

# **OUNDLE TOWN ROWING CLUB**

***NEWSLETTER  
SPRING 2023!***



# Oundle Town Rowing Club - 2022 ROUND-UP



**2022, what a year! We have accomplished so much, let's have a look.**

In January, OTRC completed 2 Saturday sessions successfully and 2 were cancelled due to ice and heavy wind. However, we made good use of the time with a boat handling lesson within those cancelled sessions. OTRC also competed in the first race of the year at Northampton, followed by a social in the ship.

In February, we had our Extraordinary General Meeting just after the ergo session and had all weekend "racers" sessions battling wind, rain and the cold!

In March, we planned to race at St Neots, Head of the East, but unfortunately cancelled due to river conditions. Jordan North had put rowing in the social media so we got a few enquiries from new starters and we gained some publicity on the LoveOundle page.

In April, we completed 1 taster day with 23 participants, signing 9 up for a Learn2Row course, which we started! Bedford Small Boat Head, allowing our Men's Quad of Dick, Rob, Brian and Jon, to win their category by 6 seconds!

In May, our juniors got some great experience with Eton Dorney rowing lake for the Ball Cup South in which some finalist rows in higher age categories! Our first Learn2Row finished with 5 people staying on to join the membership!

In June, we had our first market stall at Oundle Sports Day organised by Angela and Jennie, they both did an amazing job promoting the club in a positive way within the community, and the volunteers that helped on the day also made it such a successful day! This brought community members of all sizes and ages to have a go on the rowing machine! We also competed at St Ives Regatta involving 2 winning crews, consisting of Nick, Dick, Brian and Jon in the quad and Nick and Jon again in their double!



# OUNDLE TOWN ROWING CLUB - 2022 ROUND-UP



In July, OTRC raced at St Neots Regatta over 2 days, with the men's quad (Nick, Gary, Brian and Jon) winning their races. We also completed our Junior Summer Camp run by Charlotte, Juniors really enjoyed it and learned some valuable skills within the boat! We also had our Annual General Meeting at The Ship, with was a great night for socialising after the meeting.



In August, we gave our sweep boats a dusting with several Sunday morning outings with an 8 boat and several four outings and trained in the racing quads ready for Milton Keynes.



In September, we had a busy month of racing at Milton Keynes with 2 of our successful 2022 Learn2Row members, a small taster day with 15 people attended, ready for Learn2Row courses in 2023, a rowing tour for some of our members completed a 90km!



In October, racers trained and prepared for Star Head and all rowers got ready to start putting layers on again to protect from the cold.



In November, we had 4 racing crews go to Star Club for Head of the River and Mark and John raced strongly to win that pot! Claire organised a brilliant "Club Awareness Day", working alongside Mark, Angela, Marion, Roger and Elizabeth, Claire M, Fiona and Jennie to produce an informative and fun session!

In December, we all joined together to talk the night away at 2 different socials, one with Tea and Cake and the other with Beer and 3 course meal!

**Let's see what some people said about their  
2022 year with OTRC!!**

# 2022 CHAIRMAN'S ROUND-UP



A belated Happy New Year to all OTRC members. As we move into 2023 it's a good time to reflect on what we have achieved as a club over the past 12 months. Success on the water can be measured not just in event wins, but also in the various ways in which we all have taken part and enjoyed the rowing experience; and this is reported in detail elsewhere.

For the club as a whole, I think the best way to summarise is to thank everyone who has contributed during the year. As has been said many times before, a voluntary club only works if it has willing volunteers and we are lucky to have such a large proportion of the membership contributing. Many of the jobs are done "below the radar", for example cleaning the loos, buying fuel, checking and replenishing the first aid kits, repairing the generators, changing wheel bearings on the launch trailers to name but a few. Thank you to all those who spot these and many other tasks that need doing and get them done.

It's not only the members; a big thank you especially to Duncan Hook who, having completed the repainting of all the oars, has, among other things during the year, cut the grass (often), fixed the gate, supplied a new door lock, fitted water butts and replaced the handrails. And thanks also to George Dunn who excavated the slipway in the summer to make it easier to launch the launches (!)

I am also indebted to the members of the committee who keep the show on the road, and especially welcome Debbie Revell who took over the club welfare role at the AGM.

Away from the river, we have also been active. The most visible is the refurbishment of Cambridge House which has been progressing during the autumn. Nick Hurford has designed and overseen the upgrade including repairs to the roof, exterior painting and a remodelling of the interior to provide a larger club space (phase 1), new toilets (phase 2) and kitchen (phase 3). Phases 1 & 2 are nearing completion and the plan is we will shortly be able to "move in." In time we expect to use the space for indoor training as well as socialising, providing refreshments etc. The positive feedback I've received about the work that Nick is doing is most reassuring.

We have also been awarded a grant from Oundle Town Council towards improvements to the car parking so that no-one has to be pushed out of the mud on those wet and wintry days! The plan is to lay a plastic mesh that will bond with the grass to establish a solid base; the work should be done during the spring.

Finally, you'll all agree I'm sure that Daisy deserves our huge thanks; she does an amazing job as club captain, not only with the rowing itself but also as social, publicity and generally the welcoming face of OTRC.

The club continues to grow and develop; our achievements in 2022 need to be set against the pandemic years, and I look forward to continued progress in 2023."



# MEMBER'S 2022 ROUND-UP

## OTRC 2022 HIGHLIGHTS ACCORDING TO ANGELA

Coming back from lockdown was great. The 'silver lining' was that it's made for a better appreciation of crew rowing and club friendships but also led to more confidence (by necessity) in rowing in singles.

A welcome return to competition in crews new and old.

Earning my L2 coaching certificate, accompanied by a shedload of paper I may never look at again. Anyone want any coaching?

Excellent memories of the Great Ouse Row - 91 km and 6 locks over 3 days with 9 OTRC members.

2022 seems to have been a year of extreme weather: it feels like we've rowed in the hottest, coldest, iciest, windiest, driest and wettest weather through this year. Or is that just me?!

The club has bitten the bullet with respect to the reality of developing (or not) the top floor of the clubhouse and gone for the Cambridge House conversion. Best decision for a good few years. Looking forward to using it. Roll on (or row on) 2023.



## OTRC 2022 HIGHLIGHTS ACCORDING TO BEA

I enjoyed this year at the club. As well as making friends I have also improved on my technique, thanks to the coaches who gave helpful feedback as they watched us row closely. It felt good as we sometimes fell into sync when we rowed and picked up a good speed and pace.

Even in the recent really cold weather, we managed to have fun on the jetty ice, and we kept warm by being active. We have had lots of laughs and even though getting up early is a bit painful, I always enjoy training.



## OTRC 2022 HIGHLIGHTS ACCORDING TO BECKY S

'It's a brutal form of recreation designed to test every muscle in your body and mind. Ribs crack; hands blister, rowers sometimes ask themselves, "Why am I doing this?" ... It is also good for your soul.' Bonnie Garmus - Lessons in Chemistry  
2022 for me was a year of returning. Returning to Saturday sessions, returning to regular training and returning to racing. It's good to be back!



# BEST CAPTION WINS!

# Races and 1-day events below for 2023!

Please share the dates for Taster day!!



## RACES WE ARE AIMING FOR!

### SAVE THE DATES!

Northampton	21st January
Bedford 4s & 8s	12th February
St Neots Head	5th March
Bedford SBH	2nd April
St Ives Regatta	17th June
St Neots Regatta	22/23rd July
Sudbury	5th August
Peterborough Regatta	12/13th August

**PLEASE CONTACT YOUR COACHES AND GARY COXON FOR ENTRY!**

De-rigging will always be a day before the event, if the event is 2 days then it will be a day before the first day of competition.



## Irish tour in Graiguenamanch

Based in a cosy hotel on the river bank in the medieval village of Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny, groups of 20 people will negotiate ancient navigations and scenic gems and enjoy a warm Irish welcome from your hosts, Brian & Brigid Roberts.

Week 1 is almost full but there are still spaces in week 2.

**WEEK 2**  
**12TH - 18TH**  
**JUNE**

**20TH - 23RD**  
**JULY**

## The 29th British Rowing National Tour

River Severn from Stourport to Gloucester

## European Tour

Row the Wannsee in Berlin/Potsdam. Rowing from Berliner Ruderclub, we will explore the Wannsee and River Havel, visiting Potsdam and rowing under the Glienicker Brücke ("Bridge of Spies")

Boats will be touring 8x+, 6x+ and 4x+

**8TH - 10TH**  
**SEPTEMBER**

For more information on tours,  
then please email Daisy Attley or  
Mark Felton

Please email Daisy to book these events with your name and a list of events you want to go to or can help out with.



**WANT TO JOIN US AT CAMBRIDGE ROWING TANK? GET LIVE FEEDBACK ON SCULLING!**

**WEDNESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY - 18:30-20:30**

**BOOKING REQUIRED. LIMITED SPACES!**

**£10.50 MAXIMUM. WILL DEPEND ON NUMBERS.**

**MEET AT:  
DOWNING COLLEGE BOATHOUSE,  
MANHATTAN DRIVE,  
CUTTER FERRY LANE,  
CAMBRIDGE. CB4 1ZA.**

**"BRILLIANT SESSION AT THE TANK.  
DEFINITELY COMING AGAIN!"  
- ANONYMOUS**



**WHO ARE YOU SUPPORTING?**

**OXFORD  CAMBRIDGE**

**COME DOWN TO WATCH MEN AND WOMEN'S  
BOAT RACES!**

**SUNDAY 26TH MARCH**

**AT OUNDLE, THE SHIP INN**

**@15:30 UNTIL 17:30**

**DRESS CODE: COLOURS OF SUPPORTING CLUB!**







## **WANT TO JOIN US AT CAMBRIDGE ROWING TANK? GET LIVE FEEDBACK ON SWEEP OAR!**

**FRIDAY 14TH APRIL - 18:30-20:30**

**BOOKING REQUIRED. LIMITED SPACES!**

**£10.50 MAXIMUM. WILL DEPEND ON NUMBERS.**

**MEET AT:**

**DOWNING COLLEGE BOATHOUSE.**

**MANHATTAN DRIVE.**

**CUTTER FERRY LANE.**

**CAMBRIDGE. CB4 1ZA.**

**"GREAT TIME AT THE TANK TODAY.  
LEARNT A LOT FROM THE EXPERIENCE"  
- ANONYMOUS**



## **OTRC REGATTA IS BACK!**

**SATURDAY 20TH MAY**

**10:00 - 14:00**

**MIXED DOUBLES FOR ADULTS  
COXED QUADS FOR JUNIORS**

**500M SIDE BY SIDE!**

**JUST £3 ENTRY!**

**BBQ, CAKES AND DRINKS ARE  
ALL AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT.  
PLEASE BRING CASH!**

**ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL! SIGN  
UP SHEET IN BOATHOUSE!**



# WANT TO TRY SOMETHING NEW?

**WHY NOT COME DOWN AND GIVE  
ROWING A GO? YOU MAY FIND A  
HIDDEN SKILL!!**

**SATURDAY 18TH MARCH  
12:00 - 14:00PM**

**OUNDLE TOWN ROWING CLUB  
BARNWELL,  
PETERBOROUGH  
PE8 5PD**

Please email to express your interest  
[OundleTownRC@hotmail.com](mailto:OundleTownRC@hotmail.com)



# WANT TO TRY SOMETHING NEW? SAVE THE DATE!

**WHY NOT COME DOWN AND GIVE  
ROWING A GO? YOU MAY FIND A  
HIDDEN SKILL!!**

**SATURDAY 8TH JULY  
12:00 - 14:00PM**

**OUNDLE TOWN ROWING CLUB  
BARNWELL,  
PETERBOROUGH  
PE8 5PD**

Please email to express your interest  
[OundleTownRC@hotmail.com](mailto:OundleTownRC@hotmail.com)

