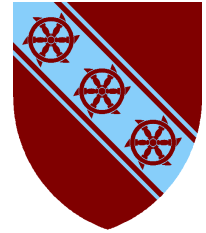




*St Catherine's College Rowing Society*  
*St Catherine's College*  
*Oxford OX1 3UJ*



27th March, 2010

**In this issue . . .**

The second issue of each term is usually dominated by news from the current Boat Club, and this issue is no exception. We have the photos and results from Torpids and other racing, crew lists and the Captains' reports. However, there are also news items from alumni and updates on University trialists.

**Results**

**Isis Winter League E, 21st February**

*Total: 92 Entries*

23rd	5:02	Men's 2nd Torpid	23rd/55 M8
=58th	5:45	Men's 3rd Torpid	47th/55 M8
73rd	6:10	Women's 2nd Torpid	20th/42 W8

**Rowing On, 27th February**

Top 13 crews to qualify

Men's III	3:36	24th/33	Failed
Women's II	4:06	12th/31	Qualified



The Men's 1st Torpid closing on Magdalen on the Friday. Had they made the bump they would probably have finished the week 3rd on the River, the highest ever position reached by a Catz men's boat. But they didn't, and finished down one place overall. Bumps racing can be harsh like that. Thanks to George Ryall (St Hugh's) for the photo.

**Torpids 3-6th March**

	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Finish
Men's I	=	=	=	-1	5th Div I
Women's I	=	=	-1	=	2nd Div I
Men's II			+1	=	8th Div V
Women's II			=	=	2nd Div V

MEN	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
I CHRIST CHURCH				
PEMBROKE				
MAGDALEN				
ST CATHERINE'S				
ORIEL				
NEW COLLEGE				
EXETER				
BALLIOL				
ST JOHN'S				
TRINITY				
HERTFORD				
WADHAM				
II L.M.H.				
WORCESTER				
S.E.H.				
ST ANNE'S				
UNIVERSITY				
BRASENOSE				
QUEEN'S				
WOLFSON				
JESUS				
KEBLE				
ST PETER'S				
LINCOLN				
III ST HUGH'S				
MERTON				
PEMBROKE II				
SOMERVILLE				
MAGDALEN II				
CHRIST CHURCH II				
EXETER II				
MANSFIELD				
LINACRE				
WADHAM II				
ST JOHN'S II				
NEW COLLEGE II				
IV JESUS II				
TRINITY II				
CORPUS CHRISTI				
HERTFORD II				
UNIVERSITY II				
BALLIOL II				
ST ANTONY'S				
L.M.H. II				
WORCESTER II				
PEMBROKE III				
LINCOLN II				
S.E.H. II				
V WADHAM III				
ST PETER'S II				
KEBLE II				
TRINITY II				
ORIEL II				
ST ANNE'S II				
REGENT'S PARK				
WOLFSON II				
ST CATHERINE'S II				
EXETER III				
ST BENET'S HALL				
BRASENOSE II				
VI HERTFORD III				
MERTON II				
MAGDALEN III				
ST HUGH'S II				
ST HILDA'S				
JESUS III				
WORCESTER III				
ST HILDA'S II				
WADHAM IV				
BALLIOL III				
GREEN TEMPLETON				
LINCOLN III				
JESUS IV				

WOMEN	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
I ST CATHERINE'S				
CHRIST CHURCH				
MAGDALEN				
ORIEL				
S.E.H.				
QUEEN'S				
NEW COLLEGE				
OSLER HOUSE				
ST HILDA'S				
EXETER				
WADHAM				
PEMBROKE				
II BALLIOL				
HERTFORD				
KEBLE				
SOMERVILLE				
ST JOHN'S				
MERTON				
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WORCESTER				
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LINACRE				
MANSFIELD				
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III TRINITY				
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CORPUS CHRISTI				
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NEW COLLEGE II				
LINCOLN				
HERTFORD II				
WADHAM II				
BALLIOL II				
IV ST JOHN'S II				
PEMBROKE II				
WOLFSON II				
WORCESTER II				
EXETER II				
ST HILDA'S II				
BALLIOL III				
QUEEN'S II				
TRINITY II				
UNIVERSITY II				
ST ANNE'S II				
ST PETER'S				
V BRASENOSE II				
ST CATHERINE'S II				
TRINITY III				
ST HUGH'S II				
CHRIST CHURCH II				
ST PETER'S II				
WOLFSON III				
S.E.H. II				
MERTON II				
NEW COLLEGE III				
GREEN TEMPLETON				
L.M.H. II				
LINACRE II				

**Balliol Spring 2nds Regatta, 11th March**

*Men's Eights (12 entries)*

Q/F	lost to Jesus
Plate	lost to Exeter

**President: Bruce Mitchell**  
 Vice Presidents: Don Barton,  
 Richard Peters,  
 Sir Matthew Pinsent CBE,  
 Ben Sylvester.

## 2010 St Catherine's Torpids

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### Men's 1st Torpid

B Malcolm Spencer  
2 Felix van Litsenburg  
3 Chris Rees  
4 Sam Boaden  
5 Jeff Douglass  
6 Alex Sanders  
7 Rob Gerlach  
S Will Stockdale  
C Jack Plummer

### Women's 1st Torpid

B Amanda Boyce  
2 Alice Pooley  
3 Octavia Seymour  
4 Christina Hookham  
5 Rebecca Argall  
6 Sarah Hodgson  
7 Danielle Bishop  
S Emma Clifton  
C Jack Plummer

### Men's 2nd Torpid

B James Baker  
2 Rhys Danino  
3 David Ashmore  
4 Martin Ramsdale  
5 Patrick Simpson  
6 Zevic Mishor  
7 Toby Smyth  
S Phillip McCullough  
C Ryutaro Hiratsuka

### Women's 2nd Torpid

B Roberta Fisher  
2 Rosie Lang  
3 Leah Carden  
4 Alice Godwin  
5 Margherita Philipp  
6 Fiona Pitt  
7 Katrina Spensley  
S Emma Holmes  
C Amy Carr

### Men's 3rd Torpid

B Paul Phelps  
2 Jamie Grant  
3 Kenneth Yarham  
4 James Boxall  
5 David Griffin  
6 Aidan Clifford  
7 John Risness  
S Duncan Reek  
C Katja Tchekourda

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## Men's Boat Club Report

### Phil McCullough, Men's Captain

We started this term with our returning seniors, and a plentiful number of committed novices. This gave us enough oarsmen to enter three boats, who had varying levels of water time. Coming back to a winter wonderland made 0th week outings a fun challenge. Soon enough, the Red flag came, and we turned to the bane of our lives — ergs, runs and circuits. The river cleared in time for Isis Winter League D. To stop our returning coach, Rachel, going insane from lack of water time, we entered the senior boat three times, in order to 'buy' three pieces on the Isis on a Sunday. The crew posted some impressive times. The second and third squads entered a composite boat and clocked an acceptable time given their lack of experience.

Soon afterwards, we held our 2k selection test, and the boats took on a definite form. The first boat

took on two very powerful novices, Jeff Douglass and Chris Rees, and Alex Sanders, a German with past high-level experience who was now free of injury. Following a committed training plan, training on the water 4 times a week, the boat soon picked up a lot of speed. Competition for the second boat was also fierce, affording us the opportunity to choose the boat and push it hard.

We sent the first boat to Dorney, and the crew looked very promising. However, after one morning outing, Hugh Taylor dislocated his shoulder while taking the boat in, ruling him out of Torpids. We can only guess at his frustration, but know he will be an asset when we return for Eights. Having lost our 6'5" oarsmen, reserve Felix van Litsenburg stepped up to the challenge, having trained ruthlessly for several weeks in the hope of such an opportunity.

Rowing On arrived, with an ominously fast river. The thirds, to whom I will be forever apologetic for a lack of outings, put up a brave effort but didn't qualify. Obviously, the weather Gods were furious with this result, raining their fury over Oxford all of Saturday, putting racing at jeopardy. As a result, the first day's racing was done in half divisions, and the second allowed all fixed division boats except the lower half of Div 5 (housing M2) to race. We didn't get to join the fun until Friday.



The Men's 1st Torpid racing on the Saturday.

On Wednesday, Oriel gained on Catz early on, but the crew fought them off with ease. Thoughts turned to catching Magdalen on Thursday. Having been slated from the offset, the firsts showed the river they were a force to be reckoned with, gaining overlap. However, our rivals evaded us. Friday brought a new sense of determination and their best rowing of the term. How Magdalen got away from us is something I am still unsure about, with our bow ball at hand's length away from their stroke's rigger for at least 300m. Failing to get the bump was a kick in the teeth for the crew, but more significantly, it offered no immunity from a highly-tipped and fast-rising Balliol crew, who got Catz on the Saturday. Despite going

down one, the crew should be immensely proud of their efforts. Even holding a spot in the upper half of Div 1 takes a tremendous amount of work, and for their dedication, I am proud.



The Men's 2nd Torpid after racing. Photo from Phil McCullough.

The second boat managed to easily secure an overbump on Trinity. On Saturday, still directly behind Wolfson, we were again going for the overbump on St Anne's, a crew which, during training, we'd managed to catch up in a IV. However, the race got klaxoned after 45 seconds, when the top of the division were involved in a massive pile-up. Due to two fixed crews above us not entering, we are now three places higher compared to last year. Given the aims of climbing the depths of the lower divisions, this is a result that is great for the club, and is something that next year's crew can build upon.

I'd like to thank Jack Plummer for happily coxing crews under Amber flag, and Anu for all his support, especially allowing us to swap Jack between both first boats. I'd also like to thank Rachel for putting up with my constant moaning and complaints for another term, and to the college who came down in their masses to support us.

Next term our prospects include having a lightweight join us in the first boat, a strong second boat with a chance to rectify last year's 'spoons' incident, and seeing whether we can finally qualify M3 for racing.

## Women's Boat Club Report

### Ilsa Haeusler, Women's Captain

After training consistently during the holidays, the women came back during 0th week to try and make use of the quiet river. During the week, many of the women continued the trend of early-morning training sessions, despite the ice and snow which made getting to the river difficult, as well as rowing! Unfortunately the weather remained tortuous for a long time, really

putting the dedication of the women to the test. Of course, they made use of all the water sessions they could before the inevitable Red flag after the snow had melted.

During the long Red flag period, the women turned to land training, which included circuit sessions at Brookes, long runs, ergs and weights. Despite the frustration of not being able to use the river, the women's hard work began to show early on, in the form of personal-best erg times. Encouraged by their improvement, the women became more determined than ever to make best use of the remaining few weeks until Torpids.

Problems arose midway through the term when an injury cost the women's 1st Torpid one of their number. This was not easy to recover from as there were too few women to substitute without drawing from the women's 2nd boat. After a stressful period of swapping around both the 1st and 2nd crews, the numbers finally settled, in the nick of time before Torpids week.

Heavy rainfall occurred the weekend before Torpids which resulted in Torpids being run under Red and Amber flags. The women were lucky to have Jack Plummer offer to cox them for each of the four days of racing. The women's 1st Torpid were fortunate to be able to race the full four days, but the 2nd boat were only able to race on the Friday and Saturday.



The Women's 1st Torpid racing on the Saturday. Photo from Ed Parker-Jervis (M.78).

Despite the disappointing conditions, the women's 1st Torpid did incredibly well, holding off Christ Church and Magdalen on Wednesday and Thursday, but were bumped by Magdalen just after the Gut on Friday. They fought very hard during their race but it wasn't to be; the women's 1st Torpid finished at a very respectable 2nd place on the river. The women's 2nd Torpid were bumped on both days of racing but were able then went on to bump another crew on each occasion!

We now look forward to another successful and exciting term of racing in Trinity Term. Let's hope the

weather is kinder next term!

Many thanks to the committee to for their enormous support during the term, particularly to Alice Pooley for training the women's 2nd Torpid, Lucy Tester and Amy Carr for organising coxes and Sarah Hodgson for her enthusiasm and help with the women's 1st Torpid.

Finally, best wishes are sent to the Third years sitting their exams next term.



The Women's 2nd Torpid after racing. Photo from Phil McCullough.

## News from Alumni

**Nick Taylor (M.77)** *In response to the last edition's feature on the Boat Club of 30 years ago, Nick supplied some photos for the 'Photo Archives' webpage. The internet reveals that, on leaving Oxford he joined Taylor-Woodrow Construction before moving to the Waterman Group in 1982, and is now their Chief Executive.*

**Maya ter Kuile (M.78)** Landlocked! I moved to Colorado, USA in 1983 to complete my master's in Irrigation Agronomy and have been here since. But there is rather a dearth of navigable waters in the San Luis Valley, a high mountain desert that claims to be the headwaters of the Rio Grande ("big river"), which it is not! So I have not rowed since 1981... Took up running a few years back, and plan a half marathon in May, a full in October. Not quite as fun as water sports, but still, a healthy habit. I farm with my husband and 3 daughters and I have been a crop consultant off and on for 20 years, with a brief break (7 years) as a "high school" teacher (in science, of course!). Two of my daughters are at University, but I still feel as young as we were 30 years ago at

Catz. If back country backpacking or skiing is your cup of tea, feel free to look me up!

**Tom Wright (M.95)** I am still living in Oxford, and married my wife Fiona (whom I met at Linacre) three and a half years ago. The small company I joined after completing my DPhil was ultimately acquired by Siemens, and I continue to work for them in Oxford as a scientist developing algorithms and computer software for analysis of medical images - for example helping clinicians to extract the information they need for diagnosis from scans such as PET (positron emission tomography), CT and MRI. I still cycle (although not as much as I used to), but taking part in a 750m erg challenge at work last year (part of Siemens' sponsorship of the GB rowing team) didn't encourage me back to the river!

## University Triallists

Gareth Morgan was due to race in the lightweights' 'spare fours' race yesterday. Hopefully some opposition turned up — I've not heard anything more. I assume that means that Oxford have given up on putting out a lightweight reserve boat, Nephthys, just to row over in tomorrow's Henley Boat Races, where Cambridge haven't provided any opposition since 2006.

After a couple of years in Isis, Martin Walsh, now at Green-Templeton College, has been selected for the OUBC crew, at no.2, and should be participating in next week's Boat Race. Following the outcome of their respective private fixtures, Oxford are currently the bookies' favourites while Cambridge have been reshuffling their crew.

## Coming Up ...

In the next newsletter there will results and reports on the various University Boat Races, the piece on the Boat Club of 40 years ago, when Nick Young was Captain (which wouldn't fit in this issue), and arrangements and prospects for Summer Eights. Any items for inclusion in the 'News from Alumni' section are always welcome.

Anu Dudhia

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Row.Soc: <http://www.atm.ox.ac.uk/rowing/rs.html>

## Diary

28 Mar 2010	Henley Boat Races
3 Apr 2010	The Boat Race
26-29 May 2010	Summer Eights