



29th June, 2019

In this issue . . .

With fewer entries for Eights than available places, questions are being asked. Nevertheless, Rowing On races were held and one crew (not ours) still managed to get themselves disqualified. The two Catz entrants were among the quickest, portending a successful Eights all round: every Catz crew went up, none was bumped, and the net gain of 15 places was Catz' best result since 1998. We have the photos and captains' reports.

The men's 3rd Eight won blades again. I'm told they would prefer to be known as 'the M0 Rocketship', however I'll stick with 'the Army of the Dead'. Their last bump was also the occasion of Mal Spencer's 100th start in a bumping race. For him, I assume, the starting cannon now holds all the terror of a pedestrian crossing light turning to green.

Turning to more recent service to the Boat Club, the winner of this year's Ben Sylvester Award has also been announced.



David Zimmer and Mal Spencer, stern pair of M3, thankfully opting for a relatively restrained 'fancy headgear' theme for the final day's racing.

Results

Bedford Regatta, 11th May

College Eights (15 entries)

R1 Magd. (Cam) bt **St Catz** 2 L 3:26
Final Oriel bt Magd.(Cam) 1 1/2 L 3:09

Rowing On, 25th May

Men's crews, all 30 to qualify

1st 2:50.0 New College III
=4th 3:00.5 **St Catherine's III**

Women's crews, all 28 to qualify

1st 3:19.0 University IV
=2nd 3:20.0 **St Catherine's II**

Eights, 29th May – 1st June

	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Finish
Men's I	=	=	+1	=	10th Div I
Women's I	=	+1	+1	=	5th Div II
Men's II	=	+1	=	=	5th Div IV
Men's III	+1	+1	+1	+1	8th Div V
Women's II	+3	+1	+1	=	3rd Div V

Men's Boat Club Report

Alex Herkert, Men's Co-Captain

The SCCBC men's squad had a very successful Trinity term, which started off strong based on an intense training camp in Northern Italy just before term. With only five weeks to get ready for Summer Eights, we hit the ground running, and set the men's first boat before Bedford Regatta on May 11th. While the crew was eliminated by Magdalene College, Cambridge, it was critical practice for racing later in the term. The men's second boat was more variable in the weeks leading up to Summer Eights due to a number of sicknesses and absences necessitated by work.

Both boats had a successful summer eights campaign, with both ending the week +1. M2 bumped St Hilda's on the second day of racing, while M1 bumped University on the third day. Both the M2 and M1 divisions were klaxoned on the fourth day, which was disappointing.

However, we finished without having a single boat bumped during all of Summer Eights.

Bumps Charts

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



The Men's 2nd Eight closing on St Hilda's on the Thursday

Throughout the term, spirits were high, and spending time at the boathouse and on the Isis was a highlight for all the SCCBC guys. With a strong undergraduate contingent, the boat club is looking forward to carrying the success this year forward to next year, under the leadership of Shane McCarthy and Joe Grey. Thanks to all who came out to watch and support!

2019 St Catherine's Eights

Men's 1st Eight

B James Duckitt
2 Joe Grey
3 Felix Behnke
4 Niels Wicke
5 Jamie Woodford
6 Shane McCarthy
7 Mike Thramann
S Alex Herkert
C James Wills

Women's 1st Eight

B Rachel Ibbetson¹
2 Holly Smith
3 Hannah Morrissey
4 Chloe Bregazzi
5 Heather Tong²
6 Oriane Grant
7 Rachel Craig-McFeely
S Clare Leckie
C Meirian Evans

Men's 2nd Eight

B Matthew Emmett
2 Giuliano Natali
3 Matias Vermehren
4 Brendan Meehan
5 Bryce Starr
6 George Newton
7 Jakob Kaepler
S Rob Kilgour
C Wolfgang Stockinger⁷

Women's 2nd Eight

B Amelia Brunton³
2 Giovanna Granata
3 Michaela Bunakova⁴
4 Abby Hespe⁵
5 Ilayda Karadag
6 Helen Goppelt
7 Lucy Jackson
S Kan Li
C Clare Leckie⁶

Men's 3rd Eight

B Martin Cusack
2 James Wills
3 Oliver Berry
4 Dave Smith
5 Nick Stenner
6 Matt Smith
7 David Zimmer
S Malcolm Spencer
C Niels Wicke⁸

Substitutes

¹Orlaith Breen (Fri)
²Orlaith Breen (Wed)
³Meirian Evans (Sat)
⁴Orlaith Breen (Fri)
⁵Anne Schnitzer (Thu)
⁶Holly Smith (Fri)
⁷Niels Wicke (Sat)
⁸Jakob Kaepler (Wed)



The Women's 2nd Eight about to bump Keble II on the Friday.

Women's Boat Club Report

Clare Leckie, Women's Co-Captain

For the better part of this term, the focus in the women's squad was on Summer Eights. This definitely paid off, with both crews continuing their steady or, in the case of W2, their rapid climb up the Eights tables.

W1 went into the week surrounded by whispers of a possible second set of blades for the year: we knew we were likely to be faster than the crews in front, the real question was by how much. Unfortunately, a slow start from the Lincoln crew two bung-lines ahead meant this wasn't to be as we were left to row over on the Wednesday. But with a significant amount of pressure now relieved and three days of racing left, we were able to relax into our races and get two strong bumps, before rowing over to end the week as we started when Anne's caught the spoons-winning Somerville crew in front.

With some dominant bumps early in the week (including an over-bump on Corpus just under Donnington Bridge, and a penalty bump after the Mansfield crew we were chasing caused a klaxon when they forgot to steer), W2 went into Saturday +5 and with a chance of blades. Starting on bung-line 3 and with a slow Keble crew behind, we knew that we were looking for an early bump. Little did we know, however, that the race would be over within the first three strokes as the Lincoln crew on the top bung-line hit the bank off the start, giving Jesus an easy row-past and us a tough lesson in resilience as we went on to row the course better than we ever had before.

Next year, W2 will be looking to earn a place in fixed divisions, and W1 will have their eyes on a Division I bung-line following a 15-year hiatus.

Unable to stay away from the river for more than a few days at a time, the squad continued to train post-Eights (many taking the opportunity to use the small boats). We entered more crews than any other college into Oriel Regatta on Saturday of 7th Week, with four women's IVs added to the three men's IVs in the CrewdVIIIs category [scratch mixed VIIIs]. Varying degrees of success

here, with one crew getting knocked out in the first round, and another taking 3rd place out of 25 crews.

A change of rules of entry for Henley Women's Regatta left the majority of the squad ineligible to race, but two members from our W1 crew formed a composite with Hertford W1 to enter an Aspirational Academic 8+. We didn't make it past the time trial, but it was a great opportunity to race among some of the top university crews from around the country and others from across the pond. A good goal for next year, perhaps?

Special mentions to the finalists in our squad who were able to balance such a successful Eights campaign with Finals this term: Oriane, Orlaith, Rachel CM, and Rachel I. Although we say farewell to many of our team from this year, we have a strong contingent of returning athletes next year and are well placed to continue this upward trajectory with guidance from Coach Rowan, and under the leadership of our fabulous new captains, Abby and Ilayda.



The Women's 1st Eight chasing St Anne's on the Saturday



RS Chairman Kevin Skinner with Rachel Craig-McFeely and Jakob Kaepler at the presentation of the Ben Sylvester Award

Ben Sylvester Award

Since 2002 the Ben Sylvester medal has been awarded annually to the Boat Club member judged to have ‘most significantly contributed to enhancing the rowing life of St Catherine’s College’.

The winner of this year’s award is Jakob Kaepler, Rachel Craig-McFeely *proxime accessit*.

Jakob has been a 2nd VIII oarsman, a 1st VIII cox and the Boat Club Secretary. Those who nominated him said:

Anytime you need someone to jump in on short notice, whether it be bankriding, driving a rental car, taking over the secretary role, coxing or rowing, Jakob will say yes.

Whether it be rowing, coxing or behind-the-scenes organisational work, we can always rely on him to step up and fill do what needs to be done.

He has also coxed so many woman’s and mixed boat outings in the cold winter mornings. He has been helping as much as he can whenever there is a short of cox, despite being a keen rower himself

Finally, Jakob’s genuine love of rowing always shines through he can often be found taking out a single or double in the mornings, even after consecutive days of practice.

Also nominated were: Oliver Berry, Meirian Evans, Kit George, Rachel Ibbetson, Ilayda Karadag, Carina Rampelt and Bryce Starr.

Coming Up ...

If any of you are engaged in rowing activities over the summer — and I’m willing to interpret that as broadly as you like — let me know and I’ll include it in the summer round-up in the next newsletter. There was also talk of some of our men being offered another expenses-paid trip to China; but we’ll have to see if anything else comes of that. As for me, City of Oxford Regatta beckons: I’m already entered in the highly-competitive category of open launch driving.

Diary

3–7 July	Henley Royal Regatta
12–14 July	Rowing World Cup III
17–18 Aug	City of Oxford Regatta
25 Aug – 1 Sep	Rowing World Championships

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The Boat Club Dinner, just before someone thought: ‘this might be a fun moment to let off a klaxon’.