



There was a party atmosphere from the get go as participants in the 40th anniversary Hawkesbury Canoe Classic began to arrive at Macquarie Park, Windsor on Saturday. Most were in for the long haul, the iconic 111km paddle through the night to arrive at Mooney Mooney in the wee hours of Sunday morning. Final preparations – food, clothing, all-important seat padding – were made, and everyone's thoughts turned to what the night had in store. Would the tides be kind? How fast could we go?

Gearing up for the 40th

- The anniversary edition of the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic saw over 500 paddlers at the start line. 299 paddlers in 213 boats completed the full 111km race, while 87 paddlers in 28 boats completed the inaugural 65km Wisemans Dash.
- Lane Cove fielded a team of 56 club paddlers in 45 boats to tackle the full distance. Another 11 paddlers in 7 boats christened the inaugural Wisemans Dash.
- While **Richard Barnes** tops the Lane Cove record charts with 36 Classics to date, the club also saw 10 paddlers take on the full 111km for the first time, and several newbies in the Dash.



Matt Swann, landcrew Margaret, David Young and Duncan Johnstone waiting to get on the water



The 5pm start, with very little room to breathe!

- A record total of 82 LCRKers were actively involved in the Classic as either paddlers or landcrew.
- Classic and Dash paddlers raised \$157011 for the Arrow Bone Marrow Transplant Foundation.
- Dragon Boats were a new sight in this year's Classic. Three boats tackled the Wisemans Dash, and at least one crew got out for a picnic at Sackville!

LCRK Results

Name	#	Boat?	Previous Record	Official Race Cat/Class	Distance	Time	Htime	Position	Beat Record?	Within 1hr of Record?
Orchard, Glen	330	ORS1	08:51:35	Mens Veteran 40+ - ORS1	111.0	8:51:12	9:23:04	1 of 6	1	1
Robinson, Joy	181	UN2 Fenn ski	09:34:41	Mixed Open - UN2	111.0	9:05:38	9:43:49	1 of 1	1	1
Robinson, Richard	181	UN2 Fenn ski	09:34:41	Mixed Open - UN2	111.0	9:05:38	9:43:49	1 of 1		
Young, David	205	ORS1 - V14	09:25:03	Mens Veteran 50+ - ORS1	111.0	9:05:48	9:22:10	2 of 4	1	1
Hystek, Tony	120	ORS1 V14	09:39:50	Mens Veteran 60+ - ORS1	111.0	9:06:32	9:11:59	1 of 5	1	1
Swann, Matthew	200	LRec2 Zero Tolerance	09:32:25	Mens Veteran 60+ - LREC2	111.0	9:43:04	9:31:24	2 of 4	-	1
Johnstone, Duncan	200	LRec2 Zero Tolerance	09:32:25	Mens Veteran 60+ - LREC2	111.0	9:43:04	9:31:24	2 of 4		
Myers, Stuart (non-member)	203	UN2 S2E ski	08:57:00	Mens Veteran 50+ - UN2	111.0	9:45:56	10:32:48	1 of 2		
Quirk, Chris	203	UN2 S2E ski	08:57:00	Mens Veteran 50+ - UN2	111.0	9:45:56	10:32:48	1 of 2	-	1
Matamala, Rodrigo	249	ORS1 Uno Max	08:27:48	Open - ORS1	111.0	10:01:12	11:01:19	2 of 4	-	-
Simmat, Tom	226	ORS1 Edilge	10:51:18	Mens Veteran 60+ - UN1	111.0	10:16:02	10:22:11	1 of 2	1	1
Johnstone, Don	149	ORS1 SEL	08:51:35	Mens Veteran 40+ - ORS1	111.0	10:22:01	10:59:20	4 of 6	-	-
Holloway, Geoff (non-member)	252	Zero Tolerance	09:32:25	Mens Veteran 60+ - LREC2	111.0	10:22:49	10:10:21	4 of 4		
Wright, Lee	252	Zero Tolerance	09:32:25	Mens Veteran 60+ - LREC2	111.0	10:22:49	10:10:21	4 of 4	-	1
le Roux, Armand	236	ORS1 Spark	08:51:35	Mens Veteran 40+ - ORS1	111.0	10:42:18	11:20:50	5 of 6	-	-
HAN, JASON	195	C2 Mt Isa	09:18:15	Open - C2	111.0	10:52:17	10:58:48	1 of 4	-	-
Navera, Kim (non-member)	195	C2 Mt Isa	09:18:15	Open - C2	111.0	10:52:17	10:58:48	1 of 4		
Ardren, Ruby	162	LRec1 Renegade	10:48:06	Ladies Veteran 40+ - LREC	111.0	11:03:40	9:24:07	3 of 3	-	1
Rhydderch, Suzie	169	ORS1 V10L	10:16:24	Ladies Open - ORS1	111.0	11:16:05	10:35:31	1 of 2	-	1
Johnson, Naomi	185	K2	09:47:50	Ladies Open - K2	111.0	11:20:46	11:00:20	1 of 1	-	-
Johnson, Sophie	185	K2	09:47:50	Ladies Open - K2	111.0	11:20:46	11:00:20	1 of 1	-	-
Duffy, John	101	UN1 Sonic	08:57:42	Mens Veteran 50+ - UN1	111.0	11:22:12	11:42:39	1 of 1	-	-
Lees, Anjie	327	K1 Tornado	11:19:34	Ladies Veteran 40+ - K1	111.0	11:40:48	10:51:44	1 of 2	-	1
Anderson, Peter	304	LRec1 Mirage580	09:37:50	Open - LREC	111.0	12:12:40	12:27:19	2 of 4	-	-
Clayton, Adrian	115	UN1 Valley Rapier	10:51:18	Mens Veteran 60+ - UN1	111.0	13:07:24	13:15:16	2 of 2	New 70+ Record	-
Green, Rozanne	102	ORS1 EVO11	12:47:59	Ladies Veteran 50+ - ORS1	111.0	13:37:42	11:59:34	1 of 1	-	1
Miller, Cathy	158	LRec1 580	10:59:33	Ladies Veteran 50+ - LREC	111.0	13:46:48	11:17:58	1 of 1	-	-
Lloyd Green, Ann	331	K1 Civet Cat	No record	Ladies Veteran 60+ - K1	111.0	13:57:29	12:12:47	1 of 1	New 60+ Record	-
Holloway, Tom	121	LRec1 Time Traveller	09:37:50	Open - LREC	65.0	6:35:00	0:00:00	3 of 4	-	-
Goodall, Bruce	335	MRec1 Matador	09:53:45	Mens Veteran 50+ - MREC	65.0	6:40:00	0:00:00	4 of 4	-	-
Geddes, Phillip	165	ORS1 Vault	09:39:50	Mens Veteran 60+ - ORS1	65.0	7:43:00	0:00:00	4 of 5	-	-
van Koesveld, Paul	215	ORS1 V10L	09:39:50	Mens Veteran 60+ - ORS1	65.0	7:43:00	0:00:00	5 of 5	-	-
Rowston, Wade	210	LRec1 Renegade	10:02:49	Mens Veteran 50+ - LREC	47.4	6:17:00		8 of 8		
Fitzgerald, Peter	190	V14	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	9:42:23		1 of 73		
Salkeld, Craig	261	V10S	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	11:06:03		7 of 73		
Williams, Darren	296	V10S	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	11:06:03		8 of 73		
Stewart, Hugh	211	22S	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	11:06:03		6 of 73		
Mathers, Tony	171	MRec1 18S	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	11:35:45		11 of 73		
Cleland, Graham	317	V10S	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	11:36:24		12 of 73		
Farrell, James	138	LRec1 Tourer	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	11:55:27		15 of 73		
Walker, Rodney	224	LRec - Flyer	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	11:55:27		16 of 73		
Hammond, David	122	V10S	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	12:21:40		21 of 73		
Veivers, David	204	Mrec Flash	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	12:35:02		22 of 73		
Thompson, Chris	145	tba	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	12:43:20		24 of 73		
Llewellyn-Jones, Robert	269	V8	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	12:44:05		26 of 73		
Laughton, Stuart	251	Interface	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	12:50:35		28 of 73		
Ogawa, Kenji	110	Flyer	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	13:44:58		38 of 73		
Barnes, Richard (Syd U)	111	Perception Pirouette	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust	111.0	17:50:53		56 of 73		
Ellis, Craig	199	UN2 Supersonic	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust 2	111.0	10:07:58		1 of 37		
Yates, Richard	199	UN2 Supersonic	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust 2	111.0	10:07:58		1 of 37		
Cooper, Jason	183	SLR2	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust 2	65.0	7:25:00		29 of 37		
Turner, Bob	183	SLR2	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust 2	65.0	7:25:00		29 of 37		
Thornton, Meg	223	Mirage 730 "Kermit"	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust 2	65.0	8:52:00		31 of 37		
Trina Whittaker (non-member)	223	Mirage 730 "Kermit"	N/A	Brooklyn or Bust 2	65.0	8:52:00		31 of 37		
Hogbin, Toby	438	UN2 Carbonology	N/A	Dash	65.0	4:45:00		1 of 33		
Love, andrew	438	UN2 Carbonology	N/A	Dash	65.0	4:45:00		1 of 33		
Blundell, Matt	404	K1 Colt	N/A	Dash	65.0	4:46:00		2 of 33		
Friedlaender, Ernst	411	Mirage 730	N/A	Dash	65.0	6:57:00		7 of 33		
Langenfeld, Dirk	411	Mirage 730	N/A	Dash	65.0	6:57:00		7 of 33		
Morris, Greg	427	Mirage 730	N/A	Dash	65.0	7:06:00		10 of 33		
Sherwood, Warwick	427	Mirage 730	N/A	Dash	65.0	7:06:00		10 of 33		
Millard, Peter	405	LRec2 Vulcan	N/A	Dash	65.0	7:55:00		17 of 33		
Winn, Liz	405	LRec2 Vulcan	N/A	Dash	65.0	7:55:00		17 of 33		
van Ewyk, Elke	417	LRec1 Challenger	N/A	Dash	31.2	4:47:00		30 of 33		

Results compiled by Ian Wrenford, sorted by finish order with competitive classes first

Records and Honours

The HCC BBQ on Wednesday 2nd November saw the presentation of two perpetual trophies.

Glen Orchard took out the trophy for fastest Lane Cove paddler, sailing in with a blistering time of 8:51:12 (yes, that was full distance). He beat the previous record in the Men's Vet 40+ ORS1 by just 23 seconds! At the Wednesday BBQ, Glen hinted at his reasons for setting such a cracking pace: "There's no way I could sit on a cushion for 18 hours!"

Not far behind him, **Tony Hystek** was the fastest Lane Cove on handicap, with a time of 9:06:32, becoming 9:11:59 with the handicap factor. Tony's words of wisdom on the race were that "things that are bad start with a B – like blackness." Yet a dark night didn't stop him in setting and a new record in the Men's Vet 60+ ORS1.

A further three records were broken by Lane Cove paddlers, with **Tom Simmat**, **David Young** and the duo of **Joy and Richard Robinson** joining Glen and Tony on the honours list. Tom Simmat took a whopping 35:16 off the previous record in the Men's Vet 60+ UN1 class. Meanwhile, David Young put in a monumental effort to beat the Men's Vet 50+ ORS1 record by 20 minutes, only to find that another paddler had gone another 20 minutes faster again.

Adrian Clayton and **Ann Lloyd Green** set brand new records in the Men's Vet 70+ UN1 and Ladies Vet 60+ K1 classes respectively. Adrian had his sights set on being the first Vet 70+ paddler over the line. He confessed some relief when he found that Phil Geddes stopped at Wisemans, leaving him the only one on the water! Ann says that "I started when I was 60 and still want to do it at 70", so we'll be on the lookout for further records there.



Glen Orchard (top) and Tony Hystek (bottom) receive their trophies



Ann Lloyd Green takes a break at Sackville



Adrian Clayton approaches Wisemans Ferry

Dashing to Wisemans



Matt Blundell (single) and Toby Hogbin/Andrew Love start out strongly, leading the whole way to Wiseman's

The 40th anniversary of the Classic saw a new race added into the mix. Alongside the full 111km course, paddlers could also register for the Wisemans Dash, a 65km (59.7km by Lane Cove's reckoning) race to the night's second major checkpoint. This isn't the first time that a short course has been offered – at the very first classic in 1977 paddlers could start at Wisemans Ferry early on the Sunday morning and paddle 45kms to finish at Brooklyn. With a race from Windsor to Wisemans, however, comes all the fun of the start, a few hours of daylight, and the challenge of finishing

before midnight! The Wisemans Dash proved popular with veterans and newbies alike, with a total of 33 boats taking on the challenge, seven of them from Lane Cove.

Lane Cove paddlers were once again the ones to watch, with **Toby Hogbin/Andrew Love** and **Matt Blundell** setting off at a cracking pace. The jury's out on whether they were dashing or just sprinting the whole way, but they arrived at Wisemans in official times of 4:45:00 and 4:46:00 respectively. To the naked eye, the difference was a matter of centimetres, and the paddlers have set a strong precedent for the race in the future.

Lights in the Water

No, nobody was hallucinating. In the final section of this year's race the water appeared to glow, streaming off the front of boats and fracturing into shards of gold with the slightest touch of a paddle. For the most part it seemed to be a hit with LCRKers in the last hours of the race, with several saying that was all that kept them going to the finish line! The only notable exception was Tony, who was heard at Mooney Mooney declaring that "those lights were damn annoying, I couldn't take my eyes off them."

The cause of this is algae in the water, although some amateur detective work by the Johnson sisters suggesting that it might be the plankton genus *Tompteris*. The effect is quite rare – paddlers completing the Hawkesbury multiple times may only have seen the phosphorescent glow once or twice. **Ruby Ardren** revealed that an underlying factor was poor quality in the Hawkesbury river at the time, and suggested that we don't eat shellfish from the area for a while. **Anjie Lees**, on the other hand, cites it as one of her major motivations for starting the race each year: "it's my own private fireworks display on the water."



On the darkest of nights, the welcome team of Tim, Jeff, Tim and Oscar at the finish line

SHOcKers raise \$15.5k

The "SHOcKers" were out in force for the 40th anniversary classic, with paddlers **Peter Fitzgerald**, **Darren Williams**, **Craig Salkeld** and **Graham Cleland** each setting out in a single for the full 111kms. The team had already done a sterling effort, though, before even arriving at the start line, raising \$15.5k for the Arrow Bone Marrow Transplant Foundation. This brings their total to a whopping \$197k since 1998.



SHOcKers ready to go at Windsor



Peter completes No. 19

Peter Fitzgerald

BoB ORS1

Classics to date: 19

Time: 9:42:23

“All in all successful if not a night cruise. I accidentally turned into shallow mangroves, hit a small tree in them after midnight but weaved out of them. Got fish slapped by big mullet including one jumping and smacked me in the chest – I apologised to it – 'sorry -that's really gonna hurt in the morning' poor bloody fish!!...Summer of coffee paddles and then Number 20 here we come!!” 2017 GOAL: Race number 20 and \$ 200 k!!

Craig Salked

BoB ORS1

Classics to date: 4

Time: 11:06:03

“After assuring Graham we would paddle with him, we all took off and left him approx 2 min after the start (as he assured us we would) – great buddies. Didn't get the message on being too close to the bank after smacking into a boat buoy, and then played George of the Jungle. Watch out for that tree didn't work ...swim...and an unnamed V10 paddler running over me whilst in the water. Stars came out somewhere around 1am like previous years but this year phosphorescence also lighting up the boats, giving another 'spiritual' experience on the way to Bar Point. An exhausting but rewarding experience again – congrats to all.”



Craig at the start line



Graham ready to prove the power of training – the European holiday version!

Graham Cleland

BoB ORS1

Classics to date: 4

Time: 11:36:24

“With a month touring Europe grazing on pasta, pizza and prosecco in the lead up to the Hawkesbury, I was thinking an easy 65km paddle to Wisemans would be enough this year. But with Fitz, Darren and Craig in my ear before the start – well let’s see how I would feel along the way!!!

The pace was on from the very start – Fitz, Craig and Darren went out hard and quickly disappeared into the sunset so I decided to sit with the pack early. With a thick cloud cover and no moon it was dark and eerie on the river. The green glow of the passing craft would disappear into the darkness and then it was difficult to even detect which side of the river they were on – probably my aging eyesight. One girl took me on the inside and shortly after I heard a loud thud and scream in the distance as she hit one of the concrete piers jutting out from the edge – she was ok and kept going!

Was feeling pretty dusty at different times but that long stretch into Wisemans with the lights in the distance spurs you on knowing that the support of landcrew is not far away. I was also thinking of what Darren said to me before the start 'it's only 3.5 hours to the finish from Wisemans'. With the encouragement of Ann, Reece and Sal I set off again into the darkness. At Spencer I followed group of paddlers to the left – wrong call as we found ourselves heading into Spencer paddling around in circles getting mixed messages from people on the shore. That added a few extra unwanted kilometres to trip. What a sight to see the lights of Brooklyn Bridge after a smooth crossing at Bar Point – wow! A special thanks to our support crews of Ann, Reece and Sal – that top up of water and food and your encouragement provides the motivation to keep going. Too sore still so don't mention 2017 – yet!"

Darren Williams

BoB ORS1

Classics to date: 10

Time: 11:06:03

“Tough night, unfortunately the early pace saw euro Graham drop off and go in search of some tapas somewhere in mid field. Craig and I, with the blow-ins Richard and Hugh (paddling my brother in-law's 22S), held good speed, rotating the lead that eventually burnt out an under trained Richard. Hugh disappeared to find the LCRK crew at Sackville while Craig and I used the Annie/Reece pit lane for a fast get away. Some reasonable training and a fast red nose V10 rental had me feeling good and producing good boat speed only to be beset by weird dizzy spells that progressively got worse as the night went on. In true SHOcKer tradition of leaving no man behind (post Wisemans) Craig stuck with me, rafting up whenever a spell hit me sacrificing a sure low-10hr time to limit my swims to one. Well done to Fitz for another blistering time, Graham for showing true grit and Craig for being a true mate when one was needed. Until next year.”



Darren gearing up for the race