



# UNION'S 150th



CELEBRATING A CENTURY AND A HALF OF ROWING  
 UNION ROWING CLUB 150TH JUBILEE 12 – 14 SEPTEMBER 2014

NEWSLETTER 3

MAY 2014

## Welcome to our 150<sup>th</sup> jubilee newsletter for May!

In our third newsletter, we profile our NZ representative Nathan Flannery as well as Union's good guys, Jürgen Thiele and Kim Harris. Jürgen and Kim have made a huge contribution to the shed fit out and trailer renovations – we must now have the most immaculate trailer on the Reach!

Rowing news: we have 20 masters rowers attending the South Island Champs in Central Otago at Queen's Birthday Weekend. Three of our adaptive rowers are also competing in an annual South Island indoor rowing competition. If you would like to come and support Graham, Matthew and Brian, then you are most welcome to join us at the High Performance Centre behind Jellie Park on Sun 25th May from 10am.

All our newsletters to date are available online at [www.unionrowing.co.nz](http://www.unionrowing.co.nz), as is the registration form for our jubilee weekend. The form and programme are also on the last page of this newsletter. Looking forward to seeing you at our 150<sup>th</sup> – and just a reminder that early bird registrations close on 8 August. We already have nearly 50 registrations with four months to go which is great news! Please register early for the dinner, as numbers for this event are limited to 150 due to the venue.

Brendan O'Dea, URC President



## Kaiapo long distance event – May 4

*It must be nice as a handicapper to see that you've got it exactly right. After upwards of 30 minutes rowing over seven or so kilometres, two Union masters eights and one Cure men's crew raced side by side up the last stretch in the annual Kaiapo distance event. The Union women were second across the line very closely followed by the men. The men were the third fastest time and the women fifth in a sixteen boat field. It was a great row by Union's strong novice rower contingent too in challenging conditions. It was a race of two halves – calm on the Kaiapo River for the home run but a choppy swell on the Waimak up to the marker boat: ideal for catching crabs.*





## URC profile: Nathan Flannery

**New Zealand and Union rower Nathan Flannery has a simple approach: take every year as it comes.** It clearly works. Nathan has been named for the second year running in the elite men's quad to compete at the 2014 Amsterdam World Champs.

Quads have been a major part of Nathan's rowing career from novice to New Zealand level. Nathan's first novice outing in 2006 was in a quad. Rowing for both St Thomas's and Union through his school years, Nathan gained silver in the U17 quad at the Maadi Cup followed in 2010 by gold in the U18 quad. The same year, this crew of eighteen year olds won the premier quad event at the South Island Club Champs. Nathan's favourite memory is not of Maadi or South Islands success, but a Pennant Regatta win in a Union quad in a premier event where they beat both Southern and Central RPC crews.

Nathan's career in NZ crews began in his last year at school when he was selected for the junior men's quad that came third in the Junior World Champs. He made the U23 quad in 2011. In 2012 Nathan teamed up with Hayden Cohen in the double to win the U21 title at club nationals, then the same crew went on to represent New Zealand to win gold in the U23 World Champs in Lithuania. After training in the national summer squad, Nathan won gold at the 2013 nationals rowing for Southern RPC in both the premier quad and eight as well as silver in the double. In 2013 he won a seat in the elite quad which rowed second in the World Cup regatta in Sydney.

In the national squad, Nathan's life revolves around rowing. Based at Karapiro, training is six days a week with two to three sessions a day, a mixture of rowing, erg and weights sessions. As well as his demanding rowing schedule, Nathan is studying online at Massey towards his Bachelor in Business majoring on marketing.

Nathan still values his ongoing links with Union when competing for Southern RPC at nationals and other regattas. The Union crest on the sleeve of the RPC racing vest is meaningful for him, as is the reading of the club name when RPC crews are honoured at medals presentations at nationals. Nathan still races in a Union cap. He appreciates the interest that the club still takes in him, like the congratulatory emails from President Brendan O'Dea. "The small things touch home," says Nathan.



*Nathan Flannery;  
New Zealand and Union rower*



*On the podium after winning gold in ten double  
at the Under 23 World Champs, 2012  
[Nathan: fourth from left]*



*The men's elite quad at the 2013 World  
Champs [Nathan in three seat]*





## Jürgen and Kim: the good guys



*The good guys*



*Jürgen Thiele*



*Kim Harris*

**It is not easy being the non-rowing husband of a rowing wife.** In the first instance, it must be quite difficult to appreciate why anyone would enjoy the sport so much. From a distance, it looks like a lot of hard work, and the conditions for training or racing are not always ideal. And then there are the meetings (if the wife does committee work, for example), and the many hours spent organising the training or the regattas. Quite often the non-rowing husband ends up minding the kids and doing more than his fair share of the chores while the wife is away mucking around in boats. Sure, it is nice when she comes back, dead-tired but beaming, because she is bringing home yet more bling. But where are the medals for the good men who stay home and keep the home fires burning? Well, this little notice has been written to make up in a very small way for those missing medals.

The husbands in question are Kim Harris (who has been cheering Astrid on for many years now) and Jürgen Thiele (the decidedly better half of Dorle Pauli). Not only have they been doing all of the above, they have also been roped in on more than one occasion to do some very serious heavy lifting around the club. They volunteered their utes and superior driving skills numerous times to take the boats to wherever they were needed, but recently they also undertook the complete restoration of the trailer. It doesn't help them of course that they are a qualified mechanic (Kim) and a cabinet maker (Jürgen), which means that they really know their way around a whole range of tools. Not surprisingly, they were our go-to people when we put up the new boat racks and when we needed to build and install new oar racks. Jürgen's expertise and attention to detail also came in handy when Jim got it into his head to mount a flagpole on the new shed and when the wife wanted to refit the foot-stretchers of the two Elder eights with shoes. The list goes on, and, guys, all we can say is that URC is very lucky indeed to have your support. Perhaps one of these days the wives will cook you a really nice thank-you dinner, provided they are not too tired from training.

PS: It appears that Jürgen is about to cross over to the dark side. He has been receiving some coaching in a double, and even Kim has had a go at sculling once. Perhaps they will become rowing husbands after all.

**Dorle Pauli**



# REGISTRATION – URC 150<sup>th</sup> Jubilee

Programme: 12 – 14 September 2014

Friday 12 September 6pm: Meet and Greet, Winnie Bagoes [city], cnr Madras & Allen Sts

Saturday 13 September 10am–2pm: Jubilee Regatta, drinks, barbeque and photos, Kerrs Reach

6.30pm [for drinks]: Jubilee Dinner and Dance, Elms ,456 Papanui Rd

Please register early for the dinner as numbers for this event are capped at 150

Sunday 14 September 10.00am: Eleveses at the club, Kerrs Reach

Further details will be confirmed closer to the Jubilee.

## Register now:

**Name:**

**Partner's name:**

**Email address:**

**Postal address:**

**Preferred phone contact number:**

**Brief details on your association with URC** [details will go on your name tag]:

Eg: *Club member 1980 – 85*

### 1 Registration fee:

[Tick]		Number registering
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Registration before 8 August: \$45.00</b> – Registration includes finger food for Friday night [NB: drinks are at own cost on Friday night], commemorative cap, Saturday lunch barbeque and drinks. Partners do not need to pay a registration fee.</li> <li><b>Registration after 8 August: \$65.00</b></li> </ul>	

### 2 I wish to attend [NB: costs for two events are covered by registration]:

[Tick]	Event	Cost per person	Number attending
	<b>Meet and Greet Friday</b>	Covered by registration [No cost for partners wishing to attend meet and greet]	
	<b>Jubilee Regatta Saturday</b>	Covered by registration [No cost for partners wishing to attend regatta]	
	<b>Jubilee Dinner Saturday</b>	\$85.00 per person [covers dinner and wine with dinner] [NB: The Elms Hotel, the venue for the dinner, is also offering a 10% reduction to \$157.50 (Inc.) per room per night. When booking at the Elms, please inform reservations that you are attending our event.]	
	<b>Eleveses at the club Sunday</b>	Nil	

### 3 I wish to purchase:

[Tick]	Item	Size required / cost per item	Number required
	<b>150<sup>th</sup> polo shirt</b>	XS/S/M/L/XL/8/10/12/14 \$35.00	
	<b>150<sup>th</sup> T shirt</b>	XS/S/M/L/XL/8/10/12/14 \$30.00	
	<b>Extra caps</b> [one free with registration]	One size \$20.00	

### 4 Payment / sending your registration form: PLEASE PAY WHEN REGISTERING

[Tick payment method]	Online bank payment [preferred method]. Cheque	Union Rowing Club / Account 030802 0096251 00. <b>You must include your name in the reference field.</b> Post cheques [and registration forms if sending by post] to Union Rowing Club <b>PO Box 1839</b> Christchurch.	Total amount paid [from 1, 2, 3 above]