



ALUMNI

SPRING 2016

A wealth of welcomes and well done

As one of the oldest and largest Alumni supported University Clubs we warmly welcome and congratulate our new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Hugh Brady on his appointment. No doubt and quite properly, Vice Chancellor Brady is reimagining the future for the University of Bristol. Having just come back from a visit to the boat sheds of Stanford and University of California Berkley, Bristol certainly has 'room for improvement' when it comes to holistic education and the imperative of supporting both athletic endeavour and academic excellence. Given the report card from UCD and the Vice-Chancellor's ten years experience in the US, we are excited about this great appointment.

An equally warm welcome to Matt Birch who joined Bristol earlier in 2015 as Director of Sports, Exercise and Health. Early days but it was great to see him at

Henley despite the heartbreak on the water. Then, of course, the really big news is a full time Head Coach in the shape of Cameron Kennedy who has big shoes to fill with the departure of that stalwart Kiwi Gordon Trevett. Cameron's background includes time in Brisbane and then a stint in Durham. Both locations sing his praises. Welcome Cameron.

Two familiar names also feature in this line up with the newly anointed Dr Steph Harris now Bristol Student Union's Sport and Development Officer and that UBBC Alumni stalwart alumni and generous supporter Michael Jeans re-elected to the University Court.

Pull hard and all the best for 2016!

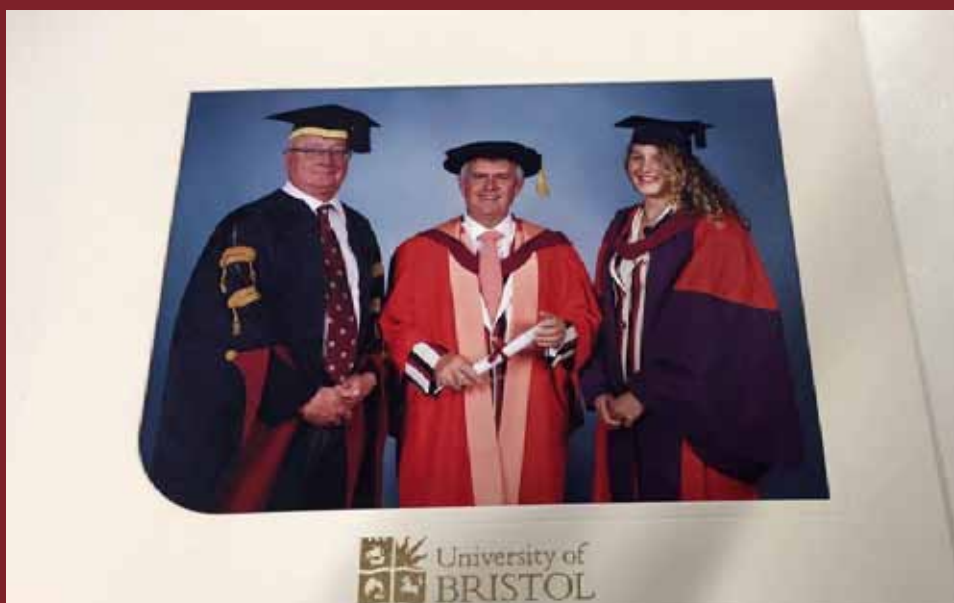
Chris Hartley
UBBC Alumni Chairman



Cam & Emma Kennedy



Congratulations Chris!



Sir Eric Thomas F.Med.Sci. (Vice Chancellor of Bristol 2001-2015),
Dr Chris Hartley B.S.c., F.R.S.A., LL.D., Dr Stephanie Harris M.Sc., Ph.D.

On July 20th 2015 our very own Chairman Chris Hartley was presented with a Doctor of Laws degree at a ceremony in the Wills Memorial Building.

The Honorary degree recognises Chris's great contribution to university life as both an exceptional student athlete and founder of our Alumni Club.

Since our conception in the 1980's the Alumni of the Boat Club have contributed over a quarter of a million pounds to UBBC. This has taken the form of boats, blades, equipment and at times coaches, not to mention catalysing for fundraising for the new boathouse at Saltford.

A remarkable legacy, congratulations Dr Hartley!

Outgoing Captain's Message

In July I finished my time as Club Captain of UBBC with the honour of giving the oration for (now) Dr Chris Hartley's honorary degree from the University. This was a fantastic way to finish an even more fantastic two years at the helm of the club.

Those few celebratory weeks in July also gave me a chance to reflect on my time. My first year as club captain was the year in which the new club was being constructed. The goal of that year very quickly became making it through. Boating from a field was the norm and the excitement of each week became seeing how much construction had taken place from outing to outing! The challenges of that year taught me that how lucky I was to be in a sport and a club who rose to challenge after challenge and refused to give in.

Last year saw the club rewarded with the opening of the beautiful new facility, several new boats and the new (but very welcome challenge) of finding resource for ever expanding numbers. It also saw the departure of Gordon Trevett as the Director of Rowing after many many years in the role. When I took over as Club Captain I'd had very limited interaction with G and, if I'm honest was a little bit terrified. However, he quickly became a good friend and an inspiration. He taught the club the meaning of hard work and he taught me that anything is possible if you're willing to put your mind, body and soul into it.

One last look from the from the Launch

The view from the coaching launch is a very long one for this final issue.

I am in New Zealand and now semi retired. The memories though of the past 12 years are very vivid. The unexpected farewells from Nonesuch BC when Averill and I left for Aotearoa left us elated but both emotionally and physically exhausted. I had to have a few more glasses of champers on the flight to NZ to get over it all.

A few highlights from the past crossed my mind in moments of contemplation. We represented Great Britain at EUSA for a period of 5 years out of 6 years from about 2005! We got a bronze medal in the 2005 EUSA Brive Champs in the VIII and won gold in the IV- in the



Gordon & Steph at the Bristol Reds Dinner 2015.

I'm delighted to have handed the club over into the capable hands of Tom and the rest of the 15/16 committee who I know will do a fantastic job. Thanks have to go to the committees of 13/14 and 14/15 who put up with me and to Chris, the alumni committee and the rest of you for your unstinting advice and support.

Thank you.

Dr Stephanie Harris
Boat Club Captain 2013-2015



The John Rutley Boathouse under construction 2013-2014.

Banyoles EUSA Champs in 2007. For about 10 years we were the only GB crew to win a gold medal in EUSA Champs. Many of our male rowers went on to higher honours within rowing.

In that similar period of years we either won gold or silver in BUCS Champs in coxless and coxed fours. Numerous regatta wins along the way in many boat classes made for a healthy trophy cabinet including elite wins. Reaching the Prince Albert final in 2010 was a great highlight. Memories also of the 'Bristol Pile' at Henley also surface.

Our women also won Henley Women's Regatta and came 7th in the Women's Head during this period. Kaarin Scanlan one of our LW women got 3rd

for some years at the British Indoor Champs, and represented Columbia at the 2006 World Champs at Eton Dorney in the single sculls. It was the first time anyone had represented Columbia. I was lucky enough to be her coach for this great experience.

The relationship with A-Gas and in particular John Rutley was and still is a very beneficial thing for the UBBC, John's immense generosity has set the club up for the future. We have not only a new clubhouse but many new boats and oars as well. Sam Rutley has now joined in with generous sponsorship both personally and through his own company Trafalgar Villa Estates. It cannot be underestimated how much the Rutley family have given for the

UBBC. In addition Rutley funding is contributing to the retention for the next 3 years of the new Head Coach of the UBBC. Having been on the interview panel I am sure our new Cam Kennedy will do a great job.

The most important thing of all during my time in the UBBC were the personal relationships that were created. Seeing you all achieve some great highs and the realisation that if you believe, you can achieve. The highs and lows case hardened my girded loins. All male coaches have to have balls of steel both mentally and physically. I like to think my legacy is the current strength of Nonesuch Boat Club. I sincerely hope you all continue to support this in the years to come. Remember the World Masters Rowing Champs is in NZ in 2017. I hope to compete.

Oh by the way if you thought my supercomp was tough they do 50 each session over here at the usual 1.30 minute time frame for a week.

I am now living in Waihi Beach in the Bay of Plenty in NZ. My email address is gordontrevett1@gmail.com

Good luck to you all and have a great season ahead.

G

Incoming Captain's Message

"New Boathouse, New Boats, New Coaching Team" was the tagline on our promotional material this year, but only just sums up where the club is at the moment. I'm in a very fortunate position to be taking over the club in such a strong position, thanks to Steph Harris and the committee of 2014/15. We have now fully settled in to our new boathouse and 2 Filippi coxed 4s, an Empacher 8 and a Wintech single have been added to the UBBC fleet as brand new boats.



The big news is the arrival of new Head Coach, Cameron Kennedy. Cameron has an almost unrivalled history of performance in university rowing, coaching crews to win both the BUCS Head and BUCS Regatta Victor Ludorum trophies, as well as Academic events at Henley Women's Regatta. He has big aims for the club and everyone is excited to be part of something really special. Joining Cameron is Edward Bloomfield, our part-time Assistant Coach, who has

been coaching at St Edward's School, Oxford, and has similarly large aspirations for the club.

We had almost 500 freshers sign up to say they were interested in starting rowing this year, which has now converted to a membership of 195. With such growth in numbers comes the need for expansion of resources. Over the summer we purchased another second-hand 1987ish Empacher 8+ for the Novice Women and we have recently



purchased another minibus (to share with Trampoline and Gymnastics Club) to help with the ongoing problem of transporting rowers to Saltford. We have also acquired a space for a large club erg room at the Coombe Dingle Sports Complex, which we will be moving into imminently (ergs funded by the Alumni Foundation). Our next project will be to look at funding the purchase of a new women's 8. The club is now 60% female members and there is a strain on competitive boats available for women to train and race in. I would welcome any ideas on this from the alumni pool of knowledge and experience!

In other news, we were successful in our bid to host the BUCS Indoor Championships for the region this year, stealing it back from UWE - the first of many victories over them this year I hope!

Tom Clark
'Boat Club Captain

These Girls Can

The ratio of women's to men's participation in sport has been discussed more and more over the past few years. Initiatives such as 'This Girl Can' have highlighted the need to encourage more women to take part in sport. In recent years, the University of Bristol Boat Club have been working to encourage more and more women to take up rowing, both socially and competitively, and the results have been impressive.

I began rowing as a novice at the start of my first year of university in September 2013. It was an encouraging start having Raider (a second hand Empacher 8+) bought for us to use, as it enabled us to get more than one VIII out at a time and therefore more women out training on the river, where it really counts. Despite starting the year without a boathouse, having to store our boats in a field and our blades and coaching launches in a shipping container, we finished the year qualifying for HWR in academic 8+'s. I put this down to the overall atmosphere around the boat club - an atmosphere of change and opportunity.

My first year as a Senior saw the appointment of Tony Larkman, who was then head coach of rowing at Bath University Boat Club. This was the first time that the Women's Squad had a coach employed specifically for them, and the differences were huge and very



Hosting the BUCS Indoor Rowing Competition at Tyndal Avenue Gym raised over £2,000, helping fund Concept 2's for a new erg room at Coombe Dingle.

positive. From an amateur volunteer based coaching system came a much more professional and goal orientated attitude amongst the women, which resulted in a much higher retention rate of female senior rowers to the end of the year than many previous years.

Whilst these changes to the Senior squad were happening, our Novice Women were also having an incredible start to the year. After winning the Women's Novice 8+'s at Quintin Head Race, they went on to perform incredibly at all BUCS competitions, win Varsity and only narrowly miss out on qualifying at HWR. It had never looked so promising for the future of women at UBBC and this was topped off with the purchase of a brand new Filippi Women's 4+!



This journey brings me to today. Taking on the role of Women's Captain at such a fantastic time to be part of both the Women's Squad and the Boat Club as a whole was a daunting task, with such big changes over the past few years I knew I had to help keep the momentum going. The appointment of Cameron Kennedy as head coach of rowing, alongside Ed Bloomfield as development coach, has had a fantastic impact uniting the Men's and Women's squads under one training program and instilled a common performance driven focus. Driving each other on in training is a new experience but a challenge we relish.

Of course none of this could have been achieved without the support and legacy of our previous members. So much of the Women's Squad's growth and success is down to the efforts of those who have gone before, those who brought home the WeHorr, BUCS and HWR victories and others who worked tirelessly but not thanklessly behind the scenes to get us to where we are today.

Kate Tomes
Senior Women's Captain



UBBC representing GB at the EUSA Regatta in Moscow 2011.



Nonesuch 1st VIII at UBBC Head 2015.



Clockwise from top left; Celebrating with the Varsity Blade 2015, Women's Coach Tony Larkman with assistant Peter Thomas on training camp in Banyoles, UBBC's Novice Women's 1st VIII leading Tethys (Oxford University Lightweight) at the end of Temple Island in the first round of Henley Women's Regatta 2014.



During my time rowing at Bristol there was a clear disparity to the men's crews and the women's. Better boats, paid coach, privileges, their needs getting put first. It was only when our crew began to win races, that we were taken seriously, and seen just as strong and worthy as the men's crews. Hearing that the current senior women now have a paid coach is so refreshing, and about time for the Bristol Senior Women's squad. This level of respect given to women's squads inspires others to follow suit, for novices to become seniors, for seniors to become captains, and for a women like Steph [Harris] to become boat club captain. And I might add, elected not because she was a woman but because she was seen as the best person to do the job, something she's proved time and time again since.

It goes without saying that I was in awe of the Women's Boat race. I know many women who watched the race and have been inspired by what they saw despite many having never even seen a rowing race before. The status that this has given women's rowing is a massive step in changing attitudes towards women in sport. Perhaps the next step for rowing would be to amend the Women's Henley finish to be the same length as the men's grandstand stewards enclosure finish,

raising the level of the competitions profile Steps are being made, but it's important to remember that more can be done to effect change, and that Nonesuch can play a part in this.

We're always looking for members to join the alumni women's crews and this is the year we plan to take our first crew to Women's Henley. If you're interested in being a part of this campaign or generally keen to help grow the female membership and voice within the Alumni then please contact me at staceymariemcrocker@gmail.com

Stacey Crocker
Nonesuch BC Women's Captain



Clockwise from top left; Stacey Crocker Alumni Women's Squad Captain, Nonesuch 2nd VIII at UBBC Head 2015, The victorious Oxford University Women's Blue Boat 2015.

Shaping a new Empire

Welcome to a new season and a new start for the University of Bristol Boat Club. I'm really excited to be involved in the boat club during this next stage of returning to a real force in UK University rowing. As one can imagine, the start of this term has been a very busy one. Personally, I've moved to a new city, to a new role with a new network of people, different resources, a large squad to get to know and am trying to find my way into some large shoes left by a large NZ man, it's been a whirlwind start. But as you already know, and as I'm quickly finding out, the University of Bristol has one of the most welcoming and enthusiastic boat clubs in the country.

Despite all the potential frustrations that can be encountered when adjusting to a new leadership structure, the athletes and the wider Bristol rowing community have been overwhelmingly supportive and encouraging. I haven't quite put my finger on it yet, but there is certainly something special about this club and I hope to help put in place some structures that will help it achieve the on-water successes it deserves in coming years.

While Rome wasn't built in a day, the current senior squad is proving to have an excellent work ethic and keenness to learn, giving us our best chance of shaping a new empire as quickly as possible. Where this season ends up, and where the club heads in the coming few years will very much depend on this work ethic and a strong desire to be excellent at what we do. To complement this senior squad leadership, there are also many talented individuals signing up for the novice squad, unknowingly being sucked into the vortex of a very new life, the rowing life. It will be difficult to whittle the current novice squad down into a more streamlined group but there will be a strong focus this year on the solid foundational development of this group and to fast-track them into becoming successful seniors.

The fabric of this rowing community relies heavily on the continued interest and support from the alumni body and



UBBC in action on the Tideway, match racing with Durham Uni BC.



Assistant Coach Ed Bloomfield



Head Coach
Cam Kennedy



UBBC in training and racing winter term 2015.

it's a pleasure to join a program that has already developed a healthy engagement with alumni. It would be wonderful if we could encourage even more former members of the boat club to be involved in the alumni group. With a 'New boathouse, new boats, new coaches', it's definitely an exciting time to be involved in the University of Bristol Boat Club.

As the season unfolds I look forward to seeing the mythical prowess of the men and women of the Nonesuch BC on display. Going by the UBBC Head turnout I know I won't be disappointed! I look forward to meeting more alumni and friends of the club as the year progresses, see you on the river bank soon.

Cam Kennedy
Head Coach



'...the older we get the more invincible we were...'

I've been pressed to pen a few reminiscences, so here are the ramblings of an old UBBC member from the last century. Accuracy may be a little awry but I am hoping this will prompt my contemporaries to chip in with their memories of the fifties and prompt something of a reunion I hear Leander is nice.

I came up to Bristol from the depths of the West Country to study dentistry in 1954. The family were all rugged seafarers, and/or fishermen and interestingly Sir Tommy Lipton would come down to Looe (Cornwall) recruiting competent boatmen for his America's Cup, J class yacht (Shamrock), in the thirties. Many of my family acted as crew. So when I arrived at the freshers' week it seemed quite natural to join the 'Boat Club'. Fascinating! Boats with fancy sliding seats that wouldn't stand a chance in a bit of a sea! and nowhere to put the fish. The first boat was 'Peter Kirk' and 'Josephine' was the second boat.

Club members were interesting too, sports cars, different accents, beer and not cider drinkers, but nevertheless a very sociable group. There was 'Shag' Peters with the large flying Officer Kite's moustache (posh accent), Helmut Reischle (German accent), Arnold Aubee (Madagascan accent) and Taffy Jones (Welsh accent), amongst others. The Captain of the club was Ted Thomas, a vet, who practised in Liskeard in later years.

Our coach was Alan Gaydon aided by Professor Heilbron. A splendid bunch of fellows.

On our trips to the London Head we boated from The University of London boat house where we had a very ancient honorary coach for the week's intensive training. This was the 'Bean', he wore cerise socks and was medal winner in the Olympics, or similar, circa the late 1880s I believe. A wonderful character. At one stage we acted as pacers for the Oxford crew, and our rough and ready style was faster than them over the first minute, when another crew took over the pacing.

My first experience of the London Head was with the Third VIII, we started somewhere about 100 and finished in the thirties. The crew: Eynstone, Rainbow, Key, Welker, Toms, Murphy, Hughes, Jones, with David Miles as cox (he is now living in Canada)

I rowed for several years with the UBBC. The first eight rowing to 9, 7, 11, 17, and so on in the London Head with similar success in the Reading Head races. We won the UAU championship for several years at this time. Our fixtures included Southampton, Reading, and various regattas, including Worcester & Hereford where won the senior eights. I can't remember losing, but then as the saying goes the older we get the more invincible we were.

Hereford 1958 was memorable as we were drawn against the Royal Air Force crew in the final. They had adopted the Conibear sit up finish which was comparatively innovative with British crews and contrasted with the customary Lady Margaret lie back. The RAF was a very effective crew (heavily sponsored) and was enjoying an unbeaten season. I remember that instead of shouting for ten and so alerting the opposition, the cox would give two sharp raps with his steering toggles on the saxboards and then beat out the rhythm for succeeding strokes. A bit like the slave galleys! They were fast; however our somewhat crude but effective style soon had UBBC leading them home by a couple of lengths. The RAF later came on a recruiting mission and those of us who had National Service to do were promised two years of solid pampered rowing. I however joined the Royal Navy for five years and progressed to naval whalers.

I rowed at Henley Royal with UBBC in the Thames Cup, which was quite an experience for a country lad. We had a heat or two, beating Queens College and, in the following round we were against Poplar and Blackwell. Mac (Fearnehough) our captain was most puzzled as to who they were, as he had not heard of them. He was incredulous when I ventured the opinion that they were perhaps a pickle firm. A pickle firm, a PICKLE FIRM ? They went on to beat us, but only just (of course!)



We shared a tent with a well known public school who rowed with fixed pins (tremendous clunking noise) and never seemed to shower or changer out of their under wear after a training session. Quite a different world!

The 1956 Henley crew: Bow. Harry Orton 11-4: Rodney AC Newth 10-2: Keith Chard 13-1: Brian Toms 14-6: Harry Ivey 12-11: Bob WG Pickard 14-9: Mac WG Fearnough 11-1: Freddy PG Fox 11-2: Cox, Gus WRK Grey 8-5; Subsequently, 1957, Ernie Pitt and Tony Cooke joined the crew.

Also rowing circa the mid-fifties: Peter Brown, Roger Anstey, Peter Munn, GG Matthews Alan Hooker, JP Griffiths, K Rackham, et al.

The annual fixture with L'Ecole de Sante Navale a Bordeaux/Bristol was always a high light. We were accommodated in a dormitory of the College and here I experienced my first stand up toilet. Keith Chard, I remember managed to drop the toilet roll into the pan on the first visit, it fitted exactly, but Keith of course being of

the engineering faculty was able to extract it sans problem.

We were entertained by a racing crew of eight or so, with very late nights on the town and plenty of vino. We took to the water on the appointed morning only to find that our opponents were not the entertaining hosts of the previous week but a bright eyed crew of very fresh looking oarsmen. We got away to a ragged start but sobered up in time to lead the French home by some three+ lengths. Up until this time the home crew had always won on the day, but we broke the mould. The following year we were entertained by the Mayor at the Mansion House where we allowed the French to beat us at billiards as compensation.

Ernie Pitt (No: 3, 1957) was an ex Grenadier Guardsman, who informed us that when on guard duty at the Palace the lead soldier would tap the ground with his rifle to indicate he wanted to march along the front of the Palace. The distances to be covered was predetermined by Ernie pointing with one, two, or three fingers.

All guardsmen were thus kept in sequence and did the same distances. It was good to have some military discipline in the boat. Freddie Fox was our excellent stroke and a first class team leader, he was working for a PhD. Harry Orton and Charlie Welker were dental students in my year, Harry went on to become an orthodontic consultant, while Charlie dabbled in antiques. Regrettably they both died some years ago. Harry Ivey and I rowed in the engine room and after Henley we went on a pot hunting (winning) spree to LLandaff, Hereford, Bewdley, Gloucester and so. Again we were a touch rough but still effective oarsmen. However we had to have a cox as we were not so good at steering.

One favourite song for the coach was Angeline, 'lifting up her skirt to avoid the dirt'. For a simple country lad it seemed a bit rude. I wonder if, with so many Ladies in the club now, the choral repertoire of UBBC has changed.

Where have all the Lads gone?

Brian Toms
briantoms@talktalk.net



Varsity 2015

During the run-up to this year's varsity, I was understandably nervous. We lost last year and having never lost a varsity race, as an alumni or senior woman, my pride had been tarnished. I was determined this wasn't going to happen this year. With no practice as a crew, and having only completed a few race starts, we were heading in to the race blind. There never is enough time to practice, I suppose some might say, this is the excitement of varsity racing, others may be terrified at the prospect.

We had never rowed together as a crew, so those starts were important to focus on if we wanted to win. The short practice paid off and we were ahead of UWE off the start. This race is always a quick one; it's over before you know it, and so anything you do has to be snappy.

After the start, our cox box was bust, and barely a sound was coming from it. We pushed through, and the crew was experienced enough to know not to panic. Just coming past SS Great Britain, in the corner of my vision, I see UWE take the wrong line and their cox responds by diagonally heading for us. They were forced to come to a near halt and redirect their boat to the line they were assigned to. Our cox box came back, and we pushed away. The race was ours from that point on, and we strode our way to the finish line. A small achievement to some, and many may think that getting as caught up in an amateur university race where you win nothing but a title, isn't worth crying about. But this is win or lose, succeed or fail and I have seen many a UWE crew weep at the end of a varsity race after being defeated by us.

Stacey Crocker



Mens Nonesuch Season

Summarising the entire Nonesuch BC Mens' Squad 2015 regatta season in one article is a significant challenge - it has been our busiest year ever! Several training camps in the UK and abroad, numerous regattas and a campaign to qualify boats in all three club events at Henley Royal Regatta (HRR), not to mention numerous socials both

The aim of the squad was to qualify a boat in each of the three 'club level' events at HRR and to win at least one of those events. This provided an excellent opportunity for the numerous 'big deals' to put their money where their mouth is... and with spectacular results!

Varsity and Tilburg Easter Training Camp

Varsity marked the start of the regatta season with a savage victory (result: 5 lengths) over Coldharbour (UWE Alumni). This years' 'UWE Demolition' Crew:



Blades Appeal

In September 2014 I attended the opening of the new boathouse at Saltford - what a great event and long overdue - the old one was falling down when I was there 1961-64! I was talking to the indefatigable Gordon Trevett who told me that a new Empacher VIII had been gifted by John Rutley, he then said that it was a shame that there wasn't a new set of 'Skinny' oars to accompany the new VIII (in recent years oar manufacturers have made a great leap forward, dramatically reducing the diameter of a blades loom). I spoke to several other attendees on hand at the boathouse opening and the idea was born of seeking sponsorship for a set of oars costing around £3,000.

This appeal followed a similar structure to one initiated about three years ago to purchase a coaching launch - again a successful campaign with the funds being raised much quicker than anticipated.

The 8 blades went on to be used by the club's top Men's and Women's coxed fours in their respective Henley Royal and Henley Women's Regatta campaigns. Following the misfortune of Henley Qualifiers 2015 for UBBC the state of the art new 'skinny' blades were taken up by Nonesuch BC seeing action in the Wyfold and Britannia Challenge Cup's.

Thank you to all involved for your generous support,

Michael Jeans

I liaised with Chris Hartley and decided that an 'appeal' should be targeted at UBBC Alumni from the 1950s & 1960s with whom the University had contact addresses/emails - some 60/70 people. The basic proposition was: 'donate £200 and I'll donate a further £50; with Gift Aid of another £50, that will buy an oar with your name inscribed on it'. We got enough to buy the full set of oars - though some gave less than £200. At least 15% of those to whom I wrote responded positively - a great 'hit rate' in terms of fundraising!



Stroke: Chris Scrimshaw
7: Andy Turner
6: Ben McSweeney
5: Ed Walton
4: Andrew Farr
3: James Diaz-Sokoloff
2: Tom Judd
Bow: Andy Parrish
Cox: Lowri Mumford

This was followed by the Varsity Ball at the Marriot hotel in Bristol, which followed the tried-and-tested formula of champagne spraying, trays of Jaegerbombs and messy desserts.

Varsity was followed shortly after by our first training camp of the year at Tilburg in Holland (organised by Adam Mackenzie) at which we had two 8+s training over four days. Phenomenal numbers for this time of the year! We even had our own coach, previous GB U23 rower and Nonesuch 'big deal' Ben Bathurst. raced the UBBC first and second 8+s, giving them a good run for their money. After the final session the squad focused on team-building in the time-honoured Nonesuch fashion of mixing together industrial quantities of booze, music and egos. Nudity, fires, loud music, scandalous gossip and dubious acquisition of alcohol.



Shrewsbury Training Camp

Throughout the regatta season, the Nonesuch Men's Squad diligently followed a flexible training programme, scientifically devised by Seb Tjornelund and Ben McSweeney (over a few pints in a Putney pub). We tested the progress of this, as well as getting much needed water time, on a second four-day training camp in Shrewsbury during the May Bank Holiday. This was expertly arranged by Scrimmy (Chris Scrimshaw) and Zane (Andrew Farr), who had both previously been professional rowing coaches at Shrewsbury School. The squad was trained, refined and tested by a rigorous combination of technical sessions, erg tests, seat racing and yoga. Of course, after the final session the squad headed into Shrewsbury to see how much of the

training could be undone by excessive partying.

Bristol Avon Regatta was the first 'non-Varsity' race of the summer season and had excellent conditions, a great turn out and some controversial results to boot. There were current NBC crews, UBBC crews and even a misty-eyed '2010 reunion' crew!

All three boats raced in various combinations at Metropolitan Regatta and Marlow Regatta, each held at Dorneylake.

Nonesuch raced at Reading Amateur Regatta, a perennial favourite of UBBC and the Alumni, and combined the weekend racing with seat racing for the 4+ on the Henley stretch. The 4+ came up against rivals Lea RC in the Elite 4+, who unfortunately used their 'Dad strength' (giant grey-haired man in the Lea crew's 3 seat) to beat Nonesuch by ¼ of a length in a tightly contested final. The 4- also had a tough race against Quintin BC in the Senior 4-, losing by 3 lengths. The 8+, in IM2 8+s unfortunately had to scratch due to lack available crew members. This probably marked a 'low point' in the summer campaign, even though Reading normally provides a highlight in the summer season!



Henley Royal Regatta

The main event of the Nonesuch year, Henley Royal Regatta was every bit as exciting as it deserved to be. Clearly the squad's main interests were in the three Nonesuch crews but there were also many other crews with close Nonesuch/UBBC affiliations. After an arduous selection process involving much deliberation the following crews were selected for the HRR campaign:

4+ :
Str: Andy Turner
3: Ben McSweeney
2: Adam Rushton
Bow: Andy Parrish
Cox: Seb Tjornelund

4- :
Stroke: Chris Scrimshaw
3: Sam Browning
2: Ed Walton
Bow: James Diaz-Sokoloff
8+ :
Stroke: Tom Judd
7: Jon McCann
6: Andrew Farr
5: Francis Beynon
4: Cai Price
3: Rob Teague
2: Adam Mackenzie
Bow: Hugh Cooper
Cox: Jess Eden-Smith

Qualifiers:
All three crews had raced throughout the season and had a good track record of results for the Stewards to consider. The 'top boat' of the 4+ (racing for the Britannia Challenge Cup) successfully pre-qualified for the regatta. This was helped in no small part by a polite and rather tactful letter to the Stewards, skillfully written by Adam Mackenzie.

The 4- (racing for the Wyfold Challenge Cup) and the 8+ (the Thames Challenge Cup) were invited to attend the qualifying races and took a large cohort of supporters along with them to stack the odds in their favour. Both crews threw everything into their races, surging down the course in their strongest performances of the season. The results were announced, heralding the excellent news that the 4- had qualified. The 8+, however, were devastated to miss out on qualification by the narrowest of margins, but could console themselves in defeat with both UBBC crews, who suffered similar agonisingly close defeats.

The Brit Four
The coxed four had a solid first race, beating Sudbury Rowing Club by 4 ½ lengths, even taking the rate down to 20 strokes per minute through the enclosures. They went on to race Sydney Rowing Club, Australia in the quarter-finals. Sydney showed phenomenal form and despite a great run from the Nonesuch crew Sydney beat Nonesuch by 4 ¼ lengths.

Although the Nonesuch crew accepted the defeat with a heavy heart it was some consolation that Sydney went on the win all of their races by a similar margin, taking home the Britannia Challenge Cup in truly impressive style.

The Wyfold Four
The coxless four had a similarly great start to the regatta, beating another alumni club with recent form, Griffen Boat Club (Abingdon School alumni, who won the Thames Challenge Cup in 2013), by 1 ½ lengths. In the next round, they drew German crew Dresdner. The Nonesuch crew prepared well and boated at the allotted time but in dramatic fashion the Germans suffered a catastrophic last minute equipment failure. After close inspection of the boat by Chief Steward Sir Steve Redgrave the race was delayed until the very end of the day's racing.

In glorious summer evening conditions, the Nonesuch crew had a strong start, reaching 50 strokes per minute off the start. However, the Germans applied an unrelenting pressure throughout the race and unfortunately this proved too much for Nonesuch, who lost by a somewhat unsporting 'easily' verdict.

The afterparties
With no further Nonesuch or UBBC crews in the Regatta, the squad turned their collective focus to the next most important Nonesuch pursuit: partying. The endurance, tenacity and sheer energy from the squad towards this produced some spectacular results.



Of the numerous parties and gatherings, highlights included Director of Rowing Gordon Trevett's leaving dinner at Leander Club, the traditional Pimms-fuelled Alumni drinks afternoon in Lions Meadow and a sweat-drenched Bristol-dominated mosh-fest in Magoos nightclub. Huge chat (Tom Judd), astronomical bar tabs (James Diaz-Sokoloff), sex scandals (numerous), impressive injuries (Peter Jones), gyroscopic dancing (Ed Walton) and promises of Boat Race glory (Ben McSweeney) and a continued collaboration with the current UBBC squads meant that the season finale was emotional, and victorious, whatever the result!

This season for Nonesuch was truly remarkable. The squad trained harder than ever, and more meticulously. It travelled



Adam Rushton



What is Nonesuch BC?

Taking time to reflect

Who/what/why/where/how?

I am often asked this type of question.

A straightforward answer can be used "Nonesuch is the active racing membership of the UBBC Alumni".

This is certainly the truth, but any club is more than just a designation. A true club is a gathering of many individuals, all orientated with the same common purpose.

Whether you choose to label yourself as "UBBC Alumni" or "Nonesuch" does not matter, our purpose is very simple to support UBBC.

To date, this support has generally been delivered through fundraising, mentoring and advising. A new facet is emerging, with increased alliance between UBBC and its Alumni, driven by the presence of Nonesuch crews on and off the water.

Here are my personal highlights since the club was founded five years ago:

2011 — Henley Town & Visitors' Regatta, the first official outing for the club at a British Rowing event. The participation was wide, with Gordon Trevett in the five seat of the second boat. We won the Elite Eights event and the celebrations continued long into the evening.

2012 — Veterans' Head of the River Race, finishing three seconds off the winners in fourth place. This was a good result, made all the more impressive by the fact that most had raced HORR the day previously and ensured they were very well rehydrated in the Thames RC bar afterwards.

2013 — Henley Royal Regatta, the first time Nonesuch had competed at the event. Qualifying was a major success and had been the sole aim of that year's campaign, but we beat a selected crew from America in the first round and went on to reach the quarter-finals of the Thames Challenge Cup.

2014 — UBBC Head Race, held at the new boathouses for the first time. We entered four crews and each athlete racing made a donation to UBBC, enabling purchase of a new cox box.

2015 — Easter training camp in Tilburg, Holland. We joined UBBC on the continent and were able to provide two eights as competition on the water. TSR Vidar were also very generous hosts, leaving us alone in a huge boathouse equipped with two bars.

2015 — Henley Town & Visitors' Regatta, we entered a women's crew at a British Rowing event for the first time. We also had three men's crews racing that day, with our treasurer Tom Davies failing to resist the lure of lycra fifteen years after graduating.

Long may these successes continue.

We have donated over a quarter of a million pounds to UBBC since the Alumni was founded in the 1980s. Our membership numbers continue to expand.

We have sent eight athletes to Henley Royal Regatta for the past three years; every crew has won at least one race there. We had eighteen rowers in the squad last year.

The journey continues.

Adam Mackenzie
Nonesuch BC President





Thanks to Matt Ridley

In a variety of guises Matt has provided stalwart service to UBBC and its Alumni. Joining in 06' Matt was a key member of a strong novice group before progressing to the senior program, eventually representing GB at EUSA . Within a short space of time he was contributing off the water too, serving as Club Treasurer in 08/09 and elected Captain the following year.

The 09/10 season, Matt's period of Captaincy, is without question our most successful in recent history. The year we won HWR and almost won HRR, not to mention winning WeHorr and picking up BUCS Gold in the 4-.

Since graduating Matt has continued to add to the club's rich tapestry; a founding member of Nonesuch BC and seven seat in the first HRR campaign in 2013, not to mention as the name sake of a trusty coaching launch a current favourite of Cam Kennedy's (Basically Ridley). But of most significance to those reading are the countless hours he generously gave in editing this very newsletter for over three years.

Thank you Matt.



ULBC
@Univ_of_Lon_BC

Follow

Great new additions to the fleet this week with four new pairs! Thanks to alumni for the support! #empachers



RETWEET 1 LIKES 15

4:08 AM - 6 Feb 2016

Keeping up with the Joneses

A team of web developers have been engaged to give our online presence a major overhaul; the result of their efforts, **ubbc alumni.com** will be launched during HRR 2016.

A key feature will be a bespoke fundraising portal to allow members to manage monthly subscriptions and contribute to specific fundraising drives. With this will come a more up to date contacts management system and the option for individual members to opt in or out of more regular communications detailing Alumni social events and racing updates from UBBC and Nonesuch BC.

You can already find us on a number of social media platforms - search for **Nonesuch BC**



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Please feel free to contact any of the steering group at the above email addresses, or alternatively, write to us at:

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c/o University of Bristol
Alumni Office, Senate House
Tyndall Avenue, Bristol BS8 1TH

Call for email addresses

We do not have email addresses for all our members and are increasingly sending out more regular updates in this way. If you have not received this newsletter by email by April then please email James.diaz-sokoloff@uk.bp.com and we'll update our records.

UBBC Alumni Social Events Calendar 2016

12th March

The Varsity Boat Race & Ball

19th March

The Head Of The River Race

27th March

The Oxford vs Cambridge Boat Race

11th June

Reading Amateur Regatta BBQ.

29th June - 3rd July

Henley Royal Regatta

2nd July

Alumni Drinks, during the Saturday afternoon tea break,
Lion's Meadow, Henley Royal Regatta

Nonesuch BC and UBBC Racing Calendar

5th March

Women's Head Of The River Race (UBBC)

12th March

The Varsity Boat Race (UBBC/NBC)

19th March

The Head Of The River Race (UBBC)

20th - 21st March

BUCS Head Of The River Race (UBBC)

30th April - 2nd May

BUCS Regatta (UBBC)

4th - 5th June

Metropolitan Regatta (UBBC/NBC)

11th - 12th June

Reading Amateur Regatta (UBBC/NBC)

16th - 19th June

Henley Women's Regatta (UBBC/NBC)

29th June - 3rd July

Henley Royal Regatta (UBBC/NBC)