

**UPTON ROWING CLUB  
NEWSLETTER**

**May 2005**

## Editorial

After a hugely successful Line Dancing evening that raised £500 for Club funds, there are more mouth-watering opportunities ahead to empty our pockets while holding our trousers up in silly ways. You can't miss the advertisements for the Garden Party, The '10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bash on the Water' and the Club Dinner. Please support the hard-working organisers and book your tickets now!

The growing number of juniors attending Steve's training sessions has brought a real buzz to the boathouse on Sunday mornings. The Octuple has seen service on the water as a safe way of introducing new recruits, among more experienced juniors, to sculling on the river proper (see the photo at the end of this newsletter). And juniors have led the way in competitive rowing, with an encouraging start at Evesham Regatta for two crews organised by Clive Killick and Kath Means. Our Junior Representative on the committee, James Turner, describes all the thrills of his first day's racing.

Our anticipation of the Rowing World Cup at Dorney Lake is tinged with the sad news that our own Upton Regatta has been cancelled this year. The committee took this difficult decision after the Chairman of the Regatta Committee had to step down due to pressure of work.

Johnny Birks

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## Captain's Log

Both the women's and men's squads have continued training on Saturdays, with Ron and Johnny coaching the women in the morning and Freya coaching the men at 14:00h. A second (orange) launch is now being used. Thanks to Pauline and Patrick for co-ordinating these squad sessions (please 'phone them if you want to get involved) and to Bob for repairing and maintaining the equipment. A Women's Novice VIII is entered for Monmouth Regatta.

Are you wondering why members of the women's squad are looking a little sheepish? See the next newsletter (or The Malvern Gazette) for an explanation (stroke please Baaa-side)!

Steve Cox is planning to run another training mini-head within the club on 11<sup>th</sup> June – see the boathouse notice board for details.

### **Competitive rowing:**

Clive Killick and Kath Means took two young crews to Evesham Regatta on 1<sup>st</sup> May where they had a great time and performed well.

Robert Killick and James Turner (J15 double scull) won their first race against Hereford Cathedral School by 1 length but lost the second to Ross RC. Their form looked really good in the second race but the Ross crew was much more experienced. They are entered for both Monmouth and Hereford Regattas at the end of May.

A Novice coxed IV comprising James Killick (Cox) Patrick Fisk, James Forrester, James Taplin, and Will Smith raced against Gloucester RC but lost by ½ length. They would have made that up if the race had been another 250 metres long! Jamie did a great job as a cox. They were amazed at how quickly the race went. Both crews really enjoyed the experience and are looking forward to further races soon.



*URC's J15 2X – Robert Killick and James Turner winning their first ever race (against Hereford Cathedral School), at Evesham*

Our Junior Rep. James Turner recalls the day:

On the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2005 a four and a double went to Evesham Regatta with high hopes.

When Clive got there, he was the first car to turn up and was there even before the campers had woken up and leapt out of their tents.

Unlike every other rowing event that we had gone to, we had hoped that it would start on time, but this was short lived when the loud speaker said, “Sorry for all you early risers, we are 30 minutes late.”

Finally, when it was the four’s turn, the 18 year olds were still joking around even when they put the boat on the water. Then they saw their opposition who were a lot meatier than our skinny six formers. Even after the four lost they still wanted another go. When they got to the trailer, they found that they were only half a boat’s length behind after all.

It was now up to Robert and me. It was time for us to enter but our opposition did not turn up until 15 minutes late. However, when they finally turned up they were not like the six formers’ challengers, but very small and looked half our age. Amazingly we

actually won our first race by a boat's length, but in the second round we lost to a more experienced crew. We also thank everyone for lending out their all in one suits and our coaches for their unfailing support.

Despite being beaten both crews are keen to enter more races and are hoping to compete at Hereford and Monmouth over the May Bank Holiday; and we are trying to get a J15 four crew together.

Other junior news is that Steve Cox took the "Octuple" out on 8 May. This was launched with **6 new recruits** with only a 10 minute talk beforehand on how to scull by Steve. I think everyone enjoyed the outing, so we thank Steve for doing this and hope to see our new recruits again.

**James Turner**  
**Juniors' Section**



*The Novice 4+ (James Killick (Cox) Patrick Fisk, James Forrester, James Taplin, and Will Smith) on the start for their first ever race, at Evesham*

## President to retire

Our Club's president, Lady Rachel, has indicated that she wishes to step down from her post at this year's AGM on 26<sup>th</sup> September. There will be an opportunity then to choose a new president. We thank Lady Rachel for all her support given to the club since its inception nearly ten years ago.

**Sunday 12th June - 1:00 pm**

# Upton Rowing Club GARDEN PARTY

A Relaxing and Fun Day Out  
Beautiful Location, Boat Races  
and Great Food!

Location: Mr and Mrs Phillip Archers  
Welland Court

£10 Adult Ticket (Children at a  
discount)

Contact: Steve Cox ph: 01684 593 849  
for tickets **by 29 May!!**

**Another date for your Diary!!  
The Upton Rowing Club Annual Dinner is  
planned for  
21<sup>st</sup> October 2005.**

# 10th Anniversary Bash

## On the water...on the water!!

To commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Upton Rowing Club, the URC Committee is proposing a *10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party on the Water* to be held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

The evening would start at 7:30 pm and include a 3.5 hour cruise on the Conway Castle up the Severn, buffet dinner and live music. It should be a great night out!  
Cost (excluding drink) is £25 per person.

Because of the financial commitment required to make the booking, we need confirmation that we have sufficient numbers who will attend before we can confirm the date with the boat company!

So we need to hear from you urgently! Please contact Ros Adams –  
ph. 01531636951 email: [ros@riversidetraining.co.uk](mailto:ros@riversidetraining.co.uk).  
We would like the full ticket price to be paid ASAP.

### Your Committee (and non-committee posts)

Just one change to report: Clive Killick has reluctantly had to step down as Chairman of the Upton Regatta Committee due to pressure of work.

<b>Upton Rowing Club Committee 2004-2005</b>				
<b>Post</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>Mobile</b>	<b>E Mail</b>
Chairman	Peter Barker	01684 592906	07974 158839	<a href="mailto:ppb@stratascan.co.uk">ppb@stratascan.co.uk</a>
Secretary	Ros Adams	01531 636951		<a href="mailto:ros@riversidetraining.co.uk">ros@riversidetraining.co.uk</a>
Treasurer	Andrea Oliver	01684 593180	07947 806897	<a href="mailto:andrea.oliver@virgin.net">andrea.oliver@virgin.net</a>
Acting Captain	Steve Cox	01684 593849	0781 3284082	
Women's Vice Captain	Pauline Mason	01684 593194		<a href="mailto:tmmason@btinternet.com">tmmason@btinternet.com</a>
Men's Vice Captain	Will Dutson	01684 293774	07980 708412	<a href="mailto:will.dutson@btinternet.com">will.dutson@btinternet.com</a>
Membership Secretary	Freya Biggs	01684 592007	07968 919939	
Boatmaster	Bob Hinds	01905 820887		

Junior Organiser	Steve Cox	01684 593849	0781 3284082	
Fundraising Co-ordinator	Kath Means	01684 575599	07795 183900	<a href="mailto:kmeans@pathways-i.co.uk">kmeans@pathways-i.co.uk</a>
Welfare Adviser	Jenny Worthington	01905 371225	07971 414834	<a href="mailto:johnworthington@zoom.co.uk">johnworthington@zoom.co.uk</a>
Ordinary Member and Safety Adviser	Gabby Tolkien	01386 45334		<a href="mailto:gtolkien@onetel.net.uk">gtolkien@onetel.net.uk</a>
Ordinary Member	Grahame Turner	01684 563289	07711 606680	<a href="mailto:grahame.n.turner@btinternet.com">grahame.n.turner@btinternet.com</a>

<b>Non-committee Posts</b>				
Junior Representative	James Turner	01684 563289	07747 104036	
Kit Sales	Patrick Adams	01531 636951	07973 541724	<a href="mailto:patrick@riversidetraining.co.uk">patrick@riversidetraining.co.uk</a>
Press Liaison	Penny Stevenson	01684 567798	07887 631024	<a href="mailto:derekstevenson@btconnect.com">derekstevenson@btconnect.com</a>
Chairman Regatta Committee	Vacant			
Chairman Head of River Committee	Stewart Robinson	01684 567865	07899 978535	<a href="mailto:srobinson@pilz.co.uk">srobinson@pilz.co.uk</a>
Newsletter Editor	Johnny Birks	01684 575876	07974 083763	<a href="mailto:johnnybirks@vwt.org.uk">johnnybirks@vwt.org.uk</a>

Have you the time and energy to put something back into the club? If so, why not consider volunteering for one of the posts above in the future? You never know - the incumbent person might be delighted to hand over the reins!

### **Newsletter contributions welcome!**

Do you fancy writing a piece for the newsletter? Your desperate editor would be delighted to receive items by email, post, cleft stick or sticky hand. Just make sure that your contribution is relevant, informative, entertaining or (preferably) all of these.



*The Octuple on its first outing at Upton on 8th May 2005. Photo by Grahame Turner.*

**Help us find a second-hand lightweight quad!!**

We have a generous offer by a club supporter to purchase a second-hand lightweight quad for the club! This would be a great aid to our junior rowing efforts and ladies squad. If you hear of one for sale or have a suggestion where we might find one then please contact Kath Means – ph 07795183900 or email - [kmeans@pathways-i.com](mailto:kmeans@pathways-i.com)