

THE BOW-BALL BULLETIN

Information from the sharp end of our activities



Newsletter of Hawthorn Rowing Club

General enquiries: hrc@hawthornrc.inter.net.au

Captain: captain@hawthornrc.inter.net.au

Website: www.hawthornrc.inter.net.au

NO.128 - 5

MAY 2005

HRC CONTACTS & WEBSITE:

Please note we have set up some general email addresses and online information for your convenience:

Email general enquiries: hrc@hawthornrc.inter.net.au

Email the Captain: captain@hawthornrc.inter.net.au

HEAD OF THE YARRA



HOY was awarded the People's Choice Regatta for 2005 at the recent RV Awards Night – congratulations to the club!

Planning is currently underway for the 2005 Head of the Yarra – if you are interested in being involved in the management of and preparing for the event please contact Mal Coe: **Mobile:** 0419 905 562 or **E-mail:** hoyenq@hawthornrc.inter.net.au

Some specific job roles will be advertised shortly, calling for members with expertise or an interest in the fields to volunteer their assistance. Stay tuned for details.

GOSSIP & MEMBERS NEWS:

- Happy Birthday to **Ron Foskett**, who turned 87 on the 19th May. He even got up early to go for a row on his birthday!
- **Heidi Winnen**, albeit for her services to Y Rowing Club, was awarded a coach recognition award at the recent RV awards presentation night. Congratulations!
- **Rob Paxton** has come through two significant surgical operations with flying colours - he recovered sufficiently to even have a row between operations. We all wish Rob a rapid recovery.
- **Julie McNamara's** daughter Alice (MUBC) has been selected to represent Australia in the U23LW2x at the World Championships in Europe. Details of fundraising events are on the club noticeboard, including wine sale order forms.

ALISONISMS:

- At the end of the Melbourne Masters regatta, the trailer was loaded ready to return to HRC.... However it was noticed that Neil and Chris de G were still out on the water racing their final of the 2x. A comment was made "Do you think Neil and Chris would notice if we left without them?"
- Beagle member **JB**, when asked why he doesn't ever rig or tie boats down: "I'm rope shy". (Incidentally the last time JB rigged a boat, many years ago and before joining HRC, he attached the rigger to the boat around a street pole!)
- At the Geelong Masters regatta the girls helped the Beagles rig boats, get bow numbers etc as they had a few races in quick succession early in the day. The girls then rigged their quad and put it straight out on the water to head up to the start. Needless to say there was a bit of a problem when the crew went to get into the boat to put their oars in and push off..... and found no seats!

REGATTAS:

Some well attended regattas by a good mixture of HRC club members has finished off the season!

Mildura Regatta Saturday 26th March

Marcus, Marcus... a Mildura boy and he still forgot about the bend in the river! Thanks for being our sole representative and thanks to Wentworth Rowing Club for lending him a scull.

Albert Park – South Melbourne Regatta Saturday 16th April

Unfortunately this regatta was cancelled at the last minute, which was a shame as we had a huge number of entries, ranging right through from beginner, to senior, and lots of Masters too. We even had a BRO organised!

Melbourne Masters Regatta Saturday 30th April

A great display of HRC on the water. Entries included Women's Masters Pair, Four and Quad, and Men's Single, Double scull, an all Hawthorn MM4+ first and final, AND, low and behold a Men's Masters EIGHT!! Needless to say Hawthorn won the MM4+, of the three HRC crews racing, the winners were:

Neil Courtney (St), Don Hume (3), David Deeble (2), Donald Gibb (Bow), and Tanya Newman (cox).

Thanks to Greg VP for towing and Bill Goodwin for being BRO.

Geelong Masters Regatta Saturday 7th May

9 rowers spent the day racing up and down the course at Geelong. The Beagles rowed a coxless pair (Bruce and Mal) and the Masters Four. The girls rowed singles (Tanya and Alison), four and quad. Greg Van Prooyen raced the single, and replaced Greg Sullings to combine the Beagles and girls to make a MIXED EIGHT!!! Apart from the crew never having rowed together, nor the borrowed coxswain having much experience coxing (let alone coxing an eight), it was an amazing sea-sickness experience from just about every seat of the boat. Congratulations to Alison for winning the Women's Novice single scull (in a racing boat). Thanks to Mal for coxing the girls, and to Greg VP for towing the trailer.

BOAT LIGHTS REMINDER:

The days are shorter again so here's your reminder: It is **YOUR responsibility to have a light of your own.**

They can be purchased from Rowing Victoria or Rowbust. Between dusk and dawn you need a **WHITE FLASHING LIGHT** on your stern and a **WHITE (non-flashing) LIGHT** on your bow.

FINE is \$160

See note about HRC Boat Light Challenge on p4.

UPCOMING REGATTAS:

Towing fees are to be determined and will vary from regatta to regatta, due to the number of competitors attending each regatta and the distance traveled.

Contact Andrew on 0402 893 704 or email captain@hawthornrc.inter.net.au

Riverside RC Masters Sprint

Sat 18th June on the Torrens – **South Australia**

Entry fee: \$5, to max of \$15 Entries due: 07/06/05

Murray River Rowathon

Sat 1st October on Murray River

Entry fee: \$20.00 per rower and coxswain

Entries due: 01/09/05

This event is open to all types of rowing boats and covers 94km in a day, rowing from Boundary Bend to Robinvale. Check out the Rowathon website:

http://www.geocities.com/roger_boyce

You personally don't have to row the whole distance – you can relay it as there are stops for morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea where crew changes can easily occur. The scenery is great too!

The amount raised for the Royal Flying Doctor Service by the 2004 Rowathon - the rowers, their support crews and the volunteers from the Robinvale / Euston district - was, at \$25,500, a record.

Contact Andrew ASAP if you are interested in this event as this takes quite a bit of preparation and organising, and there are city clubs looking for additional rowers.

Incidentally the Murray River Rowathon Committee is looking for an HRC member to be on the committee (meetings are held at HRC). If you are interested please contact Roger Boyce: rogerb@melbpc.org.au

BOAT MAINTENANCE / DAMAGE NOTIFICATION:

If you damage any boat or oar(s) there is now a form online for you to fill in. For those who may still not be up with such technology please ensure you continue to contact the captain to make him aware. The website is: www.hawthornrc.inter.net.au/onlinemaintenance.html

PLEASE NOTE: When a boat is tagged as damaged it is not to be rowed, even if it looks like it can be. When something is found to be not quite right it should also be reported. There will be hard copies of damage forms left in the club house for those that don't have email/internet access. Suggest you note down what is wrong with equipment before you get home/or to work to fill out the online form.

REGATTA COMMENTS

FROM THE CAPTAIN:

Following some confusion during the season about entry fees and regatta rules here's some clarification:

- If you put in an entry and then scratch, you will forfeit your entry fee. This includes scratchings made before regatta day.
- If you scratch on race day, this needs to occur at least one hour before the regatta commences or a fine may follow (the fine is even greater if a crew does a no show and has not been scratched).
- If a regatta is cancelled, entry fees are forfeited.
- At all regattas where 9 or more competitors from HRC are racing, we **MUST** provide a BRO. HRC has already received its share of warnings (from earlier in the season), so we are now up for fines which could also lead to disqualification from competition.
- If one crew member wears a hat then all crew members who choose to wear a hat must wear the same type (colour and style). So, no, you don't all have to wear a cap, but whoever does, must wear the same cap.
- If one crew member wears a short sleeved or long sleeved top underneath their zootie/singlet, then ALL crew members must wear the same style. So if one crew member wants to wear a long sleeved top, all crew members must wear long sleeved or if one member wears a short sleeved top, then all crew must wear short sleeved. A way around this can often be to wear what you want to the start line, then take off any non uniform prior to racing.

BRO REMINDER

A reminder calling for requests for the membership to become BROs. Please be aware that as competitive members you will also be expected to volunteer some time performing this duty. You can become a BRO online at the RV website under Education and Training Link. If there is enough interest for those not driven by online functions, the club can arrange for a crash course one day if suitable numbers want to do this - we will need a minimum of 15 people and 3 weeks notice to RV. Please contact the Captain captain@hawthornrc.inter.net.au to register your interest.

The Captain

By Bill Goodwin

At the last committee meeting



OTHER BOAT & ROWING

NEWS:

PRIVATE BOAT STORAGE

All private boat owners need to be aware that the committee recently passed the annual boat storage fee for 2005/2006. The private boat storage fee for the coming financial year is \$300 per annum per boat. Private Boat owners also need to be aware that the location and rack allocation of private boats can be reviewed by the captain at any time. Private boat storage must be approved by the captain prior to racking a boat.

WANTING A ROW?

A new board is about to be created at the club for members to register their interest to row – ideal for those whose crew may have fallen apart a little during these cooler winter months, or for members looking for additional rows with other members. The board is for members to write their name, contact details and preferred time to row, and for other members who are interested to contact the members directly.

ROWING DEVELOPMENT

Due to the influx of members out of the corporate rowing program, a development group has been established to integrate the new members into our Club. In the past, graduates of the corporate program that have become members have not been fully supported in further developing their rowing. The aim of the development group is to pool new and existing members back into one body to maximize time on the water and coaching. This also ensures that each member of HRC has equal access to training and facilities, and is aware of the procedures that exist in and around the club.

The development group is training on Thursday nights at 6pm. We would like to invite all members that are interested in training or helping out to drop down to the club during this time. We also ask for your cooperation with building up squads as these new members are integrated into the club.

HEART RATE MONITORS:

Final reminder to contact the captain captain@hawthornrc.inter.net.au if you are interested in purchasing a heart rate monitor. These are suitable for the young and old alike – and a way of monitoring your health and well-being. There are currently 6 members that have indicated interest, and if we can get 10 or more interested people there could be significant savings on the purchase price. For more information about the types of heart rate monitors available have a look at the Polar website in Australia - <http://www.pursuit-performance.com.au/polar/>

HRC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2004/2005:

Forget the footy fixtures – come and hear about the club and vote for your 2005/06 committee. The AGM will be held on the evening of Friday 15th July at the clubhouse at 7.30pm. Nominations for election of HRC Office-bearers must be forwarded to the HRC secretary no later than 15th June. Please find a nomination form attached to the edition of BBB.

SOCIAL EVENTS:

Rowing Open Day with Club Races and lunch

Sunday 22nd May

A great day was had by those who attended. We even had a VIS rower sent by RV to assist us with any passer bys, of which we had about a dozen. Thanks to all who helped out, and to Sue Botta once again for such a fantastic spread of salads and BBQ food to follow the club races. Club races were won by: Neil Courtney (St), Alan Purton (3), Mary McNeil (2) and Richard James (Bow), coxed by RV President David Deeble.

Note from Social Committee: The Social Committee would like to compile a list of people within the club who would be happy to be called on occasionally to help with Social Committee functions. This help would be to operate the BBQ or prepare a salad or a plate of food for one of the various club functions held throughout the year, helping to share the load amongst club members. If you would be willing to add your name to the Helper List please contact Sue Botta on 9853 7236. If you have a choice of BBQ manning or would like to list the salad or dish you are known for, please feel free to add this info.

Upcoming Events

CLUB TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 4th June - 7pm

Join in the fun of this annual HRC event! Come on your own or in a group – table arrangements (of 8) can be organised on the night.

7pm for a 7.30pm start.

\$25 a head including supper. RSVP to Sue Botta: 9853 7236

CLUB RACES & LUNCH

Sunday 31st July

names in by 10.30am
lunch \$10 a head

CLUB TALENT NIGHT

Saturday 13th August - 7pm

Skits, songs and lots of fun. Start preparing your skit / act now! If you require an accompanist this can be arranged.

This is also an opportunity for the club to farewell it's contingent of Masters rowers racing at Strathclyde.

7pm for a 7.30pm start. \$25 a head including supper (\$20 if you perform on the night). NB: Boat Light Challenge entry does not constitute 'performing on the night'.

Make sure you RSVP your attendance AND your "item" (and request accompanist if required) to Sue Botta: 9853 7236

THE HRC BOAT LIGHT CHALLENGE has now begun!

CRITERIA TO BE CONSIDERED:

- ▶ **Creative Design**
- ▶ **Cost Effectiveness**
- ▶ **Functionability:** its lighting capability, ability to float, weight, size, and ease of use.

Your working light must be submitted before 7.15pm at the Talent Night on Saturday 13th August with your name and an estimated parts cost. You may submit a bow, stern or set of lights.

Winners will be announced at the Talent Night.

NB: The panel of judges does not contain engineers!

PROFILE OF A ROW OVERSEAS:

"GUMBO TO GERTRUDE"

A New Orleans Experience By Denis Bourke

As I had never been to the USA, the wedding of my son Richard (former cox at HRC) was a sufficient excuse to take me to New Orleans. The wedding was great - informal as befits the humid climate in May.

The city offers a great variety of activities not the least is simply wandering about. My accommodation was in the French Quarter which is right where the action is - Bourbon St was 50 metres away.

Food in New Orleans is really varied but very rich and more often than not fried - seafood abounds which includes crawfish (lobster to us), shrimps (we call them prawns) and catfish. "Gumbo" is a soup containing all of the above and anything else they can find. The local beer was very palatable - the Americans offered us Fosters and were surprised when told that it is not really popular in Oz. Australian wines are very well regarded with such labels as Peter Lehmann and Jamieson Run on the shelves or in restaurants.

There is really interesting history in the story of New Orleans and I found such sources as the Confederate Museum and the Cabildo (story of the city) to be well worth a visit.

At night it is a party town with music in most venues. It was a distinct advantage to have a "local" guide as the best jazz was away from the more crowded venues.

Before leaving Oz I had made email contact with Ivar Koek from New Orleans Rowing Club. Ivar invited me to join him at the club for a row which invitation I readily accepted.

The club shares facilities with Tulane University and the boats are stored in an unroofed compound near the St John bayou. Ivar had already taken the oars so he indicated to me that I should pick up my allotted scull and follow him.

This turned out to be across a four lane main road to a pontoon on the bayou!

We initially sculled down the canal to the enormous Lake Ponchartrain but as with most lakes it was too rough for enjoyable rowing.

Ivar suggested that we row back up the bayou which was a virtually straight stretch of flat water allowing us about 4.5km both ways.

As we set off Ivar mentioned the low bridges we would negotiate and told me to look out for "Gertrude". Innocently I asked "Gertrude who" only to be told that Gertrude was an alligator who usually sunned herself on a bridge rampart! Sure enough we actually saw Gertrude. She is a less than two metre alligator - Ivar explained that once they got any bigger they were netted and transported out of town to the real bayous.

All in all a most enjoyable rowing experience - I left Ivar with some HRC memorabilia including a video of HOY.

I would urge HRC members traveling to look up rowing clubs as this experience was really something.



Gertrude says hello to Denis

Take Note: We have a contingent of Male Masters rowers going to Strathclyde, Scotland for the upcoming Masters Championships in early September. Their "official" farewell will be held at the Talent Night on Saturday 13th August. More details in the next edition of BBB.

A note from the editor:

If you wish to offer information, suggestions or any other comments to be included in, or about the BBB please email hrc@hawthornrc.inter.net.au

If you currently receive your copy of BBB via Australia Post, and you have now technologically advanced to using email comfortably, you may wish to consider receiving your copy by email. Try sending an email to hrc@hawthornrc.inter.net.au to request BBB by email.

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

.....
(Honorary Secretary)

NOTE: Return to the Honorary Secretary not later than 15th June