

MEET THE MEMBERS Q & A

IAN ARBER



How long have you been at PDSC?

I joined PDSC in 1973. Apart from 8 years at MBSC sailing 18ft Skiffs in the 80s and a couple of stints in USA I have been a member ever since

What does being a member of PDSC mean to you?

The club has been part of my life for 48 years. It's always been a great place to come back to after living overseas. I have sailed at many clubs around the world and none are better than PDSC

What are three words you would use to describe PDSC?

Great family club

Do you have any other hobbies apart from sailing?

I am a member at PFSYC and sail my keelboat from there on Friday afternoons and Sundays

Any random facts about PDSC to share with us?

My father Norm served on the committee and starting team for many years. He married Hilary a past Heron club champion and she wrote the book 'Sail Oh' for the club's centenary in 2003.

What might someone be surprised to know about you?

Was a grade 1 navigator/co-driver in car rallying back in the 80s

First memory at PDSC?

Bringing the Heron down to race on a Saturday afternoon and having so many Herons and Signets on the beach that we had to go the other side of Hale School boat shed to find rigging space

Favourite memory at PDSC?

Simply Irresistible – if you were there you will remember!

Funniest memory at PDSC?

The Rocky Horror skit by the 14s at the Talent night back in the 90s

What is your sailing history?

I started sailing at 1st Deepwater Point Sea Scouts in 1970. My father Norm decided to build me a sailing boat in 1973. We had to choose between a Manly Junior and a Heron. The decision was made to build a Heron and so I joined PDSC to race it. I sailed the Heron for 2 seasons and then graduated into 14s. There were no JDs in those days. I have had 11 14s since 1975 and sailed on 4 18ft Skiffs. Since 2010 I have had a couple of trailable sailing boats and now have a FARR 1020 Keelboat at PFSYC

What do you do when you aren't at PDSC?

Until recently I would have been on an aeroplane travelling to the businesses I manage in the Asia region

Why did you decide to become a Flag Officer?

After serving on the committee for a number of years I became a flag officer in 1997. Unfortunately in the year I was due to become Commodore I was transferred to USA so didn't get to complete the full term. It is important that members put back

What do you wish other people knew about PDSC?

The amount of work and dedication it takes to successfully run what is one of the few fully volunteer sailing clubs in Perth

What do you think the future of PDSC is?

PDSC has been successful because of the 2nd, 3rd and sometimes 4th generations have come through the club supported by parents and grandparents. Continuing this family involvement is key to the success of the club. The kids bring in their friends and although we worry about retention of sailors through their teens, PDSC has been more successful than most other clubs. Continuing success will come if this model can be continued into the future.

Do you have any advice for new members of PDSC?

When you start racing don't be afraid to ask the crews at the front of the fleet to help you get up to speed.

Which four individuals in the world, living or dead, would you like to have dinner with the most?

Isaac Newton, Leonardo Da Vinci, Archimedes, IK Brunel