

Club News

2017 has been a fruitful year for both the OCBC, and Tortoise rowing. The highlight of the term so far must be W1 securing their second ever Torpids headship in emphatic style, giving the fans on the bank an exciting show holding off Wadham in front of the boathouse. It was great to witness the launch of the Jonathan Close-Brooks – a boat named after a great man who, in his time, represented much of what it means to be a Tortoise. The men's first boat continued to show their strength representing Oxford at the Henley Boat Races after victory in the intercollegiate time trial selection race.



Newest addition to the fleet en route to Oriel

Oriel continued its tradition of representation in the University squads with Achim Harzheim rowing in the victorious Isis crew, which delivered a comfortable victory over Goldie. Tortoises

Tom Anderson (1993), and Nick Holland (1979), were part of the Oxford Veterans Boat Race team (2 seat and reserve respectively) that raced Cambridge the Saturday before the boat race. In a fiercely contested battle Oxford crossed the line ahead of Cambridge but were later disqualified for overly-aggressive coxing that led to a clash under Hammersmith Bridge.

Further afield, the Tortoise Club wishes Pete Reed (2003) a continued speedy recovery as he makes his way back to full fitness following surgery on the road to Tokyo 2020.

Blades Scheme

The Club continues to progress strongly on the fundraising front. As of the mid-April we have raised £17,1051 in annual income for the OCBC; 85% of the way to the target of £20,000 p.a. for the 2016/17 season that will allow coaching costs to be covered. While this is encouraging progress, there is still some way to go and with only 15% of club members registered as Blades the Council is confident that we can reach our goal by the end of the club year.

Looking across the board it is the youngest men's boat Tortoises, those who have matriculated since 2010, who have been the most eager supporters of the OCBC with 23% of these Tortoises now Blades. The finish line is in sight, but we are not there yet. The OCBC still needs your support and for less than the cost of a small coffee per week you can ensure Oriel rowers return from the river worthy of the name they carry for years to come. For more information on becoming a Blade, or to find out who your decade representative is, contact either myself (tortoise-president@orielrowing.org) or Callum Arnold (tortoiseseecretary@orielrowing.org).



*Celebrations:
seven bump
blades for W2, left
and Headship for
W1, right*

