



GLPD Executive Committee

President: Robyn MacIntosh

Secretary: Claire Pontin

Treasurer: Jan Brain

Women's Club Captain: Trish Ping

Men's Club Captain: Ken Watson

Committee Members:

Joy Gosby

Lynne Saunders

Email: dragons2428@hotmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **NSW State Championships** – Saturday Mar 30 at 8am – Sunday Mar 31 4pm
- **Australian Dragon Boat Racing Championships** – Monday April 15 at 8am – Saturday April 20 5pm
- **Bridal High Tea Fundraiser** – Sunday April 28 at 2pm – 5pm
- **Urunga Regatta** – Saturday May 18 at 8am – Sunday 19 3pm

Chinese New Year



JUBILATION



A very exciting weekend was enjoyed by everyone on our team who had the good fortune to paddle at Darling Harbour for Chinese New Year. Despite the very wet day on Saturday all teams competed with their usual enthusiasm and great team spirit. Our womens team placed third in both heats and although this did not get us into the finals we came close. Our Masters Open had the odds against them as some teams had almost full male crews compared to our team which consisted of only 5 (but fantastic) men paddlers. Again good times were achieved which goes to show that we are all becoming fitter, stronger and paddling well as a team. A big thank you to Anne for all the effort and organisation she put into the event making it not only a successful but also a fun day. We wish to thank our coaches for their time and expertise during our training sessions and for their consistent encouragement during regattas. Thank you. Look out Urunga.....

Thank you Julie for sweeping all our 5 races at CNY – you instil confidence in us – very proud of you – what a champion.



**Sunday at Chinese
New Year Rejane
and Robin**



Rejane and Robin paddled with North Coast Courage which included any cancer survivor paddlers from Coff's to Coomba Park. It was the first year the event was run and is opened to ALL cancer survivors. Our congratulations to North Coast Courage as they placed 3rd in both events and made the major finals to finish 6th.

Proud of you both Rejane and Robin, a superb effort.



Fundraising Update:

Following a call over Christmas for more help, a dozen or so hardy souls arrived at the container early on the 27 December to move the boat to the Tuncurry Bowling Club. Some members even brought along unsuspecting parents and partners to help! Thanks also to the Manning River Dragon Boat Team who not only lent us their trailer but towed the boat there and back for us. Getting the boat to the Club proved to be the easy part - getting it through the front doors of the Club and into the foyer required some careful planning, lots of grunting and real team work (no we didn't have to get it through the rotating door). Terry Green, Club Manager who had offered us this prime raffle opportunity said he had worked out it would fit but the rest of his staff were a bit surprised at how long it actually was (Terry and his off-sider are seen in the photo roping the boat off). It looked very classy after Wendy and others cleaned and buffed it and Alan had dashed back to the container to get more tyres to stop it rocking! I understand that even Shrek had a good wash (thanks Brenda). Then on 2 January it was all done again in reverse. Thanks to everyone who helped out with the two moves and with selling tickets and especially for Deb V for organising the raffle hampers. The Club made a profit of \$1,094. Yeh!! Hopefully we'll be able to do it again sometime.



Wellington – New Zealand

Trish, Brenda, Kathy, Heather, Wendy and Julie, together with paddlers from other clubs in our area, formed a great team calling themselves the Swaggies.

They did themselves proud by making the finals in the womens and then placing fourth. This great result would not have been possible without our great drummer and Team Manager Anne, and Annie who as usual did a tremendous job as sweep.

They had a wonderful time in Wellington NZ with fantastic paddling.

We all wish Wendy and Heather great success at the State Championships which are being held over Easter at Penrith. They have been attending weekly training since Jan this year and working hard on their fitness levels. We are very proud and pleased to have them represent our club in this state event.



FUTURE REGATTAS

JUNE 8 & 9 - LONG WEEKEND - PORT MACQUARIE

JULY 14 - CAMDEN HAVEN (LAURIETON)

AUGUST 3 & 4 - MANNING RIVER

SEPT 14 & 15 - COFFS HARBOUR (MYLESTOM)

OCT 26 & 27 - GRAFTON (Jacaranda Festival)

NOV 23 & 24 - GREAT LAKES PEARL DRAGONS

DEC 8 - KEMPSEY

FEBRUARY 8 2014 - CNY Darling Harbour

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

- Expressions of interest have been called for the regatta committee. We have six nominations so far, but were hoping for an expanded committee this year. So put your hand up if you are able to help.
- We are also calling for a couple more trainee coaches. This is a crucial role to keep us on the water.
- Work on the purchase of a trailer is continuing, with some considerable effort from the Trailer Committee in finding suitable manufacturers and chasing up quotes. We hope to have this finalised soon.
- We have upgraded our website, but this comes with some changes. Anyone with photos to upload will now need to give these to Ken. We will be able to store many more photos and videos than previously.
- Our website address has also been changed to www.pearldragons.com Check it out!
- From April 9, the afternoon paddling session will be on Tuesdays at 4.15pm for OTW at 4.30pm.
- The endurance training for those competing in the Urunga 6.5km race will start on Sunday April 7 at 8.45 for OTW from 9 to 10.30am.

Wishing you all a very happy Easter

For the last paddle for 2012 we all had tremendous fun on the water .



After successful paddling at Chinese New Year we had a fun night with Karaoke singing and dancing.

