

NEWS REPORT

October 2000

Editorial

Following the AGM, a change of Secretary also means a new editor for this mighty organ. Will the admirable journalistic standards and high moral tone established by Dave Semple be maintained? Judge for yourselves ...

Write-a-caption competition!



Your entries to the Secretary, please. Winner announced in the next issue.

Captain's Log Stardate 1

The Mumbles dash and splash on Sunday 24 September saw Upton as usual relegated to the outside lane in the rough fast flowing water. However, we gave a good account of ourselves, especially Coxie in an international double with a sculler from Tenby.

Worcester small boats head provided Upton with the first pot of the season in the form of a WN 4+ consisting of Freya, Annie, Deirdre, Pat and coxed by Debbie. Their time was 16 m 24 s achieved in the afternoon event, which proved to be a lot colder, wetter and more blustery than the morning race. We fielded three crews in the morning: two MVetC 4+ and one WS3 4+ - The times were MVetC 4+ 'A' 15 m 19 s, MVetC 4+ 'B' 14 m 53 s and LS3 \$+ 16 m 26 s.

Most crew members noted Boz's new image sporting trainers, jogging bottoms and a state of the art Cox box that is capable of transmitting several hundred metres [while remaining inaudible to the crew, unfortunately – Ed].

The Club dinner proved to be a great success when we said thank you to Dave and Steve for all their hard work over the last few years. Steve looked particularly overwhelmed as he was presented with gifts from the Club members. Hamish's speech was very entertaining and I would like to thank Peter and Sandy Barker for all their hard work and those others who helped to prepare and present this event.

I would like to encourage and support all those crews who will participate in heads and training this season. Hopefully, we will add to our ever increasing list of successes. We plan to have a new coaching structure in place soon, which will be instigated and ratified by some of the more senior and qualified members. This will aim to provide all racing crews with a properly instructed cox and correctly prepared equipment.

I would also like to mention Freya, Pat and Steve for their dedication in coaching beginners and juniors and their ongoing commitment to provide the club with new properly schooled members.

Land training

Circuit training has commenced for the winter at Hanley Castle School every Tuesday night at 7.20 pm. £2 per session. All welcome.

Forthcoming events

Upton Row, 10 December

Pudding Head, 17 December

Upton Head of the River Race, 13 January

Further details of these will be given nearer the time. In addition, the local fundraisers for Macmillan Nurses are going to hold a ball on Friday 15 December at Bredon School. Anyone wishing to go should contact Sue Clifford on 01684 310813.

Club Awards 2000

Here is a list of this year's awards that were made at the end-of-season dinner.

<i>Award</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Awarded to</i>
<i>Secretary's Cup</i>	Cox of the Year	Rob Streater
<i>Committee Cup</i>	Best Off-River Contribution to the Club	Hamish Barkley
<i>Chairman's Cup</i>	Best Men's Crew of the Year	The Veteran C four
<i>President's Cup</i>	Best Women's Crew of the Year	Both winning novice fours
<i>Captain's Cup</i>	Best Individual Contribution to Rowing	Clive Killick

Warmest congratulations to all the winners.

Pay up!

A reminder that subscriptions are now due, and that we need your money! Please race round to see Freya with your cheque book in your hand, to help prevent the bailiffs moving in on the boats.

Geek's Corner

Some email addresses:

Peter Barker	PPB@Stratascan.co.uk
Graham Rodway	Graham@old-chalfont.idps.co.uk
Ron Paterson	ronpaterson@lineone.net

If you are wired up please give Ron your email address (easiest just to send an email with it) to provide a further channel of communication.

The cybersurfers among you may be interested in looking at some of these rowing websites:

The Rowing Service – <http://www.total.rowing.org.uk/> (By far the best UK rowing website, with lots of links to other useful sites.)

The ARA's official website – <http://www.ara-rowing.org/> (Worthy rather than scintillating.)

Regatta Magazine online – <http://www.regatta.rowing.org.uk/>

The Coxswain's Locker – <http://www.coxing.com/> (An American website devoted to the skills of coxing – slogan: 'Don't make a noise, make a difference'. Pretty good stuff, although commands are different across the pond so it needs some translation into English.) Incidentally, there is a good UK book on the subject – *Coxing: Surviving the Wilderness Years*, by Tom Hooper.

Committee phone numbers

Chairman	Peter Barker	01684 592906
Captain	Graham Rodway	01684 568759
Secretary	Ron Paterson	01452 813338
Treasurer	Tony Glading	01684 593752
Minutes Secretary	Kate Hodgetts	01684 592746
Membership Secretary	Freya Biggs	01684 592007
Boatmaster	John Dean	01684 594221
Junior Co-ordinator	Steve Cox	01684 593849
Publicity	Deirdre Thompson	01684 592035
Social events	Maria Corfield	01684
Safety adviser	Doug Mackenzie	01452 856758
WMRC	Gabby Tolkein	01386 45334

And finally ...

A (genuine) extract from the East German manual of rowing, which is available in an English translation (and is otherwise very good).

‘The aim of education, in the sport of rowing as well, is the development of socialist personalities ... Some of the most important duties within the training group are discussion of day-to-day political events, explanation of the Party’s and government’s attitude, actions and decisions, and particularly the discussion of questions concerning the policy of sport in the country. ... There should be productive [shurely reproductive? – Ed] leisure time in the boathouse, friendly and moral behaviour towards the opposite sex, and willingness to help one another. The coach must observe, instruct, and criticise helpfully. ... As an important result of the coach’s guiding role, the sportsman must become convinced that his performances and behaviour relate directly to the GDR’s struggle for peace and that, through his attitude of conviction towards the victory of socialism, he can bring about important sports/political decisions.’

I look forward to seeing you all avidly putting this doctrine into practice next time I come down to the boathouse. Or else!

Until the revolution,

Ron