



WAGS NEWS



Welcome - To the July edition of the WAGS NEWS. Hope you are all enjoying the regatta season. Why keep your clubs successes and achievement to yourselves send them in the more news the better especially if you have a photo or two.

This newsletter is aimed at anyone with an interest in rowing throughout the WAGS Region. It aims to keep you up to date with activities and events going on within both the region and nationally that affect your local club. Providing you with important and general information, coaching tips, race results etc. It will also bring you the latest information on Coach Education and Training opportunities available within the region.

Remember this is your region's newsletter therefore to make the most of it and promote the activities in your club e-mail them to rachael.wooldridge@ara-rowing.org

Gloucester Juniors raise money for Charity

Gloucester Rowing Club Junior Squad spent a long night on rowing machines in aid of charity.

The thirty three rowers split into three teams and took it in turns to row for 2-10 minutes at a time, starting at 5.00 p.m.

The first two teams started at the Eastern (Southend Pier) and Western (Kemble) ends of the River Thames and rowed towards each other, with each team covering approximately 170km. The third team rowed along the Cotswold Way. Each team marked their progress on a map through the night.

The Cotswold Way team were the first to finish, led by 15 year old Amy Voysey who herself covered a remarkable 30km. The two Thames teams finally met up on the virtual Henley Royal Regatta straight, but after 15 hours of rowing were too tired to race each other!

Jess Westerby, in her first year at the club, suggested that proceeds were donated to Winstons Wish, and the photo shows Jess presenting the cheque for £1147.89.



WAGS Affiliated clubs/schools/universities: Avon & Somerset Police RC, Avon County RC, Bradford on Avon RC, Bristol Ariel RC, City of Bristol RC, Cotswold RC, Fuzzy Duck BC, Gloucester RC, Meles BC, Minerva Bath RC, Severn River Rowing Ass, Swindon RC, Bath University, Bristol University, Defence Academy RC, Gloucester University, West of England university, Cheltenham College BC, Cheltenham Ladies College BC, Clifton College BC, Monkton Bluefriars BC, Monkton Combe School BC, Wycliffe College Boat Club



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Cotswold Rowing Club

On Saturday the 3rd of May, Cotswold Rowing Club members got afloat at their new temporary location Lake 32 Cotswold Water Park. With thanks to Waterland Activity Centre who have agreed to host the club at reasonable cost. Facilities open to the club include an area for boat storage, launch facilities off a beach, changing rooms, showers and toilets.

The Cotswold Rowing club is planning to hold Club sessions on Thursday evenings from 6- 8pm and on Saturdays from 10am to noon. Cotswold Rowing Club Members can also use the facilities by prior agreement with Waterland during other times of the day as the Activity Centre is generally open for business.

The Club would like to be rowing on Cleveland Lakes, and is working with Cotswold Water Park Society with the aim of rowing there in the future. But at this time but constrained by Health and Safety issues related to the extended use of the site for gravel extraction and in-fill landscaping. However these activities are expected to cease by around end 2008, with some restoration work beyond that date.

The Cleveland rowing lake68a is currently 900 metres long with the extension to 1500 metres, by combining with lake68b, being planned for end 2008/ beginning 2009. The ultimate extension to form a 2Km course with a cooling down area, making a total 2.2 Kms, will follow once planning permission and funding have been obtained.

For more information about the club and membership visit:

http://www.waterpark.org/society/cotswold_rowing_club.html

For more details about Waterland Activity centre visit:

<http://www.ukwatersports.co.uk/>

For more information about Cleveland Lakes please visit:

http://www.waterpark.org/society/cleveland_lakes.html



UWE win Bristol's Varsity Seniors Boat Races



The University of the West of England (UWE) showed their determination to win back the Seniors Varsity Cup from Bristol University by winning both the women's and men's 14th annual Bristol Varsity Boat Races on Saturday 26 April played out in the city docks.

The Varsity Boat Race drew a huge crowd who lined the harbour side to see the two universities compete.

Bristol took the early races ensuring Bristol won three out of five of the day's races which meant Bristol retained the overall Varsity trophy. UWE won the two crucial Varsity Cups for the women's and men's senior races.

Both races were very close run with UWE just winning by a canvass.

Bristol's Varsity Boat Race event precedes the British Universities Sports Association (BUSA) regatta and serves as a great launch pad for the Metropolitan, Marlow and Henley Royal and Women's Henley Royal Regattas.

Since its inaugural race in 1995 the event has taken on a prestige of its own. UWE and University of Bristol are now two of the biggest British Rowing Universities.

One of the most spectacular courses around, the race takes place over 1.3 kilometers passing the SS Great Britain, Maritime Heritage Museum and the amphitheatre. The course usually takes the athletes approximately five minutes

Both Universities field Alumni crews where past students come back to represent their Universities. For the past two years UWE's Alumni crew has included Peter Reed, an ex-UWE Club President, a double World Champion in the Men's Coxed 4 and integral member of Great Britain's Olympic medal hopes in Beijing this August.

For further information please contact.

Jane Kelly or Mary Price, Press Officers

Bristol UWE

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Womens Henley Regatta 19-21st June 08

Crews from clubs across the region travelled to Henley Womens Regatta. To take part in a number of the events offered.

The best result seen in the region was in the Bernard Churcher trophy (Senior 1X) which had 2 top scullers from Minerva Bath battling hard. Akers after 3 good races got through to the semi finals, and then was beat by a sculler from the University of Dublin. But then Thornley also from Minerva Bath had her turn after 4 races to battle against the University of Dublin to bring home the trophy which she did in a time of 7.07

The Roise Mayglothing trophy (2x) - saw a composite crew of Avon County and University of Bristol win their first heat against Tyne United by 2 ½ Lengths, they then raced Durham University who beat them but went on to win the final. Also in the event were UWE who beat Liverpool by 4 lengths and then in the next round faced a composite of X-press and Wycliffe. X-press and Wycliffe won the race a progressed to the final to meet Durham who took the trophy by 1 length.

The Lester trophy (4+) - In the first round had a Wags v Wags race as City of Bristol took on the University of Bristol, the race ended in a win to City by 2 lengths. Unfortunately they were then to knock out of the competition during the next heat.

City of Bristol also put out crews in the Pricewaterhousecoopers Cup (Inter 8+) and the Frank Harry Cup (Senior 4+)

BRISTOL AVON REGATTA AT SALTFOED

On 17 May Bristol Avon Regatta returned to Saltford. It was last held there in 1972. Clubs from all over the WAGS Region made the most of the dead straight 1000 metre course, as they strove to get their hands on one of the superb historic trophies dating back to the 1800s. All concerned were pleased with how things went, and the organisers from Avon County RC now have a proven platform on which to take the event forward as an early season regatta in the WAGS area.

The date for next year's regatta will be Saturday 16 May 2009. The events offered will be expanded to include the full range of single sculls events, and veteran double sculls. Visit the Regatta website on www.baregatta.org.uk



**Scholarship opportunities
Stewards Trust Scholarships
2008 - WAGS and other regions**

Are you considering going back to University or are you currently a student who wishes to continue coaching after University?

Are you interested in spending two years studying for a part-time postgraduate qualification in coaching, sports development, or the health/social related benefits of sport?

Do you have experience of coaching young people? The ARA is delighted to be working in partnership with the Henley Stewards Charitable Trust to deliver this highly successful Scholarship Programme.

We are seeking Scholarship Coaches for Autumn 2008 to coach part-time with a cluster of Project Oarsome and Clubmark clubs delivering the ARA Young people's Programme, whilst studying for a part-time postgraduate qualification.

A package of support is available to the right applicants of any age or background who wish to take the first step onto the professional ladder.

There are a number of vacancies in regions which include the following: Scotland, Yorkshire, WAGS, South West.

Further details, scholarship specification and application forms are available from Liz O'Flaherty, email: info@ara-rowing.org

Letters of application, together with completed application forms should be marked 'Private & Confidential' and sent to Liz O'Flaherty, either by email (as above) or to ARA, 6 Lower Mall, London W6 9DJ.

The successful candidate will be required to complete a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Disclosure application.

The ARA is an equal opportunities employer.

**AMATEUR ROWING ASSOCIATION | 6 Lower Mall,
London, W6 9DJ | Tel:020 8237 6700 | www.ara-rowing.org**



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Sportsmatch - 08 -09 Make sure your club doesn't miss out.

The first judging panel meets on Tuesday 1 July to discuss applications for 2008/09. Subsequent judging panels will meet every 6-8 weeks after that.

Sportsmatch matches - up to the value of £50,000 - sponsorship money which has been given to an eligible sports body by a company, Trust or private individual to fund projects encouraging new participation at grassroots level.

All projects applying in 2008/09 have to be able to deliver the Sportsmatch element of their project in its entirety by 31 March 2009, ensuring the benefits of the scheme are received at the earliest opportunity.

Applicants can now apply online with telephone support available from Sport England on 08458 508 508 or they can ring their appropriate regional grant advisor directly on the numbers below.

South West

Kevin Thompson - Tel. 020 7273 2020

For more information and the application form visit:

<http://www.sportsmatch.co.uk/>

Gloucestershire Sports Awards 2008

Nominations Now Open!

Cheltenham Racecourse will again be the prestigious sporting venue for the 2008 Gloucestershire Sports Awards.

The Gloucestershire Sports Awards are designed to recognise and reward the outstanding efforts of the Gloucestershire sporting community. Each award is designed to celebrate the dedication and hard work coaches, volunteers, officials, clubs and teachers put into developing sport within the county. The awards this year will be presented by Sharron Davies, MBE, and guests will get the chance to meet Sharron and ask a question or two.

If you know someone that deserves a reward for all their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment nominate them for an award by filling out our online nomination form.

<http://www.activegloucestershire.org/Events+and+Training/Gloucestershire+Sports+Awards/>

For more information or to request a hard copy nomination form please contact:

Kelly Farr, Marketing and Events Officer

Email: kfarr@glos.ac.uk

Tel: 01242 715191

WAGS Regional Rowing Council

Chairman:	Phil Clements
Deputy Chairman:	Julian Bewick
Secretary:	Philippa Sondheimer
Water Safety Adviser :	Clive Pendry
Treasurer:	Robin Leach
Coaching Commission:	Vacant
Junior Commission:	Penny Senior
Veteran Commission:	Deirdre Squire
Recreational Rowing:	Stephen Oxlade
Webmaster :	

Divisional Representative – Philippa Sondheimer

ARA Coaching and Development Officer: Rachael Wooldridge rachael.wooldridge@ara-rowing.org

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