



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

## **BOATSHED BULLETIN DECEMBER2006**

### **FROM THE CAPTAIN**

Christmas can be a great opportunity to reflect on the people in our lives. For me, that includes many friends I have had the good fortune to meet at Torrens Rowing Club.

This Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10am, Torrens Rowing Club provides a special event for all members. The TRC Christmas reunion is a chance for rowers from the various parts of the club to briefly catch up and share the goodwill of the festive season. I hope to see you there.

## **MBFS McInerney Barratt Financial Solutions**

Torrens Rowing Club's elite rowers have enjoyed exciting results in their quest to represent the state and country. Four of our rowers made their way through a series of time-trials and athlete-testing to win SASI scholarships, which not only give substantial financial assistance to rowers, but places them into a day-to-day environment of world-class athletes, coaches and facilities. Most of us can only dream of such an opportunity. All at Torrens are so proud of your achievements, and hope that you can take the next step, a beautiful green-and-gold zootie.

A further four TRC rowers have achieved selection in squads from which our SA State Crews will be selected on Jan 28. Congratulations and good luck.

Seven of our TRC rowers have made it into the Youth Olympics competition to be held in Penrith in mid-January. Made up of teams of 10 females and 10 males, all under 20yrs, the various Australian states battle it out with visiting teams from NZ, China and Great Britain. Go SA!

Alana Monson – SAS scholarship, SA Womens Youth Eight squad, Youth Olympics

Maja Fiddler – SASI scholarship, SA Womens Lightweight Quad squad

Jared Schar – SASI scholarship, SA Mens Eight squad

Beau Gora – SASI scholarship, SA Mens Lightweight Four squad

Sarah-Jane Hyde – coxswain, SA Mens Youth Eight squad, Youth Olympics

Emma Zwar – SA Womens Youth Eight squad, Youth Olympics

Annalise Johnson – SA Womens Youth Eight squad, Youth Olympics

Amy Pickles – SA Womens Youth Eight squad

Alyssa Parsons – Youth Olympics

Alex Ricketts – Youth Olympics

Daniel Marryat – Youth Olympics

Phil Blesing and Andrew Butler coaching SA Womens Youth Eight. Youth Olympics

The Head of the Yarra on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November saw three TRC masters C-grade crews tackle the grueling 8.3km event. On a cool overcast day the race was held over four hours and featured 185 eight-oared crews. The organization for our club was perfect, with crews arriving on the Friday to meet the coxswains and have a paddle on the course, staying in comfortable accommodation at the finish line. On the Saturday crews prepared the boats, rowed the 8.3km into the city, enjoying a

relaxed brunch at Southbank, and raced back to Hawthorn Rowing Club without setbacks. Congratulations to these crews on excellent performances. Their race-times were.....  
37m 28s – Ali, Janet, Michelle, Terri, Correne and three ladies from PAC.  
33m 43s – Donatella, Leanne, Felicity, Lorna, Michael, Peter, Rodney, and Loch.  
33m 19s – Terry, Carmel, Henni, Helena, Ian, Sean, Chris and Roly.  
Thanks to Chris for towing, Ian for rudder modifications and coxswain liason, Carmel for organizing accommodation, Peter for doing the entries and Helena for organizing our meals.



A number of Torrens rowers returned from a “bloody hot” Berri regatta last weekend sporting their medals over a tan. The women won a number of schoolgirl and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade events, while the men, despite some unlucky setbacks won 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade races. Following exams, this regatta was an opportunity for our younger rowers to enjoy a weekend away, and therefore the barbeque at the caravan park on Saturday night was a highlight. Our thanks go to Hamish, Camille and Deb for their leadership and organization, and to Chris for towing the boats.

**From the Tow Path...**

**Overheard from a Cox during a recent Year 9 School Girls’ Quad race ‘ Stop the talking girls, and let’s get a move on’**

Recently, we have enjoyed some wonderful social functions at the club thanks largely to a small group of members, Helena, Correne, Shirley, Leanne and Carmel, who regularly make a special effort for the rest of us. Yes, functions do raise funds which eventually benefit us all, but their main purpose is to provide an enjoyable opportunity to meet, communicate, and celebrate. Their success is dependant on the attendance of you, the member. It is up to all of us to make an effort to attend some of these events.

I am asking our Senior Rowers to plan a theme for our next “Thursday at TRC” social evening on January 25<sup>th</sup>.....now here’s a chance to meet all of our young rowers.

At the halfway mark of the season I’d like to thank all of our rowers for the extra care they have taken with boats, and especially those people who have upgraded equipment. Strange but true, as our fleet is becoming older, the boats are actually in better shape. We have had no major damage to boats so far this season.

The leadership group has decided to call for a further improvement from members in terms of safety and care. We are asking members to keep the floor areas in the boatsheds clear and clean, and to use the old towels provided to more thoroughly wipe-out boats after rowing. (donations of old towels appreciated) We would like Torrens crews to set an example to other clubs with regard to safety on the water, keeping to the left of the buoys on Torrens Lake, to the right of the buoys (and waterways) at West Lakes, using lights during darkness, and watching out at all times for other craft. There are a number of new boat-race officials at regattas who need our cooperation and support to enjoy their contribution.



Past member and long-time rowing-salt, Phil Mangelsdorf, would like to contact anyone who would like to re-form the Union of Old Oarsmen, a group who met regularly on a social basis and gave support to the SA team for the National Championships. I know that some TRC members feel strongly about giving assistance to the SA team and can contact Phil on 82691720.

At the General Meeting of SARA two weeks ago, some changes for regattas were introduced. Entries will now close on Tuesday evening before the regatta and the final program (no draft) will be published at lunchtime on Wednesdays. Any registered rower can sign up, via the SARA website, to the SARA email list, to receive regatta programs and SARA newsletters as they are published. In another win for rowers, there will no more "tattooing" of numbers on arms at regattas, but spot-checks of crews will occur. The last regatta for 2006 is.....  
Sun Dec 17 2-6pm Torrens Lake, host Adelaide RC, All club + masters races.

Wishing you all a good mix of excitement and rest over the festive season, and reminding you that your friend, the ergo, will be there to help you burn off all that Christmas fare.

## FROM THE SECRETARY

Seasons Greetings to you and yours !

Half way through the season (not that we ever really stop!), and time to "row light" for a while. I'm here to talk to you about the boring bits (Roly gets to talk about the interesting stuff). Well for starters, thanks to those people that been called upon to date to come in on Saturday mornings to help set up for a function (don't worry - everyone will get their chance !). Our function business is steadily growing and thanks to Anne and Shirley, and their band of helpers we have to date produced some tidy profits , long may it continue ! - don't forget your TRC when planning your next function. Just on this, the committee will be developing a long term plan for future function management as we can no longer rely on the willing to do everything with little or nothing.

Getting fed –up with paying membership fees year in, year out – looking for a "tax write off" solution. Why not consider taking out a TRC foundation membership – you can get up to 100 cents in the dollar tax write off (compliments of Peter Costello) and you never pay club fees again. Want to know more – give the secretary a ring on 82234428 or email – [secretary@torrensrowingclub.com](mailto:secretary@torrensrowingclub.com)

Now, if the above "is not you !", and you have some money burning a hole in your pocket, why not make why not consider a tax deductible donation to the building fund, just give the secretary a call for details.

Ever wondered just how the club has been "wired up" so to speak and I'm talking about the cox –boxes. Well !, thanks to the masters women and their fundraising **alone**, (editor – they would play the average CWA branch off a break !!), the club has bought five sets for use by members Just a reminder though folks, – these are not the for the exclusive use of any one group - they are a shared resource, okay .



At the December committee meeting, the idea/concept of a rowing library, consisting of books, videos, etc was discussed. Accordingly, if you have any of the above that you would like to donate to the club for on-loan to members, please contact the secretary to discuss. 82234428 or email, [secretary@torrensrowingclub.com](mailto:secretary@torrensrowingclub.com)

## NEW MEMBERS – Say Hi, and please make them feel welcome

PETA GRANT – comes to us from Adelaide High School and joins the ever growing Blessing  
“tour de force”

MOSTYN CLARKE – comes to us from ARC, & “has rowed for ever” according to Mostyn and  
joins the mens senior squad

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My Dear Mrs Nicholls,

It was my pleasure to advise you some months ago of the inclusion of Alyssa Parsons and Alex Ricketts in the SA State Youth Rowing Team and here, I'll just mention in passing that Alyssa and Alex have been joined by Laura Ditty, in the selection process for the 2007 Youth Olympic Festival which will take place in NSW during January.

However the objective of this message is to proudly advise of yet another 'first' for Saints Girls Rowers, this time four of them!

In today's Walford *Round-the-Island* Regatta, at West Lakes. a crew comprising, Laura Ditty, Peta White, Alyssa Parsons and Alex Ricketts were placed first in the Schoolgirl Quad Scull Race (Division 1). Beating crews from Pembroke, Walford, Wilderness, Scotch and Annesley.

Their winning margin, for this annual 8km time trial, was approximately 3 minutes. No mean feat by these very talented young ladies who were having their first race together, and whilst they were officially racing in the red and white hoops of Torrens Rowing Club they were also especially delighted to have achieved this victory as the very first combination from 'Saints Girls' to have done so.

Sincerely

Francis Willis - TRC Vice-President (and very proud co-coach!)



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