



THE BOW-BALL BULLETIN

Information from the sharp end of our activities

Newsletter of Hawthorn Rowing Club

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Website: www.hawthornrc.inter.net.au

Photos: <http://www.hawthornrc.inter.net.au/HRCPhotos.html>

NO.130 - 1

OCTOBER 2006

CLUB EVENTS

A THINK TANK was held at the club on Sunday 1st October. Thank you to the great cross section of the membership who attended and contributed to the "group think" about where we want the club to go, and how better to integrate the different groups of rowers in the membership. Over 40 members attended this post AFL grand final day!

The main issue to emerge was the need to bring together the various groups within the club as it is quite apparent that a lack of communication has led to some members feeling almost disenfranchised from the main stream of the club. There was a lively and frank exchange of views with many suggestions offered.

Key problems identified were

- Lack of a well publicised "vision" for the club
- Recruitment of new members
- Meaningful induction of new members
- Addressing the needs of current membership

It was determined that a "working group" be set up with as wide a representation as possible to present to the committee recommendations to deal with the issues raised. It is anticipated that the group will provide a report to the November committee meeting.

Following the meeting a BBQ was provided and this presented to attendees an opportunity to meet with members they had not previously met. It was great to see that people took advantage of the chance and even this small beginning may be a significant step forward in achieving a more effective club integration.

As a result of the meeting the following has already occurred:

- A working party has been established with representation from the broad cross section of membership to address recruitment, induction and supporting the membership.

- The HRC 5 year plan is on the HRC website. To view a powerpoint presentation of it go to: www.hawthornrc.inter.net.au/HRCNews.html
- In this edition of BBB a reminder of the details of boats and their usage by members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

16mm FILM NIGHT
Saturday 11th November
Club open from 7.30pm -
screening from dusk
\$5 entry
No rsvp required

Screening: an old rowing technique demonstration, a newsreel and an Australian B&W classic.

Popcorn will be for sale, and drinks at the bar.

HEAD OF THE YARRA

120 are volunteers required to help throughout the weekend of Head of the Yarra. Without the generous assistance of our membership, friends and family, baby sitters, etc this event would not be possible. Could you please advise of your availability ASAP - contact Belinda Goglia on 0438 302 271 or pargogonhill@optusnet.com.au Whatever time you can offer will be greatly appreciated.

Friday 24th NOVEMBER from 9am - Set up involving lots of heavy lifting (great training) stack cool rooms, boat racks, clear shed of ergos etc.

Saturday 25th NOVEMBER RACE DAY - BBQ duty, merchandise sales, boat storage officials, on-course officials, starting area officials, buoy set up, sponsor signage placement, post event pack up/clean up.

Sunday 26th NOVEMBER - final shed clean up.

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

REMINDER – OAR & BOAT USAGE

As a club that caters for rowers from the absolute beginner to senior levels at state competition we all have to understand that some boats just aren't able to be used by the general membership. Single sculls alone can cost around \$10,000, fours cost around \$20,000 and eights in excess of \$30,000 new. Oars cost hundreds of dollars each. So it's not always as easy as saying can't we just buy some more oars, or get a new boat. (If you wish to make a tax deductible donation toward club equipment see the Australian Sports Foundation HRC Project heading).

Oars:

Please note the Croker sweep oars (those with the sponge grips) are ONLY for use by competitors, as ALLOCATED by the captain. The new Concept sculling blades with bright green/yellow handles are also ONLY for use in the Rupe (competitive rowers, as allocated by the captain). These blades are under no circumstances for general use.

The rest of the blades are hoped to be allocated to boats in coming months. Stay tuned for further details.

Boats:

Not only is cost of equipment a factor when allocating boats to the membership, but also the competitiveness of the boat which includes weight of crew. There is nothing worse than finding damage to a boat just a few days prior to competition as it is not always possible to have the damage repaired that quickly. This is why competitive boats are not always made available to the general membership. Not because we think the non-competitors will damage the boat, but because we wish to reduce the opportunity and cannot take the risk of the boat being damaged in the height of the competitive season. Furthermore, safety at Hawthorn Rowing Club is our highest priority. Please do not go out in a coxed boat without a cox or only half a crew. The boats are heavy, and unless you have a full crew, you do not have permission to take any boat out.

Listed below is the fleet at HRC, broken down by allocation requirements:

General Usage by Membership	
Tub Single	Jim Dixon
Coxed Pairs	Landy Mulqueen
Double Scull	Hazzard
Tub fours	Handley Fraser Cosgrove
Eight	Campbell

Approved Usage by Membership*	
*Approval by Captain required, and subject to boat being used in competition may become unavailable to general membership	
Coxless pair	De Guingand
Quad scull	Joseph
Eight	City of Boroondara

Usage by Active Competitors Only*	
*Approval by Captain required	
Singles	Winnen Pat F-S Boston
Coxless pairs / Double Sculls	Goglia McPhail Maasdijk
Tub Fours	Creasy Deeble
Quad scull / racing fours	Rupe Goodwin Civeskis
Eight	Greg van Prooyen

When all of our boats return from a row they need to be washed inside and out. Our landing can get very muddy and this is often transferred into the boats and not as often washed out. We all hate getting into a dirty boat, so once finished washing the outside "carefully" flip it over and do the inside as well. Make sure, in the process, that you don't knock over the trestles without realising. Also, all members should be noting on the booking boards when they wish to take out a boat, even when you go out without having booked a boat, it is a good idea to fill in the board. Because if something should happen it will be possible to identify who is missing.

YARRA RIVER HEALTH UPDATE

- 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.
- 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.

REGATTAS: UPCOMING REGATTAS

The Captain has left some small cards on the bar that have the dates and the proposed regattas that HRC will be attending in the 2006/2007 season. Feel free to take one and diarise the regattas for the season.

There are a number of regattas that we have proposed for the first half of the season and there are plenty of other regattas also available. If you would like to attend any of these not listed on the proposed list, please discuss with the Captain.

The Proposed Regattas are:

October

- 14 Footscray (Maribyrnong)
- 21 Bendigo (Bendigo)
- 28 Indoor Rowing Champs (Ergo time trials, held in the City)

November

- 12 Colac (Geelong)
- 18 Melbourne Head (Yarra)
- 18 Dimboola (Dimboola)
- 19 Horsham (Dimboola)

December

- 9 Carrum (Carrum)

January

- 13 Murray River (Murray)
- 14 Rutherglen Sprints (Murray)

For those who are new to Regattas and would like to compete, please contact the Captain. We would like to enter as many people as we can so everyone can enjoy the regatta season. Even if you are unable to compete you (and family and friends) are most welcome to join us at regattas and soak up the atmosphere.

Don't forget your subs - you will only be able to compete if you are a financial member !

Happy Training!!

REMINDERS / ALERTS

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

- **BOAT USAGE / BOOKING BOATS:** All members are reminded to book the boats they intend to train in on the whiteboards at the bottom of the stairs. Also, 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 each use.
- **BOAT LIGHTS:** It is **YOUR** responsibility to have a light of your own. They can be purchased from Rowing Victoria or Rowbust, amongst other suppliers. Between dusk and dawn

you need **BOTH** a **WHITE FLASHING LIGHT** on your **stern** and a **WHITE** (non-flashing) **LIGHT** on your **bow**. **FINE** is **\$200**

We have reason to believe Parks Victoria **WILL** be patrolling our end of the river in the coming months, so please don't be caught out. Having lights on your boat with flat batteries will not be an adequate reason for getting out of being fined. 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**.

It is for safety reasons that lights are required.

- **IF A BOAT IS DAMAGED:** If you discover a boat is damaged or indeed you or your crew are involved in an incident that causes some damage to boat equipment (oars included), please report it to the club. There is a form online for you to fill in, www.hawthornrc.inter.net.au/online/maintenance.html or a hard copy form upstairs beside the cupboard under the TV. Completed forms can be pinned to the noticeboard closest (which includes Merchandise). If you don't report it to the club it won't get fixed, and will slowly render boats into poorer condition. Please do not wait for the boat to be completely unrowable before you report any damage. When something is found to be not quite right it should also be reported. **PLEASE NOTE:** When a boat is tagged as damaged it is **not to be rowed**, even if it looks like it could be.
- **ROWING SAFELY INCLUDING WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF CAPSIZING:** Members have already been notified of the two Rowing Victoria documents related to rowing safely. The first, the Row Safe brochure provides general tips on safe rowing. The second, the Capsize Manual provides a guide to management strategies for helping your crew recover from capsizing. It should also be noted that in the event a boat is carrying a lot of water (for example from rain, or having capsized), the boat **WILL** be exceptionally heavy and no attempt should be made to lift the boat. It will not only possibly injure the rowers lifting the boat but also cause unintended stress on the boat. These can also be viewed and downloaded from the RV website www.rowingvictoria.asn.au

NEW SENSOR LIGHT

No doubt members will have seen we now have sensor activated lights at HRC for the rear entry and side rear access steps. We hope this assists members arriving and leaving the club in the dark.

The electrician who installed was great and applied no charge for some extra work and his quote was very acceptable. Worth a mention as a very good "sparkie" people could call on:

DeL Electrics, Dario Brosolo 0414 742 290

CLUB SUBS OVERDUE

Just a reminder that subscriptions for the 2006/07 season are now overdue. For any members wishing to compete, you **MUST** have your subs paid for the current financial year. Contact the Treasurer, Jim Boston, on 9889 0746 if you have any queries related to your subs.

PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES UPDATE

Rowing Victoria has been in correspondence with Marine Safety Victoria in regards to the changes in the Marine Act legislation. The legislative changes for the wearing of PFD's came into effect on December 5th, 2005.

On the Rowing Victoria website you will find the following documents:

- Marine Act amendments
- RV submission to Regulatory Impact Statement
- Letter to the Director of Marine Safety May 06
- Letter to the Director of marine Safety August 06
- Response from the Director of Marine Safety

Rowing Victoria has set up a working group which is to prepare a submission to be put to the relevant department and minister re the legislation requiring all in boats including rowers to wear a PFD. The group has met once and will have a submission finalised early in October. It is hoped that a strong case will be presented to the minister which will allow rowing as a sport to be exempt from the regulations. There will be requirements placed on the rowing clubs to meet certain basic criteria such as a Safety Plan, appointment of a Safety Officer and such boat

modifications as needed for example to ensure that boats actually float and therefore in themselves act as PFDs.



Bairnsdale Rowing Club has recently been nabbed for not being compliant with the PFD requirements. Above a sculler at BRC demonstrates wearing a life jacket and bailer (the bucket as a hat), and lo and behold the torch is in his mouth (that part is not compliant!)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Thanks for the responses to the *Letter to the Editor* from the last edition of the BBB related to participation in Club races. Following the **Think Tank** at the club on the 1st October, and further comments made at that meeting, it has been decided not to publish all the responses. We hope the issue has now been addressed.

YARRA RIVER CLOSURES & EVENTS

NOTICE TO RIVER USERS - RIVER CLOSURES & EVENTS - NOTICE ISSUED 6th September 2006

As the local authority under the Marine Act 1988 Parks Victoria wish to advise of the following waterway closures and activities on the Yarra River.

DATE	TIME	EVENT DESCRIPTION	WATERWAY STATUS	LOCATION
OCTOBER				
Sunday 15 th October	12:00pm – 4:00pm	Crash & Grab Regatta – Firbank Grammar	Open River (Flag System)	Yarra River: Swan Street Bridge to Judges Box
Saturday 21 st October	7:45pm – 8:30pm	Festival of Light Fireworks – Cultural Ass. of India	CLOSED RIVER	Yarra River: Princes Bridge to Birrarung Marr
NOVEMBER				
Saturday 18 th November	8:00am – 1:00pm	The Melbourne Head Regatta	CLOSED RIVER	Yarra River: MacRobertsons Bridge to Princes Bridge
Saturday 25 th November	11:30am – 4:00pm	Head of the Yarra Regatta	CLOSED RIVER	Yarra River: Princes Bridge to Bridge Road Bridge

MESSAGE FROM PARKS

VICTORIA

From an email received by the Captain, following damage to boats from fallen trees:

A waterway hazard can be reported to Parks Victoria by ringing the Parks Victoria Information Centre on 13 1963. The information centre staff will either put you through to a waterway ranger at the Burnley Work centre or forward a message to me as the Ranger In Charge - Waterways. Parks Victoria has 14 strategically positioned litter traps on the Yarra River that assist in capturing rubbish, including hazards such as trees. The Burnley work centre has waterway rangers available to remove potential tree hazards using purpose built litter extraction vessels. Waterway rangers can be deployed from the Burnley Harbour (opposite Herring Island) very quickly to respond to waterway hazards.

Currently waterways rangers are undertaking sporadic morning and afternoon patrols to ensure compliance with lighting requirements on non-powered vessels. This patrol regime will continue throughout summer.

Kind Regards, Craig Lupton
Ranger In Charge – Waterways

AUSTRALIAN SPORTS FOUNDATION (ASF) – HRC ROWING EQUIPMENT

PROJECT

Would you like to make a tax deductible donation that could be used to help HRC? As you might be aware HRC has a project registered with the ASF to aid with the purchase of rowing equipment. We have set a goal of \$20k over three years, and we have to date almost realised a total of \$7500.

Donors are able to make a voluntary donation to the ASF nominating the HRC Rowing Equipment project as their preferred beneficiary. All ASF grants received will be used to purchase rowing equipment. A donation can be made on the form available from our website at <http://www.hawthornrc.inter.net.au/Documents.html>

The donations and completed forms should be given to the captain or left to the attention of him in the tin behind the bar. Donations can be made by cheque, cash or credit card. Cheques should be made out to the Australian Sports Foundation. All unconditional donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. A form is attached to this edition of BBB.

For further information on how to make a tax deductible donation or to have questions on this answered please contact the captain on email ---> captain@hawthornrc.inter.net.au

HRC / GENAZZANO AGREEMENT 2006 / 2007

Preamble

As foreshadowed at 2006 AGM, the committee has granted an extension of twelve months to Genazzano College - this will now expire on 30th June 2007.

Currently HRC is involved in negotiations with Boroondara City Council, Xavier College and Genazzano re the future development of the area currently occupied by Xavier and HRC. The council has indicated that it will provide support for such development and a firm decision will be reached by December 2006. The decision to extend the Genazzano occupancy was made in the light of these proceedings as there may well be significant advantage to HRC in a future development supported by BCC. In granting the extension, the HRC representatives indicated that this was dependent on a decision being reached by December 2006- if the proposed major works are not supported, HRC will revert to our independent planning which will require Genazzano to vacate the club by June 30th 2007.

Details

Specific details re. 2006 / 2007 were determined at a meeting between the Director of Rowing from Genazzano and the Captain and President of HRC.

- GRC to relinquish two racks in Northern bay of HRC
- GRC to store an eight in Southern bay of HRC until Head of Yarra - rack then available for HRC
- Trailers and motor boats to be stored as previously both in compound between Xavier and HRC, and to South of HRC.
- GRC will row in mornings Mon to Sat and in evenings on Tuesday and Thursday — the HRC ergos will be available to GRC between 4.00pm and 6.00pm. The school will be away from HRC at 6.15pm
- GRC to provide direct supervision of rowers in the HRC clubhouse by a delegated coach or staff member .

ALISONISMS

- Fiona Hilbert was mentioning that Parks Victoria had been out cleaning up debris in the river. **Shane O'Connor-Smith** stated that he hoped "they were wearing their personal flotation devices".
- Men's quad and women's four about to hit the water. **Josh Cannane** wanted to coss a toin to pick which crew got which coxswain.

GOSSIP & MEMBERS NEWS

- Congratulations also to **David and Meg Chin**, on the birth of their daughter, Poppy, born 1st of September - she weighed in at a healthy 4.1kgs (9lbs). Meg is doing well. Little brother Sam is still digesting the change.
- Happy Birthday to the club (end of September) – it's now in its 130th year!
- Congratulations to **Gavin and Ruth Hirst** on the birth of their son, Morgan Akira Hirst, born late September (photo below).



- Happy Birthday to the following Beagles in October (no doubt inclusive of a shout at bar):
 - Oct 24th **Greg Sullings**
 - Oct 26th **JB Stewart**
- HRC members travelling:
 - **Jim Boston** returns from UK and Europe early Oct
 - **Chris de Guingand** off to villa in Italy
 - **Denis Bourke** trip to Vietnam late October

PROFILE OF HRC MEMBERS

Following the "Think Tank" meeting at HRC, it was also determined to make a return to BBB of the profile of selected members, as it was realised that many groups of rowers don't know too much about other rowers. If you'd like to nominate someone, or yourself please email hrc@hathownrc.inter.net.au

So who better to profile with the return of this column than the **Beagles**. These seemingly mischievous beer drinking blokes do actually have a rowing history which may surprise you!

The Beagles

Names: #001 Bruce Winnen (Electrical Engineer);

#002 JB Stewart (Teacher);

#003 Greg Sullings (Printer);

#004 Mal Coe (Accountant);

#005 Nick McCaffrey (Industrial Chemist);

#006 David Coe (Chemical Engineer).

Coxswain: Beaglette Emma Herschell (student and future millionaire).

Associates: Pat the Rat (Freeland-Small), Shane O-S, Neil Boness (Footscray) and Geoff Lowe (Footscray)

Nickname: They're the Beagles because of the cartoon strip of mischievous bandits!

Favourite food: Beer

Hobbies/interests: Rinking (Rowing and Drinking) + attending major sporting events to drink beer

Member of HRC since: Greg has been a member since 1970; JB joined in the late 1970's but then went to Powerhouse, but returned to HRC with Beagle Bruce and Mal in the 1990's. Nick joined HRC in 2005 and Dave joined in 2006. Turmoil at PHRC caused the Beagles to move upstream in the 1990's.

Coinciding / Previous club memberships:

Powerhouse, Richmond, Yarra Yarra, MUBC, and Oxford Uni. The Coe brothers started out as coxswains at Albert Park.

Crew: Mens Masters 4+ & 8+

Inside goss on Beagles: We row, we drink, we help around the club - what is not to love? The relationship between the Beagles is that of Kindred Spirits. Not much has to be said, it all sort of just happens

Rowing Goal: To win races, for which we plan serious training sessions which we try to make happen in amongst the regular stuff-ups.

Highest rowing achievement: Rowing at the Nationals in the 1980's; winning C8 events this year against MUCH younger crews. Dave recalls winning 24 races in one season! (2-,4+,8+)

Highest level of rowing: Senior/elite in the 1980's

Highlight of rowing: Being able to row!; Beating another Hawthorn crew to win the Masters 8 at Rutherglen in 2005; gaining a bar key

Lowlight of rowing: Losing to the Argos at Dimboola in 2005

Funniest rowing moment: JB putting a rigger on upside down and JB putting a rigger on around a No Standing sign; laundering all their coins/shrapnel through the HRC bar and listening to Bocco complain about it, figure out who had been down and then blaming everyone else

Worst rowing moment: Being told by a former coxswain to "easy all" before the finish, the boat drifted and the winning margin slipped from 3 lengths to a canvas; snapping a rigger during a race

Last word: Special mention must be made of the following Honorary Beagles: Uncle Joe, Denis Bourke, Pat Freeland-Small, Rupe and Peter Landy.

Some years ago there was also a Beagle Buster Crew from Hawthorn which shall remain nameless and which failed to beat us and then disbanded.

It's all about the row. All the politics, etc, count for nothing.



JB, Mal, Pat, Rupe, Bruce, Greg, Geoff (FRC), Nick