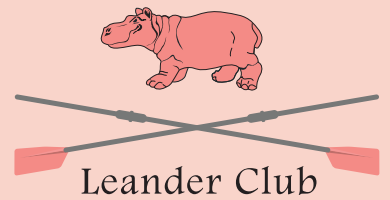


Leander News

Summer 2013



Leander News

The official newsletter of Leander Club is published twice yearly, in May and November

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

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Cover photo: Double Olympic silver medallist Debbie Flood, the first woman ever to be elected captain of Leander. © Charlotte Snowden.



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Sir George Cox – a tribute

Our President's clarity of vision and patience have been key to the club's progress through challenging and successful times, as Leander Chairman Ivor Lloyd reports.

Sir George Cox has completed his full five year term as President of Leander and he stands down from the committee at this year's AGM in accordance with club rules. His work on the committee has spanned seven years with the last five as President, during a time of Leander's considerable success both on and off the water. Leander Club owes George a significant debt of gratitude for his work on behalf of the club. I owe him a personal debt of gratitude for the unfailing support he has always been quick to offer during my time as Chairman.

His clarity of vision and his patience have led the club through both challenging and successful times and we are indebted to George for the amount of time that he has given voluntarily despite the many other significant roles that he holds. He is Chairman, Chief Executive or Director of several companies including the aerospace company Shorts and a Board Member of NYSE-Euronext exchanges. Warwick University has also benefited from his many talents and he is currently Chair of the Council of the University as well as being Pro-Chancellor. He has for several years chaired the University's Business School. If all that were not enough, he has recently completed an independent review for HM Opposition looking at Short-termism in British Business.

As you can see, his capacity for work and his exceptional energy levels are breath-taking, so much so that he has earned from his colleagues at Leander the title of 'Duracell George'.



Sir George Cox

His enthusiasm for both the club and the sport over many years has never dimmed as has been demonstrated, not just in his support of Leander, but also in his work towards the successful revival of the University of London Boat Club. Both of his daughters are now rowing at Marlow Rowing Club, so there's no chance of him stepping away from the towpath for many years yet.

Our thanks also go to Lorna, his wife, for supporting George in all he has done for the club. His wise counsel will be sorely missed. We will miss too his measured and resolute style and we hope that he will continue to be an active as part of the club's life in the future.



Images courtesy of Robert Treharne Jones

This year's Wise Owls gathering included (left to right): Hugh Twiss (Captain 1973–76), Mark Banks (Chief Coach since 2000), Jock Mullard (Captain 1968–72), Sir Adrian Cadbury (Club Trustee), Debbie Flood (Captain), Sir George Cox (President since 2008), Ivor Lloyd (Chairman since 2010), Nick Aitchison (Chairman 2008–10), Mark Hoffmann (Chairman 1989–93), Lawton Fage (Captain 1962), Donald Legget (Captain 1964), and David Latham (Hon. Secretary 2004–09)

Onward and upward

The London Olympics may already be a distant memory, but our athletes already have the next four years to Rio 2016 firmly in their sights, as Leander captain Debbie Flood reports

The great success of the London Olympics may still be fresh in our memories but all hearts and minds of the athletes are now firmly set on the challenges ahead to Henley Royal Regatta, the World Championships and the next Olympiad.

The season started off with an exceptional Fours Head, with Leander retaining the overall title as well as four of the club's crews finishing in the top five. Overall Leander crews won five pennants for being fastest in their division.

The winter training has had its own challenges and frustrations, as almost four months of high river levels with flooding conditions and resultant red boards kept our squad off the water, but the gym has certainly not provided any rest! The athletes responded well to the challenges and got on with the job of training hard. It's great to see the athletes working together with a positive attitude to keep moving on, which is what they must do to gain those fractions of a second needed to win races.

Many of our Academy athletes have stepped up into the senior international team this year with a total of 24 Leander athletes representing GB in Australia at the World Cup at the end of March, returning with fifteen medals.

Further success came from the recent GB Senior Trials where 28 Leander athletes showed great form in making the top 12 in their event. Particular congratulations to Charles Cousins winning the men's singles in a fantastic race, in which he beat Olympic bronze medallist Alan Campbell – the first time Alan has been beaten at final selection trials in eight years. Pete Lambert also produced an



Charles Cousins beat Olympic bronze medallist Alan Campbell for the first time in eight years

exceptional performance, placing third in his first year training with the senior team. Jack Beaumont continued his successful season – after winning gold, silver and bronze at the Australian Youth

Olympics he placed second in the U23 trials and tenth overall, to show great promise for the years to come. Close behind him was Stuart Innes who placed third at U23, and eleventh position overall.

In the women's singles race Frances Houghton had an exceptionally close race, crossing the line only a split second behind Olympic champion Helen Glover, with Vicky Thornley, Lou Reeve, and Vicky Meyer-Laker also making the final.

The top Leander men's pair was Pete Reed and Alex Gregory who placed second, one place ahead of Al Sinclair and his partner, and in the lightweight singles Will Fletcher and Jamie Kirkwood did extremely well placing to finish in the A final in their first year training with the senior GB squad.

Junior rowing at the club is also going from strength to strength with four of our younger athletes set to attend final junior trials this year and a further five



Olympic champions Pete Reed and Alex Gregory came a close second behind Molesey's Andy Triggs-Hodge and Mo Sbihi

attending the World Class Start regatta. Particular congratulations go to Seb Devereux, who returned from the Munich Junior International Regatta earlier this month with two gold medals to his credit.

As we go to print GB crews are being decided for the next World cup at Dorney Lake. Don't miss the chance to attend and see some World Class racing and cheer on our athletes! Henley Royal Regatta will see many of our internationals competing this year providing another chance to follow and support both our GB internationals as well as our development squad. We are particularly low on numbers in our heavyweight mens development squad this year, so will probably not be fielding a Ladies' Plate eight, but we will be looking to have a strong



Frances Houghton gave Olympic champion Helen Glover a run for her money in women's singles

representation in the Prince of Wales (Club 4x) Visitors 4- and the Fawley Cup. I have had the chance this year to step back and look at our club from a number

of new angles and I never fail to be grateful for the support that Leander has shown me throughout my 13 years as a rowing member here. The heart of the club is for our athletes to achieve their potential and realize their capabilities. Athletes turn up, train hard and are supported to do so. Part of the duty of our club is to look after the well-being of our athletes who give so much of themselves so I am particularly excited to welcome on board our new sponsor Spire. The medical backup and support that Spire will add to our current team will be invaluable and I look forward to seeing this relationship develop and grow.

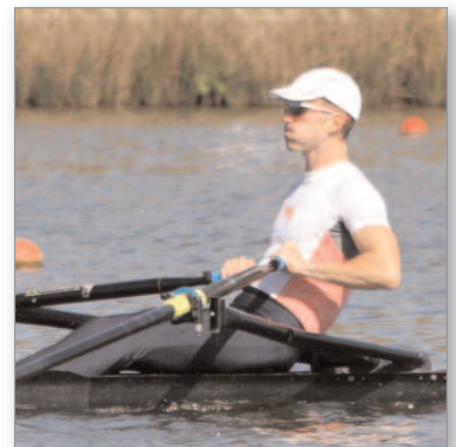
It is a huge honour to be Captain of this great club and I look forward to seeing the continued success over the next 4 years to Rio.



Pete Lambert



Vicky Thornley



Richard Chambers



Lou Reeve



Jamie Kirkwood



Matt Langridge

Juniors impress at Winter Heads

The long distance racing season has gone well for our Juniors, according to Talent Identification coach Livinia Cowell-Sherriff

The winter season has witnessed the largest-ever junior group of athletes at the club, thanks to our outreach activities at local non-rowing schools, where we test potential new recruits, as well as our links to several coastal rowing clubs.

The Junior Academy also includes students undertaking the Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence with Henley College (AASE). Our athletes raced at several winter Heads before the flooding set in, and Seb Devereux kicked off the season with a win in J18 singles at Reading Head, where he finished two places ahead of Oli Fedrick-Lees.

Next came the rescheduled Senior National Championships, dubbed the Jubilee Regatta for 2012, which was held on the Olympic course at Eton Dorney. The youngest event on offer was the J19 quads, which Seb Devereux, Paul Spencer, Oli Fedrick-Lees and Oli Collinson duly won, and Seb and Paul then made it two wins in a row when taking top honours in J19 doubles.

Upper Thames Head brought another win in J18 quads, with Harry Uglow sculling in place of Paul Spencer, who was outside the age bracket, and then Seb and Oli Lees won the J18 doubles. Our third win in the event came when Martin Yarwood, James Harrison, Stephan Woloszyn and Matt Whitehead won novice quads. Shortly afterwards Seb Devereux added two more wins to his burgeoning collection at Henley Sculling Head where he won J18 singles and then partnered Oli Lees to win the J18 doubles.

Our entry at the Fours Head was marred when a novice overseas crew collided with our boat. Emergency repairs to the bow prior to racing requiring two visits to the Start but they managed a creditable fourth place under difficult circumstances.

Seb Devereux's performance in winning J18 singles at the Scullers Head earned him an invitation to senior trials, where he set a new junior record on the 5000m ergo test. In his absence Oli Lees was Leander's sole representative at junior trials where he finished in 11th place. Both athletes were



Images courtesy of Robert Treharne Jones

Seb Devereux winning J18 singles at the Scullers Head

selected to go to training camp in Nantes, where they won the 5k time trial in a double. Seb Devereux impressed the selectors with his early season form to earn selection for the major junior international regatta in Munich, where he won two golds in the double and the quad.

New recruits aged 14-18 are always welcome at Leander, where we are looking for all those who have the potential to move on to achieve international selection, and enter the AASE course at Henley College each year.

Please email Livinia Sherriff livinia.cowell-sherriff@leandercoaching.org.uk or call 07799 691 148.



Images courtesy of BigBlade Photography

Seb Devereux, Oli Fedrick-Lees, Harry Uglow, and Oli Collinson move off the raft prior to racing in the Fours Head

Gold fever down under!

The Australian Youth Olympic Festival in January gave three of our younger athletes the chance to savour the atmosphere of a major international regatta at the Sydney 2000 Olympic venue, whence all three returned with gold medals.

Jack Beaumont, Jamie Copus and Ben Board recorded some of their thoughts on competing so far from home

"For me the Australian Youth Olympic Festival was a great opportunity to get some more experience at international competition" said Jack Beaumont.

"What is so different about international racing at my age group is that you don't tend to know anything about your competition before you race them, so you really have to give it your best race. I feel like I gained a lot from the competition and was very proud to win medals for Great Britain! It just shows that the training that we do is working well. I hope to emulate the successes down under at the World U23 Championships in July" he added.

"It was one of the best rowing experiences I've had to date. It wasn't just the racing that made it so special, but the feeling that we were part of a truly special event" said Jamie Copus.

"Staying in a village-like situation added that bit of extra camaraderie between the guys, and it also gave us a chance to meet some athletes from outside rowing, so I learnt a bit of what it is like to be high achieving in other sports. One of the best parts of the trip was our training stretch of water, the Nepean River. It was one of the most breath-taking places I've ever had the privilege to row down, wonderfully sheltered water, and if you row far enough, you suddenly find these walls of bush rise up alongside you, with the cicadas echoing between them. Being able to row on Lake Penrith wasn't short of amazing either, and we were lucky to get great conditions for both days. It was a great learning experience for racing at the next level internationally. It was good to hear the national anthem played on the podium again. It's why I do the sport really, that goal of gold is just a drug. You just keep wanting more!

"I didn't really have any expectations as I have never been to an event like this before" said Ben Board.

"The challenge of the Youth Olympic regatta was switching between three different boats – the double, the quad and the eight.



Images courtesy of IconPhoto

The GB men's quad on their way to the silver medal

We trained for a month together as a squad so with two weeks in Australia I think that really gave us the best possible chance in the races" he added.

As far as racing highlights were concerned the athletes had few doubts.

"Obviously the gold medal was the highlight for me – the lightweight double was the boat that I most wanted to win!" said Ben Board.

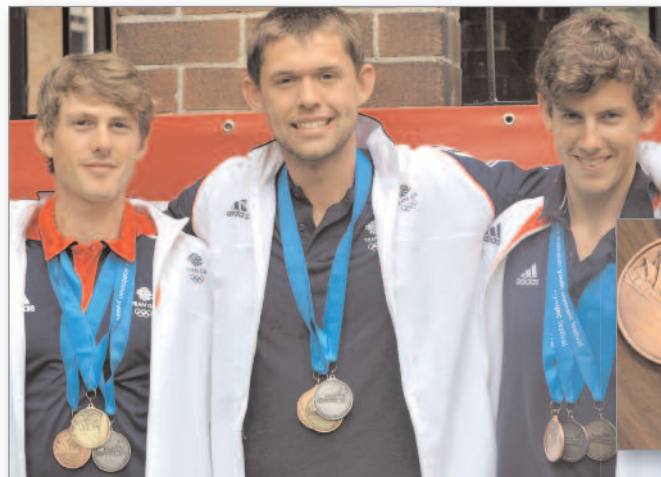
We had a great semifinal, setting the fastest time, so during the break in races we had a look at New Zealand's times and figured out that they went out of the starts fast and then slowly decreased in speed. We used this information to create a race plan for the final."

The plan seems to have worked.

"Through the middle of the race we had a call to set a dominating speed. New Zealand were still ahead as we reached 1250m but we weren't worried and surprised them with a push so fast that we managed to get ahead. New Zealand responded but our attack was so fierce and brutal that we kept on moving past them, even though they were pushing too! Five hundred metres flew past before we knew it and we were in first place. This put us in the driving seat! With 250m to go we sprinted as if there was a shark chasing us. The crowds were cheering as we put every last drop of energy into our rowing. We didn't stop till we heard the beep from the finish tower" Ben concluded.

All three Leander athletes returned with gold medals from the Australian Youth Olympic Festival in Sydney, where the warm summer sunshine had offered a welcome contrast to the freezing conditions back home.

Beaumont, Copus and Board won gold in the men's singles and lightweight men's doubles. They then went on to take silver in the men's quads, partnered by Luke Moon of Tideway Scullers', and bronze in the men's eight, in which they joined forces with four athletes from Oxford Brookes University.



Images courtesy of Chris and Martin Copus



Ben Board, Jack Beaumont and Jamie Copus celebrate their medal success in Sydney

Events at Leander

The early season events at Leander may not quite match the roller coaster ride of 2012, but we started off the year with another hugely successful Burns Night that was oversubscribed weeks ahead. Once again we are indebted to Leander Member Mike Haggerty and his team who put in a huge amount of time in the planning and execution of the night! Our St Valentines Night Dinner was another full house event, and just recently our first 'Meet the Athletes' Dinner of 2013 placed London 2012 champion Alex Gregory in the spotlight, where he enthralled a packed house with the story of his path to Olympic success.

Our second such evening is planned for 26 September when our Captain, Debbie Flood, will be our guest host and another full house is assured. As well as being very enjoyable nights in their own right these events offer a rare opportunity to meet and dine with our athletes and to get under the skin of rowing. Surely this is at the heart of supporting the latest generation of athletes.

Concessions

One of the many attractions for Leander membership is the concessions that we are able to offer, which include discounts on tailoring and wines as well as other discounts with selected local traders. The biggest 'bundle' of concessions comes from our affiliation to the Country Gentlemen's Association, which has a significant proportion of ladies among their total membership of some 12,000, allowing them to negotiate significant concessions in a wide range of goods and services. Membership is free to Leander Members and their bi-monthly magazine is well worth a read. Details of all the concessions are on our website at Membership > Membership Benefits > Membership Concessions.

Where are they now?

You will read elsewhere in this Newsletter of those Members we have lost in recent months, but we are also seeking to establish a column of Members' news, including, dare we say, births and marriages! With more than 3500 Members scattered around the globe it's all too easy to lose touch, so Leander News is the obvious way to share news with your fellow club Members. Just write to the Club or email your news to press@leander.co.uk to have your news included in our November edition.

Wise Owls



One of the initiatives set up by outgoing President Sir George Cox is the Wise Owls – an annual gathering of the Club's present and former officers, all of whom are able to bring their considerable experience to bear in helping the Club consolidate its position and develop its plans for the future.

Career advice required



Could you spare just 30 minutes to help our athletes with their post-rowing careers? Leander athletes dedicate their lives to rowing and their Club, helping it to be the most successful in the world. We want to give something back by helping them with their careers after rowing. Could you give

up a small amount of time to share your expertise and experiences with an athlete, review a CV or maybe offer some interview tips? Please contact Tom Solesbury tsolesbury@gmail.com if you can help.

Pink Hippo Club

The winners of our Spring draw are:

1st Prize	£300	VJ Emerson Esq
2nd Prize	£200	CW Crowther Esq
3rd Prize	£100	NJD Bull Esq

Another Olympic champion!



It's not just our own athletes who train at Leander. For the second successive year Czech sculling star and reigning Olympic champion Mirka Knapkova has chosen the club as her winter training venue. Her gold medal at Eton Dorney marked the climax of a long rise to the top for the 32-year old athlete, who previously excelled at cross-country skiing and long-distance running. Prevented from training on the water at home, where the lake is completely frozen during the winter months, a six week spell at Leander has proved just the ticket, as she trains alongside and inspires our younger athletes.

Reciprocity

'The practice of exchanging things with others for mutual benefit, especially privileges granted by one organisation for another' is how the dictionary defines reciprocity, and Leander currently now has more than 30 reciprocal clubs around the world with six more in central London. As you might expect reciprocal charges for bedrooms and meals are slightly higher than for members but offer considerably better value for money than local restaurants and hotels. Whether on holiday, business, or just popping up to town for the theatre, do contact the clubs and see if they can offer you reciprocity. Details are on our website and a warm welcome awaits you.

The London clubs include the Naval & Military in St James' Square; the Oxford & Cambridge and the Army & Navy, both in Pall Mall; the City University in Cornhill; the Lansdowne Club in Fitzmaurice Place; the Naval Club in Mayfair; and the Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge.

Distinguished fellows



A recent graduation ceremony at Reading University was special for a number of Leander athletes who were granted Honorary Fellowships for their performance last year at London 2012. Gold medallists Anna Watkins and Alex Gregory took star billing, along with former and present Leander captains Rick Egington and Debbie Flood. The group also included Leander's Alex Partridge, Charles Cousins with fellow GB athletes Bill Lucas, Sam and Tash Townsend, and Adam Freeman-Pask.

Turkey Sculls



One of the regular features of the winter training programme at Leander is the Turkey Sculls, an event for scratch quads over a 150m dash course from the Regatta finish to the clubhouse. It's a chance for many of our development athletes to row in the same crew as some of our Olympians, all competing for the chance to win prize turkeys donated by the event's longstanding sponsor, Tom Copas of the Copas Partnership. The winners this year were Al Sinclair, Lou Reeve, Harry Uglow and Lawrence McCafferty.

Spire Dunedin Hospital & Leander's Academy

'Partners in Delivering World Class Performance'

Having provided healthcare excellence within Berkshire for over 60 years, Spire Dunedin Hospital is very proud to be the sole provider of healthcare to Leander's Academy. This exciting new four year agreement supports Leander's up and coming athletes as they strive to join the GB Rowing Team. Spire Dunedin realise the importance of premium healthcare in developing the sporting elite, and are proud to be collaborating with Leander by providing our athletes with the following services:

Diagnostic MRIs to aid the diagnosis of soft tissue injuries alongside spinal disorders.

Diagnostic CT scans, used for identifying stress fractures.

Radiological Imaging including X – Rays.

Ultrasound scanning for tendon pathologies.

Specialist orthopaedic consultations.

Sports medicine physician.

Sports nutrition advice.

Physiotherapy.

Sports massage therapy.

Treatment and surgical procedures to allow tissue recovery.



The new CT Scanner is opened by Debbie Flood with Margaret da Costa, Chief Executive of Spire Dunedin Hospital

Services to Club Members

Spire Dunedin Hospital has also offered to provide Club Members with a 20% discount against their standard self-pay price guide, for the following treatments at the Hospital: physiotherapy; diagnostic imaging; health screening programmes; pathology services; sports massage therapy. This support may be accessed through Spire Dunedin Hospital upon production of a current Leander membership card.

Please contact Kerrie Page at Spire Dunedin Hospital on 0118 958 7676 ext 4118 for details.



Start of a new Olympiad

The first World Cup regatta of the season, hosted in Sydney, Australia, was the first ever to be held in the southern hemisphere. Edinburgh medical student and Leander athlete Polly Swann tells the story of her path to a gold medal at her senior international debut.

Arriving at the course where Steve Redgrave won his fifth gold medal, we were greeted by the iconic Olympic rings and an electric atmosphere surrounding the venue and other competitors!

My own journey to Sydney started when I moved to Leander in November 2010, having taken an extended leave of absence from my medical studies at Edinburgh University. My aim was to be selected for the London 2012 Olympics, and with the support from Leander I began training with the GB team full-time in January of last year. My performance earned me a seat in the eight at the Belgrade World Cup, but during a preparation camp in Italy I sustained a lower back injury, forcing me to pull out and miss the opportunity to race at the Games. During five months spent on a rehabilitation programme, I received tremendous support from the GB Rowing Team and Leander, as well as friends and family, who all showed me that it was worth having another try – that one day all my hard work would pay off.

After years of hard training, injury and rebuilding I had the opportunity in Sydney to deliver a performance on the world stage. I was privileged to be racing with experienced and exceptional athletes – firstly Helen Glover (Minerva Bath) in the women's pair, and then doubling up with Zoe De Toledo, Vicky Thornley, Fran Houghton, Vicky Meyer-Laker, Katie Greves (all Leander athletes), as well as Jess Eddie (London) and Beth Rodford (Gloucester) in the women's eight.

With my demons of the previous year behind me, I was excited about the beginning of a new season, with new crew combinations – a fresh start. We had little idea of how we would fare against other international teams, but as the regatta progressed it became clear that we had developed good speed and were looking like promising medal winners in both events.



The GB men's eight in Sydney brought together many established favourites, including Olympic champions Alex Gregory and Pete Reed at 6 and 7

Finals day arrived and I remember feeling remarkably calm. This was perhaps in part due to my racing partner in the pair being an Olympic champion, but also because we had stepped up in pace throughout the regatta. With each session we were gaining more speed and finesse, and we knew that all we had to do was to execute the plan.

Our coach Robin Williams always reminds us to keep a smile on our face at the start, and although watching the BBC footage back I don't look particularly happy, I remember relishing the opportunity ahead.

We won the pairs event with a time of 7.03, but a few hours later came a disappointing fourth in the eight, the morning's fierce racing having taken its toll on all eight of us. It was an incredible event to be a part of and, as my senior international debut, I couldn't have asked for much else. I'm looking forward to seeing how the season's racing unfolds, and will remember to enjoy the moment and have a wee smile on my face on the start line!



Polly Swann in the stroke seat of the GB women's eight



Polly Swann and Helen Glover on their way to a gold medal in Sydney

Images courtesy of Robert Treharne Jones

Henley Royal Regatta

Despite the later Regatta date for 2013 the busiest time of the year at Leander promises to be better than ever, with improved menus and facilities to provide the perfect setting for further success on the river, as Jeremy Randall reports

The Stewards of Henley Royal Regatta having ruled that finals day would take place on the 27th weekend of the year, this year's Henley is as late as can be. Five wonderful days of racing kick off on Wednesday 3 July, and by the time the last final has been rowed the following Sunday the Club will have seen more of its members than at any other time of the year!

To accommodate the thousands of people who will pass through the gates, the normally tranquil club lawn disappears under a sea of canvas, to provide a comprehensive weather-proof hospitality unit for Members and their guests – the result of a year-long planning operation. Three weeks beforehand, the Club's coaches oversee the removal of some fifty boats to safe storage off-site, as well as the racking that normally covers the river end of the lawn. One boat bay of the clubhouse is also cleared and handed over



Five wonderful days of racing kick off on Wednesday 3 July

to the Club's caterers to provide a secure store for the vital supplies of wine and champagne required to keep the membership suitably refreshed over five long days.

Once the boats have gone the building team move in to erect the Marquee. It takes two days just to level the floor as the lawn slopes by over three feet from one end to the other! With the floor laid, the massive metal frames go up and the canvas is then hauled into place using ropes and old-fashioned manpower, to be followed by an army of technicians. Plumbers connect the water supply to the kitchen and bar, as well as the drainage for the industrial dishwashers, and install a temporary gas supply. Electricians lay miles of wire radiating from behind a small door in the garden wall that goes unnoticed during the rest of the year. Behind this door lies a high amperage balanced electricity supply, but since the Club is right at the limit of what can be drawn from this source, we also have our own temporary generator. With these hefty requirements it is no surprise this



The key change is the opportunity to book a table of ten as your base for the entire day



The normally tranquil club lawn disappears under a sea of canvas

temporary facility gives us little change from £70,000.

Leander strives each year to provide the best possible experience for Members and their guests. There is no time for a dress rehearsal – the operation has to be up-and-running from the word 'Go', ready to serve hundreds of covers on Wednesday lunchtime.

While service in the Clubhouse is little changed this year, Members dining in the Marquee will notice some significant changes, designed to speed up service and avoid the problems experienced by some last year.

The key change is the opportunity to book a table of ten as your base for the entire day in the Marquee, where you have the convenience of setting up a tab for your drinks. This facility enables Members and their guests to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee on arrival at the table, where you will have a dedicated member of staff to look after you. You may then order your wine for lunchtime and, following your lunch and an afternoon watching the racing, you can return to your table for tea.

For those Members who simply require lunch, the Marquee luncheon continues,

with the addition of a seafood platter available each day alongside the daily hot meal. Afternoon tea returns to a more traditional style with sandwiches, scones and strawberries and cream.

Full details of all these facilities, the evening BBQ and detailed menus are all in the Regatta brochure which was mailed to you with your tickets and booking form in

March.

Members are reminded to ensure that their guests are all aware of our rules, particularly that they must set any mobile devices to 'silent' when in the Club or grounds. Should they wish to make or receive a call they should do so as discretely as possible in an outside space.



All photos: Charlotte Snowden

Leander strives each year to provide the best possible experience for Members and their guests

Obituaries



Maurice Buxton

1919 – 2013

Elected to membership 1939

Etonian, winning Cambridge Blue, aviator, mountaineer, soldier, banker, yachtsman, photographer, generous friend and companion – that was Maurice, and much more.

Reputed to be the most stylish young oarsman of his generation, Maurice stroked the Eton Eight in 1937 and 1938, going down in the semi-finals of the Ladies Plate to powerful college crews. Others might have had their heads turned by such early success, but not Maurice. He remained throughout his whole life a man without conceit.

At Cambridge Maurice stepped, unusually for a freshman, straight into the Blue Boat of 1939. Against strong odds, they demolished Oxford by 4 lengths, denying the Dark Blues a hat trick. Maurice's pedigree was soundly Light Blue. His father and his uncle, both decorated with MCs in the First World War, rowed together for the Cambridge Service crew in the King's Cup in the 1919 Henley Peace Regatta – the equivalent of the Grand, and they also won the pairs race.

Because of the War, in which he served with distinction in the Coldstream Guards, Maurice's only appearance in a Grand Crew was at bow for Leander in 1939. He was elected a Henley Steward in December 1959

and remained on active Regatta duty until 2008.

After the War, Maurice did not return to Cambridge to complete his degree but joined Barclays Bank instead. A spell in Reading Branch brought him conveniently near to Leander, where he served outstandingly as Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, and then as the Club's first Chairman. It was a time of great change and Maurice's contribution to stability and continuity cannot be overstated. Richard Burnell wished to step aside before the end of his Presidency to allow Maurice to succeed him. Characteristically, Maurice would not hear of it. He had supported Harold Rickett at Harold's right hand and that was the way he wished to continue.

Maurice will not be forgotten. He was a true Leander Hero.

George Brown



David Parnwell

1929 – 2012

Elected to membership 1954

A St Edward's old boy, David was teaching at the Dragon School when I was invited to meet the boat club committee, a slightly daunting experience as they seemed keen to grill me. However David was quiet but

supportive with that lovely grin on his face. It was the start of a long friendship.

As a student at Trinity College, Oxford David had trialled for the Varsity Boat in 1953. A year later he became a Leander member and went as a trainee teacher or 'stooge' to the Dragon School. He was offered a permanent post and remained there until his retirement in 1989, when he bought Remenham Barn, a lovely house on the Henley course next to the Barrier.

A magnet for friends during Henley week, I stayed with David there for nearly 20 years while reporting for The Times. It was a house surrounded by wonderful music since his mother had been a singer and his father a pianist. He invariably had competitors staying with him and the time I spent at David's house are high up on my fondest memories of the Royal Regatta.

On his 70th birthday I spoke at David's beloved Leander Club. I said then, and I say now, "I never heard David say anything bad about anybody...and I never heard anybody say anything bad about him". He never stopped being that gentleman we loved.

Mike Rosewell

Mark Bodley Scott

1923 – 2013

Elected to membership 1971

Mark Bodley-Scott was educated at Bryanston, where he was captain of boats. After leaving school he joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, and served in Sicily, where he was badly wounded in a mortar bomb explosion, losing the sight in one eye and damaging the other. After a year in hospital he returned to active service and, on demobilisation, he read architecture at the North London Polytechnic and joined Thames Rowing Club to maintain his fitness. After a successful Henley in 1948 Mark was asked to trial for the GB Olympic team and was selected with Bakie James in the coxed pair. Despite not winning a medal himself he was proud to be part of a team which won two gold medals.



Christopher Chavasse (front row, far left) pictured with other Bedford School crew members after winning the inaugural Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup at Henley Royal Regatta in 1946

Christopher P.G. Chavasse

1928 – 2013

Elected to membership 1950

As a member of winning Bedford School crew in the inaugural Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup in 1946 Christopher Chavasse was selected for the 1st VIII at Clare College, Cambridge, where he was a contemporary of David Jennens in the Head crew. Following his father and grandfather into the legal profession he later left his solicitors' practice in Holborn to become Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Grocers.

G. Lionel Harvey

1936 – 2013

Elected to membership 1956

Lionel Harvey raced in three successive years at Henley for Queen's College, Oxford, and reached the semifinals of the Visitors' in 1956, when his crew doubled up in the Thames. The following year his crew entered the Grand, where they were defeated by the

Soviet national eight, but the four once again reached the Visitors' semifinal. In his final year his crew was defeated in the first round of the Ladies'.

James M. Romanes

1927 – 2013

Elected to membership 1969

Represented Christ's College, Cambridge on two occasions at Henley, losing the first round of the Ladies' Challenge Plate in 1949, but reaching the quarter-final of the Thames in 1951.

D. Ralph Denne

1931 – 2013

Elected to membership 1979

An alumnus of Worcester College, Oxford, in whose crew he reached the final of the Wyfold Challenge Cup in 1952, Ralph Denne was a keen yachtsman and former chairman of the Lensday Club.

John M. Rayson

1924 – 2013

Elected to membership 2003

Major Robert Collins

1924 – 2013

Elected to membership 1944

Geoffrey Darby

1927 – 2013

Elected to membership 1983

Christopher J Palmer

1946 – 2013

Elected to membership 1994

Desmond H. O'Connell Jnr.

1936 – 2013

Elected to membership 1986

Peter J. Hamblin

1931 – 2013

Elected to membership 2005

Simon K. Porter

1944 – 2013

Elected to membership 1966

Stuart F.A. Miskin

1936 – 2013

Elected to membership 1955

Andrew J. Gowans

1966 – 2013

Elected to membership 1991

Stuart B. Craig

1943 – 2013

Elected to membership 1976

Michael J. Cullen

1927 – 2013

Elected to membership 1949

President's Report

Nowadays Leander has two main aims: to make a significant contribution to the top level of British rowing and to be an ever-better club of which to be a Member. I believe we made substantial progress towards both in 2012.

Last year was undoubtedly one of the best years ever for British sport, with the London Games being the obvious high point. The results were all the more remarkable for the fact that just three Games earlier, in Atlanta, Great Britain had won just a single gold medal (Steve and Matt, of course) and finished 17th in the medals table. In London the tally was 29 gold medals and third position overall behind the giants of the USA and China.

Rowing made a significant contribution to this success, with every one of the thirteen GB crews making the final, nine winning medals, four of them gold. That is a stunning result for GB Rowing, and Leander is proud to have contributed to that success.

We had 24 athletes and a coach selected for the Olympics - all performed superbly, winning 12 Olympic medals between them, and bringing the total number of individual Olympic medals won to-date by Club members to 111. Pam Relph also became our first-ever Paralympic champion - hopefully the first of many.



With so much attention on the London Games, it would be easy to overlook the domestic and other successes in 2012. These are important because they form the platform on which we are already building for 2016 and 2020.

We won two events at Henley Royal



Sir George Cox
President

Regatta - the Prince of Wales, for the third year in succession, and the Double Sculls, as well as reaching the final of the Ladies' Plate. It was particularly pleasing to note that the Double Sculls, which is an 'open' event and usually won by an international crew, was won by two of our development athletes. Seven of our young rowers were subsequently selected to represent GB at Under-23 level, with three of our coaches also making the team.

Even without the availability of our potential Olympic rowers we produced the fastest domestic eight in the Head of the River, coming second only to a Czech national squad crew. We also recorded five winners in the Fours Head.

These results were hugely gratifying as

the Club's role nowadays is very much to develop promising young athletes. We recruit individuals, many of whom have very limited experience or past success, and provide them with outstanding coaching and excellent facilities. We support their progress through domestic and Under-23 international competition, with the top performers eventually going on to join the GB squad. At the start of this year no less than 15 of our athletes moved on to train full-time with GB Rowing. This gives us a challenge of continuously finding and developing new young athletes and it is very pleasing that Henley Royal Regatta has recognised the Club's role in this respect and agreed to admit an under-21 Leander crew to the Thames Cup in future years. Given the continuing difficult economic environment the overall financial out-turn for 2012 was satisfactory, thanks to a great deal of hard work by all concerned and the support of our Members and sponsors.



Supporting our ambitious rowing programme is, of course, a huge challenge for the Club.

Netting off a contribution from GB Rowing towards our coaching salary costs (partly on account of our role as a Centre of Excellence and partly because our Director of Rowing spends a proportion of his time with the GB

squad) our rowing expenditure for the year was £289,912.

However, the year benefitted from a significant one-off boost from the Join Leander's Journey (JLJ) campaign and other London 2012-related activities. JLJ added nearly £60,000 to the year's result and also brought in our major new sponsor, the leading clothing brand GANT.

Significant sponsorship from GANT and our long-standing supporter Invesco Perpetual contributed £169,500. This support is hugely important and greatly valued. We also received £60,000 in-kind from Tesco in the shape of contribution to crew food and a smaller sum from Brakspear. Although the Tesco and Brakspear sponsorships have not continued after 2012, we thank them for helping make the successes of last year possible. The Committee is actively seeking to foster further mutually beneficial longer-term relationships with sponsors.

Membership grew to 3707 as at 31 December, and subscriptions remain an important under-pinning of all of the Club's activities and services. The loyal support and encouragement of Members is much appreciated. Much has been done in recent times to improve the facilities of the Clubhouse and more is planned, and the Committee and staff hope that these will be used to the full by Members and their guests. There can be few more impressive and convivial places to visit, dine, entertain or stay beside the river. All such use contributes significantly to our finances and helps to create a 'club' atmosphere.

The Royal Regatta in 2012 produced a disappointing contribution and at £29,665 was down on the previous year. This was due largely to the fall-off in corporate demand reflecting the market

for corporate hospitality. A careful review has been undertaken, and the 2013 Regatta offering adjusted appropriately.

Shop trading in 2012 was ahead of 2011, benefitting from London 2012 promotions.

Operating costs remain under close scrutiny, with employment costs being the major element. The Club's staff has, as ever, worked hard and diligently on our behalf, and we are grateful to each of them for their efforts and continued service.

The Committee has reviewed its policy on financial reserves in light of the longer-term needs and the continuing development of the Club. This policy is set out more fully in the financial statements. The one-off surplus of £161,172 for 2012 has been allocated to funds designated for much-needed specific purposes and to the further strengthening of the reserves.



Member support is crucial to our success. We therefore went to great lengths to engage the Members in the build-up to the Olympics and in the subsequent celebrations. There were several Meet the Athlete evenings, the Torch Relay through the Club's grounds, the atmospheric live screening of the races, the Heroes' Return and open-top bus parade through Henley, as well as the memorable Olympians' Dinner at the Mansion House.

The arrangements for the Royal Regatta involved further improvements to the layout trialled the previous two years, giving much more member space for informal gathering – a move that has been very well received. The only

problem was a failure of the catering facilities to meet our expectations, particularly in recovering from a power failure on the Thursday. Steps have been taken to ensure a better performance this year.

Meanwhile we carried out further improvements to the Clubhouse – part of an on-going refurbishment programme – and adapted the library to accommodate the generously donated Hoffman collection, the world's most extensive collection books on the subject of rowing. Sir Steve Redgrave unveiled a new Olympians Board outside the Dining Room and we installed a screen in the entrance lobby, giving continuous news of what's happening in the Club, both on and off the water. We also introduced a much improved website.



All-in-all it was a very successful year, with a great deal to look back on with both pride and satisfaction. This was due to the tremendous hard work and commitment of our house staff and coaching team; the support of our international athletes who gave so freely of their time to meet members and sponsors; the financial backing of Invesco Perpetual, GANT, Tesco and Brakspears; the time and effort of a Committee made up of 'doers'; the generous donors to our 'Leander Heroes' appeal; and the support of the membership generally. On behalf of Leander I thank you all. The Club's success was your success.

Father of the House

Leander's longest serving Member is a Scotsman who recorded his first Henley win as long ago as 1936, so we sent fellow Scot and Club Member Mike Haggerty to meet him at his home in Edinburgh.

Resident in Edinburgh for the last twenty years and more with his wife Gillian, 96-year-old Denis Eadie now holds the distinction of being Leander's Father-of-the-House, and can trace his membership all the way back to 1936, when he won the Ladies' Plate with 1st Trinity, Cambridge.

Although educated at Oundle School, Northamptonshire, as well as Trinity, Denis is a proud Scot, having been born in Bridge of Weir in Renfrewshire and brought up in and around nearby Paisley, which, at the time, was one of the west of Scotland's industrial powerhouses.

So, why Oundle?

"My mother was English and she thought an English public school would be good, and when my father heard it was connected with engineering, he agreed" explained Denis.

"My degree was in Mechanical Engineering and that took me into the family business of Eadie Bros & Co. Ltd. in Paisley. Our company produced textile accessories for the spinning industry" he continued.

This was at a time when Paisley was a major centre for Britain's textile exports, not least because of the world-famous Paisley pattern.

Denis rowed at Oundle but, in a sign of how times have changed, normally only in internal regattas and races. He says, "we went up to York to row against the school there. That was the only outside competition, otherwise it was all internal".

But his competition activities changed when he moved onto Trinity. He recalls, "I had the good fortune when I was a freshman to win the Ladies' Plate with

1st Trinity. I didn't stroke that boat, I rowed at four. We beat Clare College, Cambridge".

And comparing how things have changed over the years, he gives this insight, "I remember particularly that the heaviest man in our crew was selected for the Olympic crew that August, so there was Britain selecting its crew some five weeks before the event! The Germans had one crew which they dismissed after a year, and then they had another crew in training for a year. So things are a bit different nowadays".

Trying to repeat their 1936 success, 1st Trinity came a bit unstuck, as Denis explains. "We lost the final the next year to the same people, so they had their revenge. They were quite close races, though".

In 1938, Denis went on to stroke Cambridge University's Blue Boat - a crew that included Alan Burrough at three - only to lose by two lengths. Denis recalls, "being in the blue boat was tremendous. It gave me a much wider view of the world. There were a lot of Jesus people in the crew but we lost. It was a very, very rough day. They had clear water at the Mile and then we got into the calm water under Harrods. That suited our style and we passed them - only just - and then they took over".

Not surprisingly, Denis still retains a keen interest in rowing matters. He says, "I always watch the Boat Race every year, although I haven't actually been there for a long time now", and about the 2012 Olympic Games he says simply, "London was a great show".

When Denis returned to Scotland, he stayed involved in the sport.



"My advice to the Club is to keep going as you are. They are doing a splendid job".

"After the war, I coached Glasgow University. We used to come through to Edinburgh to row on the canal and we went over to Ireland to race" and, he remembers with a smile, "we took our own oars over and then came back with them on the trams".

Denis clearly cherishes his membership of Leander, and says, "Leander is the number one club. It was terrific to get into the club, I was lucky to get in so early in my career and we always go there whenever we're in Henley.

My advice to the club is to keep going as you are. They are doing a splendid job. More money is going into the rowing side of it, so they are producing crews. I don't think they were producing crews in my day, but they are now".

Sage words indeed, but what else to expect from a member of over 75 years' standing?

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 30 June 2013 at 11.00 am

AGENDA

1. To read the Notice convening the Meeting
2. To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24 June 2012
3. To consider any matters arising from the Minutes
4. To receive:
 - a. The President's Report (incorporating finance report)
 - b. The Captain's Report
5. To approve the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2012
6. To appoint Auditors for the year 2013
7. To receive the Chairman's Report
8. To agree the Annual Subscription rates for the year 2014, as proposed by the Committee at £270 for UK members, £135 for Overseas Members and £65 for Members under the age of 30
9. Election:
 - a. The following nomination has been received for the post of President:
Mr JD Randall: Proposed by Mr GH Brown Seconded by Mr P Zeun
 - b. The following nomination has been received for the post of Chairman:
Mr IB Lloyd: Proposed by Mr RHJ Painter Seconded by Mr GCM Legget
 - c. The following nomination has been received for the post of Honorary Treasurer:
Mr H Richardson: Proposed by Mr TJ Hunter Seconded by Sir Matthew Pinsent
 - d. The following nominations have been received for Elected Membership of the Committee:
Mr TC Garbett Proposed by Mr T Solesbury Seconded by Mr TW Owen
Mr JS Moore Proposed by Mr WS satch Seconded by Mr DS Read
10. Any other business

DAE Saoul – Hon. Secretary

Pete Reed – Nikon photoshoot

Double Olympic gold medallist Pete Reed is also a keen photographer, so when Nikon Owner magazine approached him for a photoshoot at Leander he readily agreed. But noted photographer Felix Kunze had a very special lens among his gear on this occasion – a very rare Nikkor 13mm f/5.6 rectilinear lens, of which only 350 were ever made, and which has been dubbed 'The Holy Grail', for its low-distortion ultra-wide capabilities.

Once the shoot was over, on and off the water, Pete lost no time in capturing a few images for his own extensive portfolio.

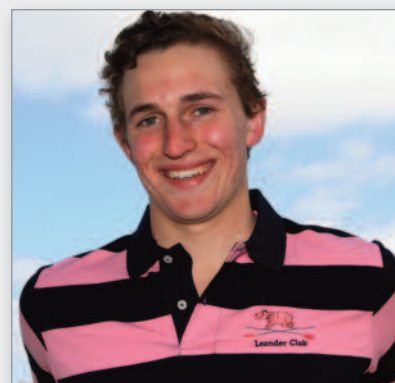


All photos © Felix Kunze

PINK HIPPO SHOP

Buying from our Shop helps support our rowers!

Spring is finally here and it's time to banish the woollens and fleeces and get out the summer wardrobe! We've brought in some stylish new products at the Pink Hippo Shop as well as stocking up on some established favourites.



Al shows off the cycling top, and Polly is wearing our strappy row vest with the distinctive Hippo logo, price £40. James is wearing our smart new design for men's polo shirts in striped pink and navy, with the Leander logo embroidered on the chest. Also available in navy, white and pink, prices start from £28.50.



Sportswear was in big demand last year, for obvious reasons, with our 'retro' zephyr rowing top, modelled by Dave, a surprise hit with young and old alike at £39.95 each.

Also in stock we have a range of other sportswear, including cricket jumpers at £69.50, as worn by John, and cycling tops. All are of the highest quality and made exclusively for Leander.

If you need Members' regalia in time for Regatta, we have our range of Pinks for Full Members and a smart city range of ties and other accessories for Members.

COMING SOON will be cycling jackets, navy rugby shirts for men, and 'tuxedo design' rowing tops so keep an eye on our website www.leander.co.uk/shop for all latest updates!

Our website is also the place to order any of the above items, or to check out the full range of available products. You can order on-line, or send an email to shop@leander.co.uk, or simply call us on 01491 575782. The shop is always open during office hours or the Duty Manager will be available to help during evening and weekends.

If there is something you feel we should stock please let us know as we welcome feedback and requests!