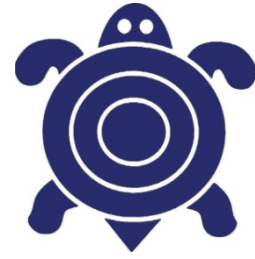


Tortoise Newsletter



Trinity 2014

Update on Progress

So finally with the end of the seemingly never-ending flooding last term, there are a few updates that may be of interest.

Training and races

As most of you will be aware, Torpids was cancelled and a replacement race was held to find the fastest rowing college in Oxford. Oriel raced the likes of Pembroke, Christ Church, Nephys etc. and we came out on top (with a considerable margin on some). This qualified Oriel to race against Downing College, Cambridge in the Henley Boat Races. Unfortunately, one of our ex-blues, Will Zeng, had booked a holiday previously and so was unable to row and our current 2014 OUBC trialist, Charlie Cornish, who was eligible to row, came down with a rather unfortunate illness the week of the race. Thus, with two men down, we recruited Callum Arnold (VC) to row on the wrong side. Despite these hurdles, we made a competitive race of it (video below), and I think it's safe to say we caught Downing, who is completely undefeated on the water this year, by surprise.

Finishing the race half a length down was hard to swallow, but the guys got on with the important stuff and proceeded to the pub before the ball, where a fun time was had by all... including a certain OUW girl and new Tortoise, Judah Rand...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULPzuIC8X_Q

And from their cox's view:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZShKifuVXVI>

In other news, our four OUBC rowers have rejoined the club and we are currently in the process of cutting the squad from 10 to 8 over the next week or so. The merger of the two crews has gone surprisingly well so far... We entered an M1 VIII into Bedford Regatta as well as an M2 IV. I will keep you posted on how we do in these.

On to Summer Eights now, which takes place on the 28th-31st May. It would be amazing to see as many of you down there as possible, cheering us on as we attempt to hunt down Christ Church and then Pembroke... Every supporter counts!

Club Merchandise

The Varsity Shop on Broad Street now has the tortoise fabric in stock and so can make ties and waistcoats on request for all club members; they also do Oriel 'three feather' brass buttons in large and small sizes. For more information email captain@orielrowing.org.

If any of you have any questions or some points you'd like to make, please contact me on captain@orielrowing.org and I will endeavor to get back to you as soon as I am able!