

# Straphanger

Port Curtis Sailing Club Inc

Est. 1941

September 2013

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# THE MANAGERS MINUTE

WITH BRIAN DAWSON

Welcome to a new trading year at Yachties and welcome to a new sailing season. It will be interesting to see how this year pans out compared to the other three, Kaz and I have experience in Gladstone. Each year has been completely different, which makes it hard to predict, but one thing for certain is Christmas 2013 is looking like a real busy Christmas. Several bookings have been made already and there are plenty of enquiries flowing around from emails. If only there were more Saturdays in December we could cover all the parties. We first and foremost, want to cater for our members, so please, if you are looking to book a Christmas function let Kaz know soon.

Sunday 25th August was Sign on Day and what a fun day we all had, well maybe not for Kaz and Sarah who processed all the membership renewals in the office (thanks ladies another good job done) but everyone else seemed to have fun at the bar. Thanks to the Sailing Members too for turning up and kicking off the season with such enthusiasm.

Talk about enthusiasm, Patrons Open Day was Saturday 31st August and what a cracker it was, The wind turned on for the fleet to get in some good sailing, and the kitchen turned on for the sailors to get a little spoilt on returning to the club house. Thanks go to Shayne and his kitchen staff for providing such a good spread of dishes, the food towers were a hit. The bar didn't disappoint either, especially when the bell got rung and Patron Barry shouted the bar.

Due to the cheerful activities at the bar on Patrons Day most of the boats stayed on the water overnight to be retrieved the next day. Being a Sunday, there are normally a few customers around, but due to it being Discover Sailing Day, Fathers Day, Stock-take Day, End of Month Day and to top it off, Spring Festival Day, there were more than the normal crowd of spectators enjoying the scene of boats coming up the ramp. As "Doctors Orders" was carefully and skilfully being retrieved, a lady customer commented: "how graceful the boat looked as it was pulled free of the water, it appeared like a big bird with open wings emerging from the water", to which I replied "how fitting, as the owner looks like big bird too"! Mind you I said it quietly enough so Lex didn't hear me.

This day had potential for disaster having so much to deal with but with perfect time management we turned out a very successful day. Massive thanks go to Cal and Clarky who pushed out about 120 breakfasts from Salty's Cantina. Followed by Nanette and the team driving the upstairs kitchen for another 298 meals for lunch. What a great job the kitchen did, well done to everyone and thanks.

Out of all this work haze has emerged Emma DM the superstar. That day I witnessed one of the better performances from a DM than I've seen for a while, she started by doing the office work with me before 6.30am taking care of the last night's takings, then she moved to Salty's for breakfast where she cooked B&E Burgers, worked the till and customers, cleared tables, did dishes and managed the coffee station. Somehow she took a smoko before standing at station and steering the troops in the restaurant for the full Fathers Day lunch service. Wow she worked it—well done Emma, thanks.

Emma is a classic example of our team, which is the best team in Gladstone. Honestly we have a terrific bunch of workers who for the majority have a passion for hospitality. I can't name them all here and now, but one special mention to Marne, "Queen of Dudley's Bar". She loves the customers, loves her job and loves the club. Marne, you do great job for the club, thank you.

Recently we ran some sales reports for the five month period March-July 2011, 2012 and 2013. The results show in the nominated period, we sold 212,695 items in 2011, in 2012 226,956 and 2013 224,943 items. Considering this years figures include a very quiet Easter & B2G in 2013, this year is performing strongly.

Combine those trading figures with the enthusiasm from the first two weeks of sailing and it lends itself to a big statement: The 2013-214 season is going to be a ripper. Hang on and have fun.

Thanks for reading and be nice to each other, especially me!



# LADY SKIPPERS DAY





# PATRONS OPEN DAY

## A Wonderful Start to the 2013/14 Season

The 2013 sailing season officially kicked off last weekend with a great turn out of yachts, dinghies and members for one of the most anticipated events on the calendar – Patron's Day. The format of the day involved an enjoyable afternoon race followed by an official welcome and gathering back at the Clubhouse.

Yachts ranging from the mightily civilised Piranha, Tuan and Andrew Gregory's new Northshore 340 Miss Behaviour mustered around the start line alongside the hoons on Trimarans Doctor's Orders and Intrigue along with the seasoned Wistari. Intrigue and Tuan had the start timed perfectly and made good time around the course with Intrigue claiming line honours. Miss Behaviour, the newest addition to the PCSC Yacht fleet, took home the trophy after a splendid afternoon on the water.

Division IV boats comprising two Pacers and a 125 class dinghy also hit the water for an afternoon out. Peter and Chris Mann on another new addition to the fleet called Spinout had a win with the father-son team sailing well.

Barry Austin, returning club Patron for this year's season is every little bit deserved of the title for the countless hours of support he offers our Club. Barry enjoyed the day taking time off from official starter's duties to go trimaran sailing on Doctor's orders as helmsman and chief tactician. "It was a great day out and having a strong number of boats in the fleet was really good to see. This season is shaping up well and I hope to see good numbers of members on the water through to 2014" said Austin in his welcome address at the prize giving.

Newly appointed Club Handicapper Tim Williams has been busy working with retiring Handicapper Ken Watson calculating handicaps for new yachts and dinghies and is also looking forward to a great season. "The royal battle between the multihulls and monohulls should see the Club Championship fought to the bitter end with the small trimarans and large cats and monohulls each having their own characteristics and strengths in certain conditions", stated Williams.

Tomorrow at the yachtie it's all about sheep stations with the first of the coveted PCSC Club Championship races starting at 2pm.

Story by Tony Constance



1. Intriguing Crew: Tim Williams, Darren Chesson, Tiernan & Debbie Williams, Tony Constance and Colleen Sawatzki.
2. Trimaran tactician in the making: Barry Austin on the water.
3. Bow Rider: Lex Moran making some on the water adjustments.
4. Crossing Paths: Tuan and Spinout.
5. The Chase: Doctor's Order's hot on the heels of Intrigue.



# PATRONS OPEN DAY

A Wonderful Start to the 2013/14 Season





# STRAPHANGER'S COLUMN

BY BRAD BARKER

For the interest of those younger and more recent members of the club, Straphanger was first published in the mid 1970's and has continued ever since.

Some years prior there were weekly articles written to the local rag by one known as "The Armchair Admiral". To this day the identity of this individual is known only to himself and will probably never be revealed.

Straphanger was a term widely used in southern yachting circles, as the description for the "hot-shots" and "gun-sailors" who stepped aboard a yacht for a particular race, not having to do any of the boat's preparation as the rest of the crew, and believed their word was the law and that they could do no wrong. These fellows are few and far between these days, and are generally replaced by more professional and knowledgeable crew.

Definition of "Straphanger" is generally noted as a person who jumps on a tram, stands holding on to the hanging straps for that very purpose. At his destination, jumps off and goes his merry way.

Sailing in Port Curtis is a lot different for sailors these days compared to even 10 years ago. Our race areas are shared with many commercial craft and indeed the sailor from sabots to yachts needs to be very aware on the water.

To this end we all need to be safe on the water and for those who believe in the unconditional benefits of past experience should consider this pearl of wisdom allegedly voiced by a famous ship's captain:

*"But in all my experience, I have never been in any accident....of any sort worth speaking about. I have never seen but one vessel in distress in all my years at sea. I never saw a wreck and never have been wrecked nor was I ever in any predicament that threatened to end in disaster of any sort' Captain EJ Smith, 1907, "*

**His ship, The Titanic, sank 5 years later in what became the most talked about shipwreck in history....**

## **The OFFSHORE RACING COUNCIL (ORC) gives the following REGULATIONS**

"The safety of a yacht and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the owner, or owner's representative, the captain, who must do his best to ensure that the yacht is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew who are physically fit to face bad weather. He must be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. He must ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and stowed and that the crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used."

**It is the intention of the club to sail in the Quoin Channel area, a much safer and indeed fairer sailing arena.**

**For deeper draft vessels whether they sail in the Quoin Channel or main channel they must always consider the depth of water in which they sail. To this end, one pearl of wisdom that has helped me on many occasion is Rule of twelfths.... So as a refresher...**



# STRAPHANGER'S COLUMN

BY BRAD BARKER

## Rule of Twelfths in Tide Prediction

This little formula, is very useful for calculating heights of the tide based on time of slack and high water & the tidal range and is generally used for semi-diurnal tides (2 highs & 2 lows in a tidal day).

This is most useful if you wish to pass through tidal waterways, eg around here, The Narrows, or The North Entrance and wish to time your approach so that you know you will have sufficient water to "get through". It is also useful when coming into anchorage, say at GKI, when you wish to anchor 'close in' but not suffer grounding on a falling tide and have to get out of a nice warm bunk at 2 in the morning to change anchorage!! Of course you may have a multi-hull or centre-boarder when depth is not as critical. The "Rule of Twelfths" may be used as well to calculate air draft, if you need to pass under perhaps a bridge or overhead power lines.

So the formula is....

Slack water

+1 Hour - add 1 / 12 of range

+2 Hours - add another 2 / 12 of range

+3 Hours - add another 3 / 12 of range

+4 Hours - add another 3 / 12 of range

+ 5 Hours - add another 2 / 12 of range

+ 6 Hours - add another 1 / 12 of range

For example..... if we know there is a low tide given at 0600 hrs at 0.2m and the following high tide is 3.8m then the range of that tide is 3.6m.

Thus  $1/12^{\text{th}}$  of the range is 0.3m Applying the formula then at 0700 hrs there will be 0.5m water  
At 0800hr 1.1m; 0900hr 2.0m 1000hr 2.9m 1100hr 3.5m & 1200hr 3.8m(high tide)

If your vessel draws 2m then you should be able to make the earliest safe passage around 0930.

Safe passage and remember...

***"don't just sit there.....  
sail something!!!!!"***





# NEW BOATS ON THE WATER

*Be on the look out for these boats making an appearance on the water. Welcome "Spinout", "Sailiday," "Missbehaviour" and returning again, "Restless".*





# JUNIOR START SAILING

BY COLLEEN SAWATZKI

The high viz orange sails of the PCSC's training dinghies have added colour to the creek and harbour since the 21 July, the first Sunday of this year's Junior Start Sailing Program, which will be completed on Sunday, 1 September..

What a busy time it has been for our wonderful group of volunteers, who have been helping out over the last five weeks, either on some Sundays, or mostly every Sunday !

Our sessions run from 0800 to 1200 each day – boats are rigged, a briefing on the day's plan follows, and then activities on the water begin. Each session ends with all boats and equipment being properly cleaned and stowed away before a debriefing.

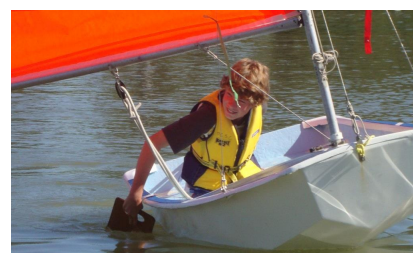
The program has introduced the new young sailors to the skill areas Yachting Australia requires for "Start Sailing 1" and "Start Sailing 2". Over the weeks, they have improved their abilities in the basic skills of rigging, launching, leaving, returning, tacking, gybing, reaching, sailing to windward, and downwind, and also acquired knowledge of some basic knots, tides, weather, rules, how to stop and start, capsize recovery, and coming alongside.

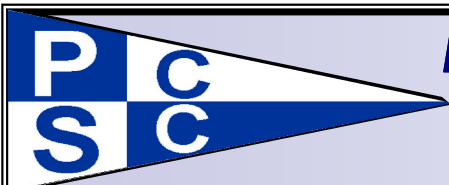
The first two sessions were in the four Club Pacers, with some of our Start Sailing team members as "Buddies". Now, the young sailors are in the Club's Sabots - Matthew (13 years) being "one up", and the others, smaller and younger, are "two up".

Our challenge now is to keep these young sailors on the water. Youngest participant, Chris (6 years), is already excited about sailing with his Dad ( Peter) on a new addition to the Club's dinghy fleet, a "125". Matthew and Aimy, (whose Mum is a previous PCSC Learn to Sail graduate) may be on the water in Mum's recently acquired Corsaire, or in a Club Pacer with a mentor from the Club, as also Cooper and Joshua.

Thanks must go to our helpers for their time and effort (Anna gets ten out of ten for her marathon capsize drill with every participant), and congratulations to all participants who have tried their best

Colleen





# FROM YOUR SAILING COMMITTEE

## Sailing Instructions

Sailing Instructions for 2013-2014 are now available on the website. The Sailing Instructions have been amended for the 2013-2016 Rule Book and to accommodate additional sailing areas.

## Sailing in the Quoin Basin

### Quoin Area Dinghy Sailing

(zone 3)

Following two successful trail days, we are commencing the season with Quoin sailing for the dinghy fleet as the preferred location (*weather dependant*).

At this stage Yachts will continue to sail familiar harbour courses with some change to the start and finishing procedure.



#### IMPORTANT TIMES

**Race Personnel required: 1230**

**Briefing for ALL Divisions: 1245**

**Dinghies ready to depart: 1300**

**Yacht Race Start: 1400**

**Dinghy Race Start: 1430**



Please familiarise yourself with the Quoin Sailing Information whether sailing in yachts, multihulls, or dinghies as it will affect you. Members who didn't receive the Information sheet on Sign On Day copies are available from Reception, at the Briefing and in the Sign On book.

**Attending the Race Briefing is even more important as we embrace change**

Skippers, crew and the race management team should gather at the downstairs noticeboard for the briefing at 1245

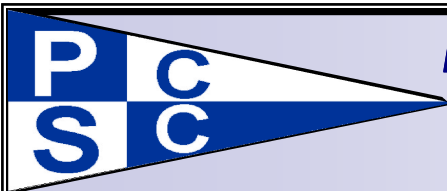
*Big thanks to those Members who have contributed to the Quoin sailing project.  
Your time, experience, enthusiasm and suggestions have been invaluable.*

## Welcome Handicapper Tim Williams

Please welcome Tim Williams into the role of Handicapper. Tim expressed an interest in the role and retired long serving handicapper, Ken Watson, has agreed to assist Tim as he learns the ropes.







## FROM YOUR SAILING COMMITTEE

### O'pen BIC fun morning

PCSC has accepted an offer from Oliver Riorden from BIC Sport Australia who is travelling through the area with six O'pen BIC dinghies. We have organised with Oliver to hold a fun morning for sailors to see and try these popular little boats.

Oliver describes the O'pen BIC as "a single handed sports dinghy 2.75m long with a 4.5m mono-film sail on a composite two piece mast with alloy boom. The sleek hull is self draining and it really is a high performance kids sailing dinghy, purpose built for the current generation of modern kids who crave fun and fast leisure and sporting activities."

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2013 (school holidays)**  
**0930 to 1200**

**PCSC Dinghy rigging area**

Thanks to our Start Sailing team who will be there to help out

Checkout the YouTube video clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pc8qifouEPU>



### Aquatic Permit condition 25 knot limit

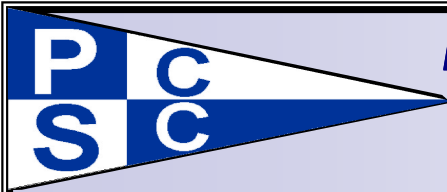
During the off season we had an opportunity to meet with MSQ and sought a rewording of the 25 knot limit condition in our aquatic permit. We are happy to advise the clauses have been reworded to:

#### Clause 5

The event will be cancelled if the forecast or the actual weather conditions exceed 25 knots off the beach.

#### Clause 6

Exemption approved for Division 1, Long Course Yachts, and Division 2 Short Course Yachts from the 25 knot limit.



## FROM YOUR SAILING COMMITTEE

### YA Discover Sailing Centre

After a successful audit, PCSC has been recognised by Yachting Australia to deliver the following programs:

Dinghy Program up to Racing  
Powerboat Program up to Safety Boat Operator

This year as part of our annual renewal for the training centre we applied for safety boat handling in addition to dinghy sailing. Start sailing levels 1 and 2 remain our primary deliverable with the safety boat operator removing dependency on external providers for this important competency.

To get started Kathy Starkey agreed to be our registered Safety Boat Instructor, just like she did with the Dinghy program, allowing time for another Member to undertake the qualification and step in.

Members who are interested in the Instructor qualification are encouraged to contact Sue Doyle and discuss the YA course requirements. The training centre has a modest budget for volunteer development so assistance could be available.

We're currently liaising with Kathy Starkey for her availability to run our first safety boat operator course. Watch this space for dates. Expression of interest to reception please.

### Youth Regatta

Date Claimer - Youth Regatta on the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> – although Saturday is the first day of the Youth Regatta as many dinghies as possible are encouraged on the water.

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> – second day of the Youth Regatta and backend heats of Val Sisley.

### Sailor Mentor

It's great to see the club Pacers on the water each Saturday, and being a training boat, having our junior and adult start sailing graduates on board with an accomplished sailor mentor is the best extension of their learning the training centre can offer. Big thanks go to the sailor mentors.

### Upcoming Events

Championship Heat 1 – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 1400

ORC – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 1400

Sprint Series 1 Heats 1 & 2 – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 1400

Sprint Series 1 Heats 3 & 4 – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 1400

O'pen BIC morning – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 0930

Fairway/Tripod – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 1300 briefing 1130

National Discover Sailing Day – 27<sup>th</sup> October 1000 to 1400

### Away Events

Qld Youth Development Camp – KBSC – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept to Thur 26<sup>th</sup> September

Followed by

Qld Youth Championships – KBSC – Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Sept to Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September



## Port Curtis Sailing Club Calendar 2013-14

Wk	Date	Start	Briefing	Event	PRO	MV Jack Mortensen Starter	Herc	Rescue Red	Duty Boat	Tides
						<b>Roster Duty Boat</b> 2 members capable of performing duties onboard support boats				
						Quoin Area is the preferred dinghy course - weather permitting				
	Saturday 7-9-13	1400	<b>1230 Race Org 1245 Briefing</b>	Championship Heat 1	Sue Doyle 0419 649 764	Barry Austin			tony away	1007 3.75 1616 0.63
	Sunday 8-9-13	0800 1800		SRD						1122 3.70 1733 0.94
	Saturday 14-9-13	1400	<b>1230 Race Org 1245 Briefing</b>	ORC	Ken Watson 4979 0750	Barry Austin			sue away	1018 1.16 1706 3.72
	Sunday 15-9-13	0800 1800		SRD						1136 0.95 1812 3.98
				<b>Start School Holidays Sat 21-9-13</b>						
	Saturday 21-9-13	1400	<b>1230 Race Org 1245 Briefing</b>	Sprint Series 1 - Heats 1 & 2		Barry Austin			sue away	1011 4.04 1621 0.56
	Sunday 22-9-13	0800 1800		SRD						1049 3.93 1657 0.79
	Tues 24-9-13 to Thur 26-9-13			Qld Youth Development Camp	KBSC					
	Fri 27-9-13 to Sun 29-9-13			Qld Youth Championships	KBSC					
	Saturday 28-9-13	1400	<b>1230 Race Org 1245 Briefing</b>	Sprint Series 1 - Heats 3 & 4		Barry Austin				1009 1.64 1635 3.21
	Sunday 29-9-13	0800 1800		SRD						1117 1.45 1736 3.41
				<b>Aquatic Permit to here</b>						
	Wed 2-10-13	0930 1230		Open BIC Day	Sue Doyle 0419 649 764					0728 3.51 1326 0.84
	Saturday 5-10-13	1300	<b>1130 briefing</b>	Fairway/Tripod		Barry Austin				0909 3.96 1521 0.53
				<b>End School Holidays Mon 7-10-13 (pub hol)</b>						
	Saturday 12-10-13	1400	<b>1230 Race Org 1245 Briefing</b>	Championship Heat 2	Sue Doyle 0419 649 764	Barry Austin				0842 1.32 1527 3.61

## Port Curtis Sailing Club Calendar 2013-14

Wk	Date	Start	Briefing	Event	PRO	MV Jack Mortensen Starter	Herc	Rescue Red	Duty Boat	Tides
						<b>Roster Duty Boat</b> 2 members capable of performing duties onboard support boats				
						Quoin Area is the preferred dinghy course - weather permitting				
	Sunday 13-10-13			SRD						
	Saturday 19-10-13			Youth Regatta		Barry Austin				0908 4.14 1523 0.59
	Sunday 20-10-13			Youth Regatta (including Val Sisley)		Barry Austin				
	Saturday 26-10-13	1400	1230 Race Org 1245 Briefing	Head of Harbour Heat 1		Barry Austin				1408 3.18 2042 1.64
	Sunday 27-10-13	1000 1400		<b>NATIONAL DISCOVER SAILING DAY</b>						0902 1.78 1520 3.19
	Friday 1-11-13	1800 2000		Adult Start Sailing Theory Night	Tony Constance					
	Saturday 2-11-13	1400	1230 Race Org 1245 Briefing	Championship Heat 3	Colleen Sawatzki 4972 2844	Barry Austin				1422 0.63 2022 3.84
	Sunday 3-11-13	0800 1300		Adult Start Sailing 1	Tony Constance					0846 4.20 1505 0.53
	Saturday 9-11-13	1400	1230 Race Org 1245 Briefing	Head of Harbour Heat 2		Barry Austin				1351 3.79 2023 1.06
	Sunday 10-11-13	0800 1300		Adult Start Sailing 2	Tony Constance					0827 1.32 1503 3.72
	Saturday 16-11-13			SRD						1428 0.78 2027 3.62
	Sunday 17-11-13			SRD						
	Saturday 16-11-13	0900		Round the Bay Race – Category 4	Josh McCall CCYC					
	Saturday 23-11-13	1400	1230 Race Org 1245 Briefing	Head of Harbour Heat 3		Barry Austin				1222 3.51 1840 1.41
	Sunday 24-11-13	0800 1300		Adult Start Sailing 3	Tony Constance					0609 1.59 1315 3.38
	Saturday 30-11-13	1400	1230 Race Org 1245 Briefing	Championship Heat 4	Colleen Sawatzki 4972 2844	Barry Austin				1314 0.92 1912 3.65



# Gladstone Yacht Club



## **BISTRO OPENING HOURS**

	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Dinner</u>
Monday ~ Thursday	12:00pm ~ 2:00pm	6:00pm ~ 8:30pm
Friday ~ Saturday	11:30pm ~ 2:30pm	5:30pm ~ 9:00pm
Sunday	11:30pm ~ 2:30pm	6:00pm ~ 8:30pm

## **SALTYS OPENING HOURS**

Friday ~ Saturday 2pm  
Sunday 1pm

## **DUDLEYS BAR OPENING HOURS**

Friday ~ Saturday 2pm  
Sunday 12 pm

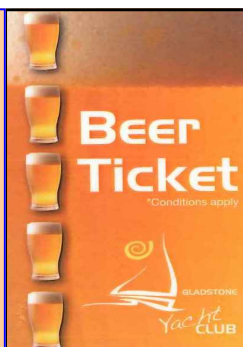
### Is it your Birthday Month?

From September 2013, for a limited time, GYC will help celebrate your birthday by gifting you some club house treats.

See Reception staff within your birthday month to claim your club vouchers.

Price Buster Beer Ticket \$13.00 per ticket or \$2.60 per drink, basic beer, house wine or soft drink.  
The vouchers can be used on Fridays from 2pm to 6pm.

Only available to Life and Ordinary Sailing Club Members and Pensioners from reception or bar.





The PCSC proudly gives thanks to;



Fuel for the Future

## Gladstone Yacht Club

Phone: 07 4972 2294 or Fax: 07 4972 7872

Web: [www.gyc.com.au](http://www.gyc.com.au)

E-mail: [admin@gyc.com.au](mailto:admin@gyc.com.au)

1 Goondoon Street, PO Box 1070, Gladstone



## Port Curtis Sailing Club

Commodore: John Ibell (0429 855 180)

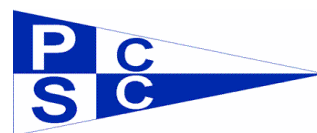
Vice Commodore: Sue Doyle (0419 649 764)

Club Captain: Lex Moran (0418 794 286)

Treasurer: Brad Greer (0419 244 245)

Secretary Manager: Brian Dawson

([brian@gyc.com.au](mailto:brian@gyc.com.au) or 0418 722 243)



## 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 reception on: Ph: 07 4972 2294 or Fax: 07 4972 7872 or Email: [admin@gyc.com.au](mailto:admin@gyc.com.au)

If you would like to unsubscribe to this Newsletter, please email your Name and Membership Number to [admin@gyc.com.au](mailto:admin@gyc.com.au)

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