



Royal Canoe Club Newsletter

October 2024 Edition

Days are getting chilly now and nights are dark, so please take care when going out for a paddle on the river. You must always be part of a group and someone in the group must be responsible for doing a risk assessment on the river conditions before you go out. This is of the utmost importance, especially considering the tragic accident at Sunbury lock last month. Below is an update from the RCC committee meeting held on 12th November. There will be no meeting in December, so your next newsletter will be published in January. Wishing all members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you all in 2025!

Royal Paddling Challenge



The 150th Paddling Challenge took place on Saturday 12th October. However, river conditions weren't ideal, although much better than the few days before. Reluctantly, we decided that no juniors below Division 4 should compete as the river was still just on red boards although with much less flow, so there was no junior 5k race.

The day was still a success with 61 paddlers taking part and a great atmosphere. We even had a paddler take part who had



won the trophy 50 years ago at the centenary race! The men's race was won by James Russell from Chelmsford CC and the ladies race by Katie Brookes from



Worcester CC and many congratulations to Dianora de Bilio who won the junior U18 race.

Wednesday Club Night Kitchen

The kitchen has been closed a few times in October due to half term and low numbers. We will continue to provide dinners for those members training in the gym, marquee or running on Wednesday nights through the autumn and into the winter, if we have enough people coming to eat. We really need 12-15 diners to make it financially viable. Please be sure to get your orders in early each week so that we can gauge numbers. We will plan to cook dinner every Wednesday but please check your emails and the members Facebook page for any cancellations.

The kitchen crew were delighted to be presented with bouquets at the Awards evening as a thank you for keeping everyone fed each week. Thank you very much!



Wednesday Night Training

This takes the form of a 6k run round the bridges for anyone who wishes to join in. Running starts from 6:30pm and there is hot meal to welcome you back if you book.

Royal Awards Evening



Holt was voted Paddlers Paddler.

This took place at the club on Wednesday 6th November when we celebrated the achievements of the club and all members, junior and senior. There were awards for all classes based on results over the year. Cadet of the Year was Jonjo Fahey and Keith



Dianora won the George Richardson Cup with the most points achieved at the MacGregor regatta at Nottingham. Also, Sue Bovington was awarded life membership of Royal CC for all her work coaching juniors and seniors for over 30 years. Congratulations to everyone for their achievements during the year.



Royal 10@10 K2 race

This takes place on Sunday 24th November. Part of the local winter series of K2 10k races. Check in starts at 8am, briefing 9:15am and start at 10am. £10 entry fee per boat. As with all our events, we need volunteers to help the morning run smoothly. Please contact Eleanor at secretary@royalcanoeclub.com if you can spare an hour or two to help.

Christmas Parties

After the success of last year, there will be parties for juniors and adults on Saturday 7th December, both taking the form of quizzes. The junior quiz is from 4pm until 6pm with the adult quiz from 7pm until 11pm. The bar will be open for adults, and we will be serving food. Teams of no more than 6 people please.

Bob Lowery

It is with much sadness we report the passing of Bob Lowery on 12th November at the age of 87. An inspirational Royal member for many years, he represented Great Britain at the Olympics in Rome in 1960 and in Tokyo in 1964. After competing he took an active interest in the club and it was by way of his generosity that, along with others, we were able to replace the Trowlock Island site with the gym, changing rooms, boat stores and ergo room that are enjoyed by members today. He will be missed by all those who knew him.