



Waypoint

Edition 9

pdycwaypoint@iinet.net.au

Summer 2020

COUNTDOWN!

With 77 days on the countdown clock for Quicksilver Port Douglas Race Week 2020 the preparations are kicking into high gear for the run to the line. Richard has been busy lining up some great entertainment for the week of fun that is always Quicksilver Port Douglas Race Week. The Vice Commodore and his team have been busy with the ongoing maintenance but over the past week he and his merry band of helpers have undertaken the larger maintenance jobs with the decks and the kitchen that need to be done during the wet season. All in all we are on track to a fabulous week of sailing and fun. Entries have begun to steadily flow in, with much interest shown in the effort to expand the participation of Sports Boats and Trailer Sailing boats. A familiar name came over the horizon with the entry of Ketchup, a regular to the regatta prior to 2015.



And the return of the 'chutzpah boys' on Charm Offensive for their third attempt to get their name on the trophy. After leading their division all week last year it came down to four seconds on the last day so it seems the boys might be on the offensive to pull it off this year.

Greg Sinclair and Lister Hughes are returning to officiate again and their sparkling presence is always great fun.

But the thing that makes our regatta so special is the effort put in by our amazing volunteers. You, the members are the ones that make it that way with the sunny smiles and personalised support we give our entrants.

If you have time to spare during the week any help is gratefully accepted. Contact Richard if you are able to join the effort and enjoy the fun that will be Quicksilver Port Douglas Race Week 2020.



RACE WEEK LAUNCH

On Saturday 22nd February, Douglas Shire Mayor Julia Leu joined the members of the Port Douglas Yacht Club for the official launch of Quicksilver Port Douglas Race Week 2020.

This year's regatta will be the 26th annual event for the Club and Mayor Leu spoke eloquently of the special atmosphere of the club and how it had run the original regatta in conjunction with the inaugural Douglas Carnivale and wished all PDYC members and competitors well for this year's regatta.

Edward Bear made an appearance on the day and charmed Ms Leu into posing for pictures with him. (Always the ladies Ted! - Ed.) The Vice Commodore did warn Ms Leu that Ted was one of the most well travelled sailors of PDYC and our fluffy mascot behaved impeccably for the most part. Perhaps the Vice Commodore might have warned her was also the most practised charmer in the club

A message from the Commodore

Welcome to the summer edition of Waypoint – our newsletter.

A few thank you's are in order:

- * Richard, Mick, and our bar and kitchen staff.
- * Carl and his helpers for their input around the Club.
- * Phil and the sailing committee.
- * Nod and her social committee.
- * Robyn for her hours of work behind the scenes.

All these people make my position so much easier.

It would be remiss of me not to mention Brett for his great work around the Club, and it is with regret that I advise that for personal reasons Brett has resigned from the Committee and is taking a step back from his Club activities.

On a positive note, I am pleased to announce that Rob Ranford has agreed to fill the casual vacancy on the Committee created by Brett's resignation. I must also congratulate Rob and his crew for taking out the 2019 club championship on J Curve, and also congratulate all skippers and crew for participating in Club racing events.

It was pleasing to see a good turnout for the members' Xmas party in December. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

We have renewed our association with Port Douglas Marine Rescue by reinstating our donation to this body. This association enhances safety for our members and the general boating community.

We are looking forward to a great year both on land and water.

Keep your eye on our web and Facebook pages for some exciting upcoming events.

See you at The Yachty!



Bob Standley

From the Vice Commodore



The last Working Bee in early Dec 2019, was a great day at the Club with 20 plus members turning out and putting in a good 4 hours work on a very warm day. At the end the day the club looked great, thank you, to all the members that turned up. Please check the dates for the next Working Bee in May just prior to Race Week, hope to see another good turn out.

Race week (19th to the 23rd May) is starting to take shape and soon we will start asking for volunteers. So please, if you can come down and support our Club for the week or one day, it all helps.

This year has started off well at the Club with Richard working hard to put on a great Australia Day at the Club. We had a great turn out and everyone enjoyed the atmosphere and music.

On the maintenance side, the timber decks inside the club have just been re-oiled, the kitchen has had a detailed clean and the floor repainted. Next on the list is re-oiling the pontoon. Also, we have just replaced one of the washing machines in the laundry as well as a new sink and we also have installed an ice machine behind the bar.

Lastly, can I just remind all members about the rules for the pontoon, tenders cannot be left for more than 48 hours. If you have a problem and you need to leave it for longer, please speak to me.

Carl Barnett

All Fired Up On Australia Day

An important way the club remains viable during the wet season is through attracting locals when visitor numbers to the town thin out.

With Australia Day approaching, PDYC manager Richard booked Mereana Pohatu to provide live music on the day, but when they got together they were soon brainstorming something bigger. Locals and entertainers alike pitched in with ideas for an event to support a bushfire relief appeal, then got behind our Australia Day Animal Rescue and Australian Fires Fundraiser.

Five live acts were onstage between 3pm and early evening on the day: the main act, Area 13, 'Rocked the Yachty', along with Portamento Belle, Papa's Gun, Sea Change Duo, and Elliot D Music. The Port Douglas Fire Brigade came to provide support, the kitchen served up a menu of \$5 to \$10 takeaways, and face painting and henna hands got the thumbs up from kids, big and small.

Along with gold coin entry and raffle prizes, \$1 donated for every beer sold, the event raised \$2752 for the appeal, the money going to Wires – the wildlife rescue charity. A big thanks to Mereana, sponsors and all members and locals who attended on the day.



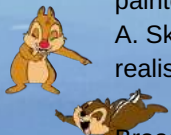
Adrift #1

Outgoing tide. Skipper A*, making his way back to his yacht in his dinghy, came across a bigger but emptier one floating down the creek. "Looks creditable," said Skipper A to himself, approving the dinghy's recent overhaul by Skipper B* as it drifted downstream in the channel between the poles. "This will be fun," he chuckled, taking the painter in hand and proceeding to Skipper B's yacht. "Are you missing something, Skipper B?" called out Skipper A. Skipper B, looking mildly surprised in the cockpit but laughing anyway, responded, "Yeah, ah, well, I didn't realise . . ." and thankfully repossessed his tender and this time tied it to his yacht.

Adrift #2

Broad daylight, king-ish tides. Skipper C*, minding his own business in an uptown bar with Skipper D* and Skipper E*, is approached by the barman with news of a phone call to tell Skipper C his yacht has come adrift in Dixon Inlet. Dashing away from his barely touched beer, Skipper C speeds off to rescue his beloved. "That anchor has been there for years, but I put down a new one," said Skipper C later, reporting no damage. Other than a lost drink, some commented. First we ever heard of Skipper C leaving a beer behind.

*All names have been changed to spare the blushes!



Smoke Haze & Other Sydney Hobart Race Challenges

Two members from the PDYC competed in Boxing Day's 2019 Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. Mal Richardson, onboard the Adams 11.9, Townsville-based Turbulence (pictured here competing in our own regatta, The Quicksilver Cup, in May 2019; and Tony Ritter, onboard Gold Coast-based Encore, a Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 49. The 628-nautical mile course starts in Sydney Harbour and it is always a show, this time for a slow start through smoke haze over Sydney from the bushfires. The Anniversary 75th race attracted the 4th largest fleet in the race's history. Of the 157 competitors at the start line, 154 reached the finish. Only three boats were forced to retire.

Conditions were for varying wind shifts throughout the race, according to Mal (competing in his 4th Sydney Hobart race), and that's what they got throughout the race. "After the start, the run down the coast was a slide in NE winds. At night the breeze built to 20 to 30 knots, where we made good gains, only to lose them again in the daytime as the breeze fell away to variable 5 to 15s, then build again late in the afternoon to 20 to 30 knots.

"Bass Strait was light running and very frustrating in the variable NE winds. We had to concentrate the whole time to keep the spinnaker driving in the light airs through the swell.

By the time we reached Cape Raoul (the southern tip of Tasmania) at 8pm on night three, the breeze died entirely. We went in circles for five hours until we got a slight puff at 3am and were able to get up some momentum. In the River Derwent we put up the masthead screecher and kept moving, making some big gains on competitors, finishing on a very high note."

On the line honours tally for the 154 finishers, Turbulence crossed the line in 113th position, while Encore finished in 123rd position. On handicap, Turbulence finished 7th in PHS Division 2, while Encore finished 14th in ORCi Division 5.

Well done, boys!



Rear Commodore's Message

October, November and December were very busy months in our sailing calendar with the Ladies Skippers' Race, Spring Series and Christmas Cup. A massive congratulations to Rob Randford and his crew on J Curve for taking out the 2019 PDYC Club Championship; a very deserved win.

Our 2020 season is now underway, but the Summer Series' Saturday races throughout February turned out to be non-events, due to the hot month's lack of wind. However, skippers and owners got together on Sunday February 9 for this year's Annual Skipper's Briefing to discuss the 2020 sailing season, preceded by a BBQ and raffle for members at the Club.

A slight change to the sailing calendar this year is running less PDYC club championship races and introducing SAGS (Saturday Afternoon General Sailing) events. These 'races' are more of a fun, cruiser-style events and will have no points impact on the PDYC club championship and will not affect handicaps for the 2020 club championship. The purpose of the introduction of SAGS is to provide more options for cruisers and multihulls (friendlier courses and less pressure) to participate, who may not be interested in competitive racing.

I am always after volunteers to those members that would like to support the yacht club but are not into competitive sailing. We are always after people that own vessels large enough to lay a few buoys during Saturday events and support crew. We also need many volunteers for our premier event, the Quicksilver Port Douglas Race Week in May.

I look forward to another amazing year of sailing in paradise and hope to see many more boats participate in water activities.

Happy sailing!

Phill Kilfoy Rear Commodore

What's Coming Up On Deck

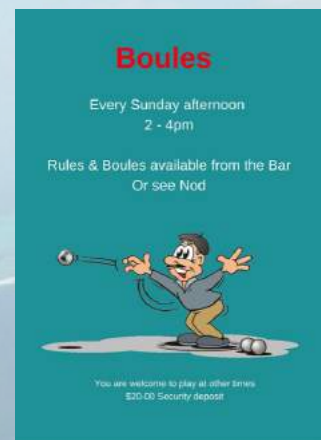
The Social Committee, headed by Nod, has got together and planned the next few month's social calendar for members of the PDYC.

First up is the launch of the **Members' Draw – Bag the Burgee** which kicked off at the end of February. Running thereon every Friday evening, members can grab their free ticket from 4pm. The actual draw will be held between 6pm and 7pm, with the lucky ticket number having the opportunity to bag the burgee card and win the night's prize. The week one winner's prize is \$100 cash, accruing over the weeks if no one picks the lucky card. Detailed instructions on the night. A raffle will be held each Friday evening as well.

The next **Members' Night Out** will be held on Tuesday April 21 at Chilly's Restaurant. Many thanks to members who attended the February night out, held at Paddy's. The \$15 parmigianas were great value. We all had night and plenty of laughs.

Thanks to the Commodore for providing the club with three sets of boules. As soon as the rain season (cough, cough) has passed, Saturday afternoons will provide the opportunity for everyone to pick a team and have a go. Rules available on the day. **(And watch the lawns or the VC will get grumpy- Ed)**

March 13 kicks off our first **Quiz Night** of the year, with the help of K-Star. Being held on Friday 13th, for those who fancy additional fun, can feel free to dress appropriately. Some quiz questions are likely to run with the night's theme – so brush up on your Jason Voorhees and black cat facts. Entry is \$10 a head, which supplies a platter of food to your team's table. The whole town's invited.



Farewall Adam

After weeks of speculation and promises, Adam, the club's ex sous chef and bar live-wire, finally quit his berth at Closehaven Marina mid-February. Bound for the Whitsundays to take up a new position as head chef at a seafood restaurant at Airlie Beach, Adam entertained the clubhouse for months after arriving in Port Douglas in his yacht My Dreamtime. Purchased in Malaysia and sailed single-handed between ports and island-hopping to Port Douglas, Adam plans to do the same until he reaches Airlie. Boats don't talk unless you've had far too many rums or bottles of red, so Adam's tales of his trip will have to wait. We wish him fine sailing weather and safe voyages until his return.

A Fishy Tale (warning: graphic image)

Tony Sands is now a true fishing giant. He can't say how many fish he's caught over the years while sailing the local waters north and south of Cairns, but after refitting his yacht Isurus (previously known as Star Ferry) in the PDYC yard and finding her a nice deep hole way up Dixon Inlet, he took up his fishing gear once more and landed, with the tricky shot, not one but two fish, on the same line, the prize catch weighing in at 75kgs. The best catch of the season! The tricky shot, employing the line around the boom and snug in the stern light fitting, had its drawbacks, though. How does one reach the knife and cut the fish free without embedding the hook deeper? A trip to the Medical Centre was in order, to remove the pesky hook. The smaller fish? He said he didn't want to eat it.



Membership Renewal

This year to streamline membership renewal the Club will be doing renewals online through the RevSport database we have been gradually bringing online over the past two years.

One of the reasons we are doing this is that members often attempt to pay membership during high service times at the club and this, unreasonably, adds to the workload of the staff and has caused errors to be made and during EFT payments members have left their details off their payments which had meant a bit of angst to those responsible as they have had to track down members to confirm payments.

Some members still do not have email addresses and they will

be notified and processed manually as will any member who is having difficulty using the system.

Members' Christmas Party

Every year in December, members get together to celebrate a year of sailing and socialising together for Christmas, with 2019's party more jolly than most. The clubhouse was in the Christmas spirit, decorated by Nod and her team of helpers from the floor to the rafters. Even Richard approved. Free drinks and music provided by Stu Harcourt kicked off a lively and fun night, while Mick and his team from the kitchen came to the fore with a generous buffet for dinner and dessert. Around 90 members attended.



Results

Christmas Cup

1. J Curve
2. Casuarina
3. Mais Oui

Spring Series

1. J Curve
2. Spank
3. Viva La Beaver

Ladies Skippers' Race

1. Kahukura
2. Ka Pai
3. Skye 2



Bill & Annetta Muir
 Peter Twomey
 Ghassan & Mai El Ghodr
 White Star & Jet Gregory
 Chris Selkirk
 Andrew Lennox
 Warren Neate
 Ian Holt
 Sonia & James Perkins
 Patrick Jenkins & Anna Johnson
 Craig Reynolds
 Adam Robbins
 John & Linda Rumney
 Scott Donald & Leanne Paras
 Ron Mullins & Sara Ongheem
 John & Julie Brenson
 Claire Wuersch
 Timothy Gledhill
 Philip Wingate
 Graham Fullager
 David & Rebecca Pearse
 Craig & Olivia Ward
 Christie Bouwkamp

**Welcome
Aboard**

NEW MEMBERS



Calendar

March 13	Quiz night
March 14	Closehaven Cup Passage Race Race 4
March 21	SAGS Multi buoy Race Non CS
March 28	Lady Skippers Race 1 & 2
April 04/05	Learn to sail J24 sail training
April 10 - 13	Easter Rally Hope Isles
April 18	Commodore's Cup Passage Race 5 CE
April 20/21	Easter Fun Regatta CYC event Cairns Yacht Club
April 21	Member's Night Out
May 02/03	Crystalbrook Cup Race 6, 7, 8
May 09	Working Bee ALL HANDS ON DECK!
May 16	SAGS Passage Race
May 18	Monday Registration Day QPDRW
May 19 – 23 2020	QUICKSILVER PORT DOUGLAS RACE WEEK



Sue's Light.

