

RUBC Newsletter

Issue 6 – August 2016

We kicked off regatta season with a successful BUCS regatta. Then the hard work was back on in preparation for the big summer races. We performed well at Met, Marlow and Henley Women's all in the run up to Henley Royal where we flourished in both the racing and social categories. Going out on a high, we topped the medals table at the European University games!

Reading Uni 2nd overall at BUCS



Reading dominated the sculling events at BUCS regatta this year, with multiple medals in the men's intermediate singles and in the competitive lightweight doubles as well as Sam Twine's impressive gold in the champ sculls. The girls intermediate quad also retained their gold from last year's regatta. The beginner boys also put in a strong performance in the new

beginner quad category and dominated the rest of the field to win gold to match their result at BUCS head. We won 14 medals: 4 gold, 6 silver and 4 bronze, which put us 5th on the medals table. Overall this year we came 2nd to Newcastle across all BUCS events, a very impressive feat and our best ever result!



RUBC enjoys international success

RUBC sent 5 crews to the European University Games in Zagreb, Croatia. The racing was tough, for some it was a first taste of international competition but we returned triumphant with 2 golds in the Womens lightweight double and quad and a bronze for the lightweight mens double. Not only did GB also win the silver, RUBC managed to top the GB medals table and coming second from all competing universities only behind the hosts from Zagreb University. EUSA was the cherry on top of an outstanding season with a plethora of great performances.



Henley Royal dual success

Henley Royal was a success in two ways. The men's first quad of Simon Williamson, Dom Tope, Sam Twine and Olly Dix qualified for the highly competitive Prince Of Wales Challenge Cup and put in a huge effort against a strong German crew in the first round but unfortunately ended up on the wrong side of a 1 ¼ length margin. We also had a highly successful barbeque run by our new social sec's Anna Smart and Amber Mayall which was attended by many alumni and was a great event!



Women's quad dominates

The women's first quad of Amy Fuller, Lou Grove, Isabelle Drinkwater and Anna Smart dominated the summer races with two wins at met regatta in the WIM14X and reaching the semi-finals of Henley Women's in the Senior Quads category. An amazing performance from these young scullers, three of whom are in their first year at Reading University.

Summer Term Results

BUCS Regatta

GOLD: MCH1x, Mint1x, MBeg4x & Wint4x
SILVER: MCH2x, Mint2x, Mint1x, MBeg1x, WLwt4x & WLwtint1x
BRONZE: MLwt2x, MLwtint1x, WLwt2x & Wint2x

Met Regatta

Wins in: WIM1 4x (Saturday & Sunday)
Sen 4x (Sunday)

Marlow Regatta

7th in Eli 4x

Henley Womens Regatta

4 crews qualified for Senior 4x
B crew through to quarterfinals
A crew through to semifinals

Henley Royal Regatta

Mens A quad qualified for Prince of Wales

EUG 2016-EUSA Regatta

M2x – 7th
MLwt2x – BRONZE
M1x – 4th
WLwt4x – GOLD

Simon Williamson – President



The 2015-16 season has been a highly exciting season at RUBC with our best ever results at BUCS, strong Henley campaigns from both the men and women and then an incredible set of performances at EUSA.

My personal highlight was watching the MBeg4x at BUCS regatta storm through to gold showing real promise for the future of the club! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who will be leaving RUBC this year for their devotion and hard work and wish them well in all they do and to thank our ever expanding group of alumni for their ongoing support. I look forward to taking up the mantle of president again next season but for now I'd like to wish you all a restful and happy summer.

Captain's Reports

Corey McDowell - Men's Captain



Straight from training camp in Banyoles, the RUBC Men's Squad eagerly anticipated BUCS Regatta which turned out to be one of the most successful in years, with 6 medals picked up! My highlight was having 3 RUBC scullers in the final of the Inter 1x, Dom Tope and Olly Dix placed 1st and 2nd and James Mackins wasn't far behind in 5th. Other notable results were Sam winning champ single to take his 4th BUCS gold of the year and to novice Chris OB managing to scoop a silver in the beginner single event to go with his gold from the beginner quad.

Next, the focus shifted to quads, the aim of the season being racing at Henley Royal Regatta in the Prince of Wales Challenge Cup. Over the two days of Met regatta all quads raced well, on both days the 2nd

quad made finals but the 3rd quad missed out to some quick opposition. On the Saturday the first quad led Senior 4x final but were unlucky to finish on the wrong end of the boat surge on the finish line. They improved on the result the next day, winning the Senior 4x final.

Injury and illness hindered the run up to Marlow, resulting in sub-par racing. Athletes and coaches were frustrated, but determined to put things right for Henley Qualifiers. The three boats raced the qualifying time trial on the Friday before Henley Royal and the first boat attained a spot, drawing Bayer Leverkusen and missing out by just over a length in the first round after our boat pushed hard to hold them off.

Sam, Simon, Frank, Dom and Olly then raced in the EUSA regatta in Croatia and performed exceptionally well against European opposition, in particular Frank and Simon in the lightweight 2x who won bronze. Vince was also selected for Wales in the Home international regatta. Overall an excellent year for the RUBC Men, hopefully next season will be even better as Olly Dix takes to the captaincy!

Rosie Snell - Women's Captain



What a successful summer 2016 turned out to be! First up was BUCS regatta, where a squad of 18 girls raced, bringing home 1 gold, 2 silvers and 2 bronze medals, very impressive considering we only entered sculling events! It was very special to see our novice quad coming a very close 4th in their first ever race together, and a particular well done to Helen Such who gained huge confidence in her single, winning the B final of novice sculls by over 25 seconds! There were solid performances throughout the squad, despite some very testing conditions, with a few races having to be cancelled.

Two weeks of intense focus led to the pinnacle of our racing – Henley Women's Regatta. We entered 4 senior quads and a

senior lightweight single, very different to the previous years of academic 8's! Friday saw the time trials, with all four quads qualifying, meaning ¼ of the draw was made up of reading crews! Katy Ratcliffe was disappointed to miss out on qualifying her single by 0.1 second. Some tough racing saw Reading A progress to the semi finals to race Edinburgh Uni. This was a great race with top performances from everyone however Edinburgh managed a 2 length win. The results from this weekend are very positive for the future of sculling at RUBC, and I hope to see RUBC winning this category in the future! This led onto a strong HRR campaign and of course skinny4eusa. The squad of Amy Fuller, Katy Ratcliffe, Fran Bratt and Anna Smart all made international weight and came back from Croatia with a gold medal in the quad and double!!

I'm so impressed with the determination and commitment by all of the girls this year. The results have shown its been worth it, and I'm very happy to have been a part of such a fab group of girls. Hopefully this will continue next year, with Poppy Durkan taking over as womens captain. Thanks RUBC for an amazing 4 years!

