



Easy Oar

Newsletter of the Leichhardt Rowing Club
Issue no. 24
January/February 2010

Congratulations to our state champions, state competitors and our state representatives

Olivia Heath and Elizabeth Scott won two state champion titles and have been selected to represent NSW at the 2010 Interstate Regatta (the conclusion of the Australian Rowing Championships in Nagambie).

Olivia and Elizabeth have been selected for the Victoria Cup (the womens lightweight quad). Also in this crew are Jackie Peile (St

George) and Laura Dunn (UTS) and the coach is Ellen Randell.

Isobel James has also been selected for the squad of nine rowers for the Bicentennial Cup (the Youth Eight) and Stani Slavova will be the coach. Also in the squad are: Elise Andrews (Drummoyne RC), Sarah Jones and Johanna Tarrant (Grafton High School), Jess

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Taree 2010 - see more photos inside

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Take care on the new pontoon:

The surface is being damaged, so please don't scrape the riggers on the pontoon surface, don't stand on riggers to steady the boat. Hold all riggers by the hand to keep the boat balanced and steady. And lift the tinnies, don't drag them!

LRC office bearers and other roles

Patron	Lionel Robberds
President	Tim Clare , 0417 424 370, tim.clare@des-pl.com.au
Captain	Jane Hutchison , 0417 224 443, janelouisehutchison@hotmail.com
Vice-Captains	Christiaan Fitzsimon , 0414 555 991, christiaan@ibsaust.com.au Deanna Fekete , 0405 508 623, wheat5@bigpond.net.au
Junior Vice-Captain	Zoe Thomas , 0401609955, zoe_t@hotmail.com
Secretary	Steve Jaques , 02 9568 3163, s.jaques61@gmail.com
Treasurer	Peter Trives , 0418 441 768, peter@trivescon.com.au
Property Master	(boat maintenance/equipment) Christiaan Fitzsimon , 0414 555 991, christiaan@ibsaust.com.au (club house) Kerry Thorn , 0414 375 425, kez@zipworld.com.au
Head Coach	Stani Slavova , 0404 899 476, originrow@live.com
Merchandise co-ordinator	Sue Andrews, 0415 386 956, girlsrule99@optusnet.com.au
Honorary Medical Officer	Dr Diana Robinson , 9231 0102, www.sportsdoc.com.au/p_diana_robinson.html

General committee

Doreen Borg (socials)	0419 691 742 (after 5.30pm weekdays), Doreen.Borg@cgu.com.au
Juliet Bourke	0414 426 939, juliet.bourke@aequus.com.au
Virginia van Ewyk (regatta secretary)	402 980 773, virginia@vanewyk.com.au
Andrew Morrell	0414 259 430, Andrew@helpbase.com.au
Anne Parbury	(Easy Oar, website, admin) 0415 580 187, aparbury@gmail.com
Richard Stanistreet (pontoon guru, RowingNSW delegate),	0418 245 728, rstanist@bigpond.net.au
Ross Tout	041 331 6694, 9988 3363, rosstout@optusnet.com.au

See the full list of positions and roles on the website:
www.lrc.com.au/13.html

Congratulations (ctd)

Riley (Nepean), and Ashleigh Peppernell, Beatrix Sheldrick, Grace Michell, Greta Beale, and cox Laura Warden all from Sydney University.

As a group, the Leichhardt rowers had a very good state championship regatta – congratulations to all LRC competitors.

Olivia and Elizabeth won the CWEL2x (achieving 92.5%), and the CWL4x, with Bronwen Watson (Sydney Uni and Jackie Peile). A fantastic result.

Other finalists were:

Kiri English-Hawke, second in the CWU17 1x.

Maddie van Ewyk, second in the CWU21 4x (in a Drummoynne composite).

Olivia Heath, fifth CWEL 1x; ninth CWE 2x (with Jacky Peile).

Isobel James, seventh CWU19 1x.

Isobel James and Alexandra Hutchison, fifth in the CWU19 2x.

Imogen Smith, Harriet Scandol, Maddie Gibson and Poppy Cook, seventh in the CWU16 4x.

Max Altman, Thomas Harper, Jesse Coyle and Yann Pearson, ninth CMU17 4x.

Congratulations to all.

And congratulations too, to Angela Conry, a finalist in the 2009 NSW Sports Federation Masters Athlete of the Year Award. The winner will be announced on 18 February – good luck Angela!



Olivia Heath at Taree

Welcome to recent new members to LRC:

Nicholas Best	Madeleine McQuade
Christina Bursill	Andrea Macleay
David Carroll	Rhys Morgan
Liam Collins-White	Genevieve Pfeiffer
Rosie Cox	Sandra Rourke
Caitlin Gordon	Kate Whitton

LRC race fees policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clarify when the club will and will not pay race fees for members to compete.

Background:

Leichhardt Rowing Club membership fees are based on a financial model whereby nominated race fees are included in the membership fees of 'senior / probationary competing members'.

The reduced administrative burden of this system far outweighs the potential cost of there being a potential shortfall of funds, whilst encouraging members to compete (within the scope of the competition policy). In any event, the nominal race fees component across all members is calculated at a level that typically means that the race fee component roughly equates to the average per capita race fees paid by the club in a year.

Operation:

This policy relates only to race fees. The other costs associated with participating in a regatta (e.g. travel, accommodation, boat transportation) are costs for the member to bear.

The operation of this policy, does not affect the continued operation of the LRC Competition Policy.

Which race fees does the club pay?

The club will pay for Rowing NSW regattas included on the club's regatta calendar.

The club retains the discretion to pay for, or make a contribution towards, the race fees for regattas for which the club would not otherwise pay. This may be done having regard to, for example:

- individual financial need of a member to be able to participate in a particular regatta
- the cost of the race fees and likely number of races to be entered, and
- reputational advantage to the club within the scope of the club's stated priorities and goals.



Isobel James keeping a watchful eye on Jacky Peile of St George, at Taree

For the sake of clarity, the club will pay the race fees for the national championships (not masters) because, although there are no premierships points to the club, it is within the club's stated goal of youth development, and only members complying with the requirements set out in the Competition Policy and approved by the committee to attend, will participate in such championship regattas. Payment of race fees for particular members needs to be considered across the club in terms of the benefit to the club.

Which race fees does the club not pay?

Whilst LRC is supportive of its members competing in regattas, there are race fees for some regattas which are not included in the membership fee. This is because the regattas are considered to be beyond the scope of the usual club participation and/or the regattas do not contribute to one of the club's main goals – winning the Rowing NSW premierships point score.

The club will not pay the race fees for regattas for which there are no Rowing NSW premierships points – this includes, for example, Head of the Yarra.

Request to reconsider a decision

If a member disagrees with the non-payment of a race fee / race fees, then the member must apply to the Club Captain in writing identifying the member, the regatta and race entry/entries and the basis upon which the member believes the race fees ought to be paid by the club. A response to the request for reconsideration will be given within three days.

Jane Hutchison, Club Captain, February 2010

Policy on Race Protests

The NSWRA Laws of Boat Racing provide for the opportunity to lodge protests.

LRC regards lodging a protest as a serious matter that needs both due consideration, and ratification, by the Club Executive.

If a crew genuinely believes they were impeded in a race, then the stroke of that crew may lodge a verbal protest with the race umpire at the conclusion of the race.

Should the stroke or any club member wish to lodge the required formal written protest, they must firstly discuss this with one of the available Executive Committee members (President, Captain, Treasurer and Secretary), by phone if necessary, to gain approval to proceed.

No club member may lodge a formal protest without the express approval of one of the Club Executive.

Normally the Captain will represent the club at the jury meeting for the consideration of a protest.

Any breach of this policy may result in sanctions for the member responsible.

The pontoon saga Charlie Bartlett, pontoon protagonist

Well it took a while but after the wait I think all members were at first overwhelmed but then amazed at both the size and then the great design features of the new pontoon. Safety being a key criterion for the pontoon protagonists Richard Stanistreet, Wade Hewett and myself, led to the final design result but also contributed to the delays in gaining construction approval from NSW Maritime.

The process started over three years ago when the club realised the old pontoon was a road block to the clubs future success. Its limited capacity was clearly a major contributor to delays in getting boats on and off the water leading to shortened training sessions and Pymble girls being late for school. The existing pontoon while having served us well was also, we thought in need of repairs in the near future, and money spent on maintenance was agreed to be wasteful under the circumstances.

A new and bigger pontoon was required to minimise delays at peak times, particularly when Pymble is in full training mode and also for regattas and also to cater for Leichhardt's growing membership. The ideal pontoon was thought to be one that allowed crews to come in on one end and depart from the other. The ideas continued

and it was conceived that a pontoon long enough would have the potential to have access on two sides and perhaps the ends also. Around and around this principle went until it was estimated that two eights on the outside, two fours or quads on the inside and wide enough for singles on the end would be our dream.

The cost would be substantial however the investment was based on a long term view of what the club's needs would be and the realisation that to compromise based on price would indeed be short term thinking.

Based on the above principles simple sketch drawings were developed for obtaining development consent from Leichhardt Council. This part of the process was relatively straight forward and took no longer than getting consent to renovate your house. It was also pretty straight forward getting approval from NSW Maritimes property department as owner of the sea bed to lodge the planning application. But while all that was being processed it became clear that the engineers within Maritime were going to be reluctant to allow departure from their 20-year-old in-house design standards controlling pontoons on Sydney Harbour and other inland waterways.

No matter which way we turned we met with refusal to consider any outcome which did not deliver the minimum buoyancy and stability requirements of maritime engineering rules. Whilst rowing pontoons were not necessarily defined in the rule book the minimum standards were to be applied because they said 'the Public' had access to the area.

They put a few propositions to us, for example, 'what if a large vessel or ferry was to be under threat of sinking and needed to berth at Leichhardt? All the life-threatened passengers would step off the boat onto the pontoon, it would tip over and they would get there feet wet or worse fall in the water,' said Maritime engineers. We replied, 'it hasn't happened in 150 years of the club's history and we think it unlikely in the future because Iron Cove has silted up to such an extent no ferry or similarly large vessel could get that

close to Leichhardt before running aground, particularly at low tide anyway'. Then there was the footy crowd that would be enticed down from Leichhardt oval to see the water's edge and if too many all stood on the pontoon together they too might get their feet wet! So how many people we asked would that need to be to cause the pontoon to tip such that the edge submerged?

Because of the public access issue we ended up deciding to refuse a government grant which was conditional on providing public access to the pontoon. This decision led us to requesting council to confirm that the development approval did not require the public to be able to access the water from the deck and pontoon. Council was happy to oblige, an appropriate letter was forwarded to Maritime but alas resistance remained. Despite being turned away time after time



Go to the LRC website to see the full sequence of the installation.

meeting after meeting we were determined not to build a pontoon in accordance with the demands of the NSW Maritime engineers and end up with a result akin to the St Joseph's College pontoon (see photo). Such a result was unacceptable. It would also be a failure for rowing and rowers on NSW waterways in general because it would have strengthened the NSW Maritime resolve to uphold their requirement for rowing clubs to build pontoons to a design which met their standards for standards sake rather than a facility fit for purpose. To us this situation was a frustration but it was also a challenge. Our frustration was exacerbated by the fact that there is, in fact, an Australian Standard for rowing pontoons. And guess what? The Australian Standard requires a pontoon to meet only half the design load required by maritime.

Based on our reasoned opinion and supported by our consultant engineer Josh Parson we convinced ourselves that the Maritime design standard if accepted would lead to design outcomes which represented safety risks to all rowers far greater than the risks to the general public perceived and asserted by NSW Maritime engineers. We pressed on.

Our persistence lead us through industry contacts to making indirect representations regarding our issues to the then Minister for Ports. This lead to the relevant people within NSW Maritime agreeing that we could self certify the pontoon in accordance with Australian Standards, and with such certification Maritime would accept our design. With this promise in hand final detail design could now begin. The challenge was how to build the structure so that it was lightweight but had sufficient lateral strength, had enough flotation without floating too high off the water and able to be fix in one place but rise and fall with the tide.

Josh Parsons did a great job to solve all these issues whilst still meeting our strict design requirements. That a crew could sit at the pontoon without having to lean the boat over to clear the riggers and also that the oars could stay at 90 degrees to the boat rather than pushing them forward as before. All these things were considered critical to maintaining a safety particularly for novice and corporate crews.

All these things were considered critical to achieving a pontoon that was safe to use for all, but was particularly user-friendly for novice and corporate crews.

Note: Areas of the blue rubber surface close to the edges appear to be getting damaged by riggers scraping along the surface or riggers being stood on whilst getting in and out of boats. Please take care not to scrape the riggers on the pontoon surface and no one should stand on any riggers to steady the boat. All riggers should be held by hand to keep the boat balanced and steady. All members are asked to observe and police this request. Don't drag tinnies - lift them, and only put them in the water where the pontoon edge is black.



The pontoon at St Josephs



Canadian tales

by Frank Thorn (keeping everyone in touch)

Ben Johnstone is now living in Edmonton (Canada) and is running his own business called 'Mountain Madness Tours'. Check out his website www.mountainmadnesstours.com

Joe Rogers is still competing and is a member of the Ottawa Rowing Club. Joe was an outstanding athlete. He was in Australia for three years to study for his PhD at Sydney University. Joe did the learn to row program at LRC and progressed to the Novice Squad and in his first year of competition was awarded the Novice of the Year by Rowing NSW. He then moved into the Intermediate Squad the following season and then into the Senior Squad and won a Gold Medal with Ben Johnstone at the Australian Championships in his third year of Rowing. Joe and his wife Jen recently returned from a six week Ttour of India.

Mark Chapman is continuing his success competing in Canada. Mark beat Hugh McLeod from Australia in the Head of the Charles (5km) by 34 seconds, Chapo 19:30(Masters 40+), Hugh 20:04 (Lightweight single). He ended up finishing seventh overall, 4.6% from the winner, which means that seven scullers out of his field including Mark are automatic entries into next year's race.

He started 44 out of 45 from the grid, rowed past about 20 others before he hit the finish, the race was in a very strong head wind and extremely cold conditions(10 C) when he launched for the race. He lost around 100m (speed coach was 4900 instead of 4800m) on steering which cost him around 20s. It is an incredible race, so many boats, rower and spectators, an amazing experience. Next year he will be guaranteed to start from seventh which will give him a good shot at the top guys, as it is a definite disadvantage



Mark, showing his style on the Charles

trying to fight your way through the field and row in everyone's dirty water.

He is now finished for the season and his main goal will be Head of the Charles in October and of course the Henley regatta in August. He said it was interesting training for the 1000m, but then racing over 5 km for the Head races.

His results for the year are Summer: first, Eastern Ontario champs and second at Henley 1X, 2X.

In the autumn: second at the Head of the Rideau, first at the Head of the Trent and seventh Head of the Charles, He really enjoyed the longer races because there is lots of pain for longer. He averaged 28spm for all three, next year he would like to get to 30.

He will need it to try and finish on the podium.

LEICHHARDT ROWING CLUB IS GOING GREEN

Well, red actually. Would all members please use the five red bins that are located around the shed to bin their recyclable garbage. We recycle all paper, plastic and glass.

LRC has a new garbage management program. We recycle as much as we possible so that we can reduce our wet waste.

Kerry's reminder: LRC Masters

LRC Master rowers who are planning on racing in the state championships in Grafton should contact Kerry for accommodation as soon as possible as beds are being filled very quickly. kez@kez.com

Adopt a boat maintenance day, Sunday 28 February

For anyone who would like help or would like to know more about pitching boats. boat maintenance day: Sunday 28 February, 2010. For more information, speak to Kerry.

Kerry's resolutions for all LRC members

February resolution:

When I leave the shed, I will check that all windows and doors are closed, especially if I have opened them. I will also put all food items I bought with me away in the fridge or cupboard, dispose of it in the rubbish bin or take it home.

Kerry Thorn
kez@kez.com

LUOR Xmas 400 Club Draw

The winner of the LUOR 400 Club draw prize of \$500 was Tony Brown from Five Dock. Tony has been involved in rowing for over 50 years and is involved with Old Boys from various clubs. After paying prize money and accounting for expenses, postage costs etc the net profit was \$1700. These funds will be used to provide specific items for the club membership.

The committee of LUOR thanks all those members who participated in the LUOR annual fund raiser and hopes that we get your support again at our next Christmas function.

Barry Moynahan

President

LUOR

Rodd Island

Margaret Bailey

Resting serenely in Iron Cove a short distance from the pontoon of LRC lies Rodd Island. Part of Sydney Harbour National Park the island has served the recreational needs of the people of Sydney for more than a century.

The main buildings date from between 1880 and 1910.

The island has had a remarkable history including originally being used as a campsite by the local Aboriginal people. Brent Clement Rodd offered to buy the island in 1842 for his own private use which was a long saga that did not eventuate, the island remaining in government hands.

The rabbit plague in Australia in the 1880s influenced the future of the island as the government was investigating a location for a laboratory to conduct experiments for rabbit control.

Rodd Island was selected and Louis Pasteur, the famous French microbiologist, who had some success with his experiments in Europe was invited to send a team to Rodd Island.

A solution was not found for the rabbit problem but the island remained as a biological laboratory to test vaccinations for sheep and cattle against anthrax. In this the French team was successful. From 1890–94 more than four million stock were inoculated from vaccine produced here.

Dr Loir, Pasteur's team leader and a young man of 29, was delighted when the famous French actress Sarah Bernhardt arrived in Australia in 1891 to act in a season of plays. Ms Bernhardt however threatened to cancel her tour when her dogs which travelled with her were to be quarantined.

Dr Loir came to the rescue and the dogs were quarantined on



Rodd Island. A brief affair is reported to have ensued between Ms Bernhardt and Dr Loir – the two spending quite a deal of time together both on and off the island. Dr Loir had a brief walk-on role in one of her plays.

The island reverted to the public in 1894 becoming a very popular recreation reserve for many years and was added to Sydney Harbour National Park in 1982.

Every Sunday in February 2010 you are welcome to visit the island for a fun filled day of entertainment. Full details available by phoning Cadmans Cottage on 92475033

Important note

The NPWS are searching for historic photos of the island and those who visited over the years. Should you have any please contact Margaret Bailey on 0417239364.

Learn to Row 2010 is changing

These are the probable dates for the program, running from April to May for adults (9 am), and April to June for juniors (7 am). More details will be announced later.

Session	Proposed dates
Rego & Info	Sun 18 April
Off water (compulsory)	Sat 24 April
1	Sun 25 April (ANZAC Day)
2	Mon 26 April
3	Sun 2 May
4	Sat 8 May
5	Sun 9 May
6	Sat 22 May
7 (Jnrs only)	Sun 23 May
8 (Jnrs only)	Sat 29 May
9 (Jnrs only)	Sat 5 June
10 (Jnrs only)	Sun 6 June
11 (Jnrs only)	Sat 12 June
12 (Jnrs only)	Sun 13 June

Stay off the course ... or the club risks disqualification

No doubt you are all aware ...

Law29(a) of the Laws of Boat Racing provides:

'Only competing boats and regatta officials' boats shall be allowed on the course during the conduct of the regatta.'

So, be sure to approach the start line and move away from the finish line so that you do not row on the course.

The club was warned at the recent Balmain regatta and nearly disqualified from the whole regatta for failing to do so.

Fundraising

Kerry and some willing helpers have organised a fabulous Easter Hamper Raffle and the junior jelly/easter egg/raspberry guess how many in the jar fundraiser.

Tickets are available at the next few regattas, or, if you can't wait - please see Kerry to buy a ticket.

Both fundraisers will be drawn/finalised on Sunday 28 March at 12 noon, just after the club clean up.

Taree activity



For more Taree photos, go to

Onno's photos: http://picasaweb.google.com.au/ovanewyk/TareeRegattaJan_10?authkey=Gv1sRgCMXE-NDq1YeIXQ#

Rowena's photos: <http://gallery.me.com/rowg#gallery>
and the LRC website: www.lrc.com.au



HoY wash up

On the day of the 2009 Head of the Yarra, the challenge between LRC and Yarra Yarra Rowing Club was on. Which club was better on the day? All entries counted, barring composite crews, and the winner was: **YYRC**.

And here is some of the wash up, starting with Charlie Bartlett:

For Leichhardt, I think the answer is simple – next year we just need to be faster. We can do this if each crew is an average 1 minute 13.4 seconds faster over the 8.6 kms. That's only a 4.27 seconds improvement per 500 metre splits on the ergo. So if every Leichhardt member starts doing an 8.6 kilometre ergo each month between now and the next HOTY and can drop their 500 metre splits by 0.36 seconds every month; then by the next HOTY, we'll be winners. Now that's not too hard is it? It's a great plan; so Leichhardt ... let's start the preparation now!

Captain Jane's plan:

I'm really glad that our 'strategy' of allowing Yarra Yarra to win the inaugural trophy has worked. They think we're nice, they invite us back and then we really show them what LRC is made of! We're coming back for the trophy!

YYRC:

I had a good look at the figures as it seemed difficult to make a fair comparison because YYRC has more younger crews. According to my calculations, if we go by unadjusted times:

YYRC average time	35:19.48
Leichhardt average time	37:12.02

Looking at adjusted times:

YYRC average time	34:34.57
Leichhardt average time	34:58.11

Perhaps to be fair to our rivals from that 'other city', we should be making the comparison on adjusted times. There wasn't a lot in it – but we did still win!!

LRC:

I'm glad to read that it was only your calculations that made you realise that the LRC contingent were indeed older. We'll take that as a compliment and describe it in our club magazine as how the 'Yarra Yarra women's team noted how young and athletic the LRC men looked in their finely cut zooties'.

LRC again:

And, 'notwithstanding the older LRC men's crews, the Yarra Yarra members clearly noted how young and athletic the women's LRC crews looked in their zooties'.

YYRC:

Glad to see that poetic licence abounds at LRC and hope that your club magazine will also make

mention of the LRC mens' amazement at seeing how svelte and well toned the YYRC womens' crews were on the day. Of course no-one need mention that neither cameras nor mirrors were used in making these observations!

Photos

Madeleine van Ewyk took some pics down at the Yarra: here is the link. <http://picasaweb.google.com.au/ovanewyk/HeadOfTheYarra09?authkey=Gv1sRgCM6X5s6J0qH2NA#>



More words of wisdom



Frank's disciples. The latest in a memorable series of photos of Rex's eight at the Head of the Yarra.



Possums at LRC

There has been some excitement at the shed recently, there was evidence that a possum was coming in to the clubhouse. So there was a lot of discussion about how to get rid of it.

Then we saw that the possum was a she, and a mother, and she was sitting very wistfully in a tree at the window near the fire stairs, with her baby (see photo, right).

Then the discussion turned to talk of trapping and what do we do now?

Deanna does rehabilitation work for Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife, and told us that in this instance we need to firstly follow the law and secondly to keep the windows closed.

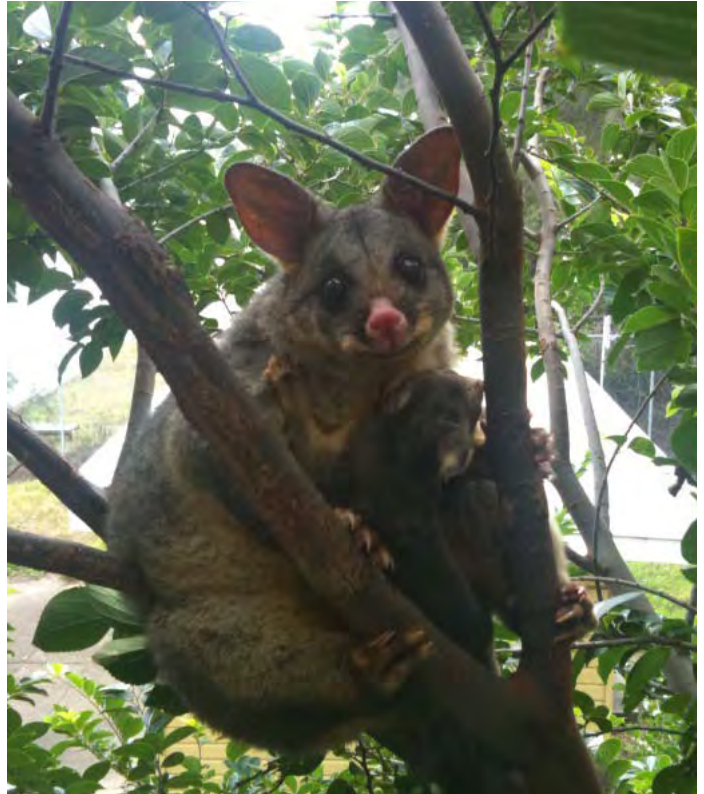
Having been locked out they will move on to another tree nearby. They will move on without doubt.

Important to note: trapping/relocation of possums is illegal and has hefty fines. National Parks is quite clear in this matter, can look at the website.

By the time a juvenile possum is 600g (I would say this one is about 400g) its mother will set it off on its way. Most likely she is pregnant with a baby in the pouch at this time of year.

We just need to leave them alone.

The possum must have been listening - she did move to another tree!



A very special member of LRC

Congratulations to Dr Terence Horgan, one of our social rowers, who was awarded an OAM lastt month for his service to the community - raising money for children in South East Asia for more than 30 years. Dr Horgan is a volunteer and coordinator of the Old Xaverian's Association, raising money for the Jesuit Missions.

Santa's sprint

Santa's sprint seems a long time ago - but you can relive the excitement with all the photos Rowena took: <http://gallery.me.com/rowg#100226> People are able to directly download from this site.



Boats on the move: Genesis, Merton/Premiers 2009 and LRC Members

Some of you will have noticed new boats arriving and another disappearing, re-appearing and perhaps disappearing again.

Here are their stories:

Genesis

Background:

Under a policy established several years ago, as there was reserve capacity in boatshed, approval could be given to store private boats subject to the following guidelines.

- The boat be purchased by a reasonably-sized group of current club members.
- The boat would take pressure off existing resources by transferring groups of members from existing club boats where there were competing demands.
- The boat be available for general club use at all regattas based on the normal allocation guidelines. In the instance of competing interests for the boat allocation at regattas – the boat owners to have preference for allocation.
- There is virtually no reserve capacity in boatshed. From October 09, no further private boats will be allowed in the boatshed, other than singles.

Last October, a group of LRC members donated half the funds for the club to buy a good secondhand eight.

The boat is a donation by the donor group, and the club owns and is responsible for the boat. This outcome was well accepted by the proposed donor group and the committee. Importantly, it is seen as a way that can be replicated by other donor groups in the future with other boats that the club is looking to invest in.

The donated is Genesis.

Genesis is a Sykes 8+ boat which has had very little use during the past five years and is in excellent condition. It was built in 1998 and was purchased from Genassano Girls School (in Melbourne). The boat was built to suit a 70–75 kg average crew. The donor group, together with Treasurer, were able to ensure it was delivered

with new shoes, slides, wheels on seats, new rudder and fin, and the hull in excellent condition.

The boat was identified as a boat the club needed and was viewed by the club before a commitment was made to buy it (with the assistance of the donor group).

The donor group has priority boat allocation for training, as determined by the Captain and recorded on the boat allocation roster. Other allocated use will be at the Captain's direction. The boat is therefore in the Black category (This condition not only qualifies who can row the boat, but equally importantly, the condition of such a boat to come into the LRC fleet.) If required, Genesis will be available for corporates and socials (with other boats used first in ascending order of condition).

The donor group has priority boat allocation for all regattas (subject to boat being taken to away regattas, which is limited to priority of room on trailer. It would be available for other LRC crews as required).

The Merton, soon to be renamed Premiers 2009

The Merton is a Skyes bow-coxed 4+, 70 kg average, mould 10, with alloy wing riggers. It came from Melbourne Girls Grammar with eight Concept oars for \$6 k total, and was bought before the Head of the Yarra and came back on the trailer. At the moment it is a Red or B category boat, although there is the possibility it will move into the Orange (C category) to relieve the demand in that for 4-s. We intend to have foot steering put in, and will in time consider the value of getting sculling riggers.

LRC Members

Sharp-eyed members will note this is sitting on the trailer outside the shed. There are plans to find this boat a new or temporary home, so it is on the trailer now because there is no room in the shed.



Genesis at Taree, taking the E Eight into second place : Sally Bartlett, Sue-Ella Day, Sandy Rourke, Sue Field, Kerry Thorn, Tina Owen, Lyne Riley, Margot Simington and cox, Austen Hunt.

The donor group is: Kerry Thorn, Sue-Ella Day, Sally Bartlett, Lyne Riley, Margot Simington, Frank Thorn, David Rosenfeld, Brian Davis, David Elliot and Ric Turner.

Remember : no lights = no row

BOAT LIGHTS

Cost: \$55.00 each including GST and batteries but excluding postage. Payment is via cheque, cash on collection or via EFT. We hold ample stock at present and if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us per below.

David Wear

Email: dwear@dwear.com.au

TEL: + 61 2 9262 2256 / FAX: + 61 2 9262 2714 / MOB: 0413 754 686

Note for everyone who bought one of these lights last year - your batteries probably need replacing now, they don't last forever! All you need is 3 AA alkaline batteries.



Bob Stone took a series of photos of the Leichhardt rowers on the Sunday at Taree. You can see them on the LRC website.

Bargains at the Leichhardt regatta

It's time to replenish your wardrobe - some of you favourite royal blue t-shirts and other merchandise will be on sale at the Leichhardt regatta.

Sue Andrews is organising a stall at the Leichhardt Regatta from 8 am to 12 midday selling off previous seasons' t-shirts and other items at competitive prices ... so come and add some style to your wardrobe.

There will also be the opportunity to purchase zooties and to view and order Leichhardt hoodies.

Calling roving reporters and budding photographers

Do you feel the urge to write? See your name in print? Follow a story? Why not start here? Start your writing career with *Easy Oar* and see where it can take you. Any and all writers, photographers and ideas are welcome. Contact me (Anne, aparbury@gmail.com).

A special thank you to all the contributors to this issue: Onno, Margaret, Jane, Steve, Robin, Kerry, Charlie, Sandy, and Zoefor photos, text and other stuff.

Leichhardt Regatta

Saturday 27 February 2010

The club will be holding its annual regatta on Saturday the 27 February. To ensure the smooth running of the regatta it is essential that all members help out on this day. The whole club will be down to help out and it is a great opportunity to meet other club members.

Members will be needed from 6.30 am for tasks such as:

- setting up and laying the course, 6.30 am – 8.00 am
- transporting results during racing, 8 am – 3 pm
- helping at the finish during racing 8 am – 3 pm, and
- packing up 2.30 pm – 4 pm approx.

All members are asked to make something to sell from the food stall and BBQ: popular items include muffins and slices.

Sunscreen -

The Club is currently fundraising by selling sunscreen.

The sunscreen is available in 20 mL (\$4) and 100 mL (\$6) tubes that are great for rowing bags and handbags!

Please support this initiative, not only does it raise money for the Club but also helps members be sun smart.

Sunscreen can be purchased from Sue Andrews in the office, from the stall at the Leichhardt Regatta and can also be ordered – the forms will be on the table outside the office.

Return forms to Zoe Thomas, Virginia Van Ewyk or Sue Andrews with payment.

Diary dates

27 February	Leichhardt regatta
28 February	Adopt-a-boat maintenance day
1-7 March	Australian Championships
Sunday 28 March	Autumn clean up
10-11 April	Trickett Grade Championships
Saturday April 17	Proposed fund raiser event
Saturday 1 May	Iron Cove Masters regatta (LRC hosts)
15-16 May	NSW Masters Championships
Saturday 22 May	LRC Presentation dinner
Sunday 25 July	Winter clean up
Saturday 21 August	Proposed fundraiser event
Sunday 12 September	LRC Corporate regatta
Sunday 24 October	Spring clean up
Saturday 20 November	LRC XMAS party
See page 7 for proposed Learn to Row dates	