



eRhumb Lines

(A conga dance/
a line crossing all meridians at the same angle)

It is that time of year again and we are signing off on our last e-newsletter for 2007! What a fabulous year it has been with the last few months being extremely busy with 148 PSS courses commencing since 1 October! PSS will be celebrating its 30th Anniversary with 2 massive parties early in the New Year so stay tuned for details.

December and the festive season brings warm weather and beautiful sunsets so now is the time to get out of the office early and come sailing on our magnificent harbour. Check out our Christmas Specials and surprise your friends and family with a unique gift to go sailing this summer.

Terry and his family are all doing well and are extremely excited about Sarah Wise who was overall winner at the National Gymnastic Competition at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra. Go Sarah!



This month we feature:

1. Christmas Specials – save money for you and your friends
2. Sailing workshops – reward your team, family or friends
3. Crossing the ditch update – the boys are over halfway to New Zealand!
4. Sailing Holidays – we look back at our 2007 New Caledonia trip and forward to Thailand and Croatia in 2008
5. C8 Coastal Skipper Course sight Slap Happy the Whale
6. Course dates

Merry Christmas from all of the PSS crew. We hope you have a fabulous festive season and New Year.

We teach Sailing . Safety. and FUN!
From Vickie, Carla, Paula & Terry -
and the best team of Instructors in town!

Pacific Sailing School 02 9236 2399 www.pacificsailingschool.com.au

1. Christmas Specials

Try Sailing Lesson - \$95

Introduce your friends to the wonderful sport of sailing with a "Try Sailing" lesson on an exciting International J24 yacht on glorious Sydney Harbour. Lesson includes:

- 3 hours sailing
- Christmas Gift Package includes PSS Cap and Sunglass strap

Set Sail Course - \$545

Normally \$645, this special offer represents a saving of \$100. **Plus** we will give you **2 Try Sailing gift vouchers** for your friends. Total value of savings is \$290.

Give a friend a Set Sail course for Christmas. The Set Sail Course is a great introduction to Sydney Harbour and includes:

- 4 x 3 hour sailing lessons and one theory lesson
- Unlimited practice sessions available on a standby basis
- Christmas Gift pack includes PSS Cap and Sunglass strap

Discounted Individual Courses - \$100 off your next course

Our Christmas special will save you \$100 on your next Course, whether you aim to become Competent Crew or skipper your own boat offshore.

This special includes a \$100 discount off your next PSS Course **plus two Try Sailing gift vouchers** - total value of savings is \$290.

2. Sailing Workshops – great team building events

Reward your staff (or family and friends!) with the best team building event in Sydney! Our Sailing Workshops are a fantastic way for a group to learn to sail and race against the backdrop of beautiful Sydney Harbour.

Learn to sail in a safe environment before matching your new found skills against your colleagues during a number of exciting short races. We can accommodate a team of up to 28 on our fleet of International J24's – and as the boats are “one design” (ie the same), winning depends on the crew working well together. Celebrate and re-live the racing in the Sydney Hobart Bar at the Cruising Yacht Club with dinner and/or drinks.

We also have larger yachts that are available for bigger groups. Call us for more details including tailoring a specific package to your needs. We know your staff will thank you.

3. Crossing the ditch – the boys are over half way to New Zealand!

As at 7 December kayakers Justin and James are over half way to New Zealand. If successful, it will be the first ever crossing of “the Ditch” and the longest two man kayak expedition ever undertaken.



At a position of 36.086⁰S and 164.202⁰E the boys have traveled more than 1550 kms and are just over 900 kms from Auckland on a heading of 000⁰T. Terry is hoping to fly to NZ to co-ordinate a support boat for the final 3 days paddle (approx 80 NM from destination). Thanks to Daniel Millar in Manukau NZ who has offered to help with his 30' power boat *Extreme* with 250Hp 4 stroke.

Manukau Harbour is the second largest natural harbour in New Zealand. Tidal flow is rapid, and the bar across to the Tasman Sea is extremely dangerous. Terry is still looking for back up boats to help bring the boys to the finish line. If you have any friends or relatives who may be able to help out from around 28 December please drop Terry a line.



Check out the boys' progress at <http://www.crossingtheditch.com.au/>. See also live interview on Today Show at <http://video.msn.com/?mkt=en-AU&brand=ninemsn&vid=b6503642-5a12-4cdf-8ca6-2129b5878201>

4. Sailing Holidays



In 2008 Terry will lead PSS holidays to Thailand (January), Tonga (June) and Croatia (September). It's a tough job but someone has to do it...We have already filled one boat for the Croatia trip so be quick if you want to secure a spot on what will be a magnificent journey in the Med.

Anyone who has joined Terry on a PSS Sailing Holiday will vouch that it is definitely a trip of a life time. This year Terry and Gunnar led a 10 day cruise from Noumea to the pristine Loyalty Islands in New Caledonia. Who could have thought that it was possible to have so much fun?!



We enjoyed the spectacular coastline, deserted islands and the beautiful, remote Loyalty Islands while feasting on French/Asian inspired food, filling our days and nights with sailing, fishing, swimming, snorkeling, partying and general lazing.

Highlights included reaching Ouvéa, the island closest to paradise with its 25 km of soft white sand and turquoise lagoon. We met the Chief of the Island and swapped small gifts in accordance with local custom. The Chief granted us permission to enjoy the beauty of the island and some even more remote atolls.



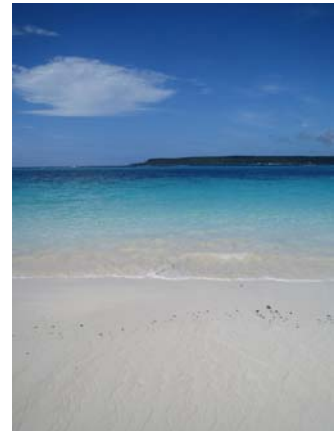
The school kids welcomed us with cheers, particularly when a spontaneous football match erupted. We watched the traditional fisherman and inspected their catch while trying to learn the local word for lobster. The fishermen were impressed with Terry's "unbreakable" rod.

Terry reckons he had one of the best meals in his life at a local restaurant and we had to take home bags of lobster, crab and bugs to include in our breakfast and lunch the next day.

During our sail across the lagoon to a deserted atoll we swam in the biggest swimming pool in the world in the middle of nowhere. After a cocktail party on the beach under the stars we played with the phosphorescent water on our way back to the catamarans.

Our final 14 hour sail to the main island of Lifou in strong breezes was rewarded by a fabulous Thai meal after a long shower on land. The next day a number of us discovered the most perfect lagoon we have ever seen.

A giant barracuda broke Terry's "unbreakable rod" but the memories will remain forever.



5. C8 Coastal Skipper – Slap Happy sighted again



Students had plenty of helming and navigation practice in challenging conditions during our four day return trip to Port Stephens in mid November. The crew enjoyed testing their stamina in a watch system while feasting on Terry's fabulous galley creations.

PSS sponsored whale "Slap Happy" was sighted again in the entrance to Port Stephens along with a calf. Dolphins provided

sunrise entertainment off the bow and in the fresh conditions in the afternoons.

All students considered that the trip was invaluable towards helping achieve their sailing ambitions; whether they aim to skipper their own boats, help with deliveries or crew in offshore races.

Click here for Jen's log of the journey.

http://www.pacificsailingschool.com.au/c8_coastal_skipper.pdf

6. PSS Course dates

<http://www.pacificsailingschool.com.au/15815.htm>

Course Dates

Try Sailing	Any day 9.30am or 12.30pm
C1 Set Sail	Any day 9.30am or 12.30pm
C2 Competent Crew	Any day 9.30am or 12.30pm
C5 - Small Craft Safety	9 March 2008
C6 - Bareboat Charter Skipper	8 & 9 December, 20 & 21 Jan 2008
C7 - Offshore Crew	22-25 Feb 2008

C8 - Coastal Skipper	28-31 Mar 2008
C9- Coastal Navigation	starts 8 Feb 2008
C12 - Marine Radio	11 April 2008
C14 - Safety & Sea Survival	15 & 16 December, 2 & 3 March 2008
C14 - SSSC Update	16 December, 3 March 2008

J24 Racing

<http://www.pacificsailingschool.com.au/15875.htm>

National Championships Perth - 8 races 5 to 11 January
2008

World Championship, Italy - 10 races 12 June to 20 June
2008

Sailing Holidays

<http://www.pacificsailingschool.com.au/15814.htm>

Thailand	17 - 27 January 2008
Tonga	9 - 19 June 2008
Croatia	11 - 29 September 2008