

SHCBC



TIMES

NOVICE WOMEN WIN NEPHTHYS!

In a stunning display of rowing prowess, St Hilda's novice women won the Nephthys Novice Regatta after beating St Anthony's by a length in the final. Coxed by Siena Hickmore, the women's captain (left-most in photo), they overcame crews from Queen's, Wolfson, Teddy Hall, and Lincoln as they progressed towards the final, where they were able to muster the strength to put on one last domineering display to secure first place.

In their victory, the SHCBC novice women have proved themselves to be a capable crew who are sure to be feared in Torpids next term, not least by the thirty other colleges whose crews they bested.

Following their victory, the women were invited to celebrate with the Principal. (Pictured on page 2)



SHCBC novice women pose with their gold medals following their Nephthys win



Luke Gribbin, five seat, rows with OULRC in Trial VIIIs. Photo by Nordincatic



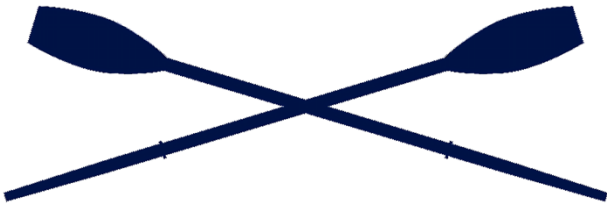
Ex-captain rows for Oxford

After leading the SHCBC men to blades in Torpids 2022, Luke Gribbin could well have sat back with a pint in the JCR and put his feet up. Instead, he wasted no time in joining the OULRC's development squad, leading to him trialling with the squad-proper this term. Here he recounts his experience:

'This term I've been trialling with the university lightweights squad. Training

began with preseason in September - we started off with erg testing, then moved into small boats to prepare for head races in pairs and fours. After Fours Head, we began training in eights and built up to Trial VIIIs - a side-by-side race over the championship course in matched eights. Though it's been a very busy term, it's been an amazing experience and I've really enjoyed it.'

SPONSOR A BLADE



Have you ever worried about your legacy?

Do you want to be remembered by posterity?

Do you want to support your *alma mater's* boat club?

If you answered yes to any of the above, you might be interested in sponsoring one (or many!) of SHCBC's eight new blades. For just £100 you can provide financial support to the boat club, as well as get your name printed upon the shaft of *your* blade. These blades are much-needed by the first women's squad, so we will be immensely grateful if you could consider helping. If interested, please contact our president: kathryn.brooks@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Captains'

Matti de Beer, Men's Captain

As the talent procurement phase of the *SHCBC blades development programme*, (Michaelmas Term) comes to a close, things are looking very promising indeed. Engagement within the novice squad began, and has remained, very high throughout the term, mostly for the socials but they did manage to squeeze in a regatta or two as well.

On that note, we managed to field two fiercely competitive boats for the Michaelmas Novice Regatta, both winning their debut races! Despite the atrocious conditions, cancellation of racing, and the last-minute creation of a composite boat,

the novices kept their cool and should all be proud of how far they've come.

The seniors also had quite the term, some experiencing their first outings in the 4+ and even racing in Autumn Fours. Unfortunately the day did not go as we would have liked, but the seniors have arguably learnt as much as the novices this term.

I look forward to seeing a decent amount of the squad at the training camp in January, and for our traditional Hilary 2k test. Just a bit concerned that some of the novices may put me out of a seat! It's been a pleasure to captain the club this term, and I can't wait to see the new heights that Hilary takes us to.



SHCBC novice men with cox, Nathan Maybury, and coach, Cameron Moffatt

Georgia Sweeney, Women's Vice-Captain

The women's side has seen great success this term. With over twenty people keen to row after the taster sessions, it was a promising start to the term for the novices. The women really put in the hours, with many early morning water sessions and the erg sessions often operating at max capacity. All this training paid off as the novice 8+ won at Nephthys Regatta in 5th week, wherein the senior 4+ won their first race before unfortunately being knocked out.

With a week to go until Michaelmas Novice Regatta (formerly Christ Church Regatta), the women knuckled



Novice women celebrate their Nephthys win at the Principal's house with the club's President, their Captain, and Vice-Captain; third, fourth, fifth from left respectively

down again, with some late-joining novices only having a few sessions to become race ready. Despite this, MNR saw more success with the women placing

third overall amid two days of cancelled racing due to weather and a very hectic and streamy final day. We hope for similar success in Torpids next term!

A monumental Michaelmas

The latest gossip from the *Hearsay Hildabeast*

What a term it has been! This Michaelmas, SHCBC has seen victory and failure, love and loss, triumph and torment, as many of my fellow Hilda-beasts will know first-hand.

From dalliances in Greek clubs to secret boat club affairs, all was revealed at our two crew-dates of the term. The storm of expertly thrown pennies gave way for some 'interesting' ABCs, testing the boundaries of the college family, before an eleventh-hour wine run really set the night in motion and off to the JCR we went.

Congratulations to the women's novice team for their Nephthys victory, a surprising feat given that most of them can't keep their eyes off the new coach – especially a certain stroke sider! It's a shame the men don't have the same excuse, although it's hard to focus on much else when you're busy catching crabs.



Rounding off the term was the boat club formal, an exciting evening of food, speeches, and booze. I hope the women's team enjoyed their participation certificates while the men's side enjoyed theirs being forgotten about – I hear their 'missing' certificates are still being printed to this day... The ensuing Atik expedition was an eventful one, the highlight of which was our fearless President's dance moves on the cheese floor, showing Park End how SHCBC does it. Let's just hope that next time the men's social sec can make it into the club to see any of it!

I hope that you all have a restful vac – don't erg too hard, I know I won't be – and I look forward to seeing what chaos you all bring to Hilary term.

A word from the President

Kathryn Brooks, President

We started the year with our annual welcome BBQ, which saw a fantastic turn out and has resulted in a big intake of novices for both our men's and women's squads. Everyone, including rowers, coxes, coaches, and the committee, have worked very hard this term which is reflected by the various successes at both Nephthys Regatta and the Michaelmas Novice Regatta (previously ChCh regatta). Despite MNR being plagued by issues such as the river turning amber flag

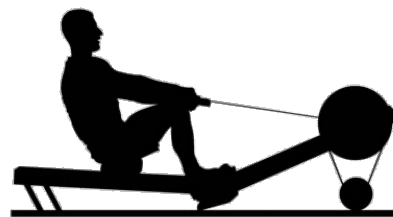


£3000 would allow us to refurbish the Mary Bennett, and anything raised beyond that will contribute towards the cost of other repairs needed (including new seat tops, new slides and wheels, and refurbishment of the older blades as they are delaminating).

and two days of racing being cancelled, both crews showed great resilience and determination. Having coxed both squads, it was great to see everyone enjoying themselves and getting some racing experience, even despite the conditions. Both the men and women won their first

COMING SOON

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Watch LIVE on the SHCBC socials

Keep in touch

Now for a bit of house-keeping. Firstly, do make sure to follow the club's social media accounts: *@hildasboatclub* on Instagram, and *St Hilda's College Boat Club* on Facebook. If you are an alumnus/alumna of the boat club, consider joining our Alumni Facebook group, *St Hilda's College Boat Club Alumni*.

Secondly, I am pleased to announce that we have created a new website! www.hildasrowing.co.uk is your first port of call for all things SHCBC and a good way to stay informed if you do not use social media. It will continue to be developed throughout the year so be sure to check back in every so often.

Lastly, if you would like to sign up to SHCBC's mailing list then please get in contact with the club's president, kathryn.brooks@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk. The mailing list is managed by the college's development office and will only be used to send you these newsletters, or other club news such as details of the annual Sirens event.

race and advanced to the second round where, although the men put up a strong fight, they were unfortunately knocked out. Overall, the women won 3rd place against forty-six other crews! This is the best Hilda's has done in this regatta in a long time (or ever, to my knowledge?!).

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to everyone that has supported, and continues to support, SHCBC both financially and in many other ways. We would not be where we are now without the generous support and donations from alumni and friends of the club. We are also very grateful to be receiving assistance and advice from ex-Olympian rower and rowing coach, Rosie Mayglothling.

continued overleaf...

We are currently raising funds for the refurbishment of the Mary Bennett (the women's second boat), which is not in a good state. The expansion of the club and the success of the novices this term means that it is more important than ever that the boat is refurbished. This is an urgent matter and so we are asking for donations big or small to help us raise the funds for this, with a view to having finished fundraising by the end of January.

If each person reading this were to donate £50, we would easily reach our first target and be well on the way to our final one (see above image).

We have various additional fundraising and sponsorship opportunities, including the chance to have your name on a blade, ongoing or planned for the near future – details of which can be found throughout this newsletter. We appreciate any and all support

immensely, and remind you that Gift Aid can be applied to donations. I would like to say another well done to all crews who raced this term, it has been a pleasure to watch all the novices become just as obsessed with rowing as the rest of us. We are all looking forward to Torpids next year and hope to build upon the successes of this term.

SHCBC's history is... history

Josiah Shields, Secretary

When I joined St Hilda's College Boat Club, I was only vaguely aware that the weight of over a hundred years of history was behind me, that I was one of the latest recipients of a baton which had been passed forwards since before the advent of sliced bread. This ignorance was due, in part, to the fact that a complete record of SHCBC's history does not seem to exist, at least as far as I am aware. The loss of past websites means that previous histories have all but vanished, leaving behind only a tantalisingly-full insight into what used to be (pictured to the right). I would love to correct this and ensure that the ground-breaking history of SHCBC is not lost, and so am asking for your help! If you can provide anything that might aid me in reconstructing the history of the boat club, be that newspaper clippings, images, personal stories, or, better still, if you have access to previous histories of SHCBC, then please get in contact with me via my email josiah.shields@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk.

Should I manage to create/collate/find a good history of the boat club, I will look into taking steps to make it readily accessible both now and for the future - at the very least self-publishing it on Amazon and putting a copy in the college library. I look forwards to hearing from you, and direct you to our current website

History of SHCBC

Click on a time period below

- ▼ [1900s – 1930s](#)
 - [Student life in the 1920s](#)
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 - [Vandalism or Politics?: Damage to a St Hilda's boat in 1908](#)
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 - [Crew lists from the 1980s](#)
 - [Rowing in Scotland – the experiences of an ex-Hilda's rower](#)
 - [SHCBC's Pauline Janson competes in 1980 Olympics](#)
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 - [1995 – rowing achievements of the year](#)
 - [Crew lists](#)
 - [The 1994 Boat Club](#)
 - [The Rebuilding of Longbridges boathouse – 1997](#)
- ▼ [2000 – 2008 Rowing](#)
 - [Summer Eights 2008 – by Caitlin Robinson](#)
- [2008 – present day](#)

An internet archive of an SHCBC website from around 2013 shows that it had a comprehensive history of the club.

to see my (admittedly minor) progress thus far: www.hildasrowing.co.uk/aboutUs



If you would like to donate to the boat club, please contact either the club's President [[kathryn.brooks](mailto:kathryn.brooks@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk)] or the St Hilda's Development Office [[development.office](mailto:development.office@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk)] via email: [[/](mailto:[]@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk)]@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk
replace [] with desired contact

Alternatively, follow this link: tinyurl.com/shcbcDonate

Thank you for reading!

All uncredited pieces were written by Josiah Shields, who also created and edited this newsletter. If you have any questions about the contents of this newsletter, or would like to contribute, please email him, josiah.shields@st-hildas.ox.ac.uk