



GRYPHEN'S NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE: LENTS' HEADSHIP – NEW BOAT – FAIRBAIRNS' SUCCESS – CURRENT SQUAD NEWS – PLUS DATES TO SAVE!

Newnham reclaim Lent Bumps Headship after 36 years!

Our 1st VIII bumped up to Head of the River during this year's Lent Bumps, reclaiming the title for the first time since 1983 – now bring on the Mays!

Having started the 2019 Lent Bumps in third place, with Jesus at the top of Women's First Division followed by Downing, Newnham W1 bumped Downing W1 on the first day just past the Plough. On day two, W1's upward trajectory continued as they moved up to Head by bumping Jesus W1 – and they rowed over the final two days to earn victory.

It is only our fourth Lents Headship, the last being in 1983. The occasion was marked with a highly energetic Boat Club Dinner, and W1 have since gone on to win by five lengths against the Oxford Headship crew (Wadham) at the Henley Boat Races on 30 March!



“We're so proud of all of NCBC after this Lents! W1 smashed it, but we couldn't do this without the support of our crewmates, coaches, committee and alumnae. So thank you all!”

Katie Jones and Rhiannon Smith, Captains 2018-19

W1 Headship Crew List

Cox	<u>Zoë Cavendish</u>
Stroke	Rebecca Smith
7	<u>Katie Jones (Captain)</u>
6	<u>Alice Cozens</u>
5	<u>Ellie Thompson</u>
4	<u>Millie Hopkins</u>
3	<u>Rhiannon Smith (Captain)</u>
2	<u>Annie Cipriani</u>
Bow	<u>Jasmine Wells</u>



Meet NCBC’s newest VIII: The Millicent Garrett Fawcett

In the 100th anniversary year of the first women gaining the right to vote, Millicent Garrett Fawcett slipped into the chilly waters of the Cam – in the form of our latest addition to the Newnham College Boat Club fleet.

Our new boat was funded by a donation from one of our alumnae, Catherine Bell (NC 1964), former President of CUWBC and matched by funding from the JCR equipment fund. Other Gryphens have generously donated to the prospective purchase of a new scull and towards the cost of coaching, remembering their own days in the Boat Club: the chilly 6am cycle to the boathouse, the icy mornings spent on the river, the glorious afternoon outings of summer term, their first outing and their first bump.

It has always been the aim of NCBC to accommodate everyone, no matter what their previous experience, ability or commitment level. From our high-flying seniors, to the novice who wants to try rowing for a term “just to give it a go”, NCBC aims to be a place where everyone has a home.

“Millie” follows the 2015 purchase of a new first VIII named Rosalind Franklin.

Frank, as she’s affectionately known, has made a huge difference to the training of our first boat. Indeed, she’s somewhat of a lucky charm with a total of Up 7 across the three



2017/18 Captains Alice and Izzy join “Millie” in the Cam

Lent and three May Bumps she's raced for NCBC as the 1st VIII since May 2015. She'll now be the 2nd crew's VIII.

As NCBC currently has rack space for only four boats, Millie's purchase meant selling our oldest VIII, "Andy Silk", an ex-CUWBC boat which had raced for Cambridge as the Blondie crew's boat in the early 2000's. Andy was sold to someone who refurbishes boats, so it's nice that he'll see a new lease of life. Hopefully we'll receive photos of Andy after his refurbishment.

The Naming Ceremony for the Millicent Garrett Fawcett took place on Saturday 5th May, with an excellent speech by Dr Emma Mawdsley, Fellow of the College, Director of the Margaret Anstee Centre and Senior Treasurer of the Boat Club.

Photos from the Naming Ceremony can be found on the [NCBC website!](#)

Millicent Garrett Fawcett's first set of Bumps was very exciting: she bumped Downing and Jesus to Lents Headship, and she is second on the River in the May Bumps 2019!



Whole Boat Club at Millicent Garrett Fawcett's Naming Ceremony on 5th May 2018

Our Current VIII's Fleet

"Millicent Garrett Fawcett"	– Janousek	– 2018	– 1st VIII
"Rosalind Franklin"	– Janousek	– 2015	– 2nd VIII
"Lady Godiva"	– Janousek	– 2010	– 3rd VIII
"The Baroness"	– Janousek	– 2005	– 4th VIII

Michaelmas Term Roundup

Michaelmas Term went very well for the novices and seniors alike – huge thanks to our dedicated coaches!

The Lower Boat Captains, Annie Cipriani and Jasmine Wells, ran three set novice crews, as well as another larger group who rowed more casually. They competed in a number of races, including Queens’ Ergs (right) and the fancy dress “Emma Sprints” at the end of term!

The term was also very busy for the Seniors, which had a slightly smaller squad of 12 rowers, so raced a W1 IV and a W2 VIII partly to both help us defend our Uni 4’s victory and avenge our 1.1 second loss at last year’s Fairbairns. Their Michaelmas race results are below.

Queens’ Ergs

On 27 Oct, two NCBC novice crews competed in Queens’ Ergs, an intense novice team 8 x 500m ergo relay race against other college crews.

Both groups came fifth in their divisions, and we had a lot of personal best times!



NW1 ready to compete in QErgs 2018!

Michaelmas Race Results

Senior IV

Winter Head	1st in Div
Uni IV’s	1st in Div
Fairbairns	1st in Div

Senior VIII

Autumn Head	6th in Div
Winter Head	3rd in Div
Fairbairns	2nd in Div



The Senior IV & VIII together!

Lent Term Roundup

With newly-trained novices moving in to the senior squad, the boatclub was back to full swing, with three Senior boats on the river and competing in Bumps.

All three boats raced in the Pembroke Regatta, with W1 winning overall (beating Homerton, Sidney, Emmanuel and Caius), W2 getting to the quarter finals and W3 putting up a strong fight against Clare W3 in their first round.

Of course, Lent Bumps were the highlight of the term, with W1 reclaiming Headship, W2 fourth highest 2nd boat (though down three), & W3 up two, second highest 3rd boat.

We also held our yearly Short Course, excellently organised by Regatta Sec Evelyn, and universally praised by the crews who took part. Photos from the day can be found [here](#).

Best of luck also to NCBC members racing for Cambridge: Ida Jacobsen in the Blue Boat, Adriana Perez Rotondo in Blondie, Chiara Avancini in the Lightweight crew, and Pippa Dakin in a CUWBC spare pair!

Fairbairns' Success for NCBC

Senior IV – The Senior IV had a fantastic race, with a winning time of 13:02 – a whole 44 seconds ahead of the next Women's Senior IV! Shown right is the shield they took home.

Senior VIII – The Senior VIII also had a great row, with a time of 18:29 over the 4.3km course, coming 2nd fastest W2 crew!

Novices 1st & 2nd VIII's – The weather on the first day of Fairbairns was the worst it'd been for quite some years, with many expecting racing to be cancelled. However, it went ahead (albeit with a shortened course, to the P&E) and the Novices put in a fantastic effort! The Novice 1st VIII crossed the line with a time of 9:04, and the Novice 2nd VIII came 10th fastest NW2.



Gryphens IV – We had one crew participating in Fairbairns in the Senior IVs category, doing fantastically well, even though this was our first outing as a crew of course! We placed 5th Women's Invitational IV. There was also BCD afterwards which was well attended by Gryphens and current crews alike. The crew (shown in photo to left) was:

Bow: Sheila Fox (NC 1974)
 2: Agnès de Varine (NC 2012)
 3: Ellie Holloway (NC 2015)
 Stroke: Emma Karslacke (NC 2012)



The Gryphens IV rowing in to the sunset after their race. *Photo by Cait Findlay*

Do you have an NCBC photo you'd like featured in the next Newsletter? Email me!

ncbc.development@gmail.com

From the Archives... Quite a Catch!

The unexpected effects of rowing No 7 for a Newnham boat, from the book *Boats for Women*, a history of women's rowing in Cambridge. Many thanks to Averil (NC 1963) for recommending me the book, and for the other fascinating information about CUWBC and NCBC in the 60's!

Some people find oarwomen irresistible, however, as Esther Richardson proves.

'My brother was at Cambridge when I was and a fellow student of his once said to him in 1920 that he felt bound to commit matrimony with one of the Newnham crew - No. 7. When my brother questioned him, he said that she put out such a very good puddle. As he did not know her name and had never met her, in fact, had only seen her from the tow path, he sought my brother's help in achieving a meeting. This I was able to arrange, perhaps over a cup of tea, and in due course a marriage took place and, as far as I know, they lived happily ever after.'

Extract from *Boats For Women* by Victoria Markham, 1975.

Coming Up: May Bumps 2019

W1 – 2nd on River – headship campaign! – chasing Jesus W1, being chased by Emma W1

W2 – 8th in Division 2 (2nd highest W2) – chasing Wolfson W1, being chased by Emma W2

W3 – 8th in Division 3 (highest W3!) – chasing St Catharines W2, being chased by Emma W3

DATES TO SAVE

12 to 15 June 2019 – May Bumps

3 to 7 March 2020 – Lent Bumps

Gryphens will receive an invitation to the Mays Boat Club Dinner, please RSVP by the deadline if you wish to come to what will hopefully be a very enjoyable BCD!

W1 headship campaign for May Bumps!

Please come support us from the Bank!