

The 1927 Club



Walton Rowing Club's newsletter

February 2013

Red boards again ...

This has been easily the worst winter for 40 years in terms of the number of days' rowing lost to the weather. Although the Environment Agency has done excellent work in managing the flows and levels, almost every event on the upriver Thames since November has been cancelled, often at very short notice.

The Club has since December had a trailer-load of boats at the Tideway, to allow training to continue for organized squads. And the ergos have seen a lot of use ...



Head races

It seems ages since there were any races! At the Fours Head in November our IM1 coxless four rowed well to finish 87th. The next day the club had six crews racing at the Veterans Fours Head; the Mas D 4x and Mas E 4- both produced great performances to win their events convincingly.

At the Teddington Head a large number of club crews raced in some challenging conditions. The men's masters



WN8o at Quintin

crews both won their divisions, MasD 4x with Richard Hosking, Neil West, Glyn Groom and Mike Bishop; MasD/E 4- with Richard Thiemann, Dave Clarke, Mike Everington and Boysie Reynolds. Among the juniors Matt Georgiou won IM3 singles and Ross Jones J16 singles.

At the Scullers Head Ali Jackson and Mike Bishop won their respective divisions.

Finally and most recently, the Womens Novice eight (an almost completely junior crew) came second in its division at Quintin Head.

All local races, including Walton Small Boats Head and Weybridge Winter Head, were cancelled as a result of the combination of bridge works and stream. However we are hoping that it will be possible to hold the Hyne Cup race, as planned, on **Sunday March 3rd**. We look forward to a big entry in this event for crews on our reach only—there should be a chance for anyone who wants to race to join a crew.

Other dates for your diary include Burway Head on 23rd February, Women's Eights head on 9th March, Kingston on 16th March and the Head of the River Race (HARR) on 23rd March, with the Vets Head the following day.

Bridge works

The work on Walton Bridge is gathering pace; the two Surrey arches have been closed off for the last two months, with occasional complete river closures as they have mounted the two main arches and swung sections of roadway into place.

We understand that the Surrey half of the river will be re-opened and the Middlesex arches closed for a month or so; this will cause us many fewer problems. There will inevitably be further disruption when they demolish the piers in the river, but after there will be no further obstructions in the river—hooray!



The project manager will give a talk on Wednesday March 27th at Halliford School entitled "From Canaletto to Costain", in aid of the Black Swan Sea Cadets. Tickets cost £10, including a drink, and are available from Felicitations in Shepperton.

GB squads

Over the winter the top juniors have continued their sterling efforts; Callum Gathercole and Morgan Bolding attended the GB junior camp in Nantes in December, and

they, plus Matt Georgiou, Katy Denham and Andrew Whitbread should all be attending the February trials in Boston.

Boathouse and boat maintenance

Roger Wooton has produced some wonderful scull-racks which make it much easier to store sculls neatly and protect them from damage. Please put your sculls in the correct rack (not in some private corner) and keep the yellow-hatched areas on the boathouse floor clear for use as fire exits.

Mark Neal now spends two days a week repairing boats, so if you spot any damage or problems on club boats, please put an entry in the damage book at the top of the stairs—most items can be repaired quite quickly.

All boats should be wiped down after use, and hosed down at least once a week.

Whole club 5000m ergos

Most people have completed their early-season 5k ergos (2km for J13 & J14's). Top scores so far are Stuart Chamberlayne in 16:55, and Katy Denham in 19:51. Ed Wilkinon (J13) leads the J14s on 8:05. If you want to be considered for races you need to get a score up on the board as soon as possible - you can always try and improve on it later.

The gym is now in full use and offers a multi-gym and free weights as well as ergos, which members can use at any time (J15s and below should be supervised by a coach or responsible adult). If your New Year's Resolution was to exercise and get fit, but you don't want to splash out on an expensive gym membership, you can save a lot of money by using the gym at the Club.

Club kit

There are several items of club kit for sale. Contact Peter Knight (pssoknight@tiscali.co.uk) for racing kit (all-in-ones, gilets and splashtops), Mike Everington (m.everington@kingston.ac.uk) for rugby shirts or Mike Hendry (mike@mikehendry.com) for caps, woolly hats and polo shirts.

Thursday evening suppers

There are now regular Thursday evening suppers at the Club; please put your name on the list at the top of the stairs if you would like to attend, or to offer to cook one Thursday.

Regatta Fees

Members planning to race should keep their regatta fee account in credit. The account can be "topped up" or outstanding fees paid with a cheque or by BACS transfer using the details below and please reference your payment with your name. You can also email our regatta fee manager, Peter Knight, at pssoknight@tiscali.co.uk if you have any questions about your account.

The regatta fee account details are: NatWest, High St

Walton, Sort Code 60 22 25, Account No 32567790
(Walton RC regatta fee a/c)

Dinner Dance

The Club Dinner Dance will be held at Brooklands Museum on Saturday February 16th. Tickets are £45 each; the closing date has passed but please contact Sam Wilson (sam@janousek.co.uk) if you would like to attend as he may be able to slip in an extra one or two.

CAMRA Club of the Year

At a small ceremony in December the Club was awarded the CAMRA Club of the Year Award for the Kingston and Leatherhead area. Congratulations to Len and his team—we have always known he serves the best beer in the area but it's good to have it confirmed by the pros!

