



Royal Canoe Club Newsletter

July 2026 Edition

The early summer has been a busy time with events being held at the club and members having outstanding results at other clubs' races and internationally. Below is an update from the RCC committee meeting held on 13th July. Thanks very much to Club Commodore Phil Jones and Captain Bernice King for collating all the racing results, for there were loads, and for their other contributions to this newsletter.

Boats and Equipment

Matthew Carter is currently reviewing club boats, starting with K2s and listing parts missing. It has been annoying to find that parts are being stripped from club boats. One member prepped a boat to race at Nottingham the Thursday prior to the regatta, only to find on arrival at the course that all bar one seat and footrest bolts had been removed. This is unacceptable! The spares cupboard remains locked as people have been taking equipment as if their own. Also, people are dumping equipment and their rubbish on the repairs work bench. Matthew will be removing and putting all under the bench. We are hoping to buy a new Nelo K2, but it is difficult to justify buying new boats if the ones we already have are not being looked after.

Please can we all treat club equipment with respect and care.

Royal Regatta

Our sprint regatta will be held this coming, Saturday 18th July and will comprise 1000m, 500m and 200m races at the club, plus an Aussie eliminator and a K4 race. Check-in opens at 9am with racing beginning at 10am. You can pre-book using the British Canoeing Stripe system or book on the day. Prizes will be awarded for individual overall winners and the K4 race. Please contact Zak or Aaron for more details. Again, we are asking for volunteers to help out on the day for any time you can spare between 9am and 3pm. Please contact Eleanor on secretary@royalcanoeclub.com if you can help.

Royal Hasler Marathon

This took place on Sunday 14th June and was a great success, helped by fantastic weather. The day ran really smoothly and many thanks to everyone who volunteered to help out on the day. There were many compliments from other clubs attending. The club came joint second overall with Wey KC, just 2 points behind Elmbridge CC. There is a list of all the podium places along with other club successes later in this newsletter, but it's worth mentioning the clean sweep in Division 2 K1 with Jack Carter 1st, Henry Pitt 2nd and Lewis Smith 3rd. Well done everyone!

Paul Gilbert Memorial Race

This took place on Wednesday 1st July, and was a great fun night! We had 3 outrigger crews racing along with juniors and seniors in a variety of kayaks. The trophy was won by the Malolow outrigger.



International Results

At the Marathon European Championships in Romania, Dianora De Bilio came 2nd in the short course Junior Women K1 and she won the Junior Women K1 becoming European Champion. At the Junior and U23 Sprint World Championships held in Canada at the beginning of July, Dianora was part of the Junior mixed K1 5000m relay which came 2nd. Not only that, but she also came 6th in the K1 200m A final! Well done, Dianora!



Zoe Clark was part of the Women's K4 which soared to a brilliant sixth-place finish on day two of the Montreal World Cup, their first A final of the season. The quartet of Zoe Clark, Emily Lewis, Deborah Kerr and Kristina Armstrong had finally made the step up to the top nine after back-to-back B Final wins at the last two World Cups. They sealed their spot with a third-place finish in their semi-final on the opening day of competition and, with a strong performance in the final, the British boat crossed the line in sixth in a time of 1:35.94, missing out on a medal by 0.51secs, less than two seconds off winners China. Well done, Zoe and the girls!

The last in the sprint series, for World Championships sprints, gaining Olympic points, is in August. We wish Zoe good luck for the GB Squad announcement. Also, good luck wishes to Elise Montagna and Edie King, who will be representing GB in the K4 at the Europeans on July 23 to 26, 2026, in Szeged, Hungary.

Home Racing Results

Apologies it's just a list, but so many great results to mention.

MAIDSTONE HASLER, 7 JUNE

Div 3 K1: 2nd Marco Mangiantini

Div 4 K1: 1st Jake Hughes – promoted to Div 3

Div 5 K2: 1st Betsy Ray & Natalie Day

RCC HASLER, 14 June

Div 2 K1: 1st Jack Carter, 2nd Henry Pitt, 3rd Lewis Smith

Div 3 K1: 3rd Marco Mangiantini

Div 4 K1: 1st Louis Tanner (P3)

Div 5 K1: 2nd Jonjo Fahey

Div 8 K1: 1st Leo Batey (P7)

Div 9 K1: 2nd Felix May, 3rd Ellis Macmillan

Div 2 K2: 3rd Jordi Eccles & Adrianna De Bilio

Div 5 K2: 1st Andy Birch & James Russell, 2nd Natalie Day & Betsy Ray

Div 6 K2: 2nd Joce King & Bernice King, 3rd Jason Shepherd-Abdullah & Phil Jones

GSA: 3rd Crispin Ksawery Pearce

GSB: 2nd Leo Farrow

RICHMOND HASLER, 21 June

Div 1 K1: 1st, Ryan Lark

Div 3 K1: 2nd Marco Mangiantini

Div 4 K1: 3rd Johnny Williams

Div 8 K1: 3rd Amanda Hunt

Div 2 K2: 1st Jack Carter & Henry Pitt

Div 5 K2: 1st Betsy Ray & Natalie Day, 2nd Ed Shaw & Chloe Kemp

Div 6 K2: 3rd Phil Jones & Steve Nicholls

Div 8 K2: 2nd Hano Iosub & Ellis Macmillan

WEY HASLER, 28 June

Div 3 K1: 1st Marco Mangiantini (P2)

Div 7 K1: 3rd Felix May

Div 8 K2: 1st Ellis Macmillan & Hano Iosub

NATIONAL MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS, 11-12 July

Senior women K1: 3rd Dianora De Bilio

U18 men K1: 1st Henry Pitt

U16 women K1: 3rd Adrianna De Bilio

U14 women K1: 1st Adrianna De Bilio (**National Champion**)

U14 men K2: 2nd Marco Mangiantini (w. Marcell Barat-Farkas, ELM)

MACGREGOR INTER-CLUB REGATTA, NOTTINGHAM, 4-5 JULY

Royal came 4th overall, which was a remarkable result considering we didn't have as many paddlers competing as many other clubs did.

Henry Barker-Watson and Jonjon Fahey were promoted to Boys C

Louis Tanner was promoted to Boys B

There is a gallery of photos from the regatta at the end of this newsletter.

Adriana de Bilio was selected to compete at the Olympic Hopes regatta in Bratislava in September, along with sister Dianora, who was pre-selected. Well done, everyone. A brilliant set of results!

Surfski Open Racing

At the Spiritfilled Coastal Challenge at Shoreham, Ryan Lark came 1st in the Men's Single race and Jack Carter and Lewis Smith won the Men's Doubles race. Well done all!

Women on Water

Women on Water, run by our captain Bernice, meet every Friday, from 18:15. We recently had 11 paddlers on the water, ranging from 18 to 80! All abilities are welcome, with towing if necessary for the paddle back to the club.

Women are paddling play-boats, sit-on-tops, K1s and we had a SUP adventure last week, over Teddington lock for a swim at a little beach! All women from all clubs are welcome, non-TWC members pay £20. Sessions often run to approximately two hours, especially during the summer. Please contact Bernice at Captain@royalcanoecub.com for more details.

WoW will be looking at a trip away in 2027, for those interested in a long weekend paddling, either in the UK or Europe.

Dates for your Diary

Royal Fund-Raising Event – Sunday 20th September.

Royal Paddling Challenge – Saturday 10th October.

Club Awards Evening – Wednesday 4th November.

Royal 10@10 – Sunday 22nd November.