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Facilities

Course Hire
Kitchen /
Lounge Hire
Souvenirs
Shop Sales

Sponsors

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**Jim Little
Upholstery**



Pub Charity
THE HEART OF COMMUNITY FUNDING



Christmas 2008

The festive time is now upon us and it is time to leave work behind and reflect upon the experiences of the past year. We have seen some major changes occurring at the rowing complex with the facilities being enhanced all the time. While we all like to see this, it is now quite clear that the whole landscape of funding and volunteering is changing.

We are very grateful to our sponsors who have assisted with keeping our core infrastructure fully operational and compliant with the ever changing regulations. The whole cost of our operation can change quite dramatically and it is really great when our pleas for some consideration are heard. However, there are some costs that cannot be avoided especially when it comes to safety. While we have a number of volunteers, those with skills, opportunities and the time seem to be reduced in number. We have to employ expertise in an increasing amount and hence the increased costs.

These changes add a new dimension to the way that volunteer organizations operate and perhaps it is timely to remind those who make use of the services and facilities such organizations provide balance the provision with the costs. It has been very pleasing to observe most of those using the facilities taking good care of them. Those who do not can expect to be billed for the cost of cleaning and repairs.

On behalf of the SIR Management Committee I wish you a joyous festive season.

Replacement Caretakers House



This picture on the left shows the replacement Caretakers house that has been delivered to site. It is significantly larger than the previous dwelling and as can be seen, there has been quite a lot of clean up work completed so that it can fit on site.

There is a lot of work to do to make it habitable and some of the work has already started. Volunteers will continue to work through the Christmas / New Year period. As part of this work,

major rearrangements to the power in the adjacent building is being undertaken. Also the water supply in that area will be altered.

Annual Report

I have received some inquiries about the annual report and statement of accounts for the last financial year. The accounts are still with the Auditors and until we receive the Auditors report no information will be issued.

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Missing

Following a recent stocktake we have found a number of items missing. In some ways shrinkage is likely given the limited security of the complex. There is no doubt the fence has helped but one item we seem to have missed is a freezer that was in the garage. If anyone could shed some light on its whereabouts please contact the secretary.

Speaker Arrangements

Following the success of the system at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Championships we have been working to implement the system on a more permanent basis. While we have yet to complete all the necessary work some changes have been made that will see Radio Ruataniwha operational at the regattas.



Anyone with a broadcast radio should be able to tune in to the commentary if they are in the area.

Part of the implementation process is to install a couple of cabinets to house the equipment. The picture on the left shown the concrete base for one such cabinet. It should be noted that work for this started two season ago and we are grateful to the volunteers who have worked to enable us to establish this.

Timing Changes

Many of you will know that Rowing New Zealand has purchased a new Regatta Management System and SIR will be implementing this during the season. It is unfortunate that things are running so late. Christine Moffat has put a lot of time into the system but we have found it takes a couple of years for any new system to become fully understood.

One aspect that has come out of this is the value we have had from the program that Steve Donaldson developed called "ROWMAN". It will be some time before the full capabilities of the new system will be able to match those of ROWMAN. However, we understand there are more advanced capabilities that will more appropriately evolve as the ongoing needs to rowing become more demanding. The message here is please be patient while this new operational process is "bedded in".

As many of you will know, the old photo-recording equipment is no longer serviceable and when coupled with the retirement of "ROWMAN" it is quite clear that to continue with our core business we need to have a replacement. In conjunction with Karapiro Rowing we are purchasing a commercial photofinishing system called FinishLynx. This technology is used throughout the world in many different sporting events. This includes most forms of racing regardless of the actual sport. Current indications this equipment will be installed and available in late January in readiness for the Canterbury Championship regatta.

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Tent Sites

It is pleasing to note that most of the invoices for the permanently allocated sites have been paid. It has been noted that a number have worked on the permanent footings for their tents. These do make the tents more easily erected, more robust and more secure.

Details of the site allocation will be displayed in the MacRae Lounge.

International Rowing Calendars

The international rowing calendars are available? The price for one calendar is NZ\$49.00. This does not include shipping within New Zealand.

Stock is limited, but we can get some more if necessary. All information regarding this calendar including all 13 photos can be found on the internet: <http://www.rowingcalendar.net/index.xhtml>

To purchase the calendar please contact Judith Bain on 03 384 5688 or send an email to cra@xtra.co.nz. The calendar will be available at the Row Shoppe this season (if any left).

Please note that the Photo for January 2010 was taken at this years Maadi cup at Lake Ruataniwha and there are two more photos showing Kiwis in action.

Working Bee

Another working bee is scheduled to start on 4th January to prepare the facilities for the first regatta. If anyone is able to assist, please contact Trevor Wilson.

Events

Recently there has been two functions at the complex. It is clear that with the increasing quality of the facilities comes increased usage. One of these functions was a function for our principal sponsor, Meridian Energy. We understand this was very successful. The same is true for a recent rowing camp and we anticipate more similar functions.

The upcoming regattas for January include the Otago Championships, the Canterbury Championships and the South Island Championships. All these regattas have been somewhat concatenated due to the early timing of the National Championship Regatta. We appreciate this will impose significant pressure on our volunteer resources so please be patient.