

Golden Glory!



Images courtesy of Peter Spurrier/Intersport Images

It almost seems unfair that the summer of 2012 has passed, for the UK, Team GB and for Leander. I believe the sporting successes achieved this year have helped to show what's great in Britain and that we as a Club, have been at its heart and soul. So it is with immense pride that I am writing what may be my last Captain's rowing report.

The build-up to the London Olympics was something we couldn't really comprehend. Personally, trying to prepare for the ultimate test, I could not be distracted by the constant barrage of Olympic buzz, so in common with many athletes, I felt I missed out on this part of proceedings.

London Olympics and Paralympics

Top Right: Leander's Will Satch (left) and his partner George Nash produced one of the surprises of the regatta when they took the bronze medal in men's pairs

Top Left: Pam Relf (1st left) became Leander's first Paralympic champion when she rowed at bow in the mixed coxed four which won the gold medal

Bottom Left: Katherine Grainger and Leander's Anna Watkins (right) fulfilled predictions when they became Olympic champions in women's double sculls

Bottom Left: The GB men's four retained the Olympic title to continue coach Jurgen Grobler's unbroken run of gold medal success

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

Our first trip to Dorney Lake since the final trials in March was a big occasion. I walked around the back of the boathouse and was astounded by the sheer scale of what had been created. It looked incredible! But this was nothing compared to what was about to come; the volunteers were amazing and for many people, they made the Games.

The Olympic regatta started the morning after the opening ceremony, so the rowers' opening ceremony took place in the grounds of our hotel! It involved a small march around the grounds and some pictures on the lawn and I, like most of the athletes, was soundly asleep before the opening ceremony had really got into full swing.

Alex Partridge increased the Leander Olympic medal tally from 99 to 100, when he and I, together with Phelan Hill, Matthew Langridge and Constantine Louloudis took the bronze medal after taking a risk and going for gold.

Next there was Will Satch. He has been a Leander athlete since leaving Shiplake College and, through the Leander Academy, has won the Thames Cup and numerous medals at U23 World Championships. About a year before the Games, I remember him saying to me "I don't think I'll make the Olympics". Not only did he make it; he took home a well deserved bronze medal from the pairs event. He is currently undergoing surgery on his hip and his consultant could not believe he had managed to win an Olympic medal in his condition! We wish him well and I'm sure that once Will is rehabilitated, he will be a powerful force for years to come and we all look forward to witnessing this.

Pete Reed and Alex Gregory blasted off the



Images courtesy of Robert Treharne Jones

Henley Royal Regatta

Above: **The Leander Ladies' Plate crew lost their final to Harvard by just one foot in the closest race of the day**

Above Left: **In the absence of many international crews Al Sinclair and John Collins won the Double Sculls for Leander**

Above Right: **Leander won the Prince of Wales Challenge Cup for Club Quads for the third year in succession**

start in the final of the men's coxless fours, taking a good lead over the notorious Australians. Alex won his first Olympic gold medal and Pete picked up his second, and was quick to confirm that he is going for number three in Brazil!

Anna Watkins has been unbeaten since collaborating with Katherine Grainger. So when they delivered that performance once more in the Olympic final, there was an almighty roar from the crowds. Congratulations!



Images courtesy of Charlotte Snowden



Olympic Torch Relay

Above: **Steve Redgrave carries the Torch ashore at Leander and through a guard of honour formed by some of the club's past Olympians**

Left: **Leander athletes Oli Collinson and Brendan Edwards joined other promising local rowers for the Torch escort crew**

The lightweight men's events are closely fought. Mark Hunter had to restart after a technical problem with the seat of his doubles' partner and finished with a silver medal; a fantastic achievement in one of the all time greatest Olympic finals. The lightweight four with Leander's Chris Bartley and Richard Chambers rowed a race that made nail-biting viewing for spectators and saw them win the silver medal; an achievement I know they are truly proud of. When the Paralympic regatta took place just a few weeks later, the whole country was still riding high from Olympics and hungry to see what more our sport stars could produce. Pam Relph in the adaptive mixed four sealed gold in style, cheered on most loudly by her sister Monica, who has been training at Leander for just over a year. As she has also joined the national team training centre, hopefully Rio will be a real family affair.

While celebrating our successes in 2012, we must also think about the Olympics in 2016 and beyond. This succession planning is the key to Leander's unbeaten record and good results at Henley Royal Regatta, U23 World Championships and European Championships are important foundations for future talent.

Beforehand, with the internationals on Pre-Olympic camps, the Academy athletes had come to the fore at Henley Royal Regatta. Jack Hockley, Nick Middleton, David Read and Jamie Fraser-Mckenzie, coached by Matt Beechey, ensured Leander retained the Prince of Wales trophy for a third consecutive year, while Al Sinclair and John Collins, guided by Chris Collerton, were also victorious in the Double Sculls. The Ladies' Plate was hotly

contested and as the crews were level through the enclosures it was hard to tell who had won, although the final verdict was Harvard by a foot.

The U23 World Championships in Lithuania saw good results. Patrick Lapage took bronze in the men's four and despite a difficult year with illness, Kieren Emery won the men's heavyweight pairs.

At the European championships, Zoe De Toledo, Monica Relph and Vicky Meyer-Laker took bronze in the women's eights. Mikey Mottram and Chris Boddy took bronze in the lightweight double and Jono Clegg, silver in the lightweight fours.

The summer of 2012 is now over – we can look back at our achievements as athletes and as a club with great pride. But in true Leander style, the hard work for next season has already begun!

Rick Egington

Captain



Images courtesy of Robert Trehan Jones

World Under-23 Championships

Above 1st: : Leander's Rachel Gamble-Flint, whose home is in Stockton on Tees, finished 6th in the women's single sculls

Above 2nd: Lightweight sculler Mikey Mottram, coached by Rob Dauncey, finished in fifth place

Above 3rd: Former lightweight Kieren Emery (right) took the U23 gold medal in heavyweight men's pairs partnered with Matthew Tarrant



Heroes Return

Top Left: GB squad athletes gather outside Leander before the open top bus tour

Top Right: Tom Ransley (York City), with Leander's Will Satch, Alex Partridge and Matt Langridge, acknowledge the crowds

Left: Henley Bridge and the riverbanks were packed with crowds ready to witness the Heroes' Return

Images courtesy of Charlotte Snowden

stop press...stop press...stop press...

As we went to press we heard the thrilling news that Leander retained the overall title at the Fours Head in London, and after four of the club's crews finished among the first five places and five Leander crews won pennants for being fastest in their division, there was much to celebrate at the Annual Dinner later that evening!

After winning last year's race Leander's men's quad headed off the 500 –strong fleet over the 4 π mile championship course from Mortlake to Putney. Stroked by Henley double sculls winner John Collins, with Diamonds winner Peter Lambert at 3, Olympic quad sculler Charles Cousins at 2, and twice world silver medallist Dan Ritchie at bow, the crew were challenged by second-placed Tideway Scullers but held a 2.5 second advantage on the line.

"Scullers came at us pretty quickly off the start, but we held them off round the first bend" said John Collins afterwards.

"We felt pretty solid through the middle of the course and then Dan called for a push after Hammersmith. Scullers tried to come back at us approaching the finish but we'd done what we needed to do earlier in the race" he added.

In third place was another Leander heavyweight quad, with the club's leading lightweight crew just six second adrift in fourth place overall, giving them the lightweight pennant with a similar margin over their nearest rivals, London RC.

Two more pennants for Leander came with the men's IM1 and women's elite quads and the club's juniors came fourth in their own division despite losing their bow in the marshalling area, and having to scamper back to the start after some hasty repairs at the boathouse.

Leander's fifth pennant came with a lucky win in the women's elite fours, where the crew caught some flotsam on their fin, which had a disastrous effect on their steering.



Images courtesy of Robert Trehame Jones

Leander's women matched the men's result by winning their own division (left to right): Vicky Thornley, Katie Greves, Erica Bodman, and Ro Bradbury



The Leander quad which retained the Fours Headship in London (left to right): John Collins, Peter Lambert, Charles Cousins and Dan Ritchie

As the crew zig-zagged down the course they clashed with another boat just downstream of Hammersmith Bridge and were awarded a ten second time penalty before having to back up the course to dislodge the rubbish. Despite these mishaps the withdrawal of the other crews in their division meant they won by default!

Corridor of Fame!

As the drama unfolded at Eton Dorney the Olympic press coverage increased right across the globe so Leander's house manager, Caroline Mulcahy, and her colleagues did an excellent job in capturing much of this output to display on the walls of the corridor between the Members' Bar and the Crew Room. Plans are now well in hand to create a permanent record of these momentous events by sealing the newspaper cuttings and creating better lighting, so that all visitors to the Clubhouse can share the excitement of the event for many years to come.



An evening to remember...

An excellent year demands the best possible celebration, and Leander Club is enormously grateful to the Lord Mayor of London, Alderman David Wootton, himself a Leander Member, for allowing us the use of the Egyptian Room at the Mansion House for our post-Olympic gala dinner. Our athletes were seated throughout the room among Members and their guests who were able to hear, at first hand, about the sacrifices and application that it takes to succeed at the highest level.



Standing: Debbie Flood, Will Satch, Alex Partridge, Fran Houghton, Dan Saoul, Ted Bainbridge, James Coyle (Brakspear), Phelan Hill, Pamela Relph, Lady Saxby, Rick Egington, Sir Robin Saxby, Vicky Thornley, Mark Banks, Steve Rowbotham, Richard Chambers, Pete Reed, Clare Anstee, Rob Morgan, Chris Bartley, Lou Reeve, Matt Langridge, Tom Solesbury, Jurgen Grobler, Katie Greves, Jo Cook.

Seated: Jayne Bristow (Gant UK), Sir Matthew Pinsent, Rt Hon Theresa May, Sir George Cox, Alderman Nick Anstee, The Lady Mayoress Liz Wootton, Rick White (Invesco Perpetual)

The Mansion House dinner was a fitting tribute to a vintage Leander year – Olympics medals, Henley trophies and a well-attended exuberant dinner! Brilliant to be part of the last bit!!

Sir Matthew Pinsent CBE



The Egyptian Room at the Mansion House was filled to capacity for the climax of the post-Olympic celebrations



Rick Egington and Vicky Thornley hear the experiences of Olympic legend Sir Matthew Pinsent



Pete Reed and Pam Relph are introduced to the assembled company by the evening's host, Sir Matthew Pinsent



Matt Langridge, Rick Egington and Alex Partridge, who won bronze medals as members of the GB men's eight

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Annual Subscriptions for 2013

Leander Club subscriptions for 2013 were approved at the Annual General Meeting as follows:

Members (non-rowing) and Full Members – £260

Overseas Members – £130

Full Members (UK and Overseas) less than 30 years of age – £65

The British Rowing annual levy will be £5.90 and will be added to the subscription for all categories of membership. Subscriptions are collected by Direct Debit on 1st January each year unless you opt for the twice-yearly scheme. Only in the case of Overseas Members without a UK bank account will cheque or credit card payment be accepted.

Members who have set up a split Direct Debit arrangement with the Club will make two payments of £132.95 (including the levy). The first will have been taken on 1st October 2012 and the second will be taken on 1st April 2013.

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

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

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

Notice of the Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for the Year 2013

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Leander Club will be held in the marquee at the Clubhouse, Henley-on-Thames on Sunday 30th June 2013 at 11 am.

Dan Saoul

Honorary Secretary

Heroes' Return

Well, what an experience that was! It really happened! London 2012 has been and gone and in the words of a random British supporter I happened to be walking behind in the Olympic Park, "You know we've only gone and done it!"

She couldn't have been more right. The sceptics doubted us in the build up. They said "You'll never finish the build in time," and we did. "You'll never sell enough tickets" and we did. "The security won't be good enough," and it was the safest games ever. "The athletes will crumble under the pressure of a home crowd," and we only went and became the most successful British Olympic team in history. So let's break out a couple of group high fives and pat ourselves on the back because Great Britain that was a job well done!

As an athlete the whole experience was incredible and at times massively overwhelming. From the moment the GB men's eight crossed the finish line, we have enjoyed a lifestyle I can imagine is only experienced by the likes of the Queen or the Rolling Stones. Everywhere we have gone people have wanted to take a picture, sign their t-shirt, or just shake our hand. Doors to wonderful places I never imagined I would visit have opened and I have met

the great and good. A typical day may vary from watching the Brownlee brothers win that fantastic family gold and bronze in Hyde Park, to chatting with the Home Secretary in the gardens of Lancaster House about encouraging more sports in schools across the country, to shaking Arnold Schwarzenegger's hand and talking weight lifting techniques just before the Closing Ceremony.

All these experiences were wonderful and events I will always remember, but they were so far removed from the reality of my everyday life before 1 August. The experience that I will treasure most and offered the real meaning of what it was to be an athlete at a Home Olympics was the Heroes' Return held jointly by the town of Henley and the club that has looked after me for almost a decade of my rowing career – Leander.

Rowing up from the Club to the River and Rowing Museum and then back down to Upper Thames with all the crowds cheering their hearts out and waving the Union Jacks some two weeks after the Games had finished was one of the most overwhelming feelings of pride I have felt in my life.

Standing on the open top bus driving through the town and receiving applause

for our achievement as a team from the residents of Henley in the pouring rain was so incredibly humbling. Yes, it has been great to experience all the wonderful things of London 2012 but the Heroes Return was even more special because in that crowd were all our neighbours and friends. The ones who had said 'good morning' at the crack of dawn as I set off to training every day for the last seven years. The ones who had offered the consoling cup of tea or pint down the Little Angel during the bumps in the road of this Olympic journey. These are the people that every member of the GB rowing team raced for, and raced to win for at Dorney Lake. We owed it to them to give nothing but our best.

To see all of these friends and neighbours, waving up at us on the bus, the smiles in all the children's faces as we signed their postcards, to get a premiership style intro into the town hall from the great Martin Unsworth, to meet the mayor, and to hear the individual memories of all the Olympic supporters' experiences was something special and made us realise a little of what being part of the Olympics meant to everyone.

I know many parades have been conducted up and down the country but the Heroes' Return was something I would not have had in such grand style if I had not been a resident of Henley and a member of Leander. Thank you both for organising such a fantastic welcome home, thank you for the open top bus, thank you for being truly British and cheering us on in the rain, thank you for the smiles, thank you for the Brakspears, thank you for the sausage rolls, but most of all thank you for showing what it is to be part of a great Club and a fantastic town.

Alex Partridge

**Olympic bronze medallist,
GB men's eight**



Alex pictured with two young fans on a day of celebration

General Manager's Matters

I can't imagine that there is a single member of Leander who is not immensely proud of the achievements of our athletes in 2012. In some small way every single one of us has contributed towards that success, if only by paying our subscriptions!

Compared to many Clubs the subscriptions at Leander are modest whilst the intangible benefits of membership are strong. Feeling a part of the rowing success, past, present and future is a powerful incentive and as our local MP (The Home Secretary) stated, "it is impossible to enter the Clubhouse and climb the stairs without an enormous feeling to pride over our collective achievement. Once in your Clubhouse we hope that the friendly service, quality of food, value for money and the finest views of Henley across the river will further reinforce your sense of well-being.

The New Wine Selection

As an example of our commitment to quality and value for money we have recently made some significant changes to our wine offer with the assistance of Jascots Wine Merchants. We have some stunning new entries, and with some judicious buying and keeping a sharp eye on price we have managed to reduce the price of our house wines by over £1 a bottle and some wines by £0.50 a glass. You will see a number of new wines, sometimes £3-4 a bottle less than comparable wines they replace. Old favourites such as the dependable own-label Club Claret remain but in some cases we have managed ever better deals such as the new entry level champagne Pannier NV from Chateau Thierry which we will be able to sell at the same price as our current house champagne. Champagne Pannier was awarded 91 points in the Wine Spectator annual tasting 2011 and represents a very good deal for our Members. One of my instant favourites is the new Maison de la Paix, Old Vine Carignan 2011

which we are calling Leander's Winter Red. I think it's stunningly good value for money.

The New Website

I hope that many of you will have taken the opportunity to look at the new website. The new design is much easier to navigate and is worth exploring. In particular I wanted to draw your attention to the areas that offer you added value to your membership:

Reciprocal Clubs

In common with many clubs the website holds a list of over 30 like-minded clubs around the world where you can book accommodation and receive hospitality. The rules of reciprocity are reasonably universal. You book directly to the club in question for accommodation or dining and they will normally ask you to provide a 'letter of good standing' to confirm you are a fully paid-up Member of Leander. The Leander office will be happy to arrange this on your behalf with a little advanced warning. You are expected to comply with the rules of the Club while you are there. There are several London clubs in this scheme, which is intended for occasional use only. If you start to book with the same club regularly do not be surprised if you will be invited to apply for membership or declined further entry.

Country Gentlemen's Association

Of the 12,000 members of the CGA you may be surprised to know that a significant number are women and you have only to look at the outstanding bi-monthly magazine they produce and the impressive list of concessions to understand why people join. Happily for Leander Members (all categories) there is no financial consideration to this decision. CGA membership is free and enrolment cards are available from the Leander office. More details are on the concessions page of the website. CGA provide financial support to one of our aspiring athletes and we are keen to

support them with additional Members so please consider joining.

You may also contact them directly quoting your Leander membership number on **01985 850 706** or E-mail: enquiries@thecga.co.uk

Facebook and Twitter

At the base of the home page on the new website you will see the links to the Leander Facebook and Twitter accounts. Why not join the growing gathering and keep up-to-date with events?

Regatta – new marquee format

Perhaps the greatest benefit of being a Leander Member is attending Henley Royal Regatta and enjoying the club's hospitality with your guests. Your Committee always does its best to keep Member meal ticket prices as reasonable as they can and to respond to changes in demand. In response to Members' wishes we are introducing some revisions to the marquee luncheon arrangements next year and these include a 'table for the day' arrangement which we hope will provide better value for money, a choice over meal format and speedier service. We will also be returning to a more traditional style of afternoon tea. More details will be sent out with the Regatta booking pack next March and prompt bookings are always recommended for the most popular days and particularly for the Clubhouse Dining Room.

Member Discount Scheme

For the last few years we have operated a scheme whereby members can transfer cash to their membership cards and in return receive a five per cent discount on purchases in the bar and restaurant. This scheme was extended to all new Members who are asked to join the scheme. It is designed to encourage restaurant and bar usage and give Members even better value for money in their club. It is to your advantage to make best use of this scheme and I continue to commend it to you.

Staff Christmas Fund

From time to time Members ask me for guidance on tipping the Club staff. The advice on the back of the Calendar of Events is that 'gratuities are entirely at the member's discretion; they are always well received but are not expected'. That said, Members often wish to leave a tip if they feel they have had good service, and such tips are pooled and distributed amongst all the service staff. Other Members simply wish to make a contribution to the Staff Christmas Fund at this time of year and I am always pleased to receive cheques which should be made out to 'Leander Club'. These are discreetly added to the fund and shared out between a grateful service staff immediately before the Christmas break.

Christmas Maintenance

We will once again be taking the opportunity for some redecoration over the Christmas closedown period but this year we also have to replace the walk-in fridge and freezer in the kitchen. This work will, of necessity, spill over into the first week of January. We will be setting up a temporary kitchen facility in the Members' Bar area and be providing a limited range of snacks and beverages and continental breakfast for the residents. We plan to have the restaurant fully operational by 7 January ready for our New Year functions.



Paul Budd OBE
General Manager

Olympic Dreams

by Cameron MacRitchie

During this years training camp at Caversham just before the World Under 23 Championships, British Rowings' David Tanner asked me if I was available during the weeks after the championships, or if I had any holiday plans.

Not knowing what he was talking about, and having no plans, I said yes, but had no idea what he needed me for. Although I was intrigued, he told me to put it to the back of my mind and concentrate on the World Championships, which I did and left it at that.

David then approached me again during the World U23 Championships in Lithuania, where I was told a little more about what was planned...



Image courtesy of PA/Owen Humphries

At the climax of the Opening Ceremony Cameron Macritchie receives the Olympic Torch from Sir Steve Redgrave

All I was told was that I was going to be involved in the Opening Ceremony for the Olympic games. This was an unexpected surprise, but obviously I was very excited.

I signed a confidentiality agreement and now understood why it was all being kept very quiet.

When I returned to England I was sent to the Olympic Park where I was taken to a lounge filled with Plasma TV's, food and six other young athletes. We started chatting amongst ourselves and I soon realised that we covered a lot of different sports, and then I walked Danny Boyle. Danny talked us through his vision of the lighting of the cauldron and how we were going to be playing a key role.

The next 10 days were a daze. The whole experience was surreal and keeping the secret from all my friends and family was hard – but well worth it.

The night itself was epic. Just before it started, Sir Steve Redgrave told us to enjoy it and that is exactly what we did. There were no nerves at all and the rest, as they say, is history.

Cameron was a member of this year's Ladies' Plate crew at Henley, having spent his gap year at Leander. He is currently studying at Durham University.

Well, what a year!

We went into 2012 with high hopes, but surely no one could have expected it to turn out the way it did. It must possibly go down as the greatest ever for British sport. Even without the Olympics, it included a Brit winning the Tour de France for the first time ever and a British win at a men's Grand Slam tennis tournament, for which we've waited over 70 years. And after an Olympic result back in Atlanta in 1996 of just one gold medal (courtesy of Matthew and Steve, of course) who could have imagined winning 29 golds in London and coming third in the overall medal table behind only the giants of the USA and China?

As an American friend said to me 'What's happened to you people? Aren't you supposed to be the plucky losers in this world?' And that was before the Ryder Cup!

The Games, of course, were carried off with great style and remarkably smooth organisation, drawing plaudits from both participants and spectators, and from watchers around the world. Probably the most incredible thing was the atmosphere that prevailed everywhere. 'Feel good factor' just doesn't do it justice.

As expected rowing contributed significantly to the brilliant results, with Leander having 21 athletes out of a team of 48, along with two coaches. It was also tremendously pleasing to see the Club

winning its first ever Paralympic gold medal, surely the first of many to come.

A number of Members and visitors will already have seen, mounted outside the dining room, the impressive new Olympic Honours Board, for which we were one of the very few organisations to get permission to display the Olympic Rings!

Throughout the year we went to great lengths to involve the membership in both the build-up and celebrations. We had Meet-the-Athletes dinners, the memorable Torch Relay, special facilities for watching the races at the clubhouse (only marginally less exciting than being at Dorney), the open-top bus tour and Town Hall reception in Henley and, finally, the splendid dinner at the Mansion House. The aim throughout was to make Members and sponsors feel part of the whole programme, recognising that it is their support that makes such success possible. This was reflected in the appreciative comments made by our Captain and other Olympic representatives at the Dinner.

So, where do we go from here? How do you follow a year like that?

We are not going to see another home Olympics (although that's what my mother told me in 1948) but there are plenty of World Championships and Olympics still to come. The attitude within British Rowing is

that this year's performance is a platform on which to build, not a peak, and that's certainly Leander's attitude. The Club's successes this season at Henley, in the Under-23 World Championships, the European Championships and the Jubilee Regatta show that there's plenty of talent in the pipeline. The Club's role is to nurture and encourage this talent, providing first-rate coaching and support facilities which enable the potential to be wholly fulfilled.

We run a very ambitious rowing programme, which can only be carried out thanks to Member and sponsor support. I hope that when you watched this summer's successes, you didn't just enjoy it, you felt part of it.



Sir George Cox
President

An invitation to row in Puerto Rico

I recently moved to San Juan, Puerto Rico and joined the fledgling rowing group here. While it is not Eton Dorney or the Thames, the water temperature is in the upper 70s all year round and that makes it very pleasant.

After reading the news about overseas Members getting together, I wanted to extend an invitation to row to any other Leander Members living on the island, or to those who come to visit.

Please get in touch with me and we can have a paddle on the Laguna Condado! You can contact me at markvschofield@gmail.com.

Mark Schofield

Leander 2012 Appeal

Loyal Leander Members support 2012 Olympic achievement

110 Leander Members became 'Leander Heroes' by generously contributed £165,000 through the Leander 2012 Appeal and really made a difference to Leander athletes' outstanding success at the 2012 Olympics.

Their contribution to state-of-the-art rowing equipment and support facilities at Leander, leading up to the Olympics, was a significant factor in the ability of our athletes to perform at the peak of their ability in qualifying for the GB Team and in their medal winning achievements.

Leander is now clearly established as the pre-eminent rowing club in the UK, if not the world.

Mark Banks, Director of Rowing at Leander and Olympic Coach said:

"Races are won by that little bit of extra drive and effort from the athletes, coaches, back-up teams, better training facilities and the backing of enthusiastic supporters. The donors to the Leander 2012 Appeal can genuinely consider themselves to be part of the team"

"The athletes and all members of the Leander Rowing Group appreciate the generosity of the donors and thank them for their efforts".

However the efforts do not stop here and whilst there will be some roll over benefit at the start of this next Olympic cycle from the past appeal, we will have to increase our efforts even more to maintain and improve our performance through the national and international competitions, not forgetting Henley Royal Regatta each year, leading up to the Rio Olympics in 2016.

Soon we will be announcing how you might be able to support your Athletes in the future and hope that we can widen the level of support from Leander Members.

In the meantime any Member who wishes to contribute and become an ongoing Leander Hero should contact Paul Budd in writing at Leander Club or by phone (01491 636777), to receive advice on the most efficient method of donating.



Leander Club 2012 Appeal
Leander Heroes Club

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Leander Club

The Tom Hoffman Library – Update

The library took delivery of the 1,800 books in the Tom Hoffman collection in June and Tom and Verena Hoffman made a visit to the Club to cut the ribbon in an informal ceremony on Henley Thursday.

As a reference library, its success will depend on the ease of access to the information it contains. Tom Hoffman provided a comprehensive catalogue of his collection which will be posted on a Leander Trust website, along with information on procedure for enquiries and library visits. This should take place early in the New Year.

Leander Club also owns a collection of 200-300 books, including club minutes dating back to the formation of the club. These are being catalogued and when complete, this catalogue will be posted separately on the website.

The Tom Hoffman catalogue is presented under country headings, with sub-heading for almanacs, club records, etc. The next stage will be to integrate the two catalogues under a detailed set of headings which will allow a researcher to go directly to the section of interest to him without having to browse the whole catalogue. This will be posted as a third catalogue. Finally, the collections will be physically integrated, duplicates extracted, so that



Verena Hoffman cuts the ribbon to open the new Library, with husband Tom in attendance

books are shelved in relation to the integrated catalogue. Books will be labelled to preserve the identity of the collection to which they belong. This final step may take some time but the whole exercise should be completed within a year.

The Hoffman and Leander collections together represent an excellent archival resource which will remain so if it is kept up-to-date and refined as a depository of rowing record. Many of the enquiries received relate to information on the rowing record of individuals or clubs which is to be found in the almanacs and club records. There will be a modest annual budget for

adding to the wider collection; this year the library acquired 'The Sport of Rowing' in 4 volumes by Peter Mallory and a number of other books have been donated.

The physical capacity of the Club library is roughly 3,500 books, so there is some room for expansion over time.



Jeremy 'Rass' Randall (left) and Tom Hoffman leaf through one of the new additions to the Library

Hippo Happenings

Hippo Happenings is the Club's monthly e-shot that keeps you up-to-date with Club matters. If you are not receiving it simply email press@leander.co.uk



50 Years On – Queens' College Boat Club, Cambridge

A very happy 50th Anniversary Reunion Dinner was held on June 22nd in the Club House to celebrate a notable double – Queens' College Boat Club winning the Ladies' Plate in 1962 and the Thames Cup in 1963.

Queens' also went Head of the River in the Cambridge May races in 1962, after making four bumps and in 1963 May races they rowed over at Head.

The photograph shows the majority of the two crews and coaches with the two Henley trophies.

Back row from left: Ian McCallum, Robert Walmsley, John Sergeant, David Benson, John Walmsley, John Gordon, Peter Brass.

Seated: James Horsfall, Martin Beckett, George Hayter, Roger Barker, John Maasland.



Twenty-two people gathered for the dinner including wives. Absent friends were Michael Morley, who sadly passed away in 2002. He was Captain of QCBC Boats in 1962 and later rowed for the Leander Grand crew in 1963. Mention must also be made of Peter Webb (1940–1993) who rowed for CUBC, Leander Club and Great Britain in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. Peter had earlier won a silver medal in the European Championships in the same year.

The Pink Hippo Club

The Pink Hippo Club was created to directly support the rowing programme.

It is very simple in concept with Members buying tickets by standing order at £12 a year for the two draws.

The lucky winners this time are:

First Prize – £300 M Else **Second Prize** – £200 M P Armstrong

Third Prize – £100 C W Crowther

If you weren't able to support the Appeal then a contribution to the Pink Hippo Club, and a chance to win a prize, may be the answer! A standing order form has been enclosed with this Newsletter.

Correction

In our last edition we stated that Lt Col Graham Gadsden DSO won the Grand for Leander in the mid-1930's, and we thank his son Peter for advising us of the correct year – 1926

Richard Burnell's untold story

In 1947, when Richard Burnell was chosen as an Olympic contender, his training regime required him to take a leave of absence from work. This story highlights his application to the British Council for time off to practice for the men's double sculls event, in which he won the gold medal partnered by Bert Bushnell. Burnell's win came forty years after his father had become champion in men's eights – the only example of father-and-son winning gold in the history of the Olympics.

29th September 1947 R.D.B. submits an application to his manager, Mr J

"I have been asked to practice for the 1948 Olympics. At this stage such an invitation can only be Provisional. At the same time various problems, notably that of time off, will soon arise, and I would like the opportunity to speak to you about it, and to find out what the Council's attitude is likely to be. Under present circumstances practicing for the Olympics is likely to be difficult enough, and I do not want to embark on it unless I am reasonably sure of being able to carry it through to completion."

2nd October 1947 Mr J forwards the request to Personnel and his Manager, Mr S

Personally I feel that his arguments are cogent, that it is in some sense a desirable distinction for the Council to have one of its members selected for a national representation of this kind and that we should allow Burnell the necessary time without attempting to exact any quid pro quo. I should add that he is a most industrious and efficient worker and I am sure that his estimate represents his bare requirements if he is to undertake this other task properly."

14th October 1947 Director Personnel replies to Mr S

"Whilst I can well understand that competing in first class regattas is a strenuous business I would imagine that a good deal of the training is rather more interesting and exhilarating than sitting in an office. I recommend that Mr Burnell should forgo 24 days out of his entitlement of annual leave of 36 days. In other words one month out of those three months training should count as leave."

13th November 1947 An internal memo highlights a funding dilemma

"Mr Burnell being Grade D is entitled to 36 working days leave per annum plus special leave for certain events but these certain events do not include circumstances which might be used to cover this particular request. It would appear, therefore, that before Mr Burnell can be given special leave paid or leave of absence on account of participation in the Olympic Games, Treasury approval will have to be obtained."

4th December 1947 The request is escalated to The Foreign Office

"The above, who won the Amateur Sculling Championship and was also in the winning Grand Challenge Cup Eight, in 1946, has been asked to participate in the Olympic Games next year. His ultimate selection depends largely on whether he is able to devote the necessary time to intensive training and he has requested special leave to assist him to do this. It is probable, that in all, Burnell will require nearly three months leave between now and the date of the Games. He is entitled to 36 days annual leave and he would therefore require extra leave for six weeks to afford the necessary time for training."

As we have no regulation which will permit us to grant Burnell this special paid leave for six weeks, I am writing to ask whether you consider that this concession, which we strongly recommend, can be approved."

10th January 1948 Foreign Office replies to the British Council

"As Burnell is not a Civil Servant, it is not clear what can be done to get his application considered. In any case there is no question of giving Burnell special leave for three months as he has six weeks of ordinary leave due to him. Perhaps his duties could be arranged in such a way as to enable him to have all the free time required for the extra period of six weeks."

10th February 1948 The final solution is proposed and agreed

"We suggest that Mr Burnell should have (a) 6 weeks special paid leave to be sanctioned by the Chairman (b) 5 weeks annual paid leave from his entitlement to make up the 11 weeks he wants. This will leave him one week of paid leave for the rest of the year, and I should recommend a further week of unpaid leave if he wants it."

Obituaries

Sir William Barlow, 1924 – 2012

Sir William Barlow, a club Member for many years and a former member of the Committee, has died, aged 87. He was a highly experienced engineering manager who headed companies including Thorn EMI Engineering and BICC, but is best remembered for his three years as chairman and chief executive of the Post Office.

William Barlow was born in Oldham on June 8 1924, the son of a headmaster. He won a scholarship to Manchester Grammar School and two to UMIST, graduating in 1944 with a First in Electrical Engineering. He went straight into the Royal Navy, serving for three years in minesweeping in the North Sea and the Mediterranean.

Demobilised in the rank of lieutenant in 1947, he joined English Electric as a graduate apprentice in its railway division and in 1958, was made manager of their Canadian operations, including hydroelectric projects and turbines for the St Lawrence Seaway.

In 1962, he was promoted to managing director of the company's Liverpool

operations, with 14,000 employees and in 1968, became managing director of English Electric Computers. With government backing, he organised the division's merger with International Computers and Tabulators to create ICL. Within weeks of this, English Electric decided to merge with GEC, a move with which he disagreed so strongly, that he resigned after 21 years' service.

His next challenge was in the ball bearing industry, where he was appointed chief executive of the newly created Ransomes Hoffman Pollard (RHP). In September 1977, shortly after being knighted for services to industry, Barlow was appointed chairman of the Post Office.

He took on an organisation with 420,000 employees and soon realised that he was running two very different businesses. The telecoms half could not develop unless it embraced new technologies, introduced new working practices and offered a better service. Barlow left soon after the split was complete in September 1980 and continued to press for privatisation, which came about in 1983.

He then helped to merge Thorn Electrical and



Sir William Barlow

EMI and took the chair of the merged group in 1980, overseeing 46 electronics and defence companies in Britain and the United States. In 1984, he moved on to become chairman and chief executive of BICC and retired in 1992.

Barlow also held a number of other roles including the chair at Ericsson UK, numerous directorships (including a founder director of Vodafone), and was president of the Royal Academy of Engineering and many other industry and charitable organisations. William Barlow married Elaine Adamson in 1948 with whom he had a son and a daughter.

Peter Sutherland, 1925 – 2012

Peter Sutherland MBE, who died on 29 October 2012 after suffering a stroke two years ago, was one of the longest serving Members of Leander Club, having been elected in 1943, shortly before his call-up to the Royal Artillery during the Second World War.

Peter was a well-known figure on the tow-path. He first moved to Henley in 1960 and married his wife of over fifty years, Diane, holding their wedding reception at Leander in March 1962.

Peter was involved in coaching the GB 1960 Olympic eight in Rome with Jumbo Edwards, and on returning to Henley he took up the captaincy at Leander, a post he held for three consecutive years.

In 1963 Peter contacted the Captains of other up-river clubs such as Henley, Marlow, Reading, Eton Excelsior and Maidenhead in the hope of producing crews capable of competing against the traditionally stronger clubs of the lower Thames and Tideway.

And so was born Upper Thames Rowing Club, which this year is celebrating its Half Centenary. The club has been through much development over the last fifty years and stands as a testament to the vision and perseverance of Peter and Diane.

Most of their rowing energies since that time have been focused on building up UTRC, although Peter was a regular visitor to Leander until his death, and an enthusiastic member of the Wise Owls panel who met from time to time to discuss how Leander might best continue to flourish.

Diane still lunches at the Club regularly, as she lives over the road at Bird Place, the Sutherlands' home since 1968. Their son Justin is Captain of UTRC and also a Leander member.

Peter was a popular figure away from Henley as well, and many members will have "Peter Sutherland Stories" of their own.

Boris Johnson, a good friend of Peter's since his time as the local MP, paid tribute to Peter by saying, "The world needs people who believe the sun is going to come out any minute – and



Peter and Diane Sutherland (centre) with members of the 1960 Olympic eight at the crew's 50th anniversary reunion.

if ever there was a man who exuded optimism, good cheer and joie de vivre, it was Peter Sutherland."

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Peter Sutherland will be held at St Mary's Parish Church, Henley, at 3pm on Wednesday 28 November 2012.

SEASONS GREETINGS FROM THE PINK HIPPO SHOP

Once again we have a wonderful collection of gifts for all the family, so why not get ahead of the rush and start your Christmas shopping with us? Just pop into the Shop or log on to our website and our parcels will arrive straight to your door!

For the sports fans in your house it is the last chance to buy 2012 merchandise to remind you of the magical games in London. The range includes a white technical polo shirt and navy sports vest.

This exclusive range was made for Leander to commemorate such a special year.



Gilet £45, Polo shirt £35, sports vest £20 and crew neck sweat shirt £35 all sporting the union jack hippo logo.

Treat yourself or a loved one to a fabulous pair of silver and enamel cufflinks. Exclusively designed and crafted in the UK for Leander these very special links are stamped with the Silver Jubilee hallmark. They come with a hippo head and either a Leander pink enamel or a union jack enamel.



Leander shopping bag £6.50



Pink hippo pin £11.95



Leander jubilee hallmarked silver cufflinks £150



Cufflinks - pinks £150



Champagne stopper £9.95



Hippo trinket box £12.50

For a stocking fillers we have a wide range of Leander souvenirs available. Why not consider one of our new products. The new silver plate trinket box with a discreet engraved hippo logo is ideal for a dressing table top, or a special 2012 pink hippo enamel pin to remember a tremendous year at the club. Lastly we have a handy canvas shopping bag for life so you can be stylish and 'green' at the same time!

Whatever you choose we wish all the very best for the festive season and hope to see you in the Pink Hippo shop very soon.

To order any of the items above or 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.