



River Dart Rowing Club

REGATTA SPECIAL!



River Dart Rowing Club

www.riverdartrowing.com

@riverdartrowingclub

Welcome to this **'Regatta Special'** edition of the club newsletter!

What an incredible week we had at the 181st Port of Dartmouth Royal Regatta. Just shy of 50 members took part in this year's regatta placing our club right at the heart of the action. River Dart Rowing Club teams took part in three major events: the Seine Boat Regatta, the Dragon Boat Racing, and the Coastal Regatta. On top of that, some of our members jumped into the local rowing events too, giving it their all in the whalers, blue boats, and even the bungee rowing.

Beyond the racing, our community truly stepped up to keep the regatta running smoothly. A huge thank you to the club members who volunteered their time on the start line, organised crews for the seine boat regatta, and worked in the finishing tent announcing the official local rowing results.

Throughout the entire event, the team spirit and camaraderie were absolutely electric, lifted by the fantastic support of our crews and spectators alike.

Read on to relive those unforgettable regatta feels, celebrate our wins, and applaud everyone who took part!



Seine Boat Regatta

The Seine Boat Regatta was more popular this year than ever before with a growing number of boats and crews to manage. Huge thanks go to Andrea Cates and Kerry Rushton who supported with the organisation of the event and to Steve Ainsworth, Gill Davies and Wendy Ryan who had the unenviable job of managing the race starts! Thank you too to those who helped in the finishing tent for this event.

In the official results the club managed podium places in 4 races amongst some serious competition. Well done to the following teams on your results:

 2nd place in the 'Open over 55 Seine Boat Race' for Ed Jones, Noel Cornforth, Allan Scobie, Cliff Cates, Tor Allan (cox).

 3rd place in the 'Open over 45 Seine Boat Race' for Ed Jones, Noel Cornforth, Alan Scobie, Colin Monckton, Tor Allan (cox).

 3rd place in the 'Women's over 45 Seine Boat Race' for Lucinda Harvey, Kerry Rushton, Nickie, Liz Deakin, Steve Redmond (cox)

And  3rd place in the 'Women's over 55 Seine Boat Race' for Liz Deakin, Nickie Reed, Sarah Reeve, Sian Mitchell, Simon Rushton (cox)



**We all loved it really!
We just forgot to tell
our faces! 😂**



These podium finishes are a massive achievement, but perhaps the biggest thing to celebrate is the phenomenal backing and support from the entire club.

The sportsmanship shown on the water and the true team feel on the riverbank proved that our community spirit is our greatest strength, making this a regatta where everyone shared in the success!

Here are just a few things that our club members said ...

Well done everyone on the racing yesterday!

Fantastic turnout, team effort, some great results and the best supporters by far! It was good fun but mostly proud to be part of an inclusive, supportive club with a great group of people!



We may not have won any silverware but I really do feel like we're winning as a team.

We were definitely the ones with the most spirit and support for each other and that alone is a win in my book!



What a great club, very proud to be part of it



Note from the editor: we'll try for more diverse photos next year - our men seem to have been camera shy!



Dragon Boat Racing



The Dragon Boat Racing on Wednesday, 26 August, brought fantastic energy to the water, made even better by weather that was a huge improvement on last year!

Our teams stayed dry and thankfully avoided getting as wet and soggy as they did last year, this time around. A brilliant turnout of 22 club members took part, and even though the official dragon heads hadn't arrived in time, we roared down the course with plenty of fire anyway!

Huge credit goes to our coxswains, Paul Clay and Simon Rushton, who did a masterful job drumming and steering their respective teams, Smaug and Drogon, down the course to roaring shouts from the crowds.



While the races were incredibly close, it wasn't our turn to take first place this year; massive congratulations go to The Sportsmans Arms, who claimed the victory for the second year running.



Coastal Rowing Regatta

On the anniversary of receiving our very first coastal quad, we fielded two teams in the novice category of the Coastal Regatta.

Due to the challenging weather, the fleet raced on a tough inshore course, where our teams battled both the elements and each other up to the Anchor Stone and back. It was a hard-fought race with both boats jostling for a podium position from start to finish. Racing included exciting chases and some seriously impressive buoy turns!

A massive well done to the crew of Jamie Osborne, Maz Eames, Nadine Hanlon, Colin Monckton, and cox Simon Rushton, who secured a fantastic second place. They were closely followed by Jo Langmead, Allan Scobie, Bridget John, Noel Cornforth (who heroically battled through with a broken oar!), and cox Tor Allan, who claimed third place ahead of a competitive crew from Paignton. A special shout-out also goes to two of our newest club members, Anna Koska and Ginny Ware, who were part of the winning Barbarians team this year.

Looking ahead, we are incredibly excited to see this section of the club continue to grow. With a highly successful novice campaign now under our belts, we are already looking forward to getting back out on the water, building our squads, and taking part again next year!



In other events . . .

Our club members also made a fantastic splash in the traditional local rowing events, showing our versatility across the board.

Tor Allan coxed in the mixed pairs heats and although the crew missed out on a finals place, it certainly whetted the appetite for further competition next year.



A massive congratulations goes to Leanne Moores for her brilliant performance in getting through to the highly competitive Ladies Open Whaler race final.

We also have a title to celebrate, as Noel Cornforth put on a spectacular show to secure a magnificent win in the Men's Over 55s Whaler Race, proudly retaining his championship title for the second consecutive year!



Whether battling it out in the whalers, navigating the blue boats, or bracing the fun of the bungee rowing, our rowers did the club immensely proud.

What a truly unforgettable 181st Port of Dartmouth Royal Regatta it has been for our club! Whether you rowed, paddled, volunteered, or cheered from the embankment, you made this regatta a resounding success. As we celebrate these fantastic achievements, we are already looking forward to getting back out there, building on our wins, and competing together again next year!

See you there!

