

The 1927 Club



Walton Rowing Club's rebuilding project newsletter

September 2010

Building progress

We are now very used to working out of the downstairs of the new clubhouse; we have two very full bays of boats, one bay with the changing-rooms, ergos and sculls, while the fourth bay has oars, the coaching-launch and safety boat.

We have been able to make ourselves quite comfortable in the gym / temporary clubroom, and Bob Pugh has set up the electrics so that we are able to make the best use of the limited supply we do have, thanks to St Georges. We now have realistic quotations from British Gas and from EDF for reconnecting our supplies, and hope this will be done early in October.

Jim Hiley, with a team of labourers from the Club, has done most of the blockwork upstairs and we have asked a builder to finish this, we hope in the next couple of weeks. This will allow us to lay the pipework for the underfloor central heating and the floor screed; the aim is to have the ladies' changing-room and showers operational before the winter sets in. (Each of the changing-rooms is subdivided to allow separate children's and adults' changing, so this will become men's and women's for the time being).

We have received several further generous donations, which allow us to keep progress going on the building work, but we still need almost £100,000 to complete the



GB junior quad at Roudnice

work. And we still need labour and tradesmen's skills; please contact Neil West or Mike Hendry if you are able to help.



Coupe winners

Bar operational

The best news is that we received our new bar licence on 28th July! Len Lee has set up a temporary bar in the gym / clubroom and he and Alan are serving beer to their usual high standards. We have already held several successful barbecues and open days.

Medals for GB representatives

Sam Knight's quad won the gold medal at the Coupe de Jeunesse in Hazewinkel, while Angus Groom just missed out on the medals with a fourth place in the Junior Worlds in Roudnice, Czech Republic.

Matt Tarrant was in the three seat of the GB eight that won the Bronze medal at the World U23 Championships in Brest, Belarus, and also in the seven seat of the GB eight that won Gold at the World University Championships in Hungary on 14/15th August .

Gold at Nat Champs

At what we must now learn to call the British Championships (does that mean Britain is no longer a nation?) in Strathclyde, Oli Knight and Harry Gaywood won gold in J14 doubles, and Oli then stepped into the J15 quad with Elliott Tarrant, Andrew Bedford and Harry Lonergan of Tideway Scullers, with Ross Jones coxing, to win another gold.

The girls also did well with fourth places for Sam Ball and Julia Clarke in Women's Junior Pairs and for Holly Jones, Sophie Walker, Hannah Traylen and Sarah Hunt in Women's Elite Lwt Quads. Both these crews will be back for medals next year.

The seniors were not to be outdone either, with the Elite Lwt Quad of Neil West, Stuart West, Sam Wilson and Sam Lee-Gill getting a bronze.

Henley

At Henley Royal the Fawley Quad of Alex Jones, Oli and Sam Knight and Rupert Adams did well to qualify, and raced well but lost to a TSS/Maidenhead crew on the Thursday. Angus Groom was in a composite with Westminster in the same event which lost the final to a very



J15s at Nat Champs



Henley Royal

strong Australian quad.

Late summer regattas

There were good hauls of medals from the juniors at **Egham**— where Jordan Piddlesden, Manu Passos-Carr, James Williamson and Alexi Buckingham, coxed by Ross Jones, won J13 quads, and Laurie Fain and Harry Gaywood the J14 doubles— and at **Kingston**, where Laurie, George Young, Peter Turner and Scott Atkinson won J14 quads, again with Ross coxing.

At **Burway** Alexi and James were yet again pipped to the post by their regular opponents from Marlow, but this time by two feet only. A very different J14 quad won, this time with Sean Sheppard, Finn Kristensen, Jørgen Tveit, Scott and Ross. The J15 quad of Oli, Elliott, Andrew with James Hudson, and Oli in J15 singles, both won comfortably. Neil West, Ian Robinson, Richard Smalman-Smith and Glyn Groom won Masters C/D, and Glyn the Mas D singles. As well as Neil, Ian and Glyn, whose sons are all members, we had Peter Knight, Richard Jones, Matt Gaywood and Ian Tarrant racing in various doubles, making this a very enjoyable family day for the Club.



Egham winners

To round off the season we had wins for Sam Wilson (IM3), Lydia Jackson (WIM3) and Sarah Hunt (WNov) at **Maidenhead**.

Autumn heads

Forthcoming events are the highly anticipated club trip to the Boston Marathon on 18/19th Sept where 25-30 club members will test themselves against the 50km of Britain's toughest rowing race!

Our top pairs and doubles will be in action at the Pairs Head on the Tideway on 16th October, while most of our club members of all ages will be competing on home water at the Weybridge Silver Sculls race, from Walton up to the Canoe Club, on Saturday 23rd October. The top fours and quads will also be back on the Tideway, doing the Fours Head and Veteran Fours Head on 13/14th November.

Please make sure your regatta fee account is in credit otherwise you will not be able to race—speak with Peter Knight if you are not sure.

Rowing and coaching courses

Because of the very high demand for junior courses, we ran an extra course at the end of July, which attracted five boys and five girls, nearly all of whom have subsequently joined. Brian Martin had an amazing 87 attendees on his traditional August course, including a group of seven from the Cercle d'Aviron Grenoblois, where he used to coach. These courses are only possible with the help of a great team of 12 coaches and up to 30 experienced juniors acting as monitors—thanks to all of them.

In the same week, Ken Roberts ran a UKCC Level 2 course at the Club in the afternoons; with the growth in Club membership, we need ever more coaches, and if any Club members are interested in coaching, assisting with coaching or even doing a coaching course, please contact Neil West.

Club Regatta

The Club Regatta will be held on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th September. We are changing the format slightly this year; because the event must be over by 12.30 on the

Sunday (the Valley has an event in the afternoon) all heats will be run on the Saturday with finals on the Sunday, except for the scratch quads. We have introduced a parent-and-child doubles race; this is handicapped so that mothers with young daughters stand at least as good a chance as national champions ...

Beer festival

Alan and Len are planning the regular beer festival, to coincide with the Weybridge Silver Sculls. This will start on Thursday 21st October and will run through the following two weekends or until the beer runs out! There will be a great selection of beers at £2.50 a pint. Please help by sponsoring a barrel or part of one (see the list by the bar) - all proceeds will go towards the building fund.

Barn dance

Wendy Gathercole and Mary Lynne Yeates are organising a Barn Dance in Cobham Village Hall on 9th October; there is a list on the board at the Club or you can buy tickets at the bar. You can also buy tickets for the raffle at the bar.

