

DRAGONS ABREAST NORTHERN TASMANIA Inc

Newsletter

January/February 2009

1. **Launceston Festivale:** North Esk Rowing Club members are working on the gates and entry is free to all those who participate. The timetable is on the NERC board near the changerooms, where you can put your name in the available time slots. You need to arrive 15 mins prior to your nominated time (30 mins if on the first slot) where all will be explained and appropriate tops supplied. You can come and go during that time if swapping with someone. There are 5 gates so plenty of places available. Take your ID just in case.

<i>Fri 13th Feb</i>	<i>5 – 7pm</i>	<i>7 – 9pm</i>	<i>9 - 11pm</i>			
<i>Sat 14th Feb</i>	<i>10am-12pm</i>	<i>12-2pm</i>	<i>2-4pm</i>	<i>4-6pm</i>	<i>6-8pm</i>	<i>8-10.30pm</i>
<i>Sun 15th Feb</i>	<i>10am-1pm</i>	<i>1-3.30pm</i>				

2. Barb and her social committee would like offers of **items for raffle/auction**. Please let Barb know asap if you can help. (6327 3145) If you have a favourite business you may like to ask them for a prize. Don't forget your DAA ID card!
3. **Rebecca Gibney's Walk for Breast Cancer** on *Sun March 22nd* in Launceston. Are you interested? We're keen to have a DANTI platoon involved. Please let Barb know. (63273145)
4. **Sat 28th and Sun 29th March *Tasmanian Breast Cancer conference*** to be held at the Grand Chancellor with a \$50 dinner on the Saturday evening. We would love to have a large Dragons Abreast contingent. Thankyou to all those members who have already registered.
5. **April Cruise on the Lady Nelson?** At \$25 per head for the 3 hr cruise this will be a wonderful social event and fundraiser. Open to friends, supporters and family. There are several dates and times available and we need to confirm. So please let Barb know which of the following April times you prefer: Fri 3rd, Sat 4th 3pm or evening, Sun 5th 3pm, Tues 7th evening. (Week prior to Easter)
6. Have you seen the **Zodiak**? Thanks P2 for storing it so well.

7. AUSSIE DAY BARBECUE

We had a really enjoyable day hosted by Judy and Becky at Blackstone Heights. Lots of Australiana, including Jude's collection of music which she is only allowed to play on Australia Day ... but we all knew the words! The gumboot throwing brought out the competitive spirit and showed that black boots go further. The cricket was fun, but a little confusing with 2 balls in action and lots of trees. The food was scrumptious but there was too much! And the poetry brought all sorts out of the woodwork. Yes folks, we have some genuine poets in our midst – ask Ian for an ode sometime! Many thanks to Beck and Jude for a thoroughly convivial day.



Jude the conductor



Donna's gumboss toss Beck reads her Kelpie poem

8. **The Hillwood Festival** was terrific. Fantastic weather and a lovely venue with a great variety of activities on the water and off. The water was so refreshing on such a HOT day and we were able to keep ourselves well and truly damp while in the river. We had no trouble paddling to Egg Island and back and did lots of dragon boat salutes and other fancy bits for our audience. On the long paddle back to the boat ramp we realised it wasn't getting nearer .. the wind was blowing us back as fast as we progressed, so the safety boat towed us the last bit. They'd been itching to do something so this worked out well for all. Needless to say we weren't feeling up to participating in the kayak and canoe events after this...maybe next year? We are waiting for more photos of us on the water.



Relaxing in the shade at Hillwood



Tamar Tittilator on display at Hillwood

8. While Don is strengthening the wheels and axles on the boat trolley the *Tamar Tittilator* is on her trailer at Gravelly Beach where she can be stored and launched easily. Although it's a little far for some members to travel, those of us who did, have embraced the cleaner air and open water. The spectators are very appreciative and the stingray was fascinating.

9. Check out the new notice board above our storage cupboards. There are up-to-date news sheets and magazines to borrow, as well as copies of the rowing club regulations. Please read these as soon as you can.

If you have items for the newsletter please email them to me in Word attachments.

Thanks. susanking5@bigpond.com