



May, 2019

Pearls of Wisdom

Great Lakes Pearl Dragons

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

BRINGING HOME THE BLING



Executive Committee

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Secretary:
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Club Captain Male:
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Wet conditions did not dampen the spirits of the team of paddlers that attended the Wellington Dragon Boat Festival in New Zealand as part of the club's 10th anniversary celebrations.

After competing in the three heats each for women's and the mixed events, they were elated to find they had made the finals for the mixed. Focused from the time they loaded the boat, the team remained strong and endured a close contest to come out the winners! Gold medallists!

Pictured below after the win. Above, wearing medals at dinner.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT MAY 2019

Welcome Pearls - Winter is approaching and we have had beautiful autumn paddling weather, although a pity we couldn't order a bit more daylight from the powers that be. We hope all those that attended our 10th Anniversary dinner enjoyed themselves? I personally would rate it as a success as was our paddle in New Zealand. Both organised to celebrate a milestone for our club. One more job in regards to this is the embroidery for our dress shirts. Please follow instructions as per email as they will be done in one lot.

Keeping with the theme past and present a bit of trivia for you:

When former member Milly chose our uniform colours, what did they represent?

What was our first fundraiser?

What was our last fundraiser?

Do they relate to one another?

Who was our first vice president?

Bonus Points - In what season?

Who is our current Public Officer?

Who held this position previously?

Bonus Points – Which EC position did this prior to the two above?

When was our current constitution updated?

Our constitution is based on what model?

How many trophies do we have in our possession?

What was the last trophy we won?

What trophy/trophies did we win at Urunga 2018?

Who were our regatta virgins at Urunga 2019?

How many times has our club travelled overseas?

Where is our next overseas trip going to be?

How many times has our club competed at nationals?

Who are our current Auroras?

In what country will they paddle to represent Australia?

Who in the club is a Level 2 official?

Name 4 members who are on the current regatta committee?

Which member initially sought out businesses for trophy sponsorship?

Name our last 3 newsletter coordinators/editors

Who is the CEO of DBNSW?

What foundation are they associated with?

Most correct answers as determined by "guess who" will win some paddling vouchers.

Enough trivia - looking to the future, our season ends shortly and we will start preparing for our AGM to be held at the end of August. I encourage all members to consider running for a committee position and please if this is your first season in the club do not be scared to put your hand up. You guys are our club's future.

All positions will be open and it is very healthy I feel to have more than one contender for available positions. It shows we care about our club and are willing to give that bit extra.

Enjoy your paddling,

See you on the water

Regards,

Denise - Club President



Heads in the Boat

Paddling Roster

The difference between WITHDRAWING from a session and not showing up i.e. NO SHOW

Withdrawing from Session

To be done by paddler prior to 6.00pm the night before session (includes am and pm sessions) because a seat in boat has been allocated to you

When withdrawing it is our responsibility (the paddler) to write not only **Withdraw** next to our name but also write **Replace** and **our name** next to the first person on waitlist. This is definitely **not** coach, sweep, EC member or session roster coordinator's job.

If it is after 6.00pm and due to emergency or illness, paddler to text coach at earliest opportunity.

Advantages of Withdrawing

Gives next paddler on waitlist the opportunity to paddle and train with team

Session coach can do session seating plan taking into account weight of paddlers

Disadvantages Zero



No Show at Session

Advantages to team Zero

Disadvantages

Paddler on waitlist misses out on the opportunity to paddle and train with team - A seat is sitting empty

Coach is doing adjustments to seating plan and trying to balance boat when session is starting

Quite often this eats into paddling time for those paddlers in the boat,

If the boat is not successfully balanced it can cause discomfort to paddlers

If it is a small boat session and the minimum number of paddlers had subscribed to that session, a no show could mean all paddlers being sent home (lack of numbers)

Adding other paddlers names to session list

No objections as long as **YOU** the person putting another person's name on list are 100% sure they are committed to that session. This is your responsibility. **Please no "seat grabbing" just in case someone may paddle.**

Thanks to everyone who helps with the roster and for ensuring we get on the water!

RACING

- Flamin' Dragons, **Wauchope**, 8th & 9th June
- Kempsey River Rats, **Kempsey**, 27th & 28th July
- Manning Regatta, **Taree**, 3rd & 4th Aug
- Coffs Coast, **Mylestom**, 14th & 15th Sept

FUNDRAISER

- **Lakes and Oceans Hotel Raffles** - 8th May, 24th May, 12th June, 28th June, 17th July, 2nd Aug

EVENTS

- Forster Keys Progress Association, **Family Fun Day**, 14th July

What's
Happening

STATE AND NORTHERN REGION TEAM AT AUSCHAMPS

Our representative paddlers at Nationals in Canberra over the Easter weekend:

Jo, Wendy, Claire, Peter and Laurie were all medal winners in their respective categories:

Mid North Coast Regional - Bronze Mixed

Women's Snr B - Gold

Women's Snr C - Silver

Men's Snr C - Gold

Mixed Snr B - Gold

Mixed Snr C - Silver

Congratulations to all!



Our proud representatives prepared and waiting for their racing to
begin.

2019 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

WESTON PARK, CANBERRA



Wendy Burdekin, Mary Elliott, Claire Pontin, Fay Brooks, Louise Watson, Kim Haydon, Tracy Mackle, Joanne Newman, Joanne Harris, Wendy Orman, Shelley Ryan, Whady Jarosz, Robyn Piper, Laurie Haydon, Peter Reed, Ann-Maree Swanson, Louise Watson

Congratulations to the GLPD Nationals Team who travelled the over 6 hour drive to Canberra to compete in the 2019 Australian National Dragon Boat Championships that were held at Weston Park, Canberra.

It was certainly an event to remember. We trained hard in our 10s boat to prepare ourselves for the event but it could not prepare us for the true nature of the 10s boats that were used at this event. Our Champion 10s boat is stable! There were five tip overs on the first day; 3 in one event when a ferry didn't 'see' that we were having an event, and 2 at the final line when the mysteries wash passed through.

Pearlers did extremely well to hang on, stay in their lane and finish all their events over two days without getting wet. Flamin' Dragons Mixed Team tipped on the second day after they finished and one of the teams in the lane next to us tipped at the start of the 500m Mixed race.

We did have a mishap with Brian falling off seat 2 while boarding for the 200m Mixed Semi Final. Thank goodness, he was given the OK from the medics. He couldn't paddle again so we were fortunate to have Louise to step in for the event.

Ann-Maree as the other reserve stayed with Brian while we raced. Careful TLC by the team saw Brian through the afternoon. He could not be persuaded to stay in the tent, like a true Pearler - soldiered on and insisted on watching the women's race.

Common sight at the AUSDBF Championships – another 10s boat over!



Our faces say it all in the final 250m of our 2km Turn race. The 12 members of the team did everything they were trained to do - and did it so well!!!

How proud can a coach be when every single team member put their best foot forward and powered every straight and every turn in this race.



We started out 'unseeded' so were 12th to start. We had three Senior C boats start behind us in the same race and are proud to say that it took, one boat 1km to catch us and pass us just before the last turn and 1.5km for the second boat to pass us. We beat the Bei Loon Senior C boat to the finish line, try as they may to pass us.

What we are most pleased to let you know is that we had **TWO** male paddlers, Loz and Whady in our boat and we were competing in the **OPENS** event which meant we were paddling against all teams with 10 men. We also are more than proud to say that we beat the ACT Dragon Flyers home (they had 6 men). I had a conversation with the coach of the Dragon Flyers before the event and they said they would probably beat us as we only had the two men - well you didn't! GLPD 13.22.83 (11th); DBACT Dragon Flyers 13.47.19 (12th)

GLPD 200m results	2017	2019
Senior C Mixed Team	01:02.46	
Senior A Mixed Team	01:01.41	
Senior B Mixed Team (9 and 8 paddlers)		01:03.76
		01:03.65
		01:04.51
Senior A Women's Team	01:05.04	
Senior B Women's Team		01:07.40

GLPD 500m results	2017	2019
Senior C Mixed Team	02:35.80	
Senior A Mixed Team	02:33.62	
Senior B Mixed Team		2:38.89
		2:38.22
Senior C Women	02:47.31	
Senior B Women	02:45.14	
Senior B Women		2:45.67
		2:52.95

2019 GLPD 8.3KM TEAM URUNGA

We came 4th!!

Perfect conditions for the 8.3km race – overcast and flat. The only problem was by the time we paddled the tide was well and truly out and there were plenty of shallows to paddle over. Our trusty sweep, John, made no mistakes and avoided the shallows very well for us (thanks mate).

Our half way turn was perfectly executed by John without any problems and off we went for the second leg.



It was hard going once we hit the creek on our way home and we could feel the pain had set in. However, as usual, when the going gets tough, the Pearlers get going and we had a fantastic finish!!!

We have got to be proud of the fact that we paddled and came fourth with only two men – our club is full of strong men AND women!!!!

We had a great race and we had the best Pearlers supporting us. Almost the entire Urunga regatta team was there for the 8km race supporting the team on the water!!! They were there screaming and yelling us as we were coming home. It was just fantastic to see and hear such support.

The perfect day! **Coach Wendy Orman**

Seat 1	Kathy Peter	Kim Creighton
Seat 2	Joan Schubert	Rejane Chapman
Seat 3	Sue Welch	Robyn MacIntosh
Seat 4	Whady Jarosz	Caroline Ritchie
Seat 5	Megan McArthur	Laurie Haydon
Seat 6	Fay Brooks	Kathy Dayment
Seat 7	Kim Haydon	Annie Mantica
Seat 8	Louise Watson	Kerrie Gammage
Seat 9	Denise Marr	Joanne Harris
Seat 10	Wendy Lum	Wendy Orman
Sweep	John Welch	Reserve: Angela Visser

2019 Results	
Nambucca +	45.39
Ballina	45.40
Flamin Dragons (Heat 3)	45.57
GLPD (Heat 3)	46.19
Rainbow	46.30
Coffs Coast	46.53
Central Coast	47.02
Camden Haven	47.03
Dragons on the Rocks	47.32
Deepwater (Heat 3)	48.11
Titivators	49.58

PROUD PEARLERS IN TOP PLACE

Pearlers, families and supporters had a wonderful weekend at Urunga and we came away with amazing results.

The team spirit was high from arrival to finish - the encouragement and presence from every team member showing why we are all **proud** to be Pearl Dragons, contributing towards the success of OUR CLUB.



CONGRATULATIONS GREAT LAKES PEARL DRAGONS

Sunday's racing was action packed with our Mixed Team coming away with 2nd place in both of their heats. Despite our best efforts with 17 teams in this category, we did not make the finals. Overall coming 7th from 17 Teams is a good result (keep in mind Clubs can have up to 10 Men in these Boats).

After taking out 1st place in heat 1 our Women were fired up to get the same result in heat 2, and secure a final's position. This was achieved with great relief, only to be advised at the finish line that the race had to be re-run! Fortunately the result was the same. Making finals is one thing, but a new level is required to win this race. The experience of Wendy Orman showed, setting us a final's pace, leading the way for every team member to dig deep and ultimately take out the event – **1st place Great Lakes Pearl Dragons Women** – in a time of 60.25 seconds - fantastic result girls. (If anything can make you feel more chuffed - it is worth noting that the next race - the Mixed Final had a winning time of 60.6 seconds).

Our Men combined with Central Coast and Dambucca, came second in both heats, to make the finals- and in a nail biting photo finish – came out as joint winners with Ballina. **1st place Great Lakes Pearl Dragon/Central Coast/Dambucca Men**- fantastic effort guys.

These results are super exciting as we welcome our 1st time Regatta participants: - Peta, Kim P, Helen, Di & Kaye.

We also are delighted to have John & Sue who have now joined the GLPD Team.

With all the fun, excitement & suspense of a Regatta, it is easy to forget what it takes to get there.

Our Thanks to our volunteers:

All the Coaches & Trainee Coaches, who prepare us in each & every training session – this is what we train for.

All of our Sweeps & Trainee Sweeps – without them, we cannot go out on the water.

The EC, supporting & guiding our Club into the future.

Angela, for her statistical genius (please see attached summary for race times / results)



Rejane, Our Regatta Volunteer on race day (Sunday).

Gillian for transporting our Gazebo's, flags, tables etc.

All of Our Supporters / Family, who are there for - us.

And our Thanks to you, the Members – the setter uppers, the packer uppers - the Paddlers, the Drummers , the Sweeps – for your assistance, your co-operation, your enthusiasm, your joy & your appreciation.

Feel thanked, if I have missed mentioning your contribution – so sorry - it is equally appreciated. **Coach—Kim Creighton**



How excited is the entire team for their men's and women's wins...

RESULTS URUNGA REGATTA SUNDAY 5TH MAY—200 METRE SPRINTS

Sports Mixed – 17 teams

GLPD Race 1

1:09.94 Deepwater
 1:12.63 GPLD
 1:15.87 Haven Yellow Fins

GLPD Race 2

0:58.22 Flamin Dragons 1
 1:00.56 GLPD
 1:04.69 Grafton

GLPD Mixed placed 7th from 17 teams.

Sports Women – 15 teams

GLPD Race 1

1:06.41 GLPD
 1:07.38 Flamin Dragons 1
 Haven Yellow Fins – DQ

GLPD Race 2

1:02.09 GLPD
 1:04.04 Kempsey
 1:04.87 Coffs Coast
 1:05.18 Central Coast/Wallis Spirit

Final

1:00.25 GLPD
 1:01.25 Haven Blue Fins
 1:05.28 Kempsey
 4th – Flamin Dragons 1

Sports Men (10's) – 10 teams

GLPD Race 1

0:59.22 Nambucca
 0:59.59 Central Coast/Pearl Dragons
 1:00.00 Kempsey

GLPD Race 2

1:02.59 Ballina
 1:03.25 Central Coast/Pearl Dragons
 1:05.03 Grafton/Rainbows

Final

1:01.28 Equal First Place - Ballina and Central Coast/Pearl Dragons
 1:01.75 Nambucca
 4th Deepwater

Co-Coach Joan and paddler Gillian can't contain their excitement in holding the winner's trophy!



A BIG **WELCOME**
 TO OUR CLUB -
 Sue and John!

Our new team members maybe? Definitely dedicated family of supporters!



AURORAS

A successful fundraising movie night was held for our two Australian representatives, Wendy Orman and Peter Reed. To 'seal the knot' on their training campaign, an impromptu wedding ceremony was held prior to the screening of 'Top End Wedding'.

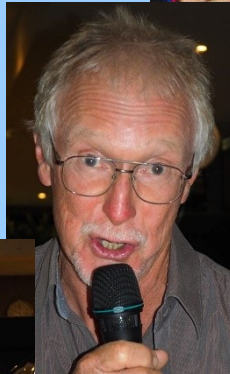
This movie was a popular choice amongst viewers and the club proudly presented Wendy and Peter with an even share of the night's profits. This will help them with the extreme costs of uniforms, paddling gear and other travel related costs that have to be self funded to be part of this international sporting event. We continue to support both paddlers as they endure a rigorous training schedule.



The bridal party, consisting of the groom (Peter), the Bride (Denise), the Bridesmaids (Wendy and assistants) and an extremely distraught Mother of the Bride (Fay).
Guests travelled from Hallidays Point, Smiths Lake, Redhead, Firefly, Tallwoods, Forster and Tuncurry!
A happy occasion for all.



Great Lakes Pearl Dragons Inc.
 would like to invite you & your partner, as a past member's, to our
 10th Anniversary
 Celebratory Dinner
 Friday, May 10, 2019, 6.00pm
 Suncurry Beach Bowling Club



FACEBOOK PEARLERS PAGE

Become part of this page as a place to chat with members, check out these photos and more, socialise, send out invites, arrange lifts and accommodation, swap recipes etc. Make it your own.

Welcome to the world of dragonboating



Our regatta 'first timers' run the gauntlet of the paddle guard following their first race... Peta, Kaye, Kim, Di and Helen.



Peta had a busy day of paddling - pictured here with the team in marshalling!

Di and Helen keeping their nerves at bay while waiting to paddle!



This face has been spotted behind the lens in Wellington and at Canberra. Trevor - Where will you been seen next? Welcome to our club and thanks for your support!

ITEMS FOR SALE



1 x pair DZRZVD Leisure Outdoor Trekking pants size M (would fit 8-10) in black. \$30

1 x pair jodhpurs Size 6 . \$30

Contact Mary,

Or Whady (see below)



Typhoon paddle 51 inches with bag - \$100

Merlin paddle 47 inches with bag - \$100

Contact: Whady M 0421 029 776 or

E elljaro@hotmail.com



Tired of looking for change every paddling day?

Available for purchase in \$20 or \$50 lots are paddling vouchers. Keep them in your paddling bag and present them when you sign in at training.

See Fay, our treasurer ,to purchase.

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Take up the invite to be part of the **Facebook Pearlers Page**

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Check out the website for updates and events, along with regatta and paddling bookings

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

