



Newsletter of the

BURLEY GRIFFIN CANOE CLUB

Volume 29 Issue 2, November 2018

Your Committee:

President: Russell Murphy

Vice President: Patricia Ashton

Secretary: Kai Swoboda

Treasurer: Trent Burkett

Safety Officer: Vacant

Membership Secretary: Helen Tongway

Public Officer: Bob Collins

Editor: Michael Thomas

Burley Griffin Canoe Club Inc.

PO Box 341

Jamison Centre ACT 2614

www.bgcc.org.au

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through Active Canberra, ACT*



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Coming Events:

| Dates | Event | Location |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Saturday and Sunday, 3–4 November | National Capital Slalom | Cotter |
| Monday, 5 November, 6 pm | BGCC Committee meeting | Club shed |
| Friday, 9 November, 6 pm | Social paddle, 8km, cheese and bickies at the Carillion | East Basin |
| Saturday and Sunday, 10–11 November | Canoe Polo Invitational | Molonglo Reach |
| Sunday, 11 November | Sprints at Penrith | Penrith |
| Saturday and Sunday, 17–18 November | Social paddle – overnight trip | Tuross |
| Monday–Friday, 19–23 November | Massive Murray Paddle | Yarrowonga to Swan Hill |
| Thursday–Sunday, 22–25 November | Merimbula Classic | Merimbula Sailing Club |
| Saturday and Sunday, 1–2 December | 24-Hour Paddling Challenge (BGCC) | Molonglo Reach |
| Saturday, 2 March | PNSW Marathon Series Race 1 | Molonglo Reach |
| Sunday, 3 March | Burley Griffin Bash | Molonglo Reach |

President's Report: Russell Murphy

Lots of news this month. The PaddleNSW marathon series has wrapped up for 2018, with a number of excellent results. This includes division wins for Margi Bohm (joint winner, Division 8), Graeme Ison (Division 10) and Allan Newhouse (Division 12). Notably, Helen Tongway received the award for most outstanding paddler of the series. Well deserved.

Attention now turns to a number of other events:

- The Hawkesbury, which will be run and done by the time you read this. We have a number of competitors who are aiming to go fast, or just get to Brooklyn.
- Our national capital slalom on 3 and 4 November. This marks a return of Slalom to Canberra and is super exciting.
- The 24-hour paddling challenge on 1 and 2 December. A low-key event is planned again this year, but that is a great opportunity to make friends and have an awesome night out on the river.
- Next year's marathon series race on 2 March and the Burley Griffin Bash on 3 March. We are not guaranteed to get a race next year, so if you want to race against the best in the state on your home turf, now is the time to get planning.

And just because whatever kind of paddling you do there is something for you, Patricia Ashton has run several social paddles as the weather has warmed up. The next couple are an evening paddle on 9 November to the Carillion, and a south coast paddle (location tide and weather dependent) on 17 and 18 November.

Another reminder that the water at the club shed is currently off. There are portaloos for the necessary, but otherwise your boat will just have to go dirty. The lake is still there.

See you on the water,
Russell



Helen Tongway with her trophy for Outstanding Paddler



First Aid Course: Patricia Ashton

The Burley Griffin Canoe Club hosted another First Aid Course recently. Eleven club members took advantage of a half price Senior First Aid course, which we ran over two Tuesday evening sessions. We were able to hold it at the shed in our new meeting room. (Even if stepping over the planks in front of the white board was probably not very safe.)

Mel and Gary have presented courses for the club over the last several years and are very good at it, giving an insight on the use of first aid in the community.



We were able to open our club Defibrillator to see how it worked and to listen to the instructions. All club members should be aware that we do have a Defib located in the shed opposite the main door. It can be used by anyone to assist in CPR, whether it's for a club member, friend or a cyclist just passing by.

Thanks to the club members who attended and to RuShen for the photos.

Patricia



16 Wollongong Street, Fyshwick, Phone: 02 6239 1323

24-Hour Paddling Challenge 2018: Helen Tongway

Weekend of 1–2 December

Hosted by BGCC at Molonglo Reach, Campbell, ACT

This year we are again planning for a low-key event. BYO: everything. Shelter tents permitted in a limited area, not under trees. We are not trying to raise funds for any charities, but if you feel like donating to the BGCC Club Shed Building Fund – all monies will be gratefully received!

Entries: via *Register Now*, by Saturday, 1 December 2018.
<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=31879>

Entry Fee: \$30 up to 26 November; \$50 between 27 November and 1 December

Course: 4.7km loop course on Molonglo River

Briefing: 9:00 a.m.

Start Time: 9:30 am, Saturday, 1 December 2018

Finish Time: 9:30 am, Sunday, 2 December 2018

Enter As: Solo; Team of maximum 4x boats (competitive); or any number of boats (fun)



Early Morning tranquility, Molonglo Reach, 26 November 2006

Paddler Safety: There will be a safety boat stationed at the start/finish area, but paddler safety is to be by paddlers caring for anyone in need of assistance on or in the water. Paddlers are all to have at all times out on the water: a pea-less whistle, readily available to relay a message along the river that the safety boat is needed – either upstream or downstream of the start. Any time spent in assisting another paddler in difficulties will be allowed for in the distance paddled.

From Sunset: lap starting at or after 7:30 pm: all paddlers must wear a lifejacket, with a torch and space blanket attached, along with their readily available whistle. All paddlers must have lights on stem and stern of their craft. Cyalumes will be provided for paddlers use.

Amenities: BGCC Club Shed has warm showers; there are public toilets; a club barbecue will be available and if enough interest is shown, a thick soup can be provided. The club kitchen has a fridge and kettle and pod-coffee drink-maker.

Camping: is not permitted – but "Shelter Tents" are. (So nothing too elaborate please!) There will be designated shelter tent areas – please do not set up camp just anywhere.

Wetspot Summer Series 2018–19

Handicap format and race calendar

HANDICAP FORMAT

As a result of feedback from the recent BGCC member survey and in an endeavour to introduce some different race formats, this summer we will conduct handicap races for most of the 2018–19 Wetspot summer series.

To mix things up, once a month we propose to do something different (TBA soon). We'll also have a break for the Christmas/New Year period. The dates for the series are in the calendar on the next page. The handicap system will be based on your elapsed time over either the one lap (approx. 4.7km) or two lap (approx. 9.4km) courses.

Handicap racing is exciting and usually provides close finishes. And because nearly everyone finishes around the same time, this provides a better opportunity for paddlers to socialise at the post-event barbeque.

Starts will be at one-minute intervals. The handicapper will set and adjust handicaps for each race. The handicapper's decision on your handicap start time is final. Your start time for the next handicap race will be adjusted according to your finish time in your last race and the handicapper's discretion. Finish times will be rounded down.

Fifty (50) points will be awarded to the first finisher, with descending points awarded for each subsequent finisher. Points will be awarded for both the short and long course finishers. You cannot carry your points across short and long courses. So if you are serious about winning, it is best to decide what distance you want to race at the start of the series.

Paddlers' cumulative points will count towards the series prizes to be awarded at the club's annual dinner.

- First start (with slower paddlers off first) for the long course is at 5.55pm.
- Second start (with slower paddlers off first) for the short course is at 6pm.

Those of you who paddle the series regularly will know that there is not a lot of time to get from work, race, BBQ and pack up. So we have had to introduce a time cut-off for the long course to get paddlers off the water at around the same time and to get everyone home at a reasonable hour.

The time cut-off for the long course is 1:10. If you think you cannot paddle the long course distance under that time you are strongly encouraged to paddle the short course. If you decide to paddle the long course anyway, it is likely your time will not be recorded as the timekeepers will have packed up and gone barbequing.

Paddlers will need to register their names and expected lap time (in minutes) BEFORE coming to the river. This will be needed only ONCE PER SEASON! You will, however, also need to register yourself in advance and, if you decide to paddle a double boat, your doubles partner as a new entry (including each time you change paddling partner).

To register, go to: <https://www.webscorer.com/register?pid=1&raceid=123798&owner=1>
If this is not going smoothly for you, then contact: BGCCrace@gmail.com

WETSPOT SUMMER SERIES 2018–19 RACE CALENDAR

| DATE | EVENT |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Wednesday, 10 October 2018 | Timetrial |
| Wednesday, 17 October 2018 | Timetrial |
| Wednesday, 24 October 2018 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 31 October 2018 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 7 November 2018 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 14 November 2018 | Other event |
| Wednesday, 21 November 21018 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 28 November 2018 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 5 December 2018 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 12 December 2018 | Other event |

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR BREAK

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday, 16 January 2019 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 23 January 2019 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 30 January 2019 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 6 February 2019 | Other event |
| Wednesday, 13 February 2019 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 20 February 2019 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 27 February 2019 | Handicap race |
| Saturday, 2 March 2019 | PNSW Race 1, 2019 marathon series & State Marathon Championships, Canberra |
| Wednesday, 6 March 2019 | Other event |
| Wednesday, 13 March 2019 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 20 March 2019 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 27 March 2019 | Handicap race |
| Wednesday, 3 April 2019 | Other event |

Russl

Another Memorable Hawkesbury Canoe Classic: Scott MacWilliam

Yet again the race from Windsor to Moonee Moonee/Brooklyn produced surprises and challenges, triumphs and disappointments. For as long as the race continues to be held, it will remain a testament to courage, enthusiasm and even wisdom. The advice given by Kenny Rogers' *The Gambler* was timely for those who took on the over-night challenge: knowing when to hold, when to fold and walk away are each forms of wisdom that were on display for the race held on 27 and 28 October 2018.

The BGCC members who participated each had to deal with race conditions that went from predictable and placid to unforeseen and treacherous, requiring sound judgment on whether to hold or fold. For the land crew, fatigue and sleep deprivation meant that our emotions and physical abilities too were stretched, as our concern for teammates' wellbeing was also challenged.

The paddlers and land crew, mustered perfectly by Patricia Ashton, assembled easily at Windsor, gathered at our usual spot to await the start. It soon became apparent that this was unlike the field of previous years, with attendance severely depleted. One cheerful note regarding entrants was the number of young paddlers from school teams. Lane Cove KC were also present in very large numbers, ranging from some of their top paddlers to beginners. When I first land crewed in 2011, BGCC had more than 20 entrants, one of the largest club teams, with many volunteers. This time, there were five paddlers requiring club support and three others with mainly their own support teams. None of the large number of BGCC SUP paddlers appeared which, given the numbers who compete and paddle socially around Canberra, was also disappointing, as was the absence of a team from the Ice Dragons. All were missed.

In warm sunny weather, with slight occasional breezes, Robert Bruce and Denby Moylan, as well as former member James Suthern, launched into the Brooklyn or Bust fields. They were followed by Helen Tongway, Richard Fox, Bob Collins and Danielle Winslow, plus the perennials, Stephen and John Harmer. On the first legs all showed admirable judgment of pace, tides and weather conditions: unfortunately, the last were giving a false sense of security for which the HCC is well known. Times through the first two main checkpoints were encouraging and spirits high. The land crew of Patricia, Tony Mee, Jeremy Cook, David Tongway and me packed up and followed along in equally good spirits.

Suddenly things changed: more than halfway through the first main phase to Wisemans Ferry, the wind came up completely unexpectedly just at the moment the tide changed from outgoing to incoming. While the wind was a great relief for land crew having to deal with an unusual horde of mosquitos at the Wisemans campsite, it played havoc with boats on the water as it was blowing in the opposite direction to the tide. The first BGCC member into Wisemans, Denby, reported surfing in a Mirage and having trouble keeping the boat running in a straight line. Later arrivals told of their boat speed dropping from over 11 kph to under 8 kph, and even down to 5 kph in one case. Others reported a complete loss of confidence that they could stay upright as exhaustion too made balancing even harder. It was in this stretch that race organisers 'lost' Helen, causing concern among the BGCC members on shore – though not for the old veteran Helen herself (see below). All paddlers, even those who were still making good time as they crawled into Wisemans showed the strain of the last 20 km or so.

Over two or so hours before and just after midnight, the BGCC field was cut in half. Richard Fox and Helen showed wisdom, amidst great disappointment and a weather forecast that conditions closer to Brooklyn were expected to deteriorate substantially, by folding. Helen's arrival at Wisemans brought

considerable relief to David and the rest of the land crew: she had taken more than two hours to travel 10–15 km. Unbeknown to us waiting nervously, the HCC checkpoint crew at the second last spot before Wisemans had noted that Helen was not paddling strongly as she passed them. With such an external assessment, making it to Wisemans was a testament to her determination. James also withdrew, with a hand injury and a slowing pace that would have him arrive along the river just as the worst of the weather struck.

Fortified with a peanut butter sandwich, hot tea and coffee, bladders emptied, boats dried, clothes changed, fluids replenished and much imparted enthusiasm, Denby, Bob and Danielle, and Robert set off down the river full of known unknowables. We on shore cleaned up, repacked cars and headed off into the only slightly less uncertain last leg, unable to know if we were going to be needed along the way by a paddler making an unexpected withdrawal on a less accessible part of the river. Jeremy was getting a good taste of what makes the HCC and was less sure this experience was an ideal preparation for his intended 2019 assault on the river.

Reduced numbers meant that the usual parking difficulties at Brooklyn weren't so severe, so we arrived at the finish line in plenty of time before our paddlers arrived. Plenty of time too, to hear some of the horror stories from paddlers who had encountered strong winds, unexpected eddies and whirlpools on the last kilometres. There was talk of halting the race, but we knew our team were past the most likely stopping point, so we waited nervously. The first to appear were Danielle and Bob – but like several other crews they seemed to be paddling past the finish point, on down the river! Headed for New Zealand? Surely not!

When they finally edged around midstream and made it to shore we found out what had happened. Tide and wind made it very hard to manoeuvre across the river. A boat full of water, from waves that had washed over the cockpit of the SLR2, didn't help. Bob had been unable to keep the pump going fast enough to empty the boat, being more concerned with balance and bracing in the chop and wind. There was so much water in the boat that lifting it out of the river was beyond the capacity of helpers until it had been emptied.

Denby and Robert eventually made it, with similar accounts of how difficult the last few kilometres had been. Denby received a most unexpected surprise: his doubles partner, Peter Connolly—unable to paddle this year due to injury—travelled down overnight from Canberra to be at the finish line to greet his mate. Another memorable finishing team was a women's K4 whose journey wasn't assisted by a bow paddler unloading into the wind, which was redistributed down the boat so that the stern paddler became sick as well. Fortunately, only the river copped her load!

I for one was very glad that Richard, Helen and James had withdrawn at Wisemans, as going for a swim would have been risky. Before any of our team landed at Wisemans, David and I were discussing the impeccable safety record of the race over more than 40 years. Maintained again but not without challenges. Another memorable Hawkesbury Classic – may there be many more; and with BGCC numbers more like those of Classics past, and Lane Cove's present!

Scott

From Rangoon to Brooklyn: Robert Bruce

It was after midnight when I left the Rangoon Country Club and pushed out onto the dark waters of the Irrawaddy. The trip had been uneventful so far if you don't count the irregular rhythm of the bio-mechanical paddle engine.

I had had my usual bergamot-flavoured Darjeeling with a side of nurofen and was settling into a semi-somnambulistic state lulled by the slapping of the paddle wheel against the water when I was startled by the sound of a slab of flesh hitting the starboard bow.

"Mind if I hitch a ride?" came the call from the darkness.

"Who's there? If it's you freeloading river rats you can pee off now," I replied.

"Nah, its me Ocki, the river rats are over on the *Titanic*, reckon they are going to get some ice for their cocktails."

I shone a light on the bow and the familiar eight-star shape waved back at me. It was Ocki the octopus. I had met him last year on a trip down the Mekong, or maybe it was the Brahmaputra, memories of that trip a bit vague. Ocki is a helpful chap, knows where the best eating places are and dances a mean eight-beat Keharwa.

"What about a bit of music," he says. "Got anything by octo-pussy galour"

"Sorry, what about 'Of course I'm lying' by Yello, that will get us into a nice mood for the evening," I replied. I tossed him a gel and asked if he could open it.

"Hey buddy, if I can escape from a tank and eat all the fish in the lab, I can surely open a gel."

Suddenly the serenity of the night was shattered by gunfire. It was that mad Special Forces Colonel Kurtz.

"Heh Colonel, the war is over, the movie is finished, time to go home."

"The war is never over, every day is a new battle to be won."

"Aren't you on the wrong river," I asked.

"All rivers are one river, all water is one water."

I thanked him for his insight and engaged sufficient neurons to continue forward motion. The steam-powered turntable was cranking out the rhythm, but where was Ocki? My trembling friend hauled himself back on deck.

"That was close," he said. "The Colonel has taken a liking to calamari, lost a couple of mates this year." He resumed his dance routine once more.

"Room for one more?" I hear a call. I looked to port and a small dolphin was gliding along beside the boat, slapping its tail to the beat.

"No," I replied, "but I will give you a protein bar if you give me a nudge along."

"You have to be joking, there is a large barge down river that pays with hot chips and jelly snakes," he said. "I pushed the couple till they ran out of chips, and, as they had no music I came looking for some action."

I looked around for any landmarks to judge my location and progress. Not much had changed since I was here a million years ago. Black velvet mountains pasted to the walls of the movie set showing in tonight's travelogue. Cloud sweepers were dispersing the mackerel sky and gathering a large volume of cloud mass for the third act of tonight's drama.

The moon was showing its full radiance ... "Hold up guys, it's supposed to be a waning moon, there should be a piece cut off the bottom". They unpinned the moon and took it off to the workshop. So, it is only paper after all.

There are many trips by tired mariners down the big rivers of this world at night. This has been one of them.

Robert

South Coast Convenor's Report: Allan Newhouse

Two South Coast BGCC members completed the last race of the 2018 NSW Marathon Series at Burrill Lake on Saturday, 20 October.

Graeme Ison rounded off a good year with a win in Division 10, while I finished second in Division 12.

It was much more relaxing paddling at Burrill Lake this year than it was in a couple of previous years when strong winds made things challenging and hard work.

Both Graeme and I finished the year in first place in our respective divisions. Graeme had built up such a lead over other Div 10 paddlers that with two races to go, he had an unassailable lead. He missed Davistown because he managed to drill a hole in his hand, but was back on the water at Burrill Lake to expend his lead even further with his win.

The eight races that Graeme counted included four wins, two second places, a third and a fourth, giving him a total of 393 points out of a possible total of 400.

I had a less comfortable lead in Div 12 and temporarily fell a couple of points behind during my three races up in Div 11. Two second places in the last two races re-established my lead. My eight races included two wins, five second places and a third, giving me the same total of 393.

Both Graeme and I were able to drop our 46 point allocation for the optional races and I was also able to drop the 40 points awarded to paddlers who decided to help their local club by paddling a double at Lane Cove.

I was one of the nine paddlers who were awarded a 100% medal for completing all twelve of the series races and was one of the three paddlers who also completed the two optional race.



Allan Newhouse lining up for the start of Division 12. Photo Ian Wrenford



Graeme Ison in the Div 10 start. Photo Ian Wrenford



Graeme Ison crossing the finish line for first place in Div 10 Photo Ian Wrenford



Allan Newhouse finishing in second place in Div 12. Photo Ian Wrenford



Graeme Ison with first place trophy in Div 10.



Allan Newhouse first place in Div 12.

Photos Ian Wrenford



Eight of the nine paddlers who completed all 12 races in the series. Photo Ian Wrenford.



The reward for consistent performance over what seemed like a very long year of racing.

Cheers

Allan

Canoe Polo Report: Laura Kleinrahm

Polo has now moved back to the lake, with the weekly games being complemented by several other trainings as we head into the 2018/19 Summer Series season. Canberra will be hosting the opening event on the 10–11 November, and organising is well underway. Canberra will be entering five teams, two Women's and a Junior Boys/Restricted team, as well as two teams in the Open division.

The next event will be held in Penrith at the beginning of December, and will also be a selection event for the Oceania Championship, as well as feature a Women's camp on the Monday.

Cheers,

Laura

If you like Canoe Polo, (or doggos), check out our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/ACTCanoePolo/>



SUP Report: Joanna Nelson

We had a busy couple of weekends for the Canberra crew in October:

Lion Island challenge: Held in Sydney on 13 Oct (8 km) attended by myself, Trent Shaw, Ross Bugg, Rohan Evans and Matthew Scott. A great time had by all.

Sand and Sea Festival: Held in Huskisson over 27-28 Oct with a full weekend of events attended by myself, Lana Read, Kate Miller, Rohan Evans, Ross Bugg and Trent Shaw. Events included/attended;

Up the Creek (8km)—flat water event attended by all Canberra crew.

Beach to Bay—down-wind event from Callala bay to Huskisson beach choice of (8km) Ross Bugg or (14km) Trent Shaw, Joanna Nelson and Rohan Evans and

Huskisson Hop—due to conditions, this event changed to either a 5km (Kate Miller) or a double down-winder 10 km event (Ross Bugg, Trent Shaw, Joanna Nelson and Rohan Evans).



Race ready Joanna Nelson, Lana Read and Kate Miller



Ross Bugg (8km Beach to Bay)

We had great weather and the conditions were as predicted, with the flexibility of the event's organisers to adjust the course to be challenging and fun for all paddlers. This is a new addition to the SUP calendar a first time for the Sand and Sea Festival organisers. We look forward to coming back next year.



Queens of the Bay – Vanessa (Central Coast), Traci (Sydney)
and Joanna Nelson

Coming events:

Merimbula Classic 22–25 Nov

Hope to see you on the water soon.

Joanna



Rohan Evans, Trent Shaw, Joanna Nelson and Ross Bugg



Social Paddles: Patricia Ashton

The last two social paddles have been very pleasant. Sunday, 7 October, a group of six of us paddled from Yarralumla Bay to the Dam Wall. A couple of our paddlers had never been to the wall before so it was all new. As a social paddle it was also lovely to paddle close to the shore and enjoy the scenery and have a good look at the Governor Generals place. On the way back we pulled into Weston Park and lo and behold, there was a coffee shop! Apparently there is nothing like a coffee stop ...

Crossing back over West Basin to Yarralumla Bay was a little rough, but all handled it well.

Our last paddle was at Lake Ginninderra on Sunday, 21 October. We decided to have an afternoon paddle, so met up at 4pm. We had two new paddlers join us—Jeff in his Mirage and Rebecca on a SUP.

Unfortunately the wind had come up making it quite a rough paddle, especially for John in his Wenonah canoe and Rebecca on her SUP. We paddled along the shoreline, and once off the main section of the lake things improved. Geoff and John led us to the end of the lake and through the wire fence into a much quieter, narrower creek. Although this is only about 500m, it is a pretty section and one not often used.

After getting back to the cars, we decided to meet up at the Lighthouse pub, at Belconnen for a drink and some chips. A very pleasant way to finish the evening.

Come along and join us for our next social paddle—bring along some nibbles to enjoy at the Carillion.

Upcoming Social Paddles in Canberra

- Friday, 9 November 9, 6 pm, East Basin, cheese & bickies at the Carillion. 8km

Recreational Paddles further afield

- Saturday & Sunday, 17 & 18 November—paddle on Tuross Lake & call into the Boathouse on the way out for a coffee or lunch and the Tuross River, to Bumbo Lake. Tuross has a lovely Tourist Park right on the water for accommodation, or possibly a house.

If you are interested in any of these paddles please let me know. Though we will try and accommodate people, it will depend on numbers requiring club boats. There may be problems getting enough club boats to the venues. Regular participants will be required to purchase and fit roof racks so they can transport a boat for their own use.

Race or Social – 24-hour Relay

Don't forget our 24-hour relay on 1 & 2 December. This doesn't have to be a race. It's open to social teams, you can choose when to stop paddling for the night, or go all the way through. Night paddling on our river is quite safe and a lovely experience. You can just paddle and enjoy the stars – consider putting a 'team' together. Social teams can have as many paddlers as you like. Camp by the river, or go home & return in the early morning. 4.7km loops, 9.30am Saturday till 9.30am Sunday.

Patricia

Marathon report: Russell Lutton

Following the recent BGCC annual general meeting, I have taken on the role of marathon convenor for the next 12 months. I want to thank Helen Tongway and Patricia Ashton for their work to bring you reports on things marathon over the last 12 months. I will do my best to do the same.

STOP PRESS!

Hawkesbury Canoe Classic 2018 preliminary report

At the time of writing, our BGCC paddlers had just completed the 2018 Hawkesbury Canoe Classic. We aim to bring you complete reports on our paddlers' experiences next month. However, the initial reports from our BGCC paddlers are that this was a very tough year for the Hawkesbury. During the day, it was 30 degrees going down to 14 degrees overnight.

John Harmer's assessment of the paddling conditions were that they ranged from "perfect to scary". Visibility was good; moon was good; but without warning conditions would change radically with waves and very strong winds. John says that with only a kilometre to go, they had a dry boat. By the finish, they were nearly swamped, with waves coming into the boat from both sides.

Bob Collins reports that the last 10km of the race were horrendous with darkness, large boats and strong winds whipping up waves that swamped even Bob and Danielle's SLR2. Bob says that it's the roughest water he had ever been in.

Due to the conditions, apparently the event was cancelled very late in the piece, with paddlers who had not completed the course having to turn back to Spencer. You have to feel for the paddlers who would have been on the water for around 15 hours+ and still not getting to finish.

Bob Collins provided this sketch of the agony and ecstasy of our BGCC paddlers.

John & Steve Harmer: Completed yet another Hawkesbury—John, his 42nd (every Hawkesbury Classic) and Steve, 31 Hawkesburys. What a record for them and our club!

Danielle Winslow & Bob Collins: The aim was to break 11 hours (Patricia and Bob have done it in 10hrs 50mins). They had a great race, stopping at Wisemans Ferry for only 15 minutes. They ended up doing 11hrs 14mins, due mainly to having to wait for nearly 20 minutes for the broken down Wisemans Ferry to be towed across the river.

Robert Bruce: What do you say about this guy? 76 years of age and he finished another Hawkesbury! An outstanding effort.

Helen Tongway: Paddled a single boat this year. Looked very strong going through Sackville but shortly after had big problems and had to pull out at Wisemans Ferry (about the 65k mark). However, she is already plotting her 2019 comeback.

Richard Fox: After a great finish in the 2017 Hawkesbury, Richard continued his overall dreadful run of bad luck with this event, pulling out at Wisemans Ferry after hitting a log and bending the rudder, which caused boat instability issues in the winds.

Denby Moylan: Paddled the club's Mirage 580 (handicapped from the start!) and finished in 12½ hours.

James Suthern: Former BGCC member, pulled out at Wisemans Ferry.

Alison Curtin: Undertook Hawkesbury in double boat; don't have any information on how Alison went.

Support crew: All BGCC paddlers report how lucky they were to have a great support group—Patricia Ashton, Tony Mee, Scott MacWilliam, Jeremy Cook (a member since only March), David Tongway and Ceara Clark gave up their weekend and sleep to help BGCC paddlers.



Helen Tongway cruising the Hawkesbury

PNSW marathon race report: Burrill Lake

Makai Paddlers hosted the final Round 13 of the 2018 series on Saturday, 20 October. Despite the forecast of heavy rain and possible thunderstorms, unlike some previous years the weather gods smiled on the event, with everyone getting off the water before the deluge.

The 13 BGCC paddlers who participated achieved some great results. Individual BGCC paddler results are below.

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Division 3 | | |
| 1 st | Luke Willsmore | 1:47:17 |
| RNK | Andrew Parkinson | 1:47:31 |
| Division 5 | | |
| 4 th | Scott MacWilliam/David Abela | 2:07:26 |
| Division 6 | | |
| 2 nd | John Preston | 2:06:31 |
| 3 rd | Helen Tongway/Bob Collins | 2:09:53 |
| Division 8 | | |
| 2 nd | Patricia Ashton/Russell Lutton | 1:20:05 |
| 4 th | Margi Bohm | 1:25:50 |
| Division 9 | | |
| 3 rd | Stephanie Rake/Liz Muldoon | 55:31 |
| Division 10 | | |
| 1 st | Greame Ison | 59:21 |
| Division 10 | | |
| 2 nd | Allan Newhouse | 1:12:04 |



Andrew Parkinson & Luke Willmore



John Preston



Stephanie Rake & Liz Muldoon



Helen Tongway & Bob Collins



Margi Bohm



Russell and Patricia



Dave Abela & Scott Mac



Photos: Ian Wrenford

There are two major awards in the PNSW Marathon series: the Brian Norman Club Trophy awarded for the club whose paddlers accumulate the most number of individual points and the International Canoe Federation Class Trophy awarded to the club with the highest number of ICF class points at the end of the series (ie K1, K2, C1, C2 boats).

Of the 22 clubs contesting the series, BGCC finished third in the series for both trophies, not far behind the strongest clubs in NSW, Manly Warringah and Lane Cove, a great effort considering the distances our paddlers have to travel to compete in the series.

At the individual points level, BGCC paddlers featured prominently in awards. Among the overall winners were Graeme Ison in division 10; Allan Newhouse in division 12; Margi Bohm, placing equal first in division 8; and Stephanie Rake and Liz Muldoon placing third in division 9.

Helen Tongway also received an Outstanding Paddler award at the Marathon Series presentation for paddling 10 series races and 2 bonus races (probably making her the #1 BGCC paddler for the series too).

PaddleNSW 2019 Marathon series

The 2019 marathon series calendar was released at the Burrill Lake presentation dinner. There are 10 rounds and two bonus rounds at Albury and Batemans Bay, down from the 13 races and one bonus round this year. Three clubs—Manly Warringah Kayak Club, Wagga Bidgee Canoe Club and Cronulla Sutherland Canoe Club—missed out on hosting races next year.

BGCC has been selected to host the Round 1 race on 2 March 2019, which includes singles State Marathon Championships. The doubles State Marathon Championships will be held in conjunction with the at Lane Cove race in April.

Full calendar on the next page.

PNSW Marathon 2019 race calendar

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Bonus Round:</i> | 23 & 24 February | Frank Harrison races 26 km or 16 km, singles on Saturday, doubles on Sunday |
| Round 1: | 2 March | Canberra, including singles State Marathon Championships |
| Round 2: | 23 March | Woronora |
| Round 3: | 31 March | Tacoma |
| Round 4: | 14 April | Lane Cove, including Doubles State Marathon Championships |
| <i>Bonus Round:</i> | 27 April | Batemans Bay Paddle Challenge |
| Round 5: | 4 May | Mylestrom |
| Round 6: | 1 June | Burrill Lake |
| Round 7: | 23 June | Penrith |
| Round 8: | 14 July | Davistown |
| Round 9: | 3 August | Windsor (portage round) |
| Round 10: | 24 August | Teralba + presentation dinner |

Russel

Wanted and For Sale

Wanted

Normally the electronics in Garmin 310XTs break before the bands, but we have one that works fine but the clip has separated from the band.

Does anyone have a broken 310XT from which we could salvage the band and clip?

Phone russl 0401005274



For Sale

Club Uniforms are available at:

Wetspot Watersports, Fyshwick.

Tops are \$25 each Shorts \$25 each



2018–19 BGCC Membership Fees: Helen Tongway

- The next financial year's fees will open for payment on 1st June.
- Renewals are due by 1st July.
- New Members can join from 1st June, for 13 months membership.

The BGCC membership fees have been held at the current year's level, while the PNSW fees have changed a little, The Adult fees have risen by \$10, while the Junior fees have been reduced by \$30. The Junior fees are for children between 10 and U18 years as at 1 July 2018. Children under 10 years may join PNSW for free, with the BGCC fee remaining at \$40 for Juniors taking part in regular paddling sessions. *All PNSW & BGCC Memberships are paid via PNSW and Australian Canoeing.*

| Label | Category | PNSW fees | BGCC fees | Total |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| 1.1 | Adult – New Member | \$90 | \$130 | \$210 |
| 2.1 | Adult – Renewing Member | \$90 | \$80 | \$170 |
| 1.2 | Junior – New Member | \$30 | \$90 | \$120 |
| 2.2 | Junior – Renewing Member | \$30 | \$40 | \$70 |
| 1.3 | Family – New Members | \$180 | \$300 | \$480 |
| 2.3 | Family – Renewing | \$180 | \$180 | \$360 |
| | Children under 10 years at 1 st July, 2018 | Free | \$40 | \$40 |
| 3 | Non-paddler, volunteers, officials, carers | Free | Free | Free! |
| 4.1 | Adult Single-event Membership | \$20 | | \$20 |
| 4.2 | Junior Single-Event Membership | \$10 | | \$10 |

Club Shed key-hire: Annual Fee: \$75.Plus Refundable Deposit of \$50, for new key-hirers.

Private boat in Club Shed: Extra Membership fee: \$180

Both Key-hire and private boat in shed membership require an approved Application Form.

Membership upgrades at: <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/AccessRegistration.aspx?E=30446>

See club website for how-to-pay links

Helen.

Australian Canoeing Safety Guidelines

Safety Guidelines are available at: <http://canoe.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Safety-Guidelines-2015.pdf>

This is a reminder that a lifejacket must be worn whenever a club member is paddling a club boat.

Also a reminder to those club members who have the privilege of having your own boat residing in the club shed, that you have agreed to use your boat at least 25 times per year – or you may be asked to remove it.

Club Rules can be viewed at: <http://www.bgcc.org.au/images/FormsAndGovernance/boatshedrules.pdf>

New boats on the water this month ...



Louise Yabsley's striking new canoe is a Nelo Cinco C1. The red and black design was created by Liam Heath (via the Paddle Sports Design website). And she is absolutely loving it!

After an enforced layoff from paddling, Carolyn Williams returns to the water in a new Grafton Paddlesports Bettong K1



Mike Iliff opts for dry feet, making the change from his ocean ski to a Vajda Voyageur K1

... and some new paddlers



Monday, 22 October 2018

Russl