

Captains Report 2018-2019

This past season has shown another great increase in numbers for all the squads. We have also been able to increase the size of the fleet with the purchase of a new men's eight, Big Al and a masters women's coxless quad, Liz Bray, and are looking forward to renewing more of our older boats over the next 12 months.

2018 season kicked off with a successful Rutherford head, in perhaps some of the worst weather (wet) for competitors we have seen for a few years. This year we also successfully introduced Alumni eights which attracted crews from Newcastle University and the University of London. All of our squads took to the water with success from

Throughout head race season we dominated club rowing in the north, wins at Yorkshire head for our relatively new Development squad.

A strong entry for Wehorr – 3 eights entered, unfortunately the race was cancelled. Horr – 5 Men's eights, including a win of the Jackson trophy for the 1st eight over Agecroft and possibly an award for the heaviest cox in Tyne M5. Vesta Horr – the first ever entry for our Masters women and strong performances from our D and F crews plus a second place finish in MxdMasB8+ as part of a composite showed the rest of the country which club in the north was the one to watch.

Onto regatta season with a bang, the club ventured north of the border en mass to Strathclyde Park, many crews competing locally at Durham, Tees, Hexham and Talkin Tarn. With our top crews venturing further south to Met regatta, National Schools – for a top 6 finish in J15 4x+ and top 10 in WJ16 2x, HWR – where we qualified an eight and a four, the four went through to the second round and met the finalists, HRR – send a record 3(!) men's eights in the Thames and qualified two crews with one crew making it through to the Thursday. HMR, National Junior Champs (too many results to mention! – see below) and North to National Masters – where we achieved a gold medal in MasD8+ and 3rd place in WMasC8+.

Our Sunday league crews were battling it out every month and this year took home the trophy for both men's and women's crews. This squad also put up a large showing in the Great Tyne Row, taking home the fastest men's pennant.

Aside from racing the club has embraced the weekend kitchen, kick started by the senior squads last year and now supported by all squads, we have had our Christmas head, Captain's regatta and (hopefully) annual Millenium Bridge row over the summer. From my point of view it has been great to see the squads working together in training sessions and fundraising – this can allow us to keep forging forward with our own individual aims and goals and also to renew our fleet so our equipment can match our performances.

Individual squad reports can be found below.

Masters Women

Increase in numbers, however, crew selection thwarted throughout the winter training by illness / family or work related issues.

- 6th Oct 18: Tyne LDS & SBH 3 x quads entered.
- 1st Dec 18: Rutherford Head; Mast D 8+ [Tracy; Liz; Maarja; DC; Steph; Jane; Rosie & Caroline, cox Diane. 4 other crews entered; Tyne were faster but as Durham were an E crew, they won on adjusted time, but good row by all. Tees; Tayside and Tyne United other crews.
- Fundraising from Great North Run volunteers and Christmas Market at club.
- 19th Jan 19; Tyne United New Year Head, W Mast D 8+ 1st. Other opposition Tees and Tyne United !
- 2nd Mar 19 Yorkshire Head; struggled to get crew together on the day due to illness & injury. Did race with Angie Lund & Helen Adair from Durham ARC. Very good race for scratch crew, but York city impressive winners !
- 31st Mar 19. Vesta Masters Head; 1st Tyne womens masters crew to compete at this event. Masters D - Tracy; Katherine; Maarja; DC; Steph; Liz; Jane & Caroline, cox Diane. Excellent race enjoyed by all, although a little nervous. Came 6th out of 10 D crews in a time of 24.58. Great weekend had by all !!!
- 27th / 28th April 19. Strathclyde Park Regatta. Two quads raced on the Sat in very rough conditions !! Mast E 4x- Liz; Gillian; Lyn & Elena. Mast B 4x+ Steph; Jane Ker & Lucia, cox Diane. Sunday much better conditions; Mast D 8+ Tracy; Katherine; DC; Steph; Liz; Jane & Caroline, cox Diane. Not one of our best rows!, coming in 3rd to two Scottish crews; St Andrews and Strathclyde Park.
- 8th June 19. Durham Regatta. Mast C 8+, against DARC E crew, too much time difference to make up, but good row.
- 15th / 16th June 19. British Masters Champs at Strathclyde Park. W. non championship 8+ A-C; better race than previous visit to Strathclyde, just losing out to St. Andrews with Runcorn 3rd.
- 6th July 19 Talkin Tarn Regatta. Managed to get W Mast E 8+ together, but sadly no opposition, so keen to race decided to enter open masters 8+ and raced against our men's masters crews!! (who did take their 10 sec. start), but we pushed them all the way!!! Tracy; Liz; DC; Steph; Rosie; Iso; Jane & Caroline cox Diane. Also 4x- Fred; Jenny; Lyn & Elena, good row but tough opposition, (TT).

Squad training in small boats up to start of winter training, 2x 4x- 1x with some crews entering LDS/SBH series. Mast E 4x- having a good row at South Hylton; Liz; Gillian; Lyn & Elena, coming in 2nd to Talkin Tarn crew.

3 quads & 2 doubles entering Tyne LDS & Tyne United SBH. Caroline and Jane 2x, and Liz 1x having a brave attempts at Berwick LDS. Fred also racing at Wansbeck LDS in her single.

The hard slog of winter training started at the end of September, with the late return of Jen Swan, the 8 will need to work hard over the next few weeks in preparation for Rutherford Head 2019 !

Masters Men

Another excellent year for the Masters Men's group.

The F Crew continued their progression, competing in all of the local head races, narrowly losing at Rutherford by 0.2 of a second, also losing out narrowly on a pennant at Vesta Vets head for crews with lower CRI points. They also competed at local summer regattas, giving the Tyne E crew a scare at Hexham regatta, the crew competed at British Masters Championships for the first time, beating their local rival's TURC !

The D crew continued its unbeaten run in Tyne Head races, winning, Rutherford, TURC New Years Head (also raced in Open at TURC Head, only 20 secs behind DUBC 2nd eight) & Tyne Head. The group had a winter training camp on the Tideway, racing in Hammersmith Head (2nd in Vet D), they also had some expert coaching from Olympic Gold Medal winning cox, Adrian Ellison. The winter culminated in a decent race in HORR (foolish old men), they managed to recover enough to race in Vets head the next day finishing 4th in Mas D, a top draw result. Summer victories at Strathclyde Park, Durham & Hexham. The main national events were British Masters when the crew joined the Senior Men (Jackson) on winning a "Major" with a Gold Medal in Masters D eights. The season ended at Henley Masters, again being handed tough draws in both E & D eights, narrowly beaten by USA (ex internationals) & Moscow (ex Russian Olympian's) !

Numerous fours and sculling victories over the passed year prove that TARC has the strongest masters squad in the north, this is thanks to GW, assisted by MAB.

Juniors

Following a successful Winter Head racing season which included winning top junior club at the local Northern sculling series, our junior squad started the New Year in high spirits. Special mention and many thanks to our outgoing coaches over the past few seasons. Jess Edgar-Harris, Connor Foxall, Thomas Jackson and Freya Williams. We wish them all luck in their new challenges after graduation. Still under the guidance of John Mulholland, Oliver Bratley and Beth Laidlaw, they were joined By Dave Higgins as new position Junior Squad Coordinator in March.

An early cancelled Regional championships saw the squad head into Nationals schools Regatta without much competitive side by side racing. This didn't not deter our J15 Boys quad Scull (Isaac, Joe, James,

Jamie, and cox Lottie) from a top 6 finish in J15 boy's championship quads one of the largest events in the championships. We also had an impressive top 10 finish in the Girls J16 (Charlotte and Erin) double by a crew racing up an age group. our squad were well represented at this event with crews in champ girls quads and pairs, champ boys singles, doubles and Quad, unfortunate not to progress further than the Time trial but valuable lessons learned nerveless.

We achieved something in the region of 50 regatta wins across Strathclyde, Chester Le Street, Wansbeck, Hexham, Durham City, and Tarn. Spurred on by this success we sent a big contingent to the National Rowing Championships in July. Friday began with a skills test and J14 quad racing. Our WJ14 quad missing out on the A final, suffered technical issues when their rudder was damaged from stake boat attachment, but the crew showed spirit to keep racing to the line regardless. Their time will come!. Rebecca finished a really respectable 6th place in the skills test.

The weekend was our main bulk of entries. Saturday with early time trials in conditions that the river Tyne is like on a good day, give us typical Nottingham waves! the results of the day though came from our two scullers Rebecca in WJ15 single racing up a age finished 6th quickest overall and Mathew in MJ18 singles finished 2nd overall against scullers fresh from GB trials! GREAT RESULTS. We qualified 7 crews into AB semi-finals out of the 12 entered into the championships we had our best championships to date already!.

Sunday brought on better conditions and have to say fairer racing, we were Sadly unable to break into any A-Final but this didn't stop us from gaining many top 12 finishes in (10th)J15 4x+, (10th)WJ15 2x, (8th)MJ15 2x, (7th)WJ15 1x, (10th)MJ18 4x, (10th) MJ18 1x, (11th) Mj18 2x. Other notable finishes WJ15 1x (22nd), WJ18 2x (15th). Other representation in WJ18 1x, WJ15 1x and WJ152x all tried their best in the TT but were unable to progress further. The squad look to build on this into next year's champs and bring home some medals!

We are well into our stride with winter training and head racing already fast approaching 20 wins from events- Scottish head, Tees LDS/SBH, Tyne LDS/SBH, and Wansbeck LDS/SBH.

We have 3 athletes (Natasha, Erin and Isaac) in the early process of GB Juniors trials having all made the ergo times. Natasha and Erin attending early identification to see if they can progress, Isaac will be looking to attend the February Trial for J16's.

It's looking already a good 2019/20 rowing season ahead for the Junior Squad. Many thanks to the Coaches, parents, Trailer drivers, and junior committee, with special mention to Steph Klein who is standing down as Junior Chair this season and has been instrumental in the junior squad admin and building the current representation in the clubs committee over recent years (well-earned break to enjoy her own rowing in the master ladies squad).

Development

Rutherford head as open crew but mixed, Men's crew went on to York and had a win against University college and rowing club crews.

3 Crews raced at Strathclyde Park Regatta, no medals but good regatta experience

Sunday League has 3 crews, 2 open, 1 womens. Won both the open and womens title overall, men's crew was unbeaten in the races.

Great Tyne row – 3 crews entered. Won open men's fastest crew of the day.

3 members of the squad have progressed to the senior squad this year, and one moved up to the masters women.