

Every club celebrating an important anniversary year hopes to have a good season on the water with suitable success to commemorate a special year. However this season has exceeded expectations for Peterborough City Rowing Club and it is not just because of the triumph in the Fawley Cup at Henley. At the time of writing the total number of wins since 1st October is 123 which is the second highest total in the club's history.

Pride of place has to go to Adam Neill and James Fox who with George Caines of Nottingham RC and Johnny Walton of Leicester RC, won the Fawley Cup at Henley Royal Regatta in such memorable style. To have to cope with a re-row on the day that they were scheduled to have two races anyway showed great character and belief. Arrangements are in hand to have the Fawley Cup on display at the club for the End of Season Ball on 4th October.

However it is great that many others have got the winning habit. The womens four of Claire Hartley, Nikki Williams, Bridge Lloyd, and Sarah Cook coxed by Kate Wallace started the season at senior 4 but are finishing at senior 2 level with 9 regatta wins. Their success combined with competitive performances from the senior 4 and novice fours helped to continue the strong revival of womens rowing since 2006 when we could not even raise an eight. Others such as David Todd and Mark Pocock have moved from novice to senior 3 and many others have had wins at senior and junior levels.

For many years the club has had a successful group of veterans and this year is no exception. Stalwarts such as Pete Essex, Graham Barks, Steve Tuck and Dave Truss have had many wins. Jo Canton is very close to her best ever total and currently has 12 wins for the year. A gold and 3 silvers at the National Veteran Champs and 3 wins at Henley Veterans are the highlights.

Apart from Henley success the other special feature of this season has been the selection of 6 of our juniors to represent Great Britain. Our J15 quad of Sam Tuck, Tom Chung, Ed Rippon and Oli Salonna have had a storming season including

## Wonderful **success** in the **60th** Year



James Fox and Adam Neil celebrating with their team mates

winning the re-run of the abandoned National Schools Regatta and Marlow Regatta (at J16 level) with Tom Chung winning in the single at both the National Schools and the National Championships. It was only fitting that they should be selected for the annual GB v. France match and they duly won their event.

James Fox was also selected for this match and Adam Neil represented GB at the Coupe de la Jeunesse in Ireland winning a silver medal in the single. The

club has produced internationals before but never so many in one year.

Success breeds success so as we head towards the club's 61st year lets all work to achieve even more in 2009.

**John Canton  
Chairman"**



Below: Claire Hartley, Nikki Williams, Bridge Lloyd, and Sarah Cook coxed by Kate Wallace in action  
Right: Claire, Nikki and Bridge with their winning tankards, Sarah with her plastic cup (we all know how much easier it is rowing at bow)



# 60th A Look Back at the Anniversary Party

It's over two months since the Diamond Day Party to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the club but it was such a success that it is worth looking back at what was a memorable day.

Over 220 former and current members attended the afternoon rowing and the evening party. Formalities were kept to a minimum but a Life Membership was awarded to Bob Bridges for his work for the club and particularly the promotion of junior rowing. He is the longest standing member of the club having started as a teenager at the very beginning. Following the presentation Bob named the club's new coxed quad "Diamond 4 Ever".

The fun scratch rowing in the afternoon was followed by excellent food and live music from the Eltones in the marquee. It was a highly successful event which brought back many former members including some from the 1950's. Mick Bates came all the way from Canada and Tim and Anita Clarke came down from Glasgow. Much credit must go to the various organisers including Steve Brown, Deirdre Wellham, Steve Chambers, Trevor Parke, John Buchan and Mike Jaggard.

An unexpected bonus from the event is that 3 of those attending, Colin Burgess, Tracy Radnall and Phil Speechley, enjoyed getting back in a boat so much that they have re-joined the club!"



Top: Brian Hawden, Alan Holbrow and Bob Bridges who all competed in the 1950's with youngster Nick Hubble!  
 2nd down: Tim Rodgers, John Bishop, Gerald Hutchings and Mick Bates talk over the good old days of the 70's  
 3rd down: Tim Lloyd, Anita Clarke, Mick Bates and John Long coxed by Kate Wallace narrowly lead the scratch fours  
 Left: 8 from the 80's Chris Shaw, Stuart Thorpe, Phil Speechley, John Canton, Tim Clarke, Stuart Speechley, Steve Casey, Steve Tuck with cox Lewis Tuck. Not quite as young and fit as they used to be in the 80's

## Summer Regatta



Peterborough Summer Regatta, as with all our racing events, only came about as a result of a great deal of work by many helpers.

Each day's racing is 10 and a half hours long and so jobs are mainly covered by volunteers working in shifts but some

commit their whole weekend to the regatta. It takes a surprising number of people to run a regatta weekend, perhaps a 100, many are not current members but are prepared to return to help the club.

Financially the two regattas are crucial



to the survival of the club and it's ability to maintain the facilities it has. To give some recognition to these many helpers these photos illustrate some of the jobs that have to be covered and some of the helpers in action



Left: In the conservatory Tim and Anita Clarke amongst others enjoy their meal and good company

Below: The bar gets lively in the evening



Below: Dancing to the Eltones in the Marquee - Jenny Poole hits the dance floor



The club's newest boat is named "Diamond 4 Ever" by Bob Bridges while Tom Chung takes advantage of the situation!



Above: The naming ceremony (with a particularly smug looking Robbie Neil at the helm having finally found a boat he can't fall out of)



## End of season **ball**

### & presentation night - 4th october

It's the time of year to get the posh frocks out and the smart gear ready for the annual end of season bash.

David Todd and the social committee are preparing for another great party and this year there is so much to celebrate! Apart from the club's first ever win at Henley Royal in its 60th Anniversary year there has been so much other success during the racing season with over 120 wins recorded by our members.

There are several annual awards to be presented to recognise success on the water and hard work on the bank and with the organisation of the club. There are strong contenders for each of these awards - you could be one!

**Look out for more details on posters being prepared by the Social Committee but put the date in your diary for now.**

## The Dreaded Weed

This summer the weed in the lake grew faster and more widely than usual. Two weeks before the Summer Regatta in August it looked doubtful as to whether we would be able to hold the event, which is so vital to club finances.

However a great effort by a large number of members in those two weeks ensured that the weed was cleared - just! John Bishop shown here driving the weed boat was one of several who put in many hours.

The reason for the particular weed problem this year appears to be due to the unusual clarity of the water this summer - noticeable in the river as well as the lake - but why this should be so we do not know.

Nick Hubble and Julian Popple who jointly look after the rowing lake are investigating what can be done to improve weed control next year.



Sorry about the heading John - I just layout the pages - I'm sure it's not personal

One project for the winter is to undertake a major overhaul of the weed boat which is needed because of the heavy useage this year. The plan is to bring it in to the back of the boathouse to allow work to continue regardless of the weather.

## An Olympic effect?

This summer has seen regular enquiries from beginners young and old, particularly since the tremendous success of the GB rowers at the Olympics.

Beginners courses have been held through the summer organised by Peter Forrest, Steve Brown, Catherine Hall with help from Ian Bardrick and David Rowe amongst others.

Many who completed the beginners courses earlier in the summer have joined the club and are gradually improving. In September there will be more beginners around as a result of the Olympic effect but will there be any Steve Redgrave's? New blood is very important for the club so big thanks to Peter Forrest and the other coaches for their hard work.

## PCRC Blazer hits Henley!



Thanks to the enthusiasm of certain members, but particularly James Bizley, a bright new blazer design was produced for Henley this year (perhaps it even inspired our boys to achieve victory!) but some thought it too bold and stripey.



To demonstrate that it is, in fact, just the thing for Henley and other prestigious rowing events your correspondent took some sneaky photos of what some people wore at Henley. Looking at these pretty bad combinations of colours and layouts you must agree that our new blazer is actually rather smart.

Why not order a new blazer for the End of Season Ball? Be quick to avoid disappointment - speak to James Bizley or email [james.bizley@buckles-law.co.uk](mailto:james.bizley@buckles-law.co.uk)

## Ironbridge - thanks for the memories (for some)



Left: within minutes of leaving the RAF The Reverend Jo (as he now likes to be called) grew his beard and his hair (well the back bit) and started his hippy group, he's seen here praying to the God of camping stoves - he commented: "life's a gas man"

Right and below: David Todd spurns the excellent drinking example set by Keith (ie take a little bit of food with it) and prefers to demonstrate his own 'Auction Method' - his last words were "eating's cheating..."



Off the water