

River Rumours

MANAWATU POWER BOAT CLUB INC. NEWSLETTER

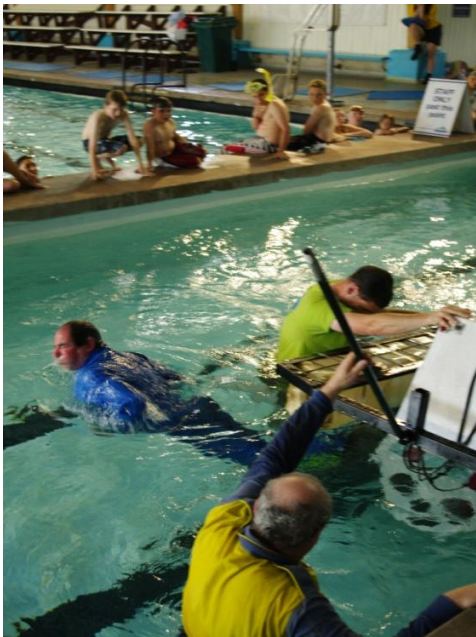
November 2011

CENTRAL ZONE DUNK TESTING

On the 6th of November the Central Zone held dunk testing at the Raumati Swimming Pool.



Grant Pedder getting dunked



Scott Dennis swimming out after being dunked

CLUBMANS TEST & TUNE WEEKEND

The Weekend of the 19th and 20th of November saw the running of the Clubman's test and Tune Weekend held at the Wairarapa Clubrooms on the Rumahunga River. It was a successful weekend with 12 Clubman's Boats and 15 drivers most new to the sport.

A lot of us were there on Friday Evening and the Clubrooms provided a great place to get to know everyone. It's good to see the venue can still host an entertaining weekend.

Most of Saturday was spent with boats just doing laps and making changes to the gear. Strong winds up the river made it too rough to race until about 4pm when it settled down. We got through 5 or 6 handicap races on the Saturday evening. The results were not really important as it was about learning how to start and race with each other. It was a good chance to see how the different hulls turned. Some of the boats were surprisingly quick and with time and improvements will just get quicker.

Sunday's weather saw a change in the wind as it blew down the ramp allowing the water to be a lot calmer. There were 10 races put on with some more handicap starts and then onto Scratch Starts. By this time we were down to 8 boats in a race with a couple of boats out with gearbox damage and some like mine being a bit temperamental. (Boat probably upset at being thrown off the trailer onto the ramp).

7 new Manawatu Boats took part in the event, Pincoya, Rampage, Anarchy, Deviant, Borrowed

Time. Mad Dog Maddy, and Awol and there's still a lot more to come.



More photos see link below.

<https://picasaweb.google.com/100591752398153978305/ClubmansTestAndTuneNovember19th20th2011>

report & photos by Phillip Hoskyn

MEMBER PROFILE

Scott Dennis

Scott Dennis was born in Wellington, growing up in Island Bay.

As a child he spent many holidays in Waikanae and later after marrying for the first time moved to Waikanae permanently and had a son called Stephen.

In 1970 he started his apprenticeship to be an electrician. For most of his career he worked in Wellington commuting from the Kapiti Coast. During that time he worked on major buildings such as BNZ tower, NZ Post house, on the ferries and most of the Shell service stations in the lower North Island.

Scott started racing in 1970. Racing offshore with George Daines in a 16' Marlborough Rapier called *Geronimo* for three years before joining the Wellington Power Boat Club and starting circuit racing. He joined the Manawatu Power Boat Club in 1979.

He brought his first power boat in 1974. a 13' Marlborough Dart with a 50HP Johnson on the back. This boat was called *Sky High*. Later he repowered it with a 70HP Johnson and renamed it *Scott Free*.



The first Scott Free

He went on to have two other V bottoms (P Class) called *Scott Free* and *Flight*.

The second boat to be called *Scott Free* was a plywood flattie converted to a racing runabout with the help of George Daines (skillsaw special!) which raced for two seasons until it snapped in half at Porirua Harbour.



George Daines special

Flight was also raced by Bill Dennis. Scott's father.

Back then Scott and his family travelled throughout the country. Often with Bill going ahead & setting up camp for the party which included Gary & Sally Nagel, Squid & Lois Wylie,

Paul & Julie Robertson. Their annual trip was to Blue Lake and Karapiro at Christmas and New Years.

One year at Blue lake Scott tipped over and lost the nose cowling to his boat. The trip to Karapiro had many stops collecting real estate signs along the way in order to fashion a new cowling.



Scott moved to Tasmania for two years and brought and raced his first tunnel hull called Wings. During his time in Tasmania he worked in the forestry and then on an oyster farm.



Bill couldn't help hopping onto Wings for a ride!

Moving back to Waikanae he brought Wings to NZ and sold it to Gary Nagel. Gary renamed it instead of

Scott purchased another tunnel (O Class) that was known as Big Spender and called it Wings

In 1987 he built an O Class fuller tunnel called Hitachi. He raced this boat until 1991 when he then purchased an Oz Burgess from Australia called Hitachi 2



Hitachi 2 air borne



In this boat he won numerous island and national titles. Then he won the Glenvale Driver of the year in 1994 & NZ speed record 1994. This is the red, blue and white boat later renamed Velocity. It is currently Black and White and for sale.





On the 8th of December 2007 a new Oz Burgess boat finally arrived in NZ. It had taken some 3 years to be built but that was only the start of the dramas. When it arrived in NZ it had a wasps nest on board. Finally in 2010 Scott had the boat ready to race. This boat is called DSR Racing.

2010 was also the year Scott stopped commuting to Wellington and set up DSR Electrical Ltd to service the Kapiti Coast.



Scott works on the boats himself – there's often odd sights to be seen in the garage!

This year Scott has caught the Clubmans class fever and purchased a Tennessee hull and a 25HP motor. This boat is called 'Anarchy' and you'll likely see Scott and Rochelle racing this boat this season.



The newest member of the family 'Anarchy'

So the story of Scott Dennis power boating continues. ò

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Joke submitted by Colin Robertson:

I kid you not... A New Wine!
New



Wine

California vintners in the Napa Valley area, which primarily produce Pinot Blanc, Pinot Noir and Pinot Grigio wines, have developed a new hybrid grape that acts as an anti-diuretic. It is expected to reduce the number of trips older people have to make to the bathroom during the night.

The new wine will be marketed as



PINO MORE



I HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

Gotcha!

CLUBROOMS SITE

During a recent visit to the clubrooms site we noticed someone had been and cut out sections of the handrail with an electric grinder. Isn't anything safe anymore.



Why didn't they just take it all!

CLUBROOMS REBUILD

The Manawatu Power Boat Club has been approached by the Rowing Club about joining together to build clubrooms. The initial discussion has been about moving to a site on the other side of the bridge . where MPBC used to race. The executive is to meet with the rowing club executive in the next few weeks to discuss each clubs requirements.

UPCOMING EVENTS

26th & 27th November

NZ Classic Power Boat Federation. Club Day at Mangakino

11th December

Southland Power Boat Club . Club Day, Oreti River, Invercargill

That's all for Now

Regards

Rochelle Dennis