



The Dragons Head

December 2016

COMING UP

29 Jan Broadwater Regatta
@ Emerald Lake

12 Feb BRD Regatta
@ Lake Kawana

5 Mar TeWaka Regatta
@ Lake Kawana

25 - 26 March
DBQ State Championships
@ Lake Kawana

19 - 24 April
Australian Championships
@ Lake Albury Wodonga

UPCOMING MEETINGS

4 Feb 12.30 @ Nudgee
Special General meeting

6 May 11am @ Nudgee
Presidents / Coaches meeting

5 Aug 11am @ Nudgee
Presidents / Coaches meeting

26 August 11am @ Nudgee
AGM

A big thank you

ROCKHAMPTON VISIT

Recently Judy New, Pani Martin and Laurelle Endean travelled to Rockhampton to visit the Rocky Dragon Boat Club.

The 2 day visit included Admin, Sweep Assessment & Training Sessions.

We would like to thank Sharyn and the Club for having us also for their hospitality.



State Squad Training

The first session at Colmslie included fitness tests

Congratulations to everyone that have made the teams
Next sessions will be held on

Sunday 19 February 2017 - @ Varsity Lakes 10am -2pm

Sunday 12 March 2017 - @ Lake Kawana

Sunday 2 April 2017 - @ Colmslie

Contact DBQ for further information

Calling for Volunteers

WE NEED YOU

*VOLUNTEERS for State Titles
Saturday 25 - Sunday 26 March 2017
Contact DBQ for further information*



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Congratulations to everyone who attended and completed the Officials and Level 1 Coaches course.

OFFICIALS Course

Level 1 Coaches Course

Congratulation to the following on completing their Officials Course

Level 1	Manly DBC	Kerry Seymour
	BRD	Nicole-Marie Etches
	Gold Coast	Don McMahon
	Lakers District	Joe Martin
		Peter Stevenson
		Paul Taylor
Level 2	Manly DBC	Tracey Simkiss
		Edel Slamer
		Robyn Stephenson
		Doug Davies
		Anne Davies
		Danielle Ferrari

Congratulations to the following on attending the Level 1 Coaches Course

Akuna	Garro Ashikian
Broadwater	Fiona Hamwood
Burleigh	Mark Hesford Stephen Sharpe
BRD	Ross Boyce
Burnett river	Tracy Proctor
Cairns	Kimbell Murphy
DA Gold Coast	Paul Tyack
DA Sunshine Coast	Steve McLennan Lawrence Kearney
Ipswich	Angela Perry
Lake Dyer	Diane Welbourn Pania Keremata Reno Kare Kare
MSS	Blair Gamble Gary Stewart
Mt Warning	Carolyn Neilson
Manly	Tanya Matthews Tony Harris Rachel Sumner
Redlands	Teresa Meyer Meier Inge Cora Acworth
Redcliffe	Kay Roper
Te Waka	Elaine (Tracy) Evans
Tweed	Kim Lawrence



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Dragon boating included in Maroochy State High School's team building program

A very successful day for the 2017 Maroochy State High School Leo Club of Swanies Year 10 students which covered areas for LEADERSHIP, TEAMWORK and COMMUNICATIONS.

After many months of negotiating with the school we finally got the ok to go ahead to incorporate Dragon Boating towards the team building program for the last day. 33 students made up 2 boats and the day was observed by teachers and the Executive Committee of Mooloolaba Lions Club (sponsors of Leo Club).

After 2 1/2 hours of training they were good enough to have a race (refer photos).

The dragon boat session was so successful with the students the buzz got back to the school – the Headmaster had nothing but praise for the event and asked to get together next year to talk about dragon boating. Our aim is to incorporate dragon boating into the school sport program and eventually look at competitive regattas.

Yours in Dragon Boating,
Albert Gay
Sweep – Maroochy Sea Serpents





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2016 Shanghai International Chinese Dragon Boat Invitational Tournament

At least half of our club were “Come and Try” amateurs in January this year, but under a year of leadership from Blair, Steve and Teresa we felt unstoppable. Thus, on 21 Sept 2016 two Maroochy Sea Serpents teams departed for Shanghai to compete in the 8th Shanghai International Chinese Dragon Boat Invitational Tournament at Qing Pu District, China.

Our 32 team members, including support crew, were distributed across 2 teams to compete in both categories of the tournament; the “Hakka Team” in the Asian Countries Category and the “Maroochy Sea Serpents” in the International Countries Category. Even though we were in different categories we trained together, laughed together, ate together and sometimes cried together. Our inspirational, dedicated and playful coaches were always with us through blood, sweat and tears. Our friendship grew on the water and flourished off the water across breakfasts at the local cafe and Salsa dancing at Brisbane Square! Thanks Good Old Coach Blair Gamble, Steve Thiry and Teresa Thoi.

Never had we imagined this would turn out to be such an extraordinary, emotional journey to represent Australia, to represent our club and to represent our family and friends back at home.

In races and in training, every single person in our team pushed ourselves to the limit and then further for our teammates. We celebrated friendships & camaraderie with other teams forming bonds which transversed through the oceans between our home towns. Most importantly we constantly motivated each other and looked after one another like one large family.

From a total of 27 teams from 4 continents & 11 countries, both teams performed very well in their respective categories. The Hakka Team came 2nd after the Chinese Qing Pu Team and the Maroochy Sea Serpents team came 3rd after the Filipino and Russian Teams. Needless to say the Finals were incredibly nerve-racking & nail biting. At the final finish line, a year of grit, hardwork and passion vividly shone through our dripping sweat and tears of joy.

The experience at Shanghai has fueled an excitement and vision among the team to stay together to prepare for future International Tournaments. We welcome anyone who would like to try Dragon Boating to join us. Our main training session is on every Saturday morning at 7am at 55 Vivian St, Tennyson, Brisbane. We are a young team with large goals, Shanghai is only the beginning of our adventures in Dragon Boating.

Bring on 2017!



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MANLY REGATTA 30 October, 2016



The conditions were perfect for Manly to host their Regatta for 2016. Light winds and sunny skies were the bonus for a fantastic day enjoyed by 14 Clubs at Kawana.

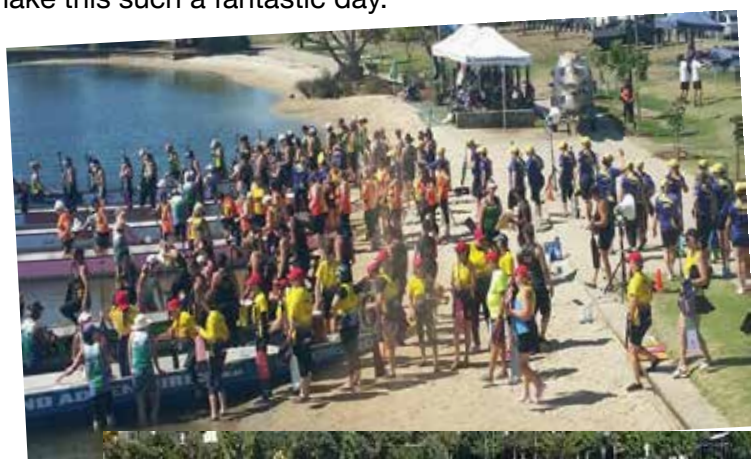
Starting the day off two 2k races. It was an opportunity for newer sweeps and paddlers to experience the excitement of cornering, overtaking and racing all at the same time. The races hotly contested by all crews with Te Waka taking out the first prize.

Moving on to the 500 metre races all clubs were catered for. Many of the smaller newer clubs like Jade Dragons that attended could race with more experienced clubs in the 10's racing.

There was up to 7 boats racing in the heats culminating in 6 boat finals.

Sonics have certainly come ahead with their new Coaches showing everyone how good they were and taking out a First prize in the Mixed 10's races.

We would like to thank all the Clubs attending our Regatta and our volunteers who all worked together to make this such a fantastic day.





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WIDE BAY Series

Round 4

Round 5



On Saturday 8th October, Bundy Dragons hosted Round 4 of the Wide Bay Series regattas held at the beautiful venue of Bucca on the Kolan River.

This was an unusual but exciting time for us, as besides Round 4, Hervey Bay Dragons also had their Round 3 on the same day. This was unusual, but bad weather caused a postponement so - two regattas in one day!

Round 3 was run first with the final result being 1770 first in the major final with Hervey Bay. Bundy finished first in the minor final with Cooloola and Burnett River Dragons.

Round 4 finished with a similar result and so 1770 took the Wide Bay Trophy for 2016.

Bundy was very happy to hear that we had finished the year with an equal second with Hervey Bay. Our boat carried a crew with a fair proportion of new paddlers, and Sal our coach was pretty happy with the outcome.

An extra excitement was the appearance of a large, feisty Eastern Brown snake who decided that his territory was the water where we were loading! His temperament was not improved much by our safety boat attempting to usher him to another part of the river. Even Channel 7 thought that it was worth air time. Eventually the snake took shelter in a tyre, and the boats were loaded elsewhere. and although this caused a small delay the day ran on schedule.

The usual wonderful camaraderie amongst dragon boat crews was ever present which is what makes our sport such a rewarding experience. We congratulate 1770 on their win, but that could change next year!

Doreen Brame

P.R. for Bundaberg Dragon Boat Club





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WIDE BAY SERIES 2016

From the pristine waters of Agnes Water/1770

The 2016 Series had a number of firsts – firstly a new team Burnett River Dragons joined the competition. First time in the 7 year history of the Series, a regatta, Round 3 to be held at Hervey Bay was canceled at last minute owing to weather conditions. And for the first time in the Series, there was a back to back win to premiers 1770.

All in all it was another fantastic regatta season and friendships old and new rekindled. Paddlers helped out when some crews were light on.

A number of new sweeps 'had a go' at various regattas. DBQ kindly sent up representative Joe Martin from Lakers to the 1770 Regatta. A couple of sweeps workshops were held in conjunction with the regatta.

This was greatly appreciated by all our clubs.

The final regatta day was a double header event held at the beautiful Bucca Weir. It was a perfect day weather wise but who invited the big brown snake? The final lunch and presentation was enjoyed by all and 1770 are happy to look after the perpetual trophy for another year.

A big thank you to all the clubs in the Wide Bay Series. We look forward to training up and racing at the 2017 Regattas.





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1770

Pani and his team up in 1770 providing sweep training and mentoring



Congratulations

to Clubs successful in their Grant Applications

Redcliffe

They were successful with their grant application through the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racings Get Playing Places and Spaces Programme.

The club can now look forward to the building of a 'shed' for storing of their equipment, training in inclement weather and holding social events and meetings

Well done!!

Coxmate 10% discount

Maroochy Sea Serpents purchased a couple of Coxmates and at the same time arranged for 10% discount. Not done before, this is a pretty good deal being offered to clubs from the supplier.

If you are interested check out their web site
www.coxmate.com.au

Prices are listed on their web, simply deduct the 10 % discount to see your savings
Hope this is ok

If you want more information please email Blair Gamble
E: blair@auschamp.com.au



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Australasian Police and Emergency Services Games DB Regatta

On Sunday 9 October 2016, Brisbane River Dragons hosted the Dragon Boat Regatta for the Australasian Police and Emergency Services Games (APESG) at Lake Kawana on the Sunshine Coast.

The APESG for 2016 was an event comprising in excess of 50 sports, with BRD and DBQ successfully negotiating with the Games Management team to include dragon boating as an official sport for the first time.

Twenty-five (25) Games competitors from all over Australia and New Zealand registered for the event. These competitors were broken up into three (3) Mixed 10's teams for the Games aspect of the event.

BRD and DBQ were also able to successfully negotiate holding a club regatta as part of the APESG event which provided an ideal opportunity to showcase our sport to Games spectators and competitors alike.

Club teams registered to compete in the event included BRD, Tewaka, Manly, Lakers, Jade Dragons, and Dragons Abreast Bribie Island.

Racing for club teams was conducted over 200m in Mixed 20's, Open 10's, and Women's 10's categories. APESG teams competed in a Mixed 10's competition.

There was some very good racing on the day with Games teams performing very well with limited training and preparation.

APESG Results Mixed 10's:

1st	Roaring Dragons
(57.25)	
2nd	Warrior Dragons
(57.29)	
3rd	Flaming Dragons
(1.01.72)	

Club Results Mixed 20's:

1st	Tewaka (47.25)
2nd	Sunshine Coast 1
(48.19)	
3rd	BRD (50.53)

APESG Results

Club Women's Results 10's:

1st	BRD (58.79)
2nd	Sunshine Coast 1 (59.43)
3rd	Manly (1.02.00)

Club Open Results 10's:

1st	Tewaka (49.63)
2nd	Sunshine Coast 1 (49.72)
3rd	BRD (53.59)



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A big thank you

Special thanks goes to all the clubs who provided additional paddlers, sweeps and drummers for APESG teams, boats, safety boats, and volunteers for this regatta. Such support made the event possible and also very successful.

Some very positive feedback was received from Games organisers and competitors regarding the running of the event, but particularly with respect to how friendly and supportive members of the various clubs were on the day. Our aim of showcasing our sport in a positive light was certainly achieved.

All in all, the dragon boat community made a lasting impression on these competitors. It is hoped that this initiation of dragon boating into the APESG fold will result in the continuation of the sport in future APESG events.



Letter of thanks from Surfers Paradise Police Station

G'Day Mark

This is just a quick note to thank you for our APESG dragon boat experience on Sunday 09/10/2016. Myself and nine other police officers from Surfers Paradise Police Station ventured north to take part in the dragon boat experience and what an experience it turned out to be.

I want to express our gratitude to you, your planning team and all the dragon boat teams that attended making it a special event. We were blown away by just how generous every one from the dragon boat fraternity was in terms of their training, patience and encouragement. I would like to say that after our brief training that your "professional" dragon boaters (not sure what the correct term is there) had swiftly moulded us into the greatest nautical crew since Eric the Red got together a handful of his Viking mates for a paddle but alas I fear we were just a bunch of police officers all in the same boat each with a paddle, more or less paddling in unison (the term ship of fools comes to mind).

All the dragon boat team members present on the day were amazing ambassadors for your sport and they should be highly commended. Thank you for allowing us a glimpse into your sport and it's amazing camaraderie.

Warmest regards
Noel Gilby



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MAROOCHY RIVER PADDLE

Dragon boat teams were outstanding in the 17 K Maroochy River Paddle this year.

Three hundred paddlers in kayaks, stand-up-paddle boards, surf skis, outrigger canoes and dragon boats paddled downstream from Lake Dunethin to Eudlo Creek at Fisherman's Rd.

Maroochy Sea Serpents Shanghai was the first DB crew and took away the \$200 prize.

They were closely followed by Lakers, Maroochy Sea Serpents, Bribie Island Dragons Abreast and Jade Dragons.

The "new kids on the block" Jade Dragons, believed they had the most fun after running aground in the shallows in the mouth of Eudlo Creek.

The organisers hope their event, on the second Sunday of every August, will be a feature of the DBQ calendar for years to come.

Margaret King

Event Organiser



*Remember
Maroochy River Paddle second Sunday in August 2017*





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DRAGONS ABREAST GOLD COAST

It has been a very busy time for Dragons Abreast Gold Coast. Our sports team the Pink Dragons attended the Rainbow, Mt Warning and Chinese Regattas. Our first race of the day at Rainbow saw us capsize. We could not thank the Manly crew enough for their assistance and support in bringing our crew to shore.



On 17th September our Club participated in the Gold Coast Relay for Life, which was held at Griffith University. This is a yearly event we support with the aim to raise funds for cancer research. As a breast cancer survivor club this is an event that is very important to us. As a team we raised a total of \$1579-65. It was an inspiring evening full of joy and hope as well as a time to reflect on our friends and family we have lost to cancer.





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Te Waka have been kept busy over the last few months staging several corporate regattas for other sports clubs down at Coomera Lakes.

The regattas have been a great vehicle for several Sports and Netball clubs to fundraise for the World Masters Games in Auckland that are being held in April 2017, along with a netball tournament in Bali.

It's a win-win scenario for everyone. We showcase the sport we love and introduce it to new people, raising the profile of Dragon Boating, as we know there are many who still don't know of its existence. Some of the people we've reached have loved it so much they joined us and are now part of the Te Waka family.

It's a fun day out for the participants and spectators, although some of them do take it very seriously and have entered their team in more than one regatta, hoping to be number one. We have had up to 24 teams battling it out on the water at an event.

The clubs promote the event, find the paddlers, provide sumptuous food stalls for the day, dress-up and we do the rest.

As well as a fabulous fund-raising activity, it also provides our club with team bonding and learning opportunities. We are all experts now in how to educate corporate teams how to paddle, and also how not to paddle.

Experience is a wonderful teacher!





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NEW

I've just paddled with.....

Have you been visiting? Simply travelling around the country or overseas and just happened to have a paddle with another club.

Send in some pictures of the club and where you have been.

I've just paddled with..... Freemantle Swans



Christmas in WA

I spent christmas with my family in Rockingham Perth. Beautiful place. During that time I was able to catch up with a few friends and managed to have a paddle with the Fremantle Swans on the Swan river.

Great club, beautiful place, friendly people.

We finished the session over a few beers and dinner next door at the Fremantle yacht club - great setup.

Charlene
Tewaka Dragons

