

# The 1927 Club



## Walton Rowing Club's rebuilding project newsletter

February 2010

### Building progress

The building is now growing fast! There was a small delay after Christmas because of bad weather and a delayed steel delivery. However the builders are now catching up; the concrete for the ground floor is being poured this week and the first floor will be delivered next week.



We are still on schedule to start putting up the boat-racks and start moving back in at the beginning of April. You can follow progress on the Club website: the latest pictures are on the home page, towards the bottom left-hand corner.

Meanwhile the temporary tent arrangements have served us well, and we have been meeting regularly in the 'Valley' bar.

### Stream conditions

The river has continued to run quite fast throughout January, and for one or two weeks we could not boat because the landing-stage was too icy. As the flow has

dropped, we have been able to boat eights and quads with reasonably experienced crews, and hope that conditions will return to normal during February.

The Environment Agency will be closing the towpath between Felix Road and the Anglers for most of March and into April, to rebuild the bank. Coaches and others will have to make a long detour; the quickest way by bike or on foot is up Felix Road, through the recreation ground and Dudley Road, along Terrace Road for a short way and then through the small park to Manor Road.

### Hampton Head

Sam Knight and Angus Groom won the junior doubles title in impressive style, and then teamed up in a composite to come second in the quads.

Our next best result came from the youngest girls group who came second in WJ13 quads, less than a second behind the winners. The older girls also did exceptionally well, with Holly Jones, Sam Ball, Hannah Traylen and Julia Clarke coming second in girls fours, and then teaming up with Sophie Walker, Naomi Allberry, Alice Correia-Morton, Annie Withers and Joanna Fish to come 5th in the eights.

Our younger boys matched the girls with second place in J13 quads, and 8th in J14 octuples against a very strong field containing most of the top rowing schools.

### Forthcoming events

We will have two crews at the Molesey Veterans Head on 20th February. We then look forward to Burway Head, where we usually send a large contingent.

The Hyne Cup race (the annual match between Walton and Weybridge Rowing Clubs) will provisionally be held

on Sunday 21st February. This is a great event which allows us to enter some interesting combinations, so if you want to race that day, make sure your coach or Neil West knows in good time.

### Walton Spring Head

Following the cancellation (yet again) of the Walton Small Boats Head in December, the committee has decided to run a smaller event, but including fours and quads as well as doubles, pairs and singles, on Saturday 10th April.

As for the Small Boats Head, we will need a team of at least sixty people to run this event, which we hope will be a great way to showcase our new boathouse (even if we won't actually be in full occupation by then).

### Turkey Triathlon

The Turkey (or Christmas Pudding) Triathlon took place on Monday 28th December. Fourteen "crews" (singles or doubles) took part and the overall winner (by 13 seconds after an hour and a half) was Paul Hone. Paul last



John Pearce sets a fast pace off the start in the Turkey Triathlon

won this event in 2004 and has been in the first three every year since then. The Easter Triathlon will be held on April 5th, starting at 8 am—best start the training now!

### **Coaching team award**

The Walton coaching team has been recognised by British Rowing as the Coaching Team of the Year for 2009. This was in recognition of its success not only in gaining wins in every junior age-group, for boys and girls, but also in running courses for adult and veteran beginners (well done, Alex) and raising standards across the board.

The team has been invited to attend the finals of the senior trials at Dorney on 14th February, where the award will be made.

Ken Roberts will be running a British Rowing Level 2 coaching course in August; he is offering a subsidised place on the course for a suitably-qualified applicant from the Club.

### **Melbourne-bound**

Claire White and Shaun Hulley both joined to attend one of Alex' adult beginners' courses in 2008; they have become committed members and showed great potential. Sadly they will be moving to Melbourne in March, and we wish them well. Another member of their group, Oscar Devotto, is also leaving us for Sao Paulo, Brazil. There will be a good-bye party for them all at the Weir on Sunday 7th February.



### **Britannia III transatlantic challenge**

Dave Hosking is approaching Barbados in the Atlantic Rowing Race 2009, in the Woodvale Works boat Britannia III. The start of the race was delayed by two weeks because of bad weather, and the Britannia III crew decided to go for Barbados rather than Antigua to try to recover some time. However the weather has continued to be against them and it is unlikely there will be any records



Atlantic rowing record-holder la Mondiale

this year.

### **Sponsored row**

Some of the juniors plan to do a sponsored row from Henley to Walton during the Easter holiday. They would welcome any support; further details will be available shortly.

### **Junior registration forms**

We still have not received many updated registration / parental consent forms; parents of juniors are asked to complete these each year to ensure that our information is up to date. The forms are available on the Club website (click on "Useful documents" at the top of the home page).

### **Subscriptions**

Subscription reminders for 2010 will be sent out shortly. Please save the Club costs by renewing your sub promptly—cash-flow is particularly important to us this year.

### **Dinner Dance**

We are heading for a good attendance at the Dinner Dance, which Sarah Clarke is arranging on Saturday 27th February (the evening of Burway Head) at the Inn on the Lake, Silvermere Golf Club.

If you have not yet booked your place, please contact Sarah at [sarahclarke216@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahclarke216@btinternet.com) or call her on 01932 247437. The last date for bookings

is Friday 12th February.

Nick Woods will be running a raffle, and if you would like to donate a prize, or know of someone who might, please contact Nick at [n.woods@hamptonschool.org.uk](mailto:n.woods@hamptonschool.org.uk)

