

Peter Trives

Peter Trives was an integral component of Leichhardt Rowing Club, and his sudden death, as well as being a shock, has left us with a very great sense of loss. Whenever we turn around now to do something or to plan something we know it will be harder to do because Peter is not here beside us.

He was active in every field of the club's activities, even driving a trailer across the Nullabor to Perth and back. In recent years he extended his contribution to the NSW rowing community firstly as a BRO, and then last year stepping up as Director of Finance for Rowing NSW.

The club was important to Peter. He planned its successes, he took a great interest in all the rowers, and fostered and supported the junior rowers. Peter worked hard for the club, from branding (we all wear royal blue), to the club's premiership wins (three in the last four years). He loved negotiating a good deal on a new boat. In fact, he loved negotiating.

Many of us miss him a lot, but possibly none more so than his squad. He was very proud of his girls and their achievements on and off the water. He had this year already planned a full program to take them through to the end of the season to the Trickett Regatta and to Lake Barrington for the masters. Peter was ready to support them all the way. His loss is being felt by the squad who worked with him through all the stages over the three years that coaches and squads go through.

Peter was treasurer of the club for five years. From his professional background as Operations Director for Coca Cola South Pacific, Peter brought a new level of expertise to the management of the club as he shared the vision of making Leichhardt the top rowing club in Australia. His vision for club success was tied to his focus on strong financial management. Never one to miss an opportunity for fund raising and to be the club's conscience when it came to spending, Peter's able guidance allowed the club's financial strength to flourish. The highlight of his term was the construction of the new pontoon, a major technical and financial achievement for all involved.

Peter made good use of his talent-spotting skills. He made it a point to find out what people do, kept a tally of who had a skill that the club might need, and was not backward in coming forward to match them.

He always had a theory, and if not, then an opinion, and he was not shy in expressing it. His experience, his judgement, his generosity, his warmth, his sense of humour, his bad jokes, his intelligence and his strength all contributed to making the man who was larger than life who loved his club.

His contribution to the club has been enormous over his nearly 40 years membership. He joined the club to stay fit in football's off season and stayed with the rowing, but most of his competitive rowing was during his five or so years in Melbourne. He was back with Leichhardt for the first Veteran's Regatta in 1981 held in Canberra (then part of RNSW), when he, Dave Bodell, Steve Jaques and Tony Potter won the B4-.

We, LRC members, are the beneficiaries of the Peter Trives legacy. The club is better for his membership. He leaves very big shoes to fill, and we will miss him.

We extend our condolences to his family, to his wife Jayne, sons Will and Daniel, and daughter Elsa.

Tim Clare
LRC President