

# Friends of Bedford School Boat Club

Newsletter Spring 2019

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Welcome to the Spring edition of the Friends of Bedford School Boat Club newsletter.

Included in this newsletter are some highlights from last terms races and a provisional list of dates for this terms races.

## Schools' Head (15<sup>th</sup> March 2019)

Like two years ago the winds played a huge part in this years Schools' Head. Unfortunately because of the high winds forecast the organisers had to take the difficult decision to reduce the number of crews racing for safety reasons.

Well done to all our boys who took on the Tideway but special mention must go to the Colts A crew on winning the J16 1<sup>st</sup> 8 in an exceptionally tight race with just 0.6 seconds separating them from two other crews. This is the first time in the Schools history that the J16s have won this event.

Photo credit Al Craigie



## Junior Sculling Head (18<sup>th</sup> March 2019)

After a busy weekend for the Boat House racing continued on the Monday. The J14s participated in their first big event at the Junior Sculling at Dorney Lake. Well done boys on an encouraging set of results.

## OB Race 2019 (16<sup>th</sup> March 2019)

We always look forward to watching the OB's take on our 1<sup>st</sup> VIII in our annual fixture. With stronger winds that are usually found on the Tideway it made for two fun races and kept the coxes busy. However, maybe the previous days racing at Schools Head played a part in the results with a very high standard OB's VIII winning both races this year.



### Head of the River Fours (2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018)

At the start of the year the Senior Quad went to London to receive their award from winning the Open School Junior Quads challenge at the Fuller's Head of the River Fours in November 2018. Congratulations to them!



### Peterborough( 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2019)

With Hampton Head being cancelled at short notice due to poor weather the J15 crews were able to secure last minute entries at Peterborough Head of the Nene along with the J16 and Senior crews. Despite it being a beautifully sunny day the temperature was bitter to say the least, the senior boys provided the fastest time of the day, and we also had 3 eights in the top 5 crews.

### Bedford Head (10<sup>th</sup> February 2019)

The Boat Club had a successful days racing at Bedford Head bringing home 37 pots in all. This is our first home event of the year and always brings with it great support. It is also the J14s first opportunity to race and they showed great spirit racing in testing conditions.

The Boat Club picked up wins in J18, Open 1 Eights (fastest time of the day) and the J16 4+ in a dead heat.

### Hammersmith Head (2nd March 2019)

Whilst the J14s were honing their skills on home water the J15 A/B, J16 A/B and the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Eights had an away fixture travelling to Hammersmith Head. For the J15s it is their first experience of rowing on the Tideway and with the A crew finishing 6<sup>th</sup>, from 26 most of whom are tideway schools, it was a good day for them. The Seniors finished 7<sup>th</sup> overall and the Colts finished mid pack, 12<sup>th</sup> from 22.

### J14 Private Octo Match (2nd<sup>d</sup> March 2019)

A busy afternoon at the Boat House as we host the J14 Private Octo match between BSBC, Radley, Shiplake and BMS. It is an extremely useful training opportunity ahead of the Junior Sculling Head and for a number of boys their first opportunity to row under "race" conditions. Thank you also to the parents that came along to help serve the boys and our guests hot chocolates, sandwiches and donuts. Your support is appreciated.

### Eastern Trials (24<sup>th</sup> March 2019)

Congratulations to the J15 4+ Crew who will join the Colts 8 at JIRR on 27<sup>th</sup> April.

### Boat Club Annual Dinner and Awards (16<sup>th</sup> March 2019)

We welcomed 100 parents, boys, coaches and boat house staff to our Annual Dinner and awards evening.

This year our after dinner guest speaker was Rory Mackenzie. He delivered an inspirational and quite extraordinary speech about his journey from the battlefields of Iraq to the sunny climes of Barbados. For those that were unable to attend the dinner Rory's story started in 2007 when he lost his right leg to a roadside bomb. After extensive rehabilitation he went on in 2012 to successfully cross the Atlantic in a rowing boat along with two able bodied and four injured servicemen. In the Summer Rory also spoke at the closing ceremony of the London Paralympic Games inspiring millions with his indomitable spirit for life. That spirit was evident throughout his after-dinner speech with many parents and boys later mentioning that they "could have listened to him for hours".

Congratulations to all the boys that won awards.



### And finally.....

We extend our thanks to the Coaches and Boatmen for their hard work during last term.

Huge thank you also to our fabulous parents for your baking, cheering and hot chocolate making this term.

We now move to Regatta season and burger flipping at Bedford Regatta. Please email / contact us if you are able to help!

# Calendar Summer 2019

Date	Event	Location	Year Group (s)
4 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	BASHER	Eton Dorney	All
5 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	Wallingford Regatta	Wallingford RC	
11 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	Bedford Regatta	Bedford	All
18 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	Pre NSR training	Peterborough or Dorney	All
24 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	National Schools Regatta	Eton Dorney	J14
25 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	National Schools Regatta	Eton Dorney	J15 / J16 / J18
1 <sup>st</sup> June 2019	Peterborough Spring Regatta	Peterborough City RC	
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	Star Regatta	Bedford	All
15 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	Marlow Regatta	Eton Dorney	
23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2019	Thames Valley Park	Thames Valley Park RC	
28 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	Henley Qualifying Races	Henley / Leander Club	Seniors
29 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	Reading Town Regatta	Reading Town RC	
29 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	Peterborough Junior Championships	Peterborough City RC	
1 <sup>st</sup> July 2019	HRR Training 1/7 – 3/7	Henley / Leander	Seniors
3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2019	Henley Royal Regatta 3/7-7/7	Henley / Leander	Seniors
3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2019	HRR Y9 & 10 visit	Henley / Leander	Y9 Y 10