



Waypoint

We are back!

Edition One of the new P.D.Y.C. Newsletter!

December 2016

Please send your pictures and tall and true tales to
pdycwaypoint@iinet.net.au

A word from our Commodore.



First of all I would like to welcome all the new members to our newsletter and to our old members, it's nice to have it back.

My emphasis over the year will be to strengthen the membership with younger members, to ensure that we maintain a strong financial position and increase our sailing events/activities.

So far it has been a very busy period for the new committee, with the club having taken over the responsibility of running and managing the kitchen with our new head chef Mick Davis. I would hope that all members support the Club, Richard and Mick in this venture. As you are all aware to fund our sailing events and to improve the club we need a regular source of income and whilst we need to retain the spirit and friendship of the club we must have a commercial side as well.

It's great to see that a number of young members have purchased or are in process of purchasing their first yacht and the club will assist these members in anyway they can, and hopefully they will take part in all the activities run by the club. These activities will include a full racing calendar, training courses on the J24's etc.

Finally, I would encourage all members to get actively involved with the club and if you have any positive suggestions on how to improve the club in any way please contact myself or any committee member.

~Carl.

Passages!



Yachties are a notoriously footloose bunch but it was with melancholy that the PDYC and Closehaven bid fond farewell to long term residents Ron and Maureen Shaw recently. Ron and 'Mo' sold their yacht and have moved ashore to Newell Beach and are currently planning further adventures. They will be missed and always welcome!

Of Weather Gods



And Other Gods!

A (cautionary?!) tale of Cruising by
Mick Gwilliams.

You can plan when you're going, but when you're coming back is entirely in the hands of the Gods!

And so it was for the four yachts that chose two weeks in the middle of September to cruise the Coral Coast.

Pete and Mark on *Bamahuta* planned to leave but had no plans to return, that was the easy part; Carl, Jo and Sapper on *Casuarina* had no date to return, instead just a plan to go sailing. Enter the Weather Gods. Bob and Graham on *Endorphin* had a planned return caused by a plane to catch, any number of Gods might intervene with that one; and Ted E Bear, Garry, Brian, Sue, Helen and Mick on *Lady Mystique* had plans to get crew back to work on time. Enter the God Of All Things Mechanical.

On *Bamahuta* there really was no time frame. Their plan was to sail in company to Maggie and then head further south to the Whitsunday's. As to coming back; "Yeah, we might, we'll see." What a fantastic plan!

Now the Weather Gods, (yes, there really are such things) can be both cruel and kind. It all really depends on your objective at the time. Yachties are a fussy lot when it comes to the wind. It has to be just right, just the right strength, just the right direction and it needs to back right off just after the pick's dropped. But not too much, we still want a cooling breeze blowing through the hatches.

So in the hands of the Gods we set forth, and boy had they got it all worked out for us on this trip. The first couple of days were perfect with a steady breeze and gentle seas. Low Isles, Fitzroy and Mourilyan all a great sail. *Endorphin* claimed to hit six knots from eight knots of breeze flying three sails, quite unusual for that crew. *Lady Mystique* managed to run aground in Mourilyan but that's nothing unusual for that crew. Then on to Dunk and Orpheus with a little more assistance from the family heirloom (that's the diesel in a sailboat fuel tank). Then to Magnetic Island spending up more and more of the kids inheritance. It was blowing but it was right on the nose and we all wanted to get there. Seats at the Marlin Bar had our names on them, and there were \$10 jugs of beer waiting!



Bob and Graham caught up with the fleet after *Endorphin* visited Hinchinbrook to donate blood to the insect population and there we were, 11 humans, 1 dog and a bear, all flying the flag for PDYC.

The Gods had been pretty kind to us so far, other than the God Of All Things Mechanical calling on *Lady Mystique* to render the freezer useless. Luckily *Endorphin* came to the rescue with a portable Waeco that despite constantly ejecting itself from the DC outlet managed to keep the meat fresh and some drinks cold. Then it all started.

The Football Gods interfered with the TV reception and *Lady Mystique* missed the Cowboys game! Ted E Bear got arrested after getting thrown out of the Marlin and rescued by the Queensland Ambulance Service. Then the God Of All Things Mechanical decided the crew didn't need a working outboard on the tender of *Lady Mystique*. And of course whatever God looks after sailors getting a soaking while using their tenders was in full swing.



Endorphin took a crowd for a day's snorkelling in Geoffrey Bay but the boys from *Bamahuta* forgot about how the tides work and ended up having to drag the dinghy over the sand flats, something to do with the Moon and Sun Gods perhaps - couldn't possibly be crew error.

Bob and Graham not to be out done spent half an hour in their dinghy one night trying to locate *Endorphin* while Pete set about keeping the residents on the bay wide awake grinding his deck long after the sun had set. Yes, that's grinding with a gen set, angle grinder and flood lights!

Meanwhile *Lady Mystique* motored all the way round to Nelly Bay and back just to fill up the water tanks - 500 litres gone in a week. God only knows where that went, apparently.

After three magic days on Magnetic the Weather Gods decided on variable 5 knots which meant we weren't sailing anywhere as *Casuarina* and *Lady Mystique* departed Horseshoe Bay. Then 10 mile up the coast on a sea as flat as a shit carter's hat the God Of All Things Mechanical came by again. This time rendering the water pump shaft on *Lady Mystique* useless. With the current drifting towards Cordelia Rocks and barely a breath of air in the sails the Rear Commodore lived up to the title having to be towed back to Horseshoe Bay by the Commodore!

Back in the Bay plans were made to get the repairs done on the mainland and low and behold the Transport Gods got involved delaying the delivery of the parts.

Bamahuta had carried on south reporting flat seas and no breeze and *Endorphin* was motoring north with a plane to catch, leaving *Casuarina* and *Lady Mystique* with three unscheduled days drinking jugs of beer in the Marlin. Things could be worse.

Enter Catherine and Bill with a special express delivery. That spare part that every Yachtie should carry. Why bother with just the impeller when you can carry an entire pump? Just bring out another thousand!

After almost coming to blows with the staff at the repair shop the good lady Catherine and good buddy Bill boldly braved the flat sea to share a drink on the good *Lady Mystique* and present the crew with a hand delivered reconditioned water pump.

Meanwhile every man and his dog had pulled the outboard apart but the Gods must be obeyed so that was still playing up. A few tricks to get the freezer working failed too because the Gods must be obeyed it seems. But, the new water pump was fitted and the *Lady* had her engine purring once again.



The trip home began the next day and by now the family heirloom on all the boats was rapidly depleting. Not to mention the two sheets per person ration of toilet paper! The weather was consistent though as each day the 5 knots variable turned into a reasonable 10 to 15 east nor'easter, right on cue around 1pm. It was just enough to get a fix of sailing and turn the motors off, but it didn't last.

The Weather Gods smiled as *Casuarina* and *Lady Mystique* actually managed to sail through the Family Islands under spinnaker but that too was short lived.

With plans to spend more time at sea *Casuarina* finally succumbed to the realisation that there would be no wind and fuel was getting low. That and the frequent episodes of Days of our Lives coming from Club Land meant the newly appointed Commodore was required back at HQ.

Completing over 12 hours non-stop motoring from Dunk the pair joined *Endorphin* at Fitzroy and woke the next day to see a vast fleet of little motor boats arrive on a Sunday outing from Cairns. All cramming into the bay out the front of Foxy's. Six hundred ferry passengers ended any ideas of lunch ashore, but the action on the bay was quite entertaining once the nor'easter picked up!

On the final leg the fuel tanks were hammered again with the motors running non stop into Port. We had all planned to go sailing for two weeks but as is often the case all those interfering Gods had other ideas! So the Gods prevailed as they always do, with their grace seeing *Endorphin* safely deliver Graham in time to catch his plane, *Bamahuta* cruising and living the dream in the Whitsundays, *Lady Mystique* adding three unscheduled days to their holiday and *Casuarina* having to cut theirs short.

And the cost of it all? B.O.A.T after B.O.A.T after B.O.A.T! You Godda love cruising!



Save the Dates!

Port Douglas Yacht Club
Member's Christmas Party!
Saturday December 10th 2016.

6pm

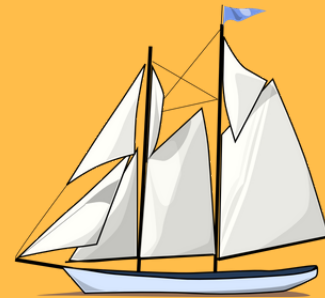
Entertainment "Herding Cats"
Bar Tab Provided from 6pm



Results:

Christmas Cup

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 J Curve | skipped by Rob Dietrich |
| 2 Jimmie | skipped by Campbell Corbett |
| 3 Viva La Beaver | skipped by Peter Chapman |

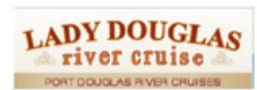


Lady Skippers Day

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 Port FM Mai Oui | skipped by Jenny |
| 2 Moon Mist | skipped by Margo |
| 2 Lady Jaqualyn | skipped by Lisa |

2017 Racing and Social Calendar.

The 2017 Racing Calendar has been posted on the Club's website.
Hard copies will be available at the Christmas party and club while stocks last.
Thanks to Mick Gwilliams for all his hard work in completing the calendar!





Australia Day Fundraiser for Mossman SES.

Stephen Burg and Robyn Gray of Mossman SES presented Vice Commodore Garry White and Club Manager Richard Stapleton with a Certificate of Appreciation for a donation the PDYC made towards their recent fund raising drive to replace some failed refrigeration equipment.

The SES needs this vital equipment in times of emergency to store food and other perishable items.

Recognising that any one of us might be in need of their invaluable services one day we have invited the Mossman SES to join us in celebrating the opening of our 2017 Sailing Calendar so we can do a little more fundraising with them.

We are currently seeking donations of items for a Prize Draw. If you can help out please contact Club Secretary Robyn Shelly.

Otherwise come and throw a few bucks in the collection we also intend to hold on the day and enjoy our usual Australia Day party and help out a great cause.



Working Bee 3/12

The pre party tidy up - there were more worker bees than these pics suggest!!
The photographer was just too busy working!
Thanks Sue Morgan



GO SENGA!



At the time of going to press Belinda Cooper and her crew had won three of four races and were holding a one point lead in the Kings Cup! Updates are available on the Club website or you can follow their fortunes on Facebook. We hope to bring you a more comprehensive report in the next edition.

EXCLUSIVE!

In our next edition
An interview with our own Edward Bear, dashing ne'er do well and international sailing sensation!



Dates to Remember

January 26 Australia Day Fun Day

February 4 Summer Series 1 & 2

February 11 Summer Series 3 & 4

February 18 Summer Series 5 & 6