

Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club

February 2016
Newsletter



Fostering excellence and teamwork for life through rowing





Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club



Welcome from the President

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Welcome to our quarterly newsletter aimed at keeping past and present members updated on our latest news and endeavours of Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club. We hope you find the content interesting and useful, please share your feedback and suggestions to help us improve.

We hope you've been enjoying the Summer months, it has been a great Summer and our rowing crews are gearing up for the competition end of the season. It has been a year of big changes for the rowing club, most notably as Head Coach Mike Hill left to return to spend more time his family in Europe. The search for a replacement took us all the way to the South Island, where we were fortunate to find Jacqui van Dam. Jacqui has relocated to Auckland and will run the TGS rowing programme through both Summer and Winter seasons, with an increased focus on Winter training, Learn to Row and the Novice Recruitment Program.

The future of our base in the Blue Shed has also been in the news of late, with the delay of new ferry developments ensuring that we should have access to the Blue Shed for the next 2-3 years at the very least. We are working confidently with Auckland Transport and the local board to try and secure a permanent home for the club in Bayswater.

We are once again hosting the Head of Harbour regatta on 13th February at Lake Pupuke. This is the premier secondary school rowing event in Auckland. We would love to see as many ex-TGSRC supporters come along to support our crews. We are always looking for volunteers to help out with the duty roster and safety boats.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and that this format helps us to keep in contact with past members and friends of the club. I wish you and your family all the very best for 2016. Go Taka-Puna!

Don Bisset. Club President



Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club



**YOUR BODY
WILL DO
WHAT
YOUR MIND
TELLS IT TO**

From your Teacher in Charge

Coming back into this role 'fulltime' after a break since 2006 has been a bit of a shock to the system. So I want to say thank you to everyone for making my return such an enjoyable one. From my perspective, the two training camps (11-14 Dec and 4-9 Jan) have been great successes, both off and on the water. For me this has been because of the co-operation and enthusiasm of the rowers. It is all too easy to 'hide' amongst 33 teenagers and 20 plus adults to avoid doing tasks but every rower fulfilled duties and carried out extra tasks without fail and with good grace. The level of commitment by the parents is wonderful. Those 'running' the camps work long hours with good humour to ensure the rowers are well fed and nurtured in every way necessary. It is fantastic to observe that all the essential values of TGS Rowing are in good heart and that standards are high.

Jacqui's inspirational slogans at Epworth were just that! The first day's "The body will do what your mind tells it to" resonated with us all – and convinced me to do that hill climb each day to get some exercise while the rowers were all on the water in the early morning.

The final day boat loading at Epworth was a sight to behold and given a little leeway I was happy to "lose" the bet with Jacqui, as it made for a spot on, "on-time" getaway to head home. (Maybe if every rower had a spanner that day, it would have been even faster – so please make having your OWN spanner with you always, a priority for the remainder of the season).

With such a positive start to the business part of the rowing season I am confident that TGS Rowing will have a very good year. I look forward to full attendance at all meetings called prior to regattas from now on. These will be in SL 98 at the beginning of lunch times, usually on the Thursday before a regatta. Please watch Daily notices and I will also "advertise" in the RPC as a reminder.

Robin Holding. Teacher in Charge



Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club



Cambridge Town Cup (KR2) Final Results

Fabulous finals day

2016 started in fine form, with our crews looking spectacular on the water and reaching 7 finals.

The finals day started out early with Evan and Jack setting the tone for the day, ahead as they pushed hard and came 7th in a very hard fought race.

The junior girls followed hot on their heels, pulling together to row an amazing time of 7.54, and coming a close 2nd.

The senior girls were able to demonstrate their Takapuna PRIDE to all spectators in their U17 A final, and in a nail biting last 250 meters the girls were just beaten on the line (0.7 seconds) by Westlake Girls.

The U16 girls followed the trend, and despite the array of illness and injuries they were able to hold their own throughout their B final, and come a respectable 8th.

Tom was able to round out the day with 2 fabulous single scull races, coming 4th in the U18's and 5th in the Club race, proving we have come a long way in the last 6 months and that we have a promising season ahead.

A special shout out to Arianna and Libby who won their girls U17 double sculls final, by a remarkable 14 seconds. Unfortunately due to a small clerical error this result was discounted.

Boys U15 Double sculls

Evan Williams, Jack Featherstone

Heat 2 Placed 4th (8.19)

B Final Placed 7th (8.10)

Girls U15 Coxed quad sculls

Sienna Norman, Iona Anderson, Jess Hamlin, Nelly Farmiloe. Coxed by Sophie Doig

Heat 1 Placed 4th (8.24)

C Final Placed 2nd (7.54)

Girls U17 Coxed quad sculls

Emerald Scofield, Libby Soanes, Arianna Hogan, Brianna Davey. Coxed by Henry Bisset

Heated 2 Placed 4th (8.01)

A Final Placed 4th (7.20)

Girls U16 Coxed quad sculls

Katie Halliday, Hazel Escott, Iona Anderson, Sienna Norman. Coxed by Niamh Chalmers

Heat 4 Placed 3rd (9.11)

B Final Placed 8th (8.06)

Boys U18 Single sculls

Tom Ferguson

Heat 3 Placed 4th (8.54)

B Final Placed 4th (7.52)

Mens Club Single sculls

Tom Ferguson

Heat 3 Placed 3rd (8.03)

B Final Placed 5th (7.56)

For more race results click on the link to Rowit.co.nz



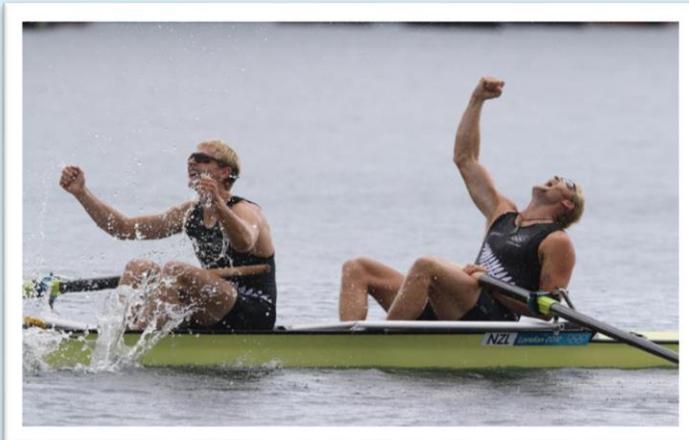


Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club



Listen to Bond & Murray

Click on the icon to listen to Eric Murray and Hamish Bond speaking to sports reporter Joe Porter on Radio New Zealand about their perfect year, their Olympic title defence and what keeps them motivated.



Bond & Murray: quite a start to the year!

Eric Murray and Hamish Bond finished the 2015 season with 21 wins from major international races, including their sixth consecutive World Championship title.

The pair also picked up the World Best Time in the men's coxed pair in 2014 and have held onto the men's pair World Best Time after setting it in 2012.

The pair who have not been beaten since 2009, winning 61 straight races and are eight time World Champions in total were tested at over the new year when they were joined in one of their training sessions by the Takapuna Grammar School Under 17 Boys eight.

Dispute the best efforts of the Takapuna crew, Murray and Bond were able to demonstrate why they are the best in the world, and left our boys a little bit dazed and certainly fan struck!

Rowing aside, the team look set to defend their Supreme Award title against the All Blacks at the 53rd Halberg Awards. The Awards celebrate New Zealand's sporting achievements for the 2015 calendar year, and a total of 24 finalists have been named in the six categories.

The winners will be on Thursday 18 February at Vector Arena in Auckland and televised live on SKY SPORT.





Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club



Getting to know you

Each newsletter we will be showcasing two members of our club so we can all get to know each other a little bit better.

We will be uncovering some important issues such as:

‘What is your favourite flavour jelly bean?’

‘What superpower would you like to have?’

And getting to the bottom of the age old question:

‘Which is better Peanut Butter, Nutella or Vegemite?’

This issue of the newsletter introduces Libby and Dougal:



Introducing...

Libby

Dougal

What’s your #1 most played song?

Master Song- Leonard Cohen.

Skyfall –Adele.

What superpower would you like to have?

I wish I could make food magically appear with my hands.

Sub 6 2ks would be nice but I think I’d just settle for being 6ft.

Which is better Peanut Butter, Nutella or Vegemite?

Peanut Butter is the ultimate bread spread.

Nutella.

If you could be any animal which one would you prefer to be and why?

A penguin probably because they live in cold climates and generally seem like pretty cool guys.

A dragon because that would be pretty awesome.

What is the weirdest thing to ever happen to you?

Probably witnessing a small child being attacked by a mountain monkey when I was in Japan about 9 years ago.

Apparently (according to Tom Blathway) in movie season at camp, I was sleeping in the top bunk when I started to cry out “nooo kumaras noooo” shaking the bed around. One of the reasons why Tom calls me a potato.

Why did you choose to row for TGS?

I had seen my brother years ago rowing and it seemed like a good way to spend time. Little did I know.

My twin brother, Hamish, was considering it and I was getting sick of interclub tennis, so I came along to a ‘learn to row’ session and just thought why not.



Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club



Raffle Success

Gillian Day is the Grandmother of Toby Porter-Day, and the lucky second prize winner of the Gardeners Friend prize from the our annual Christmas raffle.

Jack Featherstone delivered the barrow full of goodies to Gillian. She was so excited to receive them and was keen to put them to good use as soon as possible.

Gillian wanted to say thank you to all involved within the club for the raffle prize, and also hopes we have a successful 2015 / 2016 season.



Fundraising

Thank you to all who got behind our annual raffle, it is a crucial event in our fundraising calendar which relies on support from all club members.

This year we sold over 2000 tickets which raised over \$7500 which is going towards purchasing and maintaining new equipment.

A huge well done to the Anderson family who sold the most tickets (163), Featherstone family next (125), then Davey family and Kingdom family

Thanks to Devonport New World who donated the \$250 hamper, and The Village Butcher who donated sausages for the 'Sizzle and Sell' event we held at Hauraki Corner.

And the winners were:

1st prize ticket (Air NZ Great Mystery Break) sold by Brianna.

2nd prize ticket (The Gardener's Friend) sold by Toby.

3rd prize ticket (Oar some Holiday Hamper) sold by Tom McCann.

Our next large fundraising event is at the Head of Harbour:

What we Need

Every Rower to out do each other by providing

2 Batches of delicious Baking



Fundraising

Your help helps us maximize our efforts to support the club

Thank You!!!



Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club



Club house clean up



Are you, or is anyone you know a qualified plumber or electrician, with own tools and materials?

Do you have any building or DIY skills, with access to building materials – Gib board, paint and timber etc?



Would you like to channel your cleaning, organising and refurbishing skills to a worthy cause?

If so, we need you for the Great Club House Clean Up during May

We are looking for volunteers to help out around the Bayswater Club in early May.

Everyone is welcome – and we need every club member to volunteer their time, skills and any materials to clean up, fix and generally spruce up the shed.

For more information please contact Neil Halliday at: CLUB@TGSROWING.ORG.NZ - with Clean Up as the email subject title

Calling all members past and present

The rowing experience at Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club has been significant for many athletes and their families, and we are looking for past crew members and their supporters to be part of our Alumni.

The Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club Alumni aids, encourages, fosters support and promotes the sport of rowing within the Takapuna and Devonport community.

Please contact Paula Halliday at CLUB@TGSROWING.ORG.NZ - with Alumni as the email subject title for any further information.

Over the next few months we are looking for Alumni support to help us with:

- **Head of Harbour Regatta (Auckland Championships)**

The 80th Head of Harbour Regatta will be hosted by Takapuna Grammar School on Saturday 13 February, showcasing action from the upper North Island's leading rowing schools as they battle for a podium finish in the various events.

For more information on how to support this please contact Paul Doig at CLUB@TGSROWING.ORG.NZ - with Head of Harbour as the email subject title.

- **Sponsorship and fundraising**

A key part of our operations involves raising funds for new equipment. Although a relatively small club, we are always looking for additional fundraising and sponsorship opportunities so we are able to continue to invest in our wonderful facilities and equipment.

Please contact Dan Featherstone at CLUB@TGSROWING.ORG.NZ - with Fundraising as the email subject title for any further information.

- **Training support and transportation**

Our crews currently train at Waitemata (Te Atatu) 3 evenings a week after school, any additional volunteer car or van drivers would be greatly appreciated. To offer your support with this please contact Barbara MacLean at CLUB@TGSROWING.ORG.NZ - with transport as the email subject title.



Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club



Camp support thank you



The catering team had huge shoes to fill this season following the departure of our fabulous Camp Mother team, Shana and Sarah. A job-share arrangement was deemed the best option, and Ange and Barb, assisted by Ann and myself, took up the challenge for the December and January camps. Particular thanks are owed to Ange and Barb for mastering the complexities of large-scale menu planning and food ordering, and I would also like to thank my kitchen partner Ann, whose culinary nous ensured I looked capable, too.

Of course, we couldn't do it without our many wonderful parents over both camps, who tirelessly chopped, stirred, scrubbed dishes and performed all sorts of miracles with a variety of leftovers. Thanks to every one of you for the laughs and for lightening the load of those in charge. Honourable mention goes to Barb, Ann, Julie and Margaret (sole parent helpers for the last 24 hours of December camp), to the Blathwayt's for soldiering through their eighth season as TGSRC kitchen slaves and to Alex and Dave for Services to Vegetarianism. Bucket loads of appreciation are also due to the wonderful Mrs H., who continually gives up her holidays to fulfil her role as matriarch of Takapuna Rowing. Thanks Robin!

These were probably my last camps as a rowing parent. It won't be the slog in the kitchen or the challenges I will remember most. It will be sitting riverside in the sunshine to watch crews train, the good company in the parents' marquee (and Ross' Bambi), evening trips to the glow-worms, the excitement of the dam row (well done, U17 boys' eight!), and of course, the traditional skit night. From Em & Lib's phat beats, to Toby's awe-inspiring dancing, to the many "artistic impressions" of coaches and our male Club Captain, to the inaugural meeting of the Hannah Hood Fan Club (sign me up!). Absolutely un-miss able entertainment.

All the best for the rest of the 2015/2016 season – GO TAKA!

Anna Hunter. Club Secretary



Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club



Teamer explained

Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club uses the Teamer for the coaches to confirm training and regatta schedules, and for you to advise if you are available to attend both training and regattas.

If you have not yet joined Teamer, please forward your preferred email address and mobile number (for notifications) to CLUB@TGSROWING.ORG.NZ, heading your email with TEAMER, and we will set each rower up on the Teamer app, grouped into your relevant squad.

Your coach will send both a SMS text message as well as an email to you advising of the forthcoming training schedule and all schedule updates. It is important that you let your team leader know your availability by simply replying 'y' (yes), or 'n' (no) to a text message on your phone or go to teamer.net and mark your availability online.

The app is free to download, and is available via the below links to the Apple and Android app stores:



Club calendar

The year of 2016 is shaping up to be an exciting one with the Rio Olympic Games and the Maadi Cup on the horizon. The below list outlines the major events in the Takapuna Grammar School rowing calendar in the upcoming year:

MONTH	DATE	DAY	EVENT	LOCATION
Feb	12	Friday	Westlake Junior Regatta	Lake Pupuke
	13	Saturday	Head of Harbour Regatta	Lake Pupuke
Mar	4	Friday	Leave school at lunch - rig at Karapiro	Lake Karapiro
	5	Saturday	KR3-Mighty River Power Regatta	
	6	Sunday		
	17	Thursday	Leave school at lunch - rig at Karapiro	Lake Karapiro
	18	Friday	North Island Secondary Schools Regatta	
	19	Saturday		
20	Sunday			
Apr	2	Saturday	Travel: Flight to Queenstown	Travel Day
	3	Sunday	Rigging and Training	Lake Ruataniwha
	4	Monday	Maadi Cup National Secondary Schools Regatta	
	5	Tuesday		
	6	Wednesday		
	7	Thursday		
	8	Friday		
	9	Saturday	Travel: Flight to Auckland	Travel Day
10	Sunday			



Takapuna Grammar School Rowing Club



WITH THANKS TO OUR KEY SPONSORS

We are incredibly thankful for all sponsors who assist us with funding for new boats and other equipment.





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