



Straphanger

Port Curtis Sailing Club Inc.

Est. 1941

February

2017



MAKING A SPLASH THIS SUMMER



IN THIS ISSUE

Happy New Year and welcome to the first Straphanger of 2017! This edition of the 'Strap has some fantastic stories and photos of the latest activities around the Club and from the events our fantastic sailors have attended. Some highlights include:

- Johnno keeps us up to date with some of the latest news from the Executive committee and a call for help with some important aspects of the Club.
- Maria has a fantastic report on the 33rd National Impulse Titles recently held in Teralba that is **illustrated magnificently with Marina's photos!**
- Colleen has some great photos of the latest Learn to Sail action.
- The latest report from the Sailing Committee with all those important date savers for upcoming events and racing action.

As always contributions to the Straphanger are welcomed with open arms and as I've said before; if you want help telling your story get in touch and I'm very happy to help!

On the next page of the Strap there is an open letter to all Ordinary Members and their families for what is a very important survey the Executive Committee has commissioned. If you have just five minutes to spare, please take the time to read it and complete the survey. The feedback and insight you provide through your participation will be of great assistance in the many decision making processes conducted.

Now, onto Video of the Month! This month's video comes from South Africa and has some great single and double handed sailing action filmed from some awesome angles on board 14ft Skiffs and Lasers – inspiration for our growing dinghy fleet!



Type the link in your
Browser or scan the QR code
With your tablet or
Smartphone!

<http://tiny.cc/1lwziy>



All the best in sailing this year to one and all,
Tony Constance, Editor.



Gladstone Yacht Club Member and Visitor Survey

An Open Letter to all Members and Guests

Dear Patrons, Sailors and Guests,

Whether you are a well-seasoned sailor, a novice in the sport, a local regular or someone who has just walked in to our Club for the first time we want your Gladstone Yacht Club Experience to be amazing and unforgettable!

Whilst all Staff at the Club work hard towards achieving this vision through excellent standards of presentation, customer service and quality of food there is always opportunity for improvement based on feedback from the most important part of the Club – the Members.

Recently the Executive Committee commissioned a Survey to gain insight into Member's impressions on various aspects of the Club. In this letter I am writing to you personally to ask for five minutes of your time to share your valuable input.

The 2017 *Gladstone Yacht Club Member and Visitor Survey* is conducted anonymously and online. It can be accessed on computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone. If there are any members who are unable to complete the survey through these means, please contact me and I will make appropriate arrangements.

The survey can be accessed by following the link below:

<http://tiny.cc/34vwfy>

Your anonymous participation and response to our quick and easy survey will take no more than five minutes.

Please answer questions honestly and openly to ensure that we can do our very best to improve our Club **for everyone. With your help we can take your Club experience to new heights... maybe even this high...?**

Thank you for your consideration!

Yours sincerely,

Tony Constance.
For and on behalf of the Executive Committee.



YOUNG DINGA'S DIATRIBE

BY COMMODORE JOHN IBELL



Mahalo,

Welcome back all to the sailing for 2017! Can someone please tell me where January went! Only 47 weeks or 330 days until Christmas. **I don't know about you but I am glad to have hit the water again as it seems like ages since my last sail.** I hope the Christmas/New Year period found you enjoying family time and also taking some time for yourselves to rejuvenate and take stock of the past year and what's in front of you for this year.

Congratulations to all that travelled away for events over these past 2 months. It is great to see everyone travelled **safely and competed well above their expectations. I won't steal their thunder as reports from the travellers will be forthcoming in Straphanger.** Maria, Tim, Ray, Dave, Pete, myself and 2 Keppel Bay cousins have tales to tell, big and small, of their adventures away at the Impulse Nationals at Teralba on Lake Macquarie. Take the time to catch up with them, especially Dave and Pete who had sighted some interesting visitors on the start line a couple of times. Interclub competition is slowly starting to grow and can only benefit you and the sport. There are 5 Impulses in Keppel Bay and PCSC now has 14 Impulses and the two clubs are continuing with interclub events which are spilling out to other classes also. Next away regatta is at Bundaberg Sailing Club on the river which adds another dimension to your sailing capabilities.

What a spectacle the Sydney to Hobart provided. It makes it interesting when things don't go to plan with the small and large entrants in the race! Race record was broken convincingly and it makes you wonder where it will stop. Wild Oats retirement makes you wonder about the back-up systems these big boats have to keep them sailing. One would have thought there would be some sort of hand powered mechanical positioner to lock the keel in the middle so they could have kept racing after the hydraulic ram failed. Congratulations to ex PCSC member, Marty Watson, racing in the big event. Marty should have some interesting stories next time you catch up with him.

The sailing committee have an action packed events calendar for our second half of the year so please support the events as much as possible as a lot of hard work and valuable time goes into the organising and set up of these events well before they happen. We also have the Impulse State Titles on October long weekend and are looking at a fleet of around 30. The club will need your help in a number of roles so please start planning for the event and if around start offering your services now to the sailing committee.

Speaking of help, the club also requires help for the Easter period as it is hoped this year will be a huge improvement both on and off shore. Gladstone Regional Council are promoting the Brisbane to Gladstone and are trying to bring it back to the large event from previous years. The main day is on the Sunday however any help will be appreciated across the weekend. Also the race has been re-categorised to a Cat3 with conditions to enable **yachts that didn't meet the Cat2 rating the chance to compete. This hopefully will increase the fleet numbers which may be rafting up again along O'Connell wharf like the old days.** There will be live streaming of the start with cameras on chase boats and on competing yachts. We are trying to arrange something for the finish end also. Watch this space.

December trading saw another below budget trading result recorded which has the committee and Brian working on ways to turn the worm, so to speak. Put simply, the club needs to increase revenue as one of our revenue streams is not providing the budgeted returns due to the economic downturn in the city. Our margins for our running costs are close to where they were planned to be and Brian is continually working to meet these figures. Examples are the menu has changed slightly to meet the current climate and closing upstairs kitchen on Australia Day to concentrate **on using Salty's. The continued dedicated work of Brian, staff and management is providing a reliable and supported environment in these times of uncertainty.** I realise belts are needed to be tightened however we need your support as members of a great club to support your club. Please think about how you and your family can support the club at this time of uncertain economic stability. Any help counts!

Valentines Day is just around the corner fellows, so duck down and have a look at what Karen and the girls have set up as an idea of how you can woo your special person in your life! Remember Easter is also just round the corner and you might need all the brownie points you can get, especially me! 😊

YOUNG DINGA'S DIATRIBE

BY COMMODORE JOHN IBELL

Just a few notes on the sailing scene;

- * The rescue and start boats are continually looking for volunteers, so if you know of someone who would like **to be on the water every Saturday, roaring around in someone else's boat and gaining the experience of helping someone out when in trouble**, please point them towards any member of the sailing committee. They will be welcomed with open arms! Remember, if you available please let the sailing committee know ASAP so they are not pulling their hair out at the last minute trying to find a crew.
- * Working Bee 1; Ramp was cleaned last Saturday and will need ongoing cleaning. If the tide suits and you have a few hours spare in the mornings the club has a high pressure blaster in the Herc Shed available. You can go your hardest in these hot conditions and have a free cooling shower at the same time.
- * Working Bee 2; The old VMR building will be demolished in the middle of next month. The club purchased the roller doors for the building and have been allowed to remove them for our future use. There will need to **be a few people involved in this removal as we haven't quite worked out how to get them down. Please be ready for a last minute call to arms to remove the doors.**

Continue to enjoy your sailing and the Club's facilities and many thanks again to the large number of volunteers that continue to assist with all facets of the club. It is truly appreciated!

Yours in sailing,
Young Dinga.



FROM THE SAILING COMMITTEE

Attention All Skippers!

Skipper Roster Duty 2017 - **Don't forget to keep an eye out on the Sailing Calendar for your Pro Duty Day.**

Cruise Ship Visits 23rd February

Any members who can give some time to help rig up boats on these days or pass out brochures to the tourists please contact Greg Mallett.

Working Bee

Thank you to Lex and his band of helpers who cleaned our slippery ramp on 21st January. It was very much appreciated.

Junior Start to Sail

Thanks also goes to the members who gave their time and efforts to support our January four-day Start Sailing Course for Juniors. **You know who you are and we couldn't have done it without you.**

Adult Start to Sail

Next Adult course will run on every Sunday starting 12th February following the theory lesson on 10th February. The course will run over 5 weeks. Support Boat helpers and buddy sailors are needed.

Saturday Junior Sailing

Reminder junior sailing will start again early February Saturday mornings from 0900 to 1100. Please contact co-ordinator Peter Mann with any queries.

Congratulations

To all our sailors for their outstanding achievements over the Christmas break, particularly Dave Mann who sailed to 4th place overall in the Impulse National Titles.

Smit Lamnalco All Boats Regatta

Preparations are under way for the Regatta scheduled for the 1st & 2nd April. Please let the Sailing Committee know if you are able to help over the weekend on support boats, shore jobs etc.

NOR will be available from 14th March on the website at www.gyc.com.au



Drink Ticket

\$15.00 per ticket for 5 drinks

Drinks available on offer (pots)

XXXX Gold	XXXX Summer	Tooheys Old
Tooheys New	Hahn Light	Hahn Ultra
House Wine	Hahn 3.5 (stubbies)	
Postmix		

Available Monday - Friday
3pm - 7pm



2017

Smit Lamnalco

All Boats Regatta

Off the Beach Dinghies

Port Curtis Sailing Club

Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd April

Junior, Youth and Open Divisions
Multihulls and Monohulls



For more Information Contact

Port Curtis Sailing Club (07) 4972 2294

admin@gyc.com.au

Colleen Sawatzki (07) 4972 2844

NOR available from Club website www.gyc.com.au

Port Curtis Sailing Club Facebook Page

JANUARY JUNIOR START SAILING 2017

BY COLLEEN SAWATZKI

Thanks to Sue Doyle (Principle of PCSC Discover Sailing Centre), we have great pictures to summarise our learning activities from the January Junior Start Sailing course that was held over 15th-18th January from 0800-1300 each day.



Leaving and returning day 1
(with the seagull supervising from above)



Ready about! Tacking day 1



Tacking day 3



Getting better! Tacking skills improving



Follow the leader day 3



Luckily we have an extensive fleet of boats
to teach with!



One of our many briefing sessions



Grey Rib - some of our much appreciated support crew



Port Curtis Sailing Club's young helpers are invaluable



Buddy Sailing



Pull on!



It was so much fun even the dad's enjoyed a sail

33RD AUSTRALIAN IMPULSE NATIONALS

BY MARIA MOHRHOLZ

33rd Australian Impulse Nationals, Teralba ASC, 2016/17

Report from

Maria Mohrholtz sailing Windspiel

This time the venue was at the Teralba Amateur Sailing Club on the northern part of Lake Macquarie. 49 Impulses on the start line, were making an impressive Regatta picture.



Peter & David Mann, John Ibell, Ray Hobbs, Tim Williams and I were flying the flag for PCSC. All together the QLD team made up the largest team with 17 competitors. We also had Marina Hobbs and Christopher Mann on the team too. Marina again with her excellent blog and Chris helping every day on the rescue boats.



33RD AUSTRALIAN IMPULSE NATIONALS

BY MARIA MOHRHOLZ

The conditions until New Year were light to medium strong winds. Not very consistent and very shifting. The wave pattern was tricky at times too. The Club tried very hard to give us the best courses for our regatta. Yes, the Impulses liked a trapezoid course, but because of the shifting wind conditions, we sailed mostly a triangle / windward - return course and that was fine too. Yes, the main action was at the front, which I never saw. My main rival was Gillian Miller, the only other female competitor in the fleet. We were on equal points until the last two races in 2016 which I messed up completely.



We had a very nice hotel room with panoramic views of the lake and in particular our sailing area. The New Year came and we woke up to a view of white caps and waves. Strong wind conditions and a very tricky wave pattern. Steep and short, the ones you bash into to windward and nearly stop you. The ones that swamp and fill up your boat on the square runs and try to capsize you. The gybing mark made for entertaining viewing.



33RD AUSTRALIAN IMPULSE NATIONALS

BY MARIA MOHRHOLZ



It was hard going and we had some battles at the end of the fleet too, but Gillian got the better of me to windward, where she was clearly the better sailor. With an overall placing of 45th and me on 46th place, she won the women's trophy for this year.



The other PCSC sailors had much better placings. David Mann was sailing mostly under the first five and received an overall very good 4th place. 19th place for Peter Mann. Ray Hobbs had improved out of sight with an excellent 37th place. I sailed along with John Ibell in the lighter wind but he disappeared from me when the wind set in to achieve a good 40th place. Tim Williams did beat me this time too with a good 44th place.



33RD AUSTRALIAN IMPULSE NATIONALS

BY MARIA MOHRHOLZ



Of course Mick Brown won his 7th Impulse Title. A big surprise was Andrew Turnbull with 2nd place in a borrowed boat and a broken mast before the start of the first race on the last day. He then came back with another borrowed mast for the last race and won it. Matt Draper was hard on his heels with a 3rd place.

Now we all have a year to practice for the next time.

Many thanks also to the Teralba Sailing Club for an excellently run Regatta!



Port Curtis Sailing Club Calendar 2016-17

W	Date	Tides	Start	Event	PRO	MV Jack Mortensen Starter	Herc	Rescue Red	Duty Boat
						Roster Duty Boat 2 members capable of performing duties on board support boats			
						Quoin Area is the preferred dinghy course - weather permitting			
	Friday 3-2-17	1339 3.61 2008 1.26	1600	Friday Social Sailing					
	Saturday 4-2-17	0841 1.59 1451 3.41	0900	Junior Sailing					
			1400	Championships Heat 5	Sue Doyle				
	Friday 10-2-17	0853 4.59 1514 0.61	1600	Friday Social Sailing					
			1800	Adult Start to Sail Theory Lesson					
	Saturday 11-2-17	0933 4.59 1553 0.59	0900	Junior Sailing					
			1400	Handicap Heat 4	Adrian Rae				
	Sunday 12-2-17	1011 4.15 1630 0.65	0800	Adult Start to Sail 1					
	Friday 17-2-17	1312 3.30 1910 1.55	1600	Friday Social Sailing					
	Saturday 18-2-17	0809 1.93 1409 3.07	0900	Junior Sailing					
			1400	Head Harbour 2 Heat 1	Eiser Family				
	Sunday 19-2-17	0953 1.96 1525 2.94	0800	Adult Start to Sail 2					
	Friday 24-2-17	1415 0.97 2015 3.68	1600	Friday Social Sailing					
	Saturday 25-2-17	0832 4.28 1452 0.80	0900	Junior Sailing					
			1400	Championships Heat 6	Colleen Sawatzki				
	Sunday 26-2-17	0907 3.37 1529 0.68	0800	Adult Start to Sail 3					
	Friday 3-3-17	1224 3.75 1843 1.11	1600	Friday Social Sailing					

Port Curtis Sailing Club Calendar 2016-17

W	Date	Tides	Start	Event	PRO	MV Jack Mortensen Starter	Herc	Rescue Red	Duty Boat
						Roster Duty Boat 2 members capable of performing duties on board support boats			
						Quoin Area is the preferred dinghy course - weather permitting			
	Saturday 4-3-17	0710 1.37 1322 3.46	0900	Junior Sailing					
			1400	Head Harbour 2 Heat 2	Sheldon Haines				
	Sunday 5-3-17	0829 1.57 1438 3.23	0800	Adult Start to Sail 4					
	Friday 10-3-17	1413 0.71 2023 3.91	1600	Friday Social Sailing					
	Saturday 11-3-17	0835 4.43 1452 0.64	0900	Junior Sailing					
			1400	Head Harbour 2 Heat 3	Maria Mohrholz				
	Sunday 12-3-17	0911 4.41 1527 0.63	0800	Adult Start to Sail 5 (last day)					
	Friday 17-3-17	1148 3.47 1739 1.30	1600	Friday Social Sailing					
	Saturday 18-3-17	1226 3.21 1808 1.51	0900	Junior Sailing					
			1400	Championships Heat 7	Sue Doyle				
	Friday 24-3-17	1304 1.12 1907 3.56	1600	Friday Social Sailing					
	Saturday 25-3-17	0724 4.07 1344 0.88	0900	Junior Sailing					
			1400	Head Harbour 2 Heat 4	David Cue				
	Friday 31-3-17	1125 3.89 1739 0.82	1600	Friday Social Sailing					
Aquatic Permit to Here									
Easter School Holidays start 1-4-17									
	Saturday 1-4-17	1215 3.58 1823 1.10	0900	Junior Sailing					
				Smit Lamnalco All Boats Regatta					

Please note; events may be subject to change however prior warning will be given



Spend
Valentines Day
by the water



*Treat your partner with the best
veiwws in town, complimented by a
glass of Champagne, a Silk Rose
and a Ferrero Rocher.*



*Book your table at the
Gladstone Yacht Club for the
14th of February today on
4972 2294*



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Look Both Ways

Includes:

- 3 x 4.7 sails (1 near new condition)
- Radial sail
- 1 x top section
- 2 x bottom sections - 4.7 section and radial section
- 1 x boom
- Centreboard and rudder
- Sea foil bag
- Turbo kit
- Carbon tiller with ronstan carbon battle stick
- Extra ropes (new outhaul rope)
- Spare battens
- Wind vang
- Harken and ronstan blocks
- Zhik hiking strap
- Sea hull and deck covers



For extra information, feel free to contact

Sophie: 0457475024 or sophiebaynton1999@gmail.com

The PCSC proudly gives thanks to;



Gladstone Yacht Club

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Port Curtis Sailing Club

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Vice Commodore: Colleen Sawatzki (4972 2844)

Club Captain: Lex Moran (0418 794 286)

Treasurer: Greg Mallett (0427 010 738)

Secretary: Brian Dawson (0418 722 243)

Sailing Liaison: Sarah Perez (0403 479 373)



Straphanger Contributions

We want to hear what you have to say.

If you would like to contribute to any future editions of the PCSC Straphanger, please contact

Straphanger Editor Anthony Constance anthonyconstance@outlook.com

reception on: Ph. 07 4972 2294 or Email: admin@gyc.com.au

The cut off date for receipt of contributions is the 25th of the month

Disclaimer:

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***FAMOUS for our Sailing, FAMOUS for our Food,
FAMOUS for our Wines, FAMOUS for our Service.***