



**Torrens Rowing Club Inc**  
GPO Box 512, Adelaide SA 5001

## **BOATSHED BULLETIN**

### **APRIL/MAY 2007**

#### **FROM THE CAPTAIN**

Hi Everyone,

As winter closes in on the 2006/7 rowing season, there is still a hive of activity at the Torrens boatshed.

It's great to see our Senior Womens squad 'jump the start' in their preparation for another successful summer ahead. Go girls!

Our masters rowers, meanwhile, are at the other end of the training spectrum, finalizing their preparations for the Nationals in Penrith.

And even before this last competition takes place, it's clear that TRC has had a great summer.

The TRC Annual Dinner on Saturday 16 June, 2007, looks like being a splendid celebration. Please join your team-mates on our "night of nights".

## **MBFS**

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#### **Australian Selections**

Earlier this month, we learnt that our three SASI stars, following their success at the Nationals, were trying out for selection in Australian crews.

Alana Monson was selected to represent Australia in the under-19 double scull and is already training at West Lakes with her partner Brittany Mann, under coach Andrew Butler, in preparation for the World Junior Rowing Championships on the Olympic rowing course in Beijing, China; 8-11 August. Congratulations on a stunning beginning to your international rowing career, Alana.

Ironically, Brittany is the daughter of former TRC rower Steve Mann (now living in WA), who stroked SA's victorious Mens Eight in 1982 and 1983, and wife Tracy who rowed for Pembroke School. Welcome to Adelaide, Brittany.

Maja Fiddler and Beau Gora were both very unlucky to miss out on Australian selection by one place. In a show of true character and sheer determination, both are already back into training with their sights firmly set on taking the next step at this time in 2008. You are an inspiration to the rest of us at the club....and we would love nothing better than to see you make it to the top!



### **SARA Awards Night**

It was a very proud evening in early May when rowers from TRC attended the SARA awards night to be presented with awards for outstanding rowing success, both as individuals and as a team.

Once again Torrens was the most successful club at regattas, accumulating more premiership points than any other club.

Congratulations to all of the rowers, coaches and especially the organizers, on the excellent achievements over the season.

Here are the awards for TRC rowers:

Senior Women Premiership: Torrens from Adelaide Uni

Masters Women Premiership: Torrens from Riverside

Masters Men Premiership: Torrens from Riverside

Senior Female Champion: Jessica Molsher-Jones TRC from Peta White TRC

Junior Female Champion: Alana Monson TRC from Peta White TRC

Masters Female Champion: Caroline Mussared RRC from Henni Shepherd TRC

Masters Male Champion: tied Andrew Verney TRC and Ian Robertson TRC

Most Successful Coxswain: Lucy Hyde AUBC from Sarah-Jane Hyde TRC

Also noteworthy at the awards were the outstanding performances of the Port Adelaide club, a close runner-up in the Senior Men's Premiership, and Seymor School who in only their second season won the schoolgirl premiership.

For details on all of the awards please visit the SARA website.

### **TRC appoints Coaching Coordinator**

Our club has had many different coaches operating throughout the club for the various groups such as the Senior Women (2 coaches), Senior Men (2 coaches), Masters (session coaches), WEA (session coaches), Intermediate (session coaches) and Novice programs (several volunteers). There has been a strong feeling among the coaches and leadership group that the appointment of a central elite coach would raise the standard and profile of coaching at TRC, that it would enable the various squads to work in harmony, that the Senior Men's squad would be targeted for special development, that masters would receive regular coaching support, that there would be a fresh approach to recruitment, and that all of our rowers would have the opportunity to perform at a higher standard.

Those who know Anna Tree, will no doubt be delighted to learn that she has been appointed as TRC Coaching Coordinator for the next 12 months. Anna is a dynamic leader who has rowed at a national level and brings a wealth of rowing and coaching experience to our club. A former Unley High and Torrens rower, her coaching of TRC and State masters crews over the last few months has achieved exciting results.

With the great team of coaches already at the club, you can see that Torrens is seriously investing in the future of the clubs greatest assets, our rowers.

Welcome back to Torrens Anna.



### **Masters National Championships – Penrith June 1-3**

Torrens is sending its biggest ever masters squad to these championships. Twelve TRC rowers make up the bulk of the SA state masters crews formed to compete in the interstate races (average 50 years +), Leanne Sandow, Helena Jasinski, Correne Sandow, Terry Brown (Womens Eight), Chris Heaton-Harris, Ross Hendry, Loch Mitchell, Peter Busby (Mens Eight), Ab Holt, Andrew Verney, Ian Robertson and Roly Dankbaar (Mens Quad). The more experienced group of Kevin Keough, Bill Carey, Ian Russell, John Tonkin, Lui Lippis, Michael Magarey, and the younger group of Henni Shepherd, Carmel Murray, Donatella Musolino, Ali Robertson, Felicity Keiper, Lorna Montgomery, Rod Munro and Michael Sandow make up the party of 27. Let's wish them luck in their battles on the Olympic rowing course



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### **Rowing fees 2007/8**

Over the next few weeks the TRC committee grapples with the difficult task of setting membership fees for next season. It is easy to underestimate the value of a rowing membership at the club, and to complain about the costs. I'd love to hear from members what they think is the "right" fee for membership, but first here some of the considerations: Last season membership fees covered about half the actual cost of running the club.

It has been two years since TRC has bought a new boat.

We have debts with both of our boatsheds that, with a concerted effort, can be overcome in the next three or four years.

North American and English rowing clubs charge between \$A800 and \$A1000 for annual membership.

At some stage we need to invest in infrastructure for the TRC Function Centre as well as upgrading the club gym.

How much income can our function centre generate?

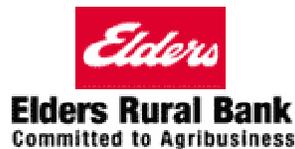
How much can our members afford to pay?

How do we help young rowers with high potential achieve their goals and still balance the budget?

How do we allow for the disparity between rowers who receive coaching and those who don't, as well as those who use newer equipment and those who use older equipment?

What, if anything, do we charge for private boat storage?

How much time, money and effort are members prepared to volunteer? (Currently we rely on thousands of donated hours by coaches and committee members)



### **Function Centre**

At the end of June, the upstairs function area of the Torrens Lake boathouse returns to club use. This will enable us to use the whole area for club functions as well as leasing for private functions. There is a potential for the function centre to generate tremendous income for our club, benefiting all of the members. Clearly, the priority will be to obtain furniture, high quality stackable chairs and tables, storage, sound system, and to establish a good system of management. If there are any members who can offer their services or advice in regard to the TRC function centre, the committee will be very pleased to hear from you.

### **Foundation Membership**

There has never been a better time to take foundation membership with TRC. The club is riding a wave of success, offering top-level coaching for all members, access to Torrens Lake as well as the world-class rowing course at West Lakes. Email TRC treasurer, David Neall, to find out how, with tax breaks, both you and the club can benefit from your generosity. The \$5000 offer is only available for this year.

### **SARA finally wins SA Government grant for West Lakes upgrade**

In news just through, the \$2.4m grant will see the West Lakes buildings extended, launching pontoons and a buoyed rowing course established. The most exciting outcome for our rowers will be the return of national and international events to one of the best pieces of rowing water in the world. Congratulations to those on the SARA board who have achieved this outstanding result.

### **Boat Restoration/Maintenance Teams**

Calling for people who are handy at fixing things and would be willing to contribute a little of their precious time upgrading or repairing our boats. It may be as part of a group, just for one or two hours per month. It may be as an organizer of a group of rowers performing a big task such as painting oars.

I'd like to form a West Lakes team of 3 or 4 people who can fix the little things on our racing fleet to keep it in top shape for racing.

I'd like to form a Torrens Lake team of 3 or 4 people who would gradually restore our older boats to their former glory.

You know that caring for our fleet is not a one-person job.....how about making it your small but special contribution to the club?

Please let me know if you would be willing to be part of one of these groups.

## **TRC Rower Profiles**

### **Henni Shepherd**

Henni is one of the most popular and respected rowers at TRC. A strong competitor in Masters events, Henni usually makes the stroke seat her base from which to set the crew a crisp rhythm. It is a mystery how she juggles her rowing, a full time accounting position with BHP, evening study, two children and the working hours of husband/SASI coach, Zolly.

Henni started rowing at age 14. She also kissed her first boy at 14. She is still rowing. Within two years she was representing her native Hungary at three successive world junior championships where her best result was 4<sup>th</sup> in the pair. Employed via a ghost job in a factory, Henni spent the next two years as a professional rower in the Hungarian national team where, at 19 and with a keen eye for a shapely bicep, she won the heart of the stroke rower in the Hungarian mens eight. Rowing jobs took them to Germany for 2 years, Brisbane for 13 years, and in 2004 to Torrens Rowing Club.

### **Beau Gora**

Beau has been rowing with TRC for the last three seasons, but some TRC members may not have met him as he has been a member of the SASI squad throughout that time. A 20 year-old, Beau came to Torrens via CBC where he was the Boat-captain and Vice-captain of the school. In the 2005 Australian Rowing Championships held in Tasmania, Beau shot to prominence with a gold medal in the lightweight under 23 pair, a title he successfully defended the following year at Nagambie. His rowing goal is to wear green and gold in the World under 23 Championships in 2008 and the London Olympics in 2012. And we know he can do it. Beau is now in his third year of a degree in Applied Science in Human Movement, hopefully leading to a career in Outdoor and Physical Education. When he's not rowing or studying, "Mike" (as he's known by some of his close mates who thought he needed a first name to go with "Beaugora") might be seen umpiring SANFL, cycling, swimming, hiking, or just quietly watching the sunset.



**TORRENS ROWING CLUB  
104<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DINNER**

**Date:**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2007**

**Venue:**

**Drill Hall, Torrens Parade Ground  
Free parking on parade ground**

**Price:**

**\$65 Adults**

**\$55 Student concession**

**Dress:**

**Semi-Formal / Club Blazer & Tie**

**Time:**

**7 pm Pre-Drinks 7.30pm Seated**

*Contact David Neall on 82234428 or email  
[secretary@torrensrowingclub.com](mailto:secretary@torrensrowingclub.com) to make a booking*