



Totally Oarsome...

Leander has had another very strong year in 2010. We have produced winning crews at every level and with the World Championships less than a week away, there is promise of yet more success for Leander athletes and coaches in New Zealand. These Championships are two months later than usual to fit in with the New Zealand summer, and as a result it seems strange to be reflecting on the season thus far when it is not yet finished. One of the positives of this situation is that it reduces the amount of winter training that many of us will have to do for the 2011 season!

The most recent addition to the team is Beijing silver medallist Debbie Flood, who following a training camp in Germany has been confirmed as competing in the women's quad – the boat in which she has twice won silver at successive Olympic Games.



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Phil Turnham, Jack Hockley, Nick Middleton, David Read and coach Matt Beechy

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Totally Oarsome...

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Henley Royal Regatta gave the Club and International crews the opportunity to shine in front of a home crowd. Leander won four trophies in total, and in my first year as Captain it was exciting to experience the nerves and excitement of the Regatta as a spectator. The Leander Club quad of Jack Hockley, Nick Middleton, Big Phil Turnham and David Read were coached by Matt Beechey in his first year as a full-time coach at Leander, and fully lived up to expectations by winning their event. The final against Tideway Scullers was a closely fought battle until the enclosures, where the power and desire of Leander showed, and victory was deservedly theirs. This was Phil Turnham's fourth Henley final but first win, highlighting the strength of his commitment and resolve. Nick Middleton also showed that he is one to watch, as he has reached this standard after only two years of rowing on the Leander Sporting Giants scheme.

The Visitors' Final promised to be a race where if you put your money on Leander then you couldn't lose; a Leander lightweight composite versus Leander. I witnessed this race from the Umpire's launch and the lightweights coached by Rob Dauncey put in a world class performance to beat the Leander crew. Congratulations to Dave Jones who won his third Henley medal on the trot, and Jonno Clegg his second.

Leander's Steve Rowbotham and Anna Watkins also showed that British sculling is heading to 2012 with ever more optimism, bringing home the international men's and women's quads events respectively.

Eleven Leander athletes were selected for the Under 23 World Championships in Belarus and nine of these returned with medals. The team's first medal came with a bronze on Saturday for the men's coxed



23 Leander athletes head to the World Championships.

four which included Leander's Andrew Holmes, Tom Clark and Patrick Lapage. The crew, coached by former Leander athlete and coach Ben Lewis came third behind Italy and Germany. The following day Leander's Dave Jones and Jono Clegg earned the ultimate accolade when their lightweight four, came from behind to win the world title. Britain added a silver in the afternoon from Leander's Kieren Emery – racing at this regatta for the first time as a lightweight in the double scull. In the last race of the championships the British men's eight including Leander's Will Satch, Anthony Locke and Mike Evans won Bronze behind Germany and the USA.

It wasn't just the Leander athletes who excelled in Belarus – the club's coaches, many of whom double up with GB duties, had medal winners in their charge. Rob Dauncey coached the lightweight four to perfection, while Chris Collerton was the man behind the silver medal coxless four.

The Club's senior internationals ended their summer racing campaign on a high at the Lucerne World Cup where GB had its most successful World Cup regatta in history. Following disappointment in Munich, and an enforced break over Henley, the all Leander men's coxless four of myself, Alex

Gregory, Matt Langridge, and Alex Partridge raced to a gold medal ahead of New Zealand and France. Our victory was in no small part due to Mark Banks' coaching; he was tough on us when we needed it following defeat in Munich.

The lightweight men's four final featured Leander's Chris Bartley, Paul Mattick, and Richard Chambers. Coached by Leander's Rob Morgan the four were looking to repeat the form they showed by winning in Munich and once again the crowd were not disappointed.

Leander's eighth gold medallist in Lucerne was Anna Watkins, who was partnered by Katherine Grainger in the double scull, with both athletes also racing in the GB women's quad. With only a few hours rest between the finals of the two events, Anna and Katherine showed their class with victory in both races. They will now race the double scull at the World Championships, whilst Leander's Debbie Flood will be racing in the quad.

There was disappointment for Leander's Pete Reed and Molesey's Andy Triggs-Hodge in the men's pair, beaten yet again by New Zealand's Eric Murray and Hamish Bond. In the middle of the race, the world's top two pairs surged away from the field.



Gradually, the New Zealanders, unbeaten this year or last, moved out in front. The GB supporters' hopes were raised with 300m to go when the Hodge and Reed moved up on the Kiwis but it was short-lived as Murray and Bond, clearly under pressure, somehow found another gear to win.

The men's double scull final was also billed as a potential head-to-head between Leander's Marcus Bateman and Matt Wells and Cedric Berrest and Julien Bahain of France. France got the better of the first 25 strokes but by the 500m mark GB were just ahead. Just before halfway the French put in a push and GB responded but their rivals had a two-thirds length lead and tried to consolidate their advantage. At 1500m GB were still two seconds down and launched a counter-attack which brought them within half a length but the French held on for victory in 6:18.51. The British duo were second and the fast-finishing New Zealanders were third.

The GB men's quad, featuring Leander's Steve Rowbotham in the stroke seat, also

took silver, behind Germany, and there was a bronze medal for the men's and women's eight who put on strong performances among the highest calibre field of the season so far.

Elsewhere over the summer, the Leander club rowers were preparing for their Hollywood debuts. Two Leander eights took part in the re-enactment of the 2002 Grand Final at HRR between Harvard and the Netherlands which features in the film 'The Social Network.' The film, about the setting up of facebook, is out at the cinemas now and well worth watching. If this was not enough, several of the boys also featured in the latest Take That music video 'The Flood' in which the famous five row from Dorney to Westminster in a specially made five person sculling boat.

In late August, Anna Watkins yet again confirmed her status as one of the leading female rowers in this country by becoming the first Leander athlete to win the women's race in the prestigious Wingfield Sculls. Not only did she win the race, but

she also set a new race record to the mile post.

There was also more success for Leander athletes at the E-ON Hanse Cup in Germany. Rowed over a 12.5km course on the Kiel Canal between the North Sea and the Baltic the trophy is the most prestigious event in the German calendar and starred the German World Champions. The British team sent two crews to the event with GB 1 consisting of the current International eight that has medalled at every World Cup regatta this season and GB 2, which included six Leander athletes and was a combination of the entirely Leander-based world champion men's four, together with Pete Reed and Andy Triggs-Hodge from the men's pair, and second pair Tommy Burton and Cam Nichol.

The two British crews and the Germans moved ahead during the first 2000m but after 15 mins of racing GB 2 made their move, coming within a canvas of their compatriots and then surging past to lead the field by a length. GB 2 finally crossed the line to win in 36 mins 46 secs, 19 seconds clear of Germany, with GB 1 a further 20 seconds behind in third place. Mark Banks who was coaching the winning eight later said that it was one of the most amazing races he had ever seen, and in his excitement fell off his bike at the halfway point and broke a rib!

Congratulations on everyone's achievements this season and a big thank you to all those who play a part in Leander's continuing success. Our coaches, our sponsors and I would also like to say a special thank you to all those who work behind the scenes at Leander, in particular those in the office who have helped me to have such a smooth ride in my role as Captain. There's plenty of hard work still ahead but the Club's enviable track record should mean that we will have yet more reasons to celebrate this time next year.

Leander representatives at the 2010 World Championships

Crew	Names
Men's eight M8+	Tom Broadway, Cox: Phelan Hill
Men's quadruple scull M4x	Steve Rowbotham
Men's four M4-	Matt Langridge, Rick Egington Alex Partridge, Alex Gregory
Men's double scull M2x	Marcus Bateman, Matt Wells
Men's pair M2-	Peter Reed
Women's eight W8+	Jo Cook, Lou Reeve, Vicky Thornley
Women's quadruple scull W4x	Debbie Flood, Frances Houghton
Women's double scull W2x	Anna Watkins
Women's single scull W1x	Katie Solesbury
Lightweight men's four LM4-	Richard Chambers, Paul Mattick, Chris Bartley
Lightweight men's double scull LM2x	Mark Hunter
Lightweight men's pair LM2-	Chris Boddy
Lightweight women's quadruple scull LW4x	Jane Hall

On the right track

Ivor Lloyd reports from the Chairman's Office

We continue to move forward in all facets of the Club, and in the main have had a successful summer.

In rowing under the first class leadership of Mark Banks and his dedicated team of coaches, we have continued to deliver success this year. As this article is being written, the World Rowing Championships on Lake Karapiro in New Zealand, are still to take place. However, Leander athletes have already delivered success this season as part of the Great Britain team at the Under 23 World Championships. Eleven Leander oarsmen were selected for the GB Team and nine returned with medals: two gold, one silver and six bronze. As well as our athletes representing GB, two of our club coaches were responsible for two of the GB. Special congratulations in particular to Rob Dauncey who coached the gold medal Men's Lightweight Coxless Four.

At Henley Royal Regatta, eight Leander athletes gained success over four events, and a further ten athletes reached the finals.

At the time of writing, there are still two weeks to go to the World Championships, and we look forward to seeing if the Karapiro results meet the expectation generated by the results at this year's World Cups. Leander has twenty three athletes in the GB Team, seven from women's and sixteen in the men's, plus Mark Banks who is coaching the current world champions in the Men's Coxless Four. By the time you read this, we will know how successful the 2010 team will have been. Looking forward to 2011 it will be an even more significant year where all of the participating nations are required to qualify their Olympic boats.



Ivor Lloyd (Chairman)

The Clubhouse also continues to progress under the leadership of Paul Budd and his committed team. He continues to juggle the needs of our members with the continuing requirement to generate income from non member activities, a challenging task.

At Henley Royal Regatta our facilities once again moved on with further improvements to last year's much acclaimed layout. There was an increased take up on table bookings on all days and a good response to our improved value wine offer. We did suffer a hiccup on Sunday, but this was swiftly resolved by our new catering partner and their management team.

Members visiting the regatta this year, may have not realised that part of the new infrastructure that has been developed for the regatta-, has given us the added benefit of a permanent river view via a raised decking

area at the end of the garden. This has already become a very popular feature with an excellent view of the river should members wish to simply have a drink in a riverside location, or to sample some alfresco dining.

We have a very proactive committee that is looking at the opportunities in the run up to Olympics, now less than two years away. We will be publishing our programme of events for next year and I am sure that members will be aware of the recent ticketing information that has just been released by the London Organising Committee. Our rowing 2012 Olympic appeal continues to raise funds and some £60,000 of the money raised has already

been invested in equipment that is already benefiting our athletes. This Olympic fund will inevitably not just support the London Olympics but will also contribute to the development of the 2016 Olympic Team. On behalf of the committee I thank those that have already contributed and I sincerely hope other members will give their support.

Ivor Lloyd
Chairman



Record number of Leander Athletes challenge for 2012 Olympic and World Championship Places

26 Leander Athletes are currently training within the Olympic Rowing Squad and a further 11 under 23 athletes are showing potential following their recent performance in the World Under 23 Championships where they won 2 Gold, 1 Silver and 6 Bronze medals.

We are now reaching a critical time in our build up to the 2012 Olympics we have 23 Leander Athletes chosen for the Great Britain squad preparing for the World Championships in New Zealand in November, as well as development Athletes who will be our core Athletes for the next few years.

To keep reaching these levels of achievement our Leander Athletes need more and more sophisticated support and of course this means an increasing level of expense.

We are immensely proud of our Athletes and their achievements. Although we all enjoy the occasion of Henley Royal Regatta we must remember that principally, Leander Club exists to develop top level rowing Athletes who in turn continue to enhance the reputation of Leander as the pre-eminent rowing club in the world.

To raise the necessary funds required to maintain this reputation we hope that many more of you will consider becoming Leander Heroes and contribute to the Leander 2012 Appeal by filling in the enclosed donation forms. Equally the Appeal gladly welcomes one-off donations.

We hope that more of our members will join 'The Leander Heroes Club'.

Leander Heroes Club Appeal reaches over £153,000

We are delighted to announce that the Leander 2012 Appeal, designed to give extra support for Leander Athletes who are challenging for places in the 2012 Olympics and beyond has now reached a total of over £153,000 as at October 30th.

A big thank you to the generosity of 87 Leander Members who have joined 'The Heroes Club' and enabled us to raise this amount. We have started to use the monies for the purchase of gymnasium equipment, boats and blades.



Leander mourns loss of Andy Holmes MBE

It is with deep regret that we heard of the death of Andy Holmes MBE, double Olympic Champion and the former pairs partner of Sir Steve Redgrave, with whom he won gold and bronze medals in the coxed and coxless pairs at the Seoul Olympics. He was 51.

He had recently returned to the world of rowing and had been coaching crews at Furnivall Sculling Club, and also at the new Langley Academy. Andy died of what is thought to be leptospirosis, also known as Weil's disease, a rare infection brought on by contact with contaminated water.

Andy started rowing at Latymer Upper School, and then joined Leander Club, with whom he won the Thames Challenge Cup at the age of 19.

(c) Andy Hooper



Andy Holmes MBE

By 1984 he was one of the rising stars among the GB squad, taking his place in the coxed four at Los Angeles where Britain won its first Olympic gold medal since 1948.

Two years later he and Redgrave won the Commonwealth coxless pairs title in Strathclyde, and later that summer they

won the world title in coxed pairs at Nottingham. The following year they doubled up in the coxed and coxless pairs, winning silver and gold, and did the same for the Seoul Olympics in 1988, where they won gold in the coxless and bronze the next day in the coxed event.

Holmes then left the sport to found his own removals business, but returned just a few years ago to begin a second life in rowing, this time as a coach. Returning to Leander for the first time in 20 years where he had been made an Honorary Member, he remarked how lively the Club seemed compared with when he had rowed here!

He leaves a wife and baby daughter, while four children from his first marriage also survive him.

Farewell to a much-loved friend

Dorrien Belson, who has died aged 93, was Chairman of Leander Club from 1981-83, during one of the most difficult periods in the Club's history.

He was commissioned at the outbreak of war and sent to Europe as part of the force necessary to delay the Germans and allow the British to retreat to Dunkirk. But he was captured and spent the next five years as a prisoner of war in six different prison camps in Germany and Poland. It was during this time that he first embraced Roman Catholicism - a faith that would last the rest of his life.

Born in Richmond, Surrey, Dorrien spent his early years in London before moving to Bristol, where he learned to row. He competed three times at Henley Royal Regatta with Thames RC and as a result of his rowing endeavours he was invited to join Leander Club.

After his son was born with cerebral palsy



Dorrien Belson

he and his wife formed a group for similar children in the West Country, and afterwards became Chairman of the Spastics Society for a number of years.

In 1963 he left Bristol to join Justerini and Brooks, based in St James', London. He travelled extensively for the company and eventually became Chairman towards the latter end of the 1970s, finally retiring from a long service in the wine trade in 1982.

After his retirement he became Chairman of Leander Club. The parlous state of the Clubhouse at that time meant that both the Fire and Health Authorities were poised to close it down. After much analysis Dorrien's committee produced a solution, which failed to convince the AGM of its merits, and the entire committee stood down in what later became known as the 'Pink Palace Revolution'

Happily married to his wife Mary for 63 years Dorrien was a wonderful father to his four children Roger, Timothy, Anthony and Lucille; grandfather to his three grandchildren and great-grandfather to six great-grandchildren.

He died in his sleep on 12th September and, at his request, a full Requiem Mass was held in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Henley, where a packed congregation gathered to bid farewell to a much-loved friend.



Double First in the Wingfield Sculls

Not only did Anna Watkins cross the line first to win the recent Wingfield Sculls on the Tideway, in doing so, she also became the first female Leander athlete to win this classic sculling race.

Watkins beat the race record to the Mile Post and Hammersmith Bridge and reached the finish five seconds ahead of fellow GB international Beth Rodford of Gloucester RC. Sophie Hosking of London RC was third, and Leander U23 sculler Ro Bradbury fourth.

Racing in squally conditions over the traditional course from Putney to Mortlake, Watkins led the four-boat race from start to finish but admitted that lack of familiarity with the course had almost let her down.

Uniquely each competitor in the Wingfields is allowed a coach in a following launch to indicate the best line, but Watkins' lead took her out of sight of her guide.

"Once I couldn't see her any more that's when the trouble started. Every time I made a decision to alter course I found the others were gaining on me, but fortunately I had enough of an advantage to stay ahead" she said.

Despite this setback she was confident enough to prepare for the celebratory dinner on the evening of the race, where she was joined by other Wingfields winners.

"I was confident enough to iron a skirt beforehand!" she said.

Partnered by Katherine Grainger in the double scull, the duo, who have won a hattrick of gold medals at World Cup regattas this season are favourites for the world title at the world championships in November.



All smiles from Anna Watkins as she accepts her winner's medal from GB chief coach Jurgen Grobler

Another favourite for a medal in New Zealand is Leander's Marcus Bateman, who took second place in the men's race behind leading GB single sculler Alan Campbell of Tideway Scullers.

Bateman and his double sculling partner Matt Wells have topped the international podium twice this season but all this counted for nothing as the temperamental Tideway threw its worst at the three athletes racing for the Wingfields men's title.

Campbell, who trains regularly on this stretch of the Thames, went off at 51 strokes a minute and seized the early initiative against Bateman at 45, with Brendan Crean of Agecroft RC slipping back in third.

Bateman was seven seconds adrift of the leader at the Mile, but it was when the scullers hit wind-against-tide along Corney Reach that Campbell's skill and experience began to tell, and he lengthened the advantage to win easily.



Annual Subscriptions for 2011

Leander Club subscriptions for 2011 will be as follows:

Members and Full Members – £240

Overseas members – £120

Full members under 30 – £57.50

(including Overseas Ordinary members under 30) The British Rowing annual levy will be £5.40 and will be added to the subscription. Subscriptions are collected by Direct Debit on 1st January each year unless you have opted for the twice yearly scheme.

Members who have set up a split DD arrangement with the Club will make 2 payments of £122.70. The first will have been taken week commencing 1st October 2010 and the second during week 1st April 2011. Other members, who pay a full subscription by Direct Debit and wish to join this scheme, may apply to do so commencing with their 2012 subscription payments.

Recruitment of new members during 2010 has remained buoyant. There are now a little over 3,600 members in total of which around 2,600 are 'Full Members' (previously known as 'Ordinary Members') and around 1,000 are 'Members' (formally known as 'Associate Members').

The Committee is always pleased to consider requests to upgrade Members to Full Membership. Those members who have given noteworthy service to the Club or the sport in general may be considered. Members who have 25 years unbroken service and have been regular contributors to the Club are particularly encouraged to apply.

Members who wish to elicit a discreet opinion on their likelihood of being upgraded by the Committee may email the Hon Secretary discretely on confidential@leander.co.uk for his opinion.

The Club is still keen to attract suitable new members and an incentive scheme was introduced in 2009 whereby the proposer of a successful full paying applicant received an invitation to dine with the new member and their respective guests (a table for four) at the Club's expense. This scheme proved to be very successful and is to be continued into 2011.

The General Manager is always pleased to give application advice to perspective members or their proposers

A joining fee equal to one year's subscription for the category is applied to new members but is waived for members under 30.

Members are reminded that their spouse may be extended membership in their own right at half subscription rate (with no joining fee) and may use the Club independently.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting for the Year 2011

The Annual General Meeting of Leander Club will be held in the Marquee at the Club House, Henley on Thames on Sunday 26th June 2011 at 11 a.m.

The minutes of the 2010 AGM together with the accounts are no longer being sent out to members but may be viewed on the Club website www.leander.co.uk

Jeremy Randall

Honorary Secretary



Good news for Leander & Henley

The London Olympics are going to be good news for Henley in general and Leander athletes in particular.

That was the message shared by Henley Mayor Jeni Wood and Leander Club Chairman Ivor Lloyd at a reception held in October at the Eton rowing lake at Dorney.

The Mayor was a guest at the event, held on behalf of the 'Leander Heroes' – a group of Club members who have now pledged more than £150,000 to help further advance the Club's hopes to place as many of their athletes as possible on the victory podium in two year's time.

Leander president Sir George Cox reminded all present that the club's athletes had won 99 Olympic medals since 1896, and it seemed entirely possible that the century might be reached in 2012.

With memories of Henley's celebrations still vivid in everyone's mind after Beijing 2008 both the town and the Club were looking forward with keen anticipation to the drama which was sure to be played out so close to home.

When London has hosted the Olympics before, in 1908 and 1948, the Olympic rowing was staged over the regatta course in Henley. But international standards now require a 6-lane 2000m course and the Eton course, purpose-built to meet that need, proved itself well up to the mark when it hosted the World Championships in 2006.

"The course won't be quite as convenient as it was in 1948 but the path from Henley to the rowing lake at Eton is sure to be a well-worn one" said Lloyd, as both he and the Mayor anticipated many Henley residents keen to be among the 30,000 capacity crowd at the eight-day rowing event.



Henley Mayor Jeni Wood is surrounded by the 'Leander Heroes' and flanked by two of the club's Olympic medallists, Debbie Flood and Mark Hunter, at the Dorney event led by club chairman Ivor Lloyd (extreme left) and president Sir George Cox (extreme right).

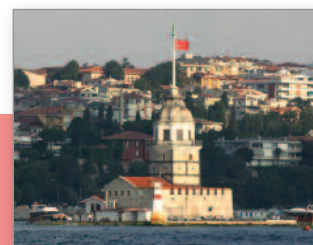
Olympic medallists Mark Hunter and Debbie Flood were on hand to give guests a very personal idea of what it means to stand on the victory rostrum at an Olympic Games. Hunter described how fulfilling it was to become Olympic champion but, after taking a year out post-Beijing, both athletes admitted that the attraction of competing in front of a home crowd was too good an opportunity to miss, despite the pain and personal sacrifice it would entail.

Tickets for the Olympics will not be available until next year and Lloyd went on to describe the logistical headaches involved in staging 'the greatest show on earth'. Apart from athletes and others involved in the organisation of the regatta, all other visitors to the site will be bussed in from car parking hubs at Reading, Slough, High Wycombe and Ascot.

Leander around the world

Leander cox Zoe de Toledo took this photograph of Kizkulesi, 'The Maiden's Tower' at the southern end of the Bosphorus when she was visiting Istanbul during the summer.

The tower is said by some authorities to mark the point where Leander swam to meet his lover, Hero, and hence the landmark is sometimes called Leandros Tower. In fact it's a legend from the Dardanelles, where Leander swam to Hero between Abydos (today's Eceabat) and Sestus (today's Canakkale city).



Paul Budd reports from the General Manager's desk

2012

I want to take this opportunity to introduce you to Rowley who is being developed by local cartoonist and member Martin Newman as part of our 2012 preparations. We plan to use him on items in the shop and we are exploring opportunities for commercial applications so I would be pleased to hear from any members who have any ideas we might be able to exploit.

Rowley aside, 2012 is going to provide the Club with a unique opportunity to capitalise on the involvement of our athletes and our proximity to the Olympic rowing course at Dorney. We are at the detailed planning stage in this respect and as our plans crystallise we will let you know the opportunities that are available.

The Decking

The Club is having a good trading year with both member and corporate business building. We continue a programme of improvement to our facilities and those of



Introducing Rowley...

you who have been recently will have seen the permanent decking which allows members to sit and overlook the river. This facility will obviously come into its own more during the summer but there are plenty of other occasions throughout the year where you can come and enjoy the al fresco experience.

Wi-Fi

The number of members who stay at the Club and keep in contact by email is rising noticeably and we are aware that the current Wi-Fi system is not as reliable or widely available as members would wish. Plans are now underway to install a more robust and larger capacity system which is planned to provide a reliable link throughout all the bedrooms and public rooms.

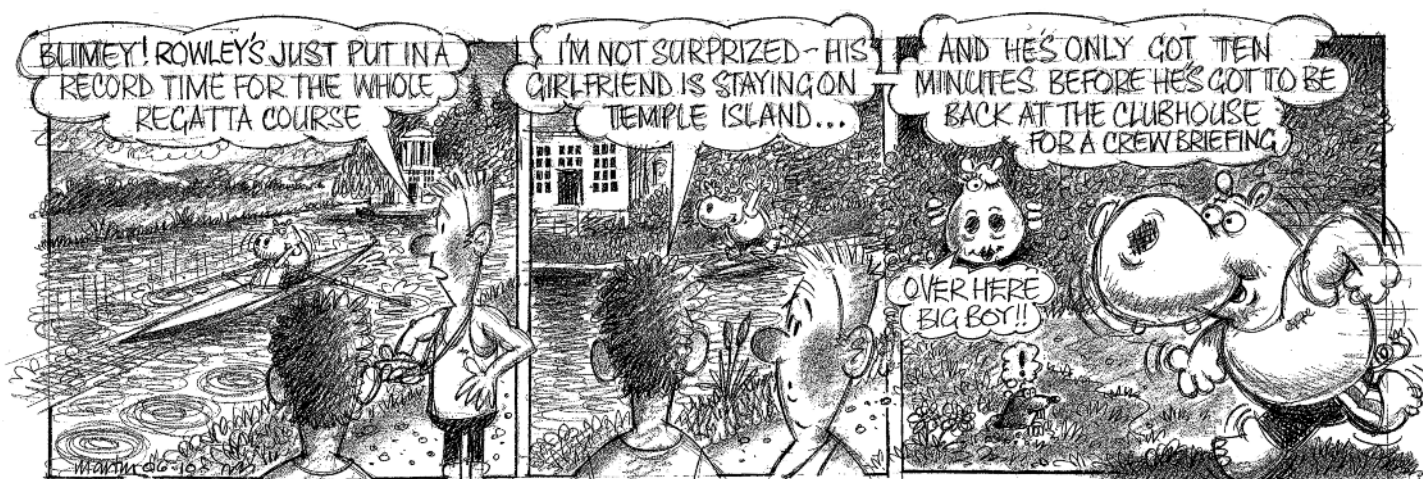
Calendar of Events

The Calendar of Events for the first six months of 2011 is enclosed with this Newsletter. We have experienced food price rises in excess of 9% over this year and with VAT increases due in January there are inevitable price increases. We have done our best to keep these increases to a minimum and we hope you feel that Leander Club still provides a 5 star venue at a 3 star price.

Paul Budd OBE
General Manager

Tales from the Towpath

Leander Club, Martin Newman





The Real Pink Hippo



Leander athlete Tom Clark got a rare glimpse of the real thing when he visited Zambia during the summer.

He and his father Graeme claim they now know why the hippo is the symbol of Leander.

"They wake at daybreak, have a session on the river, make a lot of noise, exercise for miles, and never stop eating. But large and lumpy as they seem they are in fact exquisitely graceful and fast in their natural environment!" they said.

Regatta Feedback from our Catering Partner

Following the Crown Group's first year providing services to Leander Rowing Club at Henley Royal Regatta through our marquee company, Piggotts, and Seasoned Events who supplied all the catering and hospitality, I am really pleased to report the majority of the feedback from the members has been both positive and very supportive of the changes that we introduced.

We have had favourable feedback on the quality of the finish to the marquees and especially the new decking which of course is now a permanent fixture. We aimed to uplift the quality of the catering in the marquee and particularly differentiate the offer in the Clubhouse and again the feedback is that we went a significant way in achieving this.

I and the teams from both companies have now had a rigorous debriefing session with Paul Budd and members of the Committee and we are looking forward to taking on board all the feedback we have received and tweaking the offer again for 2011.

It is no small task, no matter how much planning is involved, to get under the skin of an event in the first year of operation, particularly as so many of the attendees are of course, you the members, who return year after year. So we are looking forward to making further improvements in 2011 and building on our experience from this year.

We look forward to seeing you then.



Charles Beer from the Crown Group



Leander athletes go that Xtra mile...

For most rowers it's enough to lift their boat on and off the water, but racing while carrying your boat across country is a whole new concept!

That was the idea for the very first Red Bull X Row, staged in Switzerland back in August, when Leander joined crews from across the world to run and row 24 miles cross the Swiss countryside.

Leader of the eight was Toby Garbett, 2001 world champion in men's fours, who assembled a crew which combined Leander veterans, Henley winners and U23 athletes who had finished their competitive season.

The line-up, which included Clive Kennedy-Burn, Ray Poulter, James Burkitt, Will Satch, Josh Davidson, Pete Randolph and Al Sinclair

were coxed by Katarina Klavenes.

Lining up on the start in the town of Zug were another 39 crews, including the Swiss national eight and a German crew anchored by multi-Olympian Marcel Hacker.



(c)Dean Trem/Red Bull Photofiles



(c)Dean Trem/Red Bull Photofiles

The crews first raced across Lake Zug before lugging their boat (and blades!) 5 miles across the Swiss meadows. Another row across part of Lake Lucerne was followed

by a second cross-country stretch across a promontory. Then it was the home stretch across water to the city of Lucerne where Leander took a well-earned third place behind Germany and Switzerland, and a chance for a well-earned rest after this most gruelling end to the season!



Continentalists brave storm for first reunion

A spectacular thunderstorm hit Lucerne on the Saturday evening of this year's World Cup. However, not even falling trees and flash floods prevented a dozen brave participants from attending the first Leander reunion for continental Europe. Among them was Charles Eugster, at a sprightly 90 one of the world's oldest still competitive oarsmen.

"We offered the entire mainland mailing list a choice of Munich or Lucerne for this kick-off dinner", says organiser Paul Castle. "Lucerne won, and one of the local guests suggested an ideal restaurant." The 'Continentalists' were joined there by members of the British rowing press. Overall, the response to Paul's initiative was very positive, with many members vowing to come on future occasions. "I intend to write to everybody again for 2011", he adds. "And hope to hear back even from those who didn't reply this time!" Paul got the idea for the reunion from a Leander newsletter request to help build the club's image in broader circles. Anybody interested in knowing more can mail him at paul.castle@syngenta.com.

Leander member awarded the Conspicuous Gallantry Cross

Robin Bourne-Taylor, double Olympic rower and Captain in the British Army has won the Conspicuous Gallantry Cross (CGC) – the highest award for courage in active operations after the Victoria Cross for his service in Afghanistan.

The Life Guards Captain won the CGC for 'storming a Taliban position under heavy fire and capturing ten insurgents. On another occasion he chased two Taliban across fields of opium and wheat for more than a mile.' The citation states "These incidents typify the gallantry, courage and determination Bourne-Taylor has displayed time and again...He has relentlessly taken the fight to the enemy." The Brigade Reconnaissance Force go on to state that "his leadership has been inspirational... resulting in success after success for the BRF."

Robin has been a member of Leander since leaving Abingdon School in 1999. He represented Great Britain at the Athens and Beijing Olympics in the eight and pair, and won Bronze medals at the 2003 and 2007

World Championships in the men's eight. Whilst at Oxford University he was elected President of the University Boat Club in 2004 and won the boat race three times in 2001, 2003 and 2005.

Mark Banks, who coached him to a silver medal at the 1999 Junior World Championships with Alex Partridge in a coxless 4, and later in the 2007 GB men's eight which won bronze at the World Championships, states that "for those who

know Robin, this award comes as absolutely no surprise whatsoever."

Congratulations to Robin on being awarded one of the military's highest honours for courage.



Hollywood beckons for Leander Stars

Members who were at the regatta on Sunday this year may have seen the 'special race' between Harvard and Hollandia at the beginning of the lunch interval which was repeated at the end of racing. These races were part of the David Fincher film 'A Social Network' which is released in October and tells the story of the start up of Facebook and is adapted from Ben Mezrich's 2009 book The Accidental Billionaires, the film focuses on the tumultuous early years of Facebook, which was founded in 2004.

Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss founded ConnectU, previously Harvard Connection. They filed a lawsuit against Facebook alleging that Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg had copied their idea. Cameron and Tyler both rowed in the Harvard Varsity eight that lost in the final of the Grand Challenge Cup. This race has been recreated as part of the film and with the exception of the two actors playing the Winklevoss twins, the 'Hero' crews were all Leander athletes.

The racing at Henley was filmed by no less than twelve cameras between Upper Thames and the finish. Due to the restrictions of available time in the racing programme four crews were used – the 'hero' crews, including the actors and athletes from the Club and crews from Exeter University and Newcastle University providing the other two crews. This was to ensure the camera crews were able to get the necessary 'long' shots of the race together with the crowd scenes, although some of these were shot on Saturday during racing.

The race scenes you will see in the film were in fact the culmination of ten days training in an eight for Armie Hammer and Josh Pence the two actors who play the Winklevoss twins. While Josh plays Tyler's part, clever photo technology has Armie's face replace Josh's throughout the rowing scenes in the film! Both Josh and Armie had done some rowing in California but were not used to

rowing in an eight or at race rates. The challenge was to create an eight that looked the part in a limited time scale and without risking any injuries to the actors.

After seven days at Dorney when the weather was perfect we moved to Henley for outings in the evenings once racing was over so that Armie and Josh became familiar with the regatta course. Unfortunately, by the time Sunday arrived the perfect conditions had been replaced with a strong gusty head wind making the conditions for the shoot far from ideal. The other small difficulty was that

was getting him away from the landing stage celebrations.

Despite the difficult conditions, the crews did exactly as required and the production team were happy. However, this was just the start of the filming.... the next seven days were



Leander Hollywood hopefuls take to the water

there was no opportunity for a rehearsal so the crews – both in the boats and behind the cameras had to 'get it right' first time.

The attention to detail required all the athletes to be wearing the correct kit down to the smallest details so everyone had to go through wardrobe and makeup before going afloat! This was particularly challenging as Phil Turnham, who was rowing in the Harvard crew, was also racing in the final of the Prince of Wales Challenge Cup which was scheduled forty five minutes before the film crews had to boat. This gave Phil about 15 minutes to change after finishing his race! Fortunately, Phil's crew won and so the biggest problem

spent at Dorney doing the close-ups of the athletes for the cutaways during the race. This required cameras to be fitted to the boats and some very elaborate rigs to ensure some great close up shots!

These included a brace that linked the bow and stern canvases of the boats effectively turning to eights into a catamaran! This enabled the camera to be fitted on one eight so the crew rowing in the other boat could be filmed side on. Putting the camera in the boat, in place of one of the rowers or the cox resulted in some strange combinations – eight oarsmen in one boat and four in the other. The rudders were completely useless



and all steering was done by varying the pressure on the oars. This presented interesting challenges to the cox as we were using the warm up lake for filming, necessitating going under the road bridge both ways.

Four eights were used in this stage of the filming. Two were used as the 'catamaran' for the cross shots and two were used for the 'in boat' shots. This enabled one shot to be filmed while the rigging team set up for the next shot. Both crews had different sponsor logos on their boats so ensuring 'continuity' resulted in cameras being moved from boat

sure Members will enjoy watching the final of the Grand Challenge Cup in the film which I'm told lasts about two minutes. Other than the two actors at five and six in the Harvard boat, the rest of the crews are from the club – see who you can recognise!

Take That...

We had only just finished the last day's filming when I received a phone call to say that 'a production company' wanted some scullers to make a video for a pop group for their next album, could Leander help with the crews? The record label wanted to find

company had commissioned two bow steered coxed fours to be converted into a 'qunit' by turning the coxes area into a sculling seat by decking over the area.

The band had never rowed before – and the film script required them to all scull in the same boat so they could lip sync the new song as they sculled along. The band's availability for training was one afternoon, the day before the shoot started..... Teaching someone to scull in a couple of hours is an interesting challenge but to get five non scullers to scull together in one afternoon was even more challenging! Fortunately, two of our athletes, Mark and Ross Hunter are Take That fans and instantly volunteered to help with the coaching. Needless to say, the band (and the production team) were somewhat surprised to find an Olympic gold medallist helping them learn to scull!

We started off on the ergo and then had them try a single scull before taking them out in one of the 'quints' with three of the **Leander athletes sculling with them.** It was obvious that they would not be able to sit the boat without the experienced athletes in the boat so an elaborate rig was built whereby the 'quint' was attached between two launches by scaffold bars. This both made the boat stable and allowed the large motor on the back of the launch to push the boat along.

A day's shooting at Dorney followed by another at Wraysbury and finally a day on the tideway at Westminster and Putney which included being filmed from a helicopter. Unfortunately, while the helicopter shot was being filmed the boat hit a large log which removed the fin and the fin box resulting in the stern canvans instantly filling with water!

The video has just been released – see who you can recognise!



to boat. The rigging team had a tough job keeping pace and were the first on site in the morning and last to leave at night.

Although the shots at Henley had been limited to two one hour slots the shots at Dorney were not subject to time restrictions and it soon became clear that getting the shot 'right' was the name of the game. The weather at Henley had been cloudy so we had to wait for similar weather to ensure similar light. Unfortunately, the days after the regatta were some of the best of the summer and the lack of cloud caused long delays and early starts to catch up!

The close up shots took seven days to film in the end – partly because of the weather and partly because David Fincher wanted to get angles that had not been used before. I'm

'doubles' for 'a band' and wanted to look at all available athletes to see if they could find near matches! Near matches for who though? The band in question was 'Take That' and the video was for their comeback album with Robbie Williams which will be released at the end of October. While our athletes have many talents I'm not sure looking like members of Take That is one that Mark Banks takes into consideration when selecting athletes to row at the club.

The producer needed ten scullers as they were going to film two boats with five, yes five, scullers in them. One as the 'duplicates' for the band and one as the 'opposition crew' which the band would be racing. The idea of a 'five' or perhaps a 'quint' was driven by the fact the band has five singers. The production

Going for Gold

23 Leander athletes will represent Great Britain at the World Rowing Championships in New Zealand which start on 31st October.

The most recent addition to the team is Beijing silver medallist Debbie Flood, who following a training camp in Germany has been confirmed as competing in the women's quad – the boat in which she has twice won silver at successive Olympic Games.

She is joined in the crew by fellow Leander athlete and Olympic silver medallist Frances Houghton, together with Annie Vernon of Marlow and Beth Rodford of Gloucester. Katie Solesbury, who stroked the GB women's eight in the Beijing Olympic final, will contest the single scull in New Zealand.

The all-Leander GB men's four of Matt Langridge, Alex Gregory, Ric Eginton and Alex Partridge, the reigning world champions, are confirmed to travel and defend their title. All except Gregory, who travelled to Beijing as a reserve, were part of the Olympic silver medal winning British eight. The quartet dug deep to win at the world cup finals in Lucerne but know that the Australians, amongst others, will be tough pretenders to their crown.

Leander's Anna Watkins will team up with triple Olympic silver medallist Katherine Grainger in the women's double scull – a boat which boasts both power and experience.

"We're unbeaten this season, so we're keen to finish off the job properly" said Watkins.

"We're disappointed not to be doubling up in the quad but we can see it's a sensible decision with experienced athletes like Debbie coming back, so we've got a chance for gold in both boats" she said.



Leander captain Rick Eginton and his clubmate Alex Gregory will be looking to retain their world title in the GB men's four.



Olympic silver medallist Debbie Flood has been confirmed for a seat in the GB women's quad in New Zealand.

"Rowing with Katherine is so exciting – she brings such passion and enthusiasm to the boat" she added.

Leander's Pete Reed and Molesey's Andrew Triggs Hodge will race the men's pair – the same event in which they took silver in Poland last year. Already Olympic champions in the men's four, the duo have chosen a hard path over the last two seasons, pitting themselves against one of the world's stand-out crews in New Zealand's world champion pairing of Hamish Bond and Eric Murray. The Kiwis will be desperate to win in front of their home crowd, but the GB men are getting closer with every race.

"I've been really enjoying training in the pair since the project began. Of course racing is tough when you're collecting silvers, but we are hard guys and we're constantly improving. We're the fastest boat the GB Rowing Team can field and we've moved on significantly. I can't wait to race again" said Reed.

Leander's Matt Wells and Marcus Bateman contend the men's double, having taken world cup medals as a new crew this season but knowing that the Frenchmen Cedric

Berrest and Julien Bahain will provide stiff opposition.

For Bateman the season has been a learning curve. "I've learnt a lot from racing with Matt. These intensive steps up have given me an idea of what it could be like at the World Championships" he said.

Leander's Steve Rowbotham, a bronze medallist in the double in Beijing, will feature in the men's quad in New Zealand. It's a boat in which he has already picked up two bronze medals this season.

Paul Mattick, Chris Bartley, Richard Chambers are the three Leander men in the lightweight men's four with London's Rob Williams. They timed their second half to perfection in Lucerne to take World Cup finals gold from a tough field including the reigning world champions from Denmark.

Leander's Mark Hunter and his Marlow partner Zac Purchase, the 2008 Olympic lightweight men's double scull champions, are back together again but could only muster fifth place in Lucerne and will seek to make amends in New Zealand where the home favourites are the reigning world champions Storm Uru and Peter Taylor.



A Grand Occasion

A sparkling dinner was held at the Institute of Directors in Pall Mall to honour Leander's Olympic medallist both past and present, and to give members a chance to meet those athletes from Leander who hope to represent Great Britain at the 2012 London Olympics.

The Clubs' guests included some of the great names associated with rowing including Di Ellis, Chair of British Rowing, David Tanner, British Rowing's International Manager, Performance Director, Jürgen Grobler, British Rowing's Chief Men's Coach and Paul Mains, CEO of the River & Rowing Museum.

Leander's Director of Rowing and Chief Coach Mark Banks, now affectionately known as Coach Banks introduced ten of the Club's current athletes including Olympic Medallists Matt Wells, Steve Rowbotham, Matt Langridge, Peter Read and Leander's Captain and Olympic Gold Medallist Rick Egington.

President Sir George Cox introduced the Guest of Honour David Higgins, Chief

Executive of the Olympic Delivery Authority who addressed the members with a fascinating glimpse of the challenges that his organisation had faced and how these had been overcome.



The picture shows athlete Phil Turnham making The Grand Old Duke of York on IOD's grand staircase a member for the night

It was a mark of the strength of the Club when Chairman Ivor Lloyd proposed a toast to all those who had competed or coached at a World Championship or Olympic Regatta. Guests began to rise all over the huge room including Tony Lepage who won a silver medal in the 1948 Olympics.

As a finale, Rick Egington, Steve Rowbotham and Peter Reed then took questions from the members and entertained them with the athlete's view of the build-up to the London Olympics.

The evening ended with a light hearted auction of the number plate V111 LDR (LDR being the registration letters prominently displayed on all Leander's boats). As Hon Secretary Jeremy Randall acting as auctioneer explained: "It was an auction with a difference as the winning bidder would take nothing away, the proposal being to put the plate on the Club's towing vehicle and trailer. Bidding was brisk and very competitive, finally being won by a very generous member for an incredible £2000".

Take a Leander Hunk Home

Our athletes decided that they would like to do something to help support the Leander Trust – which helps young athletes in the sport. After much discussion, they decided to produce a calendar for 2011, and with the very generous support of Mills and Boon, a stunning publication has been created showing our athletes as you've never seen them before! All proceeds will go to the Leander Trust and the calendar is available from the Club Shop priced at £9.99.

Order your copy today as after the positive response from the Ladies at the IOD dinner, (who were fighting over the 10 preview copies we had) – it is sure to go down a treat!



Exploring all avenues! Crew Member wanted to attempt Record Breaking Arctic Row

Internationally renowned Scottish explorer and Leander member Jock Wishart has announced a new international competition to find the final crew member for a pioneering arctic expedition – The Old Pulteney Row to the Pole.

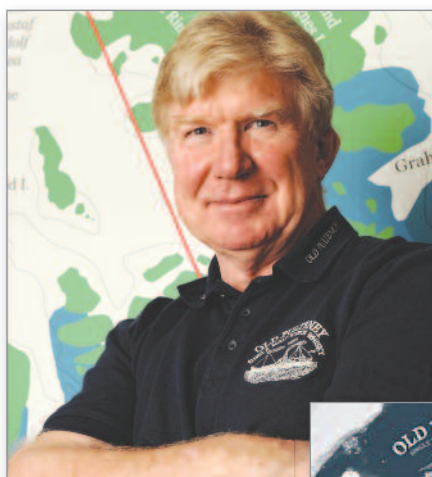
The Old Pulteney Pole Position Challenge will put the world's thrill seekers to the ultimate test to see if they have what it takes to make history. They will join a remarkable mission to conquer what could be one of the world's last true 'firsts' – a rowing attempt to the North Pole.

In August 2011, adventurer and sportsman Jock Wishart will lead a six strong crew through some of the harshest conditions on earth in an attempt to row to the Magnetic North Pole. In a specially designed 'ice boat', Jock and his crew will set off from Resolute Bay in Canada and the Pole Position winner will be given the once in a lifetime opportunity to join them.

The Old Pulteney Pole Position Challenge was created to offer one determined individual the chance to do something beyond the extraordinary. The 450 mile route across the arctic will require extreme physical and mental endurance and dedicated individuals that feel they have the potential to become a member of Jock's crew can apply online now at:

www.rowtothepole.com.

Shortlisted entrants will be selected by Jock and invited to showcase their fitness, team building and mental abilities by competing head-to-head in a Pole Position Challenge Day on 20th November. The winner will be personally trained by Jock in the lead-up to the expedition and will join the crew in August 2011 in their attempt to create history.



Jock Wishart – Leander member and Intrepid Explorer

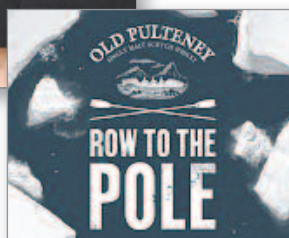
The Old Pulteney Row to the Pole is of global significance as both a pioneering maritime adventure and an environmental expedition. The voyage has never been undertaken before and is only now possible due to the increase in seasonal ice melt of the Arctic landscape. The attempt will be captured on camera for UK and international audiences and will follow Jock's preparations and the 4-6 week long row where his team will face dramatic ice-bound coastlines and shifting sea-ice barriers. His background as an expedition leader and his long track record of organising successful record attempts will stand him in good stead as he faces his biggest challenge to date.

Jock Wishart says:

"When you're planning an Arctic expedition the most important thing is your crew. When Shackleton asked for his crew he made it clear what kind of people he needed: "Men wanted for hazardous journey. Small wages, bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant

danger, safe return doubtful, honour and recognition in case of success.

The Old Pulteney Row to the Pole will hopefully not be as dangerous as Shackleton's adventure but there will be plenty of excitement, adventure and opportunities for the Pole Position winner to test their mettle and physical stamina. "



For further information on Pole Position and to access the online application form visit: www.rowtothepole.com
Deadline for entries: 1st November 2010

Pink Hippo Club 2nd Draw for 2010

The lucky winners of the second 2010 Hippo Draw are:

We The lucky winners of the second 2010 Hippo Draw are:

1st Prize John Morris – £300

2nd Prize Patrick Knowson – £200

3rd Prize Paul Budd – £100

The Hippo Club is established to buy boats for our athletes. Members may buy tickets at £12 each through Standing Order arrangement. Details are available from Philippa in the office or on the website www.leander.co.uk



Olympic gold medallist appointed chief coach to Cambridge University Boat Club

Olympic gold medallist Steve Trapmore, who stroked the GB men's eight to victory in Sydney ten years ago, has been appointed chief coach to Cambridge University Boat Club.

Trapmore, who was awarded the MBE along with the rest of his crew, has spent the last three years in charge of rowing at Imperial College, his own alma mater. Three months ago he coached the GB lightweight men's quad to a bronze medal at the World U23 Championships in Belarus.

So what does it now mean to be appointed to this key role?

"It's a huge honour of course, it's a very prestigious race and it's a great challenge, and that's the driving factor for me – it's focussing on a crew doing a race and it's pretty pure from that respect and that is what will make it exciting. There's a lot of challenges around that but to develop a



Steve Trapmore

group of guys with that one race in mind is very different from the set up I've had at IC and I can exercise a lot more of my experience to try and get the individual crew going as fast as I can" he said.

As a coach and an athlete his knowledge of the Tideway is bound to stand him in good stead come next year's Race Day on 26 March, but Trapmore was keen to stress his own perspective on the event.

"I've had a reasonable amount of experience training with Boat Race crews as an athlete and as a coach – we do fixtures and training weekends with both Isis and Goldie, so there is a connection there as a coach, being able to stand back and look at both universities and how they operate when they're in London, which I think has been quite interesting. But I think one of the key things is being involved in a high-level academic institution as well, and understanding the pressures and constraints that are around students these days" he added.

But after so many years at Imperial it must surely be a big wrench to move away?

"It's a big decision, for sure, but for me it's a new challenge, a new opportunity and one that I'm very excited about" he said.

View from the Top

Members flying in to Heathrow airport may be familiar with the western approach turning over the Thames Valley, but few will match this close-up view of the club taken by British Airways Captain Charlotte Thorpe last June.

Charlotte, the daughter of Leander member Tony Thorpe, took the picture on approach to runway 09L at Heathrow, inbound from Bangalore on June 16th.

"We were at about 3500 feet, turning left towards the airport, so our left wingtip was pointing towards the river, allowing me a very good view" she said.

But if you think that pilots should have more important matters on their mind at this crucial stage of the journey, please be reassured.

"I understand that her co-pilot was actually flying the approach at the time!" said Tony.



Great Winter Gifts in Store in the Pink Hippo Shop

After a great summer in the Pink Hippo shop we are looking forward to the festive season. Christmas presents are often hard to find and with that in mind we have put together a selection of gift ideas.

As well as the old favourites, new for this year we have a knitted beanie hat in black and cream and a fantastic knitted pink and navy scarf, made in Scotland and finished with a Leander label. We have also introduced our exclusive silver blade cufflinks and for the ladies we have a new blade bangle. These are each hand-crafted in silver and are exclusive to Leander.

Stocking fillers are a brilliant way to brighten up Christmas and we have a range of great value items to make everyone's face light up. These include Leander pencils, pens, key rings, fabric patch and bottle openers.

Last but not least, don't forget your Leander Christmas cards!

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.



Chunky knit cream and black beanie hat **£12.50**



Leander fleece headband **£10**
Leander neck warmer **£11**



Hot pink fleece hat **£11.50** navy fleece hat **£11.50**
Leander navy fleece scarf **£15**
Men's and Ladies soft shell jacket **£69.95**



Mini hippo key ring **£3.50** Blue thermo mug **£8.50**
Leander pink pencil **50p** Leander navy pen **£3.50**
Pink Leander candles **£14 (for 4)**
Leander leather key fob **£7.95** Leander fabric patch **£7**
Leander bottle opener **£6.95**



Pink hippo cufflinks **£23.50**
Sterling Silver blade cufflinks **£60**
Hippo head cufflinks **£19.95**



Hippo leather booties **£16**
Leander embroidered baby grow **£12**
Water baby T-shirt from **£10** Pink fluffy hippo **£7.50**