



The Titti Tattler

Dragons Abreast Brisbane - Phone : 1300 889 566

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Issue 11

Recent Events for Dragons Abreast Brisbane

MISSABITTATITTI

- Pan Pacs
- BRD Regatta
- Hello Gary
- Brekky in the Park



CHRISTMAS BREKKY IN THE PARK 2010

The champagne corks popped as the champagne fizzed and once again this year, Pink Connections came to the fore to provide a wonderful barbecue breakfast for all of us to share. Their support is outstanding, and very much appreciated by all our members.

Not only did they set up tents, barbecues and tables, supply the eggs, bacon, sausages and tomatoes, they cooked, served and supplied lucky door prizes. Thanks Denyse and team for your generosity. And a special thank you to Barry who brought a gift of a Christmas CD for all of us.

BRD Sports Regatta

The weather was not kind, but a small and enthusiastic group of teams arrived at Lake Kawana in the rain to take part in the BRD Sports Regatta. The knock out racing was popular and the prizes for winners were a knock out as well.

MBT was asked to handle the food tent on the day and Edith agreed to coordinate things. Various members were allocated tasks (slicing and dicing the tomatoes, onions, lettuce) and anyone who could was asked to provide home cooked goodies on the day. We also had plenty of cold drinks but the cool, wet day meant that most people headed for Cafe 2 U which had set up next to us for hot drinks instead of cold.

Janelle P had an amazing array of gift baskets for raffle prizes and our own June S spent the day selling the raffle tickets.

The pink challenge went off well with



Café 2 U also came and seemed to be doing a brisk trade - even had some ladies from another group in the park come for a coffee.

This year, rather than bringing a Secret Santa the suggestion was made that we should make a gold coin donation which could go to charity. I think a few people must have put in some extras as there was \$150 in the pink pig when I counted up the money. Café 2 U also made a donation to our morning.

some MBT members jumping in other boats so that 3 even teams of 14 from Sunshine Coast, Snapdragons and Missabittatitti could compete.

The really special event on the day was the final race, where members from each of the survivor teams combined to put a composite survivor boat into the 1500m race. Del from Snapdragons swept, Ryoko from MBT drummed (and reminded us to breath) and ladies from Sunshine Coast, Redcliffe, Townsville and Brisbane put everything into their paddling. Yes, we came 9th of the 9 teams competing, but we did it with style and we were, after all, the only all women's team in the race.

Comments on the food, the raffles and the regatta in general have all been very positive so thank you to all who contributed.

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Information Day - Coles Petrie Terrace



Scott, son of Tricia Taylor one of our long term supporters, manages Coles at Petrie Terrace and asked that MBT come in to provide information and a touch of pink for October's Breast Cancer Awareness day. A few members donned their pink wigs, fluffy halos and feather boas, to distribute slices of the pink ribbon cake (sponge with cream - delicious) and information about Dragons Abreast to the customers on Saturday morning.

Amazing how difficult it is to give things away. However lots of people were willing to chat, find out what we were about and make a donation, and try the cake - with some encouragement.

I was told the staff would polish off any leftovers, so nothing went to waste.



Tricia, Scott, Pam, Leigh, Janelle & Lizzie

Hello Gary

Confusingly, the owner of Hello Gary is not Gary at all. His name is actually Simon. Nonetheless he was very welcoming and took great care of the ladies who went to Hello Gary for a pink fundraiser on 27th November.

and shorts as well as a carton of beer. Who could possibly argue at the price?

As well as fantastic coffee (which Simon insisted on serving to us free of charge) Hello Gary has muffins, cakes, chocolate, and toasted sandwiches. The avocado on toast was delicious.



Rosalie, Simon & Helen

Lizzie organised everything beautifully and we had the dragon boat parked out front thanks to the efforts of BRD and George. Pink wigs, green wigs and feather boas stood out in the crowd at this very busy little espresso bar in Temple Street at Coorparoo.

The mother of one of the customers we spoke to paddles with the pink team from Mt Warning. She said her mum (74) gets really excited going to regattas and on outings with the team.



Lizzie & Carol with Chris & Barry

We were selling raffle tickets for Simon's pink fundraiser. Winner takes all and for \$5 you could win free coffee for a year (got to be good in anyone's book), a signed Lion's match ball, jersey

We finished the morning around 11am and Simon has promised to come to have a paddle with us in the new year.



Coordinator's Comment

This has been a big year for Missabittatitti. Members have gone to CNY in Sydney, to Canada for the IBCPC Regatta, to Macau for the World Club Crew Titles and to Sydney for the DAA Corporate Regatta, finishing off the year with the Pan Pacs on the Gold Coast and the BRD regatta last weekend.

Our fundraising has included the Golf Day, Lady Skippers, Sunnybank Quilters raffle and Hello Gary as well as other smaller events and fundraisers throughout the year. And of course the Kim Walters Choices Fashion Parade wouldn't be the same without paddler involvement. This year we were represented by our new Events coordinator, Di Clohessy.

Next year is shaping up as a big year as well – perhaps not as many overseas trips, but we certainly have CNY in Brisbane and Sydney and the inaugural DAA National Regatta 9-10 September to look forward to.

I just want to take this opportunity to tell you all what an incredible

bunch you are. I believe Missabittatitti is the BEST team in Australia. Why?

Well it's not because we're a big club (though I know we are); it's not because we are strong (though I believe we are that as well); it's not because we are competitive (though I think we all like to compete or we wouldn't be in a dragon boat club). I believe we are the best because we care. We care for each other and we care about others. We are generous with our time and our talents, willing to take on any role that comes up. I would especially like to thank the ladies who all put in this year by helping with the fundraising and attending the various awareness raising events to which we were invited.

So thank you for being so wonderful, being part of my life and accepting me as your coordinator this year.

Finally I would like to say *"Thank you"* to Rosalie for her leadership and caring throughout her term as coordinator, the outgoing committee for all their efforts and the incoming committee for taking up the challenges of keeping things going in 2011.

Leigh

Notes from the coach

Hi everyone, Hasn't this year gone fast - it seems like no time at all since last Christmas. I would like to reiterate my comments from yesterday's wonderful breakfast.

My thanks to Corina Bradley for her assistance with the coaching throughout the year - it has been invaluable and enabled me to fulfill my other obligations within the Club, or cover me while I had work commitments. My thanks also to Rosalie for her good steadying influence throughout the year. Year 2 of Evolution has seen DA Brisbane undertake several competitions throughout the year. The results speak for themselves. I think myself we are heading down the competitive path for those that want to do this while still maintaining a social content for

those paddlers that need this. PanPacs was a prime example of true competition within the Pink community. During the year our Tuesday night paddling went by the wayside - which has encouraged a few pink paddlers to brave the BRD training sessions. Well done Gay Howard and Pam Cosgrove who are attending regularly. The advent of OC6 training on Thursday mornings has proved to be very popular amongst the group with at least three boats out most Thursday mornings and no shortage of paddlers willing to brave the early morning start for a bum on seat. This cross training really builds up your endurance and strength, so I encourage you all to give it a go. The BRD regatta held recently at the Sunshine Coast was a great example of the Pink community banding together to form a crew to race the



And didn't we all love the fridge?

1800 metre sports category. Well done MBT, Sunshine Coast and Snapdragons. We look forward to more collaborative events like this. And finally my thanks go to sweeps, drummers, supporters and volunteers which make this group spectacularly unique. I am reminded of Doc's (Louise) ditty yesterday where it all started with a 'little itty bitty titty lump'. Please have a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year. Oh and the pictures on the electric photo frame thingamajig look great, thank you all for your best wishes and kind generosity.

Ewen

Dear Diary

Upcoming Events for Missabittatitti

Christmas Break starts	11 th Dec 2010	OC Paddling resumes	13 th Jan 2011
Dragon Boat Paddling resumes	15 th Jan 2011	Coomera Dragons Regatta, Regatta Waters, Lake Oxenford	30 th Jan 2011
CNY Corporate Regatta Southbank Brisbane	6 th Feb 2011	CNY Regatta Darling Harbour Sydney	13 th Feb 2011
Manly Dragons Sports Regatta - Kawana Waters	27 th Feb 2011	QDBF State Championships - Kawana Waters	19 th -20 th March 2011
ADBF Australian Championships - Canberra	31 st March - 3 rd April 2011	Cooloola Dragons Sports Regatta - Tin Can Bay	24 th July 2011

Pan Pacs 2010

Pan Pacs again and this year we entered only one team in the Dragons Abreast Section of the regatta. However, with extra MBT paddlers supporting State of the Nation in the Women's and Open Masters and Grand Masters racing as well as providing extra paddlers for Snapdragons, we all had plenty of racing over the 2 days.

MBT paddled hard and, despite some intense racing when the teams crossed the finish line together, managed to hold out the other teams to win both the 500m and 200m races. Bling was shared around on both days, and Gay was particularly surprised to win a Gold and Bronze medal in the same race. She had paddled with Snapdragons earlier in the day, so of course she won a bronze with them as well.

Highlight of the regatta would have to be the Malaysian Pink Team winning one of their heats in a knockout. One sweep lost it and took out the second placed team as well just before the finish. So the



Malaysian team finished first. More importantly, weren't they a delight with their infectious enthusiasm, excitement and enjoyment of everything that was happening.



Of course no trip away would be quite right without the odd get together for drinks and food and Pan Pacs was no different, but the final night at the Waves provided added excitement as we all clattered downstairs in the wee small hours when the fire alarms were activated.



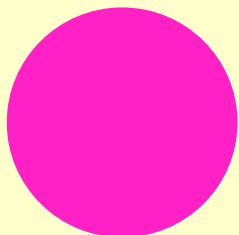
Sunday morning we enjoyed breakfast organized by the Gold Coast ladies with a couple of prize winners at the table, before dispersing after a great weekend of racing and camaraderie.





Matthew's Creative Installation Open Day

Carmel & Matt



What a great time we had at Matt's installation open day in his town house at Norman Park on the 11th July. Lots of family and friends and about seven of our Paddlers came along to view his exhibition.

We enjoyed wine and nibbles and were entertained by Matt on his drums. Our lovely Ryoko and Marlee excelled in providing us with delicious sushi (Matt's personal favourite!).



Over the preceding months Matt, with the encouragement of Kat "Danger" Sawyer from Access Arts, had created some amazing installations made from cardboard boxes, paper rolls, wool, tape and whatever else he could lay his hands on.

He spent hours and hours focused on creating a fabulous collection of alternative art. What astounded me was that he saw potential in stuff we have no use for.

Our girls particularly got a laugh when, on the wall, they saw that Matt had stuck a "Please Do Not Remove From The Aircraft" emergency procedure card. He said

cheekily, "Oops! I wasn't supposed to do that." He had patiently woven an intricate web across the lounge room ceiling, under the overhead fan, ensuring the fan could still function safely. Matt also constructed out of various bits and pieces an abstract ark-like structure which he called 'Titanic'.

In the front courtyard he constructed a mobile out of string and cans. In almost every available space was a lovely surprise. What people seemed to love most was that it was an interactive exhibition. We placed a mound of these same materials for those who felt inspired to add their own flair to the installations or to take home a souvenir.

As for me, I was so proud of his achievement, his patience, his creativity and his endurance to get it all done for the opening. I became very patient and tolerant with the mess that was generated during the construction, and it was so worth it when Matt said he had the best time and would love to do it again... However, I'm not so sure about that.

Carmel





Information & Contacts



B1 modelling the latest in Paddling gear from Canada



Ruth & Edith with the Malaysian pink team at the Cancer Council Morning Tea

To learn more about Dragons Abreast Visit the Web!
www.dragonsabreast.com.au

Dragons Abreast Brisbane -
Phone : 1300 889 566

Remember, if you want your story in the Newsletter, please forward by email to leighbern@bigpond.com or hand to a member of the committee.

Some Photos from the Pan Pacs

