

## **BROULEE" BLUEBOTTLES" OPEN WOMEN Sting to take 2<sup>nd</sup> Overall**

Broulee "Bluebottles" Open Women's team put in an enormous effort in the 190km World's Longest Ocean Oared Race which started on New Year's Eve Batemans Bay.

7 legs over 7 days finished in Eden on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

This is the 42<sup>nd</sup> year of the race started in 1975 and held biannually.

"Bluebottles" had been training since July and certainly showed their class, they were tested by many challenges that the marathon rowers face, hypothermia, sunburn, exhaustion, sharks, bluebottles, surf, sea fog etc. Southerly winds

"Bluebottles" have had a steady build up to the event and have had a solid 8 training since July Crew Members L to R Grace Pollock, Paris Hadley, Taryn Carver, Nikky Kemp, Michelle Cottington[Captain],Danielle Heron, Topaz Eaton, Karen Gleeson. Sweep Rob Pollock, Team Manager Tony Dale, IRB Driver Colo Fifita, IRB Crewman Ryan Pollock, Boat Driver David Price.

Crew members age varies from 19 to 45 the women have a good mix of youth and experience. The crew came in with 5 second places and two thirds.

Broulee "Bluebottles" were a one club team of 8 plus sweep .Winners Nth Cronulla had team members from Bulli, Austinmer and Nth Cronulla whilst Moruya had help 2 rowers from Long Reef. In 5 of the seven legs the Local crew Broulee team lead the race in the first 20 mins and pushed the overall winners on each day. Two girls were U19 crew members from last year and had not had a full year of experience, one girl just one season of previous rowing and 5 other Women could have easily entered the Masters Women event.

Robert Pollock, Tony Dale, Michelle Cottington, Nikky Kemp and Taryn Carver have had plenty of George Bass experience and should be well prepared for the 180kms of rowing.

Some smart tactical racing provided some great results over the 7 legs:

Nth Cronulla / Bulli / Austinmer - 1<sup>st</sup>

Broulee "Bluebottles" - 2<sup>nd</sup>

Moruya / Long Reef - 3<sup>rd</sup>

Broulee / Act - 4<sup>th</sup>

Many thanks to Eurobodalla Toyota, Touchdown Helicopters, Lakesea Caravan Park, Moruya Hi Fi & Electrical.

Broulee will now rest up and get ready to do some sprint races for the remainder of the season