



POWER OF THE BOAR

QUEENS' COLLEGE BOAT CLUB NEWSLETTER,

2022-2023

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

OVERVIEW

The past year has been a busy and successful one for QCBC.

The new novice BBQ held at the start of the year attracted over 300 students, which translated into one of our best years yet for novice sign-ups.

QErGs was once again a great success and, for the first time, we partnered with East Anglia Youth Rowing, meaning students from a range of local schools were able to come and take part in the competition.

M1 earned their blades in the Lent Bumps and both W1 and W3 earned blades in the May Bumps: this was the first Mays blades in over 30 years for W1, and the third consecutive set for W3. Many alumni were on the banks supporting us at the annual May Bumps Garden Party.

MICHAELMAS TERM 2022

In addition to the usual 'Boatie Squash', this year QCBC held a novice BBQ. New students at Queens' came to the boathouse to row in Vllls with some of our seniors, before enjoying the food and getting to know members of the Club. Freshers chatted to our men's and women's captains, coaches, and Paul the Boatman.

On bonfire night, we welcomed college members to join us for another BBQ at the boathouse to watch the fireworks on Midsummer Common. This was the first time the event has been able to run since the COVID-19 outbreak. With over 200 tickets sold, it was a popular event!

At the start of November, we also hosted the LSE rowing club at the boathouse for their annual training camp. We hope that they will be able to return in future years.

Crews from both sides also entered a series of races throughout Michaelmas Term. Three of our senior crews raced in Cambridge Winter Head, with M1 placing 5th, W2 coming 10th in the second division, and W1 placing 12th in the senior women's Vllls. A week later, Emma Sprints saw entries from a number of our novice crews, who all enjoyed racing for the college for the first time (in fancy dress). After making great progress in their first few weeks of rowing, NM1 won their division - the highlight of the day!

After a busy term, the Fairbairn Cup also produced a set of good results. On the first day of racing, NM1 came 8th overall and NM2 were the 9th fastest novice second boat. NW1 also raced well and NW2 were the 8th fastest novice second women's boat. The seniors also had a great day, with W1 placing 8th, and the Senior Men's IV having a strong race as the 4th fastest college IV.

QERGS

QERGS was, yet again, a great day. We were very happy to return to the Fitzpatrick Hall, after COVID meant that the 2021 competition had to be held on Erasmus Lawn. The atmosphere of the entire day was competitive and exciting. We teamed up with EAYR (East Anglia Youth Rowing) to welcome local schools from Cambridge and the surrounding area to compete in the competition. The initiative was spearheaded by one of our QERGS Presidents, Charlie Smith (2019), who worked with Susannah Cass from EAYR to ensure the event ran well and the children enjoyed racing. Charlie then organised tours of Queens' for all the students, who really enjoyed looking around the college.

We were also extremely grateful to be sponsored by Cambridge Healthcare Research (CHR), who specialise in providing unrivalled knowledge of the clinical and commercial elements of healthcare. A small group of QCBC alumni also very kindly supported QERGS for the second year running, donating a total of £4,000 to the Club. We are immensely grateful for their support. The mental health charity B&Together also supported us by using their social media presence to publicise our event, whilst we hung their banners in the Fitzpatrick Hall to raise awareness about the effects of mental health issues. On behalf of the whole of QCBC, we extend our thanks again to those who so kindly supported the event.

As for the racing itself, the QCBC teams did not disappoint. We had six novice crews entered, and both NM1 and NW1 qualified for their respective finals. For the first time, we had three mixed senior teams race. The first team claimed first place, making 2022 the second consecutive year that a Queens' crew has won the senior division of QERGS! Planning has already begun for the 2023 event.



The winning Queens' Senior team

LENT TERM 2023

After a busy pre-season, with ex-novices joining the seniors, crews were soon set for Lent Bumps. In preparation, the crews entered a series of races across the term. In Newnham Head, four crews were entered, with W3 placing 4th and W2 placing 11th in their division. W3 and M3 also entered Pembroke Regatta, with W3 winning against LMBC W3 and Jesus W3 to reach the final, before being beaten by a quick Newnham W3.

During the Lent term, the first boats also entered some off-Cam races. In February, W1 entered Bedford Head. It was the first experience of off-Cam racing for many members of the crew, and despite the cold weather, everyone had a great day. After opting to race twice in back-to-back divisions to gain vital experience, the crew were very pleased to place 2nd in both of their bands! In March, M1 entered Head of the River, placing 133rd overall and 6th in the Medium Academic category, after a strong row from the crew in good conditions.

Despite losing one day of racing due to flooding, Lent Bumps was nonetheless very successful for QCBC. With six boats entered, the first day saw a strong start with both W2 and M3 bumping, and W3 and M2 rowing over. The second day proved even better, as four out of five crews bumped, with

only W1 rowing over. The third day saw more mixed results: M1 bumped, whilst W1, W2, and W3 were bumped after battling against a strong stream. Unfortunately, on the fourth day, the crews received the news that all racing had been cancelled due to flooding. On the final day, the organisers decided that it was unsafe to run the lower divisions, but crews in the first two divisions were able to race. This allowed M1 to make their third and final bump of the week, whilst W1 and W2 were bumped. After bumping at every possible opportunity, this result meant blades for M1 who are now 10th on the river - an incredible achievement following their recent success in Mays 2022. Overall, we enjoyed a result of +3 for the club!



The M1 blading crew

BOAR'S HEAD DINNER

This year's Boar's Head Dinner was very kindly organised by Charlotte Harrop (2015) with the assistance of former QCBC President, Hannah Badger (2018), now Queens' Senior Development Officer. The event was well-attended, providing a great opportunity for the first crews from Lent Bumps to meet QCBC alumni. Held on the same day as Head of the River, M1 raced the tideway course before sprinting back to college to be at this special event. During the meal, the Senior Treasurer, Dr Chris Clark, announced that the club had finalised the merging of our funds which means that we are now better placed, with the full support of the college Alumni Office, to expand our efforts to stay in touch with former QCBC members and fundraise for the future.

QUEENS' CUBC TRIALLISTS

There has also been excitement for Queens' at the university level. This year, Brett Taylor (2020) was selected for the winning CUBC Blue Boat; the first undergraduate rower from Queens' to earn a seat for 27 years! Following some badly timed injuries, Beanie Spain (2020) was also selected as a spare for the women's side, having only learnt to row at QCBC just over two years ago. A number of current QCBC members and alumni reunited in Bishops Park to support Brett.

TRAINING CAMP

We returned to Reading Rowing Club for this year's training camp. We had 38 rowers, five coxes and two coaches join us for the week. As always, we are immensely grateful to coaches Rob Jeffrey (men's side) and Chris Radbone (women's Side) who gave up their week during the Easter break to coach our crews, as well as to Peter Milhofer from Reading Rowing Club who accommodated us so well.

QCBC rowers enjoyed a busy week of training in the spring sun (mostly...). The men's side had a week of their (in)famous seat racing planned to select the first men's VIII for the May Term. Rough conditions hampered this at first, but on the last day, Rob was able to run some of the races. The women's side had some (intense) three-session days, allowing different crew combinations to be tested, with outings involving long technical paddles, battle paddling between mixed crews, and pieces in IVs and VIIIs.

The social secretaries Leena Mueller-Koegler and Flynn Ryan kindly organised both bowling and laser tag for us. This helped foster our team spirit and was a huge amount of fun. Whilst it was a tiring week, everyone left having made improvements in their rowing, and feeling glad to be a part of QCBC. All in all, the camp provided an excellent foundation from which to launch our May Term campaigns.

EASTER TERM 2023

After crews had been selected, W1, W2, M2 and W3 entered Champs Eights Head for their first race of Easter Term. All crews achieved some fantastic results, with W1 winning the first division! Cambridge 99's Spring Regatta quickly followed the next week, this time with M1, M2, M3 and W1 racing. M1 and M3 took a win in their first races, and W1 won their first two races to go on to make it to the final of the first division. M2 had a great day of racing and went on to win the plate final!

Amidst revision for exams, W1 also decided to enter The Metropolitan Regatta at Eton Dorney. Keen for the crew to experience as much side-by-side racing as possible, we entered both an Academic VIII and an Academic IV+ for the Sunday races. Enjoying the sun, the 8+ made a strong start with the first 1500m time trial of the day, qualifying for the E final. Battling a strong cross wind in Lane 8, the crew came 14th out of 24 Academic crews entered. Given that the vast majority of these were University crews, W1 were very pleased with the results. The day was not over for stern four, however, who had a quick turnaround before completing the time trial in the G.A. Hayter. After limited time in the boat together, the crew were pleased to be seeded for the B Final. Then, following what all the crew have described as probably "the most fun they have ever had racing", the IV+ placed 3rd in the B final - meaning they came 5th overall in their category!

Following intense weeks of exams and deadlines for all crews, the week of May Bumps quickly arrived. W4 had an incredibly strong row in the Getting on Race, but unfortunately just missed out. This meant we had six crews entered for the week.



The W1 VIII at Met Regatta

Wednesday was a mixed start to the week, with an overall result of -1. Both W1 and W3 bumped, M3 rowed over twice, and M1, M2 and W2 were unfortunately bumped. The second day was much more successful, with only W2 getting bumped. M3 bumped out of the sandwich boat position after a row over, M1 and M2 rowed over, whilst W1 and W3 bumped again! The third day saw similar excitement, as W1 and W3 made it three bumps in three days, M1 and M2 rowed over and W2 and M3 got bumped. Going into the final day, the atmosphere at the boathouse was one of excitement and anticipation. Starting the day of racing, M3 rowed over twice, M2 rowed over, and W3 bumped for the fourth time to earn their blades! Later in the afternoon, W2 rowed over (escaping spoons), M1 had a strong row over, and W1 joined W3 by bumping up to earn their blades. These results meant a final result of +3 for the club and two sets of blades, matching 2022's result. The blades for W3 were the third consecutive set since 2019, whilst the W1 blades were the first Mays set to be

achieved since 1992. A special mention must also go to M2, who due to their position as the sandwich boat, raced 7 times over the course of the week.

W1 owe a huge amount of thanks to their three subs for the week: Beanie Spain, Gigi Pezier and Millie Clark. On the second day, unfortunately, three members of the crew came down with a sickness bug. After a series of frantic messages, and emails to CUCBC, Beanie, Gigi and Millie all agreed to step in at the very last minute (with Gigi and Millie doubling up from W2). It has often been said across our time at QCBC that a 'good crew' will go up 3, but only a 'lucky crew' will go up 4. Whilst Thursday could have ended W1's campaign, Beanie, Gigi and Millie were our luck for those three days, and the crew couldn't be more grateful that they were willing to change their plans at such short notice.



W3 rowing past the QCBC Garden Party

MAY BUMPS GARDEN PARTY

This year's Garden Party went ahead, despite rising costs, which saw over 150 alumni, parents, friends, students (and a couple of four-legged friends) flock to Osier Holt on the 17th June. Guests enjoyed the Hog Roast and desserts along with a range of drinks throughout the afternoon, all expertly organised by Josh Moore, this year's Junior Treasurer.



The men's side alumni at BCD

The only part of the event which could not be pre-organised (aside from the weather), was the success of the QCBC crews. However, this all went to plan, as both W3 and W1 bumped in time to row past the Garden Party plot with their greenery and the flag.

We were also delighted to be joined by some alumni from the men's side, who were invited to celebrate Rob Jeffrey's election to the Fellowship. Rob has coached the men's side on a voluntary basis for over 30 years, so his election as a Fellow Commoner is well deserved.

LOOKING AHEAD

In more exciting news, the club has begun fundraising for a new women's Filippi to serve as the new women's 1st boat and replace the Duchess of Cambridge, purchased over a decade ago. It is hoped that the choice of a Filippi shell will allow for this boat to eventually be passed down to W2, thus ensuring the future of the fleet. For any further information about this campaign please contact Emily Walsh (Development Officer) & Hannah Badger (Senior Development Officer) by emailing development@queens.cam.ac.uk.

We are also actively seeking sponsorship opportunities for 2023-2024, especially for race kit and the annual QERgs competition. If anyone is aware of any organisations who may be willing to work with us, please do get in touch (queens.captain@cucbc.org).

With handovers now complete, the new committee is beginning to prepare for the year ahead. We are excited to see what happens!

To keep up to date with QCBC, follow us on Instagram @queensboatclub and like us on Facebook @QueensCollegeBoatClub. Alternatively, visit us at <https://qcbc.soc.srcf.net/>.

POTB

Abi Smith (President 2023-2024), Josh Moore (Treasurer 2022-2024) & Susanna Power (Women's Captain (2022-2023))

THE SENIOR CREWS: MAY BUMPS

Women's 1st VIII

The Duchess of Cambridge

Result: +4

Coach: Chris Radbone

Bow | Laura Hurn

2 | Susanna Power

3 | Pippa Sayers

4 | Lucy Jarrett

5 | Rosie Aylard

6 | Anna Jowett

7 | Lucy Kirkwood

Stroke | Abi Smith

Cox | Leena Mueller-Koegler



Men's 1st VIII

The Marcus Hughes-Hallett

Result: -1

Coaches: Rob Jeffrey & Chris Radbone

Bow | Zak Smith

2 | Konstantin Hemker

3 | Flynn Ryan

4 | Josh Moore

5 | Brett Taylor

6 | Pete Stevens

7 | Gus Molyneux

Stroke | Freddie Floyd

Cox | Ben Harding



Women's 2nd VIII

The Margaret of Anjou

Result: -3

Coaches: Chris Radbone, Joe Penny & Hannah Badger

Bow | Tarrion Baird

2 | Maria Mendoza

3 | Susannah Thompson

4 | Erica Morgan

5 | Emily James

6 | Méabh Toal

7 | Gigi Pezier

Stroke | Millie Clark

Cox | Joe Walker



Men's 2nd VIII

Robin Walker

Result: -1

Coach: Rob Jeffrey

Bow | Heramb Modugula

2 | Josh Prince

3 | Christian Scott

4 | Miguel Neves

5 | Bram Heierman-rix

6 | Rone Newitt

7 | Sam Amey

Stroke | Tim Robson

Cox | Rosie Freeman



Women's 3rd VIII

The Patroness

Result: +4

Coach: Joe Penny

Bow | Maddie Wright

2 | Saaya Perera

3 | Amelia Huntingdon

4 | Emily Woods

5 | Ayesha Holderness

6 | Margaux Forner

7 | Emma Söderqvist

Stroke | Erika Mawer

Cox | Emily Self



Men's 3rd VIII

PJ Webb

Result: +0

Coach: Rob Jeffrey

Bow | Mike O'Donnell

2 | Toby Nee

3 | Daoyuan Quian

4 | Julian Frings

5 | Dom Chivers

6 | Michał Szwej

7 | Olivia Nutt

Stroke | James Goh

Cox | Adam Ormondroyd



Women's 4th VIII

The Patroness

Getting on Race

Coach: Evie Nash

Bow | Ines Boudouani

2 | Amelia Bates

3 | Beitong Gao

4 | Ash Xu

5 | Gen Marsh

6 | Yuexuan Zhang

7 | Charlotte Evans

Stroke | Sophia Adamson

Cox | Lizzy Pollitt

