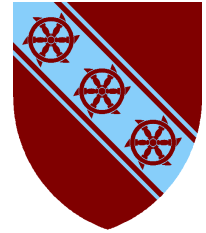




St Catherine's College Rowing Society
St Catherine's College
Oxford OX1 3UJ



17th March, 2012

In this issue ...

Standing, coatless, on the towpath during Torpids it was difficult to believe that the river had been closed due to ice a couple of weeks before. While the unseasonably warm weather brought out the best from our men's lower boats, the other crews didn't enjoy the week quite so much. In this newsletter we have the results, reports and photos. Also news of our University triallists and a couple of alumni who are, no doubt, hoping for similar weather in the near future.

Results

Isis Winter League E, 12th February
102 crews raced

3rd	4:13	Men's A (1st VIII)
81st	5:31	Women's A (2nd VIII)

Rowing On, 17th February

Top 13 crews to qualify

Men's IV*	2:55.5	7th/37	Qualified
Men's III	3:09.0	21st/37	Failed
Women's II	3:38.5	18th/34	Failed

* Redesignated Men's III in Torpids

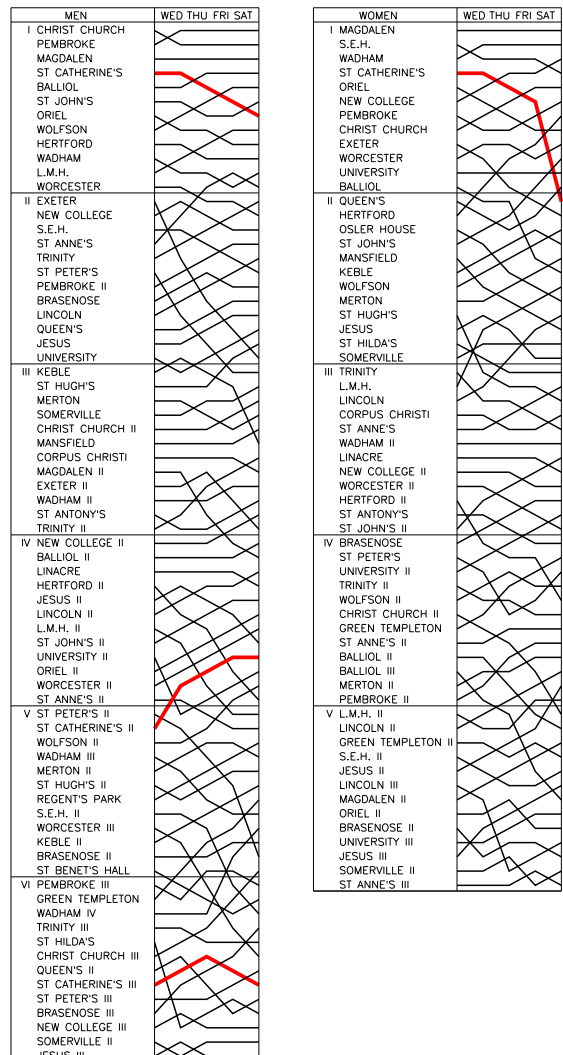


Pieces of Eight? It may not have been a good Torpids for some of our crews, but at least all *our* boats came back in one piece.

Torpids 22nd-25th February

	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Finish
Men's I	=	-1	-1	-1	7th Div I
Women's I	=	-1	-1	-7	1st Div II
Men's II	+3	+1	+1	=	9th Div IV
Men's III	+1	+1	-1	-1	8th Div VI

Torpids 2012 Bumps Charts



President: Bruce Mitchell
 Vice Presidents: Don Barton,
 Richard Peters,
 Sir Matthew Pinsent CBE,
 Ben Sylvester.



The women's 1st Torpid racing on the Thursday.

Women's Boat Club Report

Emily Risness, Women's Captain

We started off the year with 5 girls returning to Oxford a week early for an intensive training camp. Not letting the amber flag get in the way, we made good progress before the start of term. With last term's novices becoming seniors we began Hilary with a good group of rowers, soon settling into two boats following a regular training schedule.

We were delighted to see Inge Hertzog start training with the University team

alongside Charlotte Marshall, both of whom gained seats in Osiris. We wish them the best of luck at Henley. This did mean that we lost one of our 1st VIII, but we were lucky to have Sara who agreed to fill in and quickly made the transition into the boat.

The second boat started their training schedule strongly, in the face of river closures and thick ice. They cemented this with a very good result in IWL E. Despite their strong performance in Rowing On, they narrowly missed out on qualifying for Torpids. I am positive that if they continue rowing as they have done this term, by Summer Eights they will not only be able to qualify but be a highly competitive crew.

The 1st VIII had a positive first day of Torpids, utilising their stamina to keep rowing strong after Oriel's strong start and continue to hold them off. Unfortunately New College and Christ Church got the better of us on days 2 and 3. Nevertheless, Catz rowed well against the strong competition and under significant pressure. The 4th day was the peak of bad luck as Pembroke — not noticing our concession — collided with the boat, resulting in broken steering and causing two very nasty crashes. Thankfully the crew's quick thinking meant that no one was seriously hurt. It is a massive shame that all the hard work put in by the crew could not be reflected in the result; however I am incredibly proud of the crew for supporting each other and keeping their heads held high throughout.

We hope for better luck next term, and look forward to getting back into training and another exciting week of racing. I'd like to thank all of the committee, especially Rory for his constant enthusiasm and Jo Harrall for supporting me through every decision.

2012 St Catherine's Torpids

Men's 1st Torpid

B Martin Ramsdale
2 David Ashmore
3 Robert Hamlet
4 Richard Higgins
5 John Risness
6 Ben Trigg
7 Alex Sanders
S Malcolm Spencer
C Dorothy Hallberg

Women's 1st Torpid

B Rosemary Lang
2 Leah Carden
3 Hege Larsen
4 Emily Risness
5 Isobel Renton
6 Katherine Pears
7 Sara Lukic
S Joanna Harrall
C Stephanie Burrell

Men's 2nd Torpid

B Joshua Morgan
2 Richard Kim
3 Rasmus Wissmann
4 George Shankar
5 Alex Gorney
6 Christoph Haase
7 Peter Morgan
S Phil McCullough
C Christina Hookham

Women's 2nd Torpid

B Katherine Ember
2 Kristen Frederick-Frost
3 Carlie Arbaugh
*4 Kimberley Grave
5 Adenais Vachon
6 Georgina Colquhoun
7 Poppy Lambert
S Linda Geaves
C Joanna Harrall
*Rowing On: Emma James

Men's 3rd Torpid†

B Rory Copus
2 Robin Lucas
3 Aron Cheung
4 Henry Renninson
5 James Anderson
6 Ali Mathie
7 Matt McGilvray
S Hugh Taylor
C Theresa Kevorkian

Men's 4th Torpid

B Mike Humphries
2 Edward Nutt
3 Renzo Corrias
4 Patrick Tesh
5 Aron Cheung
6 Owen Leyshon
7 James Boxall
S Henry Renninson
C Joshua Morgan

†Rowed On as 4th Torpid, raced as 3rd, and crew names/order varied daily



Rory Copus, Catz Head Coach



The Men's 1st Torpid racing on the Thursday.

Men's Boat Club Report

Ben Trigg, Men's Captain

Torpid this year was a frustrating affair. Amid the many successes that we have had so far this year, for example our performance at Wallingford, in the IWLS, and the acquisition of our new boat, it is annoying that it didn't work out for us that week. Falling from 4th, the joint highest position Catz has ever held in Torpids, to 7th, the lowest for 6 years, has not been easy to take. However, what has happened has happened, and we must dust ourselves down and look ahead to next term. I cannot fault the commitment that the first boat has given so far this year and I am confident that, should we continue to work as hard as we have done over the last two terms, we will be able to turn things around for Summer Eights. From the leadership end, it is safe to say that Rory and I have learned from the mistakes that were made last term and have already begun to make changes and look forward to re-establishing Catz as one of the best boat clubs in Oxford.

Despite the disappointment for the first boat, we still have many successes to celebrate. The second



The Men's 3rd Torpid racing on the Thursday.

boat shows no signs of slowing in its climb through the divisions, gaining 5 bumps and getting promoted to the 4th Division during the week. They were unfortunate not to get blades, narrowly missing out after shooting for their third consecutive triple overbump, gaining three and a half lengths on Jesus over the course of the race! This has once again been a testament to Josh's hard work with the squad, which is comprised of many new faces and novices from the start of the year. It is also the first time

since 1998 that we have had a men's third boat qualify for Torpids, and they have set a good standard to act as a target and to be built on for next year.



The Men's 2nd Torpid racing on the Saturday.

Summer Eights, as would be expected, is the main focus for next term. As with this term, we intend to hold a training camp for the first boat before the start of term in order to give us some extra water time. Although the squad is going to be kept fit over the Easter Holidays, it will also give the crew the opportunity to hit the ground running in the short build up to the regatta.

There are many people that deserve mention of thanks, but there is not sufficient space to do everyone justice. However, I would particularly like to take this chance to thank Rory for all of the hard work he has put in, not only into coaching but also into the working of the boat club behind the scenes. There have been many times where he has gone above and beyond what is required of him and his enthusiasm is inexhaustible.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the new committee upon their election to their roles. You are a very promising group of people and I have the confidence that you have the potential to do well.

Torpids

Elsewhere in Torpids, to nobody's great surprise, Pembroke took the men's Headship from Christ Church on the first day and kept a firm grip on it thereafter. Also in Men's Division 1, after bumping in every one of their last 14 starts, rising from 21st to 5th in the process, the Wolfson steamroller finally came to a halt on the last day when they (narrowly) failed to catch Balliol. Catz were the last crew they bumped. St Anne's men should have risen 6 places this week but some confusion at the start on the Saturday led to their getting bumped back by Wadham.

At the top of Women's Div I Magdalen managed to hold off a strong challenge from Wadham to maintain their Headship. Both Hertford and L.M.H. rose 7 places to finish 7th and 21st respectively.

Of the 36 participating boat clubs, St John's was the most successful overall, their 4 boats gaining a net 14 places, while, at the other end of the table, Exeter's 3 crews lost 19 places. Catz were 29th, with a net loss of 7 places. While Catz managed to boat 4 crews, another 10 colleges managed 5 and Jesus and Wadham both had 6 crews competing.

University Triallists

As mentioned in the women's Boat Club report, Inge Hertzog and Charlotte Marshall have been selected to row for Osiris in the Henley Boat Races.

The Boat Race crews were announced on March 5th and Zoe de Toledo was selected to cox OUBC (just as well, really, since she's the subject of a full-page photo to publicise the event in the current edition of *Oxford Today*).

News from Alumni

Pete Collini (M.84)

Having fallen off my mountain bike 2 years ago I have been getting a bit bored cycling round the block so last week Julie let me take my stabilisers off and now she thinks I am ready to try the slightly longer ride from Land's End to John O'Groats. I would really appreciate some sponsorship for the very good causes we're supporting.

Heading out on March 21st, and hoping to return on 3rd April, my friend Nick Curson (M.84) and I will be cycling 1600 km in 13 days to raise money for two charities. Valence

School is our local charity based here in Kent; we are both keen to support sporting activities in schools and Valence is an extra special school where we have seen how they give disabled children real opportunities to experience the benefits of sport. The second is Cancer Research, our national charity, which is a charity close to my heart as we begin our challenge on the anniversary of my dad's death from cancer.

Our fundraising target is over £5,000 but all donations however small (or large!) are welcome. Nick and I are covering all the costs for this trip so every pound of sponsorship goes straight to the charities and is split equally between them.

You can sponsor us via our Virgin Money Giving website, which went live this week or if you have a business that can sponsor us then company donations can also be made on the same website:
uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/NickandPetesLEJOGcycle2012

Coming Up ...

In the next newsletter there will be reports on the Henley and Tideway Boat Races, and a look at the events of 30 years ago, under the captaincies of Tony Mitchell and Hazel Barker, and prospects for Trinity Term. Items for the News from Alumni section always welcome.

Anu Dudhia

email: dudhia@atm.ox.ac.uk

Row.Soc: <http://www.atm.ox.ac.uk/rowing/rs.html>
www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=93221115264

Diary

25 Mar 2012	Henley Boat Races
7 Apr 2012	The Boat Race
23-26 May 2012	Eights

