

# The 1927 Club



## Walton Rowing Club's newsletter

October 2012

### New Captain

Ken Roberts was elected Captain at the General Meeting in July. Ken has been a member of the Club since 1974;



he is a very experienced coach and coach trainer, and a well-known voice on the river in his capacity as commentator and Regatta Radio presenter.

Nick de Cata continues to coach the High Performance group. Mike Everington looks after adult novices while Stewart Walker co-ordinates Masters'

rowing. Lisa Taylor and Mike Hendry run the younger girls' and boys' squads.

We do need more coaches and assistant coaches; the Club can fund coaching courses, and will run a course for assistant coaches this winter. But whether you are highly experienced and able to pass on some sculling tips, or just willing to help juniors to lift boats onto the water and adjust, Ken would be glad to hear from you.

### Volunteering

Carron Mount is co-ordinating other volunteering tasks round the Club and clubhouse. If you are able to help in any way, please email [carronmount@yahoo.com](mailto:carronmount@yahoo.com). Sandy Johnston is again organizing a Sunday breakfast rota.

### Building improvements

Over the summer, the gym downstairs has a new floor, and the multi-gym has been reinstalled. There are some free weights and a squat rack. This is also the main space for ergo practice. No-one under the age of 15 may use the weights or multi-gym without supervision.

The door entry system has been upgraded to give re-

mote and keypad entry if required. The existing key fobs still work; instructions are on the main door. However visitors and those without fobs can press the bell and be admitted from the bar.

The men's changing rooms are being redesigned to create a dry changing area and a separate shower area.

### Boston Marathon

After last year's cancelled event, we were able to return to Boston and continue setting records. Lee Mount, Adam Giambone, George Appleby and Andy Bedford were the quickest crew overall, beating all the eights and setting a new class record. Callum Gathercole was the quickest single overall and set a new junior record. The J17 quad of Ross Henderson, Niall O'Callaghan, Will Johnston and Ross Jones also won, as did the WJ15 quad in a new record. Stuart Chamberlayne and Neil West set a new record in IM3 doubles.



Gym back in action



IM3 4x: overall winners at Boston Marathon

### Pairs Head

Repeating their success of last year, Ali Jackson and Steve Heywood won their Mixed Masters division at the Pairs Head, while Neil West and Glyn Groom again won MasD. Dave Clarke and Mike Bishop were only 2 seconds behind the winners in their division, and Morgan Bolding and Andy Warren did well to come third in IM2 pairs.

In the next few weeks, there will be large entries at "Weybridge" Silver Sculls and at the Veterans Head.

### Winter training

Winter circuit training starts on Tuesday November 6th at Halliford School and will continue every Tuesday and Thursday from 7 to 8 pm until the Christmas Holidays.



Please bring £1 per session.

### Bridge works and night-time boating

The main arches for Walton Bridge are due to be installed between now and January. The Surrey and centre arches are currently blocked, and inexperienced crews should remain below the bridge for the whole outing—other crews should check the safety notice-board outside the gym for current conditions and MUST paddle light through the bridge. Once the Middlesex arch is installed the obstacle will move to the other side, and the temporary piers will be removed early next year.

Anyone boating after dark must carry lights. The bridge-works are often brightly illuminated and make it almost impossible to see other river traffic; crews should turn below the bridge at night unless it is essential to do pieces above the bridge.

### **Boat damage and boat-cleaning**

There has been an increase in the amount of damage done to club boats. While some accidental damage is inevitable, crews must take more care when taking boats out of and into the boathouse, and must remain comfortably in their own half of the river at all times. Any damage or problems with club boats must be recorded in the book outside the office, and all accidents or incidents must be reported to the Safety Officer, Nick de Cata.

All boats should be wiped down after use, and regularly hosed down and cleaned with detergent. Those who regularly put boats away without cleaning them will not be allowed to use club boats.

### **Parking**

Parking at the Club is very limited; please be considerate to our neighbours and do not block the road. The Club is receiving many complaints about parking, and cars have been scratched and dented in the limited space available for turning; remember too that we must often manoeuvre trailers in and out. There is usually space to park in Felix Road, just a little further upstream, and then you walk down the towpath.

The part of Sunbury Lane on the right after the boathouse, which is controlled by access bollards, will be available for parking your cars on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Or come the healthy way: by bike! The area between our boathouse and St Georges is set up as a bike-shed, with a



The best way to get to the Club

chain to which you can padlock your valuable wheels.

### **Saturday mornings**

Although the Club is always busy at weekends, on Saturday mornings the landing-stage is continuously busy from 7.30 am to midday, with club and school squads. We have an agreed rota and times for these groups, which only gives each squad 10 or 15 minutes to get everyone afloat or off the water. It would be really helpful if independent crews and scullers (who are not part of one of these coached squads) could avoid boating during this time if at all possible.

### **Bag4Sport**

We are collecting clothes, shoes and other textiles using a scheme called Bag4Sport, which will give us 40p/kg collected. Please collect a bag from the Club and return it by **12th November.**



### **85th birthday party**

We had hoped to hold a Grand Opening party in September, but on the chosen day the celebrity who was to have performed the ceremony was unavailable, so instead we celebrated the club's 85th birthday with a very well-attended party. Many thanks to Sandy Johnston, Carron Mount and their teams who organised the food.

### **David Parry plaque-unveiling**

The following weekend two of David Parry's grandsons unveiled a plaque to David in the Clubroom. His long-time friend and fellow Prince-Philip-Cup-winner Dick



Gladys and Dick Thompson with Angela MacKenzie

Knight told members how David turned down an invitation to join the Barn Cottage crew which represented GB at the Rome Olympics in 1960 "because Walton needed him more". David continued to help and influence the Club right up to his death in 2008.

This event also marked Gladys and Dick Thompson's departure from the area, to live closer to their son Keith and his family in Preston. Dick was Club Secretary for over 20 years and Walton's reputation as a friendly club owes much to his influence.

### **For your diary ...**

Future social events planned include:

29th November: St Andrews night haggis supper

Early December: Captain's party

22nd December: Christmas party

Do follow the Club on Facebook and through the website.



