



ANNUAL REPORT

2007 has been a year of continuing expansion for the Association in terms of membership, programmes and staffing. The financial position remains strong ensuring longer term investment in capital projects as well as the ever increasing range of activities. Planning is in place for a major redevelopment of the website which will include RowHow, a new service for members.

Although a tough season in terms of depth of field and quality of racing the results from all the teams has been outstanding with the World and European Team achieving 179 medals in total. In addition the World Senior Team won the FISA Team Trophy which was awarded at the World Championships in Munich, the Women's Quad were named FISA Crew of 2007 and Paul Thompson FISA Coach of the Year. The ARA and BUSA have been working in cooperation to produce a Selection Policy and Strategy for the FISU World University Championships.

Working with a number of different partners there has been a great deal of development across the sport, including the continuing work being carried out in schools, which has been largely made possible by the generous support of the Henley Stewards Charitable Trust. Team Leader, J o Atkinson, travelled to South Africa to assist in the training of sports leaders and teachers in the delivery of an indoor rowing mass participation project. A new water safety guidance document is being produced for 2008 and an updated version of the Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy has been launched. A Level 1 Indoor Rowing submission has been made to supplement the Indoor Rowing Level 2 which is already on the framework. The Competition Committee have charged a sub group to look at competitors classification. As part of the BOA FTSE 100 scheme a marketing initiative is being carried out to ascertain areas that need addressing in making rowing a more attractive sport for potential participants, sponsors and the media.

At the 2007 FISA Congress in Munich the ARA were awarded the 2011 World Junior Championships with Dorney as the venue and the 2009 World Coastal Championships which will be hosted in Plymouth. Richard Dennis and Gary Bain successfully obtained their FISA umpires licence.

The ARA Medal of Honour was awarded to David Sherriff, Noel Casey and Roderick Watson for their outstanding services to the sport. The Association acknowledges the exceptional contribution made this year by the funding bodies and sponsors and the major commitment to the sport by both volunteers and staff.

D.M.Ellis CBE
Chairman