

Women pretty in pink for annual skipper race

By **BILL HOFFMAN**

AN annual yacht race that puts female skippers in charge of the fleet will have special significance this year for organiser Tracey Johnstone.

The Mooloolaba Yacht Club Ladies Skipper Race in 2009 joined the Pinktober list of breast cancer awareness events, raising more than \$2000 for the Queensland Cancer Council.

This year the event, to be staged tomorrow, will raise funds for Sunshine Coast-based charity the Cindy McKenzie Breast Cancer Foundation.

Cindy McKenzie, who died of breast cancer, was the partner of long-time yacht club member John O'Leary.

Ms Johnstone, who has had two family members touched by breast cancer, said the race was dear to her heart.

"I've become aware of the value of the support networks to both sufferers and their families," she said.

"The foundation is a really worthwhile organ-



BREAST CANCER SUPPORT: Pinktober Ladies Sailing Crew Sue Baines, Sue Canavan, Tracey Johnstone and Christine Turner

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isation."

Ms Johnstone said the fundraiser would be held in two parts.

While the yachts shore-

paced, with crews dressed in pink to mark the significance of the event, a lunch would be held from 1pm at the Wharf Tavern.

Sunshine Coast businesses have contributed to a raft of raffle prizes. Following the yacht race a flotilla will parade past the tavern

before tying up, with crews joining the activities and trophy presentations.

To attend call Ms Johnstone on 0438 644 557.