



# MEET THE MEMBERS

## Q & A

### IAN FURLONG



#### How long have you been at PDSC?

I have been part of the dinghy family for 33 years

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

I am a self-employed fencing contractor, but I enjoy being involved in my kids sports outside of sailing and watching their development. I am assistant coach for my sons footy team and I coach the primary school footy team. I am involved in my son's cricket training. Also running around with our girl's netball commitments keeps Ness & I occupied.

#### What are three words you would use to describe PDSC?

Fantastic Childhood Environment

#### Do you have any other hobbies apart from sailing?

I enjoy fishing when I can get a chance to.

#### What might someone be surprised to know about you?

I served 6 years in the Navy, including 4 years on HMAS Darwin as a gas turbine/ electronics technician. I served in East Timor when we were the first warship on station. I was security detail for World Vision in the hills outside of Dili when the conflict with the TNI and Militia was commencing.

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

Peter Brock, Dan Riccardo, Justin Langer, Shane Warne

#### First memory at PDSC?

Jack Girvan's Shamrock rigged up on the grass next to the ramp.

#### Favourite memory at PDSC?

Climbing up on top of the old Kurrajong rescue boat and doing bombies off it and going to school Mondays with blue knees from the deck paint off Kurrajong.

#### Funniest memory at PDSC?

Sorry Murdoch. Unfortunately, Rob couldn't climb back into his skiff after a capsize near Mounts Bay Road. His only option was to climb the stairs and walk back to the club in his sailing gear. The "Walk of Shame" was born

#### What is your sailing history?

My time at the PDSC began through a family friendship with the Campbell family when I was 12 years old. Jack Girvan needed a crew, so I jumped on and we won the race. I was then addicted.

After many successful years with Jack I moved into the Javelins with Tom Burt where we achieved success at the Nationals in Ceduna. At 19, I moved into the 14ft Skiff with Brad Devine where we came 5th at our first Nationals/South Pacific championships at Sandringham YC. After this regatta I joined the Royal Australian Navy but once completed training in Melbourne, I was posted back to Perth and I teamed up with Tony Carr for the Perth I14 nationals where we were successful.

I was posted away for another four years but once returned Brad and I had a great period. We won nationals in every state and travelled to Canada and France, enjoying the challenges of sailing in different countries and unbelievably cold conditions.

In 2017, I teamed up with USA sailor, Terrance Gleeson, to win the North American championships in San Francisco and should have been heading to Hawaii this October with him again. Thanks to COVID19, this has been put on hold.

#### What does being a member of PDSC mean to you?

Being involved with group of members that are positive, can do people. It is infectious

#### What do you wish other people knew about PDSC

It is a casual environment where everyone is made welcome.

#### Do you have any advice for new members of PDSC?

Make sure you crew on a boat, it's cheaper than owning one.

#### What do you think the future of PDSC is?

The future is bright with the junior numbers strong. My kids haven't stopped hassling me to go sailing again back at the club and have built strong friendships which is what the club is all about.

#### Any random facts about PDSC to share with us?

We used to have a permanent caretaker living at the club in the current office area. With this the club was where we stayed most Saturday nights during the season. It was commonplace to be walking from Northbridge back along Mounts Bay Road to get home (PDSC) to sleep. Barney wasn't happy when we woke him up.