



Women's Report – Harriet Bull, PCBC President.

PCBC's women did not enter any external regattas this term, but achieved good results in the Isis Winter League.

The women's 2017 Torpids campaign brought mixed results. Unfortunately, the two lower boats did not qualify for racing, after a three-way tie resulted in W3 undertaking a second qualifying time-trial against Mansfield and Christ Church W2.

W2 successfully bumped up into Division 3 on Wednesday, before an unfortunate encounter with the bank that condemned an otherwise blades-worthy campaign. This resulted in the crew dropping a place, only to bump back up and end the week two places higher than they started.

W1 faced a challenging campaign, with substitutes for two of the four days' racing. The first day of racing brought a bump from Christ Church, but the crew retained their place by achieving a row past on Magdalen. The crew saw much action in the three following days, being bumped by Wadham on Thursday and Wolfson on Friday, whilst narrowly avoiding a second bump from Hertford through expert coxing. Hertford converted the bump on Saturday, but W1 finished only two places down at 5th on the river by re-bumping Wolfson.

In a term beset by trying training circumstances, these crews pulled through with outstanding perseverance to produce results to be proud of.

Men's Report – Chris Liang, PCBC Men's Captain.

Torpids was full of success for M1 and M2, but M3 and M4 were subject to the disappointment of missing out on qualification.

M1 had yet another successful Torpids campaign, holding off rivals Oriol to remain Head of the River for the sixth year in a row. They produced four exceptional rows, highlighted by crossing the finish line a definitive three lengths ahead on Saturday. After weeks of hard graft, and following a stellar campaign at Henley Fours and Eights, winning the IM1 and IM2 categories, M1 fully deserve to retain Headship and the title of fastest boat on the Isis.

M2 fought hard with four gutsy rows to end their Torpids campaign one place down from 2016. On all four days they were subject to immense pressure, but maintained composure to retain their historical place in Division One. Rowing over on Wednesday and Friday, on Thursday they were bumped by a quick St. Johns off the start before reeling in New College on the home straight for an exciting bump just past Pembroke College Boat House, a mere 20 strokes from the finish line. On Saturday M2 were bumped by a blades-winning Jesus crew, but rowed home in style to keep #2BD1 for another year.



M3 and M4, despite missing out on qualification, put in spirited performances and should be proud to have applied themselves to a rigorous training programme throughout term. The positive attitude from these boats has been present throughout the whole squad, and will be reflected in a strong Summer VIII's campaign.

Dates for the Diary

Details for future events will be circulated via email and through our social media pages.

- *Tuesday 28th March* - PCBC Reunion Drinks at The Punch Tavern, Fleet Street, 6:00pm. There are limited spaces remaining, so RSVP before Friday 17th March to confirm your attendance!
- *Saturday 22nd April* - PCBC Pimms Party. Tickets to go on sale soon.
- *Wednesday 24th - Saturday 27th May* - Summer VIII's.
- *Wednesday 28th June - Sunday 2nd July* - Henley Royal Regatta.

Other News

This week also marked the inaugural 'Pink Panther Regatta', a set of informal mock-bumps and side-by-side races held to give athletes in non-qualifying boats a racing experience. Three conglomerate crews featuring rowers from both men's and women's boats of all standards competed to win spoons by Claire Smark exclusively commissioned for the event. Boat 3, dubbed "Trump" by onlooking supporters, won against the odds, closely followed by "Brexit" and "Harambe".

Videos from Torpids racing are available on PCBC's Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/PCBCOxford/> - and pictures on Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/pcbcoxford/>

Featuring on Instagram a photo sent in by alumnus James Watters, three seat in the Men's First Four in 1967. His crew achieved six bumps in Torpids that year, with a triple over-bump on one day.

We would love to feature more instances of PCBC's history on our pages - photos, memories, and anecdotes are all welcome!

