



EXPLORE ROWING

What a lot has happened with Explore Rowing since the last club mailing in March! The learn to row resources have all been published and sent out to accredited clubs; loads of new clubs have come on board; the new Explore Rowing site, explorerowing.org has launched and of course, Sir Steve Redgrave came to join us to officially launch the programme.

We've been really delighted with the feedback we've had from all areas of the sport on the programme and also the creative ways our clubs are implementing the programme. I've been lucky enough to visit a few of the clubs recently and hear first hand how the scheme is rolling out on the ground.

For example, last week I was at Durham ARC to join their latest crop of Explore Rowing 'graduates' at their end of course fun regatta and barbeque. A really good group of friends had developed within the course and a large majority were going to be staying on as members. The clubs officials were also taken aback by how keen the new members were to get involved in the club – a number of them had come to help out at the club's regatta after only a few weeks in the sport!

It's not just the clubs receiving the funding packages who are making a great success of the programme, the accredited clubs are also seeing the benefits of the support resources we have produced. Using the new Learn to Row resources has saved clubs time in producing their own resources but have also proved popular with participants too – one person told me how their wife had ended up telling them off for not putting it down for dinner at home!

We're going to be working hard on extra support for all the Explore Rowing clubs this year and have a few ideas in the pipeline to help out more – including a number of marketing resources which when I've given a sneak peek to some of the clubs I've met recently have got them very excited. Watch this space!

Don't forget that Explore Rowing isn't just about beginners either – the new Explore Rowing website contains lots of ideas for slightly different activities and challenges for your experienced rowers to try out. Make sure you pop up some possibilities around your club and encourage your members to use the site. It's open to everyone not just members of accredited clubs!

The programme is really starting to accelerate now and we're all really excited about where it's going. Please do get in touch if your club wants to find out more about getting involved – we'd love to have you on board.

Rich

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Explore Rowing Programme Manager

