

The 1927 Club



Walton Rowing Club's rebuilding project newsletter

December 2010

Building progress

The builders have made good progress on the first floor; all the walls, ceilings and floor are now in place. We have fitted a balustrade to the stairs, and Mike Bishop and his team have laid and connected the central-heating, so that upstairs is warm!



First floor, now with floor and plaster walls

The next stage is to fit the toilets and showers upstairs, finish the electrics in the changing-rooms and do anything else that is needed to allow us to occupy this part of the first floor. This winter should at least be much more comfortable than last year. **Over the Christmas holidays we plan to paint all the walls and ceilings upstairs—please give us one day of your painting skills!**

The downstairs clubroom and bar are functioning well, if a little chilly when the weather is cold.

We have applied for a variation to our planning permission to add an extra window on the upstream wall; the planning officer has said that this should go through quite quickly.

We still need to fit the fire escape before we can use the main part of the first floor, and then fit out the kitchen and bar. Finally the balcony will “dress” the building and really make it look the part.

Although we have managed to make some savings in this second phase, we still need some £70,000 to finish the job. Fund-raising continues ...

Security

The burglar alarm and CCTV are now operational, so please be careful; do not open the back door of the boat-house or the bar-store door unless you know how to turn off the alarm. The fire alarm will be commissioned when the phase 2 electrics are complete.

Marathon haul

Walton was the most successful club at the Boston Marathon, where we won overall, broke four course records and won four classes. The senior quad were overall winners. Callum Gathercole, Ali Douglass, Harry Gaywood and Andrew Bedford (all J15s or J16s) not only won the J17 category, but set a new J17 record and came tenth overall.

Sam Wilson set a new IM3 record, beating all the eights, while Oli Knight lowered the J15 singles record time by 20 minutes. Great results too from the girls four, who set a new record, while the quad just missed out on theirs. The mixed octuple, containing all ages from 13 up to Coach De Cata, had a great scull, just missing out on their record in 3hrs 48 minutes.

Autumn Heads

We had two wins at the **Pairs Head**, with Harry Lonergan and Elliot Tarrant beating Callum Gathercole and Oli



J17 winners at Boston

Knight by 1 sec to take first and second places in J16 doubles, twenty seconds ahead of the rest of the field. Chris Leonard and James Brown had a storming row to win masters pairs and come third fastest pair overall. Holly Jones and Annie Withers also had a fantastic row to come second in Women's Junior pairs.

Sam Knight and Sam Wilson were our fastest boat, coming tenth overall out of nearly 500 crews, and just missing their class win by less than a second.

The Weybridge **Silver Sculls** on our home stretch saw a huge contingent from Walton take up the challenge; they were rewarded with 10 wins.

The older girls group dominated with Holly Jones and Sam Ball being the fastest womens double overall, and winning WJ17; Sam also won the singles. Annie Withers repeated that feat in WJ18 singles, and taking the doubles title with Julia Clarke. Josh Wedlake was another double winner, taking IM2 singles and doubles with Neil West, who also took the Masters doubles title with Glyn Groom. Oli Knight won J15 singles, coming 11th overall



and Dave Clarke won Masters E.

Callum Gathercole and Elliot Tarrant continued their form from the Pairs Head, and despite starting at the back of the entire field, managed to weave their way through to set the fifth-fastest time of the day and win J16. Special mention should go to the members of the boys' and girls' beginners groups, many of whom were racing for the first time. Particularly impressive were Megan Houska and Tilly Catlin in girls J13 doubles who were only ten seconds off winning their class, in their first race together.

At **Teddington Head** Neil West, Simon Biddle, Sam Wilson and Glyn Groom won IM2 quads, while Callum Gathercole and Andy Bedford won J16 doubles.

And the "dads' four" of Ian Tarrant, Andrew Tomalin, Matt Gaywood and Peter Knight, coxed by Kieran Reals, won the Novice pennant at the **Veteran Fours Head**.

At the **Fours Head**, we had our best ever results with the junior quad of Sam Knight, Harry Lonergan, Elliot Tarrant and Oli Knight coming an amazing 18th overall, and just missing the junior pennant by one place. The Elite lightweight quad of Neil West, Josh Wedlake, Sam Wilson and Sam Lee-Gill came 29th. Having two crews in the top 30 puts Walton in a very exclusive group of top clubs.

Walton Small Boats Head

Finally a magnificent set of results for the Club at the Small Boats Head: both for the organisers, who arranged brilliant weather and a very slick event, and for the thirteen event-winners, including—among very strong opposition—four of the first eight crews. Overall winners were Sam Wilson and Sam Knight, with young brother Oli and Harry Lonergan in J16 only four seconds behind and

Elliot Tarrant and Callum Gathercole a further five seconds behind them.

We had a clean sweep of WJ, WJ17 and WJ16 doubles, with Annie Withers & Hannah Traylen, Sam Ball & Holly Jones. Hannah Paremain & Holly Stead. Sam and Holly also won WJ17 pairs, while Hannah T took the WJ singles.

Elliot partnered with Andrew Bedford to win J16 pairs, while Glyn Groom and Neil West won MasC doubles and pairs. And in the Masters Novice events there were class wins for Matt Gaywood and Richard Jones, Dorothy Jones and Petra von Wrelligh.

GB trials

Sam Wilson performed well in the Senior trials, coming 20th in lightweights, and will be attending the second trials on 18th December.

In the Junior trials, we had our best ever girls results with Hannah Traylen and Annie Withers coming 24th and 29th. Both girls have been invited to further GB crew-boat camps at Caversham, raising our hopes of getting the club's first female athletes to represent GB this season. In the boys, Harry Lonergan did really well to come 21st, and Oli Knight was 44th.

Adult beginners' course

The adult beginners course starting in late September was successful with 10 attendees, and we intend to run more when the weather gets better in the Spring. We will need more helpers to do some basic coaching, or just go out in crew boats with adult beginners to build their confidence. If you can spare a few hours to help, please let Ken or Neil know.

Beer festival

Alan and Len ran a very successful Beer Festival over the Silver Sculls weekend and following week, making £1500 for the building fund.

Barn dance

The barn dance run by Wendy Gathercole and Mary Lynn Yeates attracted over 120 people, making a very full house and a very enjoyable evening that also made over

£1300 for the Club.

Christmas party

We will be holding a Christmas party at the Club on Friday 17th December. Just bring a plate of nibbles and a bundle of good cheer! All ages are welcome.

Turkey Triathlon

The Club will be holding its traditional post-Christmas event on Monday 27th December. Run, cycle and scull on your own or make up a team—it's the best way to shake off that Christmas sloth! The event is open to all individuals or any relay combinations. Register by 8am at the Club - £5 donation per person. Breakfast (bacon sandwiches) will be served after the race.

Christmas Holiday training times

Tues/Weds/Thurs 21/22/23 December: 2pm Christmas Eve and Christmas Day off!!
Sun 26th: 8am and 10.30am
Mon 27th: Turkey Triathlon 8am
Tues/Weds/Thurs 28/29/30: 2pm
Sat/Sun 1st/2nd Jan: normal times

Team Hallin

Not deterred by, or perhaps because of, the unfavourable winds and currents that beset his crew last year, David Hosking is again setting off across the Atlantic this Christmas, this time in a six-man crew that will raise money for the charity Combat Stress. You can find their webpage, and donate to the charity, on www.teamhallin.co.uk.

