



JOURNAL OF THE  
THAMES ROWING  
CLUB

1954

# THAMES ROWING CLUB

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## MEMBERSHIP

Full . . . . .	154
Life . . . . .	120
House . . . . .	119
Country and Overseas . . . . .	212
University . . . . .	59
School and Cadet . . . . .	110
On Service . . . . .	60
Total . . . . .	<u>834</u>

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## STAFF

*Boatman :*

R. W. PHELPS

*Assistant Boatman :*

D. MARRIOTT

*Stewards :*

MR. AND MRS. S. G. TAGG



BRITISH EMPIRE AND COMMONWEALTH GAMES, 1954  
THAMES 1st VIII at VANCOUVER

G. G. H. Page · M. Legg · A. R. Watson · J. N. Eldeen · G. O. Nickalls (*Chairman (A.R.A.) and Team Manager*) · M. G. C. Savage  
Arthur Sulley (Coach) · D. R. Glynne-Jones · J. Pope



"FREDDIE"

*from the Portrait by Geoffrey Page*

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## FUTURE EVENTS

1955

MARCH 26TH

THE UNIVERSITIES BOAT RACE

MARCH 19TH

HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE

JUNE 29TH, 30TH, JULY 1ST, 2ND

HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

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# THAMES ROWING CLUB

## EDITORIAL

*As the faithful Moslem looks towards Mecca at sundown, so last season the senior oarsmen gazed steadfastly to the west, where, despite an occasional pink haze, they hoped to detect, not a mirage of minarets, but a modern transatlantic skyline silhouetted against a brilliant sunset bathed in the unusual hues of red, white and black. Their Mecca was Vancouver, venue of the British Empire and Commonwealth Games, 1954.*

*And on 20th July they were shepherded by Arthur Sulley, their coach, aboard a B.O.A.C. Stratocruiser en route for Canada.*

*The Thames crew was chosen for the Empire Games at the last minute, after the finals at Henley—in the words of the Chairman of the A.R.A., ‘a unanimous choice of the selection committee, based on times, and form, before and during the regatta’. And, undoubtedly, influenced by the magnificent race they rowed against the great Russian crew, winners of the Grand Challenge Cup.*

*We are indebted to Arthur Sulley for his excellent report in this issue of the Journal and with him we can follow the Putney pilgrims to Vancouver, sharing in spirit their trials and tribulations. Once again a Thames crew has had the honour to row for England and we thank and congratulate the coach and members of the crew for their gallant efforts in the best traditions of the Club.*

*J. H. Page (‘Freddie’ to most of us) recently resigned his Honorary Secretaryship of Thames to serve in a similar capacity with the Amateur Rowing Association. Ron Symonds has contributed an appreciation of Freddie’s great service to the Club and has admirably expressed the sentiments we all feel on this occasion. We are happy to publish a reproduction of Geoffrey Page’s portrait of his father and recommend a closer inspection of the original which was anonymously donated and hangs in the clubhouse.*

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## CAPTAIN'S REPORT

IT was mentioned in the report of one of the past Captains that 'it has become established that one of the *final* duties of the Captain of Thames each year should be the writing of a report of the Club's activities over the past season'. For reasons known only to the Editor-in-chief, the year he was elected Captain, he undertook this job as one of his *initial* duties. Efforts to pass the buck this year have met with evasive and unco-operative replies, but one is relieved to find that the comprehensive records of the past year's activities collected for the Journal by our seemingly indefatigable Joint Editors leave only a few gaps to be filled.

Before doing so I should like to thank John Macmillan, his deputies, his numerous coaches, and galley slaves for their efforts, which gave the Club a reasonably successful and very noteworthy season, and which have left it thriving.

Until mid-May, my personal attention was concentrated on helping Imperial College and, therefore, neither forgetting to congratulate those who were victorious in the Boustead Cup, nor drawing a veil over the less distinguished performances of all but the Junior crew in the Head of the River Race, I will pass rapidly to the period when the deliberations of our selection committee were almost completed and the reorganised crews were striving mightily to regain lost 'river'.

The First Eight, with a new look, was moulded into a crew by Ronnie Symonds, cajoled and hounded into rowing form by the evergreen 'Berry' to win the 'Dashes', and then was passed over to my tender care, from the effects of which the crew revived only by going on a successful sweep over Dunkirk and Ostend at Whitsun.

Continuing their training, they came under the spell of Freddie Page, who let them off the leash for an unpaced practice gallop at Reading, and for some serious racing in the Grand Eights, Senior Coxed and Coxless Fours at Marlow, which brought a win for the Grand Eight and the Coxless Four. Their escapades in the Grand at Henley and at the Empire Games under Arthur Sulley's incomparable tuition are subjects of later articles, and all that remains is for me to compliment them for demonstrating what can be done by a crew which is a willing pupil, presents a united front against all opposition, and has an insatiable

thirst for work. This year, already, we are reaping the benefits of that salutary demonstration.

The Second Eight, after a rather late start and disturbed training period, gave a good account of itself in the pre-Henley regattas, appearing in the Final and Semi-Final at Reading and Marlow Regattas respectively. The inspiration of this crew came from Peter Nyffeler, their stroke, who, stepping into the boat only a week before Henley, led a rapidly improving crew through to the Thames Cup semi-final in which they lowered their colours to the M.I.T., the eventual winners. Jack Foy was chief mentor and slave-driver to this crew at Henley, and to him must be offered our congratulations on making it 'go' with such good effect.

This report would be incomplete without giving due praise to our very able administrators, financial wizards and members of sub-committees, without whom the Club could not prosper. Especially do we thank Freddie Page for his continued assistance in matters financial and secretarial (although retired!); and Ham Ward, who zealously organises the Juniors, the annual dinner, sweepstakes, draws and the Tideway Trust—financial props without which the Club's solvency would be in jeopardy. A word of thanks is also due to Bob Bray, who, by arranging parties of various magnitudes, has maintained the sale of beer (and soft drinks!) at a reasonable level.

Finally, words of praise are due to our excellent staff for their cheerfulness and patience in their many periods of anxious vigil for the safe but sometimes very tardy return of members to the boathouse—and grub!

The work, knowledge and resourcefulness of Dick Phelps and his assistant David Marriott keep our boats in superb condition—the envy of all clubs. A continental trip would not be the same without 'our Dick', and his travels with Thames crews have sent him round the world.

Praises be for Mr. and Mrs. Tagg, the satisfying results of whose labours in refreshing and regaling us must be sampled to be properly appreciated. Long may they continue to do so.

Now, of the future—our many enthusiastic oarsmen are training and working with a will and determination, and there is much competition for seats in the crews. Let us hope that a thorough preparation will bring them and the Club a memorable year.

## THE CLUB DINNER

The Annual Dinner was held on Friday, 10th December, at the Dorchester Hotel. Viscount Bruce of Melbourne honoured us by taking the Chair.

The Chairman proposed the toast of 'The Club' and recounted some amusing anecdotes of his rowing days at Cambridge, and his subsequent experiences with the Thames crews he coached.

R. C. Morris, Captain of the Club, responded and thanked Lord Bruce for his kind wishes for the future of Thames and comments on the past achievements. He went on to mention the various performances of the crews with the obvious highlight on the efforts of the Grand Eight and their trip to Vancouver for the British Empire and Commonwealth Games. He outlined his plans for the coming season and thanked the officers and coaches for their services to the Club.

Lionel Abel-Smith then proposed the health of the guests (which, judging by their roseate complexions, seemed to give no cause for alarm), and particularly welcomed Mr. Raymond Glendenning, the well-known B.B.C. sports commentator. Lionel, who gave the impression that he had never been able to afford a wireless licence and, therefore, had never heard of Mr. Glendenning, rendered a brilliant character study of an ambassador (of the old school) welcoming a plenipotentiary extraordinary from outer space to the court of Queen Elizabeth.

Not to be outdone in histrionic performance, Mr. Glendenning then rose to respond to the toast, and gave the gathering some very interesting impressions of his recent visit to the Dynamo Stadium in Moscow. He concluded with some forthright expressions of opinion on training methods as required for adequate representation in international athletics, and resumed his seat to loud applause.

The toast of 'The Chairman' was gracefully proposed by Ron Symonds, who reminded the assembly of the brilliant career of Viscount Bruce, and his keen interest in rowing at Cambridge, and in later life. He also mentioned the warm sentiments the Chairman had expressed for Thames, and his link with the Club's past as a coach of the Grand Eight in 1913.

The Chairman thanked the speaker and the Club for a very happy evening, and then proceeded to perform two brief but pleasant ceremonies. The first was the presentation to John Macmillan (Captain, 1954), of the Desborough Medal, 'in recognition of his outstanding services to his club', and the second a gold watch and cheque subscribed by the members to Dick Phelps, in appreciation of his completion of 25 years of loyal service.

At the conclusion of a very enjoyable evening, a goodly muster of members took a nightcap (or two) at the clubhouse, where Mrs. Tagg had set up in competition as a Junior Dorchester.

## FREDDIE PAGE

by R. H. H. SYMONDS

The lack of enthusiasm for rowing at Oxford in the early between-wars years can hardly be better exemplified than in Freddie's case for, going up to Jesus from Dulwich in 1919, he spent his first two terms playing rugger. Then, I can sense you thinking, there must be a stirring story of the inevitable call of the river; the sight, or sound, of a boat travelling well. Alas, it is not so: Freddie took up rowing in his third term because all the rest on his staircase rowed.

But here, I am happy to record, the prosaic note ends; in spite of the fact that all one can get out of Freddie about his own rowing is that he has, at one time or another, fallen out of every conceivable type of craft.

He did, in fact, quickly see the light and that, in a university where ideas on rowing at that time were rigidly held fast to the stories of yesterday by the anchor of strict orthodoxy,

was no mean thing. Freddie became a staunch disciple of Steve Fairbairn, and soon began to exert a revolutionary influence. Jesus became the first Oxford college crew ever to be coached by Steve: the first ever to leave the sacrosanct waters of the Isis to have an outing with (horror upon horror) a Thames R.C. crew on the tideway and, as if this wasn't enough, to go up six places in Eights.

Then began his long and successful coaching connection with Oriel, whom he also converted to Fairbairnism with startling results. The pundits, of course, bemoaned this new influence as disastrous to Oxford rowing so that it is amusing to reflect that, after the  $\frac{3}{4}$ -length victory of G. O. Nickalls's crew in 1923, Oxford did not win another Boat Race until Oriel and Freddie came into the picture in 1937 and 1938.

On going down from Oxford Freddie went as a junior master to Courtney Lodge, Abingdon,

where, oddly enough, he was followed by Jumbo Edwards, and then, in 1925, to St. Paul's School. That was a momentous year in Freddie's life for in it he became engaged and married.

Doris we all hold in affection. She assures me that even at the time of their marriage she had no idea that rowing was, to Freddie, anything more than just an undergraduate's pastime.

The story of their honeymoon is well known. Freddie took his wife—by general consent the prettiest bride of the year—to Oxford; and it was springtime. He led her to the river; to a punt, romantically moored and waiting. I stepped Doris: and, as if by coincidence, at that moment an Oriel Eight appeared on the scene. It appeared, also, that Freddie's bicycle was conveniently leaning up against an adjacent tree. And that was how and when Doris discovered that coaching crews was a considerable interest in her husband's life.

Now a biographical note, however sketchy, should be truthful so that, while I cede place to no one in my admiration for Doris, I feel compelled to record that she is stated to have observed, in the presence of reliable witnesses, that her family devote too much time to rowing. I repeat that I record this only in the interests of truth and hasten to add that it is the only thing I have ever heard to her detriment.

Freddie (by the way, you must not be surprised when you hear his wife calling him Jim—he was only called "Freddie" after a P. G. Wodehouse character) joined Thames R.C. in 1922. He has been committee man, captain of juniors, hon. secretary, captain (both before and after the war), vice-president and coach. What the Club owes him! He has been associated with all Thames' successes since the war and in 1934 was architect-in-chief to the last Thames R.C. crew to win the Thames Cup at Henley. He is one of the very few people to have coached both Oxford and Cambridge winning University crews. He has taken Oriel

head of the river at Oxford and caused St. Paul's School almost to monopolise the Schools Head of the River Race on the tideway and twice to win the Princess Elizabeth Cup.

Yet, in spite of all this and on top of what, to most of us, would appear to be a full-time job as Schoolmaster, Freddie, when the war started, was commanding the 52nd Anti-Tank Regiment T.A. (he holds the T.D.); then, transferring to the R.A.F., he became a Wing Commander. The award of the O.B.E. in 1946 was official recognition of his services to his country.

But if this is beginning to read rather like an obituary notice it is the author and not the subject who is at fault, for Freddie's blade is still well covered; and in the matter of mileage he leaves us all gasping. Indeed, I would hazard a guess that no one has ever covered such mileage in the cause of rowing. Not that it is quite fair to give all the credit for this to Freddie. That old Rover car of his (once he can get it to start) knows the road to and from every Regatta in the country and I will wager that no 18th-century highwayman ever knew the Oxford road as that car does. I, personally, can attest to coming back to Town, with Freddie at the wheel, after an Oriel Tortoise Feast, and at about 4.30 a.m. I woke up to find that we were passing through Beaconsfield. Feeling a bit guilty of dozing off I made some remark to Freddie and, getting no reply, turned towards him to find that he was fast asleep—which reminds me that this fantastic person is also a special constable, due for the Long Service Medal.

I am also reminded that what the editor really asked me to do was to write something about Freddie on his appointment as Hon. Secretary to the A.R.A. Bad timing on my part to have left this to the end but you don't like too long a finish in Thames so I will sign off by congratulating the A.R.A. (and that includes all of us) on securing the best Hon. Secretary one can ever possibly hope, or wish, to have.

## PROLOGUE TO THE REGATTA SEASON 1954

### READING HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE

13th March

'A' Crew: F. C. Plumer (bow); D. Fairbairn; J. T. H. Webb; J. Pope; A. R. Davidson; J. R. Johnson; P. S. Pusey; A. Hawes (stroke); J. M. Baldwin (cox).

'B' Crew: C. R. Reese (bow); M. A. Penny; D. H. Drury; B. R. Julien; L. Abel-Smith; A. R. Reddin; R. C. Bray; L. E. Stevens (stroke); P. S. Moss (cox).

T.R.C. 'A' started 4th, finished 11th.

T.R.C. 'B' started 39th, finished 32nd.

### HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE

27th March

*First Eight:* A. C. Riemer (bow); P. B. Rooksby; G. G. H. Page; A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; H. G. V. Denning; M. Legg; B. Elliott (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).

Started 1st, finished 6th. Time, 20 min. 17 sec.

*Second Eight:* F. C. Plumer (bow); A. Hawes; J. T. H. Webb; J. Pope; A. R. Davidson; J. R. Johnson; P. S. Pusey; D. Fairbairn (stroke); J. M. Baldwin (cox).

Started 5th, finished 10th. Time, 20 min. 43 sec.

*Third Eight*: B. T. Ramm (bow); G. S. Dear; F. Wilkinson; A. H. Lines; M. G. C. Savage; D. A. Dunton; T. M. Douglas; J. P. M. Thomson (stroke); R. H. MacIntyre (cox).

Started 8th, finished 60th. Time, 21 min. 36 sec.

*Fourth Eight* (Junior Seniors): C. R. Reese (bow); M. A. Penny; D. H. Drury; B. R. Julien; L. Abel-Smith; L. E. Stevens; R. C. Bray; A. R. Reddin (stroke); P. S. Moss (cox).

Started 19th, finished 33rd. Time, 21 min. 15 sec.

*Fifth Eight* (King's College, London, B.C. rowed as Thames V): J. H. Proctor (bow); R. Pierpoint; A. J. Crocker; V. N. Highman; R. A. Noise; D. J. Davies; G. T. Wain; P. W. Baylis (stroke); B. Nunney (cox).

Started 33rd, finished 71st. Time, 21 min. 42 sec.

*Sixth Eight*: J. A. Wilmot (bow); D. E. Goodall; B. Payne; P. D. Weight-Vowden; M. J. Segal; C. A. Roullier; T. P. Wilson; C. Pedersen (stroke); J. F. Levy (cox).

Started 61st, finished 134th. Time, 22 min. 22 sec.

*Seventh Eight* (First Juniors): R. A. Duncan (bow); R. Neale; E. R. E. Lawley; J. B. G. Carpenter; D. P. C. Platt; M. R. Phelps; J. R. Cooper; J. L. H. Ward (stroke); D. W. Lewis (cox).

Started 83rd, finished 78th. Time, 21 min. 47 sec.

*Eighth Eight*: L. I. Tanner (bow); P. R. Rumney; E. T. Shield; D. E. Goodall; D. H. McLellan; A. M. G. Pearson; L. D. de Pinna; D. C. Morton (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Started 113th, finished 164th. Time, 22 min. 39 sec.

*Ninth Eight* (Second Juniors): P. F. Rowe (bow); H. J. Hodgson; J. P. Brodie; M. C. Willison; F. E. Berry; A. Fowler; J. H. M. Ward; I. B. Hudspith (stroke); I. Quarrier (cox).

Started 121st, finished 200th. Time, 23 min. 16 sec.

*Tenth Eight*: R. Marks (bow); H. J. L. Phillips; D. H. Rawlings; A. H. Tarn; K. J. Holt; P. Boom; C. G. Cumming; A. F. Webber (stroke); J. L. Phillips (cox).

Started 139th, finished 220th. Time, 23 min. 56 sec.

## SCULLERS' HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE

10th April

A. Hawes, started 23rd, finished 11th. Time, 25 min. 6 sec.

A. R. Davidson, started 19th, finished 23rd. Time, 25 min. 34 sec.

D. Fairbairn, started 22nd, finished 45th. Time, 27 min. 15 sec.

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## THE AMATEUR, his history and description

The old theory of an amateur was that he was a 'gentleman', and that the two were simply convertible terms. The amateur of old might make rowing his sport, so long as he did not actually make it his ostensible means of livelihood. The Leander oarsmen who matched themselves against university crews between 1830 and 1840 did not consider that they lost caste by rowing for a stake.

In 1831 Oxford and Leander rowed at Henley for £200 a side, with watermen steering them. Much later than this it was not considered improper for two 'gentlemen' to row a match (or race one) for a mutual *stake* (not a bet).

Until 1861, when the conditions of the Wingfield Sculls were remodelled at a meeting of ex-champions and old competitors, it had been the custom for all entries for that prize to pay a fee of £5 and the winner swept the pool! No one dreamed of suggesting that this was in any way derogatory to the status of an amateur.

But as rowing became more popular, and more widely adopted as a pastime, it began to be felt that it was invidious to leave the question 'Is he an amateur?' to the local opinion of the regatta committee, before whom such a question might be raised. Oarsmen came to the conclusion that some written definition of the qualification was necessary; some hard

and fast rule, prospective, if not retrospective.

The variety of opinion as to the constitution of true amateurism led to a consultation among certain old amateurs whose ideas were universally respected, and as a result, on 10th April, 1878, a meeting was held at Putney at which representatives of Leander Boat Club, O.U.B.C., C.U.B.C., L.R.C., T.R.C., and Kingston R.C. were present. These gentlemen, under the chairmanship of Francis Playford (London R.C.), drew up and passed the following:

### DEFINITION OF AN AMATEUR

An amateur oarsman or sculler must be an officer of Her Majesty's Army or Navy, or Civil Service, a member of the Liberal Professions, or of the Universities or Public Schools, or of any boat or rowing club not containing mechanics or professionals; and must not have competed in any competition for either a stake, or money, or entrance fee, or with or against a professional for any prize; nor ever taught, pursued, or assisted in the pursuit of athletic exercises of any kind as a means of livelihood, nor have ever been employed in or about boats, or in manual labour; nor be a mechanic, artisan, or labourer.

In the following year, on 8th April, 1879, the Henley Regatta executive drew up a definition

*Continued on page 22*

# THE SEASON'S ROWING

## Races and Regattas 1954

### PUTNEY REGATTA

1st May

#### Beverley Cup (Maiden Eights)

D. M. Caplowe (bow); A. A. Barrett; E. R. E. Lawley; J. B. G. Carpenter; J. A. Goodale; M. R. Phelps; J. P. Brodie; J. L. H. Ward (stroke); D. W. Lewis (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C., Midland Bank R.C., deadheat; both crews rowed in final.

Final: Thames Tradesmen R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; Midland Bank R.C., 3. 1 length.

### HAMMERSMITH REGATTA

8th May

#### Lady Hays Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

R. C. Bray (bow); L. E. Stevens; J. P. M. Thomson; P. D. Owen; D. P. C. Platt; M. G. Delahooke; C. R. Reese; A. R. Reddin (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 2: Lensbury R.C., 1; Furnivall S.C., 2; T.R.C., 3.  $\frac{1}{4}$  length.

#### Goring Challenge Cup (Hammersmith Coxless Pairs)

P. H. Le Bas (bow, steers); D. C. Morton (stroke).

Heat 1: St. Mary's Hospital B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; Burway R.C., disq.

#### Treasurers Cup (Junior Sculls)

A. Hawes.

Heat 1: A. Hawes beat T. J. King by 3 lengths.

Final: J. Beveridge beat A. Hawes by 3 lengths.

### CHISWICK REGATTA

15th May

#### Allanson Memorial Trophy (Thames Cup Eights)

P. S. Pusey (bow); T. P. Wilson; J. P. Hindle; B. S. Lawrence; P. B. Rooksby; H. G. V. Denning; A. C. Riemer; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Race 28: Lensbury R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; Westminster Bank R.C., 3.  $\frac{3}{4}$  length, 3 min. 52 sec.

#### Family Challenge Cup (Senior Fours)

'A' Crew: P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); H. G. V. Denning; A. C. Riemer; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke).

'B' Crew: B. T. Ramm (bow, steers); A. B. Martin; D. A. Dunton; M. F. Alexander (stroke).

Race 17: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Twickenham R.C., 2;  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths, 4 min. 19 sec.

Race 20: St. Bartholomew's Hospital B.C., 1; Ibis R.C., 2; T.R.C. 'B', 3.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length.

Race 44: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Lensbury R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length.

Final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; St. Bartholomew's Hospital B.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{4}$  length.

#### Goring Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

R. C. Bray (bow); J. M. Horwell; J. P. M. Thomson; P. D. Owen; D. P. C. Platt; L. E. Stevens; C. R. Reese; A. R. Reddin (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Race 24: Lensbury R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length, 3 min. 58 sec.

#### Mortlake Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Fours)

P. H. Bayliss (bow, steers); M. A. Penny; R. K. Knox; D. H. Drury (stroke).

Race 16: Chelsea Polytechnic R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; Thames Tradesmen R.C., disq.

#### Anglian Challenge Cup (Senior Pairs)

T. P. Wilson (bow, steers); R. C. Bray (stroke).

Race 2: Ibis R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 ft.

#### Cygnets Challenge Cup (Junior Sculls)

A. Hawes.

Race 4: A. Hawes, 1; D. M. Weston, 2.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lengths, 5 min. 4 sec.

Race 12: A. Hawes, 1; J. Goulding, 2. easily, 5 min. 32 sec.

Final: A. Hawes deadheaded with A. Sibley. In the re-row, A. Sibley beat A. Hawes by 1 length.

### VESTA ROWING CLUB OPEN DASHES

18th & 19th May

#### Quintin Challenge Cup (Senior Eights)

'A' Crew: G. G. H. Page (bow); A. Hawes; M. G. C. Savage; A. R. Watson; A. R. Davidson; R. A. F. Macmillan; M. Legg; J. N. Eldeen (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).

'B' Crew: P. S. Pusey (bow); T. P. Wilson; J. P. Hindle; P. Nyffeler; P. B. Rooksby; H. G. V. Denning; A. C. Riemer; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Crowland R.C., 2; Putney Town R.C., 3.

Heat 2: London R.C., Lensbury R.C., deadheat; T.R.C. 'B', 3.

Final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Lensbury R.C., 2; London R.C., 3.

#### Fitte Challenge Cup (Senior Fours)

'A' Crew: G. G. H. Page (bow, steers); A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; M. Legg (stroke).

'B' Crew: M. G. C. Savage (bow, steers); A. Hawes; A. R. Davidson; J. N. Eldeen (stroke).

'C' Crew: P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); H. G. V. Denning; A. C. Riemer; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke).

Heat 1: T.R.C. 'B', 1; St. Bartholomew's Hospital B.C., 2. 1 length.

Heat 2: T.R.C. 'C', 1; London R.C. 'B', 2; R.A.F. (Medmenham), 3.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length.

Heat 3: Lensbury R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2; London R.C. 'A', 3. 2 feet.

Final: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Lensbury R.C., 2; T.R.C. 'C', 3. Canvas.

## Tweddell Trophy (Junior Senior Eights)

R. C. Bray (bow); J. M. Horwell; J. P. M. Thomson; P. D. Owen; D. P. C. Platt; L. E. Stevens; C. R. Reese; A. R. Reddin (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 2: T.R.C., 1.

Final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2; King's College B.C., 3. Canvas.

## THAMES DITTON REGATTA

21st May

### Sawtell Challenge Cup (Junior Clinker Eights)

J. A. Goodale (bow); E. N. Geary; R. A. Duncan; I. B. Hudspith; F. C. W. Corbett; K. Fowler; C. G. Hingley; R. Neale (stroke); G. H. Freeman (cox).

Heat 5: T.R.C., 1; Emanuel School B.C., 2. 4 lengths, 3 min. 29 sec.

Semi-final: T.R.C., 1; St. Paul's School B.C., disqualified.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Thames Tradesmen R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 3 min. 30 sec.

## RICHMOND & TWICKENHAM REGATTA

29th May

### Mayor of Twickenham Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

P. H. Bayliss (bow); R. C. Bray; P. H. Le Bas; L. E. Stevens; L. Abel-Smith; P. D. Owen; D. H. Drury; J. M. Horwell (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Race 7: Northampton Engineering College B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 3 min. 57 sec.

### Twickenham Challenge Cup (Junior Eights)

D. M. Caplowe (bow); P. Boom; E. R. E. Lawley; J. B. G. Carpenter; R. G. Harris; M. R. Phelps; J. R. Cooper; J. L. H. Ward (stroke); G. H. Freeman (cox).

Race 12: T.R.C., 1; Westminster Bank R.C., 2. 1 length.

Semi-final: Cygnet R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 3 lengths, 4 min. 10 sec.

## WALTON REGATTA

5th June

### Walton Challenge Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

A. Hawes (bow); P. B. Rooksby; D. A. Dunton; J. P. M. Thomson; D. P. C. Platt; A. R. Reddin; J. P. Hindle; P. Nyffeler (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Heat C: London R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 3 feet, 4 min. 46 sec.

### Goring Challenge Cup (Wyfold Fours)

P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); H. G. V. Denning; A. C. Riemer; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann.

Heat C: T.R.C., 1; Maidenhead R.C., 2. 3 lengths, 5 min. 14 sec.

Semi-final: T.R.C., 1; St. Mary's Hospital B.C., 2.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths, 5 min. 56 sec.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Imperial College B.C., 2. Easily, 5 min. 4 sec.

### Sabin Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

P. H. Bayliss (bow); R. C. Bray; J. M. Horwell; L. Abel-Smith; P. D. Owen; C. R. Reese; L. E. Stevens (stroke); L. K. Guest (cox).

Heat G: T.R.C., 1; Furnivall S.C., 2. Canvas, 4 min. 54 sec.

Semi-final: Cygnet R. C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length, 4 min. 54 sec.

### Miskin Challenge Cup (Junior Eights)

R. A. Duncan (bow); P. F. Whalley; A. R. E. Lawley; J. B. G. Carpenter; R. G. Harris; J. B. Low; J. R. Cooper; J. L. H. Ward (stroke); P. S. Moss (cox).

Heat B: T.R.C., 1; Weybridge R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 5 min. 2 sec.

Heat E: T.R.C., 1; Reading University B.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 5 min. 7 sec.

Heat H: T.R.C., 1; Burway R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 5 min. 1 sec.

Final: Staines B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 4 min. 55 sec.

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# WHITSUN INTERLUDE DUNKERQUE & OSTENDE REGATTAS

by G. G. H. PAGE

Once again we have to thank Madame Suzanne Caverhill, who procured an invitation for the First Eight to compete in the senior events at Dunkerque and Ostende Regattas, which were held over the Whitsun week-end.

The crew was: G. G. H. Page (bow); J. Pope; M. G. C. Savage; A. R. Watson; A. R. Davidson; R. A. F. Macmillan; M. Legg; J. N. Eldeen (stroke); G. J. Alwin (cox).

We arrived at Dunkerque late on the Friday night, in company with 'Sparrow' Morris as coach, Vassillissin as manager, Dick Phelps and Sid Rand, who was sculling under R.A.F. colours. We were met by Mme. Caverhill and escorted to our hotel.

We had Saturday and Sunday morning to get accustomed to the sectional Stampfli boat which had been brought over from Ostende for our use, and Dick soon had us all working like demons, polishing slides, adjusting swivels and so on. The two outings on Saturday were better than one could hope for, and the boat suited the crew well. We had, in any case, taken the precaution of bringing our own oars.

The crew had a short outing to loosen up on the Sunday morning and by the time of the race were thoroughly at home with the boat and the heavier water.

Our only opponents in the race were a mixed Basse-Seine-Boulogne crew, considered the best

French crew, who had earlier won their Head of the River Race.

The race was delayed for a considerable time, and the 'needle' generated was not lessened by a false start. However, the second start was a good one, Thames went into the lead at once, and thereafter, rowing a crisp 34, gradually drew away to win by 1½ lengths in record time.

That evening a magnificent dinner was held in honour of the 90th Anniversary of the Sporting Dunkerquois. Only the fact that we had to race the following day prevented the crew from doing full justice to a dinner we shall all remember with affection for many years.

The following morning, in the company of members of Sporting Dunkerquois, we left by coach for Ostende, with boat and oars on a trailer. A temporary halt caused by a puncture in the trailer tyre enabled the crew to rest by the roadside in pleasant sunshine and recover from the preceding night's banquet.

Due to the delay, the crew arrived rather later in Ostende than intended, but the boat was rapidly assembled, and after a quick outing to sort out the landmarks, and a late lunch, the crew rested in the restaurant before returning to the river for the race at five o'clock, to learn that Rand had beaten Van Mesdag (who beat him at Dunkerque) but had lost to Steenacker, the Belgian Champion.

Four crews lined up for the Senior Eights, with Basse-Seine again our main opponents. A German crew and two Belgian crews had scratched, but Beringen R.C. and a scratch crew drawn from the two Ostende clubs made up the number.

Once again, the crew managed to produce a powerful 'needle', realising that Basse-Seine were out for revenge over the longer course. As soon as the race started it was clear that Basse-Seine had altered their tactics and were out for an early lead instead of rowing at a uniform pace as at Dunkerque. The French crew began to draw away from us, with the others dropping back. A series of hard spurts gave Basse-Seine a lead of almost 1 length, which they held until the 1,250-metre mark, when we began to draw up slightly. At 1,500 metres, where we were still something over ½-length down, Joe Eldeen began a pre-arranged spurt, the memory of which sustained the crew for the rest of the season! Rowing flat-out, Thames gradually crept up until the crews were level about 200 yards from the finish, but with both crews giving everything they had, it was Thames who lasted better in the row in, to win by ½-length, with the other crews several lengths behind.

After the prize-giving in the Town Hall, we had to leave for Dunkerque and home. The main memories of the return journey concern the extraordinary noises emitted from the interior of the coach (i.e. bus) and an international incident over the disappearance of glasses from the tavern at the customs between France and Belgium. Their recovery from the luggage of one of the more experienced tourists caused little surprise.

We left Dunkerque with many memories of the wonderful hospitality of our French and Belgian hosts, having acquired racing experience which undoubtedly did the crew an immense amount of good.

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## READING REGATTA

12th June

### Grand Challenge Cup

G. G. H. Page (bow); J. Pope; M. G. C. Savage; A. R. Watson; A. R. Davidson; R. A. F. Macmillan; M. Legg; J. N. Eldeen (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).

The crew rowed over for the cup, there being no other entrants.

### Stanmore Challenge Cup (Senior Fours)

'A' Crew: G. G. H. Page (bow, steers); J. Pope; A. R. Davidson; J. N. Eldeen (stroke).

'B' Crew: M. G. C. Savage (bow, steers); A. R. Watson; M. Legg; R. A. F. Macmillan (stroke).

'C' Crew: P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); H. G. V. Denning; A. C. Riemer; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke).

Heat A: T.R.C. 'C', 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. 2 feet, 5 min. 19 sec.

Heat B: Royal Air Force, 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2. Easily, 5 min. 15 sec.

Final: Royal Air Force, 1; T.R.C. 'C', 2. 3½ lengths, 5 min. 7 sec.

### Austin Balsom Challenge Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

A. Hawes (bow); P. B. Rooksby; D. A. Dunton; J. P. M. Thomson; D. P. C. Platt; A. R. Reddin; J. P. Hindle; P. Nyffeler (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Heat 3: T.R.C., 1; Bedford R.C., 2. 1 length, 5 min.

Heat 7: T.R.C., 1; Quintin B.C., 2. 1½ lengths, 5 min. 4 sec.

Final: London R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. ½ length, 5 min.

### Sandeman Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

P. H. Bayliss (bow); D. C. Morton; D. K. Knox; J. M. Horwell; L. Abel-Smith; P. D. Owen; C. R. Reese; L. E. Stevens (stroke); L. K. Guest (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; The Shell Club, 2. Easily, no time taken.

Heat 6: St. Edward's School B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 2½ lengths, 5 min 11 sec.

### R.M.C. Challenge Cup (Junior Eights)

R. A. Duncan (bow); P. F. Whalley; F. C. W. Corbett; J. B. G. Carpenter; R. G. Harris; K. Fowler; J. R. Cooper; J. L. H. Ward (stroke).

Heat 2: Quintin B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. ½ length, 5 min 9 sec.

### Dymore Brown Challenge Cup (Senior Pairs)

T. P. Wilson (bow, steers); R. C. Bray (stroke).  
Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2.  $\frac{3}{4}$  length, 6 min. 12 sec.  
Final: Ibis R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 3 lengths, 5 min. 53 sec.

### Junior Sculls Challenge Cup

B. R. Julien.  
Heat 3: B. R. Julien, 1. Rowed over.  
Heat 6: Robbins, 1; B. R. Julien, 2.

## MARLOW REGATTA

19th June

### Grand Challenge Cup

G. G. H. Page (bow); J. Pope; M. G. C. Savage; A. R. Watson; A. R. Davidson; R. A. F. Macmillan; M. Legg; J. N. Eldeen (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).  
Race 63: T.R.C., 1; Jesus College, Cambridge, 2.  $\frac{3}{4}$  length, 4 min. 3 sec.  
Final: T.R.C., 1; 1st & 3rd Trinity B.C., Cambridge, 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 3 min. 59 sec.

### Senior Fours Challenge Cup

G. G. H. Page (bow, steers); M. Legg; A. R. Davidson; J. N. Eldeen (stroke).  
Race 10: T.R.C., 1; Jesus College, Cambridge B.C., 2. 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  lengths; no time taken.  
Final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 4 min. 27 sec.

### Marlow Eights Challenge Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

A. Hawes (bow); P. B. Rooksby; D. A. Dunton; J. P. M. Thomson; D. P. C. Platt; A. R. Reddin; J. P. Hindle; P. Nyffeler (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).  
Race 23: T.R.C., 1; St. Catherine's College, Cambridge B.C., 2; Queen's University, Belfast B.C., 3. 3 feet, 4 min. 11 sec.  
Semi-final: T.R.C. and London R.C. dead-heated, with St. Thomas' Hospital B.C., third. In the re-row from half way, London R.C. beat T.R.C. by  $\frac{1}{4}$  length.

### Town Cup Fours (Wyfold Fours)

P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); H. G. V. Denning; A. C. Riemer; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke).  
Race 20: T.R.C., 1; Midland Bank R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 4 min. 35 sec.  
Race 57: Royal Engineers R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 4 min. 24 sec.

### Junior Eights Challenge Cup

Race 27: Marlow R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; Reading University B.C., 3. 1 length, 4 min. 19 sec.

### Junior-Senior Sculls Challenge Cup

F. C. Plumer.  
Race 65: J. J. Vernon, 1; F. C. Plumer, 2; J. H. M. Edwards, 3. 3 lengths, 5 min. 6 sec.

### A.R.A. COXED FOURS CHAMPIONSHIP

M. G. C. Savage (bow); A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; J. Pope (stroke); H. G. Freeman (cox).  
Race 33: T.R.C., 1; Kettering, 2. 2 lengths, 4 min. 34 sec.  
Final: Pengwern R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  lengths, 4 min. 40 sec.

## RICHMOND TOWN REGATTA

28th June

### Junior-Senior Fours

P. H. Bayliss (bow, steers); M. A. Penny; R. K. Knox; D. H. Drury (stroke).  
Final: Lensbury R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length.

### Maiden Eights Challenge Cup

D. M. Caplowe (bow); Willison; E. R. E. Lawley; J. B. G. Carpenter; R. G. Harris; J. B. Low; P. J. Bartram; P. F. Whalley (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).  
Heat A: T.R.C., 1; University College School B.C., 2.  
Semi-final: T.R.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2.  
Final: T.R.C., 1; London School of Economics B.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length.

# HENLEY

## ROYAL REGATTA

The Regatta was held on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 30th, July 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. The weather was fine on the first three days but on Saturday there was a strong head wind on the course and heavy rain fell in the afternoon. Fortunately this cleared before the prize-giving, to which added colour was given by the Russian victories.

The entries numbered 176, of which 9 were withdrawn, leaving a total of 167, against 142 last year. Five eliminating races in the Ladies Challenge Plate, five in the Thames Challenge Cup and nine in the Wyfold Challenge Cup were held on Saturday, June 26th, before the draw.

There were 56 races on the first day, 43 on the second, 26 on the third, and 12 on the last day.

The prizes were presented by Sir Pelham Warner, M.B.E.

A Book of Honour was added this year to the award of the Grand Challenge Cup and will be inscribed annually with the names of the winners of that trophy.

### GRAND CHALLENGE CUP

	st.	lb.
G. G. H. Page (bow) .. .. .	11	4
2 J. Pope .. .. .	11	4
3 M. G. C. Savage .. .. .	12	7
4 A. R. Watson .. .. .	12	8
5 A. R. Davidson .. .. .	12	10
6 R. A. F. Macmillan .. .. .	13	8
7 M. Legg .. .. .	12	11
J. N. Eldeen (stroke) .. .. .	12	1

Heat 2: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2. 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  lengths, 7 min. 11 sec.

Heat 5: Krylia Sovetov, U.S.S.R., 1; T.R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 6 min. 54 sec.

Thames started at 43 and led Krylia Sovetov by  $\frac{1}{2}$  length at the quarter-mile. So long as we could keep our rate of striking up to 37 we were able to hold this advantage, but beyond the Barrier, T.R.C. dropped to 35 and the Russians closed up. At Fawley the crews were level, and at the Mile Post, Krylia led by half a length. Then came a truly magnificent race up the enclosures, in which Thames really excelled themselves, finishing at 39 to the Russians' 37. Thames, said 'The Times', had achieved the seemingly impossible in pushing the Russians all the way.

### STEWARDS' CHALLENGE CUP

	st. lb.
G. G. H. Page (bow, steers) .. .. .	11 4
2 R. A. F. Macmillan .. .. .	13 8
3 A. R. Davidson .. .. .	12 10
M. Legg (stroke) .. .. .	12 11

Heat 1: Krylia Sovetov, U.S.S.R., 1; T.R.C., 2.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths, 7 min. 35 sec.

### THAMES CHALLENGE CUP

	st. lb.
A. Hawes (bow) .. .. .	11 8
2 P. B. Rooksby .. .. .	10 13
3 D. A. Dunton .. .. .	12 6
4 J. P. M. Thomson .. .. .	11 7
5 D. P. C. Platt .. .. .	13 2
6 A. R. Reddin .. .. .	13 2
7 J. P. Hindle .. .. .	11 1
P. Nyffeler (stroke) .. .. .	10 7
D. B. Fawcett (cox) .. .. .	8 11

Heat 14: T.R.C., 1; Yale University, U.S.A., 2. 4 lengths, 7 min. 23 sec.  
 Heat 22: T.R.C., 1; National Provincial Bank R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 7 min. 26 sec.  
 Heat 28: T.R.C., 1; Royal Air Force, 2.  $\frac{1}{4}$  length, 7 min. 18 sec.  
 Semi Final: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length.

### WYFOLD CHALLENGE CUP

	st. lb.
P.S. Pusey (bow, steers) .. .. .	11 1
2 H. G. V. Denning .. .. .	12 1
3 A. C. Riemer .. .. .	11 12
K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke) .. .. .	12 9

Heat 5: Marlow R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{4}$  length, 7 min. 42 sec.  
 The Wyfold Cup was won by the Royal Engineers R.C., the whole crew being members of T.R.C.

### KINGSTON REGATTA

10th July

#### Coronation Challenge Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

A. Hawes (bow); K. J. S. Douglas-Mann; D. A. Dunton; J. P. M. Thomson; D. P. C. Platt; A. R. Reddin; P. S. Pusey; P. Nyffeler (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).  
 Heat C: T.R.C. and Molesey deadheated in 3 min. 58 sec. In the re-row over a shortened course T.R.C. beat Molesey B.C. by  $\frac{1}{2}$  length.

Semi-final: National Provincial Bank R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{4}$  length, 3 min. 58 sec.

#### Dittons Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

P. H. Bayliss (bow); B. R. Julien; R. Wilkinson; P. D. Owen; L. Abel-Smith; J. L. Buchanan; D. H. Drury; L. E. Stevens (stroke); L. K. Guest (cox).  
 Heat J: Southampton University B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 4 min. 6 sec.

#### Surbiton Challenge Cup (Junior Eights)

'A' Crew: R. A. Duncan (bow); I. B. Hudspith; D. R. Mount; F. C. W. Corbett; R. G. Harris; J. R. Cooper; C. G. Hingley; R. Neale (stroke); G. H. Freeman (cox).  
 'B' Crew: D. M. Caplowe (bow); E. N. Geary; E. R. E. Lawley; M. R. Phelps; J. B. G. Carpenter; J. B. Low; P. J. Bartram; P. F. Whalley (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).  
 Heat A: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Battersea Polytechnic R.C., 2. 3 feet, 4 min. 12 sec.  
 Heat H: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Weybridge R.C., 2;  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 4 min. 5 sec.  
 Heat C: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Tiffin School B.C., 2. 2 lengths, 4 min. 17 sec.  
 Heat J: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Beaumont College B.C., 2.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths, 4 min. 5 sec.  
 Semi-final: T.R.C. 'A', and T.R.C. 'B', deadheated in 4 min. 6 sec. In the re-row over a shortened course, T.R.C. 'A' beat T.R.C. 'B' by  $\frac{1}{2}$  length.  
 Final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Burway R.C., 2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length, 4 min. 3 sec.

#### Chapple Pairs (Senior Pairs)

'A' Crew: P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke).  
 'B' Crew: T. P. Wilson (bow, steers); A. C. Riemer (stroke).  
 Heat A: T.R.C., r.o.; Lensbury R.C. 'A', scratched.  
 Heat B: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Lensbury R.C. 'B', 2.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths, 4 min. 50 sec.  
 Heat C: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Quintin B.C., 2.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths.  
 Heat D: T.R.C. 'B', 1; London R.C., 2.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths, 4 min. 37 sec.  
 Final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2.  $\frac{3}{4}$  length.

### METROPOLITAN REGATTA

13th, 14th & 15th July

#### Champion Cup (Senior Eights)

G. G. H. Page (bow); J. Pope; M. G. C. Savage; A. R. Watson; A. R. Davidson; R. A. F. Macmillan; M. Legg; J. N. Eldeen (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).  
 Final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2; Lensbury R.C., 3.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length.

#### Old Barnes Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

A. Hawes (bow); K. J. S. Douglas-Mann; D. A. Dunton; J. P. M. Thomson; D. P. C. Platt; A. R. Reddin; A. C. Riemer; P. Nyffeler (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).  
 Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; St. Paul's School B.C., 2.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths.  
 Final: T.R.C., 1; National Provincial Bank R.C., 2; London R.C., 3.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths.

#### Horton Cup (Wyfold Fours)

A. Hawes (bow, steers); G. S. Dear; J. T. H. Webb; P. Nyffeler (stroke).  
 Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; Ibis R.C., 2; Midland Bank R.C., 3.  
 Final: Molesey B.C., 1; National Provincial Bank R.C., 2; T.R.C., 3.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lengths.

### Forster Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

'A' Crew: P. H. Bayliss (bow); B. R. Julien; R. Wilkinson; J. L. Buchanan; L. Abel-Smith; P. D. Owen; D. C. Drury; L. E. Stevens (stroke); L. K. Guest (cox).

'B' Crew: R. A. Duncan (bow); I. B. Hudspith; D. R. Mount; F. C. W. Corbett; R. G. Harris; A. Fowler; C. G. Hingley; J. R. Cooper (stroke); G. H. Freeman (cox).

Heat 1: T.R.C. 'B', 1; London R.C., 2; Westminster Bank R.C., 3.

Heat 2: T.R.C. 'A', 1; National Provincial Bank R.C., 2; Thames Tradesmen R.C., 3.

Final: St. Paul's School B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2; T.R.C. 'B', 3. 1½ lengths.

### Old Goring Cup (Junior-Senior Fours)

P. H. Bayliss (bow, steers); L. E. Stevens; R. C. Bray; D. C. Drury (stroke).

Heat 3: Quintin B.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2; T.R.C., 3.

### Metropolitan Cup (Junior Eights)

D. M. Caplowe (bow); E. N. Geary; E. R. E. Lawley; M. R. Phelps; J. B. G. Carpenter; J. B. Low; P. J. Bartram; P. F. Whalley (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 3: T.R.C., 1; Putney Town R.C., 2.

Final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2; Barclays Bank R.C., 3.

### Amptill Pairs (Senior Pairs)

P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke).

Heat 2: T.R.C., 1; London R.C. 'B', 2.

Final: T.R.C., 1; London R.C. 'A', 2. 1 length.

### Freeman Cup (Junior Sculls)

R. A. J. Southgate, J. L. H. Ward.

Heat 3: Southgate, 1; Auriol R.C., 2. Easily.

Heat 2: Ward, row over.

Final: Southgate, 1; Ward, 2. Easily.

## MOLESEY REGATTA

17th July

### Molesey Grand Challenge Cup

G. G. H. Page (bow); J. Pope; M. G. C. Savage; A. R. Watson; A. R. Davidson; R. A. F. Macmillan; M. Legg; J. N. Eldeen (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).

Race 1: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2. 3 lengths, 4 min. 56 sec.

Final: T.R.C., 1; Colet B.C., 2. 4 lengths, 4 min. 55 sec.

### Thames Cup Eights Challenge Cup

A. Hawes (bow); P. B. Rooksby; D. A. Dunton; J. P. M. Thomson; D. P. C. Platt; A. R. Reddin; A. C. Riemer; P. Nyffeler (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Heat 3: T.R.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2. ¾ length, 5 min. 12 sec.

Heat 6: T.R.C., 1; London R.C., 2. 1 length, 5 min. 8 sec.

Semi-final: T.R.C., 1; Henley R.C., 2. 1½ lengths, 5 min. 13 sec.

Final: T.R.C., 1; St. Paul's School B.C., 2. ½ length, 5 min. 7 sec.

### Junior-Senior Eights Challenge Cup

'A' Crew: R. A. Duncan (bow); I. B. Hudspith; R. G. Harris; J. R. Cooper; L. Abel-Smith; P. D. Owen; C. G. Hingley; L. E. Stevens (stroke); L. K. Guest (cox).

'B' Crew: D. M. Caplowe (bow); E. A. Geary; E. R. E. Lawley; M. R. Phelps; J. B. G. Carpenter; J. B. Low; P. J. Bartram; P. F. Whalley (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 1: Staines B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2. 1 length, 5 min. 17 sec.

Heat 8: Weybridge R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. 1¼ lengths, 5 min. 24 sec.

### Garrick Pairs & Hastie Challenge Cup

'A' Crew: P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); F. C. W. Corbett (stroke).

'B' Crew: J. T. H. Webb (bow, steers); J. L. Buchanan (stroke).

Heat 1: T.R.C. 'B', row over.

Heat 2: T.R.C., 'A' 1; Twickenham R.C., 2. ¾ length, 6 min. 20 sec.

Semi-final: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Lensbury R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 6 min. 39 sec.

Semi-final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Auriol R.C., 2. 3¼ lengths, 6 min. 25 sec.

Final: T.R.C. 'A', 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2. 1 length, 6 min. 22 sec.

### Junior-Senior Sculls Challenge Cup

F. C. Plumer.

Heat 5: Plumer, 1; Wilton, 2. ½ length.

Semi-final: Jones, 1; Plumer, 2. 1½ lengths, 6 min. 24 sec.

## BEDFORD REGATTA

24th July

### Talbot Jarvis Challenge Cup (Senior Eights)

A. Hawes (bow); P. B. Rooksby; D. A. Dunton; J. P. M. Thomson; D. P. C. Platt; A. R. Reddin; A. C. Riemer; P. Nyffeler (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Heat 2: T.R.C., 1; Norwich R.C., 2. 1 length, 3 min. 35 sec.

Heat 8: L.R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. ½ length, 3 min. 33 sec.

### Junior-Senior Eights

D. M. Caplowe (bow); E. A. Geary; E. R. E. Lawley; M. R. Phelps; J. B. G. Carpenter; J. B. Low; P. J. Bartram; P. F. Whalley (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Heat 3: Gladstone R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. Canvas, 3 min. 35 sec.

## STAINES REGATTA

24th July

### Staines Eights (Thames Cup Eights)

F. C. Plumer (bow); D. Fairbairn; G. S. Dear; A. Howse; L. Abel-Smith; J. L. Buchanan; J. T. H. Webb; R. C. Bray (stroke); W. D. Lines (cox).

Race 37: London R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length, 5 min. 1 sec.

### Junior-Senior Eights

R. A. Duncan (bow); J. R. Cooper; D. R. Mount; J. L. Buchanan; L. Abel-Smith; P. D. Owen; C. G. Hingley; L. E. Stevens (stroke); L. K. Guest (cox).

Race 58: Westminster Bank R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 5 min. 5 sec.

## Junior Eights

P. F. Rowe (bow); L. D. de Pinna; J. M. Lynch; K. Fowler; L. P. Brodie; A. A. Barrett; D. B. Holt; J. L. H. Ward (stroke); I. Quarrier (cox).

Race 19: Kingston R.C. 'A', 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length, 5 min. 10 sec.

## Staines Fours

G. S. Dear (bow, steers); J. L. Buchanan; J. T. H. Webb; R. C. Bray (stroke).

Race 12: T.R.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 5 min. 25 sec.

Semi-final: Ibis R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 2½ lengths, 5 min. 35 sec.

## Staines Sculls (Junior-Senior Sculls)

F. C. Plumer.

Race 3: Plumer, rowed over.

Race 51: Morris, 1; Plumer, 2. 2 lengths, 6 min. 17 sec.

## Junior Sculls

B. R. Julien.

Race 5: Buchanan, 1; Julien, 2.

## MAIDENHEAD REGATTA

31st July

### 'Daily Telegraph' Cup (Thames Cup Eights)

'A' Crew: A. Hawes (bow); K. J. S. Douglas-Mann; D. A. Dunton; J. P. M. Thomson; D. P. C. Platt; A. R. Reddin; J. R. Johnson; P. Nyffeler (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

'B' Crew: R. J. M. Thayer (bow); D. Fairbairn; M. Hart; R. C. Bray; L. Abel-Smith; J. L. Buchanan; G. S. Dear; H. K. Boller (stroke); W. D. Lines (cox).

Heat 1: Quintin B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2. 1½ lengths, 3 min. 36 sec.

Heat 2: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Marlow R.C., 2. ½ length, 3 min. 35 sec.

Heat 7: London R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. ¾ length, 3 min. 28 sec.

### Orkney Cottage Cup (Senior Fours)

'A' Crew: P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); J. L. Buchanan; J. R. Johnson; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke).

'B' Crew: A. Hawes (bow, steers); G. S. Dear; J. P. M. Thomson; P. Nyffeler (stroke).

Heat 2: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Maidenhead R.C., 2. 1½ lengths, no time taken.

Heat 5: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Molesey B.C., 2. 3 feet, 3 min. 53 sec.

Heat 6: Marlow R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. 1½ lengths.

Semi-final: Marlow R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2.

### Maidenhead Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

'A' Crew: R. A. Duncan (bow); M. A. Penny; D. C. Morton; L. E. Stevens; D. R. Mount; J. R. Cooper; L. S. Middleton; R. Neale (stroke); L. K. Guest (cox).

'B' Crew: D. M. Caplowe; E. N. Geary; E. R. E. Lawley; M. R. Phelps; J. B. G. Carpenter; J. L. H. Ward; P. J. Bartram; P. F. Whalley (stroke); W. D. Lines (cox).

Heat 2: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Broxbourne R.C., 2. 2 lengths, 3 min. 40 sec.

Heat 4: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Marlow R.C., 2. ½ length, 3 min. 38 sec.

Heat 7: Winchester 'B', 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. 1 length, 3 min. 38 sec.

Heat 8: Westminster Bank R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2. 1 length.

### Jubilee Goblets (Junior-Senior Pairs)

'A' Crew: T. P. Wilson (bow, steers); R. C. Bray (stroke).

'B' Crew: H. K. Boller (bow, steers); S. N. P. Marks (stroke).

Heat 1: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Bywater & Rutter, 2. 3 lengths, 4 min. 20 sec.

Heat 2: Hunter & Payton, 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2. 1½ lengths, 4 min. 24 sec.

Heat 4: T.R.C. 'B', 1; Smith & Freeth, 2.

Semi-final: Nicholson & Christie, 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2.

### Junior-Senior Sculls Cup

F. C. Plumer.

Heat 2: J. C. D. Alexander, 1; F. C. Plumer, 2. 1½ lengths, 4 min. 20 sec.

## HENLEY TOWN & VISITORS REGATTA

2nd August

### Haileywood Cup (Senior Eights)

A. Hawes (bow); K. J. S. Douglas-Mann; D. A. Dunton; J. P. M. Thomson; D. P. C. Platt; A. R. Reddin; J. R. Johnson; P. Nyffeler (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Race 1: Winchester College, 1; T.R.C., 2; Lensbury R.C., 3. 1 length, 4 min. 47 sec.

### Old Town Cup (Senior Fours)

'A' Crew: P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); J. L. Buchanan; J. R. Johnson; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke).

'B' Crew: A. Hawes (bow, steers); G. S. Dear; J. P. M. Thomson; P. Nyffeler (stroke).

Race 2: Marlow R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2; National Provincial R.C., 3. 1½ lengths, 5 min. 3 sec.

Race 5: Nottingham & Union R.C., 1; Quintin B.C., 2; T.R.C. 'B', 3. ¾ length, 5 min. 21 sec.

### Sagamore Challenge Cup (Junior-Senior Eights)

'A' Crew: R. A. Duncan (bow); M. A. Penny; D. C. Morton; L. E. Stevens; D. R. Mount; J. R. Cooper; L. S. Middleton; R. Neale (stroke); L. K. Guest (cox).

'B' Crew: P. R. Bayliss (bow); E. A. Geary; E. R. E. Lawley; J. L. H. Ward; J. B. G. Carpenter; M. R. Phelps; P. J. Bartram; P. F. Whalley (stroke); G. H. Freeman (cox).

Race 4: St. Edward's School B.C., 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2; London R.C., 3. 2½ lengths, 4 min. 50 sec.

Race 6: Westminster Bank R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2; Broxbourne R.C., 3. 6 feet, 4 min. 54 sec.

### Peter Beresford Challenge Cup (Senior Pairs)

'A' Crew: M. S. Atkins (bow); A. C. Riemer (stroke, steers).

'B' Crew: T. P. Wilson (bow, steers); R. C. Bray (stroke).

'C' Crew: H. K. Boller (bow, steers); S. N. P. Marks (stroke).

Race 1: Eton Vikings, 1; T.R.C. 'B', 2; London R.C. 'B', 3. 2 lengths, 5 min. 54 sec.

Race 4: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Maidenhead R.C., 2; London R.C. 'A', 3. 1½ lengths, 5 min. 54 sec.

Race 5: T.R.C. 'C', 1; Midland Bank R.C., 2; Quintin B.C., 3. 3½ lengths, 5 min. 47 sec.  
Final: Stratford-on-Avon R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2; T.R.C. 'C', 3. ½ length, 5 min. 22 sec.

### Junior-Senior Sculls

F. C. Plumer.  
Race 4: F. C. Plumer, 1; M. A. Soars, 2; C. Barwick, 3. ¾ length, 6 min. 10 sec.  
Final: J. J. Vernon, 1; 2; F. C. Plumer, 3. Easily, 5 min. 35 sec.

### Junior Sculls

B. R. Julien, M. Tanner.  
Race 3: C. F. Porter, 1; B. R. Julien, 2; M. Tanner, 3. 3 lengths, 6 min. 14 sec.

## SERPENTINE REGATTA

5th, 6th & 7th August

### Grand Eights

A. Hawes (bow); K. J. S. Douglas-Mann; D. A. Dunton; J. P. M. Thomson; D. P. C. Platt; A. R. Reddin; A. C. Riemer; P. Nyffeler (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).  
Final: London R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length, 2 min. 36 sec.

### Stewards Fours

P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); J. L. Buchanan; J. R. Johnson; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann (stroke).  
Semi-final: Molesey B.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1 length, 2 min. 44 sec.

### Thames Cup Eights

T. P. Wilson (bow); P. S. Pusey; S. N. P. Marks; J. G. Seaman; D. A. T. Leadley; J. L. Buchanan; J. R. Johnson; H. K. Boller (stroke); W. D. Lines (cox).  
Semi-final: London R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; Lensbury R.C., 3. ¾ length, 2 min. 40 sec.

### Senior Coxed Fours

P. S. Pusey (bow); K. J. S. Douglas-Mann; J. R. Johnson; D. A. T. Leadley (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).  
Heat 2: T.R.C., 1; Stratford-on-Avon B.C., 2. ¾ length.  
Final: Crowland R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2. 1½ lengths, 3 min. 4 sec.

### Wyfold Fours

A. Hawes (bow); G. S. Dear; J. P. M. Thomson; P. Nyffeler (stroke).  
Heat 1: T.R.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2. ¾ length, 2 min. 49 sec.  
Heat 7: T.R.C., 1; Strode School B.C., 2; ¾ length, in re-row after a dead heat.  
Heat 13: Midland Bank R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.

### Junior-Senior Eights

'A' Crew: R. A. Duncan (bow); D. C. Morton; D. R. Mount; L. E. Stevens; L. S. Middleton; J. R. Cooper; ; D. Neale (stroke); L. K. Guest (cox).  
'B' Crew: P. H. Bayliss (bow); E. A. Geary; E. R. E. Lawley; J. L. H. Ward; J. B. G. Carpenter; M. R. Phelps; P. J. Bartram; P. F. Whalley (stroke); G. H. Freeman (cox).  
Heat 2: T.R.C. 'A', 1; Molesey B.C., 2; National Provincial Bank R.C., 3. ¾ length, 2 min. 36 sec.

Heat 3: Quintin B.C., 1; Lensbury R.C., 2; T.R.C., 'B', 3.  
Heat 4: Westminster Bank R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2; Marlow R.C., 3. 6 feet, 2 min. 39 sec.

### Senior Pairs

'A' Crew: F. C. Plumer (bow, steers); H. G. V. Denning (stroke).  
'B' Crew: P. S. Pusey (bow, steers); G. C. W. Corbett (stroke).  
Heat 1: Lensbury R.C., 1; T.R.C., 'B', 2.  
Heat 4: London R.C., 1; T.R.C. 'A', 2.

### Junior-Senior Sculls

F. C. Plumer, A. Hawes, B. R. Julien.  
Heat 4: P. Grieve, 1; A. Hawes, 2; A. C. Osborne, 3.  
Heat 6: B. K. Cossey, 1; B. R. Julien, 2.  
Heat 9: J. H. M. Edwards, 1; F. C. Plumer, 3.

## EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The European Championships of 1954 were held on the Bosbaan at Amsterdam from the 26th to the 29th August. Britain entered in the coxed fours, coxswainless fours, coxswainless pairs, double sculls and single sculls, and of the whole entry only the double scullers, half the pair, and the coxswain of the coxed fours were not members of Thames Rowing Club.

The coxless four, from the Royal Air Force Rowing Club, consisted of G. Sorrell, W. H. Rand, C. F. Porter and J. M. Beresford. In the second semi-final they finished second to Switzerland, only 0·1 sec. behind; but in the final, where they again came second, they beat Switzerland, losing to Italy by 3½ sec. The Italians put up a course record in this race, of 6 min. 22·8 sec.

The coxless pair, from Leander Club, consisted of D. D. Macklin and C. G. V. Davidge. They lost their first heat after having some little difficulty with steering, but won their repechage quite decisively against Czechoslovakia and Sweden. In the semi-final they beat Denmark and Holland, but matters were reversed in the final, when Denmark won with Russia second and Great Britain third. Here again a course record was put up in the final, of 6 min. 59·2 sec.

S. C. Rand did not survive the repechage of the single sculls. In the semi-final of the double sculls, A. J. Marsden and T. Fox sculled second to Germany, and they finished fourth in the final.

The British coxed four consisted of the Royal Engineers four that had won the Wyfold Challenge Cup at Henley with a cox from their regiment. They were selected for the race as the result of trial races at Henley in July, and in these they met Pengwern R.C., Crowland R.C. and Thames R.C. The trials were held over a course from just below the top of Temple Island to the Regatta finish, without booms. The T.R.C. crew was: S. S. Pusey (bow);

K. J. S. Douglas-Mann; J. R. Johnson; D. A. J. Leadley (stroke); G. H. Freeman (cox). The results of the racing were as follows:—

Heat 1: Crowland R.C., 1; T.R.C., 2.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lengths, 7 min. 16 sec.

Heat 2: Royal Engineers R.C., 1; Pengwern R.C., 2. 3 lengths, 7 min. 33 sec.

Final: Royal Engineers R.C., 1; Crowland, not rowed out. 7 min. 19 sec.

The R.E. crew consisting of T. M. Attlee (bow); R. Barrett; D. T. McLellan, 3; M. S. Atkins (stroke); T. St. J. Yates (cox), won its heat of the European Championships with some ease, but in the semi-final it rowed third to Denmark and Sweden. The final of this event produced a course record from Russia of 6 min. 25.4 sec.

## THAMES ROWING CLUB REGATTA

25th September

### C. W. Hughes Bowl (Club Fours)

Final: D. C. Morton (bow, steers); D. E. Goodall; R. A. J. Southgate; R. H. Nicholls (stroke), 1; F. C. Plumer (bow, steers); G. S. Dear; D. A. Dunton; A. R. Watson (stroke), 2. 3 feet.

### George Vize Beakers (Club Pairs)

Final: R. C. Bray (bow, steers); R. H. Nicholls (stroke), 1; G. G. H. Page (bow, steers); J. L. Buchanan (stroke), 2. Easily.

### Doubledee Cup (Club Handicap Sculls)

P. Westbury, 15 sec., 1; F. C. Plumer, scratch, 2; A. R. Davidson, 2 sec., 3; A. R. Reddin, in rum-tum, 25 sec., 4. Easily.

### John Lang Cup (Junior Scullers in Rum-tums)

Final: J. W. Hartley, 1; P. J. Bartram, 2. 3 feet.

### Invitation Scratch Eights

Final: M. M. Brandon-Bravo (bow); M. R. Phelps; W. S. Ham; H. G. V. Denning; A. R. Davidson; J. P. M. Thomson; G. S. Dear; D. Fairbairn (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox), 1; A. Osman (Ibis R.C.) (bow); P. B. Rooksby; A. H. Tarn; F. E. Berry; D. H. Dunton; R. Walker (Molesey B.C.); P. H. Le Bas; P. F. Whalley (stroke); G. H. Freeman (cox), 2.  $\frac{1}{4}$  length.

## BOUSTEAD CUP

12th December

First Eight: G. G. H. Page (bow); K. S. Cross; A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; A. R. Davidson; C. C. Porter; M. Legg; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); D. R. Glynne-Jones (cox).

A. L. Sulley was the umpire and started the crews to a good start at Mortlake on a very fast stream. Thames R.C. took an early lead and increased it gradually all the way over the course, beating London R.C. easily in the record time of 17 min. 27 sec.

Second Eight: F. C. Plumer (bow); J. K. M. Hennessy; J. Pope; D. A. Dunton; D. Whitaker; P. B. Rooksby; R. G. Seaman; A. R. Reddin (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox).

Thames R.C. Second Eight led London R.C. Second Eight all over the course and finished well ahead, the verdict being 'easily'.

Third Eight: E. A. Ffooks (bow); P. F. Whalley; A. M. Provan; J. B. G. Carpenter; A. C. Hancox; D. Olliff; D. R. Mount; A. Hawes (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox).

Soon after the start of this race there was a clash which resulted in the Thames 7 temporarily losing his oar and the crew losing several lengths. However, London's long lead was slowly reduced, and they won the race by only half a length.

Fourth Eight: B. T. Ramm (bow); P. Rata; R. C. Bray; D. H. Drury; M. R. Elvy; M. R. Phelps; P. G. E. Howell; R. Neale (stroke); R. L. Penney (cox).

The Fourth Eight led London R.C. Fourth Eight by most of a length at Barnes Bridge, but L.R.C. gradually caught them up and led by a little at Chiswick Steps. T.R.C. fought their way past on the outside of the big bend, but could not make the lead decisive. London won by a canvas. Time 18 min. 15 sec.

## CHRISTMAS EIGHTS

18th December

The race was rowed as a handicap race from Chiswick Steps to the Club flagstaff. Six T.R.C. crews took part, together with crews from Imperial College B.C., King's College (London) B.C., and Latymer Upper School B.C. The order of finishing was:—

1. T.R.C. Fourth Eight: B. T. Ramm (bow); P. Rata; R. C. Bray; D. H. Drury; M. R. Elvy; M. R. Phelps; P. G. E. Howell; R. Neale (stroke); R. L. Penney (cox). Handicap 28 sec.

2. T.R.C. First Eight: T. P. Wilson (bow); K. S. Cross; A. R. Watson; R. A. F. Macmillan; A. R. Davidson; C. F. Porter; M. Legg; R. H. Nicholls (stroke); J. N. Eldeen (cox). Scratch.

3. T.R.C. Junior Eight: I. R. Robertson (bow); A. J. McN. Walter; T. H. Fraser; I. F. H. Davison; M. C. Willison; J. F. C. Badcock; G. R. Fox; P. M. Bahon (stroke); J. W. Hatcher (cox). Handicap 52 sec.

4. T.R.C. Second Eight: F. C. Plumer (bow); J. K. M. Hennessy; J. Pope; D. A. Dunton; D. Whitaker; P. B. Rooksby; R. G. Seaman; A. R. Reddin (stroke); D. B. Fawcett (cox). Handicap 1 sec.

5. T.R.C. Third Eight: E. A. Ffooks (bow); P. F. Whalley; J. R. Cooper; J. B. G. Carpenter; A. C. Hancox; D. Olliff; D. R. Mount; A. Hawes (stroke); R. W. Morris (cox). Handicap 25 sec.

6. Imperial College B.C. First Eight. Handicap 15 sec.

7. T.R.C. Scratch Eight: D. H. de Pinna (bow); M. F. Alexander; D. C. Morton; D. Fairbairn; W. S. Ham; K. J. S. Douglas-Mann; A. C. Rienmer; M. S. Atkins (stroke); P. S. Moss (cox). Handicap 28 sec.

8. Latymer Upper School B.C. Handicap 25 sec.

9. Imperial College B.C. Second Eight. Handicap 19 sec.

10. King's College B.C. Handicap 28 sec.



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# Report on Thames Grand Eight 1954

Representing England at the Empire Games, 1954

by ARTHUR SULLEY

The order of rowing in the Eight was not finally settled until the middle of May 1954, and during the subsequent weeks it showed no signs of exceptional ability until it raced in and won the International Eights at Ostend on 7th June. In winning the Grand at Marlow, it became evident that it was a powerful crew and potentially fast, but was rough and not properly together.

Practice at Henley was devoted primarily to getting together and developing precision of bladework, followed by greater length at the finish. The last few days before the regatta were spent in final polishing up, in company with the fastest college crews and school crews. The final course was not a fast row, due to a head-wind and distraction by inexpert pacing crews, in 7.20. But during the last three days it had two very fast rows—Fawley to finish, unpaced, in 3.15, starting the bows on Fawley, and a Barrier in 1.53½ in the traditional final outing with the Second Eight before the regatta. This was, I believe, the fastest Barrier by any Eight during this Henley.

The first race for the Grand went according to plan—a fast row against London to Fawley, which produced a lead of 2½ lengths at that point, which was maintained without difficulty to the finish. Against the Russians the performance was brilliant. A very fast start produced a lead of one length at the end of the first minute, half a length at the Barrier, and a canvas at Fawley, at which point the Russians attacked and gained a lead of half a length. Thames fought all the way to the finish and lost by only half a length. This was a magnificent row and the peak of their performance.

After being nominated to represent England at the Games, the Eight did not row for three days, and then only had light outings at Putney,

confined to paddling only. It was obvious that the crew had run down after reaching their high peak at Henley, which I regarded as a healthy development, providing the opportunity to bring them on again. With this in mind, I agreed that they should row in the Metropolitan Regatta, on the understanding that it should be regarded as a practice row (the unconvincing display was deliberately planned), and at Molesey on the final Saturday, 17th July, where they were to race at top pressure, which they did satisfactorily. This concluded practice at home, and we flew to Vancouver on 20th and 21st July.

The flight was very exhausting and we spent the first day resting and settling in to our quarters at Vedder Camp. Strict training was enforced at once and accepted willingly. There was an abundance of food, which was generally suitable for training, with copious supplies of excellent milk and fruit juices. In the later stages, steaks and chicken were provided, and tinned and fresh fruit in the place of puddings. Only Canadian beer was available in the camp, and the crew accepted prohibition without complaint. No one suffered any internal trouble and all appeared to need and took as much rest as possible. Weights remained steady at first and then fell slightly below Henley level. During the first week hospitality was accepted in the evenings from local inhabitants in groups, provided it was teetotal and did not involve any substantial feeding. During the second week all this was stopped by common consent, except for a harmless tea-party on the last Sunday.

The new Eight was a splendid boat and a close replica of the Thames Eight, except the box type of slide which was ½ in. higher and felt strange at first. We considered lowering the seats, but decided it was too tricky an

alteration to risk. The rig was similar to Thames', sliding  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. through the work. Work was  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. higher than usual, but the crew preferred this at first in conjunction with the higher seats. In the later stages of practice I had the work lowered  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. throughout, which had an immediately beneficial effect.

Arrangements at the river were planned to be excellent and much work had been done by the Royal Engineers from the camp in consultation with the rowing authorities. The boat sheds, rest and changing rooms and raft were all floating at first, and a dam was under construction below the start to maintain the height of the water and stem the flow. Unfortunately, the dam could not be completed, the level of the water fell about 4 or 5 feet, and the stream increased daily to a speed of about 2 knots by the time of the regatta.

No serious work was attempted for the first three days, but after that practice proceeded on a programme mapped out as for Henley, giving nine days' rowing before the race. Outings were generally about as long as a normal outing at Henley, but never longer, except on the Friday when we attended the opening of the Games and had only one outing. Summarised briefly, everything went according to plan for the first seven days, and the crew developed as at Henley. Paddling up to 27 was achieved without difficulty, but rowing for more than 2 minutes became rushed and heavy going, which we attributed to lack of stimulus from the pacing crews we had used continuously during the later stages at Henley. Two full courses were rowed, both in the afternoon, when there was invariably a head-wind. The first was a fair performance in 7 min. 7 sec., the second disappointing in very rough conditions in 7.38. After this row I had the work lowered and there was an immediate improvement in paddling. It was not until two days before the regatta that it became evident that the form at Henley was not being reproduced. Up to then I was fairly confident that it would come back; but at this stage, individual faults became more pronounced in rowing, and it was going to be very hard work to hold off the opposition over the course. I watched the race against Canada from the finishing post, having been told at the last minute that I was not allowed to follow in a launch, so can only report what transpired from hearsay. We led by nearly a length at the start and kept ahead to the 500 m. By the 1,000 m. Canada were half a length ahead, and went away steadily to win by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lengths in the fast time for the course of 6.59. They certainly had an advantage against the stream by hugging the bank, whilst we were ordered by the umpire to remain in the centre, and had the stations been reversed it would have been a closer finish; but we did not have a good

row. There is no doubt in my mind that had we rowed as at Henley we should have won without difficulty.

Our opponents were an extremely fit, young crew from the University of British Columbia, rowing under the auspices of the Vancouver Rowing Club, and coached by Frank Read, a Vancouver businessman with a strong autocratic personality, to whom they were completely devoted. They had been coached according to what is known as the Conibear method, as expounded by George Pocock (who had built their boat). From the start Frank Read had aimed at the longest possible forward swing with the thrust off the stretcher hard enough to make the oar whip and keep it whipped until it was at least level with the rigger. In his own words, no one was any use to him who was not capable of doing this continuously. He was not concerned with length in front of the rigger and expected the whip of the oar to be used at this point to achieve the quick piston-like thrust away at the finish. This crew was by no means attractive in appearance, which at its best was reminiscent of Harvard in 1950 and at its worst would not have impressed in the Thames Cup class.

Their training began last October and four members of the crew had not rowed at all before. Up to February, I gather they practised entirely in a leviathan for several hours a day. They do not use tubs, tanks or fixed tubs. During February and March they rowed as an Eight, and in April they had a break from rowing which was spent working in a logging camp. From the beginning of May they rowed continuously and had one or two races in the States, culminating in the Empire Games Trial race at their Henley at the end of June. For this, I gather they were not regarded as favourites; but in the race they were easily the winners from four other crews. We were impressed by the tremendous mileage they covered while we were there—7 or 8 miles seemed to be a normal outing, and it was usual for them to paddle several miles a day before doing a row, which they followed with some more paddling. We thought Frank Read was working them to a standstill, and occasionally they looked thoroughly stale; but he assured me afterwards that that was light work to them and that previously they had done 15 or 16 miles each outing, paddling 11 or 12 miles before rowing a course. They were trained to row a course at an even speed throughout, each 250 metres (after the first) to take about 48 seconds, and their three full courses were all done in under 7 minutes, according to Frank Read.

Whilst we can hardly expect ever to find a crew with the time or the will to undergo this type of intensive training, I am sure that our

best Grand crews can beat crews trained on these lines. But I have always felt that we place ourselves at a disadvantage by taking a crew which has already achieved a peak performance at Henley and expecting it to achieve a similar, or even higher, peak a few weeks later. This time I had high hopes that, with one of the happiest crews I have ever known and no difficulties in training, we should reverse the experience of former years. I am now convinced that a crew *which has been brought on rapidly* to row the race of its life at Henley is bound to have a relapse after Henley—and the more rapid the development before Henley, the deeper the relapse afterwards.

How are we to avoid further disappointments? In my opinion, we leave the final composition of our crews till too late in the season. The Russians and the Canadians had apparently covered a vast mileage in their final order. At the same time, they had achieved a high degree of physical fitness which enabled them to give of their best several times in one season.

They certainly have their off days and bad patches; but they seem to be able to row themselves out of them—not just aimless mileage, but mileage with a purpose concentrating on some essential point of technique.

We can, and should, endeavour to reach a higher degree of fitness earlier in the year instead of leaving it until a few weeks before Henley. I believe, also, that we should attach far more importance to timing and getting absolutely together in the earlier stages of training.

The Coxed Four was made up from the Eight and the order was settled only a week before we went to Vancouver. During the final week of practice at Putney it had a few brief and uncomfortable outings in the Club Coxed Four with a makeshift set of oars. It was understood that this entry in the Games was to be completely subordinate to the Eight, and its performance of practice was mapped out accordingly.

Its development at Vancouver was most encouraging. The new boat was completely satisfactory and the crew looked at home in it from the first stroke. They improved steadily during the nine days of practice, and did some remarkably good rowing in the last few days, being able to start at 40 and maintain 32 over a distance and work it up to 40 at the take-in. They won easily a preliminary race against an inferior Canadian Four, and did their finest row in the final, which they lost only by a narrow margin to a strong Australian Four, which included Mervyn Wood and their sculler, Evatt. Had our Four been competing in this even only I feel sure they would have won.

Here was a crew which had been composed specifically for this race, and its progress was

not confused by any previous competition. If it could have been separated from the Eight it would probably have been one of our best hopes for a gold medal.

No account of our trip would be complete without a word of appreciation of the work done for us by Dick Phelps, who was a tower of strength in every way, and George Marshall (ex-president of C.U.B.C.) whom we adopted as a member of the staff.

Without these two, we and the other rowing teams would have been severely handicapped; and when it came to the actual regatta, without George Marshall on the starting raft there could have been complete chaos.

Apart from the great disappointment of losing a race for which we had travelled half-way round the world we have all come back with a wealth of happy memories—the breathtaking beauty of Greenland seen from the air in the clear evening sunlight; lovely, sunny mornings on the Vedder River where we rowed; the robust society of the Canadian Army, who were our hosts; the verdant charm of the Fraser Valley where we stayed; the hair-raising exuberance of Gulley at the wheel of the speedboat lent us for coaching; Bannister racing Landy on the last sun-drenched afternoon of the Games; many exploits we enjoyed in Vancouver after the regatta was over, against a background of warm-hearted friendliness and hospitality enhanced by the continuous presence of the Duke of Edinburgh.

### Some Facts about the Empire Games, 1954

The following countries participated:—

Canada	Northern Ireland	Trinidad
England	Southern Rhodesia	Kenya
Gold Coast	Australia	Fiji
Northern Rhodesia	Hong Kong	Uganda
Scotland	Pakistan	Bermuda
New Zealand	Wales	Barbados
Nigeria	Jamaica	British Guiana
South Africa	The Bahamas	India

England's Team gained the following medals:—

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Athletics: Men .. .. .	9	6	4
Women .. .. .	—	3	3
Boxing .. .. .	2	—	2
Cycling .. .. .	3	2	2
Fencing: Men .. .. .	4	3	1
Women .. .. .	1	1	—
Lawn Bowls .. .. .	—	—	—
Rowing .. .. .	—	3	1
Swimming: Men .. .. .	—	2	1
Women .. .. .	1	2	3
Weightlifting .. .. .	2	1	1
Wrestling .. .. .	1	1	2
Totals .. .. .	23	24	20

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# JUNIOR ROWING 1953—1954

We had no Junior Eight before Christmas, and the few Juniors who rowed at that time were distributed in more Senior crews than usual.

After Christmas, we mustered six Juniors, three of them raw novices, and we had to build from this unpromising start. Improvement came quickly, and by the middle of February there was not only a Junior Eight, but also a composite crew of novices helped along by those more Senior members who could not row regularly. One of these (Harvey Platt) got himself so fit in the process that he eventually found a place in the Club's Second Eight at Henley.

The First Junior Eight distinguished itself in the Head of the River Race by being the only Club boat to go up a place or two. On the other hand, the Second Juniors dropped like a stone, but even so found some score of boats below them in the final order.

It proved very difficult to get a single Eight going after Easter, but a little later this was joined by another, more inexperienced. Surprisingly this went well from the first, and it seemed always to be faster than the First Juniors. The latter was not able to stay un-

changed for long at a time, and perhaps because of this success eluded them for a long time. In the early part of the season, their nearest approach to success was losing by a third of a length in the final at Walton Regatta. Back in a clinker boat, they won the Maiden Eights at Richmond Regatta, and from that point did not look back. Meanwhile, the Second Juniors had won the Sawtell Cup for Junior Clinker Eights at Thames Ditton Regatta. Both crews eventually found themselves rowing at Kingston Regatta in Junior Eights as there was thought to be very little difference between them in speed. They proved their equality by rowing a dead heat in the semi-final. The 'A' crew just won the re-row, and won the final comfortably. The 'B' crew won at the Metropolitan Regatta four days later.

The few Juniors left in the Club after both these crews had won could not manage to put themselves in a winning position at later regattas. We are still short of Juniors to provide the two crews that we need to win Junior races this year, and we look to all members to encourage Juniors to join the Club and fill the vacant places.

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## HONORARY SECRETARIES' NOTICES

### Addresses

The Honorary Secretaries would be obliged if members could supply the addresses of any of the following, trace of whom has been lost:—

G. F. Adamson	C. C. Morrell
J. P. Bashford	J. W. Partridge
F. A. Cumming	Lt.-Col. R. A. Paterson
S. T. W. Davis	J. D. Ross
R. M. Durham	R. A. W. Sears
I. C. J. Galbraith	F. J. Stewart
J. G. Hilder	M. J. Stewart
R. H. B. Lord	J. Yeo

## HONORARY HOUSE STEWARDS' REPORT

Members may well consider that the actual wielding of an oar under the directions of the captain or a coach is one of the most desirable occupations in life, but there is no doubt that, on returning to the Clubhouse, a member forgets much of what has been said to him on the river (a phenomena coaches seem to find

worthy of remark) in favour of trying to replace some of the energy that has been taken out of him. The machinery of replacement he can be thankful to see is in the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Tagg, and he must often be grateful for the tea or the dinner awaiting him—or even the less solid refreshments that the Club provides. The House Stewards may be responsible for the organisation of the process of replacement, but without the capable and willing execution of the Taggs life would become hard indeed. They work unceasingly for the improvement of the Club, and are ever willing to co-operate in anything where their services may be required, both routine and extraordinary. Mr. Tagg has lately been suffering from a painful back and he is to be congratulated on carrying on his duties despite it and on recovering from it.

The extraordinary functions undertaken by the Club include a dinner to commemorate Freddie Page's secretaryship, two dinners designed to attract the no longer active members to the Club, a dinner to welcome the First Eight back from Vancouver, and a luncheon which in the result (not of course unexpected) celebrated the retention of the Banstead Cup. An innovation during the year was a cocktail party held on the night before the Boat Race. Mrs. Tagg made the room most attractive for the occasion and it is to be regretted that more

members did not attend with their ladies to enjoy it. During November, a sausage and mash supper was instituted on a Saturday night as an experiment; this may have been a successful venture because nearly every sausage was eaten before 7 p.m. The House Committee also undertook three dances apart from the New Year's Dance. One was on the night of the Boat Race, another after the Serpentine Regatta, and the third on a Saturday in November, which was meant to have some connection with Halloween. Everyone turned up most respectably dressed; it may be a sign of the times that the modern ghoul does not

like to be seen for what he is, at least in public.

The House Committee lost in March the valuable services of Tod Hollom and Peter Pusey. To replace them the Annual General Meeting was prevailed upon to elect John Webb and Lionel Abel-Smith. Bob Bray continues to keep his two colleagues on what they hope is the right track. The House Stewards wish to thank many members of the Club who willingly help them in some part of their duties and in many cases relieve them of responsibility. They will be glad to hear of any other members who would be ready to help in any way.

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## HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

At the annual meeting of the Stewards in December, small alterations have been made to the qualification rules at Henley Royal Regatta.

The principal alteration is that competitors in the Grand Challenge Cup may now take part in the Wyfold Cup, but that crews competing in the Visitors Cup may no longer take part in the Wyfold Cup. Oarsmen in the Thames Cup will in future be able to compete in the Stewards Cup.

The annual report of the committee of management stated that the membership of the Stewards enclosure was now 1,375, an increase of 132 during the year.

## THE REMENHAM CLUB

Remenham Club, situated on the Berkshire side between Fawley and the Mile Post, provides an excellent view of Henley Royal Regatta from a pleasant lawn, and has a comfortable licensed Club House. Meals can be obtained during the Regatta. It may not be generally realised that Membership of Remenham Club is confined to Members of London, Thames, Vesta, Twickenham, Molesey, Kingston and Staines, provided that they are suitably proposed and seconded, and that they have been competitors either at Henley Royal Regatta or in best boat events at the major Metropolitan and Up-River Regattas. In addition, Members of the above Clubs (known as the Founding Clubs) who are competitors at Henley Royal Regatta, are entitled to free membership of Remenham Club in the year in which they are competitors.

The annual subscription is £1 10s. and an Entrance Fee of 10s. is payable on joining. Guests may be introduced on Regatta Days at very reasonable charges by members and competitor members, whose wives, and children

between the ages of eight and eighteen, are admitted at *half* the normal rates.

Application Forms for membership may be obtained from the Secretary's Office.

## PUTNEY PERSONALITIES

We are informed by the Captain, 'Sparrow' Morris, that his Deputy Captain Vassilissin is not dead. Not quite. He is in Spain at present, arranging to avoid Dick Messom until after Henley. The rumour that 'Vass' is engaged to a bullfighter's mother is all 'bull'. A very old member says he remembers 'Vass' quite well—yes, a *very* old member.

Answer to Correspondent: Maj.-Gen. Sir Chutnee Gherkin (Poona). Sir, We are informed that the last engagement of the 'Two Brewers' Light Horse was at Marlow Regatta in 1954, when they made their gallant stand at 21.00 hrs. (until closing time, when they were thrown out). Dick Phelps (acting, unpaid, permanent Orderly Sergeant) states that they are being reformed as a mechanised unit, with swivels and fixed-pin line shooters, and expect to undergo further Manoeuvres at Marlow Regatta in 1955 at the same time. Recruitment: R. W. Phelps. T.R.C. (and Bar).

Friends of Johnnie Johnson will be surprised to know that he is well known as an apiarist. He recently informed a very old member (no, not the same one) that he was going away for a short midwifery course and was going to be busy pulling out the little bees. Dr. Maeterlinck, we presume.

The Prevention of Cruelty to Pigs Society has written to the Hon. Sec. lodging a protest at the detention of a junior pig in the changing room of the club. In this connection we understand that the pig, given away as a prize in Ham Ward's Christmas Draw, is addressing a meeting at Animal Farm next week, the subject, 'The Apalling conditions in Rowing Clubs to-day'.

# THE SOCIAL ROUND

## THE NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

Thames seems to be incapable of seeing the New Year in without a dance, and at the dance every effort was made to see that members should be incapable of sight at the appropriate time. It is significant that on this night more was spent at the bar than for many years. That is not to say that it was an unseemly rout. Indeed, there was a very orderly line-up for rum punch as soon as the shower of balloons had received their intended fate. An unusual feature of this dance was the presentation of the 150th Prize in the Christmas Draw to its fortunate winner. The prize that was available this year had used the shoe box in the changing room as a sty during the day when he was not exploring other parts of the Club. Soon after 11 p.m. he entered the Ball Room in David Fairbairn's arms, preceded by a piper and followed by David Marriott wielding a very necessary shovel and bucket. Ham Ward then made the presentation, and Dick Phelps, who had sold the lucky ticket, was given a flannel and a bar of soap with which he washed his face. The symbolism of this part of the ceremony was somewhat lost on a number of those present. Unabashed by this ignorance, they went on dancing and reeling until 2 a.m., half an hour beyond the advertised time.

## TIDEWAY TRUST FOOTBALL POOLS

This method of raising money has produced £400 for the Club since its inception. It requires a considerable effort on the part of the organising committee to keep it going, but in the main it has been worth it, and has produced some very necessary money for the Club.

If members, particularly those who have some influence where groups of people are working, would see if they could find somebody to act as an agent, they would be helping enormously. It is not essential to do anything yourself except, perhaps, to chip in with the humble bob, but it is necessary for the Club to have a continuous flow of extra money into its coffers.

## CHRISTMAS DRAW AND DERBY SWEEP

These two items together have produced about £500/600 this year. The major part of this sum was made from the Christmas Draw.

It is a fact that about 150/200 members sell all the books between them, and the rest make no attempt whatsoever. Members have returned all books saying that they cannot sell any tickets as there is no interest in T.R.C. in their area. It is a very interesting fact

that tickets sell in Northern Ireland, Eire, Scotland and Wales, where people have never even heard of the Club, but are very interested in the prize list. If the non-selling members took a book or two themselves it would make a difference of a £1,000 to the Club.

The money is needed, and here is a very simple way of subscribing to the funds. Next time you get some books, do please give them a little more serious thought. There are plenty of ways of getting rid of them such as giving a book to the milkman, porter or dustman, etc., to sell. Have a go!

## 'ROWING INSTRUCTIONS'

J. Beresford, Senr., has recently published a booklet under the above title. As might be expected, it is well worth the attention of the oarsman, consisting as it does of most of the practical tips the coach tries to impart.

Copies of 'Rowing Instructions' are available at the Club, price 1s. The proceeds of the sale are to be donated to the Launch Fund, by Berry, and a lively interest has already been shown by many of our neighbours who have bought copies for distribution to their active members.

## A FUTURE PUBLICATION

A publication expected in the summer will be of great interest to all oarsmen and particularly to the numerous friends and contemporaries of J. Beresford, Senr. It will be the story of "Berry's" rowing life and experiences on the river and will also contain a wealth of anecdote and record closely bound with the progress of Thames over the last forty years.

In due course, further information will be available at the Club.

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A dinner was held at the Clubhouse on 1st September to welcome the Senior Eight on its return from Vancouver. Arthur Sulley and the crew were the guests of the Club on this occasion, and a very pleasant evening ensued. Arthur gave an interesting talk on their experiences at the Empire Games, and Jack Beresford spoke on the international approach to training. Alastair Davidson showed films of the party taken of on- and off-duty moments, leaving little doubt in the minds of the on-lookers that the trip must have been one well worth striving for.

*Continued from page 6*

of their own, much to the same effect, but slightly different in phraseology. It read thus:—

No person shall be considered as an amateur oarsman or sculler:—

1. Who has ever competed in an open competition for any stake, money, or entrance fee.
2. Who has competed with or against a professional for any prize.
3. Who has ever taught, pursued, or assisted in the practice of athletic exercise of any kind as a means of gaining a livelihood.
4. Who has been employed in or about boats for money or wages.
5. Who is or has been, by trade or employ-

ment for wages, a mechanic, artisan, or labourer.

This definition, with a further slight verbal alteration, was embodied in the rules of Henley Regatta, and was adopted by the Amateur Rowing Association which was founded in the same year. *(from the Badminton Library)*

#### Flashback to the 'good old days'.

Eton College Sculling Sweepstakes, 24th June, 1840.

Prizes: 1st, £5; 2nd, £2 10s.; 3rd, £1; 4th, 10s.; 5th, 7s. 6d.; 6th, 2s. 6d.—and prizes of £1 and 10s. for first and second rows.

*(from the Eton Boating Book, 1816-1932)*

## HISTORY OF THE THAMES ROWING CLUB

### EARLY SUCCESSES

As has already been recorded, the rebel four of Piggy Eyre and his comrades trained from the Feathers, Wandsworth, after the Club showed a lack of confidence in their ability; but such was the success of their method of training that they were entered for the Wyfold Cup in 1870. This was the Club's first appearance at Henley Regatta.

The race attracted an entry of only six crews, the Oxford Etonians, Third Trinity, Cambridge, Trinity College, Dublin, the Oscillators Club, Kingston, Kingston R.C. and T.R.C. The first two of these raced in the first heat, and the Oxford crew won by a bare length. Trinity College, Dublin, did not go to the post, and we rowed over in the next. In the final we had the Berkshire station, the Oxford Etonian Club the centre, and the Oscillators had the Bucks side.

At that time, and for many years after, the Henley course ran from a starting point on the Bucks side of Temple Island, past a bend at Fawley to just below Henley Bridge. The considerable bend just above the finish of the present regatta course conferred a great advantage on the crew drawn on the Berks station, often a decisive one. It is not recorded if we needed this assistance in the final of 1870. The regatta records simply note that the Thames Rowing Club won easily by two or three lengths, the Oxford Etonian Club being about two lengths ahead of the Oscillators. Time 8 min. 34 sec.

This success was repeated in the next year, when five crews entered for the Wyfold Cup. Pembroke College, Oxford, and the Royal Engineers Boat Club withdrew, leaving Kingston R.C. to beat Trinity College, Dublin, in the first heat, and T.R.C. to race the winner in the

final. We won by a length and a half in 9 min. 6 sec.

The Club was clearly emboldened by these efforts, and the rebels were received back to the fold with open arms after winning in 1870. In 1872, the Club raced for the first time for the Thames Cup as well as for the Wyfold. We won both. This was the first year that Jimmie Gastie rowed for us. He came to the Club as a novice in 1871 and Piggy says that he got into form very rapidly. The first Thames Cup crew was: W. B. Giles (bow); H. J. Smith; J. Hastie; W. Page; G. H. Vize; J. A. Cameron; W. H. Eyre; W. L. Slater (stroke); A. Christie (cox). The average weight was 11 stone 1 lb. Three crews entered, and raced side by side for the cup. London R.C. led Thames up to the half distance, but then we took the lead; we were three-quarters of a length ahead at the Point above the present regatta finish, and we won by over a length. The third crew, Ino R.C., finished several lengths astern. Time 8 min. 42 sec. Our Wyfold crew was made up from the Thames Cup crew, and consisted of: J. Hastie (bow); J. A. Cameron; G. H. Vize; W. L. Slater (stroke); A. Christie (cox). They beat the North London R.C. and Kingston R.C. easily in a heat, and rowed against London R.C. and Ino R.C. in the final. This was won by a little over a length from L.R.C., who were several lengths in front of Ino. Time 8 min. 42 sec.

It was in the regatta of 1872 that sliding seats were first used at Henley, though some scullers had slid on broad fixed seats the year before. London R.C. used sliding seats against the Atalanta Club of New York early in the year and brought their eight and four to Henley

with them. They created such a sensation during practice that nearly all the other crews adopted them at the last minute. This year, too, there was a presentation cup for four-oared boats without coxswains. This was offered as the direct result of the tactics of Brasenose College the year before. They entered for the Stewards Cup and the Visitors Cup, and let it become generally known that they intended to row without a cox. But another crew protested formally, and the Stewards, after interrogating both parties, decided that no four- or eight-oared boat would be allowed to compete without a cox, and that no steering apparatus would be allowed in any other boat. To defeat this Brasenose embarked a coxswain at the starting point in the Stewards Cup race, and he jumped out of the boat as soon as the race was started. The crew came in first but was disqualified. They did not appear in the Visitors Cup. The Stewards Cup was made a coxswainless race in 1873, and the Visitors and Wyfold in 1874.

In 1873, we again won the Thames Cup. The crew was somewhat different: J. W. Hughes (bow); C. Russell; J. Maycock; W. Page; H. G. Vize; A. C. Radmall; J. Hastie; W. L. Slater (stroke); H. R. Trehearne (cox). They beat Oriel College easily in the second heat, and won the final against London R.C. by four or five lengths. Time 8 min. 2 sec. The Wyfold crew lost to Kingstown Harbour B.C.

We made our first appearance in the Grand Challenge Cup next year, 1874, and it is worthy of record that we have never since then failed to enter a crew for this race on any occasion when the cup has been raced for; indeed there is reason to believe that we are the only club that can make this claim. We did not win the race in 1874, but we rowed in the final, showing that our progress in so short a time to have been truly remarkable. We also lost in the final of the Stewards Cup that year, again a first entry. We had success in the Thames Cup, beating London in the final by nearly a length, but we lost the Wyfold going down in the second heat to Newcastle R.C.

Piggy Eyre was back rowing in 1876, and we had Hastie stroking the Grand crew, which consisted of: R. H. Labat (bow); J. Howell; G. C. Gordon; C. C. Cream; W. L. Slater; J. A. M. Robertson; W. H. Eyre; J. Hastie (stroke); E. A. Safford (cox). We beat London somewhat easily by over two lengths in the second heat, in 7 min. 20 sec. In the final we rowed on Bucks, with Jesus College on Berks, and University and Brasenose Colleges (combined) in the centre. We led at the Farm by a length, the Oxford crew being quarter of a length behind Jesus. We were clear at Fawley, and at the half distance came across in front of the Oxford crew and took Jesus's water. But

we were only a couple of yards ahead of them, and they came up and overlapped, so that we had to sheer out. The Oxford crew had nearly caught up with Jesus by then. We managed to keep in front, and won by less than a length, with Jesus second. Time 7 min. 26 sec. And so we won the Grand for the first time.

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**MEMORANDUM:** for the Captain:—

The Thames Rowing Club was founded in 1861 as a pleasure club only. Unlike the London Rowing Club, the Thames Rowing Club keeps a stock of pleasure-boats, which any member can use for up-river trips by permission of the Captain. Colours: red, black and white. (*from Charles Dickens's 'Dictionary of the Thames'*) (Club Library—Ed.)

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Reply to correspondent: 'Cub-mistress', Thames Ditton: Madam, Thank you for your letter re the 1st (Dittons) Troop Church Parade Rehearsal. The bill for repairs to two damaged Wolf Cubs has been handed to Mr. George Freeman. It appears he was in the neighbourhood on a Corgi motor-scooter on the night of the 21st May. We are informed by the Club Transport Officer that Mr. Freeman was authorised to carry not more than six members of the Junior Eight. We have been asked to inform you that the two references given you by the driver, i.e., Rear-Admiral Neale and Archbishop Thayer, have not been traced by the Hon. Secretary as members of this Club.

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At a small party of past and present Captains of Thames, Ian Fairbairn presented Dick Phelps with a silver ashtray to commemorate his appointment as Waterman to Her Majesty the Queen.

An interesting relic was mounted on the tray—a button from the coat of the donor when he was Captain of Boats at Eton College in 1912.

\*

News Flash: A 3-D pin-up of Diana Dors has been smuggled into the clubhouse by an Hon. Steward. Bob—(del. all names, Ed.) who shall be nameless, but is it significant that this House Steward now shaves every day, is learning to play the trombone, and charged a member ninenpence for a pint of Scotch ale! In next year's Journal we will endeavour to print a photograph of Bob (no names, Ed.), this House Steward, in 4-D. And what makes this Rowing Romeo think that Miss Dors will be prepared to sit at home night after night, knitting little rowing socks while Bob (no names, Ed.), this man, goes out enjoying himself in the Junior-Senior Eight?

Answer to co-respondents; 'La Belle Sauvage', Ostend: Madame (?) Thank you for your good wishes for the Test Match. We are not directly interested as a club, but we quite understand. Referring to your enquiry, the gentleman you refer to as 'le petit Brain de l'oiseau' is a member of this club, and is practically engaged to two girls in Vancouver. In consequence we think your journey would be fruitless. We acknowledge receipt of the brown brogues, size twelve, and regret that they would not fit your husband to whom you refer as 'le petit pied de l'oiseau'. Alastair Davidson (Monsieur) has asked us to return the two pellets of buckshot he found in his hip-pocket on his return to London after the Ostend Regatta. (All this is *quite* irrelevant, Ed.)

Messrs. Porter & Legg, inventors of the anti-steam device for pair-oared bows are now

working on a stern-wave flattener which should obviate any further trouble with the Port of London Authority. The recent flooding of Fulham Football Ground case, in which they were brilliantly (if not luckily) defended by Lionel Abel-Smith has become a test case. Pending a decision the defendants have been asked to keep their rate of striking under forty revolutions per minute.

An interesting situation arose recently when three members of the Senior Eight found themselves engaged to the same lady on their return from Dunkerke Regatta. Messrs. Pope, Eldeen and Watson, of Universal Fiances Ltd., have been asked to take the case. John Macmillan, whose daughter is now almost old enough to say 'damn fool' to her father, will represent the lady, and Geoffrey Page has been commissioned to paint a portrait of the winner (or winners).

## OBITUARY

**A. H. Turner**

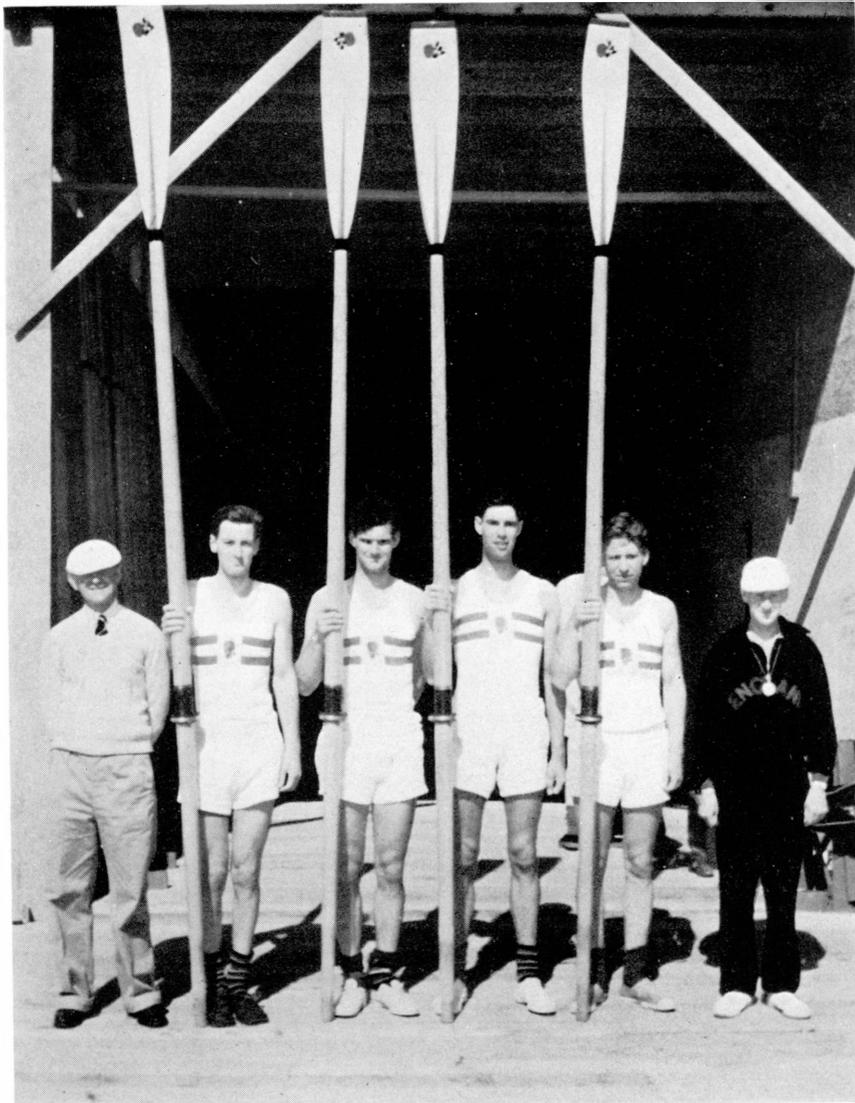
**F. D. Lambert**

'Aub' Turner became a member of the Club in 1911, and was in the Thames Cup 'B' crew of 1920. He did not have many opportunities of appearing in Club crews, as much of his working life was spent in the Far East, but when he retired and came to live in Wimbledon, he assumed a big part in the administration of the Club, being Honorary Secretary from 1934 to 1949. Perhaps our greatest debt to him is for his skilful handling of the difficult situations which arose during the War years: he kept the Clubhouse open, and established it as a centre where any oarsman on leave in London was always welcome as a temporary member and could enjoy some exercise on the river. A number of such visitors subsequently became permanent members.

'Aub' had very definite ideas about how a rowing club should be run and how its members should behave, and he was never afraid to express them. He was intolerant of bad manners and inconsiderate conduct, and frequently exercised his authority in support of his principles; but few members appreciated the immense amount of his time which he devoted to the affairs of the Club behind the scenes, or realised when they saw the inconspicuous figure in the macintosh and familiar hat slipping away from the

front door that the battered attaché case he carried contained work to keep him occupied for many hours at home, for he addressed all the envelopes and wrote all the letters by hand, made out the accounts and entered up the old-fashioned account books single-handed, apparently despising any new-fangled notions such as typewriters and addressing-machines. He was a very faithful servant to his fellow-members, and after his retirement from office he visited the Club frequently, always ready to give a hand on any busy day and enjoying a chat with old friends. He died very suddenly at his home on 22nd January, 1955, having enjoyed good health to the last.

'Sleepy' Lambert was a keen member of Thames and very interested in its achievements. He was a frequent visitor to the Club where he enjoyed meeting his friends of the 1920's, during which period he rowed in Junior and Junior-Senior Eights. After his active rowing days were over he commemorated his happy times at the Club by very generous response to any appeals, and always attended the Club Dinner with a large party. He will be missed by his friends at Henley on Finals day, which he always made the occasion for convivial reunions.



*Top left:  
Sid Rand and  
Maurice Legg  
interviewed by  
John Pope*

*Top right:  
The 'Needle'  
—Henley*

*The Coxed Four  
at Vancouver*



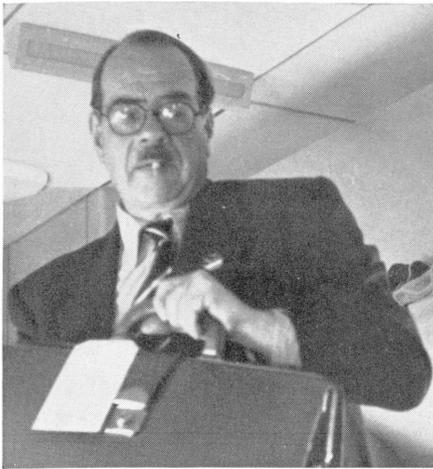
*Dunkerque*  
*—Thames 1st VIII*



*Dunkerque*  
*—L'Entente tres Cordiale*

*Thames 2nd VIII training at Putney*





*Mr. G. O. Nickalls,  
Chairman of the A.R.A.*



*R.I.P.!!*

*Vancouver—A practice outing of the Coxed IV*



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