



DRC News November 2022



Welcome to our quarterly DRC newsletter! The purpose of this newsletter is to supplement our day-to-day communications and share Club news, events and updates and to connect our community with the breadth of DRC activity happening on and off the water.

Latest News

Our second newsletter and so much to celebrate, communicate and be a part of this quarter. As we look back on news since August:

The DRC Annual General Meeting

The AGM occurred on 10th September. Where once we could all fit into the club gym area, it is wonderful to see that our membership has grown to the extent we need bigger space to conduct the meeting. Thank you to the many members who were able to attend.

This year the AGM coincided with the start of the 24hr Row Challenge organised by our Opens Squad. There couldn't have been a more perfect way for members to witness the sheer energy and enthusiasm this group brings to the Club and all things rowing. And it was great to see so many of our members get in on the action. This initiative was a huge success raising \$7,500 for mental health. Big thanks to Sarah Ellis for leading the charge.

This year also saw the Committee change. We thank the outgoing Committee for their service to the Club and members. These are all volunteers who sacrifice work, family and their own rowing time to support our Club thrive and we are very grateful for their commitment, some over many, many years: Oscar Fawkes (Captain), Rob Glendenning (Vice- Captain), Gabriel Haythornthwaite (Secretary), Geoff Green (Public Officer), William Lewis (Treasurer) and Anthony Haworth. The new custodians of the Club have brought new perspectives, passion and commitment to our operations and development.

Your new DRC Management Committee is:

- Kathleen Hextell - President
- Alex Warner - Club Captain
- Scott Bickford - Vice-Captain
- Kitrina Shanahan - Treasurer
- Ashleigh Lister - Secretary
- Bianca Riley - Public Officer
- Helen Burton - General Member
- Gary Foster - General Member
- Stephen Burke - General Member
- Katrina Brangwin - General Member



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Latest News cont'

Branko K

You will have seen that one of our new boats (coxless quad / four) will be named 'Branko K'. We're thrilled to be able to honour Branko in this way. Branko Kovacic has been a member of DRC for over 40 years, quietly representing the Club. Having competed in over 500 races winning close to 100 medals across the world, Branko has a reputation as a fierce competitor. When Bob Hammond started competing, he approached Branko and asked if he would row with him in a double. Over the next 15 years they became a dedicated crew, were very competitive in a number of local races and developed an invaluable personal friendship. Branko has always kept his contributions and successes to himself, preferring a low profile. Naming a boat after Branko is an acknowledgement of the contribution Branko has, and continues, to make to the Club. The prospect of having both the Bob Hammond and Branko K on the water and being raced together is something I look forward to seeing.

Safety

The recent vandalism of the Ancient Mariner 8+ is unfortunately the latest in an unfortunate list of damage to boats stored on the outside racks. We thank the Health, Safety and Environment Committee for organising and installing the lighting on the eastern side of the boat shed which has the dual purpose of helping people see when unracking in the early mornings and deterring people from congregating in dark spaces at night. With the party season upon us we ask all members to be diligent in ensuring doors to the club are closed and equipment away, be aware of people around the pontoon and grass area and report anything untoward to a member of the Committee.



Captains Update

Welcome back Robyn (Mackney)! It's great to see you back at the club and in the tinnie coaching again. We've missed you!

It's been a very busy time for all competing DRC rowers with plenty on offer for Masters, our Para Squad and the Open Squad. DRC boasted a large contingent of Masters and Opens rowers at the NSW Spring Regatta. The trailer was loaded to capacity and included five quads and three eights!

Congratulations to the Open Squad women who won the C and D Grade Eight, the D Double Scull, and the D Quad.

In addition, DRC was well represented at the NSW Institute of Sport Time Trials by Para rowers Steph Walker and Julia Story in the Womens PR3 Single Scull, Nick Brown in the Mens Open single Scull and Eve Timms in the Womens Under 23 LWT Single Scull, all matching it with the best in NSW.

The time trial regatta season has been in full swing with DRC competing at events in Sydney and further afield with the Head of the Shoalhaven always enjoyable and well organised.

Sadly, the ultimate time trial event, the Head of the Yarra has been postponed until 2023 as a result of problems with construction of the new pontoon and flooding rains. We were excited about such a large DRC contingent heading to Melbourne but hoping we will see the momentum and enthusiasm continue next year.

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Captains Update cont'

The final two time trial events for the year are the Iron Cove Classic #3 on 13 November and a week later Nepean Head #2 before the Summer regatta season gets underway with the ever popular Reindeer Regatta at SIRC on 3 December. This means it's time to think about your on/off water training program and how you'll hold up in the second 500 metres of a 1000 metre race! Will it be slower or faster than the first 500 metres?

The National Masters Championships are at SIRC next year and we congratulate Kathleen Hextell on being appointed one of the two Masters State Team Selectors for the Interstate Regatta. Kathleen comes to the role with a great deal of experience having represented NSW in both the Interstate Womens Masters Eight and Quad over a lengthy period of her rowing career.



There is lots of work being carried out around the shed to optimise space, improve organisation and safety. Thank you for your patience as we work through a long list of jobs including repair of the shed floor. We will advise you shortly of the date of the next Working Bee but in the meantime please mark two Boat Maintenance Days in your calendar and register via the events section on our website:

- Sunday 11 December and Sunday 8 January 2023

Membership Update

Welcome to New Members

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to the Club who have joined in the last three months:

Opens

- Joe Bennett, new to living in Drummoyne, Joe was drawn to DRC because of the flexible Opens program
- Freja Warner Van Dijk joins from Balmain RC
- Nate Lawson rowed at school and is keen to return to competitive rowing
- Andrea Conomos currently coaches rowing at MLC school while undertaking FT studies.
- Izzy Hooton has recently returned from 3 months overseas. As an ex-schoolgirl rower, Izzy is keen to build her fitness in the Opens squad
- Mack Sheppard also rowed at school and as a FT student is now keen to be part of a competitive squad;
- Gabby Angus joins the club as an experienced coxswain, including at Mosman RC under Judith and Matt Ungemach, at National and State level. Gabby resides in Newcastle so will not train with the club regularly but is keen to be a part of the Opens squad where needed.
- Libby Carroll-Shaw has recently relocated from Adelaide where she has been very active in her local Club.
- David Doust - who rowed at school and is keen to stay fit and race in a flexible and social squad

Masters

- Associate member - Steve Schinagel, Newington Masters Rowing Club



Opens Squad

WOW, so much has happened in the past 3 months!

Formally coined the DRC Juniors, the squad has more aptly rebranded to the DRC Opens Squad to alleviate any confusion that it is an under 18s group. The Opens Squad targets rowers 18- 30ish, with prior rowing experience that want to reconnect with the sport in a format that allows purposeful training and racing balanced with real world commitments.

The vibrant group continues to grow from strength to strength, with squad numbers reaching around 20 this month and showing some great results at our debut races.

24 Hour Row

Thanks again to all members of the Drummoyne Rowing Community, friends and family that helped make our 24-hour Row for Mental Health fundraiser such a success.

In 24 hours, we managed to keep 2 ergs going, achieving a whopping 522,470m and raised an incredible \$7500 exceeding our goal by 50%. Thank you again to all that donated, rowed, cheered, bought raffle tickets and got behind the event!

We knew we had a good vibe but the event organisers also agreed we had the best atmosphere of the 70+ participating clubs and rewarded us with a Harvey Norman voucher. Some of these funds went to a new and much bigger portable Bluetooth speaker for the club/ gym. We will consult with the Club on how to best use the remaining prize money.

You can re-live the great vibes from the event here:

<https://www.instagram.com/stories/highlights/17981048857601135/>

Regatta News

Nepean

On Saturday 24 September U23 LW sculler Eve Timms took part in the NSWIS Time Trial finishing with an impressive 84% prognostic. The next day, 4 of our intrepid guys lined up at Head of the Nepean, where Jack and Nate took part in their 1st race and Alistair raced in a crew boat for the first time. Thanks Joe for guiding your team mates through this! They were winners of the OM4x Division and posted the 11th fastest time overall.

Spring

On Saturday 10 October, quite a big contingent of the Opens Squad travelled out to SIRC for our debut regatta- the RNSW Spring Regatta. 10 Girls and 4 Guys competed, some for the first time and most after a hiatus of several years! Despite racing coming as quite a shock to the system, everyone had a great time and raced exceptionally.

From 8 races the Opens Squad finished with 5 wins including in the Women's C and D 8+ and for many this was their first ever sweep race.

Special mention to Eve Timms the clubs Open elite rower who had a whopping 3 x 2km races in open events as well as stroking the 2 Women's 8+ Races!

Eve stepped up to the big league this regatta, racing Open Women's 1x, 2x and 4x (with UTS) finishing 7th, 2nd and 2nd which is a very impressive result as an U23 LW rower.

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And thanks to Andrew, Rob and Katrina who were honorary Opens for a race!!

Spring Regatta Results

Women's C8+- 1st
Women's D4x- 1st and 4th
Women's D 2x- 1st and 5th
Men's D4x- 1st
Women's D8+- 1st
Men's C4x- 2nd
Men's D4+- 3rd
Men's C2x- 5th



Shoalhaven

What a great weekend away! 8 of our girls travelled to Shoalhaven and raced the WD8+ competing in their 1st head race. The girls didn't know themselves away from the wash and waves of Iron Cove! Unsure how they would go, we could tell at the halfway point they were doing well and looking strong. The girls took out their event by over 5 minutes and finished 5th overall, only beaten by the men's open 8+s and 1 mixed 8+. They were exactly 2 minutes behind the winning men's crew! We could not have asked for a better result.

It was lovely to be away with lots of the masters' crews and getting to know everyone better. The squad enjoyed a lazy Saturday afternoon in Shoalhaven before heading back to Sydney. What a good excuse for a mini getaway! We are looking forward to April Yarra and giving it a red-hot shot with an extra 6 months of training under the belt. With hopefully an additional men's or mixed boat too!

On behalf of the Opens, thank you to the Club for being supportive of our Squad, what a wonderful shed to be a part of. Go Team Drummoyne!

Para Update

It takes a community to nurture a rower, and the DRC community is one of the best there is. Our para members are a small and vibrant part of the Club, supported to excel both on and off the water. Since August there has been a lot going on with this squad as we prepare for the season ahead.

We congratulate and wish the best to Julia Story and Stephanie Walker on their selection into the AUS rowing team to compete next week (5 - 11th November) at the OA Games to be held in Brisbane with the on water rowing at Lake Wyaralong. Julia and Steph will combine with members from Community Rowing Club, University of Queensland Boat Shed and Nestle RC to form the Australian Rowing Team. This is a regional event which is one of many around the world in the lead up to next year's Global Games (France).

Finally announcing his plans for the future, our newest rower Kai is focused on every row to learn, and improve.

Our newest rower Kai is focused on every row to learn, and improve. Coming from an elite sporting background, Kai has found something special and challenging in rowing. We can't thank people enough who have been giving up hours of their day on a Monday, Tuesday and / or Thursday to row with Kai. Although if you are anything like me, the learning and enjoyment goes both ways.



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Upcoming Dates



DRC Christmas Party - Saturday December 10th

We hope all DRC members will join us for an informal end of year celebration at 6pm on Saturday December 10. This is a great opportunity to catch up with your club mates out of our zooties and active wear and share tall tales of rowing triumphs and near misses over a few drinks.

Venue: The Conservatory, Oxford Hotel (upstairs), 195 Victoria Rd

Registration details coming soon.

Boat maintenance days:

- Sunday Dec 11
- Sunday Jan 8

