

Port Douglas Yacht Club Newsletter

Volume 4 February 2013 Issue 29

Ruff Red leads Poseidon Sailaway Summer Series

After 6 races of the Poseidon Sailaway

Summer Series Greg Langan and the crew of Ruff Red hold a three point lead heading into the final two races. Turn to pages 2,3 & 4 for each race report.

In this issue

- Shazam set for Hobart
- The Commodore's Column
- Summer Series Race Reports
- Exemplar Clipper Cup news
- Linx Marine Alerts
- The Managers Messages
- Member Training Days
- Closehaven Trophy Series
- A 20 Year Old Letter

Shazam begins 2013 Sydney Hobart preparation

Doug Ryan and the crew of Shazam (pictured) have set their sights on Boxing Day for the start of the 69th Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race.

Having swapped the magic of a Farr for the majesty of a Beneteau First PDYC Life Member Doug Ryan now has his sights set firmly on the start line of the 69th Rolex Sydney Hobart.

Doug has embarked upon a campaign throughout 2013 to train an elite crew of PDYC members for the epic event. Using the clubs extensive race calendar and the annual Hamilton Island and Magnetic Island Race Weeks as a training ground the plan is to have a highly trained crew that can make a serious bid for this years Hobart representing Port Douglas Yacht Club.





Colin's Column

A few words from PDYC
Commodore
Colin Simpson

Ken Brown is finally out of hospital and it was great to see him back at the club recently. We all wish him the very best for a speedy recovery.

Advice has been received from Cairns Regional Council that they will investigate the best way to fix up our block wall that the dingies tie up to. The council had hoped to make the wall good at the same time as the boat ramp was relocated from next to the Combined Club, however they now advise it could be three years until the ramp is relocated, so have agreed to make the wall good in a shorter timeframe. Once repaired, CRC have agreed to install some lights to the wall/boat ramp area. I have also had verbal advice from Council that they will recommend that CRC take over from the Department of Natural Resources & Mines as our landlord. They will also recommend the extension of our boundary to incorporate the new pontoon. This is a big step forward, as we require tenure over the extra water to gain permission to construct the pontoon.

The committee recently met with Rob Mair who has drawn up some plans for possible future development of the club. Areas addressed included the inadequacy of the ablution facilities, size of the kitchen, lack of storage space, alterations to the bar and refurbishment/extension of the decked area. We are all keen to maintain the character and charm of the club, but it is important to improve our facilities as funds permit. Anyone who would like input into the planning process please either talk to a committee member or use the new suggestion box located near the notice board. The new pontoon remains our top priority, and the committee will use our existing five year plan to allocate funds to other projects, while keeping an appropriate amount of cash in reserve.

Cheers, Colin



Race Report: Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Summer Series Race 1

The 2013 Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship got underway with Race 1 of the Summer Series providing challenging conditions for the eight yachts that came to the 10:00am start. With variable 5 knot NW to NE winds and occasional gusts over twice that amount the competitors required all the skills in their repertoire to navigate to the windward mark for the first leg of the three lap windward leeward course.

Four new boats joined the regular fleet with Shazam, And Then, Tucana and Casuarina joining Ruff Red, Ice, Port FM Mais Oui and Ann Sea. Shazam (Doug Ryan) soon set the pace hotly pursued by And Then (Peter Jones) as the largest and smallest boats in the fleet led the way around the course.

The promise of a steady breeze soon came to fruition lifting to a perfect 14 to 17 knots for the remainder of the race and despite a line honours win for Shazam corrected times gave the win to Ruff Red (Greg Langan 01:16:07), followed by Ann Sea (Tim Preuss 01:17:56) and Ice (Helen Gwilliams 01:19:26).



Race Report: Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Summer Series Race 2

In the afternoon, Race 2 saw the unfortunate withdrawal of Tucana due to absence of crew but the loss was replaced by the addition of Miriama Te Rua. The breeze had settled on a steady 15 knot NNE which made for a fast rounding of the course as And Then and Shazam set the pace. Further close contests developed through the fleet between Casuarina and Ice and Ruff Red and Port FM Mais Oui promising to see good on water rivalry throughout the series.

Shazam recorded a second line honours win for the day but was again edged out on corrected time by Ann Sea (54:13) a clear winner ahead of Casuarina (56:48) just 3 seconds ahead of And Then (56:51).

After the first two races Ann Sea (3) led the Series ahead of Ruff Red (7) and Casuarina (7).



POSEIDON

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Sailaway

Race Report: Poseidon Sailaway Club

Championship Summer Series Race 3

Nine yachts came to the start for Race 3 of the Poseidon Sailaway Summer Series to face a 9 to 14 knot sou 'easterly breeze. Any threat of summer rain looked to have cleared and Ruff Red and Ann Sea were immediately in the action as the two boats scrambled in close quarters for clear air on the start line.

Developing rivalry between several duelling yachts continued to enhance the excitement of the Series. And Then and Shazam, Casuarina and Ice and Ruff Red and Port FM Mais Oui all creating their own battles.

Shazam took the lead position and held on to create a 07:32 gap ahead of And Then to claim another line honours win for the Series with both boats the only competitors to complete the three lap course in under two hours.

Casuarina and Ice swapped position several times as Ann Sea broke from the duelling pair to take third with Ice taking advantage of opportunities presented by Casuarina to cross the line fourth just four seconds ahead.

Mediation of a protest from Ann Sea against Ruff Red resulted in any claim for redress being dismissed due to procedural abnormality and corrected times gave a rare line honours and handicap win to Shazam (01:26:03). And Then (1:27:09) took second followed by Ann Sea (1:32:09), Casuarina (01:41:58), Ruff Red (01:43:00), Ice (01:43:13) and Port FM Mais Oui (01:47:26) with Miriama and Tucana failing to finish.



Race Report: Poseidon Sailaway Club

Championship Summer Series Race 5

Contrary to the previous days forecast of strengthening afternoon wind the two o'clock start for race 5 started for the same seven yachts in under 10 knots. Fortunately the breeze did lift a little as the fleet steered around the course and again it was Ruff Red punching above her weight in the lighter air.

With additional crew onboard Ice was able to keep ahead of her rival Casuarina and also took advantage of an upset as Ann Sea failed to drop her spinnaker on rounding the bottom mark on the second lap costing precious time. After a full recovery the crew tried desperately to make amends but could not recover the positions lost to Ice and Ruff Red. Shazam collected the line honours in an impressive 91 minutes but again had to settle for third on corrected time (01:25:41), this time beaten by Ice (01:22:44) with Ruff Red (01:14:03) claiming a second win for the day. Ann Sea (01:30:09) recovered sufficient to deny Casuarina (01:30:30) by just 21 seconds followed by Miriama Te Rua (01:32:42) and Port FM Mai Oui (01:36:43).

Race Report: Poseidon Sailaway Club

Championship Summer Series Race 4

Seven yachts ventured forth for the 10:00am start of race 4 of the Poseidon Sailaway Summer Series. Passing squalls on the eastern horizon produced a lifting breeze as the threat of any rain cleared and the race got underway in a reasonable 9 to 12 knot south easterly.

With conditions suiting the lighter boats Ruff Red soon appeared to be the boat to beat setting a good pace to keep up with some of the bigger boats. Series contender And Then was missing leaving rival Shazam clear passage around the course as Ice and Casuarina again traded places on several legs of the three lap course.

Shazam collected another line honours win but settled for third on corrected time (1:07:51) ten seconds behind Ann Sea (01:07:41) in second with Ruff Red (01:02:20) claiming first. Casuarina (01:08:19) placed 4th followed by Ice (01:10:38), Port FM Mai Oui (01:28:36) and Miriama Te Rua (01:34:26).

There is **LIVE MUSIC** at the club on **Saturday 9th March**

Below: The clubs J24 Port FM Mai Oui in action with new crew members Dean, Carly, Steve and Shara Jane all learning to sail under the guidance of Mike Garrett.

"None of them have sailed very much Before so I am starting from scratch."

Said Mike.

"Carly is turning out to be a good foredeckie along with Shara Jane. Both Dean and Steve have picked up the cockpit work very quickly and are good on the helm."

They all now realize that racing is hard work and finish the day sore and tired."



The conditions again proved favourable for the lighter boats with handicap corrected times bringing the fleet to a very close finish. Despite another line honours win crossing in 01:45:05 Shazam (1:38:53) placed fourth on corrected time just sixteen seconds ahead of Casuarina (1:39:09) in fifth place with Ann Sea (01:41:15) finishing sixth.

Ice (01:38:03) came in fifty seconds ahead of Shazam to claim third but that was not enough to hold off Port FM Mais Oui (01:37:18) with the novice crew taking second by sixteen seconds to claim their first prize for the year. However the day again belonged to Ruff Red (01:31:11) with an impressive first place giving them a 3 point lead in the series on 15 points.

Race Report: Poseidon Sailway Club

Championship Summer Series Race 6

Six yachts came to the start of Race 6 to face an unusual NNW breeze that failed to reach double digits counting down to the start. The competitors once again required all their skills to navigate around the course.

Shazam was quick to react to conditions on the line on a starboard tack having right of way over several boats caught on a port tack that left Casuarina, Ann Sea and Ice struggling to find the line.

As the race got underway Shazam set the pace with Ruff Red and Port FM Mais Oui also getting a reasonable start in the light air. Ann Sea and Ice recovered well to reach the top mark in second and third and setting up an individual contest that regularly changed positions.

Casuarina found her groove and slowly began to recover from the slow start passing Port FM Mais Oui and Ruff Red only to fall short of the duelling Ice and Ann Sea.



Sportsboat Division?

As interest grows in the Exemplar Clipper Cup there is the possibility of enough sports boats to form a 4th division for this year's regatta. Clipper Cup regular Steve England and the boys on the T7 **Ketchup** will have stiff competition from Peter Jones sailing the SB20 **And Then** and with talk of a possible two more SB20's to join the fleet there is serious consideration of a Sportsboat division.

Clipper Cup Regatta

Entries so far

Death Star – Neil Robson, CYC

Ice – Mick Gwilliams, PDYC

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Follow @PDYC2 on twitter for all the latest Exemplar Clipper Cup news. Track the entries and get the news as it happens. Also find out when the Newsletter is published and the race reports and results are published.

EXEMPLAR

COACHES and LIMOUSINES

[View in Google Earth](#)

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MSQ

Notice To Mariners

Now available on
Google Earth



The Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association has now covered the entire Qld coast with an interactive version of MSQ Notices to Mariners on Google Earth. Claiming Queensland is the only place in the world to have such a service the volunteer organisation has been able to cover all areas from the NSW border to the tip of Cape York. The information is updated daily shortly after publication by MSQ and appears on the Google Earth platform via the following URL www.noticestomariners.com Chris & Margi Mills of Bribie Island, Qld, developed a program called **LinuxMarine**. They use it to collate the NTMs and then generate a special file for each region that allows markers to appear in **Google Earth** as "**LinuxMarine Alerts**".

A healthy club for our future

(A message from our Manager)

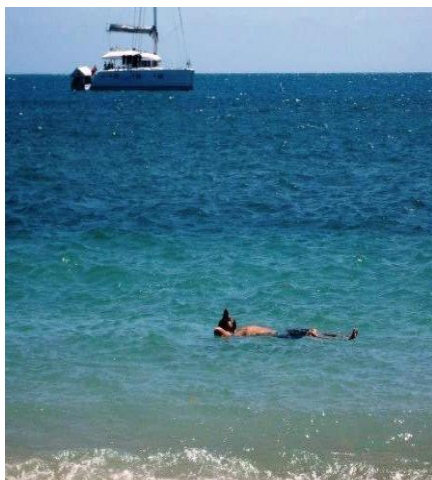
In Years gone by Members of PDYC and other local Club's have celebrated Christmas ["Orphans parties"] and other occasions when the Club[s] have been closed.

With the ever increasing presence of Liquor Licensing, this practice actually puts the Club at risk as it is against the law. If liquor licensing attend the venue on any day when it is being enjoyed by Members or guests and the Club is closed, the Club will definitely receive a significant fine which could potentially result in the removal of our liquor licence which as we all know would have a catastrophic effect on the Club and its Members.

We ask you to reconsider your options in future with the Club's future in mind.

Don't forget to come along on March 9th for live music with three visiting bands from Cairns.

Warm regards, Richard Stapleton, Club Manager



New Members

New memberships continue to flow as we welcome

Margaret Wilson

Mel Rodgers

Rebecca and Angus Thain

Kate Williams

David and Melinda Allen

Make sure you get yourselves down to the club on a Wednesday, meet the local skippers and their crews and get yourselves sailing.

Slaphappy! &
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PORT DOUGLAS

Sat 9th March 5pm \$5 on the door
Port Douglas Yacht Club
Proudly Supporting Local Original Music

Members Training Days

Sunday 3rd Feb: RRS and Sail Trim with Doug Ryan

Two years ago to the day we all awoke to the damage caused by Cyclone Yasi. For many the heart break was much more than for others. However two years later the memories are distant and the clear blue skies and stifling 34° was a “perfect day” for a members training day.

A good crowd gathered in the classroom under the fans adjacent to the bar (which wasn't yet open) to listen to Doug Ryan explain many of the mysteries of the Racing Rules of Sailing. Using a whiteboard to portray each scenario Doug gave a clear account of the wrongs and rights of when boats meet on the water. Many questions were answered and anecdotes from prior club races were plentiful. There was good advice on how to find the favoured end of the start line and many tactics to give you the edge over your competitors. A quick draw from the bucket of attendees had a copy of the Blue Book awarded to Neil – *happy reading Neil and Jan!*

After a brief lunch break twelve eager crew headed off on Shazam for a hands on practical examination of both white sail trim and spinnaker trim. Doug's new Beneteau is a great teaching aid with every mechanism imaginable to tweak the sails and show the group how to get the best out of the boat for varying conditions.

Even the most experienced of the crew would have gained something from the afternoon sail that made the day a great success for all involved.



Thursday 14th Feb: Rope Splicing with Sean Matchett

As the rest of the town got stuck into either the political turmoil of debating the future of local government or celebrating the death of Valentinus in the 3rd century, the yachties at PDYC set about splicing bits of rope.

Besides which politics and religion are never a good mix and frowned upon by our constitution. So a handful of disciples eager to learn the ancient art of marlinspike seamanship and a flock of onlookers that either already knew it or didn't want to admit that they didn't, avoided any indulgence in either the art of influencing people or the organized collection of belief systems, and made pretty loops in bits of spare rope.

Under the expert instruction of ex navy man Sean Matchett, the ever helpful skipper of Samantha the mystery of how to create a beautiful eye splice was revealed. In addition to the eye splice it just so happened that a new buoy was on hand that needed a short splice. The short splice joins two ends together and this one was created to make a continuous line around the buoy to enable easy retrieval from the water.

February proved to be a month of learning for many.

Top: Luke Robins, Desley Lloyd & Bruce Wynn, Doug Ryan, Mick Gwilliams, Bob White, Andrina and Sean Matchett.
Below: Mick, Campbell and Ed get to grips with the art of splicing



WAGS Roundup

Wednesday January 30th: Seven yachts cruised a gentle sea with a whispering 10 knot easterly breeze. Shazam, Miriama, Ice, Sinabada, Ruff Red, Samantha, and Indigo carried a small group of lucky locals and visitors on what was a very warm evening. Indigo (skipped by Pete in the absence of Ali and Colin) won the rum.

Wednesday February 6th: Shazam, Miriama, Ann Sea, Indigo, Port FM Mais Oui and Samantha sailed in good conditions with a moderate turn out for a February.

Wednesday February 13th: Indigo, Miriama, Shazam, Ruff Red, Samantha, Awanui (formerly Jimmie Blacksmith) and Skywalker (now owned by Bob) all took to the sea for a thrilling sail. The boats enjoyed a good 15 to 20 knot sou'easter more akin to a winter time sail than the height of summer. Sean and Andrina added to their rum collection.

Wednesday February 20th: Indigo, Miriama, Ruff Red, Samantha, Awanui, Port FM Mai Oui, Ann Sea, Sinabada, Casuarina and Shazam all took advantage of a beautiful late summers evening for a gentle sail with a surprisingly good turnout for the quietest month of the year. Shazam won the rum.

Future sessions

Navigation
Engine Care

On Water Risk Management

Stay tuned for details



Port Douglas Yacht Club Inc

NOTICE OF RACE

CLOSEHAVEN CUP

\$500 Prize Pool

Saturday 16th March 2013

Port Douglas Yacht Club, the organizing authority, invites entries to compete in the 2013 Closehaven Cup.

1. Rules
- 1-1 The Race will be governed by the 2013-2016, the Prescription Addendum A - Closehaven Cup
2. The Course
- 2-1 Passage round the Closehaven Cup
3. Divisions
- 3-1 All boats racing
4. Conditions of Race
- 4-1 Entries must be received by 10.00am on Friday 15th March
- 4-2 It is a condition of race that the entry fee of \$500 must be paid by 10.00am on Friday 15th March
- 4-3 By nominating a boat to compete, the skipper agrees to the conditions of the race, and to the PDYC website.
5. Sailing Instructions
6. Schedule
- 6-1 Briefing: 8.30am on Saturday 16th March
- 6-2 Race: Starts at 9.00am on Saturday 16th March
7. Prizes
- 7-1 Competitors will receive a trophy for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place
- 7-2 Presentation of trophies will be held at 10.00am on Saturday 16th March
8. Disclaimer of Liability
- 8-1 Competitors participating in the race do so at their own risk. The organising authority is not responsible for any injury or death sustained in connection with the race.
10. Conditions of Entry
- 10-1 By lodging an entry, the owner/skipper agrees to be bound by all the rules and conditions of the race, and acknowledges the possibility of and accepts the risks associated with (a) the perils of the sea, and (b) the possibility of injury or death.

2012 Closehaven Cup winners Robert and Roxy will be out to defend their title sailing T-Break

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Closehaven Marina Trophy Series

The 2013 Closehaven Marina Trophy Series gets underway on Saturday March 16th with race 1, The Closehaven Cup. This will be the first of ten races covering seven trophies that are up for grabs throughout the year.

One of the largest trophies in the PDYC trophy cabinet and the first of the popular passage races for the year the event is sure to attract attention. 2012 defending Closehaven Cup winner T-Break confirmed defence of the title with *"her devoted crew of Noel, Rob and Roxy and a new secret weapon whose name I cannot release at this stage"* said skipper Rob Mair.

Sponsor Closehaven Marina is again rewarding skippers and their crew with \$500 worth of PDYC credit that can be spent on such things as drinks, ice, stubby coolers, takeaway drinks, clothing, hard stand fees, locker fees or even the Exemplar Clipper Cup entry fee.

The Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions are available online at www.portdouglasyachtclub.com.au (you know the rest). There will be a race briefing at the club at 8:30am and the presentation will follow the race once all competitors have returned.

Editors Comment

In 1993 Commodore Peter Hinchcliffe wrote to the committee

expressing his view of a motion passed at an earlier meeting to which he was opposed. In the letter Peter raised concerns about maintaining the focus of why the club exists. Are his comments made twenty years ago still relevant today? You decide.

In his letter Peter wrote;

"Rather than be putting ourselves in the position of a retailer of food and drink, I believe the club premises should be used as a meeting place for yachting people to socialize and bond together as one unit...so that all social and end of race events are easily conducted but not put ourselves in the position of always having the clubhouse full of strangers?"

After years of hard work by many people we have built a clubhouse for our members – not another Combined Clubs.

Remember, I was the one who instigated the idea of the club being in a position of serving meals and drinks as a means of income, and this idea must be followed through in the future if we are to build up club facilities and amenities. People become closer when they have worked for something and achieved it. I believe we should all enjoy the club and its benefits and endeavour to increase our membership of yachties who will donate time and energy. Many a member will stand at the bar in years to come and say remember when we..."

This is an extract of the letter which can be read in full from the club archives, maintained by Henry.

The sentiment echoed within these words is the foundation of our club. It was this ethos that built the club twenty years ago, is still as strong amongst many members today and must still be so twenty years from now.

Peter wrote some sacred lines that we should never lose sight of, such as *"not put ourselves in the position of always having the clubhouse full of strangers?"* or to *"endeavour to increase our membership of yachties who will donate time and energy"*, and that *"the club premises should be used as a meeting place for yachting people"*. This is why the club was created and is still what the club exists for today.

Recognising the need to generate income Peter also identified that serving meals and drinks as a means of income must be followed through in the future if we are to build up club facilities and amenities. After many difficult years we have begun to achieve this and Peter would perhaps be proud of what the club has become. But to what end and at what cost do we balance the need for income against the need to preserve our identity? Do we exist to serve a club full of strangers? Do we strive to increase profits at the expense of our unique character, our heritage and our constitutional objectives?

Twenty years ago the founding members had a vision. What we enjoy today is that vision. If any of us are fortunate enough to drop by the club in another twenty years wouldn't it be fantastic to still enjoy that which we see around us today? Maybe then too, many a member will stand at the bar and say remember when we..."

The future is in our hands and today there are concerns shared by some members over what could happen to the Club.

Mick Gwillaims, Rear Commodore

March Sailing

RACE	Saturday 2 nd	10:00 & 14:00 start	Poseidon Sailaway Club Championship Race 7 & Race 8
WAGS	Wednesday 6 th	4:00pm onwards	Sunset 6:39pm last light 7:00pm
WAGS	Wednesday 13 th	4:00pm onwards	Sunset: 6:34pm last light 6:55pm
RACE	Saturday 16 th	Refer to NoR	Closehaven Marina Trophy Series Race 1, The Closehaven Cup
WAGS	Wednesday 20 th	4:00pm onwards	Sunset 6:29pm last light 6:50pm
WAGS	Wednesday 27 th	4:00pm onwards	Sunset 6:23pm last light 6:45pm
RACE/CRUISE	Friday 19 th	Refer to NoR	Closehaven Marina Trophy Series Race 2, Life Members Race.

Cruising yachties are invited to follow the race fleet from Low Isles Yorkeys Knob then on to Fitzroy Island for a fun sail and social gathering.

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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Next issue: Scheduled for release March 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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