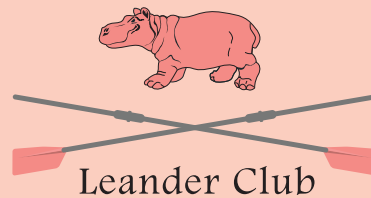


Leander News

Autumn 2014



Leander News

The official newsletter of Leander Club is published twice yearly, in late Spring and Autumn

Articles, photographs and ideas, as well as news of our Members, are always welcome and should be addressed to:

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Sara du Luart, Tom Mortimer, Hugh Richardson,
Mike Willoughby

Cover photo: Leander winning the Prince of Wales
Challenge Cup at Henley for the fifth successive year.
Photo: Robert Treharne Jones

Head of the Charles

While Leander athletes were racing at the British Championships, other club representatives, including Committee Member Anne Buckingham, headed across the Atlantic for the Head of the Charles, America's largest regatta, which was celebrating its fiftieth year.

Executive Director Fred Schoch led the way, running the regatta and hosting the Head of the Charles 50th Gala Dinner on Saturday evening, at which guest speaker Sir Matthew Pinsent composed his own Ode to the Race to amuse the audience!

Leander was fortunate to secure a table at the sold-out dinner, where seats had to be limited to Members only, but the table itself was decorated with various Leander items, and the Pink was much in evidence. Various overseas Leander Members were able to swap their own tales of racing bravado and derring-do, while other Members added to the general merriment of the evening from their own, adjacent, tables.

On the water Fred Schoch's 'Team Attager' both won the Masters Eights and paid homage to the ultimate riddle of the regatta's fifty years, Charles Attager.

Charles is an entirely fictional individual with the forename of the river and a surname of "regatta" spelled backwards who has often had the final word on disputes arising from the event.



Following the success of last year's Leander dinner plans are already in hand for next year's 'Head of the Charles 51' dinner so mark your calendars now for 17 October 2015. Details will be released in March, and all Members and their guests will be welcome.

Sir Matthew Pinsent

Record success across the board

In her final report as Captain of Leander Debbie Flood looks back on another season marked by success for our international and development athletes, including a heady mix of wins at Henley Royal Regatta, the National Schools, the senior World Championships, and the British Championships

As I look back over the summer at the Club, I smile to think what a great pleasure it has been to be Captain at Leander over the last two years and to see the Club so full of energy and continuing to thrive.

As the season moved towards Henley Royal Regatta I was impressed to see how much each of our club crews had developed and matured, both as individuals and as crews, while learning valuable lessons in each race and working out how best to inspire one other.

It was great to see our internationals join in once again for Henley, where 55 of our athletes raced in 'the pink' in 16 crews in front of a home crowd. Of course Henley is a highlight in our rowing calendar, as it is for any other club, but the regatta ended as our second most successful in history, with nine crews making the finals with Leander athletes on board, and wins in the Grand, the Remenham, the Queen Mother, the Princess Grace, the Stewards' and, for the fifth year running, the Prince of Wales.

The Double Scull, the Ladies' Plate and Visitors' crews all fought tough finals and all crews can be proud of their efforts and the standard they achieved. Reaching the final of all three intermediate events was a first for any club, so all credit to our athletes and coaches, and a positive marker for the future as athletes continue to step up to the GB team.



Image courtesy of Robert Trehame Jones

Leander celebrate a record fifth successive win in the Prince of Wales at Henley

Our junior squad ended their most successful season to date. Our best ever National Schools results included silver for Harry Leask in championship singles; silver for Tom Mortimer and Cameron Forsythe in J16 doubles; bronze for Harry Uglow in J17 singles; and 5th place for Leander in championship quads. Our juniors then went on to qualify two boats for the Fawley Challenge Cup at Henley, and Harry Uglow was selected to race the single

scull at the Coupe de la Jeunesse, where he won silver and bronze.

These results, from a squad of 16 juniors, 11 of whom came to us never having rowed before, show the success of our junior program, which continues to grow year-on-year.

A record 13 Leander athletes and two coaches represented GB at the Under-23 World Championships bringing home two exceptional medals - silver in the



Image courtesy of Robert Trehame Jones

Cameron Forsythe and Tom Mortimer take silver in J16 doubles at National Schools

women's eight, coxed by Morgan Baynham-Williams, and bronze for the men's double of Jack Beaumont and Angus Groom, who were coached by Matt Beechey.

At senior level a total of 29 Leander athletes were selected to represent GB at the World Championships in Amsterdam, matching the record high of 2013.

They came back with eight gold, four silver and three bronze medals, with notable wins from the men's eight (Will Satch, Matt Gotrel, Pete Reed, Tom Ransley, and cox Phelan Hill) and the para-rowing four (Pam Relph and cox Oli James), all of whom helped their boats to retain the world titles, while Alex Gregory in the men's four led the world home.

Meanwhile the World University Championships, the Commonwealth, and Home Countries International regattas also saw many more appearances from Leander athletes, with yet more medals to show for it, and helping to end the season with some great races, many highs, and more drive for the year ahead. Congratulations to all our athletes who represented their country this year!

A successful season having been completed slightly later than normal, the taken three weeks for our internationals, and four weeks for our club athletes, gave our freshers the chance to get their feet on the ground back at the Club. Suddenly the gym and crew room were packed once again with a buzzing atmosphere, good banter and hard training.

The British Championships, held last month, was compulsory for those seeking selection for any level of GB



Image courtesy of Peter Spurrier

Five Leander athletes helped GB retain the senior world title in men's eights in Amsterdam

team. Leander won 9 out of 17 classes entered, with some great racing in tricky headwind (and blade-losing!) conditions. This was a great opportunity for our senior internationals to mix it up with our U23 and development athletes, to help gain valuable racing experience to spur them on and raise their game.

Undoubtedly our event of the weekend had to be the final of the men's doubles, where a mass of pink stormed into the headwind and finished 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. The result meant that we won the senior, U23, lightweight, and U23 lightweight pennants, as well as second place in U19 doubles - an impressive show of sculling strength for the club.

We now look forward to testing the waters at the next GB assessments in Boston in November, before heading deeper into winter training.

On behalf of all our athletes I would really like to thank our 2014 coaching team for all their hard work. They include Matt Beechey, Livinia Cowell-Sherriff, Jane Hall, Brian Armstrong, James Macartney, Ross Hunter, Karl Reid, Ted Bainbridge and, of course, chief coach Mark Banks. I would especially like to thank Brian Armstrong and wish him a well-earned

rest as he steps down from crew coaching, although I'm pleased to report that he will continue as mentor. Brian has coached crews for many years, and his input has been pivotal to the success of our programme.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all those who play a part in helping Leander's continued success - the Members, sponsors, support team, and committee as well as the athletes and coaches themselves. You have all made me proud to be a part of Leander and I hope to continue to be a positive force for the Club in whatever capacity the future brings.



Image courtesy of Peter Spurrier

Angus Groom and Jack Beaumont crown a successful season with bronze in the U23 double

Building for the Future

Our new building project having been completed ahead of time, Members have now been able to enjoy the newly renovated Bar, Members' Room and Regatta Room for more than two months, and the feedback so far has been almost universally positive.



"Obviously the renovation has meant change, but Members understand the need for that change, and are finding the new arrangements very much to their liking" said general manager Paul Budd.



The Regatta Room (formerly the Members' Bar) has been transformed into a multiuse area that can increase the capacity of the bar area for large events, but which also has state-of-the-art conference and communication capability required by modern businesses. This is already proving extremely attractive for local businesses, helping to derive revenue for our rowing development fund.



The new Members' Room now offers a quiet retreat to enjoy a drink, a chat, and perhaps a chance to read the papers, away from the hustle and bustle of the rest of the Club.



Meanwhile the new furnishings in the Bar enable more guests to be seated, in more comfort, and with greater flexibility than before.

Road to Rio – 1

2014 has marked a significant step forward for three-times Henley winner John Collins, who made his debut in the GB senior team and progressed right through to the world championships in Amsterdam.

"In fact my year started with an injury just before Christmas – I had a really bad back, so I promised myself I would come back stronger" said John as he began to describe his first senior year.

"I committed very hard, I trained very hard on the bike, and that was a real turning point. Jürgen gave me a few weeks outside the full programme, so I could really sort out my sculling technique".

"That gave me the confidence for final trials in April – I didn't lead off the start in my races but I was chewing through people and being in command" he continued.

After finishing fifth in the A final John was selected with fellow Leander athlete Jonny Walton in the men's double scull.

"I'm not saying the boat was very smooth or easy – it wasn't – but mentally we approached things in a similar way, and the project started to go from strength to strength" said John.

At the European Championships the Leander men far exceeded Jürgen Grobler's expectations of a B final placing by earning

themselves sixth place overall.

"We even managed to knock out the Serbians in front of their home crowd" laughed John.

"The result spurred us on for the World Cup regatta in Aiguebelette – we always wanted to see our names at the top of the timing sheet."

It resulted in a much smoother race in the French Alps, where the duo got a better feel for the likely competition later in the season. But they got a surprise at Henley, where the French lightweights proved an unknown quantity in their competition.

"We thought the Dutch would be our main competition. They beat us by one place at the Europeans, but then we saw the French beat the Dutch by a huge margin in the other semifinal – that worried me" said John.

Sure enough, the Double Sculls final proved the closest race of the day, with the French taking an official verdict of just three feet on the line.

"We were annoyed with the result, but the intensity of it all paid off going to Lucerne

the following week" he went on.

"We walked away from the Kiwi double and that was a big deal for us – we had a good race to get into the final and held on to the silver medal slot for 1500m"

Against more experienced crews Collins and Walton slipped back into fourth place, and headed straight off to altitude training camp with the rest of the GB squad.

"Our confidence levels weren't so great going to Amsterdam – we hadn't raced in weeks" said John.

"We built right through the regatta, expecting to row our perfect race in the final. In fact we needed that in the semi, and made the B final instead – but we didn't just win that race, we dominated it" he went on.

"We closed the project having exceeded the expectations of the team – that was a nice thing to do. I don't know what will happen next year but if Jonny and I can get back in the double and see how far we can go with it, then I'd be happy with that."



Image courtesy of Robert Treharne Jones

Jonny Walton and John Collins on their way to the A final in France

Road to Rio – 2

Leander athlete Jack Beaumont is a double Henley winner who earned himself a place as travelling spare for the senior world championships in Amsterdam. Here he tells how he helped win bronze at the Under-23 World Championships, partnering Angus Groom in the double.

"We knew there would be the chance to race the double at the Under-23s – Angus and I have been racing together since we were 16" said Jack.

"We were given the chance to race senior competition at the World Cup in Aiguebelette, but next we had to focus on Henley, which is always a big one for the club" he continued.

Jack and Angus raced in the quad in the Prince of Wales and helped bring back the trophy to Leander for an unprecedented fifth successive win, but all too soon the focus changed yet again.

"The following day we were back in the double at Caversham, with just three weeks to get it right before the U23s, but it felt very natural – we sing from the same hymn sheet, and we even had Matt Beechey coaching us, just as he had done at Henley" said Jack.

On arrival in Italy at Lake Varese the Leander men knew they had to retain their own focus.

"Everyone is there to perform, so our aim was to go out there and win gold, and not worry about the opposition."

"We knew from the heats that we were in the top four, so we knew we had to race for the gold to stand a chance of getting any medal – it was that close. We took it by the scruff of the neck, we led at the field at 500m, we led at halfway and we were still leading at 1500m."

But it wasn't enough – with less than 200m to go France and Lithuania overhauled the Leander double, who had to settle for bronze. Just 0.9 sec separated all three crews on the line.

Jack's performance meant an invitation to join the senior team as heavyweight sculling spare, so he went for outings in his single at training camp in Aviz, Portugal,, alongside the GB coxed pair.

"I was always 'on call', although I had one session in the quad. I used it all to improve myself, because my next goal was the spares race in Amsterdam, even though the

season was supposed to be over for me" he added.

As a curtain raiser to the main event on the Bosbaan Jack duly went out and established his authority, winning the spares race for men's singles. Then he went off to shadow the double and the quad for every outing throughout the week.

"I literally followed them everywhere until they pushed off to race – then I'd relax and enjoy the race, but every time they'd race I'd feel that little bit jealous of what they were doing" he said.

So how does he feel to have won Britain's first Under-23 sculling medal for more than five years?

"I had mixed feelings when we finished – on one hand I was really happy to get a medal, but since then I've seen how close we were" he said.

"Now I know what it's like to be on the podium, I want to know what it feels like to be on the top!"



Jack Beaumont and Angus Groom in action on Lake Aiguebelette

Image courtesy of Robert Treharne Jones

Steering to Victory

Last year Phelan Hill steered the GB men's eight to an historic victory at the World Championships in Chungju, Korea – the first time Britain had ever taken the gold medal in that event. Here he tells the story of how his crew travelled to Amsterdam and retained that title for a second successive year.

"There was a substantial change from last year's winning eight with only myself plus fellow Leander members Tom Ransley, Pete Reed and Will Satch returning. We were joined by five new crewmates, two of whom were racing at the World Championships for the very first time" said Phelan.

Going into the World Championships the crew had raced together only twice before, winning the Grand Challenge Cup at Henley Royal Regatta and taking bronze in Lucerne a week later.

"Third in Lucerne was the first time we had the crew together for any real time, and it gave us an indication of where we were and what we needed to do. I was always aware of the raw power in the boat, and for me it was just about harnessing it. We went away, we sat down for a while, messed around with the crew order, and came out with our final line-up" he continued.

The crew's first heat in Amsterdam saw them drawn against Germany, the current Olympic and European Champions.

"Whilst we didn't win the heat, I felt confident about what we could achieve, and couldn't help but think about the GB eight at the Sydney 2000 and the way they came through the reps to become Olympic champions" said Phelan.

"One of the greatest characteristics of our crew had been their ability to learn and change so every race and every day we progressed. The crew was really amazing – every single time we asked the question, everyone delivered on it" he added.

"In our rep we thought about taking a risk, attacking the start more and being at the front of the field from the beginning, so we did just that" he continued.

A commanding win ahead of Russia in the repechage gave the crew even more confidence as they headed into the final.

"In the final we just talked about being tough, being brave. We knew what had happened in the heat with the Germans, and knew we could not let them get away."

"On the day we executed that perfectly, coming through that second 500m we were there in the mix going head to head with the Germans and the Poles.

Then coming through the 1000m I looked across at the field and said "Guys, this is our moment, we can have it here!" The guys were fantastic, our rhythm was so strong – bulletproof! It felt that at any time, when the other crews attacked, we could defend our lead and hold our position" said Phelan.

"We just had a two-man lead coming in to the last 250m but I felt as long as we stuck to our guns we'd come through. Then, with 150m to go I thought 'Yeah, this is it!' but I still had to double-check as we came over the line!"



Image courtesy of Robert Treharne Jones

Cox Phelan Hill backs his crew onto the start last year in Sydney

Thank you, One and All!

Once again it is my very pleasant duty to congratulate all our athletes and coaches who were selected for Great Britain this year, either at the Under-23 or Senior World Championships.

Leander wishes to place on record that this credit should be shared, not only with our partners in the GB Rowing Team, but also the support teams at the athletes' previous clubs, universities and schools. Our athletes would not have had this success without their substantial contribution.

Congratulations to you all!

Mark Banks Chief Coach (formerly of Hollingworth Lake and Nottingham & Union)

Chris Bartley

(King's School, Chester)

Morgan Baynham Williams

(Ross; Oxford Brookes Univ.)

Jack Beaumont

(Sir William Borlase's GS; Maidenhead)

Matt Beechey

(Worcester)

Ro Bradbury

(Thames; Imperial College)

Cameron Buchan

(Northeastern Univ., USA)

Sholto Carnegie

(Marlow; City of Oxford)

Richard Chambers

(Coleraine Academical Inst.; Oxford Brookes Univ.)

Jono Clegg

(Sir William Borlase's GS)

John Collins

(Tideway Scullers)

Clive Cooper

(Upper Thames; Reading Univ.)

Charles Cousins

(Rob Roy; Reading Univ.)

Zoe de Toledo

(St Paul's Girls School)

Seb Devereux

(Marlow)

Will Fletcher

(Tyne; Durham Univ.)

Tom George

(Radley College)

Lucinda Gooderham

(Durham Univ.)

Matt Gotrel

(Loughborough Univ.)

Alex Gregory

(Evesham; Reading Univ.)

Katie Greves

(Headington School; Univ. of London)

Angus Groom

(Walton; Durham Univ.)

Phelan Hill

(Bedford School; London)

Olly James

(Broxbourne; Warwick Univ.)

James Johnston

(Harvard Univ, USA)

Jamie Kirkwood

(Cambois; Imperial College)

Pete Lambert

(Jeppe High School (South Africa)

Matt Langridge

(Northwich)

Callum McBrierty

(Durham Univ.)

Vicky Meyer-Laker

(Nottingham)

Sam Mottram

(Upper Thames)

Holly Nixon

(Portora School)

Tom Ransley

(York City; Cambridge Univ.)

Pete Reed

(Univ. West of England; Oxford Univ.)

Lou Reeve

(Downe House School; Durham Univ.)

Monica Relph

(Rob Roy; Reading Univ.)

Pam Relph

(Caversham)

George Rossiter

(Abingdon School; Newcastle Univ.)

Will Satch

(Shiplake College)

Al Sinclair

(Inverness)

Polly Swann

(George Heriot's School; Glasgow University)

Vicky Thornley

(Bath Univ.)

Jonny Walton

(Leicester; Loughborough Univ.)

William Warr

(Durham Univ.)

Lest We Forget

Two of the earliest casualties in the Great War were a schoolmaster and a career soldier, who were among more than 24,000 British killed or reported missing during the First Battle of Ypres on the Western Front.

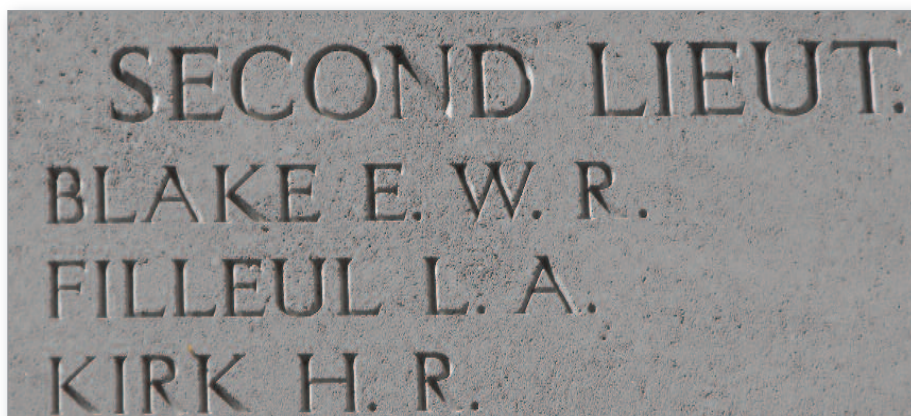
Leonard Amauri Filleul, who was born in Bath on 6 February 1888, was the son of the Rev. Philip Filleul, the rector of Devizes. After school at Trent College, Derbyshire, where he won the Gold Medal of the National Service League for military proficiency, he went up to Lincoln College, Oxford. There he rowed for four years in their first eight, becoming secretary of the college rowing club, and racing in the winning University trial eight of 1910.

After leaving Oxford in 1911, when he was elected to Leander membership, he became a schoolmaster at Monkton Combe and was attached to the 3rd Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry as supplementary officer. On the outbreak of war he volunteered for foreign service and, after a short period of training in Plymouth, was sent to the Front on 25 September with a draft of the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant.



Leonard Amauri Filleul 1888-1914

He was killed in action on 21 October 1914 near St Julien and was buried midway between St Julien and Poelcappelle. His grave no longer being identifiable after the War, his name is recorded on the Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres.



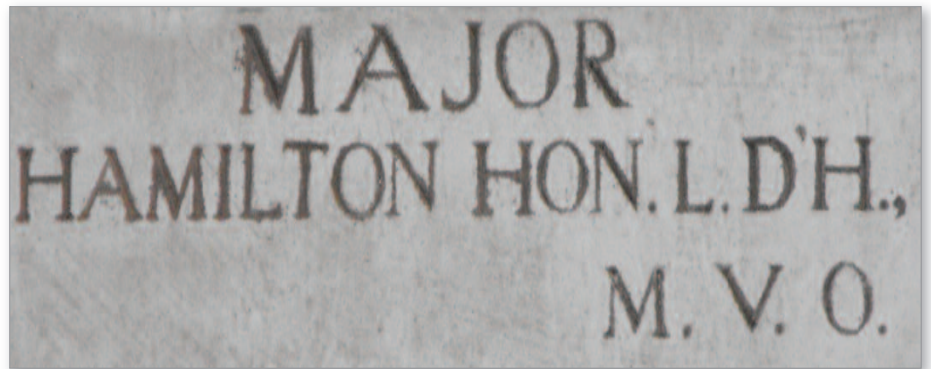
The Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres records

The Hon. Leslie d'Henin Hamilton

was born in 19 December 1873, the son of the Liberal politician John Glencairn Carter Hamilton, 1st Baron Hamilton of Dalzell, and his wife, Lady Emily Eleanor Leslie-Melville.

After school at Eton College, where he was a contemporary of both Vivian Nickalls and CM Pitman, he stroked the Prince of Wales, the third-ranked Upper Boat behind Monarch and Victory.

In 1893 he was gazetted 2nd Lieutenant in the Coldstream Guards, being promoted to Lieutenant in 1897, and



elected to Leander membership the following year. He then served in the Boer War 1899-1902, where he was promoted Captain and awarded the



The Hon. Leslie d'Henin Hamilton
1873-1914

Queen's South Africa Medal with four clasps.

He married his wife, Amy Ricardo, before being promoted Major in 1910, and arrived in France in 1914 with 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards, who were among the first British regiments to arrive after the declaration of war. At the first Battle of Ypres the 1st Battalion was virtually annihilated, and by 1 November was down to 150 men. Hamilton himself died on 29 October 1914, at the age 40, and his name is recorded among a total of 54,896 names on the Menin Gate.



ds the names of almost 55,000 men who died in the Great War

Annual Subscriptions for 2015

Leander Club subscriptions for 2015 were approved at the Annual General Meeting as follows:

Members (non-rowing) and Full Members – £286

Overseas Members – £143

Full Members (UK and Overseas) less than 30 years of age – £69

The British Rowing annual levy will be £6.90 and will be added to the subscription for all categories of membership. Subscriptions are collected by Direct Debit on 1st January each year unless you opt for the twice-yearly scheme. Only in the case of Overseas Members without a UK bank account will cheque or credit card payment be accepted.

Members who have set up a split Direct Debit arrangement with the Club will make two payments of 143.00 (plus the levy). The first payment of £149.30 will have been taken on 1st October 2014 and the second payment of £143 will be taken on 1st April 2015.

The Committee are always pleased to receive applications for both Full and Club membership and Members are encouraged to propose suitable candidates. If you would like to seek guidance on eligibility, you can contact us in confidence by email at confidential@leander.co.uk

The incentive scheme where proposers of successful applicants are invited to dine with the new Member and their respective guest (a table of four) at the Club's expense, is still in operation.

A joining fee equal to one year's subscription for the category is applied to new Members but is waived for Full Members less than 30 years of age.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for the Year 2015

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Leander Club will be held in the marquee at the Clubhouse, Henley-on-Thames on Sunday 28th June 2015 at 11 am.

Chris Dalley

Honorary Secretary

On the Road to Success

Leander prides itself on its ability to recruit potential new athletes from non-rowing schools as part of our talent identification programme, under the leadership of coach Livinia Cowell-Sherriff. Here junior athlete Tom Mortimer tells his own story:

Since my family home is in Reading I went to school at Maiden Erlegh, in the suburb of Earley, where I was one of the tallest in my year.

I knew that someone from Leander was coming round to assess us for rowing – my PE teacher asked me if I wanted to get involved so, because my grandfather rowed for his college at Cambridge, I thought I'd give it a try.

I was doing a bit of rugby, but it really wasn't my thing, whereas land training and the beautiful surroundings in Henley sounded good!

I found out I had passed the assessment, which was in December 2012, so Livinia then gave me a month to improve my strength and fitness, with things like swimming, running, cross-training and circuits, before more testing in January.

What I really enjoy about being at Leander is the sense of 'team'. We're all on the same side, encouraging one another, and that was reinforced when I did my first 2K ergo test – everyone was screaming each other on!

I think I'm getting on really well and seem to spend more time here, with more friends than I do at home. The crew room is such a mix of different people, different backgrounds, different nationalities, so I feel part



Tom Mortimer (right) on his way to silver in J16 doubles at the National Schools Regatta, partnered by Cameron Forsythe.

of an elite club, but I've got people supporting me in what I do. I want to do well – I want to achieve!

Tom Mortimer won a silver medal in J16 double sculls at the National Schools Regatta in May. At Henley Royal Regatta Tom raced in the

Leander B crew which reached the second round of the Fawley Challenge Cup, and two weeks later he won another silver medal in J16 quads at the British Championships.

Obituaries



Alan Spong ERD

1920-2014

Elected to membership 1978

Sidney Ernest Albert Spong was known to everyone as Alan because, on his first date with the lady who was to become his wife, she announced that under no circumstances could she call him either Sidney, or Ernest, and certainly not Albert.

He was first employed, in his teens, as the cabin boy-cum-deckhand on a Thames sailing barge. Together with the skipper he helped ply their trade carrying bulk cement, or coal, from the Medway in Kent up the east coast.

It was as a man of 20 that Alan volunteered to take 'Queen Boadicea', a Thames river passenger vessel, across the channel as part of the flotilla of Little Ships to ferry troops off the beaches at Dunkirk.

With one naval rating on board Alan made a number of trips, first to the

harbour, which was under constant bombardment, then to the beach at La Planne. The small ships were subjected to constant bombing and strafing by the Luftwaffe. The vessel next to Alan's was blown to pieces by a direct hit. He rescued three survivors from that incident and a great many more.

"I tell you cocker, I was **** scared" he would recall later.

After volunteering for service in the royal engineers, he was commissioned to the rank of major and transferred to the Indian army and posted to Burma. At Chittagong his troops were constructing barges under constant attack from Japanese fighter bombers, and during one particularly heavy bombing raid Alan was quite seriously wounded.

At base hospital he was nursed by a VAD, a voluntary nurse who was to become his wife. He and Aidin were married in Singapore and, still recuperating at the end of the war, they settled in Kingston upon Thames.

In 1948 he decided to get back to the Thames and take up rowing at Quintin, so to satisfy the joining criteria he cropped a few years off his age. He loved every part of the river from source to the sea.

After joining the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames, of which he would later become Master, he was also a liveryman of the Cooks Company.

In 1978 he was elected a member of Leander, and then Remenham Club, and

never missed the Royal Regatta.

After Aidin's sad death Alan lived alone, immersing himself in Kingston Rowing Club, becoming President and financially supporting the acquisition of a boat which still bears his name.

Alan then moved to Maidenhead but dementia was beginning to destroy his memory.

In 2010 the researchers for a TV production on Dunkirk discovered that the 'Queen Boadicea' had survived and was still used commercially in Bristol. Alan was whisked off in a 'very flash car, cocker', as he so eloquently put it. The vessel was moved off its usual mooring, and Alan was filmed at the helm, cruising along the river with Dan Snow by his side.

Shortly afterwards his dementia became so bad that Alan had to be placed in a home, where an Indian carer came to his room. Having confirmed that Urdu was her first language she spoke to Alan in her native tongue and they chatted for ages. That part of his brain had definitely not failed.

Alan had the most amazing life, full of experience, and he packed a lot in. He was a man of considerable presence, a man with style, a kind and very generous and charming man, a man of whom I never ever heard a bad word. And he loved all company, especially female.

Harry Purchase



Paul Bourne

1928–2013

Elected to membership 1951

Paul Bourne, who died last December, was elected to Leander membership in 1951, after his Jesus College crew reached the final of the Ladies Plate at Henley.

Born in Wolverhampton, Paul attended the local grammar school before going up to Cambridge to read classics and history in 1947, when he started his rowing career, becoming a very active and committed oarsman.

During his time at Jesus he won the Fairbairn Cup Race for two years in succession 1949–50, but his election as Captain of JCBC in 1951 heralded a year of distinction on the water. Jesus won both the Reading and Tideway Heads, and when the Jesus 1st VIII retained the Tideway headship in 1952 it was to be the last occasion on which an Oxbridge college won the event.

Pauls crew went on to achieve third place on the river in The Mays, but lost

the final of the Ladies' Plate at Henley to their close rivals from Clare.

Throughout his rowing career and thereafter he remained a strong advocate of the principles of rowing established by Steve Fairbairn, and which were faithfully followed by Jesus after Steve's death in 1938.

After leaving Cambridge in 1951 Paul entered the Colonial Service in Africa, where he met his future wife, Ruth, whom he married in Cape Town in 1953. He became a District Commissioner, manning a series of remote outstations in Northern Rhodesia (later to become Zambia after independence) until his retirement in 1973.

On returning to the UK Paul and Ruth moved in Sevenoaks, from where Paul commuted into London to undertake a series of management consultancy positions until full retirement some years later.

Paul retained a lifelong interest in Jesus College Boat Club and its activities, supporting the College's progress with pride and interest, either at Cambridge, or at Henley where he was a Member of the Stewards' Enclosure.

Editor's note: This obituary was omitted from our last issue for reasons of space.

Henry Armstrong

1936–2014

Elected to membership 1958

Revd. Robert Baird

1921–2014

Elected to membership 1981

Kenneth Burton

1923–2014

Elected to membership 1975

Robert Freer

1932–2014

Elected to membership 2014

Mr Ernest Gearing

1915–2014

Elected to membership 1982

Mrs Frances Greenhous

Elected to membership 2014

Jonathan Hewitt

1940–2014

Elected to membership 1996

Tim Heywood–Lonsdale

1937–2014

Elected to membership 1958

Cranch Lamble

1978–2014

Elected to membership 1998

Revd. Prebendary Leighton Thomson

1919–2014

Elected to membership 1940

Pink Hippo Club

Created to generate funds for our rowing programme, tickets for the Pink Hippo Club cost £12 each, payable by standing order, and a draw takes place every six months to determine the lucky winners.

The winners this time are:

1st Prize £300

Dr B L Smith

2nd Prize £200

Mrs B Jenner

3rd Prize £100

J N Dawson



Jumpers and scarves from £22

Merry Christmas from the Pink Hippo Shop!

www.shop.leander.co.uk



Cravat and silver from £32



Hippo chocolates in Gift Box £7.88



Base layer top £35



Folding umbrella £15



Fleece gilet £38



Baby slippers and hat from £10



Wool headwear from £12.50



Trays, mats, coasters from £5

Coming soon: Gift vouchers, City silk handkerchiefs, 100% Cashmere scarves, Leander pink jumpers, Leander pink wellies, Leander candles and diffusers, new sportswear, new casual wear and much more!

Enquiries: Email Sara at shop@leander.co.uk or call the office on 01491 575782.