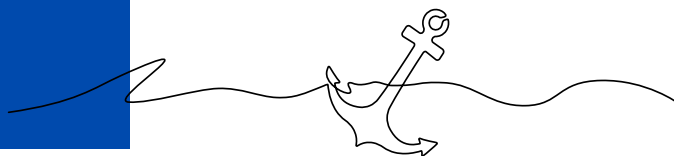




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THE CYC NEWSLETTER



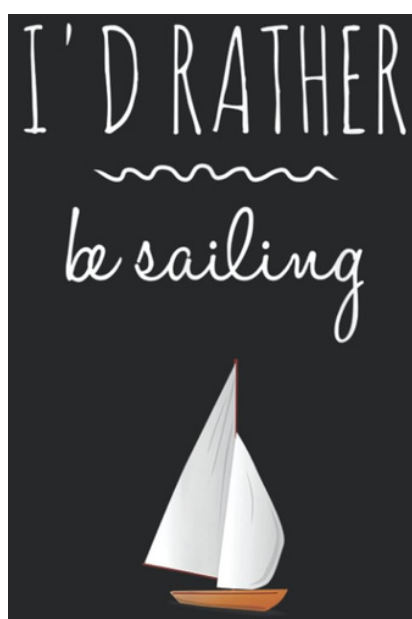
Hello Members,

Welcome to the March edition of the CYC Newsletter!

You may have noticed February's edition of the newsletter was missing. My apologies for this, I was travelling overseas with my family and had good intentions! However, the lack of reliable WiFi and the distractions of many more exciting things than being stuck to my computer beckoned me away! The March edition is packed with updates on the club, as we hit the ground running into 2024.

Some planned races have been cancelled due to weather, but we are used to that at CYC in the early part of the year as the wet-season lingers. We plan optimistically, but it doesn't always pan out. Keep an eye on the calendar to see when upcoming races are scheduled.

This edition we have updates from Hew as he continues his story of 'More Magic's' delivery and we hear all about what the SheSails team have been up to this last month, as well as the continuing Ellis Beach recovery effort. It's a rather full edition this month!



As always, thank you to all of this month's contributors, and if you would like to contribute, please send anything you'd like to share to: secretary@cairnsyachtclub.com

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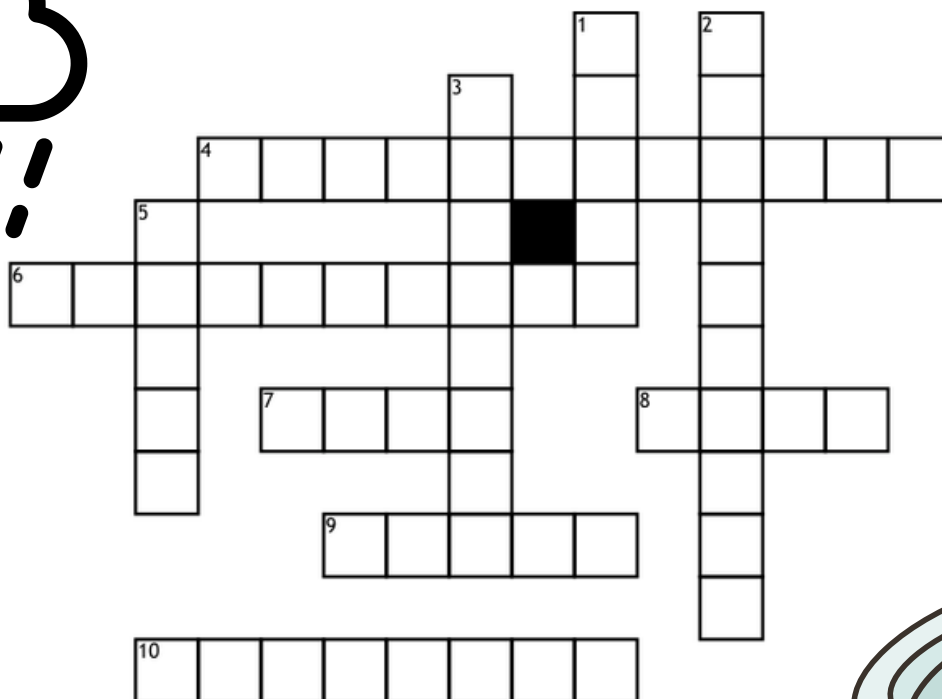
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Editor: [Kyal Forster](#)



Tropical Cyclones



Across

4. Name of Tropical Cyclone that hit Darwin in 1974.
6. Great amounts of energy is formed when warm water is _____ from tropical seas.
7. Category _____ is the highest ranked cyclone.
8. Tropical Cyclones are low pressure systems that form over, hot or cold tropical waters?
9. Eye is classified by clear skies and light _____

10. Are often referred to as _____.

Down

1. Storm intensity is classified as the maximum wind _____ of a Tropical Cyclone.
2. Are also known as _____.
3. Winds created by tropical cyclones in the _____ Hemisphere circulate anti-clockwise
5. Capable of generating powerful _____.

Fun Facts!

- A tropical cyclone is a circular air movement that starts over the warm ocean waters in the warm part of Earth near the Equator. Most tropical cyclones create fast winds and great rains.
- The "eye of the storm" is the centre. It has little rain or wind. The eye wall has the heaviest rain and the fastest winds.
- Tropical cyclones are powered by warm, humid ocean air. When they go onto land, they weaken. They die when they spend a long time over land or cool ocean water.

The Voyage of *More Magic*, Part 2.

By Hew Mills



P.3

DAY TWO

A dull grey dawn shrouded the island, showers and scudding rain whipped past the fringes, cat's paws blasted down from the sheltering hill spreading their turbulent claws across the anchorage. Not a good start. We depart with a reefed main, the bow dipping into the rising swell as we clear the headland from Fitzroy Island.

The wind insisted on coming from our destination, Mourilyan Harbour forty miles away. Forty miles at five knots equals eight hours if it were possible to sail in a straight line.

It isn't.

'More Magic' powers into the swell making 4.5 knots at 45 degrees to our intended track to keep the sails full and drawing us forward. It's slow progress.

Four hours sailing and some big tacks had us approaching Franklin Islands. We had only gained 13 miles, we needed 20 at this point. Bec's fingers snap across the navigation app on her phone.

If we used the motor and could achieve 4.5 knots we could make Mourilyan Harbour at dusk.

It's hard for passionate sailors to resort to the "iron staysail". Turning the engine on takes more psychological effort than just pressing a starter button. Time to swallow our pride. The rumble in the bowels of the boat pushes us forward but 4kts. That was all we could manage against the wind. Arrival before nightfall looked grim. An hour into our motor-boating experience and with storms on the horizon blanketing our destination the realisation that we wouldn't make it dawned on us. Slowly Russel Island crept by our port side.

Why should we torture ourselves to meet a schedule? We were not a railway train.

We were on a beautiful yacht upon the Coral Sea with tropical islands beckoning off our port side. Like Ulysses we are attracted to the Siren's song of a tropical paradise. We are not tied to the mast so reach easily for the tiller.

Turn to port 90°.



The Voyage of *More Magic*, Part 2.

By Hew Mills



P.4

The engines rumble is extinguished, the sails pulled us blissfully forward to the glistening jewel. In the lee of Normanby Island we pick up a mooring, drop the sails and take in the gentle swish of gentle waves upon the deserted sandy shore.

Once again the skipper abandoned the ship in her black protective skin to explore the fringing coral. I row ashore to imagine Robinson Crusoe's predicament. Without a wreck for support, survival would be difficult.

The coral sand has built a jungle-clad island in the lee of a 26 meter high rock. The jungle houses a bat colony that was noisily squawking their departure to feed on carefully cultured orchards of mangoes & lychees 6 miles away on the mainland. At dusk their roosts are exchanged with flocks of Torres Strait Imperial Pigeons returning from their foraging on rainforest fruit. We watch a continual stream for over an hour. The sun sets silhouetting towering thunderstorms, their flanks occasionally illuminated by jagged lighting bolts. A toast with a G&T on the beach is called for. This is the tropics at its best

DAY THREE

We depart with the pigeons into a grey dawn, the wind still insisting on coming from the south-east, our direction of travel. We motor past a lone Lagoon catamaran guarded by a lone Jack Russel while his owners slumber in their spacious cabins undulating in the lee of Russel Island, within an hour the wind shifts to the east. We hoist the sails and cut the motor. It's so nice to be sailing again even though isolated storms and showers still bear down upon us.

Four hours in the direction of Dunk Island a toilet stop turns into a nightmare. The electric macerator got indigestion refusing to swallow its load. Bec added more water to augment its digestive process to no avail, the liquor started spilling from the bowl into the shower sump. A mad dash for buckets and bailers and the foul liquor is ejected over the side. Oblivious to the drama below, 'More Magic' slices through the swell while Bec contemplates nautical plumbing maintenance 101.

Soon, triumphant but bilious, Bec emerges in the companionway brandishing a Phillips head screwdriver like Excalibur in one fist, the slain discharge hose in the other. Gulping fresh air this brave girl dives once more into the fetid cabin this time armed with industrial strength disinfectant. By and by, Bec reappears beaming. The blockage free hose is reattached and the cabin is smelling sweeter than before.

Formed by the coastal range and steeply dipping into the sea on either side, the almost invisible mouth of Mourilyan Harbour creeps by. Deep enough for sugar and live cattle ships the narrow entrance would have been difficult even for us at night. Exchange an industrial port for a tropical island?

We certainly didn't need that.

The last grey shower obscures Double Point as we pass with only 17 miles to Dunk Island with the sails drawing us onward. For the last mile into the anchorage as the wind fades we furl the headsail and start the motor. Bec decides to try the anchor rather than pick up a mooring, just to be sure the mechanism is working properly. We creep in to the jetty and I assume the skipper is monitoring the depth. Suddenly judder runs through the boat. The keel touched a reef. Bec is paralysed. Has she damaged her precious boat? I assure her that the keel is made of solid lead, it's most likely just a scratch. We turn the boat round and head back out to the vicinity of the moorings and let the anchor go. It bounces across unseen rocks before finding a patch of sand and digging in.

We are secure for the night. Once again we go ashore but in opposite directions, Bec to meditate on her anchoring procedures with the help of a phone connection to her sailing mother. I discover magnificent toilet and shower facilities, courtesy go the National Parks. I take the opportunity to avoid the recalcitrant toilet on board then turn on the hot tap in the shower. For a building apparently abandoned, it is a surprise and sensational pleasure to enjoy a hot shower in abundant fresh water in spite of a carpet of Kamikaze beetles, fatally attracted by the fluorescent lights, writhing, mostly on their backs, on the floor.

To be continued...

Sailing Courses at CYC

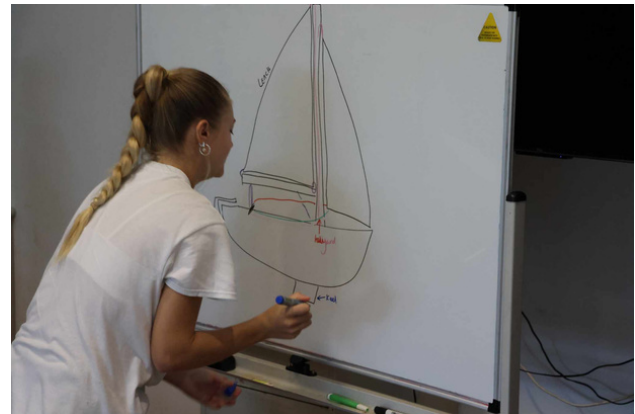
By Tess Cooper



P.5

Australian Sailing Instructor, Shari Essex, has launched the first Start Crewing Course of 2024, guiding four enthusiastic students, Charlotte, Diego, Chelsea and Phill, through the basics of sailing.

In addition, Shari has been providing valuable support to Tess Cooper, a trainee instructor. The students have been learning the ropes, practicing maneuvers such as tacking and gybing in Trinity Inlet. Hopefully the crew has enjoyed their introduction to sailing and we look forward to seeing them out on the water soon.



Powerboat Courses at CYC

By Tracy Benson



P.6

CYC delivered a Power Boat competency course, which was well received. It was booked out very quickly and was lots of fun! We had Simon Overton from SeaFun facilitating the course with myself assisting to help get more through the course in one day.

It was a stunning day on the water, and everyone enjoyed their time learning how to get up on the plane, complete man overboard drills, manoeuvre boats and come along side safely. Comments from participants reinforced how skill building increases competency which in turn strengthens confidence, which they all loved.



SheSails Update

By Lisa Christensen



P.7

Here's a recap from this month's activities and the exciting land and water events on the horizon for the SheSails community- all designed to kindle and continue a female-focussed passion for sailing.

February Land Events Recap:

Feedback Session – 1 February 2024:

Our first land event of the month was a crucial feedback session. It was heartening to see such wholehearted participation from our SheSails community! The overwhelming sentiment was a desire for more time on the water and increased social interaction.

This feedback is invaluable, guiding us in shaping SheSails events and making sure we are adhering to the interests and preferences of our group's members.

Tess Cooper also delivered a great interactive presentation on safety gear which was well received by all especially with some demonstration helpers including her partner, Loz and their much loved sailing dog, Fern.

Knots and Anchoring Workshop – 7 March, 2024:

We hosted an informal but no less informative workshop focused on knots and anchoring techniques. With luck, some of us have finally managed to master a couple of knots-now to keep practising and actually remember them!

Water Event Recap:

Our water event this month on the 24th February was met with signature awesome SheSails enthusiasm. The event sold out rapidly and had a fantastic turnout despite challenging weather conditions.

The feedback received highlighted the great sailing instruction provided and the overall enjoyment of the day's activities.

It was great to get the J24 out on the water and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to boat owners Frank and Wendy on *Timeout* and James Wighton on *Whakateri* for their generous contributions to making this event a success.

Upcoming Events:

Water Event:

Skills Building: Saturday 23 March 2-5pm

Our upcoming water event, will offer the opportunity to once again hit the sea and indulge in your love for sailing. This will be a sailing skill building activity with experienced sailors mentoring others, with the sailing determined by the breeze and skippers.

We are super excited for the new CYC club keelboats coming to soon! More boats means more women on the water!

SheSails Update

By Lisa Christensen



P.8

Land event: SheTales and Windy App – Thursday 4 April 5.45pm–7.45pm

Stay tuned for an engaging session where we delve into the world of women on water and share stories in a [pechakucha](#) style.

We'll also explore the functionalities of the Windy app, providing valuable insights for enhancing your sailing adventures.

As always, we encourage active participation and value feedback in shaping the SheSails experience. Whether you're a seasoned sailor or just dipping your toes in, SheSails offers a welcoming, supportive community for women to learn, grow and forge lasting connections- to the wonderful world of sailing and fellow sailors.

CYC SheSails Objectives: *Encouraging and building capacity and skills for women of all ages to enjoy sailing through organised activities.*

CYC SheSails Values: *Respect, Empowerment, Community, Safety, Accountability.*

Thanks to all the support and energy in helping us make this a success. We are female-focussed to nurture the confidence of girls and women towards full sailing competency but wouldn't be able to do it without the goodwill and assistance of so many fellas! Kind of like life really!

Please stay tuned for further details on upcoming events through our newsletter and social media channels including our Facebook group.

Warm regards,

CYC SheSails Sub Committee:

Tracy Benson, Frances Westley, James Wighton, Shari Essex, Mathilde Gordon, Tess Cooper, Lisa Christensen, Donna Lowden, Fiona Jeffrey & Sharon Wilesmith.



Ellis Beach Recovery Update

By James Wighton



P.9

The Ellis Beach recovery has moved up a gear, with James and Hew organising fill from Marino Quarry and Paul from Rhino Excavations. Most of the filling has been completed – we are very lucky mother nature stepped in and brought hundreds of tonnes of sand back into the holes. After finishing the fill we'll be moving onto topsoil above a solid base. Keeping it simple works!



Ellis Beach Update

By Rob Lattimore



P.10

While we haven't been able to sail at Ellis so far this year we have working behind the scenes to keep the momentum rolling. Later this year we will be introducing learn to sail programs and training from the Australian Sailing Curriculum.

It's a big job getting venue prepared and setup to offer these programs which we hope will bring more sailors into the fold over the coming years and make to sport more accessible. To this end NQ Promo Works, headed up by Steve Daly, have very generously offered to donate \$1,100 to help facilitate setting up these programs at Ellis. NQ Promo Works also supply our fantastic T-Shirts and other apparel.

Steve has recently purchased a Nacra 5.8 and become a member of the CYC. He is very much looking forward to getting back into the sport and getting into some racing off our beautiful Ellis Beach venue.

If you need any custom t-shirts, hats etc. please help and support the businesses that support the club.

<https://nqpromo.com.au/>


Ph: (07) 4031 2081

info@nqpromo.com.au

NQ Promo Works

You might not have caught the shout out we received from Australian Sailing on their FaceBook page. Please see below to see what they had to say about us...



Australian Sailing 

February 24 at 6:00 PM · 

...

★GOOD NEWS STORY★


The Cairns Yacht Club at Ellis Beach faced formidable challenges following the devastating Cyclone Jasper that hit Far North Queensland last December.

The torrential rainfall that was unleashed by the cyclone amounted to a staggering 1.5 meters of rain within 24 hours and has reshaped the once-pristine beachfront, leaving behind gullies and erosion.

However, the Cairns Yacht Club community stood united and has rebuilt and reaffirmed their commitment to the sport they love.

In the face of adversity, the Cairns Yacht Club has embarked on a new chapter and has launched numerous initiatives including a SheSails program that aims to promote female participation in sailing and a Twiddlers program that involves remote control sailing boat racing and has attracted participants from ages 5 to seasoned sailors in their 80s.

The Cairns Yacht Club continues to provide camaraderie, excellence and inclusivity within the community as the club looks towards new horizons of adventure and discovery.

Read more here about the Cairns Yacht Club 

<https://www.sailing.org.au/.../cairns-yacht-club-charts-a...>

 Cairns Yacht Club



CYC Strategy Session Updates

By Tracy Benson



P.12

A busy March behind the scenes for CYC with our first Strategic Planning session where we had 25 CYC members brainstorming ideas on what we are doing well and how we can grow to improve our club for 2024 and beyond. We had a lovely mix of the old and new guard encompassing ages, sailing experience and exposure to CYC. What an awesome group of passionate people who love the water and sailing! We are invested in CYC growing and being successful for years to come!

A snapshot of some of the outcomes of our session are as below:

- **Create minimum of one Upskilling 3-hour sessions for CYC general members and one for CYC SheSails each month – hosted by experienced CYC Mentor skippers.**
- **Deliver Australia Sailing courses 4 x Start to Crew course and 2 x Start to Helm course.**
- **Revamp and streamline TACKERS learn to sail program with clearer lesson plans, processes and progression along with communication between parties.**
- **Expand the Youth Sailing to grow Green fleet to attract more teens to learn to sail with discover sailing day over the school holidays. Promote through our instructors and schools.**
- **Increase volunteer engagement and participation to help grow and strengthen our club whilst having fun together.**
- **Create social events and keel boat maintenance events for upskilling and support the club boats and assets.**

The club is looking for more mentoring skippers to help with the upskilling sailing programs. We would love more of our members to volunteer their time to help with these sessions to get people learning and having fun together on the water.





For those of you who may wish to know who represents the club on the executive committee, below is the list of our members and their respective roles. The fleet captains have also been listed, for your information.

Executive Committee

Commodore: Scott Davis

Vice Commodore: James Wighton

Rear Commodore: Simon Overton

Treasurer: Hew Mills

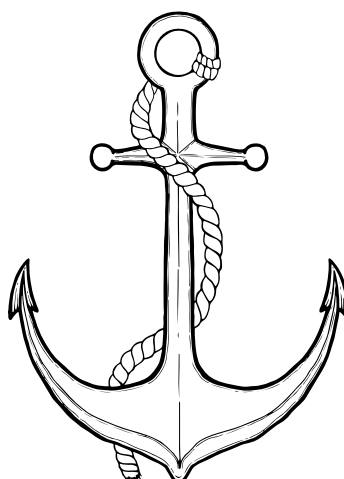
Secretary: Kyall Forster

Committee Members: John Pool, Tracy Benson & Shari Essex

Fleet Captains

Yacht Fleet :Greg Joice,

Ellis Beach: Rob Lattimore





Ellis Beach 2024 Calendar

Date	Event
2nd - 3rd March	Ellis Opening regatta
17th March	Ellis Club Racing
29th March - 1st April	Airlie Regatta / Nacra State Titles TBC
April 7th	Ellis Club Racing
April 21st	Ellis Club Racing
4th - 6th May	Tinaroo Mayday Regatta
May 19th	Ellis Club Racing
June 16th	Ellis Club Racing
July 14th	Ellis Club Racing
July 27th - 28th	Ellis Beach Annual Regatta
18th August	Ellis Club Racing
1st September	Ellis Club Racing
22nd September	Ellis Club Racing
5th - 7th October	Townsville Sprints Regatta
13th October	Ellis Club Racing
19th - 20th October	Mission Beach Regatta
2nd - 3rd November	Sail Bowen
10th November	Ellis Club Racing
16th - 17th November	Ellis Club Racing / End of year party



UPCOMING EVENTS

CYC SAILING CALENDAR 2024

MARCH

SUN 10
SPLISH SPLASH
SWIMWEAR LADIES
SKIPPER SERIES
TROPHY
SUN 17
SAM CADMAN
SERIES TROPHY

APRIL

SUN 7
ELLIS BEACH CLUB
DAY
SUN 21
ELLIS BEACH CLUB
DAY
SUN 21
COMMODORE'S CUP

MAY

SUN 12
CAIRNS - PORT
DOUGLAS TROPHY
SUN 19
ELLIS BEACH CLUB
DAY

JUNE

SUN 2
SAM CADMAN
SERIES TROPHY

JULY

SUN 7
ROBERT LEITNER
MEMORIAL TROPHY
SUN 14
ELLIS BEACH CLUB
DAY
SUN 21
ANNIVERSARY TROPHY
SAT 27- SUN 28
ELLIS BEACH ANNUAL
REGATTA

AUGUST

SUN 18
ELLIS BEACH CLUB
DAY

SEPTEMBER

SUN 1
ELLIS BEACH CLUB
DAY
SUN 15
TWO ISLANDS TROPHY
SUN 22
ELLIS BEACH CLUB
DAY
SAT 28- SUN 28
MAYOR'S REGATTA
TROPHY

OCTOBER

SUN 13
ELLIS BEACH CLUB
DAY
SUN 13
SAM CADMAN SERIES
TROPHY
SAT 25-SUN 27
FITZROY REGATTA
TROPHY

NOVEMBER

SUN 10
SPLISH SPLASH
SWIMWEAR LADIES
SKIPPER SERIES TROPHY
SUN 10
ELLIS BEACH CLUB
RACING
SAT 16 SUN 17
ELLIS BEACH CLUB
RACING/END OF YEAR
PARTY
SAT 23
AGM AND AWARDS NIGHT

DECEMBER

SUN 1
GREEN ISLAND
TROPHY

**CAIRNS
YACHT
CLUB**



**DON'T
FORGET!**

***WAGS racing every Wednesday, 12pm at
the Boat Shed (Weather Permitting)***

Our Fabulous Sponsors!



P.16

Thank you!

A massive thank you to our past & present sponsors for their amazing support! Where possible, please return the favour by utilising their services.



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