



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Monday 31 August 2020**

**NOMINATED CANDIDATE PROFILES FOR 2020-22 ELECTED DIRECTOR VACANCY ON THE BOARD OF ROWING SA**

**GREG MELBOURNE**

Greg has been involved in rowing for over 40 years, starting as a coxswain back in 1974 and progressing to being a reserve for a SA Kings Cup Crew. Over the years, Greg has actively been involved with the Riverside Rowing Club, at times being their Association delegate, Club Captain, President and is now a Life Member.

For the past 25 years Greg has been a State umpire, including 21 years as an Australian umpire at national regattas, and a FISA umpire for over 14 years at international regattas. Greg's dedication to the rowing community includes assisting SASI with transporting their athletes to training camps and National regattas interstate.

Outside of rowing, Greg is self-employed and has previously worked in various legal firms in Adelaide for 14 years, and in the cleaning industry for over 14 years.

Greg brings to the Board a vast knowledge of rowing, as well as an unbiased and fair approach to all athletes and all members of the rowing community. Greg is the current chair of the Umpire and Volunteer Subcommittee and Masters Committee.

### **CHRISTINA FIRTH**

I began my involvement in rowing at Scotch College in 1978 where I was part of the winning Head of the River crew in the inaugural year of Girl's Events. I followed up with another win in 1979.

I rediscovered the sport again when my daughter began rowing in 2009 and am currently an active masters rower with Phoenix Rowing Club, having represented South Australia in the Women's State Team in 2014, 2015, 2019 and 2020.

I worked for Rowing SA for over 3 years from 2009 to 2012 as Regatta Operations / Finance Manager during which time I helped run the Award winning Australian Rowing Championships in 2011.

I have had over 30 years' experience in Office, Business & Financial Management including Bookkeeping, working in various industries. I have also had experience being on numerous committees past and present which include Secretary - Adelaide Hills Dressage Club, Secretary - Dressage Club of SA, Vice President - Equestrian SA Dressage Council and currently Secretary/Treasurer of Phoenix Rowing Club.

My business and committee experience has resulted in an ability to find practical solutions to complex problems and to steer a middle course between differing and competing opinions and objectives. The key qualities I would bring to the Rowing SA board include a close knowledge of the Rowing SA business as well as the relationship with Rowing Australia.

## **DR GREG KEENE**

### Personal Rowing history

- Pulteney Grammar School oarsman 2<sup>nd</sup> 8 (won HofR) and 1st 8 two years (2<sup>nd</sup> in HofR both times)
- Rowed St Marks College 8 three years (stroked winning 8 one of those years) Intercollege rowing.

### Rowing Coaching history

- Coached PGS junior crews three years (won HofR 2 times)
- Coached PGS Open Light Weight 4 two years (won HofR 1 time)
- Coached PGS 1<sup>st</sup> 8 one year (won the first HofR race at new West Lakes 1977- undefeated season)

### Business history

- Founder of Sportsmed and Sportsmed Hospital: now largest sports medicine/specialist/hospital complex in Australia. Extensive commercial experience in developing and setting up the unique and complex business systems successfully underpinning that organization and other family businesses.
- Currently practicing as a specialist knee surgeon at sportsmed.
- Experience with international teaching young surgeons.
- Significant experience in commercial property development.

### Board and Committee Experience

- Previous Board member of SCIG Hospitals, Sportsmed (Dep Chair), Pulteney Grammar (prev. Chair).
- Multiple previous Professional Organization committee positions covering Finance, Governance, Marketing, Standards and Building Development

### Current Rowing Involvement

- Chair Pulteney Boat Club Rowing Parents Committee
- Teenage daughter Lili rowing for Pulteney
- Wife Amanda rowing Torrens Rowing Club in Masters

### Reason for Applying for Rowing SA Board Position

- Obviously from the above data I have a big love of rowing! I believe it to be the ultimate team sport which helps set young people up in life with great standards and motivation.
- I would like to give something back to the sport that did that for me and I have the time, motivation and board/business experience to help the Rowing SA Board and community achieve their goals of growing this great sport, especially at this difficult time for business and sport.
- Although I am senior in age, I believe I am still 'young in mind' and enjoy new challenges and working in good teams of like-minded people. I hope my age and experience is considered an asset.
- I am a Foundation Life Member of Rowing SA

### **HENRIETTA SHEPHERD**

I wish to nominate for the position of Elected Director to the Board of Rowing SA Inc. My name is Heni (Henrietta) Shepherd. I have been involved in rowing for a long time, first as an international rower in the 80's (rowed for Hungary at multiple World Championships), then an Open and Masters competitor for Commercial Rowing Club in Brisbane, and most recently for Torrens Rowing Club (TRC).

The timeline of my involvement in rowing starting with the latest:

- from 1 July 2020 - Member and Masters competitor of Phoenix Rowing Club
- 2019-2020 - TRC Committee member
- 2004 – current - Member and Masters competitor of Torrens Rowing Club (TRC)
- 1990-2003 - Member and Open & Masters competitor of Commercial Rowing Club in Brisbane
- 1981 – 1987 - National team rower and representative of Hungary (Quad and Coxless Pair)

During the above times I've won multiple national and state championships titles in various boat categories.

On a professional side I am a qualified CPA (Certified Practising Accountant), my current employment is with Beach Energy Limited, an Adelaide-based listed resources company. Previously I worked for the SA and QLD Governments and The University of Adelaide in various finance departments and roles.

Due to the above experience I believe I can contribute greatly to the success of SA Rowing and its future by offering:

- Financial skills (budgeting, financial processes, financial statement preparation, donations, GST-related issues etc).
- Rowing experience at all levels : International, National, State and Club
- Rowing Committee experience
- Extensive connections within the rowing community

## **JOHN BENTLEY**

I have a long association and tangible interest in School, Club and Masters Rowing.

As a teacher (B.Ed. Physical Education & Biological Science) and rowing coach, I have worked at Brighton Grammar School, Pembroke School, St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace and Adelaide High School.

I performed the Rowing Director roles at both Adelaide Schools and coached first VIII crews.

I was the primary rowing instructor at West Lakes Aquatic Centre. I am currently employed as the Pembroke School boatman and relief teacher at Adelaide High School.

I have been a competitive member of Mercantile, University of Queensland, Fremantle and Adelaide University Boat Clubs.

Have been an eight times Kings Cup rower for both South Australia and Queensland, winning the race three times and second twice.

I am a three-time Australian Coxless Pair Champion.

I have been a member of four Senior Australian Rowing Teams including the 84 Olympics.

I am an active Masters Competitor at State, National and International levels.

I am a routine attendant at Australian National Coaching Conferences. Have been the winning coach of three Australian University Mens VIII Championships. Have coached an American Samoan Matasau "Fautasi" boat seating 38 athletes as well as coaching Hong Kong crews preparing for Asian Games.

I have been an active competitor in other sports including SA's Americas Cup campaign and have been a long-term Surf Boat and Outrigger Canoe participant.

I have completed a twenty-five-year career with the Queensland Police as a first response officer. (Queensland Diploma of Public Safety.) I have extensive experience in dispute resolution, criminal investigation, statutory compliance and emergency management. I am a Queensland Justice of the Peace.

I was appointed Queensland Police, Olympic Venue Commander for the British Olympic Rowing team for their pre-Olympic and Olympic year training camps in Queensland.

Have performed multiple committee roles in most clubs and organisations I have been involved with. Current AUBC Vice President.

I believe I have a broad range of experience and insight that will enhance the performance of a Board Member.

Of particular interest to me is,

- (1) Invigorating of the languishing club rowing category in the State,
- (2) Expansion and development of Rowing opportunities and amenities in the State, and
- (3) Codification of lacking Masters category regulations.