



The Cardinal Club



NEWSLETTER



*Ken Richards &
Anna Campbell-Findlay*

Welcome to the first newsletter for the 2025/26 season.

What a start it's been!

Firstly, we thank Rob Bruce and the retiring members of the Committee — **Tony Symons, Mel O'Halloran, Owen Cavanagh, Andrew Speed** and **Tim O'Connor** — for their invaluable service and contributions to the Club.

The Cardinal Club held its AGM on 16 September, and we express our sincere appreciation to **Phil Wright ('69)** for his tireless commitment, particularly for preparing the financial statements and guiding the Club over many years. We would also like to congratulate Phil on being inducted as an Honorary Life Member of OSCA, recognising his many years of dedicated service to Scotch College and OSCA. Only 55 Old Boys have received this honour in 120+ years!

The AGM also marked a “changing of the guard”, with several long-serving committee members stepping down and a number of new members stepping forward — all passionate about continuing the evolution of our Club. Their shared aim is to support the Scotch College Boat Club and reinvigorate rowing opportunities for Old Boys and the wider Scotch rowing community. To this end, new committee member **Will Cowan ('23)** will focus on initiatives that strengthen engagement among Old Boys. We have already seen some Young Old Boys (YOBs) out training, and racing at the recent Melbourne Head, where one of the Cardinal crews won the Alumni Eight!



Phil Wright

In addition to Will, we warmly welcome our new and continuing committee members: **Bridget Speed (Secretary), Simon Sharrock (Vice President), George Fortey ('93), Lauren Downs, Megan Peat, Beck Odgers, Michael Haintz, Greg Browell, Catherine Temple and Nicolas Merigoux.**

The school rowing program is now well underway for the season, with an impressive **246 boys** enrolled under the guidance of Director of Rowing, **Mr Tom Woodruff** and his team of assistant coaches led by **Charlie Dixon ('12 and Stroke of the Crew)** who returns to Scotch after four years at St Kevin's. Charlie is Teacher in Charge of Rowing and Year 9As coach. In addition to his rowing responsibilities, Charlie is a form teacher and teaching History and PE in the Middle School.

The Cardinal Club held two BBQs at the Boatshed in October to welcome parents to the new season. The club has also arranged for all parents to receive a copy of the SCBC Rowing Handbook, with support from Tom Woodruff and the Scotch College Boat Club.

We would also like to congratulate Old Boys **Marcus Emmett ('19)** and **Fraser Miscamble ('19)**, who proudly represented Australia at the World Rowing Championships in Shanghai in September. Their achievements continue the strong Scotch rowing legacy. We wish Marcus every success in his new professional career, and Fraser continued success as he pursues his rowing ambitions at the AIS.



Marcus Emmett



Fraser Miscamble

The Scotch College Boat Club got the season off to a strong start at the **Melbourne Head** on 15 November, with wins to the First Eight and a number of senior crews. There were strong results for the current Year Nine boys in their first race in an eight, as well as current Year Eight boys competing in quads for the first time.



First Eight: Z.Roufail, T.Speed, W.Richards, C.McLaughlin, T.Simpson, J.Temple, C.Jelbart, L.Lamont, Cox: S.Pagnin



9A crew: S.Price, A.Kenwright, H.Fortey, A.Yu, M.Phillpot, A.Martin, C.Sharroock, M.Peat, Cox: A Taylor

The Melbourne Head was followed by the 2025 Schoolgirls & Schoolboys Regatta at Nagambie on Saturday 22 November, with all current Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 rowers competing. The senior crews won all divisions, and there were strong performances from the Year 9 boys in their first 2000-metre race in eights, and the Year 8 boys in the quads on their first visit to Nagambie.

With a strong start to the 2026 season, it promises to be a big year as the School celebrates its 175th Anniversary.

A number of events are planned to celebrate this milestone, including the **Don Macmillan Cocktail Party on Wednesday 11 March 2026** – which also celebrates the anniversary crews (2016, 2006, 1996, 1986, etc.).

Finally, the Cardinal Club has recently registered www.cardinalclub.org.au and will be launching a new website, which will provide regular updates in conjunction with the information available via OSCA: www.oscanet.com.au/club/cardinal-club/. The Cardinal Club will also use this platform to establish an electronic archive for Club records and memorabilia. If you have any documents, photos or items of interest, please email them to membership@cardinalclub.org.au or send them to the Secretary via OSCA.

Ken Richards & Anna Campbell-Findlay
Cardinal Club Co-Presidents



Boat Club Report

As Term Four began, the 2025-2026 rowing season commenced with large numbers of students arriving at the Boat Sheds. A big cohort of Year 7 students have begun their rowing experience, learning the fundamentals under the watchful eye of **Mr O'Connor** and coaches. The Year 8 rowers are also well underway, rowing in 13 quad sculls. They have been joined by coxswains from Year 6 who are keen to begin their involvement in the sport. **Mr Dixon**, Teacher in Charge of Rowing, has coordinated this level while coaching the 9A crew, alongside his work throughout the Boat Club. Rowers in Year 9 (the Year 10 Eights for 2026) have formed five Eights, and have been working hard alongside the five Senior Eights made up of Year 10 and 11 students. Staff member **Katie Isles** has continued to oversee these rowers.

The Melbourne Head Regatta marked the first race of the season for boys in Year 11, 10, 9, and also for four Year 8 crews. This regatta is a 'head race' where crews are timed from Herring Island to MUBC in the city. The day proved to be an exciting opening to the season as Scotch crews raced alongside 800 crews and 2740 rowers of all ages and boat classes. The First Eight won the Schoolboy Division 1 from Xavier and Melbourne Grammar, with Brighton Grammar, Geelong College, St Kevin's, Carey and Geelong Grammar not far behind. The Second Eight placed fourth in the Schoolboy Division 2, with Brighton Grammar, Xavier, and Melbourne Grammar ahead. The Third Eight won the Schoolboy Eight Division 3, ahead of Wesley, Xavier, Brighton Grammar. The Scotch College Fourth Eight placed 5th in this same division, ahead of Geelong College, Xavier, St Kevin's, with the Scotch College Fifth Eight then in 9th place ahead of the Xavier 5th and 6th Eights and the Geelong Grammar 4th and 5th Eights.

In the Year 9 Eight Division, the Year 10 Eights for 2026 raced each other, with the Scotch College 10A crew placing first ahead of Melbourne Grammar, Sydney Grammar, Xavier and Wesley. Following in sixth place was the Scotch 10B crew, in 16th place the Scotch 10C Crew, in 22nd place the Scotch 10D crew, and in 24th place the 10E Eight. Later in the day four Year 8 quad sculls had their first experience of racing at a regatta, with the 9A and B Quads achieving placings of 6th and 3rd respectively in the Year 8 Division 1 Quad Scull. The 9D crew achieved a memorable victory in the Division 2 race, ahead of the 9C crew in 4th place.

Following the Melbourne Head Regatta the Boat Club welcomed **Sandra** and **Sandy Marshall** back to present the T Shirts and medals to the winning Scotch Third Crew. Both Sandy and Sandra are active supporters of the rowing community and sponsored the Third Eight Division in honour and memory of their son **Campbell Marshall ('19)**. Campbell rowed at Scotch and passed away tragically. Both Sandy and Sandra spoke with the Third Eight, congratulating them on their performance, and talked about Campbell's life and rowing experience, before making the presentation of medals and T Shirts.



Sandy and Sandra Marshall with the winning Third Eight having presented the crew with their medals and T Shirts in honour and memory of their son Campbell Marshall.

The following week all rowers in Year 8-11 raced at a Schools Regatta at Nagambie. The First, Second, Third and Fourth Senior crews all managed to record first place in their respective divisions. The Fifth Eight were able to finish ahead of the Xavier Fifth crew while racing in the Fourth Division. The Year 9 Eights (our 2026 Year 10 crews) raced strongly, the 10A crew placing 5th, the 10B crew finishing in 1st place, the 10C crew third and the 10D crew 2nd in their divisions. Absences and illness meant the 10E crew raced in a four, placing 6th in their race. The Year 8 Quad Sculls also raced, the 1st quad placed 4th, and the 3rd quad 2nd, with the 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th crews winning their divisions. The 10th crew won Division 9 with the 9th crew close behind, and the 13th crew won the Division 10 with the 11th and 12th crews in 2nd and 3rd place. Throughout the day the Cardinal Club were on site and provided a focal point for parents and supporters, while also providing food for rowers. It was an exciting day of racing for all rowers and coxswains.

Mr Woodruff **Director of Rowing**



Family Day



A huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped with our Cardinal Club Family Day Ergo challenge. It was a great day which spurred lots of interest across the Scotch Community.

Congratulations to the winners of the 1 min Ergo:

Primary Boys: Robbie Bobeff

Primary Girls: Madelyn Milton

Year 7: Evan Wang

Year 8: Jono Bobeff

Year 9 - Max Phillpot

Year 10 - James Temple

Year 11 - Zeke Roufail

Mums - Bec Buscombe

Dads - Senad

Scullers' Head of the Yarra 2025

On Saturday 16 August eighteen senior Scotch rowers competed in the Scullers' Head of the Yarra over 8.2kms from Hawthorn to the City. In a field of 120, choosing the correct arches in various bridges, the boys enjoyed this different type of challenge.

At the end of the race the Cardinal Club provided bags of food which were thrown across to the boys and which fortunately the boys caught. This sustained them for the row back to school.

Congratulations to **Clancy Jelbart** who was first across the line for Scotch, followed by **Max McCool** and **Will Richards**.



Old Scotch Heritage Club and the Cardinal Club – visit to the boatsheds and Boykett Room

On Wednesday 1 October, the Old Scotch Heritage Club (OSHC) and the Cardinal Club hosted approximately 40 members of the Scotch Family for a visit to the boatsheds and Cardinal Pavilion (Boykett Room and Ginn Indoor Rowing Centre).

The tour was arranged following a similar tour of the Memorial Hall hosted by OSHC and it was felt that as the boatshed area was generally unfamiliar to many in the Scotch Family, it provided another opportunity for Scotch Family members to view the school property. Guests included Old Boys from across the decades and parents of more recent rowers.

Guests were welcomed by **Neil Lucas**, President of OSHC and **Phil Wright**, Cardinal Club Treasurer and Club Captain and long-standing SCBC coach. Phil introduced **Lachie Phillips** current coach / boatman and cox of the 2021 1st VIII who took guests in to the sheds and boatmen's workshop to explain a few things about our current fleet.

Whilst in the eights shed, Phil asked **Greg Baker**, former 'Chairman of Rowing' and former teacher, to explain to guests how the Cardinal Pavilion came to be built. Greg highlighted the changes to the design of the building, the co-operation of the School Council in approving the building and the enormous fund-raising effort undertaken by the Cardinal Club necessary to see the project through.

Following a visit to the Boykett Room all guests were entertained by **Paul Mishura**, Scotch College Archivist, who delivered a short slideshow presentation on '*The History of Rowing at Scotch College*'. Paul did a wonderful job and guests were left in no doubt as to the importance of rowing to Scotch.

The event concluded with morning tea in the staff common room. Our thanks to OSHC, Tom Woodruff, Lachie Phillips and Paul Mishura for their input in to the event.

Phil Wright



Breakfast with a Yr 7 Rower

Max, how many weeks have you been rowing?

I think 8 weeks now. I really like it.

Do you prefer on land or on water training?

On water. I've been in single sculls and quads. I like the quads more because I'm with my friends but we have to learn to all row at the same time.

Tell me about washing the boats with the sponge. It's good to have a job like that to do.

It's good but I already have a job. I have to unpack the dishwasher at home.

What do you think of the breakfasts?

Really good. I've got my fruit salad here, and my toastie.

Are you a cheese toastie man or a cheese and bean man?

Definitely a cheese and bean man.

Thanks very much Max.



Max Davies



Thursday Breakfast Team

The tradition of preparing breakfast for the rowers after their morning training continues. Thanks to all our parents who turn up at 7am with a smile to make the toasties, cut the fruit, put out the cereals and juice and clean up at the end. Many friendships are formed across year levels and the boys and coaches appreciate sharing this meal together.

Breakfast Team leaders:

Monday: Laura Talmor

Tuesday: Bridget Speed

Wednesday: Anna Campbell-Findlay

Thursday: Catherine Temple

Friday: Megan Peat

Season Opener Cocktail Party

On Saturday 21 November rowing parents from all year groups attended the Parents' Season Opener Cocktail Party at the home of **Lauren** and **Stewart Downs**. Bagpiper **Thomas Findlay** entertained attendees (and several neighbours) as they arrived through the arch of oars which gave the evening a wonderful sense of occasion. Some of our senior rowers became waiters for the night wearing "We're Oarsome" aprons. The vintage **David Boykett** double scull was used to keep the drinks cold and ensured that one of Scotch's favourite rowing sons was the centre of attention.

The Cardinal Club was fortunate to secure the three Marro brothers as guest speakers, with all three having rowed together earlier in the day in one of Cardinal eights at the Melbourne Head. **Max ('21), Alex ('23) and Adrian Marro ('25)** shared enlightening tales of the highs and lows of Scotch Rowing, from tough training sessions on the Maribyrnong and Tambo to practical jokes, which parents found insightful and entertaining.



Cardinal Rowers



Top L to R: L. Phillips, H. Pernell, E. Findlay, M. Marro, J. Mitchell
Bottom L to R: A. Marro, A. Marro, J. Simpson, M. Findlay



The Cardinal Rowers delivered an outstanding performance at the recent Melbourne Head Regatta on Saturday 13th November. The 1st boat secured a well-deserved victory, showcasing “Scotch” power, and composure throughout the race. The 2nd boat also had an amazing day on the water, their remarkable defensive efforts, led by **Alex Rademaker**, played a crucial role in supporting the success of the 1st crew.

We extend our sincere thanks to **Lachie Phillips**, whose dedication as coxswain ensured both boats were not only expertly guided but also maintained in excellent racing condition. Lachie’s preparation was invaluable to the squad.

Special appreciation is also due to **Phil Wright**, whose behind-the-scenes work made race entries possible and helped ensure the smooth running of the day.

Overall, it was a fantastic result for the Cardinals, reflecting their previous Scotch Rowing strength and commitment, congratulations to all boys involved.

Supporter Merchandise

Show your support for our rowers by wearing a Cardinal Club hat or apron.
Choose from the styles below and we'll see you on the riverbank!



Apron: \$65



Visor: \$30



Bucket Hat: \$35



Panama Hat: \$60

Purchase via <https://www.trybooking.com/DHNXR>
Enquiries to Megan Peat: 0456 780 637



"Rowing's advantage is history and legacy and a sport that's damn hard."

Drew Ginn ('92), triple Olympic gold medallist

The Real Science of Sport Podcast

**Inside the Astonishing World of Elite Rowing
9 Sept 2025**

In this interview with Ross Tucker and Mike Finch, Ginn describes how his formative years led to his success. Essential listening for Scotch rowers.

2026 Dates for the diary

- Don Macmillan Cocktail Party – 11th March
- Scotch Mercantile Regatta – 14th March
- APS Heads of the River – 21st March