

MURWILLUMBAH ROWING CLUB "RAMBLINGS"

27



November 2022

December Birthdays:

12th John Macdonald "Macka"

22nd Delf Ormelas

27th Michael Mills "Millsy"



Executive:

President – Roland Jahnke

Vice President – Rob Gee/Tamsin Brew

Treasurer – Jenny Culley

Secretary – Helen Albury

Committee Members:

Paul Barnes

Rob Blanch

Michael Mills

Club Captain:

Scott O'Reilly

President Rol

Greetings everyone as we head towards the festive season 😊

It has been another eventful month with the finalisation of the rock wall. The task now is to seek funding for the construction of a ramp which is being organised by Rob Gee and Millsy with support from other club members (see below for more details on the ramp). A grant application will be submitted through Council on 9 December with major input from the club. It will be early next year before we learn of the outcome – hopefully we will be successful as it is a substantial investment not only for the club but also the community. There is a lot of goodwill towards the club, and it is of special note that we have received \$1000 from Black Mountain Rowing Club to support our recovery (see below) – what a wonderful gesture and it shows that other clubs are thinking of us. Thank you to everyone who helped at the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle on 5 November (see Fundraising Update below).

As we move into the summer months there will be an increase in activity by visiting rowers and in the limited Learn to Row programme. A big thank you to those that have already offered to assist with LTR and if you are free during the holiday season further assistance would be greatly appreciated over this period. This also means there will be increased activity in the boat launching area so please assist the smooth flow of launching your boat wherever possible, as I know you have already been doing.

On the 3rd of December we will hold our 'beach' Christmas party and it would be great if as many people as possible can make the beach spectacular because it is a very special end of year celebration for the club - Helen has provided further information below.

It's been a great but a tough one and we are getting through the challenges that the floods have given our small rowing community and I thank for your patience in working through this period. Next year will be much brighter for us.

Safe rowing.

Cheers Rol

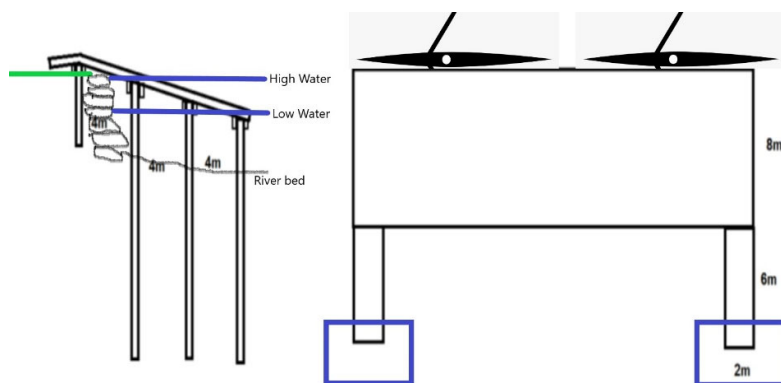
Outline of the proposed access ramp to the river

Following the flood damage and scouring of the river floor, the choice for access was limited to either a floating pontoon or a fixed ramp both of which would be linked to the land behind the rock wall. Based primarily on flood resilience a ramp has been chosen. A diagram below shows how the ramp will sit and enable access to the water at all levels of the tide. It is designed to remain well below water level during major flood events and should avoid most floating debris! Some key benefits of the ramp (apart from flood resilience) will be as follows:

- Enable improved safety for learn to row / schools etc. restoring access for coach / safety boats
- Accessible to all members with easier access and no steps
- At 22m wide, it will enable the re-establishment of regattas for rowing and Dragon Boats
- Fibreglass mesh surface can be cleaned of mud following flood events to maintain safe access

The challenge now is to fund the \$330,000 (incl. contingency) facility. As Roland notes above, we are seeking funding from outside sources to make it happen and enable a full return to rowing and racing on the Tweed! We do however need to raise funds to contribute to the ramp along with its ongoing maintenance – please review the note below on fundraising and see where you can best help out.

The \$330k costing includes the construction of the ramp and infrastructure to access the ramp as well as basic landscaping and bollards / concrete aprons to manage access. We are committing to provide in-kind contributions through installation of the landscaping and security bollards etc. with Tweed Shire Council providing all project management, contract management from tender to delivery, as well as completing all approvals.

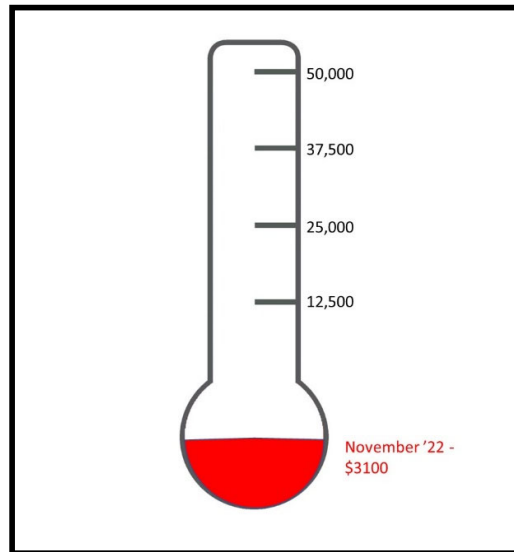


Concept plan showing how the ramp will bridge the rock wall and be fixed from below to provide protection in the case of flooding. The ramp (22m x 8m) will be accessed via two gangways which will be protected from vehicular access by bollards. Concrete aprons will surround the gangways, providing a stable area for smooth on/off access.

Fundraising Update

With an Interim fundraising target of **\$50,000 by end 2024** as the Club's contribution to building the new ramp, we have seen a great start to the fundraising activities this month. The Bunnings BBQ raised approximately \$2,100 and Black Mountain Rowing Club have sent us \$1,000 which they have raised by making and selling pogies. They love coming to HOTT and were very disappointed to hear how we were impacted by the flood so started fundraising to help us restore access to the water.

If you have an idea for a fundraising initiative, please let one of the Exec know. Details of the next activities planned will follow shortly.



Return and Earn is Back!

Did you know that your used bottles (...water obviously 🤪) or cans, can help to raise money for the Club? With our focus clearly on building the ramp to access the river, every little bit helps! Look for the 10c label on the container to see if it is eligible for a refund and remember to leave the lids on when returning your containers as they'll be recycled too. If you take your own bottles and cans to one of the Return and Earn Centres, you can donate the proceeds directly to the Club by using the bar code below. Alternatively, you can drop your bottles and cans into the green bin located under the stairs at the Club (any volunteers to take this to a Return and Earn Centre once a month would be welcomed – please let a member of the Exec know if you are able to help)



History Report - November 2022

Three members of our committee, Rob G, Roland and Tamsin, attended the christening ceremony of two dragon boats at Tumbulgum, which were replacements for the Dragon Boat Club's fleet which was destroyed in the February Flood.



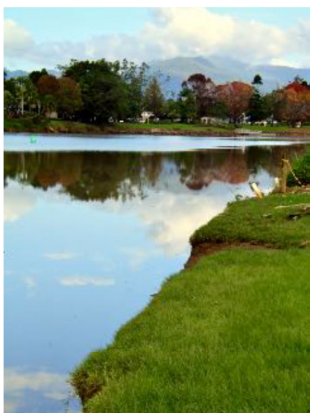
Photographs supplied by Tamsin Brew.

Crews have been training for the time trial events on the Brisbane River and the Clarence River at Maclean. The members who expressed some interest in attending the Brisbane event eventually decided not to enter. Only a small number of members have nominated for the time trials at Maclean. The event was a success with all rowers being happy with the times that they recorded.



John R and John M, left, conferring with Ken at the time trial at Maclean, and Scott and Lorrie, right, posting a respectable time in a pair. Photographs supplied by Tamsin Brew.

A rainfall event during the end of the month caused a minor flood in the Tweed River halting training for a few days. The Lismore Regatta to be held in Coraki was postponed due to flood damage on the riverbank. The event was rescheduled to early November. Once again extreme weather events have disrupted our rowing program this year.



The Tweed Shire council has decided to stabilise the riverbank adjacent to our club with a rock wall, as opposed to sandbags as originally planned. This will bring the work forward and it is scheduled to commence in early November. When the work is completed, the club will be able to move forward with planning a permanent river access for our rowers.

A view of our flood damaged riverbank prior to its stabilisation by Tweed Shire Council, which hopefully will be completed in November.

Photographs supplied by Tamsin Brew and Rob Blanch. Text by Rob Blanch.

Christmas & Awards Party Dinner – 3rd December



MURWILLUMBAH ROWING CLUB

Invites you, your partner and family, to our

Beach & BBQ theme

**“Christmas”
& “Awards” Party Dinner**

Saturday 3rd December, 2022

Held at the MRC Club House.

5.00 pm start with beach games outside

Then 6pm for nibbles.

\$5 per person for BBQ meats

Please bring a salad, or dessert or nibbles to share.

BYO drinks.

Please R.S.V.P. by 25th November to
Helen Albury, including what food you will bring.
darryl.albury@bigpond.com

Wear your boardie's, sarongs and thongs.

Prizes for best themed attire

Bring a beach towel to decorate your chair.



Please let Helen Albury know if you are attending and what food you are bringing by 25th November

Leander - The World's Premier Rowing Club

The information provided below has been summarized by John Macdonald, from two web sites devoted to Leander rowing club and from conversations with Dr George Petelin who is an active member of both Leander and the Gold Coast Masters Rowing Clubs.

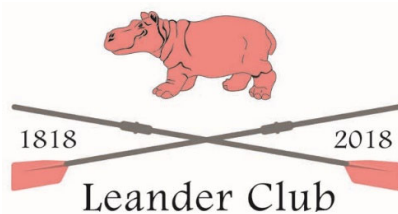
Early History

Leander, an English rowing club was founded on the Tideway, near London in 1818 by members of the Star and Arrow rowing clubs. The Tideway is a part of the Thames River. Over time, both the Arrow and Star rowing clubs faded away, but Leander prospered and was in full swing by 1825. By 1830 it was looked upon as a well-known and long-established boat club. In 1831, Lord Esher, a noted after dinner speaker, described Leander in glowing terms.... 'The club consists of members who have never been to university but are recognized throughout England as the finest rowers who had ever been seen'. Leander entered a crew in the Henley regatta for the first time in 1840. The first Henley regatta occurred in 1839.

What Is the Origin of The Name Leander?

The origin of the name has been lost over time. However, a new club history describes a timber-built boat with 6 oars called a cutter, which was used by members to follow, on water, the progress of competing boats in the Henley regatta and it is said to have been named Leander. In Greek mythology, Leander was a powerful figure who would swim across the Hellespont, now modern-day Turkey, to meet with his beloved hero, the priestess Aphrodite

Why Does Leander Have A Pink Hippo As Its Logo?



A popular story is that Linda Saul, a well-known socialite, and keen rowing spectator, and a member of the Henley Arts and Crafts Guild, draped a paper mache Hippo, that she had made for an exhibition, in pink and white and blue and had it holding a sculling boat in its jaws. She called the piece 'King of The River,' which are how Hippos are known in Africa. She won first prize. The logo and the colour pink (officially the colour is cerise) was

adopted by Leander in the mid 1800's. Today, Leander members believe that they are still 'king of the river'.

Today's Modern Leander



Leander has a significant rowing budget that is funded by its membership and by the success of its hospitality program. The hospitality activity includes a bar and kitchen which opens long hours daily, numerous annual events such as the Black-Tie Rowing Dinner, the Bavarian Beer Party, Mexican Feast Night, Fitness Classes, an Open Water Swimming Society, a Cycling group, a Book Club, and the Leander Investment Group. Leander's overall objective is to run a high-performance rowing program, feeding

new talent and future Olympians, into the British team. Leander is the home to rowing heroes such as Sir Steve Redgrave CBE, Sir Matthew Pinsent CBE, and triple gold medallist Peter Reed OBE, there are many others. Generally, Leander is recognized as the most historic, prestigious and successful rowing club in the world, its athletes having won 127 Olympic and Paralympic medals since 1908! At Leander, athletes are encouraged to not only develop as athletes, but also to learn resilience, teamwork, leadership, accountability and discipline; all skills necessary for life in the corporate world when the time comes to move on from the sport.

Calendar of Events – December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Club Christmas Party & Awards
4	5	6	7 Committee Meeting	8	9	10
11 Grafton Regatta	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Christmas Morning Row	26	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve

MRC Cleaning Rosters – November to Jan 2023

Date/ Area	Ladies & Disabled Bathrooms	Men's bathroom	Sweeping shed- using brooms	Upstairs floors, kitchen & toilets
Dec	Jo M Helen A	Bob M Gary	Paul Millsy	Pam
Jan 23	Jan Helen L	Roland Greg	John R David	Lori

Notes-

- Could the jobs 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



COVID SAFETY - Although COVID rules have been relaxed please continue to comply with the following to ensure your safety:

- wash hands and equipment
- maintain 1.5 m distance indoors

Our MRC COVID 19 Safety Officers:

Roland Jahnke and Paul Barnes

Christmas Morning Club Row



Come for a festive Christmas morning row! Meet 6am at the Club on Christmas Day and bring some festive refreshments to share after the row.

Santa hats, antlers, tinsel or other festive attire are obligatory!

Thank You!

A 'thank you' from Helen Hamshare for the hamper that the club sent her following a car accident:

"I want to say thank you for the visit and yummys that Jenny and John delivered to me after my accident. It made me feel cared for and provided some relief from the boredom and frustration I'm feeling"



Save the Date – Dr. Helen's 40th Birthday

January 14th 2023

Details to follow!

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