



MEET THE MEMBERS Q & A

MATTHEW CLARK-MASSERA



How long have you been at PDSC?

Since 2018, so a bit over 2 years now

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

I work as an electronic engineer for a GPS tracking company - when I'm not there I try to be out sailing

What are three words you would use to describe PDSC?

Fun, friendly, family

Do you have any other hobbies apart from sailing?

Swimming and cycling

What might someone be surprised to know about you?

I don't think I have any surprises

Any random facts about PDSC to share with us?

It's actually not all that cold in winter, you can get out there sailing

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

Matt Berry, Will Ferrell, Steve Carell, Matt White

First memory at PDSC?

As a junior I attended a camp run by Chris Kelly held at PDSC. We had 1 day it blew like mad and the other day was glass. We stayed in the clubhouse overnight - was plenty of fun

Favourite memory at PDSC?

Hard to pick as there are many, probably the first time I sailed the Jav with Dan. I met him for the first time that day, we rigged the Jav (I got the kite completely wrong) then we set off in 20+knots and might have won that race had I been able to gybe the kite properly! Close second was the first time we ever really got moving with some semblance of control and pace in about 22kts in the 14 - we felt like heroes after that day.

Funniest memory at PDSC?

Hard to pick from the many mishaps but probably when I managed to get a splinter of carbon from the centreboard embedded right below my left cheek (not the one on my face) after a capsize on the 14. Luckily once I got back to shore Brien Hennessy was there to perform the extraction surgery and Amanda Hanrahan was there to patch me up in the canteen and give the rest of the ladies in the canteen a show.

What is your sailing history?

I started sailing as a junior at Maylands Yacht Club sailing Mirrors and also Minnows, since then I have sailed Lasers, 29ers, 49erFX, Javelins and now an i14. One of my mates from MYC knew Dan Firns who needed a Jav crew and I've been at PDSC since.

What does being a member of PDSC mean to you?

Great place to spend the weekend sailing - we have some of the best water in the world to sail on. Fantastic group of people and volunteers that are always ready to lend a hand but also take the mickey out of you after sailing.

What do you wish other people knew about PDSC

Just how many top calibre sailors there are at this club and the sailing knowledge they have. The champions wall at the club is pretty big! But all these sailors (and everyone else at the club) still at the end of the day know how that we're here to have fun and not to take it too seriously

Do you have any advice for new members of PDSC?

Get involved and meet as many people as you can from across the fleets - there are characters everywhere

What do you think the future of PDSC is?

I think the club has a bright future as it manages to capture what we all love about sailing and why we got into it - fun and mates. That leaves us in good stead going forward and we have a membership base and committee ready to adapt to what comes in the future. It seems like there are fewer people out there keen to spend all weekend out on the water (can't blame them we are all a bit nuts doing it all the time) - so whatever we can do to keep people involved in sailing in some form, without an enormous time commitment will help in the future.