



Feb, 2020

Pearls of Wisdom

Great Lakes Pearl Dragons

<https://dragons2428.wixsite.com/pearldragons>

SPLASHING SUCCESS

Executive Committee

President:
Laurie Haydon
0425 234870

Vice President:
Wendy Burdekin
0428561890

Secretary:
Mary Elliott
0432207631

Treasurer:
Fay Brooks
0402 314221

Club Captain Female:
Kim Haydon
0419231230

Club Captain Male:
Peter Reed
0416268408

Director:
Kerrie Gammage
0423490633

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Australia Day celebrations were kick started for the Pearl Dragons over the January long weekend, by a massive turn out for their first "Come and Try Day" for 2020 .

Forty six paddlers set themselves for their first taste of this sensational water sport on the region's pristine waters of Wallis Lake. They were fortunate to have the use of the club's 2 twenties boats along with a full turn out of club members to support the event.

Since then the number of paddlers having a go at the sport has risen to 57 with others also indicating their intentions of wanting to have a taste of the sport, many for the goal of increased fitness and some for the social interaction it provides.

The Come and Try day was convened by our head coach, Wendy Orman, who did an amazing job prior to and on the day, filling the boats with a balance of Pearlers and prospective new paddlers. Helped by the capable Fay Brooks and Denise Marr at registrations, all the executive committee and a full complement of sweeps and coaches as well as paddlers, the day was a huge success.

The club was grateful to Paradise Marina for enabling the smooth supply of coffee via a voucher system and members enjoyed their break-fast afterwards.

**EOI for 2020 Regatta
Committee**

Due Wed 4 March

**Your chance to help
out with this major
club event.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT NOV 2019

For this report I have had to put my thinking cap on because there has been so much going on and trying to put it all together is a bit of a challenge - at least for me anyway, but I will give it a go.

To start with, our come and try day on Australia Day weekend was a raging success to say the least with over 50 people coming along to try dragon boating. What a blast - with NBN doing a interview on the Pearlers for NBN sport news. It was a big effort for all the Pearlers to get this result. All the lead up work paid off and I thank all of you for all your efforts to make such a successful day.

Following the success of the come and try day we had a huge influx of potential new members - **MEN** and women - join our Saturdays' and Mondays' sessions. To date we have 12 new members, with more indicating that they will join once they have used their 5 free paddles. All indications and feedback from the new paddlers is that they love it - comments that we can't get enough of. How good is that!!

Out of all of this, Wendy our head coach, was interviewed by the Focus Magazine for the latest edition which came out in the March. This not only highlighted Wendy's achievements but also the success of the Pearl Dragons over the 10 years of development of the club. A good read and a great advertisement for the club.

Once again, the Lakes and Ocean raffles have been a great success and I thank all who have come along and helped. A special mention should be made of the efforts from Ray and Fay who do an outstanding job on a regular basis. This is not to say that all the helpers don't do a great job as of course they do! That's why the nights are so successful. The management and staff of the Lakes and Oceans also appreciate our attendance, with good Pearler numbers every time.

In a few weeks' time we have Point Wolstoncroft regatta with good numbers in the women's events and even a mixed crew - WOW! The men will also be joining the Northern Waratahs - this will give the men some extra paddling and a chance to bring more Bling home for the Pearls. So Pearlers - keep coming to training. Putting your best efforts in at training will ensure good results at the regatta....I hope.

I should also mention at this point that our Regional Representatives have been training at Port Macquarie every second and sometimes every Saturday. The training is long and hard but our Pearlers are up to the task in every way. We also have a Pearl in the women's senior "B" NSW State team. This is Wendy O, who just happens to also now be the Assistant Coach for the NSW Mid North Regional State team, what an achievement!

In closing my report, it has been encouraging to see so many new paddlers joining our club and turning up week after week enjoying the morning and afternoon sessions. Keep up the good work and remember to be committed to what you are doing, so that when the regatta sheets go up you can put your name down and have a real go. We need to see total commitment at training for these events. Do your club proud and come and try at local club regattas as well as SIRC and Nationals events. We need all of you.

Regards **Laurie Haydon**

President GLPD



The Executive Committee

The EC looks after the business of the overall running of the Club. Below is our current EC. We usually endeavour to hold our Annual General Meeting the last Thursday in August. Nominations are welcomed from all members new or old. The EC encourage relevant communication from members to our email address below.

Email: dragons2428@hotmail.com

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TELEPHONE</u>
PRESIDENT Laurie Haydon		0425 234 870
VICE PRESIDENT Wendy Burdekin		0428 561 890
SECRETARY Mary Elliott		0432 207 631
TREASURER Fay Brooks		0402 314 221
CLUB CAPTAIN (Female) Kim Haydon		0419 231 230
CLUB CAPTAIN (Male) Peter Reed		0416 268 408
DIRECTOR Kerrie Gammage		0423 490 633

PEARLERS TRAINING HARD FOR NATIONALS



Congratulations to **Kim Creighton, Lou Watson, John McInnes, Laurie Haydon** and **Jo Harris** - all of whom achieved selection to represent NSW Mid North Coast, with each of these Pearlerys having put in months of hard training. After two selection days held last year, they have continued their training journey towards the Australian National Championships to be held in Sydney in April 2020.

In addition to this proud group, **Wendy Orman** was selected for the State Senior B women's team and will also compete at the Nationals in April.

While most of us were enjoying a Christmas /New Year break, our representative paddlers were busy training on the clubs two OC1 kayaks under the guidance of Head Club Coach and Northern Region Assistant Coach Wendy. This intensified when they began their weekly or fortnightly sessions at Port Macquarie (and Wendy at Sydney) for team training.



Congratulations go to Wendy on her appointment to this key role... another step in her amazing dragon boating journey.

We wish you all a successful Nationals campaign!!!



Heads in the Boat

A reminder to all GLPD paddlers to ensure you insert your name correctly on the paddling roster and follow instructions when withdrawing. These are:

1. Click on area beside name in withdraw column then type "withdraw" in the name box, type your email and press "send information".
2. Check the wait list
3. Click in the withdraw column beside the name of the top most person in the wait list the type "replace" and "your name", type email address and press "send"

NB: Members and new paddlers have priority over visitors. When completing Step 3 you need to go to the top most member or new paddler on the wait list (not a visitor)... visitors are slotted in after all others are given their place on the boat.

If you have to withdraw for unforeseen circumstance after 6pm or before morning session, please text that session's coach.

Its getting to that time of year when we need to be bringing our torch to get safely to training in the early morning.

RACING

DBNSW Regatta Series Race 4 Point Wolston-croft - Sun 29 March

National Championships (Representative Paddlers ... no club team) 8th -13th April

Urunga regatta -Sat 2 May & Sun 3 May

FUNDRAISER

Lakes and Oceans Hotel Raffles - Fri 13 Mar, Wed 1 Apr, Fri 17 Apr, Wed 6 May, Fri 22 May

EVENTS

Maintenance Day - Sat 18 April

Keep this date free to help with jobs that need completion around our containers.

Details to come closer to the event.

Information Night - Mon 23 March, 7:30 pm, Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club

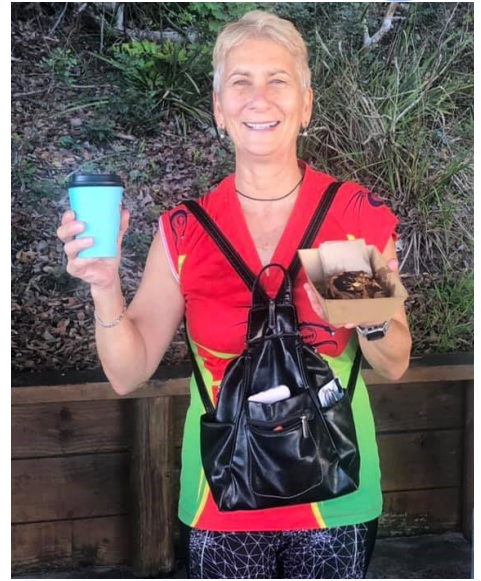
You are invited to attend an information session on the Draft Model Constitution that the executive are currently reviewing. If you are interested in how this is shaped, and rationale for the update, please make time to attend.



VOLUNTEERING

"I've been paddling since about 2005 when there were only a few clubs up and down our east coast so when a regatta was held, DBNSW Officials travelled to us mainly from Sydney on the night before the regatta and back home again afterwards as most officials had day jobs to go to on Monday morning. As more clubs were formed, DBNSW thought wisely that we could lighten their load and learn from them to lend a hand in a more formal capacity at our own events.

Up to July 2007, I enjoyed the camaraderie of volunteering for regattas and like many on the Mid North Coast, I welcomed the opportunity to take the L1 Officials course taught by Mel Cantwell in Laurieton. Consequently I learned time-keeping, wrangling, boat holding at SIRC and was a runner, among various roles, Officiating expanded my knowledge of the sport and other clubs, it also gave me a sense of appreciation and giving back to the dragon boat sport I love so much.



Even more volunteering ... cooking some food on the BBQ for us after the swim test recently!

From 2007 to 2015, many more clubs were established up and down the east coast so in July 2015 Mel Cantwell came up again to the Mid North Coast to run the L2 Officials course. We were learning to take on more important roles with greater responsibilities which was both daunting and exciting as we would therefore take on more ownership of our regattas since they are often the main financial fund raiser for a club.

Without our dedicated volunteers and officials, the many regattas that dot the DBNSW/AusDBF calendar just wouldn't exist. As many in our club know full well, planning and hosting a regatta is a big deal! Also, for most paddlers, competing at regattas is the fruit of their hard training so all in all, volunteering and officiating is a great way for club paddlers and their supporters to show their appreciation to their own club as well as support the sport in general.

Along the way a paddler will feel even more valued for their various professional and existing life skills, learn new skills, enjoy making new friendships in the dragon boat community and beyond. It's truly a win-win no matter how you look at it!

WE ARE SEEKING ANY INTERESTED PEOPLE TO VOLUNTEER OR GO THAT EXTRA STEP TO BECOMING AN OFFICIAL - CHAT TO US ABOUT IT!

OFFICIATING

SIRC 2



The real highlight of the day for us was the new faces of our team! Nine out of the 20 GLPD paddlers who attended SIRC today had never been to a SIRC dragon boat regatta before. What an outstanding achievement for our team.

Congratulations GLPD for having such depth of paddling talent.

Also despite being disqualified in the Senior A Mixed, as we only had 2 male Pearl paddlers, we paddled our hearts out in the morning. With the help of Tim Williams, from the Hunter Dragons, steering us and Katie, from Newcastle, drumming for us (letting us use our lovely Prem Pearler Jo Harris), we flew down the 500m regatta lane without missing a beat!

We qualified for the Senior A Women's race with only 16 female Pearl paddlers and finished strong behind teams with every seat full. Thanks to Jo Harris for drumming the Women's team and Kerrie and Peta for sweeping our ladies boat.

Thanks to Fay for being our team manager and thanks to everyone for paddling and being so happy to take on board the little things that can make us all better paddlers.

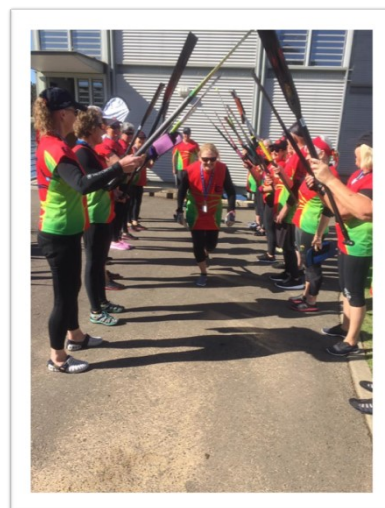
We hope you enjoyed the regatta in Penrith. Going to SIRC shows us what the city teams are doing and how they paddle ... but they did not leave us behind. We kept up with them all day! 500m was nothing to fit Pearlers!

We looked good and showed them that we are training hard on Wallis Lake.



We even got the chance to advertise our upcoming regatta. Going to SIRC is always a win for GLPD.

Great job team and congratulations John McInnes and Jill Buchman on your first regatta (pictured)



CHINESE NEW YEAR

A very hot and steamy day for the Pearlers who travelled to Darling Harbour on Saturday 1st February to join with the 90 strong Northern Waratahs team for the Chinese New Year Regatta.

The splash and dash racing was great and everyone enjoyed themselves except for the heat ...

The Pearlers were well represented in the premier division with the Premier Women's team affectionately referred to as the Pearler Prems.

Allan Peter and John McInnes had very little time to sit down in the shade as they competed in almost all of the events that had men in the Northern Waratahs.

The Northern Waratahs were in eight separate categories and divisions:

Two teams in the Premier Mixed, and one each in the Premier Opens and Premier Women's races.

There was a Senior A mixed which made the finals and came in FOURTH and a Senior B mixed which came 5th in the finals.

The Senior A Opens team was very keen to be heading into the finals with the third strongest time but was pipped at the post to come in FOURTH.

The Senior A Women's team however was ranked second to the amazing Different Strokes Women's team. The ladies did not let the team down and had an amazing race coming 2nd. The best result our Pearlers have ever had at a Sydney regatta!! What a wonderful achievement for the Northern Waratahs.

Another big thank you has to go to Rick for organising the Northern Waratahs and to our fantastic paddlers for making the trip.

Congratulations Pearlers another very successful regatta.



BR: Ann-Maree Swanson, Trish McDermott, Leanne Jefferies, Shelley Ryan, Megan McArthur, Jo Newman, Joan Schubert, Kim Creighton, Kathy Peter, John McInnes, Allan Peter

FR: Janis Radford, Lou Watson, Wendy Orman, Annie Manticas, Tracy Mackle

Welcome to the world of dragonboating



Undertaking the capsiz drill as part of the swim test procedure .. Smiles because no one drowned which is lucky as we did it on dry land!

The reasons I joined Pearl Dragons are:

I wanted a sport where I could challenge myself yet take it easy when I wanted

Where I could choose when I wanted to turn up and train

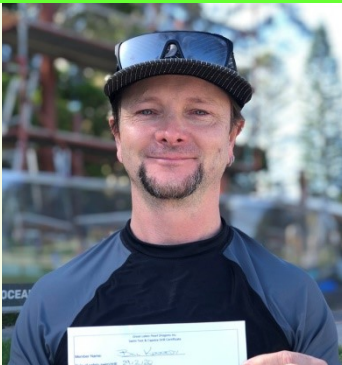
One that could satisfy my competitive side and help keep me fit

For the social side—meeting people, having coffee and a talk and a laugh

Am I enjoying it.....? "Hell yeah!"



Meaghan O'Riley... one of our new members



This is what it's all about ... getting two boats out on the water and giving it the best effort we can ... on a glorious afternoon!



New and not so new paddlers after their swim test..





Joan Schubert has delighted us all by becoming a Level 1 Coach.. Congratulations Joan!



Wendy B has achieved her Level 2 sweep status after completing her theory component recently. Her first two regatta races will be at Point Wolstoncroft .



Our Club's new gazebo in all its splendour at the Come n Try day. This purchase was the result of a successful ClubGrants application. Thanks to the EC for the work in acquiring quotes (Fay) and the final purchase.

ITEMS FOR SALE

Hello,

A few years back I was a member and I still have a fibreglass paddle with carrying bag and club shirt that I would like to sell.

These have hardly been used. The shirt is a 14. If any of your members are interested in purchasing these items you can reach me on 0421 922 848 or by email. We can discuss price.

I enjoyed my time with the Pearl Dragons, unfortunately, I am no longer physically able to participate.

Cheers, Jenny Ross.

jenjonross@outlook.com

Hornet paddle,

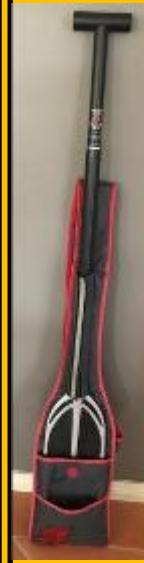
47" overall. Bought in 2017. Comes with cover bag and a Seatec seat pad. In excellent condition. \$170. ono.

Contact Chris Brady 0405 944 582

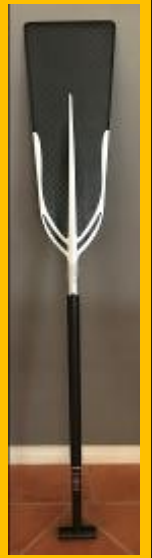


48" paddle and cover \$120.

Good Condition. Belonged to an enthusiastic paddler who unfortunately could not continue paddling due to a shoulder injury.



Contact seller via Kathy P 0413667376



I have a Size 14 Motley Crew Dress Shirt which is worn at Pan Pacs. It is too small for me and short in the body... I have only worn it once. For sale \$30 ... normally \$40.

Kim Haydon 0419 231230



Paddle is like new condition. Selling for \$100. 47 inches.

Joy Gosby 0404 029047

Also available are :

Green dress shirt, Red spray Jacket, Club paddling t-shirt and other items. All in medium or Size 12. The dress shirt and jacket have been personalised but the name could be unstitched.

Talk to Wendy Burdekin if interested.

