


MURWILLUMBAH ROWING CLUB "RAMBLINGS"

38



October 2023

November 2023



Annette Eyre	15 th November
Jenny Culley	15 th November
Reilly Hewett	16 th November
Richard McMillan	16 th November
Jan Mills	28 th November

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 October edition of Ramblings. I'm most pleased to be able to start by highlighting the good news regarding the Ramp discussed at last weekend's club meeting. Following a good response to our tender, we hope to be able to establish a contract with a preferred contractor in early November. If all goes to plan, we should have our new boating facility in place in the first half of next year. While there are a lot of hurdles still to get over, it's certainly looking a lot more positive thanks to a huge amount of work by many members around fundraising as well as directly on the project!

In the meantime, on the water, well done to the great contingent of members who attended this year's Maclean Time Trial with great rows by all in the varying distances – a really good season opener. Good luck to all our members competing at Coraki this weekend in the first formal regatta of the NRRRA Season and hoping the good results continue!

This month I'd like to welcome Reilly Hewett to the Club. Many of you will already have met Reilly through the Learn to Row Program and I'm very pleased to say that he has now joined full time and I look forward to seeing his ongoing rapid development as a rower – welcome aboard! Please read further information below regarding the "capsize drill" coming up on 25th November, I hope everyone available will support this important day and have fun while learning!

I'll leave it at that for this month as the focus is very much in one area along with the required fundraising. Please do continue to get behind all the Fundraising initiatives, as you have done to date and in anticipation of the calendar, I must say that I've loved looking over a selection of the fabulous photos taken around our river over the last year!

Cheers, Rob

Ramp Update

It has been a big month on the ramp construction project! As outlined at the update to the club on 21st October, five tender responses were received. Because of confidentiality and governance requirements, it is not possible to share full details of those responses at this stage, but the headline message is that the Club expects to be able to construct ramp in the first half of 2023. Cost has increased though and fundraising therefore remains critical.

We expect to advise the successful tenderer in the next two weeks (and we will then be able to share more of the details). Detailed design will be available around 4 weeks after that.

Currently it is expected that construction should last around 6 weeks and access to row will be available throughout, if with some restrictions.

Exciting times – the ramp is getting closer!

Fundraising Update

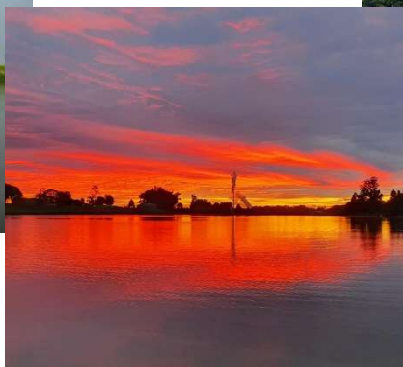
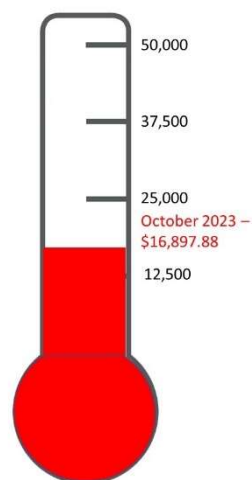
The additional amount added to our total last month was **\$1004** made up of some surplus funds from grants etc as noted in the end of year report, as well as sales of jam etc.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

The next Bunnings Sausage Sizzle will be 17th December, so please put it in your diary! Details to follow.

Fundraising Calendar

The Club is putting together a calendar using the best photos of the Tweed that we have, with the aim of raising money towards the ramp. You will have seen the shortlisted photos, either on Facebook or displayed upstairs at the Club, where you are asked to vote for your favourites. Once voting closes on 30th October, the calendar will be designed and printed – all in time to make the ideal Christmas present! We'll let you know when it is ready to order, but below is a taster of some of the amazing photographs.



Christmas Dinner and Presentation Night – Save the Date!

The Club's Christmas Dinner and Presentation Night will be held on **Saturday 2nd December** at Condong Bowls Club. There will be barefoot bowls, followed by dinner and presentation of awards. More details to follow, but put the date in your diary now!



New Member Focus

Reilly Hewett

What is it that attracted you to rowing and have you been involved in many other sports before?

Just always liked the look of it, then one day at the gym I met Doug, and he told me about a fantastic rowing club in Murwillumbah, and I had to check it out. Yes, I've done lots of different sports; surfing, soccer, hockey, table tennis, volleyball, and I'm sure there are some I've forgotten.



Scull or sweep preference?

Scull! (Haven't done sweep yet)

Favourite food?

Depends on my mood.

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

Play music, read, art, study.

Something not many people know about you?

My eyes turn purple in the dark

History Report – September 2023

September, the first month of spring brought pleasant weather with earlier daylight, warmer weather and calm conditions making early morning rowing very comfortable. Some crews are beginning their preparation for the upcoming competitive season. A few crews have nominated for the first event of the year which is a time trial to be held at Maclean next month.

The club was allocated another Bunnings sausage sizzle on Sunday 10th which once again was a successful fundraiser. The next one is scheduled to be held in mid-December.

The preliminary planning for the ramp project has been completed and tenders have been called for its construction. A meeting was held on site between the committee and interested contractors who have expressed interest in submitting tenders for its construction.

A relatively large number of members turned up for training early on Saturday the last day of the month to celebrate the last day of Eastern Standard Time for 2023. A group of nine members launched the octuple for a successful row, proving that it is possible to launch a large boat at low tide with care on the limited space on Frank's beach. All members enjoyed fine and sunny conditions on the river.



An older image showing the damage and loss of our launching beach caused by the 2022 record flood in the Tweed River. The club has received a grant to construct a sloping ramp to replace the lost beach.

Text and photograph by Rob Blanch

MRC cleaning rosters - November 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)
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.

Working Bee

A working bee will be held in early December to do some maintenance and tidy up around the shed – get your boots and gloves ready!





Epi pens



Dr Helen had kindly donated two EpiPens to the Club, One is located in the First Aid box on top of the fridge in the kitchen and the other is located in the First Aid box downstairs underneath the stairs. Dr Helen is also offering

to hold a brief training session for anyone that would like to know how to use them. Watch this space! Thank you, Dr Helen!

Capsize Drill

It can happen to anyone – even at the Olympics!



Viadislav Yakovlev managed a spectacular capsize seconds into the race

But out on the Tweed, there may not be anyone around to help you climb back in! So, we are having a Capsize Drill to give everyone (not just those who single) the chance to give getting back into an upturned boat a go. We will have a couple of singles in the water, just off the beach and some helpers on hand in the water to provide direction, assistance or just reassurance if required. Everyone is strongly encouraged to come along and take this opportunity to give it a go – it's the perfect opportunity to practise what you may unfortunately need to do one day for real! You will feel more confident knowing that you have tried it out beforehand.

The date is **Saturday 25th November from 8am**. More details will follow – including a sign-up sheet (for 15 minute time slots). There will be 'how to' videos showing in the boat shed and lucky dip prizes for everyone who gives it a go.

Club Zooties

If anyone is interested in ordering a Club zootie for racing, Lori is putting together an order for 776BC zooties. Please let her know by **5th November** (if you haven't already).

Calendar of Events – November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 2023 QSRC Club Series Regatta #2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Grafton & South Grafton HS	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Capsize Drill at the Club
26	27	28	29	30		

December

- 2nd December - Club Christmas Dinner and Presentation Night to be held at Condong Bowls Club, Details to follow.
- 9th December - Head of the Clarence Grafton
- 10th December - Grafton RC
- 17th December – Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

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