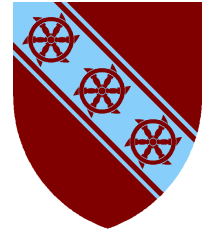




St Catherine's College Rowing Society
St Catherine's College
Oxford OX1 3UJ



27th June, 2009

In this issue . . .

We have results from Bedford Regatta and early-season racing from our internationals, Rowing On and, of course, Summer Eights. Eights went a little better for the women than the men, which may be why only the Women's Captain has submitted a report. The winner of the 2009 Ben Sylvester Award is announced along with, ahem, a sort of special lifetime achievement award. The news from alumni might explain why this newsletter is a little later than usual, and there's an appeal for the return of the old Boat Club Flag.

Results

Bedford Amateur Regatta, 9th May

<i>Women's College Eights, 12 entries</i>			
Heat	beat St Peter's (Oxf)	1 1/4 L	4:12
Q/F	beat King's (Cam)	2 ft	4:08
S/F	beat Magdalen (Oxf)	1/2 L	4:07
Final	lost to Balliol (Oxf)	easily	4:03
<i>Women's Novice Eights, 11 entries</i>			
Q/F	beat Anglia-Ruskin Uni.	2/3 L	4:10
S/F	beat Warwick Uni.	1 L	4:12
Final	lost to Downing (Cam)	easily	ntt



Tight racing at Bedford Regatta as Catz women (far side) beat Anglia-Ruskin. Losing finalists last year, this year Catz went one better: they lost in two finals.

Rowing On, 22nd May

Top 25 crews to qualify			
Men's III	3:05.5	26th/52	Failed
Men's IV	3:08.5	41st/52	Failed
Women's III	3:35.4	28th/42	Failed
Women's IV	3:44	32nd/42	Failed

*tied for last qualifying place but won race-off

Eights 27-30 May

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

Rowing World Cup I, Banyoles, 29-31 May

Andy Triggs Hodge (M.04)	GBR 2-	1st
Martin Walsh (M.07)	IRL 2-	15th

Rowing World Cup II, Munich, 19-21 June

Andy Triggs Hodge (M.04)	GBR 2-	2nd
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Women's Boat Club Report

Catherine Wherity, Women's Captain

Following on from a very successful Torpids, Trinity term got off to a fantastic start. It was great to have so many girls keen to row Summer Eights, enough for more than four boats. Combined with all the men's boats this made organisation of outings somewhat difficult, however, everyone worked very hard to ensure that all the boats were able to enjoy training in the sun on the Isis. Just a couple of weeks before Summer Eights began W1 competed at the Bedford regatta, reaching the finals of both the novice and college events but unfortunately being beaten in both. Despite this it was an invaluable experience that really tested the crew's ability in some very tight races and highlighted the huge amount of training that everyone had put in.

Coming into Summer Eights Catz women had two qualified positions meaning that W3 and W4 had to row on. Unfortunately both boats failed to row on although they certainly enjoyed the experience.

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



Yep, that's a bump. The Merton W2 cox (eventually) concedes after Catz Women's 2nd Eight row over their stroke's blade on the Friday.

W2 enjoyed a successful week at Eights moving up two positions overall, a very strong performance that means they are now comfortably placed in a qualified division. Similarly W1 moved up two positions to finish at the top of division II, not quite the result that everyone was hoping for but there were certainly some very exciting races including on the second day when W1 had surging overlap on St John's but frustratingly didn't quite manage to get the bump.



The Women's 1st VIII almost, but not quite, catching St John's (blades just visible ahead) on the Thursday.

I am very excited to be handing over the captaincy to Ilsa Haeusler and the whole of the new committee who I am sure will do a fantastic job and build on the successes we have enjoyed this year. I would also like to say a massive thank you to everyone for making this last year so amazing and I hope the new committee enjoy it as much as I have!

Men's Boat Club Report

No report received from the men's captain, so this is how it seemed to me.

Losing 6 oarsmen from our top two boats in Torpids, things might have gone better if it hadn't also taken until 3rd week before settled crews started to emerge.

Things became even more difficult when Colin Smith (OUBC) and Martin Walsh (Isis) had to rule themselves out through injury and international commitments respectively.



The Men's 1st Eight rounding Haystacks corner on Saturday, chased by New College.

So, with no chance of any race practice, it was a slightly rough and unready 1st VIII that lined up on the bunglines on the Wednesday. It wasn't a good row, but was just good enough to hold off Hertford until they were themselves bumped by S.E.H. outside the boathouses. Inevitably, the next day Catz were also bumped by S.E.H. but rowed much better and went into Friday hoping to hold off Hertford over the full course. Unfortunately, several crabs later, Hertford finally caught them at the top of the Green Bank. At least on the Saturday they managed to row over without being bothered too much by New College.

The Men's 2nd Eight suffered even more from the disruption and found themselves one of the slower crews in a division which seemed to split alternately between fast and slow crews. In their longest row, on the Saturday, they just managed just over a minute before getting bumped.

There was also a men's 3rd VIII who just missed out on Rowing On by one place, and the 4th (Rugby) VIII who were only 3 seconds slower.



The Men's 2nd Eight in Men's Div IV on the Saturday.

2009 St Catherine's Eights

Men's 1st Eight

B Hugo Garcia-Rueda
2 Toby Smyth
3 Harry Forman-Hardy
4 Alister Mathie
5 Sam Boaden
6 Rob Gerlach
7 Will Stockdale
S Malcolm Spencer
C Jack Plummer

Men's 2nd Eight

B Felix van Litsenberg
2 Zevic Mishor
3 Shilan Mistry
4 Dustin Arp
5 Josh Landrenau
6 Adam Kemal
7 James Baker
S Phillip McCullough
C Lucy Tester

Men's 3rd Eight

B Andrey Panov
2 Pete McCurrach
3 Nadeem Nanjuwany
4 Nick Simpson
5 Rado Lolov
6 Rhys Danino
7 John Risness
S Duncan Reek
C Amy Carr

Men's 4th Eight

B Max Grandison
2 Mark Blundell
3 Charlie Thompson
4 Rossa O'Keeffe-O'Donovan
5 David Bull
6 Matthew Passman
7 Rhodri James
S Timothy Butler
C Emma Kilford

Women's 1st Eight

B Clare Wilcockson
2 Kate Stuart
3 Ilsa Haeusler
4 Sarah Hodgson
5 Kathryn Hernandez
6 Alexandria Winstanley
7 Emma Clifton
S Catherine Wherity
C Zoe Thomas

Women's 2nd Eight

B Alice Higgins
2 Kirsty Bell
3 Helena Moore
4 Abigail Millward
5 Amanda Boyce
6 Christina Hookham
7 Jenny Caswell
S Alice Pooley
C Ruoxi Wu

Women's 3rd Eight

B Amy Carr
2 Lindsay Weare
3 Rebecca Argall
4 Fiona Pitt
5 Roberta Fisher
6 Emma Holmes
7 Eleanor Hafner
S Stephanie Newton
C Felicity Bedford

Women's 4th Eight

B Becky Gardner
2 Laura Gray
3 Caroline Barker
4 Tanya Bird
5 Isobel Neville
6 Anna Ockwell
7 Nina Suter
S Jessica Giesen
C Kirsty Bell

Eights 2009 Bumps Charts

MEN	WED THU FRI SAT
I BALLIOL ORIEL CHRIST CHURCH MAGDALEN PEMBROKE UNIVERSITY ST CATHERINE'S HERTFORD S.E.H. NEW COLLEGE KEBLE EXETER	
II WADHAM QUEEN'S WORCESTER WOLFSON TRINITY ST JOHN'S BRASENOSE JESUS ST ANNE'S LINCOLN MANSFIELD ST PETER'S	
III L.M.H. MERTON CHRIST CHURCH II PEMBROKE II MAGDALEN II CORPUS CHRISTI NEW COLLEGE II LINACRE SOMERVILLE ORIEL II UNIVERSITY II ST HUGH'S	
IV KEBLE II S.E.H. II EXETER II ST CATHERINE'S II WADHAM II ST ANTHONY'S ST JOHN'S II BALLIOL II TRINITY II WORCESTER II HERTFORD II ST BENET'S HALL	
V JESUS II QUEEN'S II ST PETER'S II OSLER HOUSE BRASENOSE II LINCOLN II MERTON II ST ANNE'S II PEMBROKE III WOLFSON II MAGDALEN II REGENT'S PARK	
VI JESUS III LINACRE II UNIVERSITY III WADHAM III CHRIST CHURCH III ST HUGH'S II ST JOHN'S III MANSFIELD II ST JOHN'S IV WORCESTER III L.M.H. II ST HILDA'S	
VII SOMERVILLE II JESUS IV GREEN TEMPLETON ST HILDA'S II LINCOLN III WADHAM IV LINCOLN IV WORCESTER IV WORCESTER V S.E.H. III ST HUGH'S III ST PETER'S III UNIVERSITY IV	

WOMEN	WED THU FRI SAT
I S.E.H. CHRIST CHURCH OSLER HOUSE WADHAM BALLIOL PEMBROKE HERTFORD SOMERVILLE NEW COLLEGE MAGDALEN MERTON ORIEL	
II ST JOHN'S ST HILDA'S ST CATHERINE'S UNIVERSITY KEBLE EXETER WOLFSON QUEEN'S ST ANNE'S BRASENOSE WORCESTER LINACRE	
III ST HUGH'S MANSFIELD LINCOLN CORPUS CHRISTI TRINITY ST ANTHONY'S JESUS ST PETER'S L.M.H. CHRIST CHURCH II PEMBROKE II HERTFORD II	
IV WADHAM II WOLFSON II S.E.H. II LINACRE II ST HILDA'S II MERTON II ST JOHN'S II MAGDALEN II ST CATHERINE'S II ORIEL II L.M.H. II	
V WORCESTER II BALLIOL II KEBLE II UNIVERSITY II QUEEN'S II ST ANNE'S II OSLER HOUSE II ST HUGH'S II WADHAM III EXETER II CHRIST CHURCH III BRASENOSE II	
VI PEMBROKE III TRINITY II WOLFSON III BALLIOL III CHRIST CHURCH IV EXETER III GREEN-TEMPLETON OSLER HOUSE III UNIVERSITY III MANSFIELD II LINCOLN II UNIVERSITY IV ST PETER'S II	



Malcolm Spencer, right, receiving the 2009 BFS award from Rowing Society Chairman Kevin Skinner on the Saturday of Eights.

2009 Ben Sylvester Award

A Benjamin F. Sylvester, Jr medal will be given annually to the member of the Boat Club who has most significantly contributed to enhancing the rowing life of St Catherine's College, Oxford.

We had more nominations for the 2009 award than we have ever had before. However, there was one clear winner, Malcolm Spencer, was also nominated by more people than any previous candidate.

The judges were impressed not only by the number of people who nominated Mal, but also that they came from across the whole Boat Club. 'Enthusiasm', 'Motivation' and 'Help' were three words which occurred particularly frequently in these testimonials. Mal was not only stroke of the Men's 1st VIII but coached and even coxed many other crews, despite also working long hours in the porter's lodge.

A Special Benjamin F. Sylvester Award for Anu Dudhia

RS Chairman, Kevin Skinner, writes:

The Benjamin F. Sylvester, Jr. Award is granted annually to the St Catherine's College Boat Club member who has most significantly contributed to enhancing the rowing life of St Catherine's College, Oxford.

The Rowing Society recently decided that the time was right to recognise Anu's 'significant contribution to enhancing the rowing life of St Catherine's College' over many years. With the agreement of the Benefactor, I made the presentation of a special Ben Sylvester award to Anu on the Saturday of Eights Week.

It's now over 30 years since he arrived in Oxford (actually in the same intake as me). I don't recall him being greatly active in the Boat Club in his first year (1977/8), but he more than made up for that in later student years as he rose to be Captain of Boats and to represent the University Lightweight in the early 1980's. Since then, of course, he has become a fixture on the College rowing scene in St Catz. Coaching, coxing, subbing, launch and minibus driving, filming, making tea, etc. And of course giving his wise council to successive generations of students but without imposing his views on them.

But it's not only the St Catz Boat Club which so values his contribution over the years. He has played a big part in the organisation and smooth running of the Torpids and Eights regattas and can be seen each year driving the safety launch behind each division. For many years there was, and may still be, a mural on Donnington Bridge saying 'Anu is God'. I'm not convinced that it was necessarily painted by Catz people.

He has also been a stalwart of the Rowing Society, never wishing to 'front' the organisation, but always doing a great deal behind the scenes. He represents continuity and our trusted source of reference regarding equipment, coaching and training arrangements as well as a host of other things. His opinions give us great confidence in how we allocate out funding, both from fellow Alumni and from sponsors, to best effect. His twice termly newsletters, like this one, bring interesting news to every generation. Without Anu we would also not have the rich internet resource that we do, with crew listings and other records going back many years. He has also contributed significantly to the compilation of 'The History of St Catherine's Rowing' and has recently agreed to assist with an updated version.

News from Alumni

Anu Dudhia (M.77) Emily and I have a daughter, Maija, born on 9th June. Good of her to wait until my coaching and teaching for the term were safely out of the way, but next year I would quite like to spend a little more time with my family.

Darren Chadwick (M.03) I have just been made a tutor for the Oxford University Faculty of Human Science to teach sustainability as part of the Human Ecology course.

Can we have our flag back, please?

Leslie Singleton writes:

A long shot I agree but please could you insert a line or two asking if anyone knows the whereabouts of the Flag that 'went down with the Barge'? [circa mid-1970s]. I have never been particularly convinced that the Flag was lost in this way — i.e., not rescued — and if it was rescued, what happened to it? Possibly it is in somebody's attic.



No, not this one, which our current flag (and safely stowed following Eights). It's the one that went missing over 30 years ago that we're after.

Coming Up ...

In the next newsletter there will be reports on the 49ers reunion and the Gaudy paddle, results from our students and alumni competing at Henley and on the International scene, and of the rather splendidly mounted photograph of the 1907 Torpid which has now reached me. News items from alumni always welcome.

Anu Dudhia

email: dudhia@atm.ox.ac.uk

Row.Soc: <http://www.atm.ox.ac.uk/rowing/rs.html>

Diary

1–5 July 2009 Henley Royal Regatta
23–30 August 2009 World Championships