

DF 95 Group News Update No 23

October 2022



**The DF 95 Christmas Function & Awards Night now only 4 weeks away November 3 th
ORDER YOUR TICKETS NOW**

Hi DF 95 Skippers & Friends,

Last month we asked you all a few questions in a survey to find out why a large number of you do not enter major events / Regattas including Club Hosted events and even our own Club Championships. I am very pleased with the excellent response and the answers you provided makes for interesting reading and bringing to the management of both the Club and our class the need to be more responsive and listen to reasons you have made.

As previously mentioned, one of the primary reasons why we were seeking this information from you is, it's that time of year when the planning of the sailing calendar for the 2023 season is finalised so any changes, additions or modifications are needed, it is now we need to know.

So, what were the comments and reasons you gave to the survey questions,

- I am not getting any enjoyment or satisfaction from sailing at Paradise because of the over Zealous competitive and aggressive nature of some members toward one another leaving me feeling very intimidated.

- Sailing incidents that occur while racing, such as being taken out when I have the right of way, e.g., Port and Starboard boat contacts where my boat sustains damage. In some cases, these boat contacts have occurred while I am taking avoiding action.



An example of the members frustrations with regular offenders

- I have family commitments, grandchildren to care for on weekends so I do not enter weekend events / Regattas or Volunteer, so why can there not be events programmed to race midweek when over 95% of the club / group members are retired and have time.
- From my observations a small number of skippers seem to breach the rules regularly and when protested against reluctantly do the required penalties, but still continue to infringe, by either failing to avoid contacts, take other boats out of the race, where it appears their actions are deliberate, even in general Club racing where there is no Trophies or prizes on offer.
- I find it very frustrating, unsportsmanlike like and the constant heated verbal exchanges between a small number of members, usually result in a disqualification following a protest against them or those skippers who

have been the victim of the breach of rules retire or give up and go home.

- There also appears to be a small minority group of skippers who because of their excessive competitiveness seems to believe only the best man will win attitude, so I have little chance as a relatively new member to radio Sailing.

Many thanks to those of you who took the time and effort to kindly respond and we also appreciate your frank and honest reply's. It is only when there is regular communication where issues of this kind are identified can the management of our Club and class do something to correct these problems

I have therefore written to the Club Commodore Rex and have had a one-on-one meeting with him to discuss what actions can be under taken, it was a most beneficial meeting because he also is aware that the club needs to take steps to ensure unsportsmanship behaviour is eradicated from our sailing days



Australia Day Dragon Flite 95 Regatta attracts a good fleet for a fun day's sailing

No 1: The October DF 95 sailing Programme,

Please ensure you all read this racing programme for the month of October as there is either change of days or special events

- **Saturday 1 st:** Bell Trophy Handicap event for all classes set up at 10.30 am, racing underway at 11.00 am, prize giving after the days event finishes approx 3.45 / 4.00 pm.
- **Sunday 2 nd:** Club scratch Racing/ mentoring help and assistance to new skippers. Set up at 11.00 am, sailing at 11.45 am
- **Friday 7 th:** Club Scratch Race Championship Round 10 CC10, set up at 11.00 am, racing underway at 11.45 am.
- **Sunday 9 th:** General Club scratch race day with mentoring for new members, set up at 11.00 am, racing underway at 11.45 am
- **Friday 14 th:** Catch up Club Scratch race championship Round 9 requires to be resailed, set up at 11.00 am racing underway at 11.45 am
- **Sunday 16 th:** Round 3 of Match racing, 8 boats required, set up at 11.00 am, racing underway at 11.45 am
- **Friday 21 st:** General Club Scratch race day, set up at 11.00 am racing underway at 11.45 am
- **Saturday 22 nd:** Special DF 95 Promotional day at the Sunshine coast Radio Yacht club at Bokarina, depart GC 7.00 am, arrive 9.30 am race from 10.00 am to 12.15 pm, BBQ lunch, drive home 2.00 pm
- **Friday 28 th:** Club Handicap Championship Round 10 CC10, set up at 11.00 am. Racing underway at 11.45 am.
- **Sunday 30 th:** General Club scratch race day, mentoring available for those who request it. Set up at 11.00 am sailing from 11.45 am.

Changes to this sailing calendar may be required due to weather and or ground conditions at Emerald Lakes, please check your emails for notifications on the day

No 2, DF 95 Group Members Profile:

We often talk about who should we be attracting to our sport of Radio sailing, especially when it currently is dominated with older males. We know that to ensure the sport has a future young people need to be encouraged to sail and we are starting see some progress especially with colleges taking an interest. However, what about the ladies, they have been activity in yacht racing, for some time now, in centre boarders and keel boats, featuring in the Olympics, Round the world racing and individual class world and national championships.

Well at Paradise Radio Yacht Club we have a very active DF 95 Sailor Andi Gallaher who races her DF 95 (sail No 55) with great distinction. She has an excellent knowledge of sailing, and is also a regular member of the Twin Towns IOM Fleet sailing most Mondays at Banora Point where she has an impressive racing record. Which goes to prove Radio sailing for ladies is a most enjoyment sport they can compete equally and achieve great results.



Here Andi (Sail No 55) is at the start of race 5 in the recent Australia Day DF 95 regatta right on the start line in a prime position, which highlights her experience in sailing and being able to foot it with the big boys, well done.



Andi Gallaher Hangs up Sequins for Sails



My story is far less seafaring than many club members' I have read about, though confident many will connect with my attachment of being introduced to the world of ocean and sand between my toes from a babe in arms and to this very day, I still hold that place of sun kissed and salty skin as close as home.

Education - Somerville House girls school Brisbane.

University - Qld Conservatorium of Music, where music became my lifelong profession.

Instrument training - Piano, Voice, Flute, Guitar and a lot of other fun stuff.

Languages - Continues to study Italian and Japanese.

Work life - owns 'VOXstudio', where I run a private music production and recording studio, hence my lack of availability to sail more regularly.

I also perform regularly with the studio shows and locally with my Jazz band 'blue JazZoo'.

RC Clubs - QRYC & TTRYC

RC Boats - DF95 'Ichiban' #55 & IOM GOTH "Pixi" #33

Secret passion - to own a classic daysailer or vintage motor sailer somewhere between 20-25ft and Crewing!

Hobbies - Surfing (consider this my religion), Sailing, Art, Skiing, Travel, Animals and of course Music.

I have also had a life long love for classic cars and over time have owned and cared for - 1965 Fairlady in show condition, 1975 Triumph Stag & 1998 show condition BMW Z3, as well as a great passion for classic boats.



In the beginning -

Winding back the clock, I have many distinct early coast memories of my grandmothers beautiful stone cottage in Clifford street Surfers Paradise where the Q1 now stands, though then was surrounded only by pine trees and sandy pathways without a high rise in sight.

As a young child I filled many days surrounded by boats, water and yachts, playing in and around the original 'Bosuns Locker' at Southport Yacht Club, under the watchful eye of my dear Uncle Garry Russell who in 1978 created this now thriving business.

Around 1970 we were lucky enough to purchase a Gold Coast family holiday home on the water at Narrowneck, with direct access to the Broadwater out the front door and the beach right out the back door.

If I was not on a surfboard, I was on a bike or in a boat and these were the only ways I wished to travel. Once again without a high rise in sight, I would ride my bike around the sandy little back streets of Main Beach, with only one single milk bar where I visited often for a have-a-heart, or a cherry ripe, or both !

The Bosuns Locker - The following information is supplied by my seafaring cousin Garrett Russell (eldest son of Garry Russell), who I am so very grateful for filling in the gaps that I missed out on, due to not yet being of seafaring age. The Bosuns Locker was the first and only commercial outlet (apart perhaps from fuel sales) on the marina proper Southport. Laurie Sheppard and another SYC member were mates of Garry and the developers of the marina project. The photo's supplied (in stunning black and white and true sepia), are from the early 1960's, when 'The Basin' in front of the yacht club was still open water, with many boats on swing moorings



One of those boats was Key Largo, Gary Russell's' family boat from around 1962. This photo above is showing Garry Russell and his son / my cousin Garrett in the southern channels of Moreton Bay, probably between South Stradbroke Island and where Sanctuary Cove stands today. They also owned a Piver Nugget 24ft named 'Pinafore'.



Garry and two of his yacht club friends aboard a boat owned by mate Ron Gregory, at the Goodwill Cup around 1964.

This is a competition conducted between SYC and RQYS, in those days culminating in a large gathering of boats in Horseshoe Bay, Peel Island. At this particular event SYC were the winners.

Pictured are some other boats in Horseshoe Bay (after a night of partying between boats). I'm pretty sure the first boat was called 'Honey Hush' and the middle one is 'Floodtide'.



A reverse angle of the gathered fleet. Floodtide visible in right frame and Ron Gregory's boat is the large cruiser with its stern directly towards camera (above the dark speed boat).



Family history-

The Gallaher family has been a seafaring family for many years. My great grandfather (3 times), John Howes 1st was a Sea Captain and Harbour Master of Great Yarmouth, the English Channel port for the English Navy in the latter part of the Napoleonic wars. This port was also the home port for Lord Nelson.

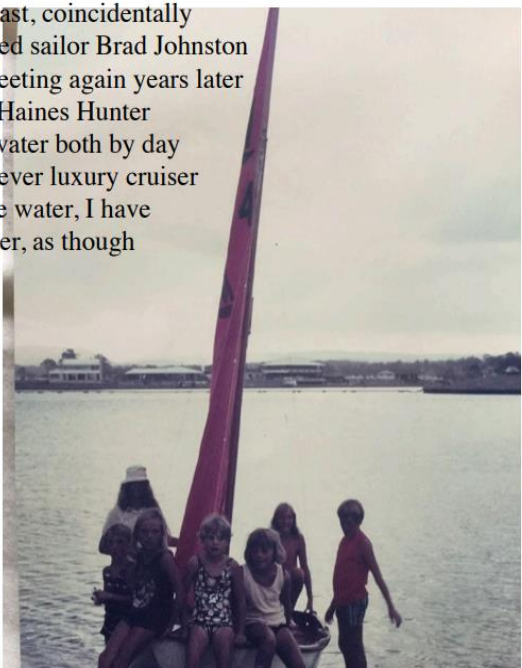
My great grandfather (2 times), Captain John Howes 2nd sailed a Collier from Ipswich down to Greenwich London and eventually sailed with his family to Brisbane Australia.

My father Colin along with his young wife Ann (pictured today), sailed as a Ship's Surgeon to London and three years later sailed back to Australia working again as a Ship's Surgeon. Over the years I have enjoyed following my parents various journeys sailing on many ocean liners in the Mediterranean, the Baltic and into the North Sea and the ice of the Arctic Ocean.



As a very young child I was introduced to sailing and learning the ropes under the guide of my father, with our very beloved Mirror 10 and often sailed her out of Wynnum-Manly, the Broadwater and off Budd's Beach across to South Stradbroke Island. We also sailed on an extended holiday, fishing and cruising in a stunning Halvorsen Cruiser along the Hawkesbury River Sydney, finding many little rocky crooks by tender, where we hand picked and shucked oysters fresh, as well as bearing a violent storm, eventually reaching the safety of the Pittwater. Later we owned a Seafarer motor launch and often sailed Moreton Bay, the Broadwater and the Nerang river.

As a teenager I was involved with sailing clubs through school friends and entered some racing events around Brisbane, Wynnum and Toowong. I've sailed - Sabot, Mirror 10 (family boat), 125, Moth, Catamaran and a little experience with Laser and Pacer. When I moved to the Gold Coast, coincidentally finding myself living on the water next door to the highly regarded sailor Brad Johnston for many years, (without realising the sailing connection until meeting again years later at a recent Regatta), I eventually purchased my own motor boat Haines Hunter and extensively navigated and explored the depths of the Broadwater both by day and night. I have also enjoyed holidaying on the family 70ft Defever luxury cruiser 'Capricorn Gypsy' and for a taste of a different experience on the water, I have often hired a 40ft house boat cruising the magic of the Broadwater, as though it was my back yard, which at that time it actually was.



Show business career -

I have had the great fortune of a nurturing family, instilling a solid foundation and support in music from every angle. After much training, I commenced performing professionally throughout 5 Star International Hotels around Brisbane and Gold Coast as the resident Piano Vocalist/Entertainer.



Eventually moving off shore performing internationally, as well as feature artist shows on cruise liners sailing the seven seas, enticed me into a true hunger for travelling the world.

The life adventures I have experienced during these many years of travels and within the worlds of entertainment have been immeasurable, surpassing all my expectations and took me far from my early days of raw salt, surf and sailing.

I have experienced amazing opportunities in this life, starting with performing within a massive multi choir in 1977 for Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip at the classic 'Cloudland' Brisbane (which sadly no longer stands), singing solo with the accompaniment of an 80 piece Orchestra, recording with Sony Music, dueling piano's with Michael Hutchence and band INXS, performing alongside many fine artists, as well as playing privately to the Sultan of Brunei whilst I was living and performing in Singapore. By fluke of chance being in the right place at the right time, engaged as the resident artist at the Sharaton Mirage Gold Coast, I was fortunate to perform in a private lounge over numerous nights to the one and only Master Billy Joel and his band whilst on tour, who often invited me to sit with him over champagne and simply chat, as well as dining with the charming Isabella Rossellini in the Hyatt Regency Singapore, where I was living at the time. All this and much much more, has made for a rollercoaster ride of a journey and a fairytale of a life.



Touring Australia and New Zealand with professional live Music Theatre productions - 'HMS Pinafore', 'The Pirates of Penzance', 'The Mikado' and 'A funny thing happened on the way to the forum', as well as 'The Merry Widow' (all available on DVD), created another large chapter in my music career and treasure those days of running away with the circus as some of my favourite.



These days I spend much time running my music studio, as well as performing with my Jazz band 'blue JazZoo' and have far less desire to don the red sequins and step out into spot lights. Nowadays I appreciate that my greatest joys are simply learning from the best to tune the sails, tie the knots, surf the seas and watch the wind, but most of all listening to the old stories from the old sailors.



What I would have done to have been of the right age at the right time, to have had the chance to sail with my young 'Huckleberry' cousin atop this beauty !

I would like to pay my respects to my 'Huckleberry Fin' cousin Garrett Russell for his time in gathering so much valuable information and outline some of his wonderful life on the water, which obviously runs heavy in the blood.

by Garrett Russell -

Sailing has been part of my life in one way or another since I was about 10 years old. I started in other kids' Sabot dinghies sailing around The Basin, the wide expanse of swing moorings where the SYC Marina is now. In those days the yacht club wasn't much more than than a bar, a shower block and a jetty.

By about 1964 I had graduated to my own boat, a Mark II Moth. I never raced in Moths, but kept this boat through my teen years and into early adulthood. This photo was shot on the Nerang River from the back garden of the house at 84 Amalfi Drive. I also had an old plywood surf ski there which I would paddle along the river and canals to Broadbeach and beyond.

Sailing faded into the background in the late 1960s and early 1970s when I swapped a boat for a surfboard, then left both behind to discover the world, eventually get married and start a young family. It came back in the late 1970s with the advent of the Windsurfer.



I bought an original Windsurfer - solid timber boom and all - from the backyard importer in Sydney and for a brief moment became the Windsurfer sales agent for Queensland.

Moving to Hong Kong in the early 1980s I traded my Windsurfer for a Dufour Wing and found myself in heaven when the advertising agency where I worked as creative director picked up the Neil Pryde Sails international advertising account.

That's me on the left, on my own Dufour sailboard - aboard which I placed runner up in the Windsurfing Association of Hong Kong 1981 Spring Boardsailing Series.

The trophy for that sits on my shelf alongside trophies my grandfather Johnny, won at Royal St Kilda Yacht Club in the early 1930s. (So I guess you can see I've had sailing in my blood all along).

Fast forward to 2018 when a new life and new relationship brought my to a new home beside the Brisbane River at West End, where South Brisbane Sailing Club's usual racing course was literally in my backyard. I joined the club, thinking that I might get into a Laser, but found my motor boating experience in high demand for the race management and learn to sail teams. So most of my time on water these days - every Saturday through the season - is helping to teach kids to sail and helping to run races for the club, with the occasional sail in a Heron or Pacer to keep my sheet hand in practice.



Finally, I also crewed on sail training schooner South Brisbane in this year's Brisbane to Gladstone and crewed the square rigged barquentine Soren Larson from Sydney to Hobart for the Wooden Boat Festival in 2019.



Andi's RC RACING YACHTS

RC YACHT IOM GOTH "Pixi" #33

RC YACHT DP95 'Ichiban' #55



See you on the water !

Andi Gallaher



Many Thanks Andi, it is always interesting to read about our members background, sailing and boating experiences and we can all see you have had some great experiences both sailing and, on the water, Thanks again for your excellent contribution,

No 3, Club News & Information:

- Do not forget to put Saturday the 22 nd in your diaries to come and support the Sunshine RYC's DF Promotional day at their sailing venue at Bokarina on the Sunshine coast as they establish a new DF 95 Fleet at their club. Which by the way is next years venue for both the 65 and 95 National Class championships in June 2023. Please let me know if you are keen to come.
- Had a note from Tony Fannin one of our senior sailors who has recently taken to making DF 95 & DF 65 Sails in all sizes, his brand name is Katipo Sails and he uses White Mylar film to produce his sails and are available 35-, 50- and 75-micron film thicknesses. The sails come with luff wires and ferrules for the jibs. He currently has Fluro Pink or white patch materials in stock but can arrange other colours but notice is required, all sails come with the class insignia e.g., 95 or 65
He is able to supply new sails within a week of order at \$80.00 a set, his best contact tonyfannin@hotmail.com



- It is planned before each race we will have a basic Sailing rule discussion as part of our programme to help all members gain a greater understanding of the Rules of sailing and the days particular rule demonstrated in a practical way so all members have a thorough understanding and acceptance of what the rule really means.

- Will Charlton along term DF 95 Sailor and club member has recently returned to live in Melbourne his home town with wife Wendy, the move will allow them both to be close to their family members and for Will to continue his involvement in his local business. He plans to keep sailing his Radio-controlled yachts and has re-join the Lilydale Radio Yacht Club where he has volunteered his services as Club Secretary. We thank him for his past services to the club and to the DF Association activities he has participated in for some time here in Queensland, All the best for the future Will & Wendy.
- Do not forget to get your tickets for our Christmas Function and awards evening set down for Thursday the 3rd of November and to be held again at the Emerald Lakes Golf Club from 5.00 pm to 9.00 pm. A glass of Bubbles upon arrival with red and wine available on all tables which is included in the ticket price.



Tickets are now available at \$20.00 per head where the meal and additional drinks are at the members expense. It will be a great evening looking forward to seeing you all there.

Kind Regards to you all, see you on the Water

Ron Brown

DF 95 Fleet Captain

