



# Royal Canoe Club Newsletter

## May 2026 Edition

The racing season is starting well with club paddlers having had some outstanding results, detailed below. If anyone has any photos of events attended that we could feature in the newsletter please send them to [treasurer@royalcanoeclub.com](mailto:treasurer@royalcanoeclub.com).

Please note that Eleanor McKinlay, club secretary, is now away for the whole of May and will not be able to answer any emails until she returns.

Below is an update from the RCC committee meeting held on 11th May.

### **Paddle UK Big Paddle Clean Up**

This will take place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, from 5:30pm to 7pm, instead of the usual sessions for juniors. Anyone can join in and you can get on the water in any boat you'd like and pick up rubbish on the nearby banks. Zak has been sent the clean-up kit and is now setting up this event. Our new club captain, Bernice King, is keen to get senior members involved and is hoping to run a social event with food and drinks afterwards. Please contact Bernice at [captain@royalcanoeclub.com](mailto:captain@royalcanoeclub.com) for more details, if you'd like to come along.

### **Club Membership Renewal**

A reminder that annual Royal CC adult membership was due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> May, £65 with your own boat, £130 using club boats. Please check that you have paid your fees for the forthcoming year. If you pay via LoveAdmin please check that you have a live mandate which will automatically take payment, otherwise you will need to set up the payment again. If you pay through bank transfer the details are: Royal Canoe Club, 20-90-56, 83250431.

ROYAL CANOE CLUB  
**RIVER CLEAN UP**  
PADDLE FOR OUR RIVER.  
CLEAN FOR OUR FUTURE.

PADDLE UK  
**BIG PADDLE CLEAN UP**

FRIDAY  
22ND MAY  
5:30 - 7PM

PICKERS AND RUBBISH BAGS PROVIDED

PLEASE BRING SOME EXTRA GLOVES IF YOU HAVE ANY

OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF ANY AGE OR ABILITY

USE ANY BOAT / CRAFT PADDLE BOARDS, CANOES, SIT ON TOPS, K2'S AND MORE!

LET'S KEEP OUR RIVER BEAUTIFUL

TOGETHER WE PADDLE. TOGETHER WE PROTECT.

## **Wednesday Club Nights**

Club nights are continuing and becoming more and more popular. The 10k time trial now starts at 7pm, with dinner served straight after, £5 juniors and £6.50 adults. All are welcome to take part and, as the course is over 4 laps to Kingston Bridge, you can paddle 2.5k/5k/7.5k or the full 10k. Don't forget to book dinner on the Facebook members page or by e-mail. As Eleanor, our club secretary, is on holiday now for the rest of May, please email [treasurer@royalcanoecub.com](mailto:treasurer@royalcanoecub.com) to book a meal if you don't have access to Facebook.

## **Women on Water**

Club Captain, Bernice, has done a wonderful job with the Women on Water group and the sessions are now gearing up for the warmer weather and lighter evenings. If you would like to give it go and learn to kayak, please contact Bernice at [captain@royalcanoecub.com](mailto:captain@royalcanoecub.com).

It's a lot of fun and it is a really friendly group!

## **Royal Hasler Marathon**

This will take place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June and is our biggest racing event of the year. We need volunteers to help make the day a success, so if you can help out on the day, if only for a few hours, we would be very grateful. You will get a free bacon butty and tea/coffee and a free volunteer t-shirt! Racing starts at 11am and the day ended at 3pm last year so any time you can give between set-up at 8am and 3pm, will be welcome. In Eleanor's absence, please contact Jackie Williams at [treasurer@royalcanoecub.com](mailto:treasurer@royalcanoecub.com) if you can help. Paddlers, please speak to your coach about racing and getting points for the club.

## **Club Successes**

A report from Zak –

The weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> May was a very busy one for some of our junior paddlers.

On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>, Dianora de Bilio raced at the Marathon K1 Assessment race at Nottingham and won the Junior Female event.

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> saw the National Short Course Championships at Manvers, Rotherham. Dianora was 1<sup>st</sup> Junior



Female, 1<sup>st</sup> U23 Female and 2<sup>nd</sup> Senior Female and was promoted to Div 2, a remarkable achievement.

Marco Mangiantini came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the U14 Male race and was promoted to Div 3, another amazing achievement.

Adriana de Bilio was 1<sup>st</sup> U14 Female and 3<sup>rd</sup> U16 Female.

These points contributed to Royal finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Junior club standings from this event, with a total of six medals! Outstanding results! Well done everyone.



## **Nicole Williams – London Marathon**

Club member, Nicole Williams, completed the London Marathon on 26<sup>th</sup> April in 4 hours 50 minutes, a great result for her first ever marathon. She has raised almost £4,000 for Diabetes UK and would like to thank all those members who sponsored her. She is now taking a well-earned break although she has entered the ballot for next year's marathon!

## **Upcoming Races**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Hastings 1066 Hasler at Tonbridge CC, our first regional race this year!

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Marathon K2 Assessment Race at Elmbridge CC.

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Reading Hasler, out of region but a good race on the Thames.

Weekend of 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> May – the second Nottingham Sprint Regatta.

Please contact your coach if you are interested in racing at any of these events. They are open to all!

The calendar of all 2026 races and regattas is on the noticeboard outside the gym, along with information for upcoming races and corresponding sign-up sheets.

## **Dates for your Diary**

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

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



Royal Fund-Raising Event – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

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.

Please speak to the kitchen crew – Eleanor, Jackie and Pippa - with any ideas you might have for social events we could run.