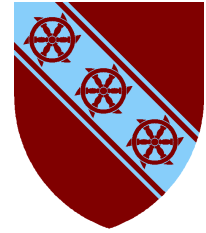




St Catherine's College Rowing Society
St Catherine's College,
Oxford OX1 3UJ



19th March, 2005

In this issue ...

We have the latest on the College's Boat Race participants, Torpids reports and bumps charts (with the dramatic plunges that make Torpids such a joyful memory for some), a look at the Boat Club of 40 years ago, with thanks to Mike Day (M.63) for the pictures (more on the RS web-pages), the formal (and corrected!) naming of the new women's eight and, perhaps, at last the answer to how the *Winnie the Pooh* theme all started.

2005 Boat Races

The OUBC and Isis crews have now been announced. In OUBC we have Andrew Triggs Hodge and Chris Liwski, both at St Catherine's on one year MSc courses on Water Science, Policy and Management. Andrew was in the GB Olympic Eight and Chris was the reserve for the US Olympic team. There are two Catz Geography undergraduates in Isis. The stroke is Colin Smith, stroke of last year's Blue Boat (two other 2004 Blues are also rowing in Isis this year) and the cox is fresher Nicholas Brodie, who coxed the GB VIII to a gold medal at the 2003 Junior World Championships.



During a particularly wintry Torpids, several race officials required a little thawing out at the end of their duties.

Results

Rowing On (18th February)

Crew	Time	Position	Cut-off
Men's III	3:49	29th/29	3:04
Women's II	3:35	26th/37	3:34

Top 13 Men's and 25 Women's crews qualified

Burway Head (19th February)

Crew	Time	Overall	Class
Men's I	9:39	4th/34	S3: 3rd/4
Women's I	11:33	25th/34	WS4: 2nd/3

Torpids (23rd-26th February)

	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Finish
Men's I	+1	+1	+1	=	10th Div I
Women's I	=	+1	+1	=	8th Div I
Men's II	+1	=	-2	-3	12th Div V

Men's Boat Club Report

Darren Chadwick, Men's Captain

This term has been basically a warm up to Torpids — which were freezing by the way! The training has been hard: at one point on the training camp we were doing 7 hours a day in the gym, on the water and in the tank. That commitment showed through into some very respectable performances in Torpids, at Burway Head (where we finished fourth overall and third in S3), in the Isis Winter League (two second places and a third in various categories) and recently at the Head of the River, where Catz rowers teamed up with Balliol and Wadham to produce a composite crew that came 240th.

I've been reliably informed by Steve Wicks that the Men's 1st Torpid is the tallest and heaviest crew Catz have fielded for 6 or 7 years. I am pleased to say it was also one of the fastest and most successful. Up three, and inches away from blades (I know, I have asked the Wadham cox who had a pretty good view from her seat!). After the problems of last year, I think we can safely say that we have turned things around.

President: Tony Hancox

Vice Presidents: Don Barton, Rev. Joseph Bell,
 Lord Garden KCB, Richard Peters,
 Sir Matthew Pinsent CBE, Ben Sylvester.

The 2nd Torpid did not fare so well. They overbumped on the first day but narrowly missed out on a bump on Merton on the Thursday, which left them vulnerable to the fast crews ascending from the division below. Overall, they dropped four places, but they rowed well and partied harder afterwards, spraying monks, parents and video cameras alike with beer and champagne as they celebrated the end of racing on the Saturday!



The men's 1st Torpid putting the boat away after Thursday's race (did anyone mention it was a bit wintry this year?).

This term has not been without its problems. Racing as a crew is made much harder when half of them are in London, New York, Blues sailing etc, so my sincerest thanks to Theo, Sasha and David who stepped up into the breach. The dedication I have felt in the team this term has been encouraging, and where the results were unflattering, the commitment was there but perhaps we were missing a little bit of experience. This will come, and I know that the hard work will not stop until we have all crews going up in summer Eights. I would like to thank our head coach, John Hill, who has worked tirelessly over the last two years to produce the results we have had.

Women's Boat Club Report

Lydia Hutchinson, Women's Captain

Hilary term has been a successful one for the women. We got off to an excellent start with the pre-term training camp in 0th week. We had two boats training for Torpids, although sadly the second eight did not manage to row on. The first boat entered Burway which took place the Saturday before Torpids, managed to come 25th/30 overall and 2nd in the S4 class. We were very pleased with this result. As well as this we entered a number of the Isis Winter League races this term, not only in eights but also in fours and a double.

The womens 1st Torpid started 10th in Division 1 in Torpids. We rowed over on the first day, bumped on the Thursday and Friday, then narrowly missed bumping on Saturday, meaning that we finished eighth on the river. A huge improvement on last year! We hope to have six members of the Torpids crew rowing next term, which gives us a good chance of doing well in Eights.



The Women's 1st Torpid warming up (OK, so there were also some sunny bits during the week).

2005 St Catherine's Torpids

Men's 1st Torpid

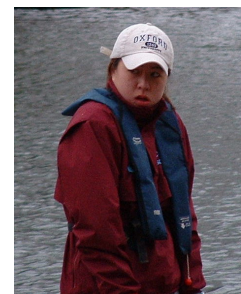
B Erik Vincent
2 Darren Chadwick
3 Steve Wicks
4 Peter Goult
5 David Royse
6 Evan Burfield
7 Dan Blakey
S Carl Fliescher
C Fleur-Estelle Shaw

Women's 1st Torpid

B Emma Willis
2 Lydia Hutchinson
3 Lena Matthai
4 Amy Banham-Hall
5 Clare Shakespeare
6 Katherine Lampe
7 Katharine Curtis Pierce
S Sarah Boddy
C Stephanie Sit

Men's 2nd Torpid

B David Mathews
2 James Smith
3 Oliver Phillips
4 Michael Tran
5 Phil Holme
6 Philip Scott
7 Sasha Kucherov
S Theo Bruening
C Katharine Pierce



Stephanie Sit, cox of the Women's 1st Torpid.

Men's 3rd Torpid

B Chris McCloskey
2 Arthur Kadish
3 Jack Gillions
4 Will Johnson
5 Mathias Rufino
6 Ben Ayers
7 Kane Moore
S Christian Lautner
C Miriam Nemeth

Women's 2nd Torpid

B Tse Lim
2 Miriam Nemeth
3 Jen Cormano
4 Nancy Liu
5 Victoria McDonald
6 Lauren McGuirl
7 Ariana Berengaut
S Lindsay Huber
C Richard Simmonds

Torpid 2005 Bumps Charts

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

in a private annual battle, while the trio of Keble, Christ Church and St Edmund Hall fought it out at the top of Div. 1



The 1965 1st Torpid, viewed from Donnington Bridge.

I eventually made it to the bow seat of the Schools Eight in 1964, when John Walker was Captain and Reg Butler stroked the first VIII. In 1965, I succeeded John as Captain and was sufficiently competent to row at bow in the 1966 1st VIII. Meanwhile, I had two very enjoyable years with the O.U. Coxswains' Society and our annual race of the pygmies against C.U.C.S.

40 Years Ago ...

We have few surviving records from the early 60's (of course, if someone does discover a Boat Club minute book in that trunk in the attic, buried under those seriously out of fashion clothes ...), so for the History we had to rely on the memories of those who rowed at the time. This is from John Haden's contribution.

John Haden, Captain of Boats 1965-66

Having coxed briefly at St Paul's School, I arrived at St Catherine's Society in 1961 with at least a rough idea of what to do with an oar, and decided to try to convert myself into a very lightweight bow. It took me three years to persuade the other Boat Club members that this was a good idea!

Throughout the early 1960's, St Cath's 1st VIII remained at the foot of Div. 2, in the company of St Peter's, Pembroke, Wadham and the 2nd VIII's of Christ Church and St Edmund Hall. These engaged



The 1965 St Catherine's 1st Eight, photographed on the upper deck of the Barge. *From left to right, back row:* A. Rumbold (4), Craig Shelton (bow), John Haden (Capt.), Peter Chandler (6), James Holroyd (5), Will Pavry (7), Chris Talbot (3), Mike Day (2), *front row:* Anthony Hull (str), P. A. Coleridge (S.E.H., coach), John Rousseau (cox).

By 1964, the new College had risen from the mud of the fields next to the Cherwell, and SCBC had moved some of the eights to the racks of the OUBC boathouse. The College Barge was still very much in

use as a base for outings, and in 1964/5 we actually lived in it for some time to save money while doing long terms of research. We cooked on a gas stove and invented the Bucket and Blade Club for those who shared this probably illegal residence, and its basic bucket sanitation.

News from Alumni

Bluebell Martin (M.94) I can't believe it's taken me such a long time to put fingers to keyboard and give you an update, but I've just read the last 2 newsletters and decided that now is the time, prompted in particular by Cheryl's contribution!

On the rowing front I never managed to get going again once I left Catz. I spent a bit of time at Mortlake Anglian & Alpha and Tideway scullers, but as well as being depressed at how awful I'd become, somehow it was so easy to not go to land training when people didn't know where you lived! But getting 1st division blades in 1996 remains one of my greatest achievements, and I'll certainly never forget my time as an active member of SCCBC . . . Coaching the Catz Supermen definitely remains a highlight, but the 'fuchsia bra' moment at the start of Eights 1996, when Susan Erb in a moment of inspired coaching raised her t-shirt to combat the dreaded fear of the bungline, is something I will remember forever!

Since then I have spent more time on individual sports and have applied my energies with varying degrees of success to skiing, sailing, surfing, rock climbing and polo, amongst others. I've just moved to Angel, N London, and am being kept busy working for HeadlightVision — a strategic research consultancy.

Boat Naming

The week after Torpids the women brought their new eight up to College to have Lady Bullock pour a glass of champagne over the bows for its formal christening (a procedure viewed with some alarm by those of us worried about the potential solvent effects of the alcohol on the recently-repainted name). In return, the Women's Captain presented Lady Bullock with a salver inscribed with the words: 'To Nibby, with affection from St Catherine's College Boat Club and Rowing Society, for naming *Alan Bullock* on March 2nd 2005'.

Lady Bullock actually makes her first appearance in the Boat Club History back in 1959 for launching *All Rabbit's Friends And Relations*, a clinker VIII that was in use for the next 30 years. It seems that was the start of the tradition of naming our boats along the A A Milne theme so it seems appropriate

that she should also name the first eight that breaks with that tradition. However, the question of *why* we adopted the A A Milne theme has bothered me for some time (the usual assumption that he was a student at Catz is incorrect — he went to Trinity, Cambridge), but at last I may have the explanation. At the Rowing Society Dinner I met the widow of Peter Broadbridge (M.58) who says that it was all *his* idea, and for no better reason than that he was a *Winnie the Pooh* fan. Given that our records showed that he was a mere 2nd VIII oarsman at the time, one can only assume that his arguments were persuasive.



The Women's Captain, Lydia Hutchinson, the Master, Roger Ainsworth and Lady Bullock christening the women's new VIII.

Coming Up . . .

In the next newsletter there will be news of the Boat Races, arrangements for the Eights boathouse buffet and a piece on the the Boat Club of 50 years ago when Stewart Fraser was Captain (I have already received something from Nicholas Chubb, M.51). News from alumni of other years also welcome. There were no Catz entries in the Women's or Men's Tideway Head of the River Races this year, but if any of our alumni were participating let me know how you got on.

Anu Dudhia

email: dudhia@atm.ox.ac.uk

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

Diary

26 Mar 2005	Henley Boat Races
27 Mar 2005	The Boat Race
25-28 May 2005	Eights
28 May 2005	Boathouse Buffet Lunch