



**DRAGONS ABREAST NT INC**  
**GPO BOX 872**  
**DARWIN NT 0801**  
**ABN 25 391 493 042**  
[www.dragonsabreast.com.au](http://www.dragonsabreast.com.au)



## NEWSLETTER

Greetings DANT members,

It was great to see everyone working together to ensure our regatta was such a success. Participants and workers all seemed to enjoy themselves on the day. A special thanks to the organising committee who planned so well. We are having a general meeting on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> 5.30pm at the DAA office. It should be a social and fun get together as well as having a discussion about planning for 2010. A light meal will be available afterwards. We hope to see you there.

Paddles Up  
Jill Finch

DANT Management Committee Members : please contact [darwin@dragonsabreast.com.au](mailto:darwin@dragonsabreast.com.au) for details

Name	Position			
Jill Finch	NT Coordinator	<a href="#">_____</a>		
Vacant	Vice Coordinator			
Pauline Deslandes	Secretary	<a href="#">_____</a>		
Pauline Tauschke	Treasurer	<a href="#">_____</a>		
Robyn Rowe	Registrar	<a href="#">_____</a>		
Colleen Haydon	Fundraising	<a href="#">_____</a>		
Lyndall Finch	DBNT Rep	<a href="#">_____</a>		
Aileen Blyth	Public Officer	<a href="#">_____</a>		

## DRAGONS ABREAST NT COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE REGATTA PRESENTED BY SHORELANDS AND PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY DBNT



The Regatta was a great success with eighteen teams participating. Daryl Manzies was an excellent MC and with teams marshalled by Phil Reader the day moved along very smoothly. The traditional blessing by the Buddhist nun, the fantastic Lion Dancing display, caricatures by Colin Wicking and face painting by fairy Gina added to make the day one of great excitement. The able bodies lifesavers were kept busy all day supporting the boat loads of paddlers heading up to the start and frantically paddling back to the finish line – some with more control of the paddles than others. The success of the day was also enhanced by the effort teams went to in coordinating their paddling fashions. Food, drinks and sweets were readily available to all participants.

Our major sponsor of the day was Shorelands. Arthur and friends relaxed in the corporate tent under one of our new pink shades to watch the proceedings of the day.

Always ready to help out on the day were the many volunteers decked out in yellow shirts. They worked hard to put up shades, set up areas, cook, man stalls, handle boats, start races, time races, score, be at the finish line plus many, many other duties during the day. Thanks to each and every one of you. As the saying goes many hands make light work

Thanks to all sweeps – Colin, Lyndall, Michelle, Ken, Blair & Pauline – a fantastic job. Michelle’s hat would have won the best head wear at the Darwin Cup and Ken really did look delightful in the pink rashie and hat.

The teams involved included *FM104.1*, *CDU*, *Jolly Rodgettes*, *Keen Green*, *The Voice*, *The Big Blokes*, *Show Stoppers*, *Bling It On*, *Wolpers Warriors*, *Kotmilda College 11*, *Shorelands Mugs*, *Break a Leg - Territory Sports Med*, *Ray White*, *MJ Welding*, *Motley Crew*, *ERA Mixed Bay*, *Pretty Women*.

Winners on the day were:

Best Headwear – *Show Stoppers* – those tassels didn’t stop twirling all day.

Best Outfit - *Break a Leg* – Hope they are all fitter at work than they looked on the day in their outfit.

Best Warm Up Team - *ERA Mixed Bay* – well done

Best Chant – *Keen Green* – What wonderful voices

Highest Fundraiser – *The Jolly Rodgettes* – Thank you very much

The Womens Final between *The Show Stoppers* and *Pretty Women* was won by *Show Stoppers*.

The Mixed Final between *Territory FM*, *Ray White*, *Break a Leg* and *Bling It On* saw *Bling it On* cross the finish line in first place

The Opens Final was hard fought between *M & J Welding*, *The Big Blokes*, *ERA* and *Wolpers Warriors* with *M & J Welding* coming in first.

There were lots of very fatigued people at the end of the day but from all reports everyone had a great time.

**Many thanks to the SHORELANDS GROUP, Arthur Hamilton Managing Director and his staff who are Dragons Abreast NT’s major sponsor and major sponsor of the regatta. Shorelands have been Dragons Abreast NT’s major sponsor since 2004.**



Sally, the very happy raffle winner collected her Prize from the DAA office.



Winners of the Women’s Section SHOWSTOPPERS

Thanks also to:

TERRITORY TOP FM104.1 – Advertising of the event

AIRNORTH – Fabulous raffle prize – return airfare for 2 to Broome

PINCTADA CABLE BEACH – raffle prize - 2 nights' accommodation in the Shinju Pool Tee Studio

BAKERS DELIGHT

SWEET LIFE

HALCO MEATS

COONAWARRA PANEL WORKS

COCA COLA AMATIL

COLIN WICKING

DRAGON BOAT NT

LIDIA C

MACDONALDS

IAN SYMONDS

VOLUNTEERS

SIMON GEORGE

DAVE MCCORMACK

ECO OPTIONS

JAC EMBROIDERY

MITSUBISHI PARTS

ARAFURA DRAGON BOAT CLUB

MINDLE BEACH LIFE SAVERS

DARWIN BAKERY

CURBY'S TROPHIES AND ENGRAVING

RESIDENCE CULLEN BAY

ALL TEAMS

**ALL PROCEED FROM THE DAY WENT TO DRAGONS ABREAST AUSTRALIA.  
PROMOTING BREAST CANCER THROUGH DRAGON BOAT PADDLING AND TO  
ESTABLISH A MEDIA LIBRARY IN THE NEWLY ACQUIRE NATIONAL OFFICE IN  
DARWIN.**

### **Dragon DINC**

If you are going to be part of the Survivors Walk at the *NT Cancer Council Relay for Life* can you please meet up with Di Howard by the DINC's Tent, near the grandstand, just before 6.00pm. We would like to walk as a Dragons Abreast NT group so it would be great if you could wear a Dragons Abreast shirt or a pink shirt. Banners will be there for you to carry around the oval. Di has made the baton that will be carried by teams members during the relay.

### **Birthdays Wishes July, August & September**

Judy Smith, Lyn Beaton, Mal Sciacca, Aileen Blyth, Di Howard, Rosemary Chick, Jeanette Maloney, Lee Revell, Pauline Tauschke, Helen Smith, Jennifer Janis.



### **Australian Credit Union Lottery**

Thanks to all those who sold tickets in this lottery. Unfortunately we did win any of the prizes.

### **July DANT Management Meeting Roundup**

The minutes from these meetings are available on request. Please ask Pauline Deslandes or email [dantsecretary@dragonsabreast.com.au](mailto:dantsecretary@dragonsabreast.com.au)

### **Northern Territory Breast Cancer Voice (NTBCV)**

The original date for the Quiz night has been changed to 31<sup>ST</sup> October. A Quiz night is always lots of fun so get together a table and come along to support NTBCV. The proceeds from the evening go to Dragons Abreast Australia.

### **Dragons Abreast Australia's**

Please make the time to visit the website [www.dragonsabreast.com.au](http://www.dragonsabreast.com.au) there is a link to Dragons Abreast NT

Office number is 08 89470086

Fax number is 08 89470087

## **CAROLS ON CULLEN**

Mark Thursday 10 December on your calendars to dress up in your Christmas Outfit and joint in the fun of singing Christmas Carols while we paddle around Cullen Bay. After the carols chocolates, cheer, champas and celebrations.

## **Dragons Abreast Australia National News Bulletin**

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## **DRAGONS ABREAST NT GENERAL MEETING**

The scheduled general meeting for September 10 has been rescheduled to October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Full details will be sent out via email once a date has been set. The meeting will follow the same format.

## **EAST POINT CHALLENGE**

Three Dragon Boats and 3 Outriggers competed in the East Point Challenge which was held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July.

We all met at the Arafura and Dragons Abreast cages where we loaded the boats in time to go through the lock at 9.00 am. 16 paddlers to a boat and we were ready to go. Our boat consisted of Dragons Abreast members and 6 visitors from the Bayview Club. We were ably swept by Judy Smith.

The race started near the break water by a yacht that was moored there – this was to be the start and finish point – a fact that was forgotten by a few.....

The race was started by Phil Reader – our trusty starter and safety officer who travelled the course with us to ensure all went well. The outriggers took off at a heart stopping rate and hit the lead early followed closely by the muscles of the men from Arafura Dragon Paddling Club. Dragons Abreast NT were content to follow in their wake and kept a steady pace as we headed out to the buoy for the turn around. We passed the first Outrigger – yes passed it! As they lay floundering in the sea – too much haste we felt, the safety boat appeared alongside to help them become upright. We kept paddling assured that all was well. The lead outrigger passed us on their way back and then we were neck and neck with the small outrigger as we went round the buoy. They tried valiantly to cut in on the inside and whoops....over they went, we were back in the running and quite excited now with only 3 boats in front of us. The run back to the start was easy paddling after we had switched sides on the move and had a quick drink.

Confusion did set in with Arafura as to where the finish line was and Daryl, who obviously listened at the start, very smartly took the lead after Colin's boat headed for the beach and Daryl for the finish line.

We came home strongly and took home the Women's trophy. I did time our race but neglected to write it down at the time. I know it was only a few minutes outside of the other boats and not a bad job for a boat load of women. We took the boats back through the lock and then headed for the Ski Club where some celebratory drinks and nibbles were devoured by all, and trophy's were presented. We all enjoyed the morning and relayed our thanks to Leanne and the Arafura Club for organising the event. Hopefully it will become a regular activity on the calendar. I know a lot of other ladies would enjoy the experience and it wasn't "too tough" at all.

Chris Sargeant

## **FLYING FOX REGATTA**

A group of our members travelled to Katherine for the Flying Fox Regatta. This is always great fun and what a better place to paddle than on the beautiful Katherine River.

## **OPEN GARDEN**

Deslandes Open Garden was held over the weekend June 27 & 28<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all those that were available to lend a hand.

## **DARWIN AIRPORT RESORT REGATTA**

To be held on Sunday October 11 at Kahlin Beach, Cullen Bay commencing at 9.00am. This Regatta is being hosted by Arafura Dragons Paddlers Club. If you would like to paddle please give your name to Chris Sargeant. Entry fee \$15 per head. Alternatively if you know of a group of people that would like to put a team in to have some fun please ask them to contact Leanne Goldsworthy – mobile 0418840470 or [leannegoldsworthy@bigpond.com](mailto:leannegoldsworthy@bigpond.com)

## **DBNT AGM**

The DBNT AGM was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> August at the Ski Club. It was great to see such a huge number of Dragons Abreast NT members there to support DBNT.

President: Daryl Manzie

Vice President: Cherry Cameron

Secretary: Mel Hazard & Judy Smith

Treasurer: Maxina Parkes

Registrar: Sue Norton

Public Officer: Daryl Manzie

Club Reps: DANT – Lyndall Finch, ADPC – Vacant , Bayview Sundragons – Helen Dann, Kununurra – vacant

## **JANE VIRGO**



Sadly Dragons Abreast NT lost a great friend and supporter when Jane Virgo passed away on 27 August 2009 after bravely battling cancers.

Jane, as a staff member of Shorelands first started working with and for Dragons Abreast NT when Arthur Hamilton, Managing Director of Shorelands offered to sponsor us in 2004. Jane worked tirelessly for Dragons Abreast NT. Her enthusiasm and belief in Dragons Abreast NT's mission meant she offered us more than simply 'doing her job'. She was always on the lookout for potential sponsors and supporters whether her dealings or conversations were directed at the Shorelands sponsorship or not and many of our great relationships have been formed through Janes' "whispers". Behind the scenes of the support from Arthur Hamilton it was Jane's subtle reminders which kept him up to speed with Dragons Abreast NT's happenings. Jane organised the numerous Shorelands teams for Corporate Dragons Boat Regattas, arranged for our boats to be towed to many Dragon Boat events outside of Cullen Bay. She volunteered to be a committee member for our annual Crab & Quail and Auction Evenings and supported all activities. She was at her best in her role as the 'Drinks Fairy' – where she was an exemplary role model for the Dragons Abreast NT Annual Golf Ambrose.

Every member of Dragons Abreast NT who came across Jane commented on her warmth, her friendliness her energy, her ability to never stress (at least on the outside) and support.

She was a caring person who was always willing to do that little bit extra for Dragons Abreast NT, a friend sadly missed, and her passing will leave a big gap amongst Dragons Abreast.

## **WHY I LEARNT TO SWIM – Gaelene Henderson**

Having been diagnosed with Breast Cancer in April 2009 which included a confirmation of secondary metastases within a few months of the initial diagnoses, I really began to feel quite old, unfit & generally weak while going through all the treatment. I kept hearing that exercise would help so I started the Encore program which I am now attending for the second time around.

Two lovely vivacious ladies came as guest speakers to Encore during this time to tell us about Dragons Abreast & encouraged us to “come & try” dragon boating. Their message was it's all about the participation & enjoyment. So it was arranged & off we went down to Cullen Bay to give it a go.

We were instructed on paddling & safety by Pauline then the question was asked,  
**“Can you swim?”**

Since I couldn't swim, on went the cumbersome sweaty life jacket. By now I'm feeling quite scared & shaky as all the ladies are getting into the boat & some of them were 20 years older than me.

### **I couldn't not go!**

We were all encouraged & helped by our buddies & I found myself laughing, really enjoying myself & forgetting everything else. **Wow it was exhilarating!**

As I clumsily paddled around that beautiful marina I realised I would have to learn to swim if I wanted to do this again.

### **But you don't learn to swim at my age, 48, or do you?**

What struck me the most about these ladies was that they were so full of life, they weren't feeling old & tired, they loved to have fun while keeping fit & they had developed meaningful friendships.

So over the next few weeks my kids started to instruct me in swimming & then my new 'booby' friend Marie ( I had only just shifted to Darwin when I was diagnosed & the only people I know here have all had breast cancer so I have nicknamed them my 'booby' friends ) returned from her radio therapy & invited me to swim in her much larger pool & Marie patiently taught me to swim.

I actually was quite buoyant & I **could** swim!

### **No more life jacket for me!**

I've been paddling 3 times now. I'm still quite nervous but I'm giving it my best shot. I'm going to join Dragons Abreast NT.

### **I will feel very proud & honoured to wear that pink singlet top.**

Hopefully I will improve with practise & I'm so looking forward to the privilege of participating in such a unique & special group as I'm finding Dragons Abreast to be.

**Thank-you all!**





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## MEMBER UPDATE FORM

If your information has changed since completing your registration form could you please return this form with your changed details to Dragons Abreast NT's Registrar Robyn Rowe

Surname		First Name	
Residential Street Address		Suburb	
State		Postcode	
Postal Address		Postcode	
Home Phone		Work Phone	
Mobile Number		Email	