

MURWILLUMBAH ROWING CLUB "RAMBLINGS"

37



September 2023

October 2023



John Ryan	9 th October
John Henley	12 th October
Bob Meehan	16 th October
Ron Butler	25 th October

Executive:

President – Rob Gee
Vice President – Tamsin Brew
Treasurer – Jenny Culley
Secretary – Tamsin Brew

Committee Members:

Paul Barnes
Michael Mills
Helen Albury
Lori Sword

Club Captain:

Scott O'Reilly

President

Welcome to the start of daylight saving this Sunday, and of course the need to remember our lights for all boats before sunrise (that will be 6:30 am initially!).

This month, I'd like to welcome 3 new members to the Club with Cass Murphy and James Andrews having moved from Newcastle and Ben Storey having moved here from Sydney. I'm sure that you will see all three around the club a lot in the coming weeks (and Cass and James feature below in New Member Focus).

In terms of communications, we are looking at an option to utilise WhatsApp for faster messaging of "noticeboard" type items going forward and hopefully within the next month, we will be in a position to role this out to everyone.

I'm pleased to say that we have a new CEO of Rowing Queensland with Matt Bialkowski starting in his new role mid-month. It will be great to see what he brings to the role and hopefully many of you will have an opportunity to meet him at future events. I should also note that following an increase of ~\$24 in the Rowing Australia levy on senior competitors for the coming year, Senior Competitor Registration will increase from \$95 to \$121.50 per year from January 2024. This increase includes inflation impacts too. All other non-competitor and junior fees have only increased by inflation.

Thank you to all who supported the Bunnings BBQ earlier this month – it was another successful fundraiser thanks to Helen and all the helpers. Every \$ we can raise remains key for the Club and achieving our aims for the Ramp!

I look forward to being back around the Club a little more as my rehab progresses and will finish with a reminder to keep a close eye out for snakes on the riverbank! A number of snakes including browns and red bellied blacks have been seen by our neighbours over the last week so please watch out.

All the best, Rob

Ramp Update

A quick update this month as we are currently awaiting tender responses regarding the ramp design and construction. Once we have feedback and are in a position to review, we will arrange a meeting with Club members to discuss the position and expectations at that point. It's an exciting time and I'm really looking forward to being able to move into the next phase. Thanks again for everyone's inputs and especially the help provided by Mark Taylor recently – it's really been appreciated by the sub-committee!

Fundraising Update

Another fabulous effort by club members at the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle on 10th September saw \$2, 253 added to the fundraising total this month. Since we started raising money for the ramp, we have raised a total of **\$15, 893**.

We have the next Bunnings date lined up for Saturday 17th December. Please put it in your diary and volunteer to help!

A new Fundraising Sub-Committee is meeting next week, to look at new ways that the Club can raise money. If you would like to join, or have any ideas on fundraising initiatives, please contact Helen Albury.



New Member Focus

Please welcome two new members joining this month!

Cass Murphy

Quick summary of your rowing experience (e.g. how long and where). Have been rowing for 12 years. Rowed for Melbourne Rowing Club then Griffith University Surfers Paradise Rowing Club then Newcastle Rowing Club. Competed at many states and nationals over the years including racing at NZ Nationals with Doug.

Scull or sweep preference? Probably scull but also really enjoy sweep - especially a good hit out in an 8+.....

Favourite food? Unfortunately cheesecake

What do you like to do when you aren't rowing?

Swimming, cycling, a bit of running & crosswords :)

Something not many people know about you? Climbed Mt Kilimanjaro



James Andrews

Quick summary of your rowing experience (e.g. how long and where)

I have only been rowing a relatively short time undertaking learn to row in 2021 in Newcastle.

Scull or sweep preference?

Only sculling at the moment, though keen to give sweep a go at some stage.

Favourite food?

A good massaman curry always wins me over.

What do you like to do when you aren't rowing?

When not rowing I still enjoy keeping physically active with the gym, running and the odd bit of tennis.

Something not many people know about you?

I have never eaten an orange.



History Report – August 2023

Early in August the weather was unseasonable warm in the mornings, with a cloudy sky and light showers, which made rowing conditions relatively comfortable. Later in the month the weather fined up with cold conditions during the early morning training session but with pleasantly warm days. Numbers at training sessions remained low as several members are on holidays or resting during the winter break.



The octuple was rigged up on Saturday 12th and taken out for its first row on the Tweed River which was successful. The club conducted a Bunnings sausage sizzle on Sunday 13th, which earned valuable funds for the ramp project.

The club held its Annual General Meeting on Thursday 17th and a new committee was elected. Rob Gee was elected as the new President. Other members of the committee include Tamsin, Jenny, Helen A, Lori, Michael M and Paul. In addition to the regular annual reports, a progress report on the construction of the launching ramp and a safety briefing of members was conducted. Frank and Sue Jolly were presented with honorary social membership in recognition of the outstanding support that they continue to offer the Club in allowing us to use their beach to access the river. The meeting was followed by an enjoyable roast dinner held in the club's dining hall.

Cooler weather returned for a few days but overall, the winter temperatures have been reasonably mild and once again no frosts were recorded at the club this year.



Left - New Club President, Rob Gee, at the Australian Masters Championship regatta receiving a gold medal in a men's lightweight single scull event. Right – Roland presenting honorary social membership to Frank and Sue Jolly



Photograph and text by Rob Blanch.

MRC cleaning rosters - July 2023 – Jan 2024

Date/ Area	Ladies & Disabled Bathrooms	Men's bathroom	Sweeping shed- using brooms	Upstairs floors, kitchen & toilets	Safety Audit (1 member + 1 Exec Committee)
Oct	Mary Michelle G	John Macka John Ryan	Roland Chris L	Helen A	John H + Jenny
Nov	Petra Helen L	Jack Scott	Ron John R	Lou	Mary + Paul
Dec	Jo M Helen A	Bob M Gary	Paul Millsy	Mark M	Roland + Lori
Jan	Jan Jacqui	Roland Chris L	Will D David	Lori	MJ + Tamsin

Notes

- Jobs to be done at least twice in the month, some may require more than that.
- The cleaning products for downstairs are stored in the cupboard near front door. Cleaning products for upstairs are in the office.
- Bathrooms -You may want to divide the tasks between the 2 people on so that the jobs can be done when it is convenient to the person, e.g., one person does toilets and basin, one person sweeps and washes floors and other clean the showers.
- The sweepers are to make sure the sanitizers in the areas apart from bathrooms are kept filled.
- The safety audit is conducted monthly by a club member and a member of the Exec Committee reviewing the various items on the Rowing Queensland safety audit checklist. The Exec Committee member will bring the checklist. ***It doesn't appear that the safety audit is being completed as it hasn't been submitted for the last two months. Please ensure that you complete it if you are named on the roster to do so***



We will shortly be arranging a capsized drill at the Club, where everyone is encouraged to come and try getting back into a scull from a capsized. It will be a great opportunity to try this and be prepared should the worst happen when you're out on the water and it happens for real. There will be some other 'fun' activities scheduled for the day. More to come!

In the meantime, below are some guidelines on how to get back in a capsized boat (we will also circulate a video in the near future).

1. Having got free of the boat, stay with it (the boat is buoyant and will support you, it is also easy for rescuers to see).
2. Haul yourself over the upturned boat, or onto the bow or stern canvas, if the boat is right-side up.
3. Lying on the boat like a surfboard, paddle the boat to shore.
4. If you are able to do so, you can (as an alternative) climb back into the boat and row to safety. Do not make more than two attempts to do this. You will become tired very quickly.

5. Never leave your boat and attempt to swim ashore unaided. A person in the water is in a potentially life-threatening situation and all efforts must be made to ensure the safe rescue as soon as possible.
6. Use your mobile phone to call for assistance. Blow a whistle (six short sharp blasts) to attract attention and repeat at intervals until help arrives, or you reach safety.
7. Once you reach landfall, or when assistance arrives, get warm and dry as soon as possible.

Calendar of Events – October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Head of the Brisbane NSW Indoor Rowing Champs
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 2023 QSRC Club Series Regatta #1 (Brisbane)
15 Lower Clarence Time Trial	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Limore RC Coraki	30	31				

November

4th November - 2023 QSRC Club Series Regatta #2 (Wyaralong)

11th November – 2023 Convict Chase, Brisbane River (7km in Eights)

If you have any items that you would like to include in the next Ramblings, please email to MRCRamblings@gmail.com by 20th of the month.