

# THE LIQUID QUARTER



**SEPTEMBER  
2005**



**VICTORIAN  
DRAG BOAT CLUB INC.**

# The Holding Rope

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## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE NEWSLETTER.

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As the club moves forward to the future, it is now time for the newsletter to also move forward. With the ever increasing rise in printing costs, envelopes, labels, postage, time, manhandling and other costs involved in producing the newsletter, it has been decided that this issue will be last issue as a printed copy. From next month, the newsletter will be placed onto the club website for all members to access. Over the coming weeks, all current members will receive a 'members user name and password' that will allow access to the newsletter and other members only information. This will have huge benefits to the club, not only in a cost saving way, but other benefits as a bonus for members. You will find the newsletter under the 'information' menu on the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. All the regular favourites will be there, 'Prez Sez', 'The Holding Rope', 'Event Reports', 'Bits from the Pits', 'Web Site of the Month' and some new added features, where you can see pictures you can download to keep. Video Clips, driver interviews are just some of the new menus coming to the 'Members Section'.

With a 'Members Only' section, it will create more interest to the site from first time and previous visitors to the site. Visitors to the site may join the club just to see what's inside and be a part of. International visitors, interstate and more local visitors could have access upon membership. All previous newsletters will be archived by month and years for all to revisit at any time. More hits equals increased sponsor opportunities so this is the way of the future and we must embrace it. Your personal 'user name and password' will be issued to you before the end of September, ready for the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, our launch date. All 'For Sale' items have been sent to the web master for uploading onto the 'For Sale' section. As with any great web site, all search engines look for key words and phrases to locate a site, so with the new 'Members Section' added, even though the visitors can't access the information, the search engine can, and help to bring more visitors to the site, which is another bonus. This is an exciting time for the club as we move forward to new technology for our newsletter format. We hope you enjoy it!

## UPDATED NEW CALENDER INCLUDED THIS MONTH!

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Included this month is an updated calendar. Would you all please destroy the calendar that was issued last month, as there was some hiccups with the document. Please accept our apologies if it has caused any problems. What we have done by re-arranging the dates is now have a General Meeting the week leading up to a race day. General meetings are still on a Wednesday night and the Committee meetings are still on Tuesday nights. Please make sure you place our new calendar up on your wall or fridge, for all to see, with all the Committee, General Meetings, Race days and other important club events listed. Your attendance at our General Meetings is vital to enable our club to continue to communicate information to both drivers and members on all the goings on in and around the club.

## VDBC WEB SITE.

Keep your eye on the club website, as this is ~~where we will~~ post any urgent or important information between newsletters. Don't forget to use the classified section of the web site, its free to club members and for non members, \$25.00 for the month to advertise. As also mentioned last month, Gary James has been given the task of uploading new information and other items for the site so if you have anything constructive to add, give Gary a call, on 0409 550 823. So if you still haven't checked out our new web site, get on NOW and check it out, [www.vdbc.com](http://www.vdbc.com).

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## SPONSORSHIP.

Now is the time to get cracking and start to lock away sponsorship for the club for next season. Included with this month's 'Liquid Quarter' is another sponsorship form, please photocopy it and start talking to and signing up sponsors. If you have any contacts you wish the club to pursue, please call either Alan Joy, Dale Bramhall or Wendy Howie and they will follow up it up for you. Remember, no sponsorship, no money, no club, no racing!

## NEW AUSTRALIAN NATIONALS & VIC. TITLES DVD AVAILABLE SOON!

As you would have guessed by now The Australian Nationals/ Victorian State Titles DVD, is running well behind schedule. We were hoping that the DVD would be available for the Presentation Night, but unfortunately Producer Michael Catley has been under the pump with other issues. The DVD will include racing from the Australian National Drag Boat Championships, and the Victorian State Titles, as well. And, as a bonus, there will also be extra footage, and interviews from the Friday night TFH launch held at the NWSC. The cost will be \$50.00 per DVD, and this is below cost, due to the low numbers produced. Please support the DVD when its available and purchase yours, it will be a great memento to keep, especially with the new Top Fuel Hydro as a major feature.

## GET WELL

To Martha Clarke who is in the Alfred Hospital currently with some rather nasty burns. Martha is on the improve and we hope to see her around the club real soon. From everyone at the club Martha, get well soon and we hope the recovery is quick.

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## 2005-2006 RACE DATES (NOW CONFIRMED)

October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2005 – Spring Drag Boat Nationals, National Water Sports Centre (NWSC)  
November 27<sup>th</sup> 2005 – Club Day/Christmas Race Day, NWSC  
January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2006 – Summer Nationals, Bill Davis Memorial, NWSC  
February 26<sup>th</sup> 2006 – Club Day, NWSC  
March 26<sup>th</sup> 2006 – Australian National Drag Boat Championships NWSC  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2006 – Victorian State Drag Boat Titles, NWSC  
May 21<sup>st</sup> 2006 – Club Day NWSC

Race dates and venues are confirmed and the Victorian Drag Boat Club Inc reserves the right to alter, change, modify or cancel any date for any reason. Confirmation of all dates will be posted as soon as possible.

Sponsorship / Naming rights for classes and other opportunities now exist at any event listed. Please call Alan Joy to discuss a package that suits your requirements on 0418 388 898.

## CAR RALLY NOT FAR AWAY

As mentioned in last months 'Liquid Quarter', Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup> has been marked down for this year Annual Car Rally, so please pencil this date on your calendars now!!! It is a great way to kick start the season and is fun for all involved. Dale & Allison Bramhall have put their hands up this year to give Alan a break and map out the course so expect anything and be prepared for a fun day out!

## RACE SEASON NOT TOO FAR AWAY!

C'mon you boat owners, drivers and crews, get your fingers out of your backsides and get ready to start your engines! The new race season is only 7 weeks away now, not months like we think we all have. We know of some teams who are well into rebuilds or fitouts, and some teams that are still yet to undo a bolt! Get on with it NOW!!!



Mane Spurl Russi and proud dad Phil, with the BAD High Points Champion Trophy at the recent VDBC Awards Night.