



Waypoint

Edition 3 May 2017

Race Week Edition

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Day One

Quicksilver Port Douglas Race Week kicked off on a spectacular North Queensland day in Port Douglas on Tuesday 16th. Light but sailable wind prevailed and Race director Greg Sinclair described the conditions post racing as being a good race track but the wind went left in the second race which resulted in a good beat for all vessels. Greg went on to say that the racing was better than last year where very light wind dogged the regatta.

Cairns boat *Impulse* was leading Division 1 after placing second in both races in their division and Cairns Sports boat *Fast Forward* led the Sports boat division after sailing superbly to win line honours in Race 1 and placing second behind Tony Ritter's *Spank*.

Port Douglas' *Lady Mystique* was in front in Division 2 with fellow Port Douglas boat *Ka Pai* ahead of the Victorian entrant *Sapphire of London*.

Day Two was a different kettle of fish as fortunes changed for *Impulse* on the second day with the Farr Phase 4 *Volare 1*, skippered by Neil Robson and Frances Westley, taking the lead after a damp passage race around Snapper Island with a hefty beat to Low Isles and back to the line. Splitting the field between the first and second day's leaders was the Beneteau 42s7 *Yes* skippered by John Pool, also from Cairns.

RACING!



Volare 1 on the way to victory Day 2

The gloomy conditions didn't deter the fleet as they streamed toward Snapper with kites throwing vivid splashes of colour against the grey. Port Douglas favourite *Lady Mystique* enjoyed a fabulous opening two days of racing in the Division 2 Performance Handicap (NO spinnakers or Code Zeros). Skippered by Helen and Mick Gwilliams, the Beneteau 440 was shaping up as the vessel to beat after some superb sailing by her skippers. Another PDYC boat Alf Fowler's *Ka Pai* closely followed by Royal Geelong Yacht Club's

Sapphire of London by Grant Stquentin were also in the frame with Carl Barnett's *Casuarina* in fourth position. The Division 4 sports boats were sorting themselves nicely and several boats were in contention to take the title. Tony Ritter's *Spank* took the lead on Wednesday from past champion *Kaizen 2*, skippered by Bruce Clarke, with X2 in third placing for the day. First day's leader *Fast Forward* slipping to fourth. With two days of sailing remaining all divisions were still anyone's to be had. After two days of good racing and a rest day, **Day Three** saw the dreaded 'Cat in the Hat' flying after a Strong Wind Warning was issued despite earlier predictions of lightening winds for the end of the week. Race Director Greg Sinclair set a second briefing and declared a postponement, finally, at midday. However all was not lost as the bar was opened and yachties, being the ever resourceful and competitive bunch they are, hastily organised a pool tournament. Three local teams and three visiting teams, crossing all divisional

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Sailing in Port Douglas when.....

Dave Ormsby, tactician and mainsail trimmer from the crew of Yes, has possibly the earliest trophy awarded for sailing in Port Douglas. He has an old chamber pot that was turned into a trophy in 1938 for sailing of dinghies in Port Douglas. Allegedly the said pot was stolen from a local hotel. Before the war the dinghy sailing community of Cairns would trek to Port Douglas, in the days it was a trek, and sail and play in Port Douglas using the Sugar Wharf as their base. During the war this faded away but was revived post war before fading away again in the early sixties. As a young lad of 12, Dave accompanied them and learned to really sail in waves for the first time here in Port Douglas in 1959 and won a trophy and learned a lot of other things, he says with a reminiscent smile, while sailing his Saba in Port Douglas.

Apparently they would load a trailer of trainee 12's and 16' skiffs and make the day long journey to Port Douglas. They would set up camp at the Sugar Wharf and collect oysters and crabs to eat while they played and sailed. From the sound of Dave's stories, some of which we can't pass on, they had a LOT of fun.

Dave, according to John Pool, Skipper of Yes, is a modest man. Dave avoided questions about his own sailing achievements but after some prompting from John admitted while he had never won a National title, he had won a number of State titles and had beaten all the National champions while sailing. He has built and raced his own boats in the past and it is obvious by the way his crew mates speak of him he is held with respect and affection and is the number one member and proud Life Member of Cairns Yacht Club. Dave is obviously 70 years young because he still sails a Taser with his wife in the region.

Unfortunately due to some technical difficulties we're unable to show pictures of the trophies Dave showed to Carl. We are endeavouring to bring them to you in the next edition.



Dave Ormsby and Commodore Carl Barnett



WINNERS!



Wayne Millar and Zoe
Division One.



Peter Vincent and X2
Sports Division

RACING! cont'd from 1

lines, vied for the title of Race Week Pool champs with the eventual winners being *Spank* over *Lady Mystique*. The important thing was the beer was cold and the company was warm on a chilly day (for Port Douglas!)

Saturday dawned with gloomy skies but the wind warning had been cancelled and the fleet set out as the clouds began to contract and Port Douglas turned on a glorious day for sailing.

Wayne Millar's *Zoe* launched her distinctive red and white kite first which was an omen for the results for Division 1. The Townsville based Murray 41, a past winner of this regatta, sailed a consistent campaign and made a spectacular sight each and every day of sailing. Wayne is the only skipper on the Clipper Cup trophy to have his name on it with three different boats.

Cairns Yacht Club's Frank and Wendy Brace and their crew on the Sydney 36cr *Impulse* split the field from another Townsville entrant, the Beneteau 38.5 *Shiraz* skippered by Kevin Williams.

Division 2 Winners Helen and Mick Gwilliams on *Lady Mystique* from PDYC sailed a superb campaign to take out the Division and hold the lead all during the Regatta. Another Port Douglas boat Alf Fowler's *Ka Pai* finished second followed by Grant Stquentin's *Sapphire of London* from Royal Geelong Yacht Club in Victoria.

The Sports and One Design Division produced great performances and entertained the beachgoers in Port Douglas. Eventual winner was CCYC's Peter Vincent and X2 over Tony Ritter's *Spank* (PDYC) and Bruce Clarke's *Kaizen2* (CYC)

An obviously delighted PDYC Commodore Carl Barnett announced that both Greg Sinclair and Lister Hughes have committed to officiate at the regatta for next year and thanked them for their efforts. In fact Lister commented that as long as his bottom was pointing to the floor he would be here again!! On another light note PDYC Life Member and former Commodore Doug Ryan set a new regatta record for blowing two spinnakers and a headsail during the series and he was duly presented with a sewing kit!

The Commodore went on to thank all the participants and volunteers who helped make Quicksilver Port Douglas Race Week such a success before the party kicked into gear and yachties did the other thing they excel at – party! Something PDYC specialises in.



What a Week!





Ted's Race Week Shame!

Our club mascot Edward Bear was AWOL for the first half of Race Week. When he finally turned up he was evasive about his movements for the previous days,

Always able to pick a winner Ted went out with Lady Mystique. There must be some kind of juju about that boat because every single time our sweet bear goes on it he seems to get into some kind of trouble, even before the celebrations began on Saturday he was sighted looking somewhat dishevelled and it was apparent he had already been celebrating.

Ted was then sighted canoodling with two young ladies at once on the pontoon! But the lowlight was when he was caught attempting to liberate the Commodore's tender for his grubby little assignation or, as he claimed, his 'croc spotting tour for two lovely visitors'.

When told of the attempt on his tender the Commodore went to speak to our handsome bear and Ted looked suitably chastened.

Word is that the Commodore is taking Ted on yet another rehabilitation cruise in the not too distant future.

How's that working out for you Ted?



Read all about us!

www.yachtsandyachting.com/news/196117

www.sail-world.com/Australia/Winners-declared-at-Quicksilver-Port-Douglas-Race-Week/153960

www.mysailing.com.au/latest/halfway-and-it-s-still-anyone-s-at-port-douglas-race-week#L0DccDJ6oU1bmjI4.01

OR

Follow the links on the Club's Facebook Pages.



Quicksilver PORT DOUGLAS RACE WEEK

16-20 MAY 2017

Would not have been possible without our amazing sponsors!



Platinum Sponsors for Quicksilver Port Douglas Race Week 2017. With special thanks to Tony Baker and Rachel Cocks who came and presented the trophies. Your generosity is appreciated and admired. Thank you!



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PORT DOUGLAS

Many thanks to Rob Cruz and Reef Marina for hosting our visitors.

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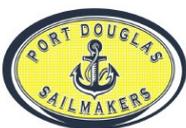
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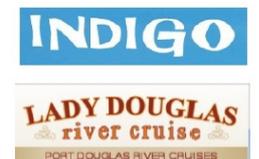
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If we've forgotten anyone- blame the Media Officer! And she will make it up next time I'm surprised you're still standing-Ed.



The Yachty



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RACE WEEK When. Why.

Could we ever hope to be spoken of akin to the likes of Hammo, Airlie and Maggie? Or should we even dare dream of such a thing? We should not aspire to attain the number of entries that these regattas attract, but we do have something that might one day see Port Douglas Race Week standing tall on that same stage.

Three North Queensland clubs have developed a Race Week season through August and September and it's no coincidence that these months are chosen. In this part of the world the sailing season is dictated by the possibility of what the weather might throw at us between November and May. Besides the weather being near perfect in August and September, any sooner and boats travelling north wouldn't be there. Any later and boats would be elsewhere returning south or cruising the Coral Coast. So what is without doubt a tyranny of distance for us would likely see us attract less interest if we scheduled for the same months.

However, by being the first regatta on the calendar we have something else to offer. Crew all come and go and without a good steady well drilled crew it is near impossible to outperform the competition at these race weeks. Port Douglas Race Week offers the first opportunity for boats from the North Queensland region to put together their race week crews and begin their preparation.

We are seeing familiar faces these days. People that travel to Port from Townsville and Cairns every May to take part in the regions first serious racing of the year. To begin their countdown to Hammo, Airlie and Maggie.

Of course the other things in our favour are the magnificent waters we have to sail on and the proximity of it all to our club and the moorings. Just ten minutes out from the pen and you're on the race track. How good is that and don't they all just love it!

When you add to that the generosity of our sponsors and the dedication and skills of our volunteers and officials, all given such praise and respect by the competitors each year, you begin to see that maybe, just maybe we could belong on that stage - Port, Hammo, Airlie and Maggie.

The Clipper Cup Regatta has a tremendous heritage within our club and the decision a few years back to rebrand the event Port Douglas Race Week was not taken lightly. We still race for the right to have our names on the historic Clipper Cup trophy but by rebranding the event we have elevated the regatta to a new level.

Many people have put in a huge effort over the years to get to the point where we are now and the future is well and truly in our hands. So I say to you all, let's continue to dream big and continue to grow this wonderful event that we have, Port Douglas Race Week, racing the winds of paradise for the historic Clipper Cup.

Mick Gwilliams
PDYC Rear Commodore



Quicksilver Port Douglas Race Week 2017.

It's a Gofer's Life.

It was my wife Sue's fault really, she crews on Mick and Helen's boat Lady Mystique and she wanted to compete in the Quicksilver Clipper cup, so I told our Commodore Carl that I would like to be involved. (What a mistake to make)

He duly responded, with the help of his oppo Campbell and oppotress Robyn, "GOFER" was created, followed by "but you get a free shirt", people in the know shook their heads and smiled.

My first duty was to pick Greg and Lister from Cairns airport, on different days of course, but they were a joy to meet, a bit like Statler and Waldorf and from the Muppet show.

Then Tuesday arrives the first race day, breakky at the club, I had just picked up my plate and got a smell of the bacon and sausage, when "GOFER" we have run out of milk, good start to race week.

One of my main duties was to keep the Reef Marina clean and tidy, so each day as the boats set off for the start line, I could be seen pulling my little trailer of rubbish, some days not so little! And strange there was never any food waste not even empty packets of chips, just lots of cans and bottles and two odd shoes. Never did fine the owners, but it was a great way to meet all the skippers and their crew, even if they did pinch my trolley on the odd occasion. A great 10 days, but I'm not going to get Greg's flag back.

Brian Morgan

Note:'oppo' apparently means mate. When queried on this the Commodore shrugged and said "He's Welsh" -Ed



And Where was Sue?



WINNING!

Congratulations to Helen & Mick
Gwilliams on Lady Mystique
Division 2 Champs!

From The Commodore.

With the conclusion of Quicksilver Race Week 2017, I would like to thank a number of Members that made the regatta highly successful. First, Mick the Rear Commodore, for the outstanding work and his organisation of all the on-water activities; Rich, the Club Manager, for his efforts in planning all the off-water activities, from breakfast in the morning to live music in the evening; Robyn, the Club Secretary, for the great media coverage of the regatta, with articles and images in local, national and international newspapers and magazines; Garry and Belinda for volunteering their great boat 'Low Voltage' as the start boat; Don, for the use of his boat as the media boat, Peter and his boat 'Windswell Epic Reef and Island Tour' as the safety boat and of course John for allowing Gallagher to use 'Pacific Pride' as the buoy laying boat.



There were a number of other members that supported the regatta and did a great job. One member who does need a mention is Brian, the club's official 'Gopher' during

the regatta, due to his efforts we have maintained an excellent relationship with Reef Marina.

With Quicksilver Race Week out of the way we need to get on with the rest of the year. I've spoken with Craig and Rich to find ways that we can start to improve the advertising of the club, mainly the kitchen. And I'm glad to say this has already begun with a professional photographer being employed to take fresh photo's of the club which will be placed on our web site with a virtual walk through tour of the club.

We also, need to encourage members and new members to get out on the water, either with the J24 sailing program or the club racing program. Hopefully, now that we will soon be a Discovery Sail Centre this should entice people into sailing. This will be a good challenge for Mick and the Sailing Committee. - **Carl.**

And for all our dear sailing friends who competed a big thanks to you and your crew.

Brava - Tony Muller

Iseulta - Tristram Denyer

Whitecap - Mal Richardson

Zoe - Wayne Millar

Ka Pai - Alf Fowler

Sapphire of London - Grant Stquentin

Kaizen 2 - Bruce Clarke

PortFM Mais Oui - Rob Ranford

Viva La Beaver - Peter Chapman



Champagne - Mal Pirret

Shazam - Doug Ryan

Volare 1 - Frances Westley & Neil Robson

Casuarina - Carl Barnett

Lady Mystique - Helen & Mick Gwilliams

Fast Forward - Brian Dowling

Mid Life Crisis - Campbell Corbett

Spank - Tony Ritter

Impulse - Frank & Wendy Brace

Vanguard - Adrian Mole

Yes - John Pool

Certa Cita - Jeffrey Kendall

Mistral - Susan Lunn

Out of the Blue - Hew Mills

Mischief - Mary Lou Drew

X2 - Peter Vincent

Coming Up.

June 3 Saturday

June 10 Saturday

June 17 Saturday

July 2 Sunday

July 8 Saturday

July 15 Saturday

July 29 Saturday

Winter Series race 1 and 2

Winter Series race 3 and 4

Winter Series race 5 and 6

Learn to sail - 6 week series

Two Isle Sail and Run

Quicksilver Cup

Xmas in July

Races 9 to 14 Club Championship

J24 sail training week 1 of 6

Fun day

Race 15 Club Championship

Fun day