



# Royal Canoe Club Newsletter

## February 2026 Edition

2026 has started extremely wet and the river is on red boards at the time of writing, so please be aware of river conditions when going out for a paddle. You must not paddle alone, always as 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. Juniors, especially, must not go out paddling alone but as part of a group with a qualified coach in attendance.

So, not much happening at the club at the moment but below is an update from the RCC committee meeting held on 9th February.

### **Club Successes**

The Hare and Hounds races run by Wey KC were cancelled in January due to weather and river conditions, but Waterside A still went ahead on the Kennet and Avon canal. Marco Mangiantini raced K2 with Zak Benstead and finished 10<sup>th</sup> out of 21 in the Senior Men division and Bernice and Jocelyn King came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Veteran Women K2.

Well done to you hardy souls! Great results!



### **First Aid Course**

We are repeating the request for members to take part in a first aid course that we would like to run at the club. The course is an absolute must for all coaches, including volunteer coaches and paid assistant coaches, and for race organisers. The course is open to all members of the club and is a valuable qualification to have for all walks of life. The club will subsidise some of the cost. For further details, please contact club secretary Eleanor McKinlay at [secretary@royalcanoecub.com](mailto:secretary@royalcanoecub.com).

### **Volunteers wanted!**

The 2026 racing season starts soon, and we would like to encourage people, particularly parents, to get involved and help the team leaders at marathon races and at the Nottingham regattas. This may involve co-ordinating of travel to the events and organising boat transport and being available to help out at the

events. The tasks won't be onerous, and it will be a good way to meet new people and get more from the events. Please contact Keith Holt at [healthandsafety@royalcanoecub.com](mailto:healthandsafety@royalcanoecub.com) for more details.

## **Nicole Williams**

Nicole Williams is running in the London Marathon on April 26<sup>th</sup> to raise money for Diabetes UK, a charity close to her heart. Nicole is a long-time member of the club, was a GB junior competitor and was a junior coach at Royal at one time. The club has made a donation, and if anyone would like individually to make a donation to this worthy cause, and wish Nicole well, please open the link, or use the QR code below.



[https://www.justgiving.com/page/nicole-williams-4?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/nicole-williams-4?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)

## **Dates for your Diary**

157<sup>th</sup> Royal CC AGM – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April. Food will be available.

Royal Hasler race – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

Paul Gilbert race – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Royal Sprints – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July.

Royal Paddling Challenge – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October.

Club Awards Evening – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

Royal 10@10 – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

It is hoped we can run some social events during the year, so if anyone has any ideas please speak to the kitchen crew – Eleanor, Jackie and Pippa.