



# Nipples on Ripples

## North West TASMANIA

Issue 1

Welcome to the first newsletter from *Nipples on Ripples* (Dragons Abreast North West Tasmania).

Earlier this year we purchased a new 10 seater Champion dragon boat. She is named the “*Mersey Maiden Too*” and we had the boat blessing performed by the Venerable Shih Jingang , a local Buddhist monk, who “dotted the eyes” and brought her to life. The ceremony was attended by both the Devonport and Latrobe mayors, members of the local community, and many paddlers and supporters



We have also purchased a custom made trailer and some new paddles, through the generosity of a grant from the Devonport Council. The trailer makes it much easier to launch and retrieve the boat from the boat ramp, without the need to use a vehicle with attached trailer.

The pink paddles look very striking, too.



Our annual Regatta at Lake Barrington in February was a great success and enjoyed by many, with paddlers from several mainland teams coming here to join with Tasmanian paddlers to enjoy the beautiful lake, the paddling, the camaraderie, the laughter and making good memories. We hope they will return for more of the same next year!

Next year the State Titles are being held separately in March, so that means another opportunity to paddle at the Lake!



Nipples on Ripples is very honored to have the Dragons Abreast Australian Ambassador – Robyn Moore – as a member of our club. Robyn is one of the country's top public speakers and she is very passionate about promoting breast cancer awareness and support whenever she can.



Relay for Life at Penguin was well attended by our club and we completed many laps around the track. We took *The Wilde One* for a walk around the track and she gathered lots of admiration and attention. Our club raised money over the year by selling (and eating!) chocolates and having money tins around the community. The Mersey Yacht Club supported us well by buying and eating LOTS of chocolates and we thank them for their great calorie intake for a great cause!



Dinner in the evening was well catered for with roast lamb cooked by John, and roast vegies brought up by Robyn and Gwen. There were a lot of tiaras on show, plus John looking very suave in his bowler!



A winter weekend at Lake Barrington recently took place with members and several partners staying the night at the Lodge. The drive up was interesting – through a snow blizzard – and it was very pretty seeing snowcapped trees.

A few hardy ones went for a bushwalk, where it was necessary to cross streams and climb over fallen logs.



The snow turned to rain and we had a small “window of opportunity” to get on the lake for a paddle – we missed it! We went anyway in the pouring rain, and still had a great time. The sun came out just as we were pulling in to the shore!!

The evening was spent playing games, eating, drinking, laughing, and the next day the weather was pure magic with the Lake like a mirror.



Our Saturday morning paddles have been continuing all winter – weather permitting – and it is great that we can take out either the 10 or 20 seater, depending on the turnout.

Because of the recent floods there has been a lot of debris floating down stream and causing some damage but hopefully we will be heading for calmer weather soon.



## Upcoming Events :

A Film Night on 18th September – “*Bridget Jones’s Baby*”, which promises to be a funny film. \$20 a ticket including drinks and nibbles. Raffle on the night.

This year’s *Pink Walk* is on 16<sup>th</sup> October, in conjunction with the Port Sorell Spring Fair.



## Paddling Information:

Be at **Mersey Yacht Club** at 8.45am on Saturday morning, to be out on the water at 9.00am. Followed by coffee and a chat at the Waterfront Café.

Sunday arvo paddling commences on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 5-6pm

Thursday evening paddling commences on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 6-7pm.

## For more information contact:

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or our **Facebook** page “Dragons Abreast Nth West Tasmania (Devonport)

**Visitors more than welcome.**