sea Level to continue entertaining on the deck - music & laughter echoing through the hills, no land lubbers, gate crashers or uninvited admitted.

16:00HRS Quite a turnout...enthusiastic crew participation of respective duties. Collection of vintage bottles proved quality consumption. Rations provided ensured quality dining.

23:59 HRS Retired at eight bells. No reports of MOB or lost dinghies.

Anticipated leisurely late breakfast.

Great cruising weekend - thanks to all you scallywags!

Right: Jo, Geoff, Darcy, Neil, Catherine, Bruce, Ken, Graham, Meg, Judy, Helen and Mick



WAGS Roundup

Wednesday 2nd January: Seven yachts set sail for the first WAGS of 2013 and Ice was the first to take the rum for the new year. Shazam, Ann Sea, Sinabada, Kai Lani, Indigo and Ruff Red all enjoyed a good sail with a large turn out at the club.

Wednesday 9th January: Ten yachts enjoyed calm conditions typical of a midsummer evening with under 10 knots ENE and a flat sea. Port FM Mais Oui returning to WAGS after a lengthy absence claimed the rum ahead of Sinabada, Ice, Miriama, Shazam, Indigo, Sky Walker, Tau Ceti, Ann Sea and Ruff Red.

Miriama played host to a marriage proposal that was accepted, congratulations to Spike and Michelle.

Wednesday 16th January: Nine yachts sailed including Sinabada, Shazam, Indigo, Samantha, Ann Sea, Ruff Red, Port FM Mais Oui, Tau Ceti and Miriama.

Wednesday 23rd January: With gale warnings and heavy rain it was no surprise that nobody was looking to go sailing. The club was still quite busy as all the regular skippers and crew turned up regardless. An impromptu raffle was held with Neil who might have been onboard any number of boats won a bottle of red and a few dollars were added to the J24 maintenance fund.

Miriama hosts marriage proposal



For this happy couple a Wednesday sunset sail proved to be the perfect opportunity for romance. Spike popped the question and Michelle gave him the answer he wanted to hear, and everyone lived happily ever after.

Do you follow us on Facebook?

The club has 3,586 likes. We like it when it's not too windy, we like it when it doesn't rain on Wednesday.

We like it when the beer's cold, but who's counting anyway? Have you *liked* the club?





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\$250 FINE

A tender subject for a fine day in a dinghy

Boating and Fisheries inspectors recently fined a member for not having the right identification on his dinghy.

According to Maritime Safety Queensland tenders to registered recreational ships are exempt from registration provided they are used within 2 nautical miles of the primary ship. However, the tender must be marked on the exterior with the word 'tender' and the primary ship registration numbers, at least 75mm high. If this is not possible, markings should be on the inside of the boat in the largest characters possible. If the tender is used for more than 1 ship, it may be marked with the owner's name.

The alleged offense was using the age old accepted TT to mean 'tender to' which is apparently no longer valid and not having the boats registration numbers. It's no longer acceptable to have the ships name. It must be the ships registration number such as 'Tender ABC123' for example.

Check your dinghy before it's too late and keep your \$250 in your own pocket!



Drainage arrives just days ahead of the rain Commodore Colin Simpson is pictured below hard at work preparing new drainage to alleviate the risk of flooding to the kitchen that can occur during heavy rains. This work had been in the pipeline for some time and is now finally complete.



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The gated community Some members may be wondering what the new pool fence is all about at the entry to the club pontoon. Well, the club has recently embarked on a Workplace Health and Safety campaign spearheaded by a sub committee consisting of Henry, Cheryl and Graham. High on their agenda was the safety of the club pontoon and the this has now been addressed with the new access gate and fencing. Pictured below are Ken and Graham after a hard day's work.

NEWS FLASH

As the Newsletter prepares for publication reports are coming in of an injury to Ken Brown, skipper of Tai Ceti and PDYC committeeman. Ken suffered a fall at his home and has a broken femur and damaged hip. Ken is currently recovering at Cairns Base Hospital. Get well soon!



Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 2nd February: RACING - 10:00 & 14:00
 Sunday 3rd February: TRAINING 11:00 TO 3:00
 Saturday 9th February: RACING – 14:00 start
 Saturday 16th February: RACING – 10:00 & 14:00
 Saturday 23rd February: RACING – 14:00 start
 Saturday 9th March: MUSIC – Rock The Boat

Monday Closures

The wet season Monday closures will commence February 4th until Monday March 25th with the club being open again on Mondays from April 1st (Easter Monday). *It's true!*



Have you got your Blue Book?

Copies of the 2013 – 2016 Racing Rules of sailing are available at the club for just \$20.00. That's less than half price so get in quick before they're all gone.

Club Training Day Sunday 3rd February

Following the success of the visit by Peter Grieg Rigging late last year the second of the members information and training seminars is scheduled for Sunday 3rd Feb (see right for details).

Club training sessions have been talked about for several years without any progress but the subject really came to the fore following a meeting that was held in August 2012. It was widely accepted that we are long overdue to help each other by sharing the knowledge that's in our midst to ensure we all have a better and safer understanding of what we are involved in, namely recreational yachting. So as the year unfolds and the sessions come and go make sure you get yourself along, enjoy the occasion and maybe learn something. Or, if you have a special skill or expertise you can share (provided it's to do with boats) why not talk to the Sailing Committee and you can become a resident expert host at a future members training seminar.

New Members

Steve and Lydia Cincurak
 Adam Toma
 Josh Waring
 David Meeghan
 Ilka Priebe
 Christopher Hughes
 Rok Kovacic
 Carl Hampton
 Dean Miller
 Carly Kishere

Welcome to Port Douglas Yacht Club

PDYC Sailing Committee presents

Training Day

What: Sail Trim and Racing Rules
Where: PDYC
When: Sunday 3rd February
 10:45 for an 11:00 start
Instructor: Doug Ryan

11:00 to 12:00	Racing Rules
12:00 to 12:45	Lunch
1:00 to 3:00	Sail trim


The Racing Rules of Sailing



White Sail Trim



The afternoon sail trim session will be a practical demonstration conducted onboard a boat so numbers will be limited. Names will be drawn at random to determine participation if numbers exceed available places.



Port Douglas Yacht Club presents

The 2013
EXEMPLAR
Clipper Cup
Regatta

"to race the winds of paradise"

14th to 18th May
\$8,000 prize pool

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3 Divisions with 6 Races over 4 days of racing

Notice of Race and Race Entry available at www.portdouglasyachtclub.com.au

The Exemplar Clipper Cup Regatta is only three months away which in terms of preparing and organising the event means it's almost right upon us.

The Sailing Committee has been busy confirming all the essentials and is happy to report that John Graham will once again be the Race Officer. This will be John's third visit to PDYC to oversee the event.

The race days have been changed to a Tuesday start with racing on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday with the presentation to be held at the club on Saturday 18th May.

It has been mentioned that the date of the presentation conflicts with the Carnivale Food, Wine and a Taste of Port event but the Sailing Committee made the decision to change the dates for two very good reasons. Firstly there are extremely low tides (0.13) on the following weekend that mean we have to bring the racing forward. Secondly, many travelling competitors have mentioned in the last two years that concluding on a Saturday giving a recovery day before they need to be at work would be much better.

As much as PDYC and the Sailing Committee agree we need to support Carnivale it was decided that we need to act in the best interests of our regatta and its competitors.



Andiamo set to be the start boat

Vic and Robin Petrus have confirmed they are planning to use their big new Catana 44 as the start boat. The spacious (and very comfortable) deck and cabin areas should provide a great platform for the team of race officials assisting John Graham each race day.

If you want to help out as a race official this year please let the sailing committee know.



The club will again be bringing Yachting Australia National Race Officer John Graham to Port to officiate the Exemplar Clipper Cup Regatta. John is pictured above aboard Miriama Te Rua during the 2010 regatta.

Why not join John this year and help out. It's a great opportunity to learn about race management.

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When travelling interstate or overseas why not leave the car at home and let Exemplar Coaches & Limousines take care of getting you to and from the airport.

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February Sailing

RACE	Saturday 2 nd	10:00 & 14:00 start	Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Race 1 & Race 2
WAGS	Wednesday 6 th	4:00pm onwards	Sunset 6:54pm last light 7:17pm
RACE	Saturday 9 th	14:00 start	Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Race 3
WAGS	Wednesday 13 th	4:00pm onwards	Sunset: 6:51pm last light 7:14pm
RACE	Saturday 16 th	10:00 & 14:00 start	Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Race 4 & Race 5
WAGS	Wednesday 20 th	4:00pm onwards	Sunset 6:48pm last light 7:10pm
RACE	Saturday 23 rd	14:00 start	Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Race 6
WAGS	Wednesday 27 th	4:00pm onwards	Sunset 6:44pm last light 7:05pm

Skippers and crew are reminded that all club organised events in accordance with Yachting Australia Special Regulations Part 1 (also recommended for cruising boats) are Category 6 events considered being close to the shoreline in protected waters and in daylight hours only. RRS YA SR Pt 1 Section 2.01.7.

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A Dog Policy? What's your problem? I was just sitting here and the whole thing exploded! I'm as surprised as you are.



PDYC representation at 2013 Rolex Sydney Hobart

Doug Ryan will be taking his new boat Shazam and a crew of mostly PDYC yachties down to Sydney for the 2013 Rolex Sydney Hobart. Doug and his crew will be in training for the race all year using the clubs extensive race calendar as a platform. PDYC will be raising funds throughout the year to assist. There'll be more on this story and what you can do to help next issue. Another great reason for you to get out on the water this year and support local sailing.

Next issue: Scheduled for release February sometime all being well. **Thanks** to all the owners of material borrowed from the net.
Contributions welcome: If you want to submit anything for inclusion, even a regular article, email pdy@portdouglasyachtclub.com.au

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