



GOOD SPORTS

THE BOW-BALL BULLETIN

Information from the sharp end of our activities

Newsletter of Hawthorn Rowing Club

General enquiries: hrc@hawthornrowingclub.com

Captain: captain@hawthornrowingclub.com

Website: www.hawthornrowingclub.com

NO.131 - 5

JUNE 2008

HRC SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscription invoices will be posted in early August and will be due for payment by 31st August. Please pay promptly and save the Committee the extra effort of chasing your payment. Those who have not paid by 31st August will be unfinancial and will not be entitled to use Club resources.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: CHANGE OF CLUBHOUSE LOCKS

At the 28 May 2008 HRC Committee meeting, the committee resolved that due to numerous and unaccountable keys for the club, it would be prudent that HRC change the locks. We have tentatively booked in the weekend at the end of August. Details of the process will be available in coming months. Please note: only financial members of the club commencing the 2008/09 season will be allocated a new key. If you already have a key there will be no requirement to apply to the committee for a key. Please take note of the date in your calendars. More details to follow including any fees to be incurred.

WATER SAFETY POLICY

Thank you to members who are adhering to the HRC Water Safety Policy, and in particular, filling in the log book. Just a reminder that when filling out the log book, you need put write down all crew members names, not just one crew members name. And yes it includes use of privately owned boats too.

CAUTION ABOUT SECURITY AROUND HRC

HRC members are reminded to be cautious about leaving valuables in their car whilst out rowing. We have had a report of a car being broken into around HRC recently – wallet hidden in glove box was stolen. Please also be reminded that bringing wallets and other valuables into the Club is also not a good idea - unless locked away in the lockers.

HOY HISTORY

Tanya Newman is working on a website of historical records of the race since it's inception, and many thanks largely to the records Geoff Code so diligently kept. It has been very interesting!! She is also developing a page of all the clubs and the years they entered - this part is probably the most fascinating!

Check it out at www.headoftheyarra.com

Help is required however:

- In those first few years there were two classes of High School Fours races held "alongside" "Head of the Yarra" - Junior Fours and Senior Fours. Can anyone tell us where / what distance this was run, and was it prior or post the Head of the Yarra event? We're assuming when it was dropped from the program it was dropped altogether? (last mentioned in program in 1961)
- Bc we are missing a number of programs in the 1970's we're not sure when the distance of the race was changed from the 5.5 miles (starting at Princes Bridge) to it's current start line (shorter). Anyone know?
- When were handicaps first applied? Did they exist in the 1960's vets events?
- Photos of the collection of official HOY T-Shirts!

Aside from Geoff who has obviously handed over all he has - we are missing a number of records / programs which you may or may not have copies of in your own personal records. Even if you want to keep them, we'd love to see them / be sent a scan.

Please note some records missing (need programs) for 1957, 1963, 1968 and 1982-84, 1987-1989, 1992, 1994, 1997. No records available for 1971 - 1981, 1985, (except fastest crew) (Need programs and results for sections).

If you can help please contact Tanya Carson on 9819 3243.



CLUBHOUSE DEVELOPMENT

1. Boroondara Rowing Development Group.

A meeting took place on 26th May to discuss development plans for the Boroondara multi club facility (attended by PF-S & Denis Bourke). The key item was the design brief and the content of a Memorandum of Understanding for agreement between Council and the 3 parties, Xavier, Hawthorn R.C. and Genazzano.

Hawthorn and Xavier both voiced concern at the items below amongst a range of other key issues relating to design brief and MoU:

- Inability of the proposed Multiplex footprint to house the fleet of the 3 clubs
- Reliance of a Hydraulic boat storage idea (in existence nowhere in the world) to provide storage for boats
- Shared nature of proposed key amenity in toilets, change, gymnasium & social facilities
- Issues re timetabling & scheduling of facility usage
- Issues in relation to loss of club identity
- Uncertainty and issues in Management of clubs and facility
- Issues related to other community usage of facility and claims on usage of amenity
- Issues in relation to facility costs & the imposed liability to the stakeholders of a council managed project.

These and a range of other issues and expectations by both Xavier and Hawthorn rendered the chair of the meeting unable to develop any consensus and to close the meeting without resolution. The Chair will report to council that agreement is not able to be reached with stakeholders on the current design brief and scope of project.

The 3 parties within the meeting Xavier, Hawthorn & Genazzano, agreed to meet separately to council (on 16 June) to discuss the project and report back to council on 23 June on the findings of their meeting which will aim to establish a position in relation to viability of the project and possible ways forward. From Hawthorn's perspective, the way forward will include a call for upgrade and extension of existing clubhouse on the extended footprint including the cage area, refurb of Xavier and separate build for Genazzano.

The bottom line of all this is that the Multiclub facility design brief has failed to live up to the expectations of both Xavier and Hawthorn. It fails to preserve the

identity of the club and look after management of members interests. Both Xavier and Hawthorn clubs will not endorse the proposal as it currently stands. As such, at a minimum timelines will blow out to 2010 while design brief & MoU are revisited. An alternative outcome is that the council may need to revert to the extend, build & refurbish alternative that was option B of the original review design recommendation.

2. VCAT

On 30 May a local residents group, The Victorian Canoe & Kayak association and HRC attended a hearing with VCAT on a determination for Genazzano to build and use a 15 meter cage sited on the car park area to the North of Xavier.

HRC's objection relates to the loss of valuable car park amenity, and the impact a cage sited here would cause to site congestion, turning of trailers, access to clubhouse and impact on events such as HOTY & other regattas from site.

Firstly a number of anomalies in council approvals processes were exposed through the hearing.

Secondly a unanimous call was made by all parties including Genazzano & independent traffic engineers not to close the site via bollards as proposed in the council's site management plan. As such I'm confident that this aspect wont get up.

As for the key issue of sitting of a cage in the car park, the Tribunal judge will visit the site (probably on a Sunday morning) over the next two weeks to assist her to make a determination as to whether Genazzano can firstly build a cage, and secondly, if so, what conditions will be imposed to get permission to use a cage on site. "Build" & "Usage" as I learned are two distinct legal beasts. While I can't pre-empt the tribunal findings, I am confident that our objections have been heard and will be taken into account in the determination of the tribunal.

On behalf of the club I'd like to thank Roz Wilson our legal counsel and Andrew Carson for all the work put in to preparing our case.

Pat Freeland-Small
HRC President



GOOD SPORTS

RV AWARDS

Many thanks especially to the HRC community for voting in the People's Choice Regatta of the Year category. We won some awards again!

- People's Choice Regatta of the Year: **Head of the Yarra**
- Male A Grade rower of the Year: **Shane O'Connor-Smith** (we would like to think Shane's smiling on the inside as he receives his award from RV Director Andrew Guerin)



REGATTAS

Victorian State Masters Championships Saturday 17th May, Nagambie Lakes

Congratulations to the number of members who competed at this regatta.

Most notably we can report that we came third in two events:

- Female Masters Coxless Quad Scull: (**Sandra Binnie, Gabbi Hare-Brown, Josie Bant and Megan Boness**)
- Mixed Eight: (**Beagles plus the above women**)

Congratulations!

Australian Masters Championships Saturday 17th May, Nagambie Lakes

Congratulations to the number of members who competed at this regatta.

Most notably we can report that we came third in two events:

- Male Masters D Eight – 6th in final (**Beagles plus some Banks mates**)
- Female Masters E Coxless Quad – 6th in heat (**Sandra Binnie, Gabbi Hare-Brown, Josie Bant and Megan Boness**)
- Male Masters I Quad Scull – 2nd in first and final (**Neil Cash and Rupe Horsburgh** in composite crew with Banks)
- Male Masters B Coxed Four – 2nd in first and final (**Simon Spriggs** in composite crew with Toowong)

- Mixed Masters E Double Scull – 4th in first and final (**Josie Bant** with Cardinal sculler)
- Male Masters D Four – 7th in heat (**Dave Coe, Mal Coe, JB, Bruce Winnen, coxed by Rory Shannon**)
- Female Masters E Single – **Josie Bant** 5th in final

UPCOMING REGATTAS

Saturday 4th October – Royal Flying Doctor Service Murray River Rowathon.

To enter: notify either Andrew or Fiona **no later than the Wednesday before the advertised closing date.** In addition the entry money will need to be collected by a crew member and placed in an envelope with the crew members names in the tin behind the bar by this date. All competitors must be financial.

If you have not raced in the last 4 years, you will also have to supply a photocopy of your drivers licence, birth certificate or passport. Be sure to do this early.

- V. Captain - Fiona Hilbert - 0414 909 730
- Club Secretary - Andrew Carson - (H) 9819 3243
- Junior Squad Coach - Simon Spriggs - 0405 314 870

HRC MERCHANDISE

Seen the rugby tops around and wished you had ordered one? Well, there are two still available for sale: a small and a large. \$65 each.



President Pat F-S wearing his HRC rugby top. It is embroidered with the HRC logo, and has Hawthorn written under the collar.



To secure a rugby top please contact Tanya Newman on 9819 3243. First in, best dressed (so to speak)!

UPCOMING EVENTS

HRC Quiz Night

7pm Saturday 29th June

HRC Clubhouse

\$10 per head, \$5 per junior, \$20 per family includes tea, coffee, cordial and cake

BYO supper

We have two home-grown and experienced quiz leaders: JB Stewart (senior HRC member and Beagle) and Bella Damm (Junior HRC member and Junior Women's Captain for 07/08 season) - Great prizes, great quiz leaders, a great night!

Please RSVP to Heidi Winnen (h) 9824 1025 or setco@ozemail.com.au

Club Races and BBQ

Sunday 6th July - always a popular day for all, have a race, win a medallion, and enjoy the lunch. (please note the first Sunday of June coincides with the Australian Masters' regatta at Nagambie hence no club races, Club Races will be run every two months there after from July).

Time: be at the club by 10am, races usually start by 10:30 an run till we have had an elimination of crews down to a winning crew

Cost : There is a small charge for the food (Meat, Salads and Bread) \$5 for Juniors and \$10 for the not so junior. Beverages and soft drinks are available at bar prices.

Questions: Heidi Winnen - setco@ozemail.com.au

Annual General Meeting and BBQ

Sunday 27th July

More details to follow but put it in your diary. A short meeting followed by club awards for seniors and juniors, followed by a lovely lunch.

Please find attached a nomination form for Committee. Please be reminded the committee structured was changed at the last ½ yearly general meeting and will as of the 2008/09 season consist of:

- President
- Vice President
- Captain
- Vice Captain
- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer
- 3 general members

EVENTS

HRC ANZAC Service & Working Bee Sunday 20th April

Many hands make light work and that was exactly as it appeared when a large number of the members from the youngest to the most senior all pitched in to clean up the cage and shed. It really made the place look brand new. Thanks to all that helped as the clean up was long overdue.

The ANZAC service which is traditionally held on the Sunday before ANZAC day itself was also well attended. This year instead of the usual recorded music we were fortunate enough to have a live bugler as well as the service held in the new location up the hill where council moved our memorial. Geoff Code again lead the remembrance service. Drink followed in the bar afterwards.

HRC is one of the few sporting clubs to have an actual monument dedicated to club members who died on active service.



Club Races 4th May

Everyone had a great time at the last club races. We had four crews racing with winners being Bruce Winnen (Str), Felix Kramer, Emma Roberts, Tim Kenyon-Smith, and Neil Courtney (Cox). Once again it was a crew with three members of Simon's junior Squad in the winning crew (they must have been pulling Bruce along!).....

BBQ run by Peter and Kym Halliday (many thanks).



HEAD OF THE YARRA

Saturday 29th November

The date is now set – so put it in your diary.

The 2008 event will be the 50th staging of the event so be prepared for some special activities.

Feel free to check out the new and constantly being updated website too, in particular the results and history of the last 50 events has been added to the website (the last 10 years still being done). You may be able to help if you have any of the old programs lying around at home. Happy reminiscing!

CAN YOU HELP?

If you have talents that we do not know of and want to put something back into the club, by all means please contact us, to help with the running of this enormous event. Contact either Mal Coe, the regatta Secretary (mcoe8924@bigpond.net.au) or Andrew Carson, club Secretary (hrc@hawthornrowingclub.com)

HOY JOB VACANCY – AND NO ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS REQUIRED!!

Assistance is still sought to oversee the HOTY Heroes Awards – in effect acknowledging those who have competed many, many times in Head of the Yarra. An application form has already been created, all you have to do is manage all applications. If you are interested please contact Tanya Newman (9819 3243).

GOSSIP & MEMBERS NEWS

- Marcus Presser** has gone transferred to Japan with work for two years!

The club wishes both Marcus and Cherie all the best and welcome them at the club at any time, should they want to have a row while back here in Melbourne visiting. The club has not seen too much of Marcus over the last few months as he has been commuting between here and Tokyo to find a place to stay while based there more permanently.

A few members from the squad of prior years that Marcus trained with held a brunch to farewell Marcus and Cherie.

ALISONISM'S

- None to report.

LETTER TO EDITOR

I take issue with instructions to prepare to row which seem peculiar to Hawthorn Rowing Club as I don't recall hearing them used elsewhere.

The call "Sit up crew" should be sufficient for anyone with a modicum of acumen to sit forward with the blade placed in the water at the engineered rowing height (not buried!)

Anyone who has pulled more than two strokes under racing conditions would immediately recognise that it is physically and ergonomically impossible to row with a square blade buried as the rigging is engineered for the blade to be set about 2cms over squared and if rowed squared and buried under pressure, the blade would be locked in the water and impossible to extricate at the finish of the stroke.

Yours sincerely

Rupert Horsburgh
23 May 2008

BBB & EMAIL NEWS

Members are reminded that the club's newsletter BBB is just that a newsletter, and in order for articles to be included they have to be forwarded to the committee in time for each publication. The cut off for new articles is the last weekend of the odd months of the year.

Thank you to those who do make contributions, as these are what make the newsletter work. To submit anything, please email hrc@hawthornrowingclub.com

Please do let us know of regatta news and the like, as often RV can be a little slow getting all the results on their website, which hinders our information flow to the membership in a timely manner.

Like so many of the duties about the club, both the email newsletter and the BBB publication jobs are up for grabs and those of you in the membership that would like to take this on board are most welcome.

Please let the secretary know if you are interested or wish to know more.

LETTER TO FRIENDS OF SHANE O'CONNOR SMITH

It is in light of this that we then circulate to the membership Shane O'Connor Smith's letter, which began as an email. Apologies to those who have already received it on email, but we are aware not all members are on email. It was replied to an HRC email news bulletin in which (as you will get from the gist of what's written below) the secretary omitted to mention Shane's A Grade Rower of the Year award from RV. At the time RV had not published the results on their website, and the secretary had not otherwise been

notified, to which he apologised to Shane and rectified it with another email to the membership. There is little point making a response to the following as Shane is now racing for another club, however it should generally be pointed out that much of this information is inaccurate, Mr Carson is not solely responsible for all communication to members, and the Olympic sculling champion he refers to is actually called Mr Antonie. However Shane wished his thoughts to be known so here they are.

Please also note that as of May Shane is now racing for Power House, not Hawthorn, and the club does wish him well.

Date: Thu, 24 Apr 2008

In addition to the People's choice 'Regatta of the Year' award outlined below in Mr Carson's attempt to 'keep us all informed' there was also another awarded that night on behalf of Hawthorn Rowing Club. That is the Male A Grade Rower of the year won by myself for the second consecutive year. I mention this with much embarrassment and understand that its mention could lead one to conclude a blatant attempt at self-promotion. However, I feel the need to bring this award to the reader's attention since it is another (in a string of) act of deliberate omissions by the not so 'honorable' secretary of Hawthorn Rowing Club.

The first deliberate omission of Mr. Carson's pathetic attempt at propaganda took place shortly after my victory of the 'Scullers Head of the Yarra,' earlier this year. During this race I defeated not only Olympic Gold medallist and defending race champion Mr. Anthony, but also three rowers recently returning from World championships. I also defeated one rower currently in the Australian eight bound for Beijing, 6 scullers currently associated with the Victorian Institute of Sport and many young (talent identified) up and comers from Mercantile and Melbourne Uni in a field comprising 54 entries. In addition to this I rowed the fastest recorded time in the history of the event. Two weeks prior to the 'Scullers Head Yarra' I rowed another course record in the mens open division of the Head of the Maribronng.

No record of these achievements has been made in the Bow Ball. To add insult to injury I was initially treated with indifference, then disdain and finally disrespect after attempting to bring this to the attention to the committee by way of Mr. Carson and current Vice Captain, Fiona Hilbert. Of course no amendment or mention, let alone apology, of these achievements was then made in further publications of the Bow Ball.

In addition to these achievements I have also won close to 15 A grade/open sculling races, during the 07 – 08 regatta season, culminating with an A grade

sculls title at the Victorian State Championships. I also recorded the fastest time every race during the winter sculling series in the men's open division and again raced current and former Australian and Victorian team members.

Earlier this year at the Australian Indoor Rowing Championships won the men's Masters 4 min event in record time. I then teamed with fellow club member Simon Sprigs and took first place, winning a new concept II rowing machine, in the corporate teams event and again we set a new Games record. The fact that these achievements were done whilst racing under Hawthorn colors during the 08-regatta season must be brought to the reader's attention. I solemnly believe it will be Mr. Carson's intent to deny acknowledgement of these facts during the end of season general meeting and awards night for Hawthorn RC.

So overt is Mr. Carson's contempt that recently my Henley on Maribynon Regatta entry was refused until this fact was brought to the attention of Rowing Victoria by (Essendon) the host club.

Realizing that he now longer had any choice but to enter me he then vented his frustration by the cowardly use of aggressive phone call. This is not the action of a person who is passionate about promoting competitive rowing.

I do not believe it honorable or justifiable that someone should hide behind a committee position and use their position of privilege to persecute a member of the club. The fact that my achievement (whilst worthy of note) is not mentioned below should be obvious evidence to the reader that Mr. Carson has used (and uses) his position for personal vindication.

Although I have indicated my desire to leave Hawthorn Rowing Club I am still currently a member that is receiving awards and winning races on behalf of Hawthorn RC. Therefore I would appreciate if Mr. Carson waits until my back is completely turned before he thrusts the knife.

I would like to request that those who consider me a friend, have rowed with, been coach by, or simply consider me a fellow member of Hawthorn over the last 6 years, to forward this message to others who consider me as such.

Shane O'Connor-Smith.



REMINDERS / ALERTS

Here's yet another reminder to ensure ALL club members are aware of the following.

- **BOAT USAGE / BOOKING BOATS:** Members are reminded to book the boats they intend to train in on the whiteboards at the bottom of the stairs. And before taking a boat out, ensure it is not already booked!
- **BOAT CARE:** Care of club equipment needs to be exercised at all times – ensure boats are washed (on the inside and the outside) after use.
- **BOAT LIGHTS:** It is YOUR responsibility to have a set of lights of your own. Between dusk and dawn you need **BOTH** a **WHITE FLASHING LIGHT** on your **stern** and a **WHITE (non-flashing) LIGHT** on your **bow**. **Lights are to be attached to the ends of the boat - not to rowers / coxswain.** If you don't have lights and you're planning on being out on the water anytime between dusk and dawn – **DON'T GO OUT.**
- **IF A BOAT IS DAMAGED:** Boat damage can be reported using a form located at the club or from the documents section of the website. Completed forms can be pinned to the committee noticeboard. **PLEASE NOTE:** When a boat is tagged as damaged **it is not to be rowed**, even if it looks like it could be.

- **TIDE TIP:** Check out this website to plan when you train! In the first field - select 'Melbourne (Williamstown)' then select the date you want; click 'submit'. In dropdown menu on next page click on 'River Yarra - Hawthorn' - and it tells you to add 25 mins to the times in the table (it does not change the table).
<http://www.bom.gov.au/oceanography/tides/MAPS/melbourne.shtml>
- **ROWING SAFELY INCLUDING WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF CAPSIZING:** RV has two safety documents that all club members should be familiar with: The Row Safe brochure provides general tips on safe rowing; The Capsize Manual provides a guide to management strategies for helping your crew recover from capsize. These documents can also be viewed and downloaded from the RV website www.rowingvictoria.asn.au
- **FOOTWEAR:** Please note **footwear is strongly recommended for all rowers** - not only do you not want any cuts on your feet getting infected from the Yarra water, but syringes have been found washed up on the jetty.
- **HELP KEEP JETTY SAFE:** There are brooms downstairs in the clubhouse for brushing down the landing. You may like to make use of these while waiting for your crew to turn up – it certainly warms you up ready for a row, and helps prevent you from slipping when putting the boat in or out of the water.

YARRA RIVER CLOSURES & EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION	WATERWAY STATUS	LOCATION
JUNE				
Saturday 14 th	8:30am – 11:00am	Round the Island	Open River – Flag System	Herring Island to Judges Box
Saturday 21 st	8:30am – 11:00am	Winter Sculling Round 1	Open River – Flag System	Morell Bridge to Judges Box
Saturday 28 th	8:30am – 11:00am	Winter Sculling Round 2	Open River – Flag System	Morell Bridge to Judges Box
JULY				
Saturday 5 th	8:30am – 11:00am	Winter Sculling Round 3	Open River – Flag System	Morell Bridge to Judges Box
Saturday 12 th	8:30am – 11:00am	Winter Sculling Round 4	Open River – Flag System	Morell Bridge to Judges Box
Saturday 19 th	8:30am – 11:00am	Winter Sculling Round 5	Open River – Flag System	Morell Bridge to Judges Box
Sunday 20 th	7:00am – 5:00pm	Canoeing Victoria Winter Series Race 5	Open River	Punt Road to Gardeners Creek
Saturday 26 th	8:30am – 11:00am	Winter Sculling Round 7	Open River – Flag System	Morell Bridge to Judges Box
AUGUST				
Saturday 16 th	8:30am – 11:00am	Scullers' Head of the Yarra	Open River – Flag System	Herring Island to Judges Box
SEPTEMBER				
Saturday 12 th & Sunday 13 th	7:00am – 5:00pm	Canoeing Victoria Victorian Marathon Championships	Open River	Punt Road to Gardeners Creek

HAWTHORN ROWING CLUB Inc.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS AND MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

NOMINATION FORM

I am willing to be nominated for the position of

of the Hawthorn Rowing Club Inc. for the year

Name in full:

Date:

.....
(Signature of Nominee)

Proposed by

Seconded by

I certify that the above Nomination is in order, and that the Member nominated is eligible for election under the Rules, and that the Nomination was received on

.....
(Secretary)

NOTE: Return to the Secretary not later than 1 WEEK PRIOR TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING