

Port Douglas Yacht Club

Newsletter

Volume 3 May 2012 Issue 21

23 entries in Exemplar Clipper Cup

The decision to introduce three divisions paid dividends with a fleet of 23 entries making the 2012 regatta the biggest for many years. Thirteen Port boats were joined by eight from Cairns, one from Townsville and one from Brisbane.

2012 overall winners

- Division 1 Ice
- Division 2 Akimbo
- Division 3 Sinabada

Each winner of each division is to be recognised on the next plaque to be fixed to the Clipper Cup trophy.

The 2012 Exemplar Clipper Cup Regatta dominates this issue of the club Newsletter. Regular articles will continue in the next edition.

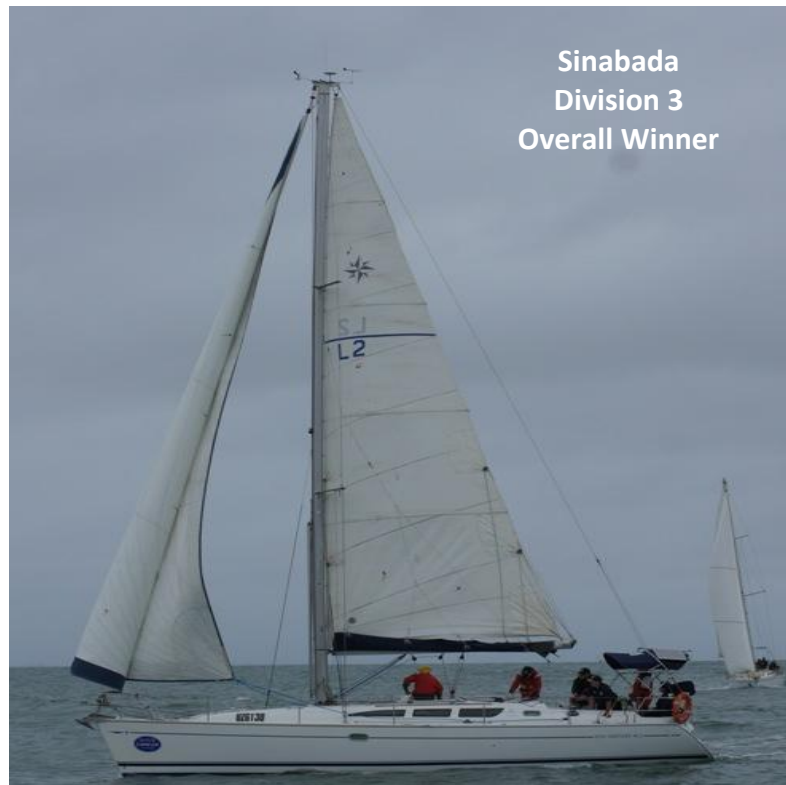


Akimbo
Division 2
Overall Winner

The number of visiting yachts almost matched the number of local boats. Race organisers are already planning for 2013 with the challenge now to maintain the numbers and build upon the success of the 2012 regatta. Under the guidance of Race Officer John Graham the club once again has an event to be proud of that can attract the attention of the sailing community along the length of the North Queensland coast.



Ice
Division 1
Overall Winner



Sinabada
Division 3
Overall Winner

Division 1

Overall	
1 st	Ice (16.0)
2 nd	Ketchup (17.0)
3 rd	Kai Lani (22.0)
Race 1:	
1 st	Ketchup
2 nd	Kaizen 2
3 rd	Ice
Race 2:	
1 st	Ice
2 nd	Kai Lani
3 rd	Dusty Muzzle
Race 3:	
1 st	Ice
2 nd	Magic
3 rd	Kai Lani
Race 4:	
1 st	Ketchup
2 nd	Night Nurse
3 rd	Groove
Race 5:	
1 st	Ketchup
2 nd	Kaizen 2
3 rd	Death Star
Race 6:	
1 st	Kai Lani
2 nd	Tau Ceti
3 rd	Ann Sea

Division 2

Overall	
1 st	Akimbo (8.0)
2 nd	eDoc (11.5)
3 rd	Indigo (13.5)
Race 1:	
1 st	Akimbo
2 nd	Sanity
3 rd	eDoc
Race 2:	
1 st	Indigo
2 nd	Sanity
3 rd	eDoc
Race 3:	
1 st	Akimbo
2 nd	Indigo
3 rd	eDoc
Race 4:	
1 st	Akimbo
2 nd	eDoc
Race 5:	
1 st	Akimbo
2 nd	eDoc
Race 6:	
1 st	Indigo
2 nd	eDoc
3 rd	Sanity

Division 3

Overall	
1 st	Sinabada (9.0)
2 nd	Jimmie B (13.0)
3 rd	Wildfire (14.0)
Race 1:	
1 st	T-Break
2 nd	Big ears
3 rd	Wildfire
Race 2:	
1 st	Sinabada
2 nd	Big Ears
3 rd	Wildfire
Race 3:	
1 st	Jimmie Blacksmith
2 nd	Wildfire
3 rd	Sinabada
Race 4:	
1 st	Sinabada
2 nd	Jimmie Blacksmith
3 rd	Wildfire
Race 5:	
1 st	Jimmie Blacksmith
2 nd	Sinabada
3 rd	Wildfire
Race 6:	
1 st	Miriama Te Rua
2 nd	Sinabada
3 rd	Wildfire

Regatta Wrap: Race 1 and 2 on day one was witness to the largest fleet of yachts to cross a start line in many years in Port Douglas as 23 competitors scrambled to the line for the start of the 2012 Exemplar Clipper Cup Regatta. With 12 entries in Division 1, 4 in Division 2 and 7 in Division 3 all starting at the same time there was plenty of action. Both races were two laps of a windward leeward course and the gusty 20 knot breeze provided some challenges to reach the top mark in the best time. The rain that threatened on day one came on day two as the full fleet of 23 set sail for a rounding of Snapper Island and Low Isles. There was plenty of drama in Division 3 with Impact retiring with a damaged forestay and some confusion over the shortened course with a finish at Low Isles. eDoc blitzed the field reporting speeds of 23 knots and taking line honours in under four hours only to be tied with Indigo on corrected time coming in more than three and a half hours later. Day 3 threatened to be blown away by a strong wind warning but once out on the water Race 4 was delayed by 80 minutes waiting for enough breeze to make a start. The strong winds recorded offshore never made it to the bay and both Race 4 and Race 5 proved to be the most challenging of the regatta as many boats failed to complete the course in the light air. With the BOM maintaining the same forecast for the final day Race 6 started in much better conditions and some strong gusts were encountered east of Low Isles on the island rounding and everyone enjoyed a satisfying sail to round out a very eventful four days of sailing. The regatta finished with a packed club house for the presentation dinner and after 54 medals, 9 trophies and 9 cheques were presented the party rocked on into the night.



May WAGS roundup

Wednesday 2nd May: The first WAGS for May was a welcome home for Campbell, Desley and Jimmie Blacksmith joining the fleet for the first time in 15 months. A good crowd was in attendance and tables were set for 9 yachts including Ice, Miriama, Samantha, Ann Sea, Jimmie Blacksmith, Port FM Mai Oui, Indigo, Magic and Sinabada. Indigo claimed their first Inner Circle Rum.

Wednesday 9th May: The gusty conditions were ideal for the 6 yachts that set sail. Numbers were down but most people found a spot onboard either Magic, Miriama, Port FM Mais Oui, Samantha, Indigo or Sinabada.

Wednesday 16th May: 11 yachts hit the waves in a good 18 to 22 knot SE breeze with a fabulous sunset to top off a great sail. Belinda Cooper and Groove up from Cairns for the Exemplar Clipper Cup joined Port FM Mais Oui, Miriama, Magic, Samantha, Sinabada, Big Ears, Tau Ceti, Jimmie Blacksmith, Indigo and Ann Sea.

Wednesday 23rd May: 23 boats contested the start of the Exemplar Clipper Cup on this day with the expectation of a huge WAGS but only Indigo and Tau Ceti chose to head back out and the event was all but cancelled.

Wednesday 30th May: Due to publishing deadlines this report is in the June Newsletter.



Samantha

*"The humblest craft that floats makes its appeal to a seaman
by the faithfulness of her life."*

Joseph Conrad

Far from being our humblest craft, in the very near future PDYC will be bidding farewell (hopefully only temporarily) to one of the largest personalities taking part in our weekly WAGS events. No, not a person, but the bold personality of a boat known to one and all as Samantha.

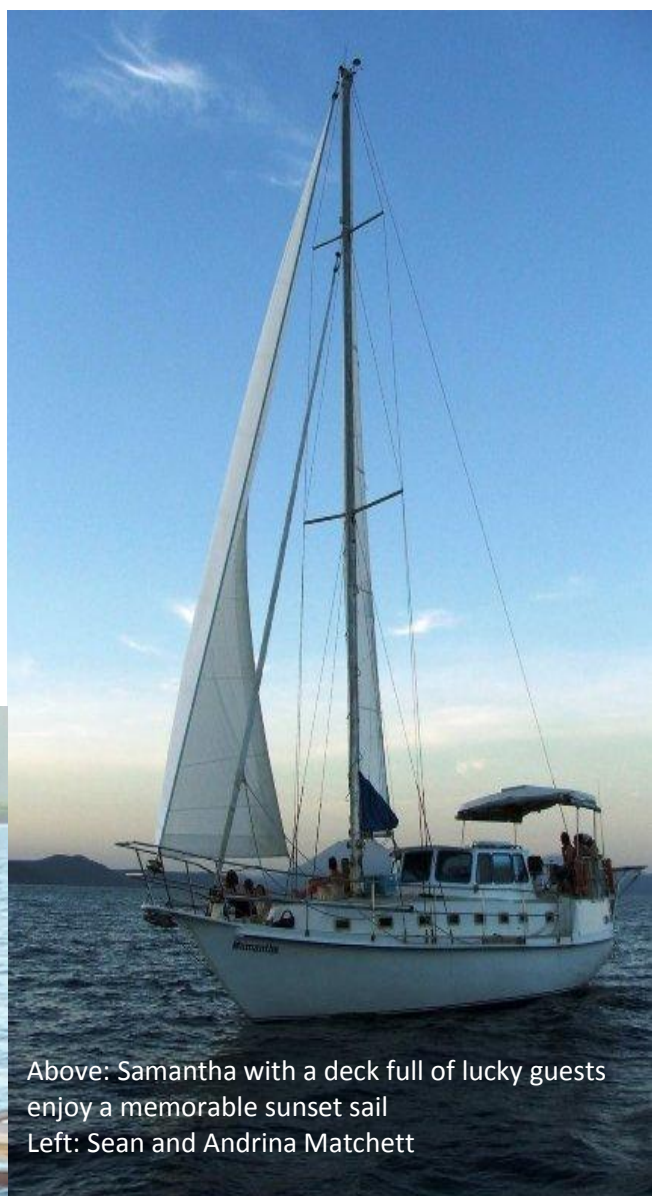
A beautiful lady of generous design and spirit Samantha is a comfortable home to her owners as well as a haven to the waifs and strays of the region. A girl built for comfort rather than speed the stately lady however can pick up her skirts and boogie quite well when she needs to (especially with 'Admiral' Andrina is at the helm) Samantha gives all who board her a great time. A gentle introduction for novices and idyllic sails for others and she is a mighty fishing vessel on other occasions.

Samantha's spirit as a boat matched only by the kindness and generosity of her owners Sean and Andrina Matchett and all three will be sadly missed by all at the PDYC as they begin their journey northwards. We wish all three of our dear friends well and hope they make their way back to our waters sooner rather than later.

NB: This profile was written about Samantha because Sean and Andrina are notoriously camera shy as well as very modest and have ducked all attempts by your correspondent (and others) to get photographs of them to write a profile on two of our club's most generous and friendly couples. Hurry back guys we will all miss you! **Reporter: Robyn Shelly**

Regatta Photos

During the regatta Pete Ryan, club member and expert photographer was onboard with the Coast Guard and Pete has taken over 1,100 shots of all the action on day 3 and 4. If you would like a copy of these pics on disk or USB contact the club and we'll see what we can do for you.



Above: Samantha with a deck full of lucky guests enjoy a memorable sunset sail
Left: Sean and Andrina Matchett



Above: Ken Brown and the crew of Tau Ceti. Top right: Tim Preuss and the crew of Ann Sea. Right: Steve England and the crew of Ketchup. Below: Carolyn 'Nod' Wilson and the crew of Big Ears.

A big thank you to Mickey Ink

For the fabulous Exemplar Clipper Cup decals that competitors in the regatta had displayed on their hulls. Mickey has for some years now provided this service free of charge in support of the regatta and her contribution is a great effort.

If your boat name decal is looking a little tired why not give Mickey a call and brighten up your hull with a new flash image and design and show you support the businesses that support PDYC and the Exemplar Clipper Cup Regatta.

Mickey Ink is located on Tingira Street in front of the Cairns Cruising Yacht Squadron slipway.



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Mossman and Port Douglas Volunteer Coast Guard provided their services in support of the regatta as the Course Boat responsible for laying the course marks. The team did a fantastic job positioning each mark under the guidance of Race Officer John Graham. Jeff Anderson was presented with a cheque for \$800 from PDYC and further fund raising during and after the regatta provided some much needed funding.



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Surveyed Right ! Reported Right ! Priced Right !

Top right: David and Goliath (Impact and eDoc) did not actually compete against each other thanks to the introduction of multiple divisions. At 25 and 50 feet respectively there would have been no match. Right: The Twisted Sisters on Groove (7th overall in Div 1) and a regular Clipper Cup contender still seek their first elusive claim to the trophy. Bottom right: The boys from Dusty Muzzle entertain the crowd with their sea shanties.

What can we learn from 2012?

Those that understand the performance based handicap system will no doubt look at the results and appreciate just how close the results were in all the races. Those that have ever tried to match different designs in a fleet should also understand how difficult it can be to come up with a fair go for everyone. The one thing that stands out from 2012 is that entries in the monohull divisions need to be determined by allocated handicap and not by a competitors decision to choose which division they wish to compete in. This will be addressed in 2013 and should provide for an even closer competition. Faced with the impossible task of creating a level playing field Race Officer and Official Handicapper John Graham did a very good job.



To continue to improve the regatta and to maintain a standard acceptable to all competitors any required changes will be made and any feedback is most welcome. If you were involved in the 2012 regatta you may contact the club and have your say. Visit www.portdouglasyachtclub.com.au and look for the 2012 Exemplar Clipper Cup Survey where you may provide (anonymously) a submission to voice your opinion. Let us hear what you have to say.



Kaizen 2 (left) and Death Star evenly matched on a run to the next mark

Two J 24's tied on 25 points

There were many individual battles on the water over the course of the event but none more impressive than the two J 24's from Cairns, Kaizen 2 and Death Star.

Kaizen 2 skippered by Bruce Clarke was known to be the boat to beat in this class and had the higher handicap of the two. Death Star skippered by Neil Robson proved to be a worthy adversary and after six races the two yachts were tied on 25 points with a tie break awarding 4th place overall to Kaizen virtue of a 2nd in Race 1 with Death Star taking 5th overall. One of the highlights of the regatta was tracking the whereabouts of the two little blue spinnakers as they both jibed around the triangle course quite some distance ahead of many of the bigger boats. With several other J 24's berthed in Cairns let's hope we attract more in 2013.

Visitors Welcome

The success of the regatta depends on the continued support of visiting yachties and two favourites are Ron Knott and the crew of Dusty Muzzle from Townsville and Belinda Cooper and the Twisted Sisters on Groove from Cairns. The two boats were tied overall in Division 1 on 28 points with the girls on Groove taking 7th place on a tie breaker with a 4th in Race 5 putting Dusty Muzzle in 8th place.

Another visitor returning home was Wildfire that not so long ago was dark blue and named Karragun when owned by Leon Paul, former Cup winner on Pyewacket in 2004.

Owner Shari Essex and partner Roger Smith have transformed the Top Hat.

Wildfire recorded 3rd place 5 times from 6 races to score 3rd overall in Division 3 on 14 points. A very consistent effort.





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PORT DOUGLAS

The following extract is from a recent MSQ Notice to Mariners regarding the depth of the Port Douglas entrance channel.

Port Douglas pilotage area

Locality: Port Douglas Entrance Channel

Activity: Declared Port Navigation depths

Refer to notice: 459(t) of 2010

Mariners are advised that the actual port depths below port datum (LAT) for the entrance channel into Dickson Inlet, Port Douglas as of Friday 28th April 2012 are as follows:

Outer Channel: 1.9 metres

Inner Channel to Boat Ramp: 2.1 metres

Boat Ramp to Marina: 1.9 metres

Shoreline to Mooring Piles from Southern side of Boat Ramp to Marina: 0.04 metres.

Cancel notice: 459 (t) of 2010

AUS charts affected: 270 & 830



Above: Ice and Night Nurse in a mirror image. Below right: Robert and Noel await further instructions from Roxy. Below: Event sponsors Gordon and Cheryl Wellham with new recruit Johnnie "eyebrows" Gouldy who won the 2009 Audi Centre Cairns Clipper Cup skippering Farr Better.



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June Sailing



The Poseidon Sailway Club Championship resumes on Saturday 9th June with Race 1 and Race 2 of the Winter Series. Port FM Mais Oui, the defending Club Champion and the reigning Winter Series Champion will be out to defend her titles.



<p>WAGS</p> <p>Winter Series Race 1 & race 2</p>	<p>Wednesday 6th 4:00pm onwards</p> <p>Saturday 9th 10:00am & 2:00pm</p>	<p>Sunset 5:52 last light 6:15</p> <p>Two windward leeward buoy races</p>
<p>WAGS</p> <p>Winter Series Race 3</p>	<p>Wednesday 13th 4:00pm onwards</p> <p>Saturday 16th 2:00pm</p>	<p>Sunset: 5:52pm last light 6:16pm</p> <p>Windward leeward buoy race</p>
<p>WAGS</p> <p>Winter Series Race 4 & Race 5</p>	<p>Wednesday 20th 4:00pm onwards</p> <p>Saturday 23rd 10:00am & 2:00pm</p>	<p>Sunset: 5:54pm last light 6:17pm</p> <p>Two windward leeward buoy races</p>
<p>WAGS</p> <p>Winter Series Race 6</p>	<p>Wednesday 27th 4:00pm onwards</p> <p>Saturday 30th 2:00pm</p>	<p>Sunset 5:55pm last light 6:19pm</p> <p>Windward leeward buoy race</p>

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.



Start Boat, Start Boat, Start Boat...

This is Newsletter, Newsletter, Newsletter, over. Congratulations on a job well done for the team on the start boat. Without the dedication of the crew and skipper of Sky Walker led by Vic Petrus and John Graham the regatta would not happen. Choosing to provide his big cat as the start boat instead of racing either his Adams 10 or Sky Walker club Commodore Vic Petrus filled an essential role in the success of the regatta. Joining Vic and John on Start Boat duties was the ever reliable Carol Wilkinson, club legend Graham O'Dey and apprentice Race Officer Peta. On behalf of the entire fleet please accept a huge

Thank You

Next issue: Scheduled for release late June. **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

Images of the 2012 Exemplar Clipper Cup courtesy of Pete Ryan, Ian Overell and Ann Preuss.

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