



The Derwent Drum

Derwent Storms Dragon Boat Club Newsletter

Issue 16 February 2015

Stormers bring home the bling from Lake Barrington state titles



From all reports it seems this year's dragon boat extravaganza at Lake Barrington was the best yet. The race program ran smoothly, the weather was fantastic, the evening entertainment was terrific and everyone had a great time. The results show Derwent Storms excelled. Read the club report by **Dave Masters** on Page 2-3.

Club Committee 2014-15

President: Angie Turner

Vice president: Alison Mourant

Secretary: Janine Atkins

Treasurer: Jenny Smith

Denise Phillips, Grady Koolhof, Jan Breen,
Jane Lovibond, Jenny Willing, Martin
Turner, Pamela Hunt

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End of season club dinner July 4

Please keep Saturday 4 July free for the end of year club dinner at the MYCT.

This is the night we get serious and celebrate our on-water triumphs and reflect on the season that was. It is also a time when we decorate one particular paddler who will be named Member of the Year. Please think about who you would like to nominate for this honour. Past winners include Ian Mourant and Donna Fittock because they have done over and above what's expected for the club and the sport of dragon boating.

No need for fancy dress or fancy dance moves. Paddling takes centre stage at this event.

Lake Barrington puts on its best show for dragon boating

Thirty-five Derwent Storms paddlers made the trek north to stunningly beautiful Lake Barrington earlier this month for the State Regatta.

We were accompanied by our "Commodore" Ian with the support boat and it was great to have Grady's partner, Mary, and Denise's husband, Glen, who both helped out with some behind the scenes tasks.

A big thank you goes to James who stepped up to the plate and volunteered to tow the double trailer from Hobart to the lake. I believe he was mildly surprised, after an hour or two of final loading and tying down of all the accoutrements inside the boats at the MYCT, that the convoy made it only as far as Banjo's before stopping for a coffee. It may have been suggested by the caffeine addicts that the reason for this stop was merely to test James' parking skills with the overlong load. Mmmmm, who can say? Nevertheless his farm skills came to the fore on the return trip to Hobart when a serious accident on the Midland Highway required all traffic to take a cross-country detour through roadside paddocks.

Dragon Boating on Lake Barrington began in 2011, and this event was the fifth state regatta held at this international venue. The overall weekend was organised by Nipples on Ripples, the Devonport based chapter of Dragons Abreast Tasmania, with a good portion of the race detailing and coordination done by Ali and Donna on the day.



Just a couple of weeks before the event it looked as though DATH had insufficient numbers to participate. Then up stepped a mighty foursome of "Watermelon" Stormers, namely Donna, Leigh, Marilyn and Penny, who shed their outer green skin to revealed their softer pink centres (hence the nickname).

Despite losing our "Watermelons", Storms had sufficient paddlers to field two teams in the Women's 10's 200m races, an Open 10's 200m crew, and a State Title 500m 20's crew. The two women's 10's teams were designated as team Red and team Yellow and oh boy was there some serious competition between them, resulting in extremely close racing.

This year the Storms crews included four "virgin" competition paddlers, who had their first taste of a competition event: Chris McCormack, Anna Pyke, Andrea Price and Jenny Fehlandt, one of whom (who shall remain nameless), was later heard to exclaim that her nerves were running at such an extreme level that she was on the cusp of a bladder malfunction. LOL! The regatta was the first Barrington experience for the well-seasoned paddling duo of Pete and Kathryn.



The Saturday racing was an impressive display by the Storms, who managed to not only win every race but, more importantly, all crews bettered their heat times in the finals. An outstanding effort.

The final race of the day was another first for Barrington and also a first for many of the crews and sweeps, a circle race. It was familiar event for the Storms crews but a new experience for most of the other teams and their sweeps. Hopefully they will take something away and practise for future years.

After the racing it was time for the now traditional refreshing swim in the lake.

Saturday night brought well-deserved relaxation and celebration time with excellent food, liquid refreshments of the alcoholic variety, and entertainment that can only be described as a delightfully hilarious performance by the Trifle Girls, Sue Bourne and Trudy Webb.

There were many highlights during the performance. Two that can't slip by without a special mention were: the spontaneous boob balloons handed to Trudy by a highly animated Annette and her gang; and the "I FOUND IT" moment when Anna returned to the room and excitedly announced that she had located a misplaced bottle of wine. Unfortunately it happened during a moment of silence, between lines in the Pam Ayers poetry reading by Trudy. Brilliant timing Anna

Sunday provided another beautiful sunny morning, just right for the long, leisurely paddle in convoy, of mixed crews from all clubs, several kilometres up the lake to a distant landing place. It was the perfect setting for a mid-morning snack of macaroons and an extremely delicious gingery fruit cake before the return paddle and final pack up for departure from beautiful Lake Barrington.

Can't wait to do it all again in 2016 ...

Race Results :

State Title 20's 500m

Heat	Storms	2m 13.87sec
	MoCo	2m 37.29sec
Final	Storms	2m 11.88sec
	MoCo	2m 30.32sec

Women's 10's 200m

Heat 1	Storms Red	1m 05.11sec
	Storms Yellow	1m 06.85sec
Heat 2	Storms Red	0m 58.57sec
	Storms Yellow	0m 58.13sec

Final Red edged out Yellow by a whisker

Note: these times may include some wind assistance in the finals

Open 10's 200m

Heat 1	Storms	0m 56.78sec
	MoCo	1m 08.84sec
	Deloraine	1m 03.57sec
Heat 2	Storms	0m 56.37sec
	North Esk	1m 01.78sec
	Deloraine	1m 03.57sec
Final	Storms	0m 50.57sec
	North Esk	0m 56.30sec
	Deloraine	0m 57.58sec
	MoCo	0m 58.81sec

For the record: Lake Barrington is an artificial lake formed in 1969 by damming the Forth River to create a head of water for electricity generation at the Devil's Gate Power Station. The lake's most celebrated event was the 1990 World Rowing Championships. It has also been the venue for the Australian Rowing Championships in 1984, 1987, 1990, 1994, 1997, 2003, 2006, and 2009.

Derwent puts on its best show for Fitness Australia team building session

Storms provided sweeps, coaches and a few paddlers to introduce a group of delegates to a Fitness Australia conference to dragon boating earlier this month. DBTAs asked Storms to run the session for these enthusiastic, young and physically adept fitness industry professionals. The river was a millpond and they thoroughly enjoyed their paddle under the Tasman Bridge and into Montagu Bay. The berthing cruise ship, the sea plane taking off and plenty of rowing activity added to the spectacle.

The group was very impressed and they acknowledged that our sports requires plenty of grunt. A few of them struggled to master the basics but there was plenty of good-natured splashing and disappointment when we didn't throw people in at the end!



NEWS IN BRIEF

Changes to paddling times: Club paddling sessions in April will be reduced as sweeps and coaches will be unavailable during the Nationals timeframe. Paddlers will be notified of the revised schedule closer to the dates. There will be NO PADDLING on Sunday March 22 (DATH Corporate Day) or Saturday April 25 (Anzac Day).

Auroras' Quiz Night: Remember the fun we had at the Hungary-inspired international Quiz Night in 2013 to raise funds for the Aurora paddlers? Well, another one is being planned for Saturday June 13. Watch this space for details. Gather a team together for a fun night.

Nationals update: Training is building up for this event. All club paddlers going to Perth are expected to attend as many training sessions as possible.

New club race tops: Priority has been given to paddlers going to Perth as it is mandatory that they wear the new top (complete with logos). If you are still waiting for a new top for the Nationals, it should arrive sometime in March. It's strictly cash on delivery. After this order has been filled, those still waiting to submit an order can do so. Thank you for being patient.

Masters Games 2015: We now have the dates for the dragon boat competition days for this year's Masters comp in Adelaide. They are October 9 and 10. Put it in the diary. This is a great way to whet your appetite for interstate competition.

Dragon Boating Calendar

March

Sunday 22 DATH Corporate Day

April 2015

13-19 National Championships,
Champion Lakes, Perth WA

June

Saturday 13 Quiz Night for
Auroras at Lindisfarne Rowing
Club

July

Saturday 4 End of season dinner
7pm MYCT

October 2015

9-10 Australian Masters, Adelaide