



Triple Crown!



Jet Photographic

Our lightweight quad of Kieren Emery, Nick Fearnhead, John Preston and Dave Jones secured Leander's first win of the new season at the Fours Head in November.

The start of the 2011 season has been outstanding for Leander Club. While our Great Britain squad members have been part of the biggest-ever medal haul at the World Championships in New Zealand, our Academy athletes have helped ensure that Leander has dominated the Tideway. After winning the Four's Head, the Women's Head and the Men's Head

Leander has now become the first club ever to win all three trophies outright in the same season.

The Fours Head turned out to be a battle of the academy athletes as the internationals had only just finished racing at the World Championships and were enjoying a holiday before winter training commenced.

Four crews in the top ten was a great start.

The lightweight crew of Dave Jones, Nick Fearnhead, Kieren Emery and last minute sub John Preston looked well drilled, a credit to the athletes and their coach Rob Dauncey. Their time came seconds faster than the heavyweight quad of Alan Sinclair, Ben Duggan, Dave Read and Will Satch. This resulted in Leander holding finish positions 1 and 2.

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I sensed a real determination with the women's crew for the Head. The eight steered by Phelan Hill containing Lou Reeve, Jo Cook, Emily Taylor, Ro Bradbury, Annie Vernon, Anna Watkins, Vicky Thornley and Katie Solesbury looked impressive as they came down the course. It was no surprise to see them over thirty seconds ahead of the second placed composite eight of national team members. Coaching was a real team effort between Matt Beechey, Rob Dauncey and Mark Banks.

The Men's Head was going to be a clash of some quality crews this year, with Molesey desperate to retain the title and Leander wanting it back. This year proved to be one of the most focused and enjoyable times of race preparation I have enjoyed in any Leander eight's Head crew. On the day of the head I had to withdraw from the event due to illness. Simon Hislop who had won the Boat Race the week before stepped in for me, for which I cannot thank him enough. The seven other athletes - Ben Duggan, Will Satch, Alex Partridge, Pete Reed, Alex Gregory, Matt Langridge and Dan Ritchie, coxed by Phelan Hill regained the Head of the River title from Molesey.

The lightweight eight was put together late for this event as some of the athletes were away on a club camp in Spain. In the short time they were together things came together nicely, although Mark Hunter had to withdraw due to a niggling injury. Stroked by Chris Bartley the lightweight world champion, they came home in 4th place, winning the Lightweight Pennant.

The senior Pennant was awarded to the group of Academy athletes who may contest the Ladies Plate at the Royal Regatta this year. They finished just outside the top ten by a tiny margin. This leaves the athletes encouraged about the next steps for the coming racing season.

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Iain Weir

Leander took the Women's Head pennant by a margin of 34 seconds over their nearest rival, just missing the course record by just 0.6 sec.

Academy athletes Will Satch, Kirsty Myles and Emily Taylor have shown solid development over the winter and have started training in the national team system. This shows that the athletes and the academy system are gaining momentum and on the right track for the future.

The recent 'Join the Journey' evening hosted at the club by Sir Matthew Pinsent

was a great success. Guests interested in what being an elite athlete is like arrived at Leander for a behind-the-scenes look from all angles. It was great to see everyone helping each other from committee, staff, coaches, volunteers and athletes. This interaction between everyone highlighted why the Club is in such a strong position and ready for the summer racing.



Iain Weir

Despite the loss of two seasoned internationals Leander regained the Head pennant by four seconds, to complete a notable trio of Head victories.



Join Leander's Journey

99 Medals & Counting

A glittering array of Leander's World and Olympic medalists greeted visitors to the club's recent launch of *'Join Leander's Journey'* – the long-term strategy which will help fund the Leander Academy, the development rowers that the club hopes will be its future Olympians.

Since rowing was introduced as an Olympic sport Leander's athletes have won 99 medals – more than any other single sport-club in any sporting activity in the world. The Club's legendary stars include household names such as Steve Redgrave, Matthew Pinsent, James Cracknell and Steve Williams, but everyone is hoping that next year's event at Eton will herald the magic 100.

And it was Pinsent himself who hosted the launch event and placed the focus very much on the club's aspiring athletes who will star over the next Olympic cycles to 2016 and beyond.

"Leander was my home, virtually night and day. It was the perfect home for myself and Redgrave and others of our generation" said the four times Olympic champion.

"But the best thing to hope for is to see the continued success of Leander Club and its athletes" he continued.

In their first official function since returning triumphant from their most successful world championships in history the club's athletes went on to reveal many of the secrets of their training to crowds of members, corporate guests and the visiting media. Displaying public speaking skills which matched their excellence on the water, the likes of Olympic champion Mark Hunter and World Champion Anna Watkins guided the guests through a series of displays around the club. The exhibition, coordinated by former world champion Toby Garbett, gave a glimpse of the factors required for success – coaching, equipment, nutrition, physiotherapy, training schedules, and much more besides.

Of more than 70 athletes in training in the club, almost half are currently in the GB squad, while the remainder – tomorrow's rising stars – continue to receive world-class coaching, excellent equipment, subsidised meals, dormitory accommodation when necessary and the support of professional teams in areas such as physiotherapy, massage and even media training. All that costs more than £400,000 a year to support – a sum which the subscriptions generated from Leander's worldwide membership of 3500 cannot cover.

Hence the need for the club to look outside its boundaries to corporate organisations who share its ethos of teamwork, commitment, excellence, success and, ultimately, winning.

"We are looking for sponsorship, but it's going to be a different sort of support. We want our sponsors to feel engaged and involved" said Sir George Cox, the club president.

"That's why we've entitled this strategy *'Join Leander's Journey'* – we want people to join us together on that Journey."

Potential sponsors can look forward to a wide range of benefits, including multi-channel communications, and a wide variety of branding opportunities, as well as corporate entertaining possibilities and a host of bespoke events.

"Many people talk about the golden age of Leander as though it was in the past. But that's still in the future – there's still more to come" said Sir George.



Club captain Rick Egington, with Director of Rowing Mark Banks and Sir Matthew Pinsent at the launch of Join Leander's Journey

Stepping up

Ivor Lloyd reports from the Chairman's Office

We continue to value your membership without which we would not have a club. We want you to appreciate that your support genuinely assists our athletes in achieving their goal, but also that you feel that you get good value from your membership, especially in these hard times where we are all finding that money does not go as far. We wish to ensure that when you visit the club, you get high quality service and an exceptional experience. For those not able to visit us regularly, we keep you fully engaged by improved communication about our activities both on and off the water. Last year we started the drive on improving the membership experience, and in the past year we have made some significant improvements. Let me summarise the major initiatives.

For those able to visit and use the club, we have responded to member comments by initiating a programme to ensure that all of our users both members and other visitors are greeted warmly and made to feel very welcome. This has been well received. As part of improving the experience for those dining with us, our catering team has developed a range of quality menus where you can eat the 'crew food' of the day (though not in the same gargantuan portions!), up to our usual acclaimed 'a la cart' offering. We have also instigated a policy of seating all diners with a



river view whenever possible. Occasionally due to other users this may not always be possible but please ask if this is not offered.

New this year is a garden decked area overlooking the river. We will have an alfresco offer if you should you wish to eat, but if not, then this is the most idyllic setting with one of the best views on the river should you simply wish to have a drink.

So much is going on both on and off the water that better communication is essential and here we have done several things. We have significantly improved our website making it more user friendly and informative and we will continue to develop this during the year.

'Hippo Happenings' our monthly newsletter carries up to date information on our forthcoming events as well as giving the latest news of our rowing groups and their progress. If you are not receiving this it will only be because we do not have your e-mail address. Please do contact the office to update them with your details if you would like to receive this. Again for those able to visit the club you will see an information screen in the lobby that carries a rolling commentary of all our latest news, all part of keeping you in the picture.

At HRR we have had praise for the improvements we have made over the last two years and we are introducing further enhancement that will give our members an even better experience this year. For the first time last year we introduced a BBQ on qualifiers night that was so well received that we are repeating it again this year. Please do come and join us for an informal 'soft' introduction to the regatta week.

We want to ensure that you continue to enjoy your membership of the club particularly in the run up to 2012. We have some exciting arrangements being planned for you both before, during and after the Games, more of which in due course. Meantime, may I thank you all on behalf of the Committee for your continued support: it is what enables us to continue to improve our member facilities and put athletes on the podium.

Today our world-class athletes are...

Scull racing at the GB Rowing Lake, Caversham	GB heavyweight men
Scull racing at the GB Rowing Lake, Caversham	GB women and lightweight
Training at Leander Club	Club development squad

Thursday 27 April 14.00 hrs

Pink Hippo Shop

Our ladies' rugby shirt takes a clean new look at traditional styling. Featuring the familiar Leander logo, this hand-sewn and stylish garment is the ideal leisure item, on or off the water!

Available in sizes 10 to 18 in the 100% cotton long sleeve shirt with just £39.95 each.

www.leander.co.uk/shop

Thursday 27 April 14.00 hrs

Featured athlete Rachel Gamble-Flint

Winner Hester Vicar's Regatta 2009 200m single scull

Gold medalist National Championships 2010 1000m single scull

Honour team: Gillingham

Thursday 27 April 14.00 hrs

Today at Leander

- Leander Trustees Library
- Lensday Lunch Members' Balcony
- Detica Eton Room

Thursday 27 April 14.00 hrs

The new display screen at the Club offers a rolling commentary of all our latest news and photos



Best-ever Worlds at Karapiro 2010

The World Championships were held in New Zealand for the first time since the 1978. The championships proved to be extremely successful for the club. Twelve medals, seven of these being the golden colour were brought home to Leander.

Mark Hunter returned from his year away coaching in Los Angeles with a tan, slightly longer hair and picked up where he left off in Beijing, dominating the event from stroke one. A class act from the former Leander captain.

The lightweight coxless four is a notoriously tight event and this year's blanket finish made for exciting viewing. Richard Chambers came back to great form after a year out with serious injury, adding his second World Championship title to his tally. Paul Mattick returned back to the engine room of the four after a year sculling, gaining his second World Championship gold. Chris Bartley stroked the boat to perfection earning his first Worlds title.

Anna Bebington had a name change to Watkins after a previous summer wedding, and with that came the greatest fruits of her rowing career to date. Anna teamed up

with Katherine Grainger from Marlow. Anna really came of age and dominated this women's double event, winning by the biggest margin of the championships.

The women's quad, consisting of Fran Houghton, Debbie Flood and Annie Vernon, with Gloucester's Beth Rodford, displayed the power at their disposal by powering through the rough conditions to take the gold medal. Debbie and Fran have returned to competitive rowing after a sabbatical year looking more relaxed and ready to make a big impact at the Olympic Regatta in 2012.

Pete Reed was lining up again in his pair to do battle again with the New Zealand pair that he has been racing for two years. The race that unfolded was one of the all-time greats. The battle between these crews provided a true spectacle, something that doesn't happen very often. Pete couldn't quite do it and had to take the silver. I know Pete was gutted but I'm sure he was immensely proud to have taken part in the race.

The all-Leander new double of Marcus Bateman and seasoned double sculler Matthew Wells had shown great form



Robert Trehame Jones

The all-Leander 'Red Express' silver medal GB men's double of Matt Wells and Marcus Bateman

throughout the World Cup season. Marcus stepped in to the double for the first time sitting at stroke and with the experience of Matt at bow Marcus really stepped on throughout the season. They stormed out of the start using the huge power they both have. Both Matt and Marcus looked strong and dominated the first half of the race. Only in the closing stages did the New Zealand double show their phenomenal finishing power to edge the Leander double into silver position.

The men's eight provides the final race of the event and some say that they saved the best till last. Phelan Hill, Dan Ritchie and Tom Broadway made up the Leander contingent of the eight. They raced the German World Champions all the way to the finish line, coming in just behind them gaining a great silver medal.

This haul of medals is a great indication of the strength of the team heading towards the Olympics. However, there was disappointment for some crews, myself included. Looking forward and acknowledging what was good and learning from any mistakes made, should make writing the 2011 World Championships report even more interesting.



Peter Spurrier

Richard Chambers, Paul Mattick, Rob Williams (London RC) and Chris Bartley reigned supreme in the lightweight men's fours

Developing Our Talented Juniors

by Livinia Cowell-Sherriff ~ Foundation Coach

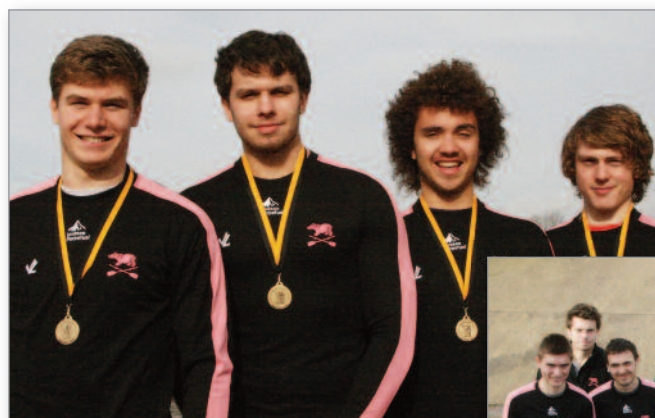
Any sports club has to recognise the importance of feeding young talent into the system, and Leander is no different in this respect! My primary role is to identify those young people who show promise – they may be entirely new to rowing or have demonstrated that they have what it takes to rise to a high level. Young people joining Leander right now are entering a pathway that will take them forward, hopefully, to the Olympics in 2016 and 2020.

The first step is to identify raw talent by going out to (predominantly non-rowing) schools in the area and contacting the Head Teacher and Head of Sport. I then visit those schools who respond, and discuss our testing protocol and follow-up programme.

So far this winter we have been working with three local schools: Forrest School, the John Madjeski Academy and Icknield Community College. Our protocol tests for endurance, using a Schwinn bicycle ergometer; upper and lower body strength, using a Concept II Dyno machine; and flexibility, on a so-called 'sit and reach' box

We then measure each student's height, weight and arm span because it will come as no surprise that we are looking for young people with long levers, strength, good endurance and flexibility – all the parameters that are essential to progress to a high level in rowing.

Those athletes who meet our test criteria are then invited to Leander to start to hone their technical skills in sculling boats, primarily in quads and singles. Land training sessions are introduced gradually over the first few months, with the object of nurturing and developing boat skills alongside physiological



Our Juniors are the seed corn of the Club and our potential future Olympians



development. Monitoring the athletes' progress against our own performance data bank is a key part of the development process.

But the Leander Academy is not just for absolute beginners! For many years we have welcomed a steady flow of talented 16-year-olds who have moved to Henley from their own homes to follow their dream to become an Olympian.

Of course this means leaving home to settle in Henley, where they can continue their education at Henley College, either on A level courses or others required for the next stage of their education. It is the ability to fit their training around their lectures that is one of the keys to the success of the programme.

A significant number of 16 – 18 year olds also come to Leander at weekends and school holidays, racing for their own club at Heads and regattas, while following a training programme provided by us. In keeping with our 'open door' policy, juniors join us from all over the country, including coastal clubs, schools and clubs that row on lakes or reservoirs, such as Deal, Eastbourne, Shoreham, and Bewl Bridge, where the opportunities for racing shells can be limited.

Right now we have five juniors aiming for selection to the GB World Championships and Coupe de la Jeunesse teams in 2011. Luke Moon was selected in the single scull for the Coupe in 2009, Ed Rippon achieved the same feat a year later, and Luke is still eligible for GB junior selection this season.

So far this year our juniors have raced at the Four's Head, where they finished a creditable third in the junior quads and 19th overall. The crew included Ben Board, Ed Rippon, Joe Guppy and Luke Moon, and with Nathan Devaux-Davey replacing Luke the quad raced at Hampton Head in February, winning their status by just 0.3 sec. The whole junior squad are now looking forward to racing at National Schools and, of course, at Henley.

Our Junior rowers are the seed corn of the Club and potential Olympians in 2016 and 2020. They merit careful nurturing and development!



Paul Budd reports from the General Manager's desk

The first six months of the year have been one of the busiest periods I've experienced in two and a half years as your General Manager. 'Join Leander's Journey' has been headline news throughout this period, but new additions to our reciprocity arrangements form yet another development which adds value to Leander membership.

Details of the launch of The Journey and the key events to follow are covered elsewhere in this Newsletter. But don't forget our newly updated website and Hippo Happenings, the monthly e-shot sent to all Members, which forms the most effective way we have of keeping you up-to-date with all events as they come on stream. If you're not receiving our emails it may be because we don't have your email address on file – do get in touch with the Office membership@leander.co.uk and we can remedy that within minutes.



The *Journey* launch was highly acclaimed and we intend that all events will follow the same pattern and allow you to follow our athletes' progress towards the Olympics. Our corporate clients are buying into this package at standard corporate rates and thereby supporting the Leander Academy towards 2016, but we have reserved a number of places along the *Journey* for our Members at substantially lower rates (just as we do at Regatta). It is unlikely that any of us will see another London Olympics (with or without Leander's substantial rowing contribution) and the *Journey* is designed to be shared by all, with active participation enhancing the sense of elation at the finish.

One of the ways in which your Committee seeks to enhance the membership experience is through reciprocity with other clubs, and Leander now boasts no less than 38 clubs worldwide with whom we share reciprocal arrangements, and with whom we share similar values and pre-eminence in our field. The clubs are all listed on our website – you may apply to any for accommodation and, whilst staying there, you are normally welcome to enjoy their general Club facilities. Many of the clubs are overseas, a facility which many Members find extremely useful, so do please do consider these clubs on your travels. City clubs tend to have more availability at the weekends and the reverse generally applies with country-based clubs. I am always pleased to receive reports on Members' experiences at our reciprocal clubs, and to take suggestions of other possible candidates for inclusion on the scheme.

One rather unusual arrangement we have just finalised concerns the Country Gentleman's Association www.thecga.co.uk, an organisation with some 12,000 members of which, despite their name, some 25% are women! Although the CGA has no premises to share they are offering free annual membership (normally £60 pa) to all Leander's UK based members combined with access to their extensive range of personal services and member benefits. You may register with the CGA by sending the reply-paid return enclosed with this Newsletter, and in return you will receive a welcome pack and a complimentary bi-monthly Magazine. April's magazine even includes an article on Leander Club! As part of this arrangement the CGA has also offered a generous bursary for one of our athletes.

Our existing concession arrangements, all listed on our website, include Apsley Tailors (who make an excellent Regatta Blazer) and Ellis of Richmond who will deliver our excellent House Claret to your UK address. We are also developing a strong relationship with Jascots Wine Merchants who are providing some exceptional value wines to the Club and are offering their services to our membership through the enclosed flyer.

The Leander Rowing Academy

by Brian Armstrong

Preparing young rowers for success at World and Olympic level is synonymous with the name of Leander Club. The purpose of our Academy is to build the future success of Leander rowing and feed young rowers into the GB national teams by taking the ethos, passion and success of the Leander brand to the next generation of our rowers.

Unlike Molesey, Durham, Reading and several other clubs around the UK, Leander has not been nominated by GB Rowing as a World Class Start club to which they direct young talented athletes and coaches. If Leander is to retain its position at the forefront of rowing in the UK we have to find and nurture talent through our own Academy programme.

Of course Leander prides itself on the achievements of its athletes since the Club was first formed almost two hundred years ago. Few clubs – in any sport in the world – are more committed to providing opportunities to young people than Leander.

The impressive statistics speak for themselves – since 1908 our athletes have stood on podiums across the globe as World and Olympic Champions. Almost 200 Leander rowers have represented their country at Olympic regattas, where they have won a total of 99 medals. Many more have been just as successful at World Championship regattas around the world. The Club and its coaches have a passion for achieving success at the highest levels in our sport.

The Leander Academy continues to reach out, identify, nurture and develop young rowers in the 16-23 age range and provide them with opportunity and resources to achieve their potential.

The essential elements to a successful athlete development programme fall into a number of key areas.

First and foremost we place top level coaching as our highest priority. We have one of the best coaching teams in the sport, with our full-time coaches supported by a group of volunteers. The team is lead by our Director of Rowing, Mark Banks, who coached the women's quad and men's eight to silver medals at the Athens and Beijing Olympics. Four other members of the team have Olympic and World Championship experience and success. Our coaches engage daily with the athletes in their training encouraging them to be positive, believe in themselves, work hard and develop the importance of teamwork.

Our training facilities and equipment play a significant part in an athlete's daily training routine and physiological development.

Alongside our top-class gymnasium we provide world-class boats and other equipment, but although our fleet is reasonably comprehensive we have identified a need to improve the boats for our junior group.

Of course athletes on a high performance programme need to refuel immediately following a heavy training session. Our chef and his team take great pleasure in looking after their nutritional requirements, for which we also need to express our gratitude to Tesco plc for their continued support in their provision of groceries.

Physiotherapy and other medical support are an essential requirement in current training regimes. The professional skills which our medical personnel bring to the Academy are important, not only for treating athletes, but also, just as importantly, for injury prevention and rehabilitation.



The Leander J18 quad – Ben Board, Nathan Devaux-Davey, Ed Rippon and Joe Guppy – took their event pennant by just 0.2 sec at the Hampton Head in February



The last key element includes the athletes' educational needs. Young athletes joining us from other locations to live in Henley will normally pursue their education at Henley College following A level and similar courses in preparation for higher education. Undergraduate and postgraduate courses are available within easy reach at Reading and Oxford Universities.

The final piece to the jigsaw is the funding necessary to maintain the Leander Academy, which provides an excellent opportunity for a company to become a partner with the premier rowing club in the world.

The opportunities for synergy mean that any

such company would have unrivalled access to our current and future Olympic athletes and coaches. These opportunities might include team building sessions, seminars and conferences, in tandem with the core principles of Leander athletes – commitment, teamwork, discipline, success and ultimately winning!

A highpoint of the calendar at Leander is Henley Royal Regatta, offering yet further opportunities for corporate hospitality, possibly with one of our athletes acting as your expert host for the day.

We are currently looking for partners whose support will allow us to improve and expand

the support services our Academy provides. The different levels of partnership include an exclusive option, or as a friend of our academy, or whatever level you choose.

Your support will go towards helping inspire and motivate young rowers, and for those seeking charitable giving why not consider The Leander Trust as your chosen charity?

There is no better way to support youth development of young rowers aiming for the GB Olympic team at the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro.

Jane Hall retires

by Brian Armstrong

More than twenty years after gaining her first GB vest the curtain has finally come down on the competitive career of Jane Hall, arguably the country's most outstanding lightweight woman rower.

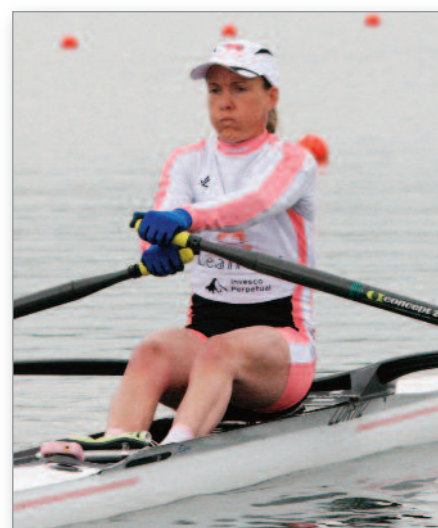
Since first representing her country at Junior level, followed by Under-23 and Senior World Championships around the world, Jane's name has become synonymous with lightweight women's rowing in Britain. A regular member of the team since 1991 she has successfully and proudly worn a GB vest throughout this twenty year period – a span only bettered in length by the career of Sir Steve Redgrave.

Jane first represented her country as a Junior at Kingston Grammar School in 1991, and followed this up a year later by winning a U23 bronze medal in the lightweight women's double. This was Jane's first medal and during her career, in which she competed internationally on sixteen occasions, she

added another eight World Championship medals to her tally, including 1 gold, 6 silver and 2 bronze, with a further bronze won at the Commonwealth Regatta in Canada in 1994. She has represented her country in all five lightweight women's events – the double, the quad, the single, the pair and the four, winning medals in all bar the single.

Jane has been at the forefront of GB lightweight women's rowing during its successful development as an Olympic boat class, with the first lightweight women's doubles being included in the programme at the 1996 Games in Atlanta. Olympic selection is the one thing that has eluded Jane in what has been an outstanding contribution to her sport. But for an illness which has, on occasions, severely restricted her training and progress, I am sure Jane would have achieved this goal as well.

But, as one curtain comes down, so another rises. Jane has now decided she will move



Determined to the last – Jane competes at her final GB Trials

into coaching where I'm sure her enthusiasm and infectious passion for her sport will be transferred to the athletes under her tutelage. I have no doubt that Jane will inspire her crews and be equally as successful as a coach as she has been as an athlete. As she embarks on her new pathway I am sure that Jane will have set herself targets to achieve right from the outset. Everyone at Leander wishes her much success.

As we go to press it has been announced that Jane will coach the GB women's double scull at this year's Under-23 World Championships in Amsterdam.

GB Trials 2011

No less than fifty Leander athletes – an all-time record – were invited to the April leg of GB trials – the final fixed event before selectors have to make their choices for the opening regattas of the international season.

World champion Anna Watkins made sure of retaining her place in the squad by beating her double sculling partner Katherine Grainger in the final of the women's singles, for the second time this season! Anna said that she had learned a lot from racing in the double, especially how to get a smooth and powerful start. In her final she put that theory into practice to take an early lead in what was always going to prove a two-horse race.



Leander's Anna Watkins powers off the start

Leander's Matt Wells, world silver medallist in the men's double sculls, gave favourite Alan Campbell a run for his money in men's singles. Campbell eased into a two-thirds length lead by 750m before going out to a full length margin at halfway. Down the line Wells maintained the pressure but Campbell countered the challenge and went onto win by just over a second.

Unlike many other sports rowing trials are not the final criteria – all athletes now face extended seat racing at Caversham before the announcement for the first World Cup regatta of the season, to be held in Munich at the end of May.

Photographs: Robert Treharne Jones



Men's pairs semifinal – six crews, twelve athletes, nine Leander!

Meanwhile Leander's Pete Reed and his Molesey partner Andy Triggs-Hodge exerted their customary superiority ahead of the rest of men's pairs, despite a spirited performance from another Leander/Molesey combination – Alex Gregory and Tom James. The world silver medallists sat in the pack for much of the first half and allowed Gregory and James to lead the race, but picked up the pace at 1250m to claw back the margin before drawing level and taking a half-length lead and going on to win.



Alex Gregory and Tom James were just pipped at the post



Honour for a one-man band

CONGRATULATIONS to Leander press officer Robert Treharne Jones who has recently stepped down from another of his roles in rowing, as chairman of the Henley Boat Races.

Robert has held the position since 2004, having worked his apprenticeship as the chairman's assistant for some years before that, but last year was his final time overseeing the event which includes the Women's Boat Race as well as the lightweight races for men and women, between Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

To mark his service, he was presented with a medal by Leander's Anna Watkins, the current world champion in women's doubles, and Hugh Richardson, who took over the role of chairman in preparation for this year's Races.

Robert, whose home is just outside Henley in Middle Assendon, reports that he enjoyed the role but found it hard work. Apart from Race Day itself, when volunteers are brought in to help, the chairman is a one-man operation who has to organise almost everything, including picking up the litter after the crowds have departed!

The medal he received was identical to the one that each of the winning athletes receives and which Robert himself redesigned.

Henley Standard



Zoe wins with Isis

Leander cox Zoe De Toledo steered Isis to a six length victory in this year's reserve Boat Race.

Zoe, who has a string of coxing wins to her credit at Leander, including several Head races on the Tideway, as well as the Ladies Plate eight at Henley in 2008, was always reckoned to be strong contender for the Blue Boat itself. But ex-St Pauls schoolboy Sam Winter-Levy, with more Tideway hours under his belt than even Zoe, won the selection battle and the chance to steer Oxford to their second win of the day in the Boat Race itself.

Zoe, who is studying for a MSc in psychological research at St Catherine's College but still lives in Henley, said she was "gutted" not to have been coxing the top boat but added: "What really made a difference was the guys in the Isis crew – they are great fun and have a fantastic spirit"

"I enjoyed every single minute of their company and that took away the sting of not being in the Blue Boat."

"Everything went to plan – in fact it went better than to plan. We always talk about the perfect race scenario and you think that's probably not going to happen but it did."



Robert Treharne Jones

Wm. Hartwell Perry Jnr 1933 – 2011

'American rowing's true patriarch' is just one of the many phrases used to describe Hart Perry, a Life Member of Leander, who died on 3 February at the age of 77.

Hart's overtures into the sport began at high school, continued through his university years, until he eventually became a coach. As dean and director of athletics at Kent School, Connecticut, his involvement lasted over three decades, during which time thousands of young rowers developed their skills under his tutelage.

In 1974 he was elected a Steward of Henley Royal Regatta, becoming the first American to hold such office. Among his many skills his opinions were invaluable to the Committee of Management as they reviewed the US crews' entries at Regatta each year.

As a FISA umpire he was invited to officiate at HRR and, upon reaching the retirement age for umpiring he moved, like so many had done before him, to the back of the launch, where his face became just as familiar as a race recorder.

His involvement in the international scene meant umpiring at no less than ten World Championships and two Olympic Games. For many years he served on FISA's Youth Rowing Commission.

Hart and his wife Gill loved Henley, and loved Leander – when the clubhouse was extended and refurbished they opted to sponsor one of the bedrooms – the Kent room – which is decorated with unique Kent School memorabilia and, of course, a photograph of Hart umpiring at Henley.

Hart's last visit to Leander came when he



Erik Dresser / Row2K, USA

Hart Perry in familiar pose on the Henley umpire's launch

flew to London in January to receive the 2010 World Rowing Distinguished Services to International Rowing award, which acknowledged his years of dedication to the sport.

Michael Jones 1941 – 2011

Michael Jones, the archivist for Leander Club and Henley Royal Regatta, died in January after a short illness, aged 69. He spent his school years in Henley but spent almost his entire career at the NatWest Bank, based at various branches in the Thames Valley and London before being posted overseas in Singapore.

At the age of 14 he joined Henley Rowing Club and remained a member for life. He became an umpire after his competitive career finished, eventually going on to become secretary of the National Umpires Commission. He was a vice-president of the Henley Town and Visitors' Regatta, and a member of the Environment Agency's river user group.

His involvement with Henley Royal Regatta continued a long family tradition. Michael inherited responsibility for recruiting casual labour for the event from his father before passing on the baton to his son Simon. He later took responsibility for coordinating the regatta's corporate hospitality operation on Fawley Meadows.

He was able to put his prodigious knowledge of the sport to good use, not only as an archivist but also an author. His books on the sport of Rowing and Henley Royal Regatta remain useful reference guides to this day. When Regatta Radio was formed in 2006 Michael became their resident expert, broadcasting live during regatta week.

Elected a Member of Leander in 1981 he was a regular at the Lensday Club, which takes place every Wednesday in honour of rowing legend Len Habbits, a royal regatta winner who used to row at Henley on Wednesdays before lunching with friends at Leander.

For the last two years Michael had spent the winter travelling the world and it was in October that he made his last visit to the club, rowing with the Lensday eight before setting out on his customary travels.



Nick Lecky-Thompson

Michael Jones – a fount of information on all things rowing



Karapiro Cracker!

Just minutes after stepping out of his boat with a silver medal round his neck Pete Reed told Robert Treharne Jones how it felt to have rowed what most observers were calling 'the race of the regatta'

We were sitting on the start line, very relaxed, very comfortable in what we were about to take on.

The start went very well for us, it was loose and moving, long, relaxed, smooth, the conditions were not ideal but we were rowing above them today.

Hodgey was on good form shouting down the rates, I was giving him good feedback, coming through 500m we were very relaxed and the rate was still there, ticking along very nicely and that's exactly where we needed to be. There were crews all around us including the Greeks and the Italians, we knew they'd be up there.

In the second 500 we knew we couldn't let the Kiwis get any distance on us,

anything they could do we could do, so we moved on there, it was a subtle go, just to keep ticking along. I think we were ahead at halfway, we were fully committed to that third 500, again above the waves it was a really nice feeling in the boat, it was long, it was rhythmical, it was strong.

I was feeling the burn in the legs and the burn in the lats at that point but I knew Andy would be feeling the same thing, and more importantly I knew the Kiwis would be feeling the same, but we're top fit so we just pushed on through, like we've done in training, and then came the '500 to go', I looked down at the rate and we were at 38-39, that's where we needed to be.

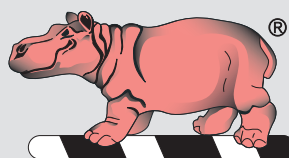
Andy said 'Stay here' so we squeezed with the legs, trying to get that extra bit of boat speed. Looking over we were side-by-side the whole time, and then very early it was 'Go' from me to wind to the line, Hodgey was stroking really well and that was absolutely everything we could give, we left it all out on the water, we couldn't have taken another stroke, to be honest I thought we had it.

They cheered, I was in disbelief, there were lots of Kiwi flags waving, and it hurts when you realise you haven't quite done it, but all credit to them, they're very fast and we gave everything we could possibly have given.



Robert Treharne Jones

Pete Reed and his Molesey partner Andy Triggs-Hodge were Olympic champions at Beijing in the GB men's four, but a place in the pair at London 2012 is still far from certain.



Leander Club

Notice of the Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Leander Club will be held in the Marquee at the Clubhouse
Henley-on-Thames on Sunday 26 June 2011 at 11.00 a.m.

AGENDA

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. To read the notice convening the Meeting. | 7. To receive the Chairman's Report |
| 2. To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27 June 2010. | 8. To agree the Annual Subscription rates for the year 2011 as proposed by the Committee at £250 for UK members, £125 for Overseas and £60 for under 30's. |
| 3. To consider any matters arising from the Minutes. | 9. To re-elect to the Committee:
Mr GAC Luddington
Proposer: Mr RN Winckless
Secunder: Mr PG Major |
| 4. To receive:
a. The President's Report
b. The Captain's Report
c. The Hon Treasurer's Report | 10. Any other business. |
| 5. To approve the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2010. | |
| 6. To appoint Auditors for the year 2011 | |

JD Randall – Hon Secretary



Have you booked your tickets for London 2012?

ROWING SCHEDULE - London 2012								
	28/07/2012	29/07/2012	30/07/2012	31/07/2012	01/08/2012	02/08/2012	03/08/2012	04/08/2012
	Sa	Su	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
M8+	Heats		Repechages		Finals			
M4x	Heats		Repechages		Semifinals		Finals	
M4-			Heats	Repechages		Semifinals		Finals
M2x	Heats	Repechages		Semifinals		Finals		
M2-	Heats		Repechages		Semifinals		Finals	
M1x	Heats	Repechages		Quarter-finals	Semifinals		Finals	
LM4-	Heats	Repechages		Semifinals		Finals		
LM2x		Heats		Repechages	CD semifinals	Semifinals		Finals
W8+		Heats		Repechages		Finals		
W4x	Heats		Repechages		Finals			
W2x			Heats	Repechages			Finals	
W2-	Heats		Repechages		Finals			
W1x	Heats	Repechages		Quarter-finals		Semifinals		Finals
LW2x		Heats		Repechages		Semifinals		Finals

Registration to buy tickets closed on 26 April 2011

Rowing in the Maldives

When GB athlete Rachel Loveridge stepped down from her place in the Leander squad she didn't leave rowing completely.

For Rachel, who won a silver medal with the GB women's eight at the European Championships, has joined forces with fellow athlete Tash Howard to bring her skills to the Maldivian Islands, where rowing has become a lost art.

With more than 1,000 islands spanning the equator over 90,000 sq. km of the Indian Ocean rowing was once the main form of transport and communication.

Rachel and Tash are spearheading a project to develop rowing, particularly



amongst women, whose freedom within the country is declining rapidly, despite its previous liberal society.

Women are able to get involved in rowing because it is seen as an ancient sport and part of the local heritage. The Maldivians are fully behind this project, with each community generously providing food and accommodation for their new



Rachel Loveridge - European silver medallist in the GB women's eight



coaches during the ten months they are there.

But Rachel and Tash need further help and have left for the islands equipped solely with two double sculls - plus their sheer enthusiasm and passion for the sport.

Find out more about their work and how you can help at <http://maldivesrowingvolunteer.weebly.com/>

Spring is here at the Pink Hippo Shop!

The Leander shop has lots of new and exciting products arriving for Regatta 2011!

Building on the huge success of last year's regatta our additions to the clothing range include ladies hoodies, rugby shirts and vests. We have also sourced some new technical garments, designed exclusively for Leander, to include long sleeve, short sleeve and vest tops as well as leggings and shorts.

Backed up by our old favourites such as polo shirts, fleece tops, joggers and T-shirts for ladies and men as well as a full children's range we're looking forward to another great year. All our clothing features our updated Happy Hippo logo with crossed oars to keep that special rowing feel.

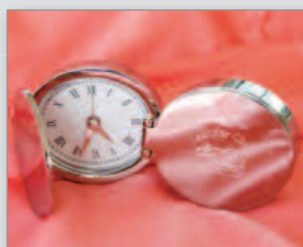
Amongst the Members' regalia our full pinks range now includes some smart pink braces, with hippos engraved on the clasps, as well as pink cravats, a new pink handkerchief and, of course, ties, bow ties, cummerbunds and buttons.

Our gift range has also been updated with new pink leather designs for ladies, an engraved silver travel clock and an engraved notepad and pen.

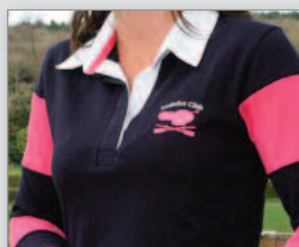
Keep an eye on the website for stock updates as they happen, and don't forget that all the revenue from our merchandise helps support our world-class athletes!



Silver plate notebook and pen with Hippo engraving **£17.50**



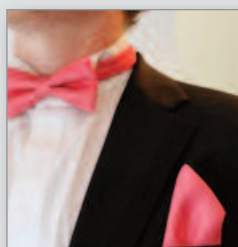
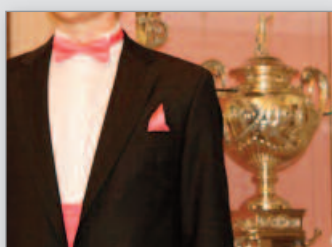
Silver plate travel clock with Hippo engraving **£22.50**



Navy and pink ladies rugby shirt with new logo **£39.95**



New Leander folding umbrella **£16.00**



Our Members' regalia includes pink braces **£36**, cravat **£29.50**, handkerchief **£10.95**, bowtie (ready tied **£20.50** or self tie at **£23.00**) and the cummerbund at **£30.00** each

To order any or the items above of any other Leander Club gifts please visit our shop website at www.leander.co.uk. You can place orders on-line, call our friendly team on **01491 575782** or email us at shop@leander.co.uk.

We also love to meet our customers in person so the shop at the Clubhouse is always open during office hours, or the duty manager will be able to help during evening and weekends.