

January 2006 (The first in a while !)

Hello Members New & Old,

Welcome to the first newsletter for the 2006 racing season and please accept my apologies that the October and November issues just didn't quite make it off the printing presses - like most of us I guess, if I had a little more time and a few less jobs to do things may have been a little different. However, now we are back on track and I'm sure that future editions of the club broadsheet won't be held up !

Since we spoke last time, many things have happened;

- We have completed construction of the new driver's stand
- We have staged the (then) biggest model boating event ever held in Australia
- The November and January club race meetings have been held and
- We all celebrated the Christmas break with a relaxed get together at the Hammonds.

Although this won't be a blow-by-blow description of everything that has happened over the last few months, I'll try to get around most things so that if you did miss an event or two, you'll at least have some idea of what went on !

Also, a fair bit has been happening from an A.M.P.B.A. perspective as well so I'll do my best to cover off on that too !

New Drivers Stand - The Final Tally

Most of you will know that since the October meeting of last year, our new drivers stand has been operational and in use.

Whilst whenever you undertake a project like this there will always be one or two 'if only we had..... !', for the most part the feedback has been extremely positive by all those who have used it (especially the 77 odd competitors during last years Hunter Valley Championships !).

Thanks again to everybody who helped out with the construction and for everybody's information, the final tally was \$6498.86. Even though we obtained a reasonable amount of sponsorship we still had to contribute a fair amount of money to it ourselves - a pretty good effort for a humble little club like ours !

New Memberships

In recent months the growth in membership has shown no signs of slowing and we now number 48 - the highest number of members we have ever had !

In random order our newest members are;

James Atkinson	Ryan Chesser
Andrew Biddlecombe	Chris Biddlecombe
Jessica Brookes	Gary Holborow
Peter Parkinson	

Welcome aboard Lady & Gentlemen and we all look forward to dukin' it out with you at the pond !

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2006 A.M.P.B.A. Nationals

After the fabulous success of the 2005 Nationals that were held in Yarrawonga / Mulwala, the Southern Riverina Model Power Boat Club will be staging the 2006 event at Finley in Southern N.S.W.

The event is scheduled for April 20th through the 24th and if the most recent sanctioned events (such as the 2005 Hunter Valley Champs and the recent Battle of the Borders) are anything to go by, both the competitor turnout and the event itself should be fantastic.

I know I'll be there as will many other H.V.M.M.C. members such as; Steve Louat from SLAM Engineering, the one and only Chickpea Express (a.k.a. Mike Nowland), Team Jones (with Frank trying to wrestle back that A Mono national championship !), Eric Arlitsch, Team Brookes, Denis 'The Menace' Beresford, Paul Nixon and hopefully one-or-two of those boys from Port Macquarie will make the trip as well !

One thing to bear in mind, if you were thinking of travelling south for the event (it's about a ten hour drive !) but you didn't want to do it alone, have a talk at the next club meet as most people who will travel down will probably look to pair up to make the driving (& the expense) a little easier !

An entry form is attached to this newsletter for all who are interested in attending. Have a read, fill it in and send it off and make a note, if you are thinking of going, get your entry in before March 3rd and you'll also get a free Nationals shirt worth \$70.00 !

October Race Meeting

The October meeting has traditionally been a smaller meeting as H.V.M.M.C. members kept their boats wrapped in cotton wool in preparation for the Hunter Valley Champs.

However, in recent years the lure of heat racing points and the possibility that somebody's arch nemesis may slip by them on the points tally meant that conservatism went by the way side and competitors raced with as much enthusiasm as normal. This was certainly the case during the October meet when competitors brought 42 boats out to play. Whilst, I confess, my tardiness in getting the newsletter out has dulled my memory of the meet a little, the thing that I remember most is the competitiveness of the petrol classes - ie. P Mono, P Tunnel & P Hydro !

In recent years in these classes, there were always one or two competitors from each class who were a little ahead of the rest of the pack speed wise and they usually topped the points tally as well. I'm sure you'd all agree that this isn't the case any longer and on any given day in any of the petrol classes anyone can win !

This says two things to me (and I hope you all agree);

- 1) Lots of regular racing has meant that each of our members gets plenty of practice rubbin' rails with each other and
- 2) All those quiet little whispers you hear and all those heads you see bowed low over boats on race days and means that we have lots of boaters who know heaps about hotting up Zenoahs !

Well done fellas and I must confess, I can almost see myself with one of those petrol powered tunnels (well, almost....!).

2005 Hunter Valley Championships

What a beaut event this was - 77 competitors and 203 boats competing in what was then the single biggest model boating event ever held (I think that that recent Battle of the Borders pipped us for the number of boats but had a few less competitors) !

Although we only managed to get through three rounds (and this was probably always going to be the case with so many racers) all-in-all the feedback was overwhelmingly positive and most everyone had a good time.

A copy of the results is attached to the rear of the newsletter so you can read up and reminisce about how well you went !

Lastly, a major race meeting like this wouldn't be possible without the support and hardwork of many of our members, their wives and partners and lots of other volunteer helpers !

At the risk of forgetting some (and I apologise in advance if I have), those that deserve special mention are; Mike 'Chickpea Express' Nowland, SLAM Louat, Denis Beresford, Troy Berghofer, Greg Cook, 'Gentleman' John Simm, Team Jones, Eric Arlitsch, The Dodgy Brothers, Team Antoni, The Boys from Banana Split Racing, Paul Nixon, Barrie Clarke, Ed Sala, Mark Jordan, the fellas from the newly formed 'SAL' (ie. Shane, Alastair & Lee) Racing Team, Dy Holmes, Leanne Louat and her hard working Dad !

Thankyou to everyone for your efforts - the fact that we get so much help shows the strength of our club and the willingness of everyone to pitch in and help out. Thanks Again !

November Race Meeting

I can't really say a lot about this meeting because, as it turns out, I wasn't there. A weekend filled with a one year olds birthday party and his christening the next day meant that my racing plans for November had to be shelved.

By all accounts everyone had a good time - there were 36 entries on the day and, I'm happy to report, there didn't appear to be a lot of blood spilt or necks wrung at all !

Lots of racers capitalised on their form coming out of the Hunter Valley Champs to continue building their season points with Daniel Sala, Frank Jones, Tony Jones, Mike Nowland, Simon Lenton, Eric Arlitsch, Shane Birch, Steve 'SLAM' Louat and Alastair Ansell being the standout competitors in their respective classes.

January Race Meeting

Now this race meeting I was at and although 3 finishes out of six wasn't a great effort I still had a beaut time catching up with everybody !

In the mono classes (and excuse me for borrowing on the immortal words of Norman May) it was Jones, Jones, Jones for the win !

Between the pair of them, Frank & Tony managed to take the points in A, B, X & P mono - bad luck to the rest of us suckers who were racing for second place !

As well as being the largest class (closely followed by P tunnel), P mono is without doubt the most competitive as well. Racers like Ed Sala & Daniel Schaffer often match Frank for speed but when there is little more than the bottom of their rudder blade and occasionally the bottom of the prop in the water sometimes the handling can be a little.....ah, unpredictable !

January Race Meeting (Cont...)

In the ever expanding hydro classes, it was Barrie Clarke, Eric Arlitsch, Shane Birch, the super quick Steve Louat and Justin Antoni who took home the spoils in A, B, Open Nitro, Open Petrol and 1/8th Scale respectively. If anyone is looking for some great racing, make sure you watch the petrol hydros next meeting - always plenty of excitement !

There I go again - talking up petrol boats - I don't know what's got into me (could be the fumes perhaps.....)!

In the tunnel classes, Justin Antoni whomped his way to a first place in one heat whilst in P tunnel, the points the day were taken Daniel Schaffer (1100) who was closely followed home by the woolly haired Paul Nixon on 1000 points. Whilst it was Daniel Sala with his 'Cut & Shut' Express who slid into third place with 725 points.

Best described as the club 'quiet achiever' Mike Nowland cemented his position in first place in this class on the points table with a couple of third place finishes.

In what was either the biggest bit of good luck, the most incredible bit of driving ever seen or a move designed to strike fear into the hearts of P tunnel racers across the country, relative newcomer Greg 'She's red and she's fast' Cook pulled off a move in one heat of P tunnel like almost nothing we've ever seen before.

After a very close start (like they all are in this class !) five boats thundered towards the first turn ready to slip around the buoy in first place - which is precisely where Greg's well thought out race plan went a little askew. Rather than do what most everybody else expected it to do (ie. go around the corner) Greg's red rocket went straight ahead !

January Race Meeting (Cont...)

At this point you can imagine everyone who was witness to this (including the other racers in his heat) all holding their breath wondering what the final outcome was going to be !

In what was obviously a carefully thought out strategy, Greg avoided each of the other boats, managed to miss the weeds, gathered enough speed to 'float' over the rocks and went on to finish third !

Well done Greg and although your strategy was a little, ah, unusual, it obviously works !

Thanks to everybody who contributed and helped out on the day - the hardworking canteen staff, the race announcers, the buoy replacers and everyone else too !

Thanks also to those who make the long trip to compete every month - Mike from Tamworth, all of our good mates from Port Macquarie, Dave Bevern, Pete Antoni and Team Brookes who come from Sydney and all those who travel far and wide. Thanks a lot for making the effort - just wouldn't be the same without you !

February Race Meeting

Haven't had that one yet so I can't say too much about it but don't forget that it will be held on Sunday February 19th (the third Sunday of the month) and we hope to see everyone there !

The Sort-Of Editorial

This isn't really an editorial at all, nor is it me standing on a soap box trying to make a point either but there is something that I wanted to raise with everyone that may or may not be a problem but is probably worth raising anyhow

The Sort-Of Editorial (Cont...)

As our club continues to grow and our race days get comparatively larger one of the things we all need to be conscious of is how successful our club has been for a long time and the many reasons behind that success.

By now I'm sure you are all wondering well, what the hell is he talking about ? If you could just indulge me for a little longer I'm sure it will all be clearer !

Over the last little while, and in speaking to lots of members as I do, I have had one or two comments made to me that suggest that our club may be getting a little 'political', that there are some members who may not consider the club as a whole at times and there are others who feel a bit left out.

No names have been mentioned to me and obviously I wouldn't name them here either and to be honest, I have been caught a little by surprise by these comments.

Perhaps this is not something that we need to be concerned about or maybe it is - I'm not sure - but as a committee member I would ask anyone who feels aggrieved about anything at all to speak up to me or any other member of the committee so we can try to sort the situation out.

I have an absolutely great time racing my boats once-a-month, I look forward to it every time it comes around and I hope that everybody else does as well. The absolute LAST thing that any of us wants is for the club to splinter into groups of different personalities and lose the great club spirit that we have now.

Enough said - Thanks for your patience !

So Long, Farewell...

That's about it for this month, sorry for missing an edition or two but from now on we are back on track (I hope !).

I know that the main thing many of you are interested in is the points tally so never fear my little racers, the updated table with the October, November & January race meeting results included is attached !

Take care everybody, good luck preparing for next month's race meet and don't forget to get those Nationals entry forms in early so you get your free shirt !

All The Best
David Kelly

P.S. - If anyone knows anyone who may be interested in buying my Venter trailer - tell them to give me a call. I am thinking of upgrading and if I do, I won't need two trailers !



Hunter Valley Model Marine Club Inc.

2005 - 2006 Hunter Valley Model Marine Club Pointscore

A Mono		
1	Daniel Sala	2975
2	Frank Jones	2825
3	David Kelly	700
4	Rodger Brookes	375
5	Jessica Brookes	0
6	Sarah Brookes	0

B Mono		
1	Frank Jones	3825
2	Lee Kirkwood	2525
3	Dave Bevern	1769
4	David Kelly	1500
5	Wayne Parkinson	525

X Mono		
1	Simon Lenton	3500
2	Tony Jones	1675
3	Ed Sala	1000
4	David Kelly	825

Petrol Mono		
1	Frank Jones	6469
2	Ed Sala	3500
3	Matthew Guion	3338
4	John Simm	3175
5	Denis Beresford	2750
6	Troy Berghofer	2353
7	Peter Antoni	2338
8	Ray Holroyd	1488
9	Daniel Schaffer	825
10	Rodger Brookes	300
11	Sarah Brookes	269
12	Steve Rarity	194
13	John Piper	50
14	Ryan Chesser	50

1/8th Scale Hydro		
1	Justin Antoni	3225
2	Alastair Ansell	1950
3	George Pile	50

A Hydro		
1	Barrie Clark	850

B Hydro		
1	Eric Arlitsch	5575
2	Simon Lenton	3475
3	Mark Jordan	2650
4	Ed Sala	2146
5	Rodger Brookes	219

Open Nitro Hydro		
1	Eric Arlitsch	2400
2	Shane Birch	2325
3	Justin Antoni	800

Open Petrol Hydro		
1	Denis Beresford	4775
2	Mark Jordan	2894
3	Stephen Louat	2775
4	Paul Nixon	900
5	Daniel Schaffer	794
6	Barrie Clarke	550
7	Troy Berghofer	465

A Tunnel		
1	Justin Antoni	400

B Tunnel		
1	Simon Lenton	2525
2	Dave Bevern	325
3	Wayne Parkinson	25

Petrol Tunnel		
1	Mike Nowland	4494
2	Chris Lenton	2757
3	Barrie Clarke	2750
4	Greg Cook	2688
5	Paul Nixon	2675
6	John Simm	2500
7	Mark Jordan	2125
8	Daniel Schaffer	2050
9	Daniel Sala	1725
10	George Pile	1538
11	Stephen Louat	1075
12	George Vlahos	750
13	Ryan Chesser	600
14	John Piper	400
15	Denis Beresford	350
16	Peter Antoni	202

2005 Hunter Valley Champs - Results

2005 Hunter Valley Champion - Denis Beresford (HVMMC)

<i>CLASS</i>	<i>COMPETITOR</i>	<i>PLACE</i>	<i>POINTS</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>State</i>
A Mono	ROD SMITH	1	1200	1:32:00	QLD
A Mono	FRANK JONES	2	1050	1:33:00	NSW
A Mono	KEVIN MORRIS	3	1050	1:37:00	QLD
A Hydro	PAUL OSMOND	1	1200	1:15:00	NSW
A Hydro	KEVIN MORRIS	2	775	1:29:00	QLD
A Hydro	TIM DUGGAN	3	650	1:12:00	NSW
B Mono	DAVID KELLY	1	950	1:22:00	NSW
B Mono	PHILLIP FISCHER	2	775	1:17:00	QLD
B Mono	STEVE WINKS	3	775	1:23:00	QLD
B Tunnel	SIMON LENTON	1	1150	1:35:00	NSW
B Tunnel	IAN BAAS	2	775	1:42:00	NSW
B Tunnel	VINCENT SHAW	3	325	1:45:00	NSW
B Tunnel	LEE KIRKWOOD	4	0	NTR	
B Hydro	EVAN HOLBOROW	1	1025	1:09:00	NSW
B Hydro	ROD SMITH	2	775	1:10:00	QLD
B Hydro	PHIL REDHOUSE	3	744	1:14:00	NSW
P16-25 Mono	DENIS BERESFORD	1	1200	1:26:00	NSW
P16-25 Mono	FRANK JONES	2	950	1:26:00	NSW
P16-25 Mono	BARRY LOW	3	825	1:27:00	QLD
1/8 Scale	JUSTIN ANTONI	1	700	1:29:00	NSW
1/8 Scale	JULES RAES	2	525	1:39:00	QLD
1/8 Scale	BRETT BUCKMASTER	3	425	1:25:00	VIC
C Hydro	RICHARD SYMYNUIK	1	1000	1:05:00	NSW
C Hydro	GLEN WATKINS	2	800	1:08:00	NSW
C Hydro	PETER DUGGAN	3	750	1:23:00	SA
P16-25 Tunnel	PAUL NIXON	1	1200	1:25:00	NSW
P16-25 Tunnel	DARREN THIEDEKE	2	1050	1:34:00	QLD
P16-25 Tunnel	MIKE NOWLAND	3	900	1:38:00	NSW
X Mono	SHANE WISEMAN	1	1000	1:25:00	QLD
X Mono	PHILLIP FISCHER	2	625	1:21:00	QLD
X Mono	STEVE WINKS	3	600	1:18:00	QLD
P16-25 Hydro	STEPHEN LOUAT	1	625	1:20:00	NSW
P16-25 Hydro	RICHARD SIMONSEN	2	569	1:27:00	VIC
P16-25 Hydro	GLEN WATKINS	3	550	1:13:00	NSW
X Hydro	JUSTIN ANTONI	1	1100	1:03:00	NSW
X Hydro	IAN INVERARITY	2	900	1:02:00	SA
X Hydro	KEVIN MORRIS	3	650	1:25:00	QLD
POpen Tunnel	ASHLEY BLADES	1	800	1:34:00	QLD
POpen Tunnel	MARK JORDAN	2	700	1:36:00	NSW
POpen Tunnel	STEVE TOMVALD	3	25	NTR	NSW
P Sport Hydro	GLEN WATKINS	1	1100	1:27:00	NSW
P Sport Hydro	DANIEL SCHAFFER	2	652	1:48:00	NSW
P Sport Hydro	BRETT BUCKMASTER	3	650	1:32:00	VIC

CLASS	COMPETITOR	PLACE	POINTS	TIME	State
POpen Hydro	ROD SMITH	1	1100	1:15:00	QLD
POpen Hydro	PHILLIP FISCHER	2	900	1:18:00	QLD
POpen Hydro	MARK JORDAN	3	725	1:22:00	NSW
A O/B Tunnel	GREG MORTLOCK	1	800	1:44:00	NSW
A O/B Tunnel	DION VELLA	2	725	NTR	VIC
A O/B Tunnel	TIM DUGGAN	3	425	1:45:00	NSW
POpen Mono	BARRY LOW	1	1100	1:22:00	QLD
POpen Mono	JEFF SMITH	2	825	1:36:00	SA
POpen Mono	RICHARD SIMONSEN	3	700	1:29:00	VIC
Electric O/B Tunnel	KRIS FLYNN	1	400	NTR	VIC
Electric Mono	ASHLEY BLADES	1	1050	2:33:00	QLD
Electric Mono	DAVID KINGSTON	2	900	2:34:00	QLD
Electric Mono	ANDREW GILCHRIST	3	25	NTR	NSW
Electric Hydro	SHANE DEACON	1	1100	2:16:00	NSW
Electric Hydro	DAVID KINGSTON	2	700	2:04:00	QLD
Electric Hydro	ANDREW GILCHRIST	3	325	2:21:00	NSW

