



Newsletter



Boat naming ceremony

On Friday 20th April, HBC held a boat naming ceremony.

Two new singles were named. Alice Ray had a singled named after her – ‘Oarsome Alice’, and Sarah Adair ‘Sarah Louise’.

Double ‘Freemans’ was also christened, following a recent refurbishment. Over 25 years ago, HBC successfully applied to what was then the Huntingdon Freeman’s Charity for funding for a new double sculling boat. The boat has remained with the club ever since, being used regularly. Over those years, due to the high level of use, the boat had deteriorated and though just about remaining river worthy, it was in desperate need of refurbishment. When the club approached the same organisation, now Huntingdon Freeman’s Trust, to request support with this refurbishment, we were delighted to receive the news that they would fund the complete refurbishment.

The boat was sent away to PC Boat Repairs for a complete overhaul, where all parts were replaced and a complete repair and respray undertaken. As you will see in the photos, the boat has been restored to ‘as new’ condition and will now provide the club another 25 years of use. Huntingdon Boat Club would like to thank Huntingdon Freeman’s Trust for their ongoing support of the club.

Many thanks to Wendy Jones for her amazing fundraising efforts, through grants and donations. Well done Wendy!



2018 annual dinner dance

The annual HBC dinner dance was held 27th April at Abbots Ripton Village Hall.

This was very well attended, with over 80 guests.

The meal was followed by speeches, with Phil Sturgeon as Master of Ceremonies. Gatley Searle and Tom Hunter delivered the Captain's speech, describing the rowing activities and successes of the last year.

The Robert Davey trophy was presented by Brenda Davey to Gatley Searle for the most points won during the 2017 regatta season.

The Maurice Brown trophy was presented by Alice Ray to Sally Evans for her efforts for the club throughout the year.

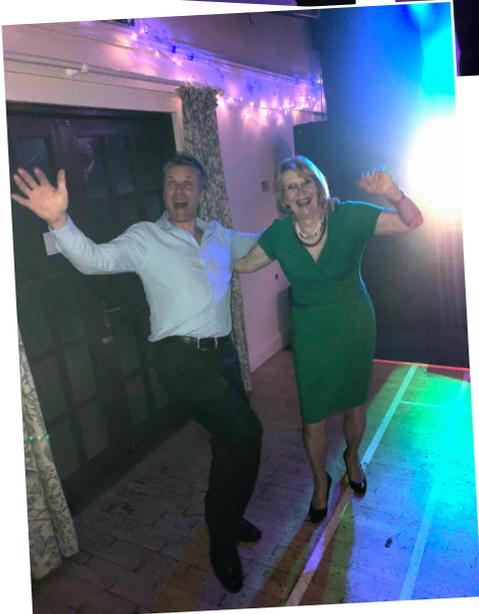
Andy Wood welcomed guests and visitors, followed by Keith Stukins responding on behalf of the guests with a toast to Huntingdon Boat Club.

The band, Danceology, were very good and had everyone dancing, with Mark and Suvid having a 'dance-off'!

The raffle held during the night was well supported.

Huge thanks to everyone who helped and supported this year's event. The hall and tables looked amazing. A massive thank you to Sarah Adair for organising everything, without whom it would not have been possible to put on such a successful event. Also thank you to everyone who turned up the following morning to help clear up.





Karting

On Saturday 12th May HBC took over Red Lodge Karting for an afternoon of racing. 34 people took to the track, competing in two heats to try and get to the final. The fastest 17 then went head to head in an exciting final made all the more interesting by a spattering of rain. The karts are mighty difficult to corner in the rain (as many found out with quite a few spins occurring).

It was great to see so many people race with a good mixture of ages. The youngsters were fearless with Ben Hunter proving to be small but mighty and Dan Fazackerley giving Paul a good battle!

George Lindsell-Mansbridge came out on top with a good lead while Dan Heathcote won the battle with Neil Starling for 2nd place.



Edward Adams won at Shrewsbury Regatta on the 12th May, racing over 1000m. A great effort considering he declined the 4 second start he had the option to take.



Fundraising

Unfortunately we were unsuccessful with our bid for the Mick George 'Skip of Gold' but will try again next time.

We have entered for £500 of funding from Jewsons for building materials to add extra boat storage; we will keep you notified.

The club have funded a set of reusable water bottles for the juniors to ensure they stay hydrated during training. These will be individually labelled for each child and will remain at the club.

Sponsored Event 21st July-22nd July

We are holding a 24 hour sponsored fundraiser to raise money for a new safety launch.

The challenge is to see if we can clock up a greater distance than last time! This year we are opening it up to use all equipment that clocks a distance travelled.

There will be a list in the bar soon for people who are available to participate, as well as consent forms for juniors, and sponsor forms.

Thank you

Huge thank you to John and Brenda Davey for donating £2,000 towards a new landing stage.

Junior rowing

Could all juniors attending rowing sessions please remember to bring a change of clothes, as well as suncream and water as the weather gets warmer.

Dates for the Diary:

Bingo Night

– Friday 18th May – 7pm

Gala Day

– Saturday 9th June - Please let Sarah know if you will be available to help at this event.

Summer Barbecue

– Saturday 14th July

Live music from Bondy

24hr Sponsored Fundraiser

– 9am 21st July - 9am 22nd July

Cheese and Wine evening

– 29th September

2018 Regattas

There is a list in the bar informing everyone of the regattas we are hoping to attend.

Peterborough

– 2nd and 3rd June

St Ives – Saturday 23rd June

Ironbridge Regatta

30th June-1st July

This is a weekend away. There will be an information meeting with Paul nearer the time, for juniors and their parents to attend.

Sudbury

– Saturday 4th August

Peterborough

– Saturday 11th August

Ross-on-Wye

– Sunday 26 August

Kit

This year's kit ordering window is now open until 31st May.

A leaflet will be sent out soon. <http://huntingdonboatclub.zeonshop.co.uk>



On 11th March HBC competed at the Head of the River on the Thames. The eight were Iain Rickerby, Oscar Brice, Tom Hunter, Gatley Searle, Dan Heathcote, Edward Adams, Andy Wood, Mark Smith, coxed by Alice Ray. Well done for your efforts.