

CHANGING LIVES

The Official Newsletter of Making Waves



2023 Started really strong, with 14 groups engaging in Term 1. Most of these came from program regulars such as Kelmscott SHS, Youth Futures CS, Cecil Andrews SHS and Byford SC. We also welcomed a new group from The Girls Brigade WA, who partook in an evening sessions once per week. The Junior Training Squad kicked off with sessions twice a week.

THIS TERM

- *Competition Focus*
- *Minister fo Education*
- *Meet Alec*



Making Waves Rowers Hungry for Competition

Following keen interest exhibited by participants at the School Holiday Camp in late 2022, the after-school Making Waves Junior Training Squad kicked off in Term 1. Of the 14 camp participants, 6 were able to make the training sessions run on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. After-School options had been previously offered to those taking part in the in-school programs to those who were wanting to continue rowing, but this had received little interest due to the lack of buy-in from individuals and their families.

Those that have continued with the Junior Rowing Squad are highly engaged and progressing quickly on and off the water. Not only are results being seen on the water with respect to team work, endurance and determination but teachers have commented on the positive academic impact in the classroom. One teacher contacted a Making Waves parent and said 'whatever you are doing, keep doing it. The change in your daughter has been amazing'.

The Junior Rowing Squad aims to support this group through to competition in the All-Schools regattas later this year, complimented by additional rowing camps in the school holidays.



Changes for Luke

At the end of 2022, we said farewell to Luke Simpkins as the General Manager for Making Waves.

However with Luke's significant knowledge and insights into the development of the program he was invited on to the Making Waves Board, and will continue to work assist with the strategic transition of the program. In the interim Making Waves Managing Director Daniel Tackenberg will be overseeing operations

Meeting with the Minister for Education



In April, several Making Waves Board members and Managing Director Daniel Tackenberg met with Minister for Education Hon. Dr Tony Buti MLA.

Tony is a long-time supporter of the program, as the local member for Armadale and having sat of a number of local school Boards in the area, whom he encouraged to take part in Making Waves.

The meeting, which all included policy advisors and a Department of Education representative, was the first positive discussion with State Government about the broader impact of Making Waves and a partnership with Government. Making Waves representatives outlined a proposal to establish two rowing schools and a rowing schools association that would cater for up to 200 kids per year to benefit from the life-changing program

Coach Profile

Meet Alec!

Alec is a current Level 1 accredited Rowing coach and an enthusiastic racing member of ANA Rowing Club, competing in local and interstate events. Having learnt to row at ANA in 2015, Alec enjoys sharing the feelings of confidence and fulfilment that rowing can bring. Alec is excited by the opportunities that Making Waves offers, both for coaches and students.

Alec has been a major constant of Making Waves through the years, with many kids returning to the program and asking for "the man with the dog". His terrier sidekick, Ink, has also been a regular mascot for the program, and always loves a pat and any crumbs.

Alec has been a major advocate for progressing our participants past the in-school program, and has been supporting the after school Junior Training Squad program as a Lead Coach;



Wesfarmers continue program support



Wesfarmers

In April, Wesfarmers confirmed their extension of the sponsorship agreement with Making Waves. This agreement extension will allow the program more time to negotiate with State Government of a long-term funding program.

The extension, was not for additional funds, but due to some leaner years due to COVID, both strategically and operationally, the extension is a great opportunity for Making waves to secure a partnership with State Government.

Thank you Wesfarmers for your long-term support, both financially and strategically over the past 5 years.

Donors continue to believe in Making Waves

Making Waves has many amazing philanthropic supporters who continue to believe in our vision of changing the lives of young people through rowing. Many of our donors wish to remain anonymous, but through their shared love of rowing and/or the provision of opportunities to disadvantaged youth, you have come together to allow Making waves to be established at Champion Lakes Regatta Centre. For that we thank you very much.

This aspirational program in an area of Perth where many others have tried and commonly failed, has faced many challenges, including COVID, but it continued to grow in numbers, reputation and results.

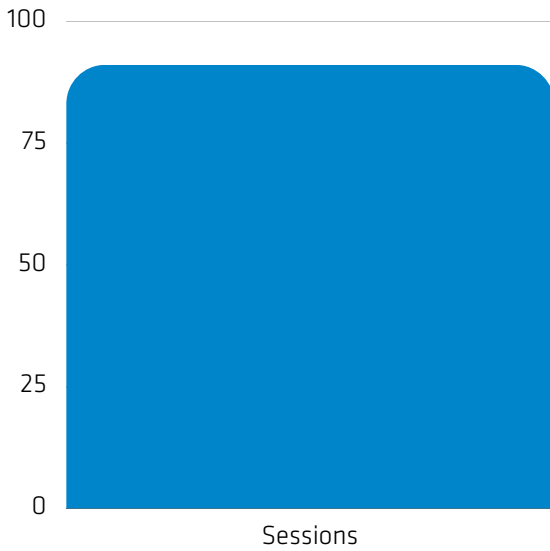
Making Waves has been a shining light for the kids, teachers and schools that have participated, which would not have been possible without your extremely kind and generous support.

The Stats That Matter

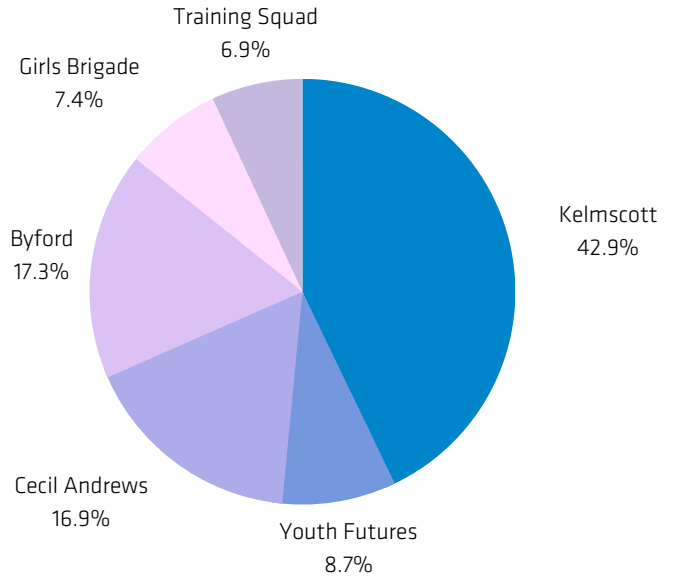
Term 1



In-School Program



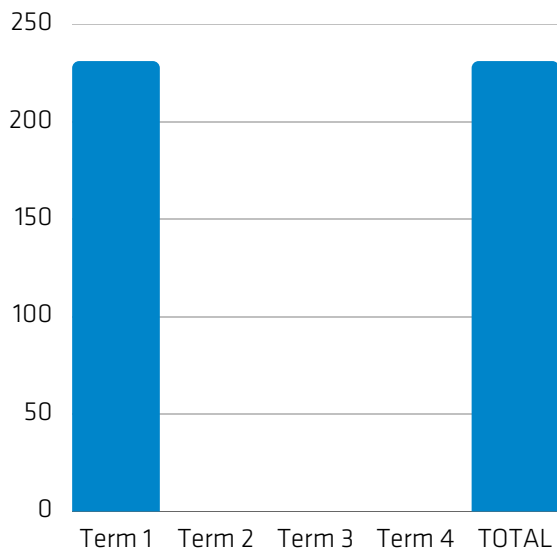
Students Per School



2023



Number of Students





**Changing the lives
of young people
through rowing**