

# THE BOW-BALL BULLETIN

Information from the sharp end of our activities

## Newsletter of Hawthorn Rowing Club

NO.128 - 1

SEPTEMBER 2004

### **NEW SEASON AND A NEW COMMITTEE:**

Here is the list of the new seasons' club representatives elected to the HRC Committee:

President:	Denis Bourke
Senior Vice President:	Chris de Guingand
Vice Presidents:	Pat Freeland – Small Bill Goodwin Ron McPhail Greg Van Prooyen
Captain:	Andrew Carson
Vice Captain:	Josh Cannane
Hon. Secretary:	Alison O'Connor
Hon. Treasurer:	Jim Boston
General Committee:	Josie Bant Sue Botta Tanya Newman Mal Coe Fiona Hilbert
Immediate Past President:	David Deeble



A family of prospective members checking out the facilities at HRC one recent Saturday morning

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

**FEES 2004/2005:** Members are reminded that fees are payable on or before the 31 October each year.

If you have not already paid, it would be appreciated if you could do so as soon as possible in order to minimise the time consuming and costly process of follow-up involved in the collection of outstanding fees. Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Should you have difficulty in paying at this time, please contact the Treasurer, Jim Boston (phone: 9889 0746), to make alternative arrangements.

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP:** Those at the recent AGM, will be aware that Life Membership was bestowed upon Immediate Past President of HRC, current Director of RV, and board member of Rowing Australia, **David Deeble** who has worked tirelessly for many years on Head of the Yarra. Unfortunately David was on holidays at the time of the AGM, so Geoff Code kindly traveled the distance to Port Douglas (*for no other reason of course*) to personally hand him his Life Membership plaque on behalf of HRC.



Thank you David for your contribution – and thanks Geoff!

## **HEAD OF THE YARRA:**



It's that time of year again, and yes, Head of the Yarra is coming up soon. It's on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November** and your assistance on the day will be required. This is THE major fundraising event for the club, as well as a world standard regatta, and the HOY Committee needs your help in a number of areas. To our newer members who may be unaware, we need assistance from the whole club to run this event, both on the day and before and afterwards.

### **Head of the Yarra – a message from HRC captain**

Owing to the great amount of effort put in by everyone that enables the HOY to be such a great success it is strongly encouraged that our members **do not** take up offers of filling in seats with other clubs. Although we at HRC are not mandating that no member shall do this, in the interests of the success of the event we would hope that all members not in the selected club crew will make themselves available on the day.

### **YOUR HELP IS REQUIRED:**

Belinda Goglia has started to contact members to discuss assistance required on the day, but if you haven't been contacted yet, still expect to be! To give you an idea we need merchandise sellers, food and drink stall workers, boat marshals at the start and finish, program sellers, setter uppers and packer uppers.... plus many more jobs. If you wish to be proactive or just want to get in early to request the type of assistance you are able to provide, you can contact Belinda by email: [bgoglia@mabcorp.com.au](mailto:bgoglia@mabcorp.com.au)

There are also some additional ways you may be able to assist our Head of the Yarra Committee:

### **Advertising in the Head of the Yarra Program**

If you or anyone you know wants to place an advertisement in the Head of the Yarra program the cost is \$150/Qtr page, \$200/Half page or \$300 for the full page. There will be 1000 copies of the program distributed on the day. Contact Bill Goodwin for more details email: [w\\_goodwin@optusnet.com.au](mailto:w_goodwin@optusnet.com.au)

### **Auction Items**

An Auction will be held on the day – any donated items will be greatly appreciated! Last year we auctioned a *Coxmate* Cox Box and an Oar signed by James Tomkins, Drew Ginn and Chris O'Brien which raised \$2,800 for the club.

### **Posters**

Two great posters have been designed and printed but we need some help getting them up and around into local businesses. Copies can be found on or near the bar in the club house. There are also some great bumper stickers – ideal for cars, boats or anything else you can get them on!

### **Product Sponsors**

And of course, the day wouldn't be complete without a Sausage Sizzle. If you are able to help out or know of anyone who can help out with product donations, please let us know.

Every little bit helps. If you have queries about Head of the Yarra or any other suggestions or ideas, email HOY Committee [hoyenq@hawthornrc.inter.net.au](mailto:hoyenq@hawthornrc.inter.net.au) (please note this is the correct email – there was a typo in the recent email sent out)

## **WORKING BEE:**

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 9TH  
(ELECTION DAY)  
STARTS 10 AM !!!**

Work to be done includes general clean up and repairs around club, improving steps at side of shed and preparation for the Head of the Yarra, including cleaning the landing.

If you have a particular task you want to address let Bill Goodwin (0425 792 616) know beforehand.

BBQ LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

## **SOCIAL EVENTS:**

Stay tuned – these are currently being planned under a new social committee. Expect twilight club races in early-mid November, a post HOY function on the evening of Sat 27<sup>th</sup> November and a Christmas event early in December.

All promises to be well catered and a lot of fun. Just keep the Working Bee as mentioned above in your diary – these are social working events too!

## **REGATTAS:**

Hawthorn has entered crews in three regattas since the start of August. Photos available on HRC website.

### **Footscray Winter Regatta 14<sup>th</sup> August**

10 crews entered, & thanks to Denis Burke and Greg van Prooyen for towing the trailer.

Despite appalling weather conditions (see photos below) HRC had the following wins (the new RV Scoring system was also trialled at this regatta):

Gini Webb and Tanya Newman – W2-A (Senior)  
 Josh Cananne - M1xC (Novice)  
 Alison O'Connor and Rhedyn Law - W2xB (Inter)  
 Shane O'Connor-Smith - M1x B (Intermediate)  
 Alison O'Connor - W1xC (Novice)

The W4+A crew did not get to row as HRC scratched them due to their being no other competitors.

The W4+D crew easily won their first race, and after some confusion by the officials were put in a higher division for the final. Unfortunately they were not successful.

The M4+C was narrowly beaten in the first race. They had a good recovery after two crabs, but it was not quite enough. In the final the officials sent off the other competitors just as HRC was arriving at the start. We are told it had to be done in the interests of the health of the crews that had been waiting at the start for a long time. "Captain not very happy, and neither was the crew about this decision".

**Proof of the weather:** Early in the day was "clear".....



*(Gini Webb and Tanya Newman in the lead of W2-A)*

Later in the day was wet, wild and windy.....



*Shane O'Connor-Smith in the lead of the M1xB*

### **Geelong Winter Regatta 28<sup>th</sup> August**

5 crews entered, & thanks to Denis Burke for towing. Magnificent day in comparison to Footscray, and HRC had the following wins:

Andrew Carson and Marcus Presser - M2xC (Novice)  
 Shane O'Connor-Smith - M1xB (Intermediate)

Denis conveniently parked the trailer beside a small but rather deep puddle of mud. This puddle caught Fiona Hilbert once, and Shane O'Connor-Smith 3 times. A great day was had by all, and it was great to see members stay for the whole day.

Tanya Newman won her heat and came 2nd in the W1xB final.

Linda Forsyth and Rhedyn Law made it through to the W2xB finals where they were not quite able to get a win.

The W4+C that had rowed a division lower at Footscray was very competitive in both the heat and B final, but unfortunately not able to secure a win.



*Marcus and Andrew after their win at Geelong*

Don't forget more photos are on the web at  
<http://www.hawthornrc.inter.net.au/clubnews.html#photos>

**Essendon Saltwater Classic** 11<sup>th</sup> September  
2 quads entered. Thanks to Greg for towing.  
It was another Saturday that started somewhat  
reminiscent of the Footscray regatta... Wet day but the  
weather held off during the course of the race.

This regatta (for quads only) was a 4.5km time trial on  
the Maribyrnong. The lead time for WN4x+ was  
17mins 56secs, & HRC came in 6th with a time of  
19mins 14secs.



The WO4x+ had a lead time of 16mins 37 secs, &  
HRC came in 3rd with a time of 17mins 15secs.



It is worth noting that although the crews rowed a total  
of 9km (to the start and back), the captain and the  
coach both rode more than twice that distance over  
some very hilly terrain trying to follow the crews.



*Blood blisters and very raw blisters on a certain  
member's hand after the Saltwater Classic.  
Ouch! – and a hint – she wasn't the cox!*

### Upcoming Regattas:

The first regatta of the season that HRC is planning to  
attend is a great one – **Bendigo on 23<sup>rd</sup> October**.  
This will be the first regatta for the qualifying season,  
and also is a great opportunity for our new members to  
experience a regatta outside of Melbourne. The  
course at approx. 300m would have to be the shortest  
one on the regatta calendar. I would like to encourage  
everyone to consider this regatta as a must for the  
season. In the past they have awarded Bendigo  
Pottery cups as trophies. Entries are expected  
to be paid to the captain by 13th October. Flyers will  
be sent out and posted in the club house as soon as I  
receive from Bendigo RC.



An example of the Bendigo Trophy

A fortnight later we have the **Melbourne Head on 6<sup>th</sup>  
November**. This is a time trial from Herring Island to  
the city and is open to all classes of boats. Flyers  
have been put up in the club.

**Andrew Carson, Captain**

### **SOCIAL ROWING TIMES**

The clubhouse is open on **Tuesday and Thursday  
nights**, from about 6pm to about 7.30pm, allowing  
members to use the gym.

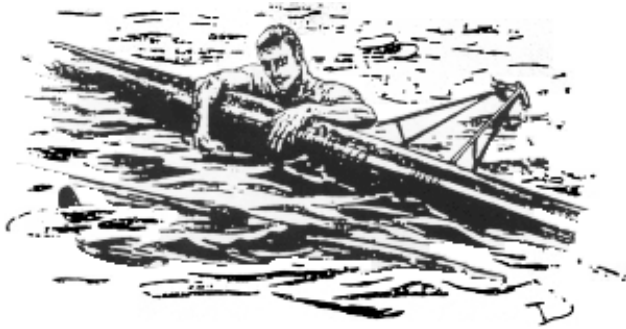
**Wednesday night** is the men's social rowing night.  
Just turn up at about 5pm and ask for Denis Bourke.

**Sunday morning** at 10.15am is women's social  
rowing. Turn up and ask for Heidi.

There are, of course, numerous other crews (social  
and competitive) rowing at all times of the week.

If you are looking for a row email our Captain, Andrew  
Carson, on [andy\\_carson@optusnet.com.au](mailto:andy_carson@optusnet.com.au)

## **CORPORATE ROWING**



### **YOUR HELP IS REQUIRED**

HRC is providing another corporate training program over four weeks **commencing Tues Oct 5th** and winding up on Sat 30th Oct.

Sessions will be run Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6pm and Saturday mornings for an hour each. (Novice crews training at these times will be unable to use the tub fours)

Relevant dates are:

Tuesdays 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> October  
 Thursdays 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October  
 Saturdays 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October

Denis Bourke needs YOU to assist as a coach. You don't have to be available for every session - even just one of the sessions is a help. This is a fundraiser and our main source of attracting new members (this corporate program has replaced the beginners program we ran in the past).

Email him **ASAP** at [drdenis@bigpond.net.au](mailto:drdenis@bigpond.net.au) with your availability. New members with some experience are encouraged to volunteer - you know a lot more than they do!

### **WEBSITE:**

DID YOU KNOW HRC ACTIVELY MAINTAINS ITS WEBSITE? There's regatta and HRC function photos, details of upcoming events and working bees, plus information about becoming a member.

[www.hawthornrc.inter.net.au](http://www.hawthornrc.inter.net.au)

DID YOU ALSO KNOW THAT THERE'S A HEAD OF THE YARRA WEBSITE? This includes competitor's information, predicted tide charts for race day, spectator info, sponsorship details, coxswain's information plus much more.

[www.headoftheyarra.com](http://www.headoftheyarra.com)

## **WARNINGS**

### **BOAT LIGHTS**

Rowing Victoria, in conjunction with Parks Victoria and Marine Safety have determined the appropriate navigational lighting for rowing vessels.

Between Dusk and Dawn YOUR BOAT MUST HAVE:

**On Stern: WHITE FLASHING LIGHT**

**On Bow: WHITE CONSTANT (non-flashing) LIGHT**

### **RED LIGHTS ARE UNACCEPTABLE**

Parks Victoria will be patrolling the waterways and you will be fined should your vessel have inadequate lighting (lights must **not** be on person but on ends of boat, and also note which light is to be **flashing**).

**The penalty for failing to obey this notice will be \$160 per offence.**

**Parks Vic will issue fines to the Stroke and Coxswain of a rowing vessel.**

Under the Marine Act, it is the stroke and coxswain that are responsible for the vessel.

### **SPEED CAMERA WARNING**

Be aware that the speed limit on Yarra Boulevard (directly over the river from the clubhouse) is **40km/hr at all times** next to the school, and 50km/hr away from the school.

This is still a regular spot for the Police speed gun.



Time for the prospective members to head on home

## Two club member profiles...

### **Denis Bourke: Your HRC President**



**Nickname:** Ned (as in Ned Kelly... now you realise where the Ned Kelly clock comes from at the bar!)

**Favourite food:** Trifle with lots of cream

**Interests:** Golf, music, theatre, and of course learned discussions around the HRC bar

**Profession:** GP in East Bentleigh since 1962

**Member of HRC since:** 1981 – asked to come for a Saturday row and haven't stopped rowing since

**Rowing History:** I started rowing at St Patrick's Ballarat in 1950 and rowed in the Head of the Lake for the school in 1953, subsequently rowed for Newman College at Melb Uni. At that time school and uni crews did not race other than in their own regattas. My first club regatta was as a veteran at Bendigo Regatta in 1981. Since then have rowed in regattas all over Australia as well as in Spain, Netherlands and New Zealand as a veteran competitor.

**Rowing Status:** Masters Sweep and Scull, Coach

**Current Crew:** Various crews training for FISA World Masters in Glasgow 2005

**Rowing Goal:** Just keep rowing as my friend the general so aptly says

**Highlight of rowing:** Some years ago Rob Paxton and myself with our daughters Georgia and Noni won a "fathers and daughters four". Both Rob and I really got an enormous buzz out of the event.

**Funniest rowing moment:** When competing with Bob Maasdijk in a coxed pair at Dimboola with my son Richard as a cox, the announcer was urging young rowers to learn from the clean bladework of the veterans just as the button sheared off my bowside oar and we were in the drink of the Wimmera River!

**Worst rowing moment:** Waiting at the start of the "Head Race" in Amsterdam 1996. The temperature was 2 C with an icy wind and we were crew No.412 waiting for our turn to start for about fifty minutes. I have never been so cold!

**Comment on Beagles:** Have been an honorary member.

**And in conclusion....** Rowing has provided me with fantastic opportunities, keeping fit, a really interesting group of friends from diverse backgrounds, great enjoyment from coaching crews and so on. We are really fortunate at HRC in our location and in the varied membership from "old farts" through to the younger competitive group. I hope we are able to maintain the spirit of the club as it is quite a different atmosphere at HRC to that I have seen elsewhere.

*Denis is a life member of HRC.*

### **Alison O'Connor:**

#### **Hon Secretary**

**Fav food:** MEAT, although ice cream and strawberry milkshakes are strong temptations!

**Hobbies:** Other than rowing, gym and bike riding (Tanya Newman, my sister Leanne and I are training for Round the Bay in a Day on October 17<sup>th</sup>)

#### **Current Profession:**

Librarian

**Member of HRC since:** Been a few years now - I used to walk to work, and would see the rowers on the river in the morning. I thought it looked like the perfect way to start the day. I called the club and asked whether they could teach a 22 year old to row.

**Rowing Status:** Intermediate Sweep, Novice Scull, & yes, I'm Masters now as Tanya keeps pointing out

**Current Crew:** WN1x, and hoping to train in a 4x too.

**Rowing Goal:** Win 😊

**Highest rowing achievement:** Lots of wins in 2002/03 season

**Highlight of rowing:** I think the highlight would still be way back when I won my first tub pair race with Thea Bainger. Being able to row those bath tubs fast enough to win a race is a damn fine achievement. The trips away and the fun we had in our novice four was also a highlight.

**Lowlight of rowing:** The recent winter regatta at Footscray. The weather was absolutely miserable.

**Funniest rowing moments:** Tanya Newman would probably say my steering of the single scull is pretty funny. In a recent race we were competing against each other and Tanya was calling out steering instructions to me as we were heading down the (bouyed) course.

Then there was the time we were on a rowing trip to Horsham and we were awoken in the middle of the night to a high pitched scream. The toilet had started spraying water on one of our crew mates.

Then there was the drowning dog incident. The dog - that appears at the landing every now and then - jumped into the river attempting to follow us in the tub pair, but then couldn't pull himself back out of the drink. His poor little legs just didn't have the strength to lift his big bulk. We thought it looked quite funny until he slowly started to slip below the surface. We didn't want to have the death of a dog on our conscience, so we quickly paddled back to shore, and as he came up gasping for air Peter Landy hauled him out the river and saved him from his watery grave.

**Worst rowing moment:** Waves crashing into our boat before the start of a race at Nagambie. I thought the boat was going to sink!

**Comment on Beagles:** How on earth did a question about the Beagles make it into this questionnaire? Next thing we know they'll have their own section on the HRC website, or Beagle t-shirts or a HRC Beagle award.

Perhaps I shouldn't be giving them any ideas :-)

