

THE BOW-BALL BULLETIN

Information from the sharp end of our activities

Newsletter of Hawthorn Rowing Club

NO.127 - 3

MARCH 2004

MEMBERSHIP:

The situation on membership is causing major concern to the committee, which recently held a special meeting to establish a new approach to recruiting. Following the usual "write-offs" of members not wishing to continue membership at the end of each financial year, we are down to 153 members, and there have been no new applications for some time.

Pres. Denis Bourke will have circulated his thoughts on this following the Half Year General Meeting held at the clubhouse last Sunday 22nd. February and there will be some speedy action taken to rectify the position in the immediate future.

"HEAD OF THE YARRA"

It might interest you to know that in these days of electronic transmission and whizbang techniques we are still waiting on the receipt of some entry fees for the last November's H.O.Y! Despite that problem the event went off with the usual finesse and we reached our budget surplus to support our Club activities.

I.P.P. David Deeble has called a meeting for Tuesday 16th March to commence proceedings for the next HOY (27th Nov 04) and was somewhat disappointed that from a recent call he made for members to volunteer their services he received a total of 5 replies. Seeing that we require about 65 persons to fill the "official" requirements of the day this was not a good start to proceedings.

If you will be available could you give David a call on 9842 6758 to register your involvement, or by email at deeble@the.inter.net.au.

The proposed "Talent Night" has been moved out to Saturday 8th May 2004 where it will be free from other events and we can give it some prior publicity. See back page for further details.

CLUBHOUSE EXTENSIONS:

This subject has been a little "on hold" due to the necessity to finalise the Lease with BCC.

Now with that out of the way Bill Goodwin met with a sub-committee on Monday 23rd Feb. 2004 to plan the next moves outlined in his Preliminary Building Programme.

This will see the Consultants being contacted and costings being obtained from builders to establish just how much of the proposal can be accomplished in the near future. We will keep you posted as we progress.

"WORKING BEE":

At a "working bee" held in January comes the report that it was very successful and a lot of boat maintenance was completed Saturday and rubbish removed on the Sunday.

Denis reports that the WN4 comprised of Sophie, Sam, Deb and Stephanie assisted by Leigh Hanna, did a remarkable job in untangling a mess of cable fished out of the river after the recent flood

Well done and our thanks to all who attended.

B-B-B Distribution: For general interest, the distribution of this "B-B-B" will be made by email to 98 members and by Aust. Post to 55. We also mail to thirteen (13) Past Members who are pleased to received info. on our activities.

**EVER WONDERED WHAT AN
EARLY MORNING VIEW OF
HRC WAS LIKE AS YOU
TURN OFF YOUR ALARM
AND GO BACK TO SLEEP???**

COMPETITION:

At the **Barwon Regatta** on Feb 7th, the Mens Novice Four of Peter Cox, Joel White, Chris Illman, Andrew Carson (Stroke) and Kate Guaran (cox) qualified for the final and came within 0.5m of winning as 3 crews dashed for the line. We finished up in third position. Adrian says the crew will need to work on their starts!

In the Womens Single events, Fiona Hill qualified for the final of her Intermediate event and finished third in the final. Kate Durrant narrowly missed out on getting through to the final of the Senior Single sculls by a margin of only 30 cm.

Fiona Hill combined with Mez Moore in the Intermediate Double Scull and qualified for the final with a very convincing win. An absolutely brilliant Corio Bay crew took care of them in the final.

The **Ballarat regatta** on 14th Feb was moved to Nagambie due to the lack of water in Lake Wendouree. This regatta was then called off at 3.00pm when the temperature reached 44 deg in the shade. At that stage Alison O'Connor had qualified for the Final of the Novice Single Sculls, Kate Durrant had qualified for the Final of the Senior Single Sculls, Denis's Novice Four had qualified for the final and Fiona Hill and Mez Moore were still waiting to race the Intermediate Pair First & Final.

On the weekend of 20 and 21 February the **Universities regatta was combined with the State Championships regatta** at Lake Nagambie. The Intermediate Pair of Mez Moore and Fiona Hill were within 100m of the finish line with a one length lead when their steering failed and they crossed two lanes and needed to stop rowing to avoid a collision. They finished second when a Banks crew passed them from several lanes across.

Kate Durrant won both her heat and final of the Champion Lightweight Intermediate Single Sculls by a good three lengths after having to work from level terms at the 1500m mark. Kate later qualified for the final of the Lightweight Senior Single sculls where she finished fifth but was almost in third position only 300m from the finish when a buoy stopped the run on her boat.

Boat Race Officials

Are you aware that each club entering crews at any regatta must have at least one Boat Race Official present or crews will be disqualified? So far we have been well represented with no casualties.

Yarra Yarra Regatta was held on 28th February. Women's Intermediate Pair of Fiona and Mez came second in the final after holding a strong lead again but could not hold on due to sickness.

Women's Intermediate Single Scull – Kate Durrant won her heat and final by a margin described as easily. Her time was a "current assisted" 7.30sec.

Later on Kate lined up for the Senior Single Scull and held Bridie O'Donnell (MUBC) for $\frac{3}{4}$ of the race but the stronger heavy weight pushed through Kate over the last 500m to score a win by 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lengths.

Nationals – Kate will represent HRC in the Senior A Lightweight Single Scull as a stroke a Senior A Lightweight Double Scull with former state rep Lauren Zovi (Banks).

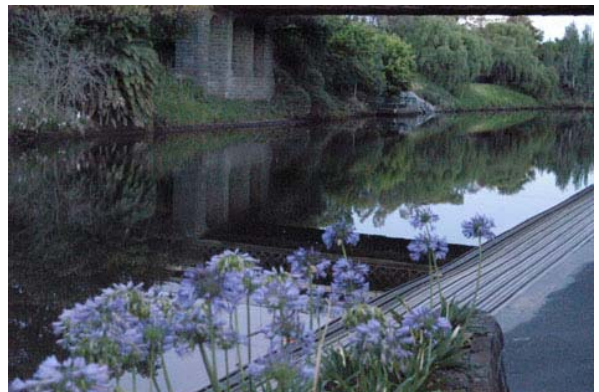
Kate participated in **State Selection** for the Victorian Lightweight Quad Scull to be raced at the Kings Cup regatta on 14th March. Kate has been selected as a reserve for the crew but notched up a number of achievements during selection. Kate combined with Sally Muir of MUBC to row the fastest 1500m race by over 5 secs during selections. Kate won two out of her three seat races and also posted the fastest 2000m ergo for a Victorian Lightweight with a time of 7:19.3

Greg van Prooyen

AN EARLY MORNING VIEW OF HRC #1

Mid January before the school kids started training.....

5.50am one Thursday



Two club member profiles.....

Geoff Code



Nickname:
Bloey
Interests: HRC,
Kew Band, NHW
Profession: Now
retired, but
formerly in
management in
the printing
industry
**Member of HRC
since:** 26 Sept
1939
*(oh, how precise
Geoff!)*

The story behind becoming a member: Back in the late 1930's there were 3 mates at Auburn Central School (Rathmines Road), and one day a couple of them were at the barbers, having their hair trimmed..... and in a round-a-bout kind of way that was where they heard about Hawthorn Rowing Club. So Geoff and his Auburn Central School mates thought they'd give it a go!

Rowing Status: In today's terms Sweep intermediate, and coach.

Rowing Goal: To see HRC building extensions completed.

Highest rowing achievement: Maiden 8 at Henley 1948

Highlight of rowing: Visiting Canada in 1985 for the 1st World Masters Games

Lowlight of rowing: 1952 flooding of HRC

Worst rowing moment: Sinking twice in the same race in an 8 at Albert Park

Geoff is a life member and is currently the Honorary Secretary on the HRC Committee

AN EARLY MORNING VIEW OF HRC #2

Mid January before the school kids started training.....
5.55am the same Thursday



Fiona Hill



Nickname: Fi
Fav food: Indian
Hobbies: sports,
reading
**Current
Profession:**
Accountant
**Member of HRC
since:** 1996
**Previous club
memberships:**
Swinburne
University
Rowing Status:
Senior Sweep
(since 2001)

Current Crew: WS2-, WI2X (with Mez)

Rowing Goal: Win Womens Inter / Senior 4 at States

Highest rowing achievement: Silver Medal at Australian National Rowing Championships in Penrith March 2000 in Senior B Coxless Pair

Funniest rowing moment: (Wasn't funny at the time)

Victorian State Championships – 2002 Womens Open Quad Scull (Stroke: Fi, 3: Gini, 2: Rachael, Bow:

Nicky), one of Greg's marvelous ideas to rig the McCall (borrowed from Mercs) with wood chocks on the side so the riggers would fit accordingly.

Unfortunately on the day of racing, Ballarat (Windy Reeds), put on a wonderful day of rain and wind and absolutely terrible conditions with white caps included.

Mid way through the race we had a boat full of water that felt as though it was sinking. Every time we came forward on the slide floating drink bottles and other

items got caught under our knees making it awfully difficult to completely push the legs down. We

eventually made it to the finish line (Dead last) and proceeded to empty the water from our boat with out

drink bottles to enable us to get back to shore before sinking. Needless to say we were all quite wet after the row and were all happy to have made it back alive.

Highlight of rowing: Getting to meet so many people and forming great friendships with the partners I row with.

Lowlight of rowing: Getting up early in the morning although it is better than the 5am starts for swimming.

Worst rowing moment: Catching the biggest crab in the final of the Senior B Pairs at Nationals and missing the medals.

Fi's final word: Rowing has got to be one of the hardest (physically and mentally challenging) sports I have competed in. And as for only getting a medal if you come first, well I guess it makes it all the more worth while.

SOCIAL NOTES:

The **Cocktail Night** was held on Saturday 28th February and was well attended – thank you to all who came and made the night a great success. Thanks are also due to Heidi for organizing the event.

Even one of the most beer drinking of the Beagles was caught with a cocktail in hand!!!



Jim and Mal down to business

The club is having a Christening!!!! In the coming weeks HRC is to take delivery of a brand new Regulation Four and at the Feb committee meeting it was unanimously agreed that it would be named the “David Deeble”. Stay tuned for further details.

Hawthorn Rowing Club

Talent Night

Saturday 8th May 2004

Get your act together
& put your singing, acting, reciting, miming
dancing or other “entry” in!

Details and entries to Heidi Winnen
9824 1025 or setco@ozemail.com.au
An accompanist will be available if required
(if so, please let Heidi know)

Look out for further information around the club & via email

MEMBER’S GOSSIP:

Francis B. Dennis who celebrated his 87th birthday (on 22nd Feb) by shouting the bar on Wed. 25th Feb. 2004. Frank is traveling well but not “getting in the boat” too often of late.

Also to **Carmel Dennis** who is recovering from surgery and is back on deck running around checking on Father (above).

To **Ron Foskett** who at the same age as Frank Dennis is still rowing three sessions per week – that will take some beating.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: **Tanya Newman and Andrew Carson** who are about to be married up north. All members wish you the best for the future.

AN EARLY MORNING VIEW OF HRC #3

Mid January before the school kids started training.....
6am that same Thursday



There were 3 novice fours and 4 single sculls training making full use of the landing!!! And this had been a regular occurrence through the summer months.

Needless to say it is now far busier with endless school crews added to the equation.