



## Summer Eights 2017

### Women's Report – Anna Carbery, PCBC Women's Captain.

“W4 - Joined by rowers from St. Anne's and St. Benet's, W4 didn't have much time to train before VIII's but had strong rows, rowing over on day 1 and holding off a strong Corpus III until boathouse island on day 3.



W3 - Having worked really hard through term, the girls saw their efforts had paid off in an 8th place qualification in rowing on after a very tidy row. A klaxon on day 1 and a late bump from Peters II on day 2 left them with everything to play for on the Friday, but another klaxon cut the race short again. On the final day of racing, a snapped steering wire off the start made a bump difficult to achieve but along with some skilled steering from Tsvetana and a determined outlook, W3 produced a strong row-over and put a big distance between themselves and Oriol III behind them.



W2 - A very different crew from last term, W2 gained some rowers from the W1 Torpid to add to an already experienced crew. As the fourth-placed 2nd VIII on the river and surrounded by top crews, the girls knew they had a challenging campaign ahead and trained hard through term to be ready for it. On Wednesday, they bumped Univ II just after Donny Bridge, the bump that had always escaped them in the previous year and denied them blades. On Thursday, a strong row gave them a bump on Queens W1 down Greenbanks, but unfortunately they were bumped back on Friday as Queens went for a front-

loaded race. Saturday was the day for revenge, and the girls' raw determination and hard work came through in a consistent and gutsy row to give them the final say and bump Queens once again at Boathouse Island, in perfect view of the photographer!



W1 - For the third campaign running, W1 were to be chasing Wadham, in 2nd on the river. With a strong contingent of blues' rowers and coxes returning along with some experienced college rowers, W1 were determined to put an end to the battle and trained tirelessly to make the boat go as fast as possible. Wednesday was a long-awaited day for the girls, and they made good ground on Wadham, closing the gap down to just a canvas on Boathouse Island. However, they were unable to close those last few feet. A similar story continued on Thursday and Friday, with Pembroke closing hard down Greenbanks and Boathouse Island, and just falling short on the finish line. On Saturday, the girls were ready to put the fight to bed, and had closed down to  $\frac{3}{4}$  by the beginning of the Greenbanks straight. They continued to move on the Wadham crew and put in a big push on the crossing, causing Wadham to run away down Boathouse Island as Pembroke got close to overlap. Wadham continued to run away and the crews crossed the line, Pembroke having been just inches away from the Headship. This year, Pembroke were the much faster crew, and this result just highlights the intrinsic unfair nature of bumps. Next year will be another chance to fight for the top spot on the river.”



**Men's Report -Chris Liang, PCBC Men's Captain.**

“Despite spirited performances, Pembroke Men experienced a mixed campaign this Summer Vllls.

M4 entered Division 6, having cruised through rowing on. Averaging around nine headships in the crew per day, this was a crew with some pedigree, with mainstays of great M1, W1 and 2bd1 crews hopping in and out of the boat. An otherwise blades worthy campaign was unfortunately put to a halt on Thursday following an unfortunate collision with the bank, and their swift recovery was scuppered by a boat stopping crab. While they closed onto Oriol M3 to a length by the end, the overbump proved to be too much. Nevertheless, they ended the campaign +3 and with M4 headship secured.

M3 experienced it all this Summer VIII. Angry coaches, questionable coxing, lack of personnel - the boys stuck through some tough times, and produced a tidy crew by the end of it. Despite their relative lack of experience, M3 really came along, and pushed themselves to the limit. While M3 undergraduate headship was lost and spoons were gained, M3 can be proud of the performances, and for having the grit to stick through some tough times.

M2's campaign was hit by numerous dropouts, meaning that they entered Division 2 as the severe underdog. A fly-or-die strategy, aptly named 'Donny or Bust', was unfortunate to not pay off as they were bumped on Day 1 at Donnington Bridge, only 1/4 length behind Brasenose. Several more encounters with the bridge, including one with the bank courtesy of some dodgy coxing from St Hugh's condemned M2 to spoons, but M2 headship was still retained.

M1 went into Summer VIII knowing that they would be in for a tough challenge. With Blues, American Varsity rowers and bitter rivals Oriel in front of them, Pembroke were raring to go. Unfortunately, it was not enough to harm the wealth of rowers that the gunships of Keble or Christchurch carried in their boats. Regardless, the Men in Pink produced four tidy rowers to ensure that they would not be troubled by Wolfson behind them. They have set themselves up well for a charge on Oriel next year from 4th on the river.



Throughout the year, the story has been one of stringent dedication to the training programme, highlighted by our retention of Torpids Headship and 2 Boats Division 1. The spirit and attitude has never been in question, and we have never been fitter. In the long term, this will prove vital for the men's hopes. Many thanks to Justin Sutherland and John Gearing for their hard work in coaching us throughout the year.

I am proud to have been captain of such a tremendous squad, and I look forward to PCBC continuing in a similar fashion next year."

M1 crews will be competing at the Met Regatta this weekend, and are hoping to race at Marlow on the 17<sup>th</sup> June, with the aim of competing in the Temple Challenge Cup at Henley Royal Regatta.

### Dates for the Diary

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

- *Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June - Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July* - Henley Royal Regatta. PCBC intends to have a strong presence at Henley Royal this year.

Other News

➤ Sponsorship and Fundraising

PCBC are proud to have been sponsored by the Bauer Group, with racing glasses from Sunwise, for our Summer Eights kit. Over the coming months we are making a fundraising push for the purchase of a new Men's First VIII, to bring our kit up to standard with the other crews on the river. Should you be interested in making a donation, please contact us or use secure giving form on the college website, selecting the 'Boat Club Capital' box. (<https://www.alumniweb.ox.ac.uk/pembroke/give-online>)



➤ Sub Rosa Boat Club

We are excited to announce that a PCBC alumni boat club is going to be taking shape over the summer, under the name of the Sub Rosa Boat Club, to facilitate alumni competing in external regattas in the future. The Sub Rosa Boat Club will be managed by a new Friends of PCBC Committee. We would like to thank Evan LaBuzetta for initiating and contributing to this development.

➤ Invictus Games

PCBC are excited to be supporting Faith Fordham in her journey to the Invictus Games this September. Faith joined Pembroke in October 2016 for a one year MSc in Education, and competed in our Women's First Torpid this year. We are honoured that Faith has chosen two PCBC members to accompany her to Toronto as supporters this autumn. You can read about Faith's story here:

<http://www.helpforheroes.org.uk/see-the-difference/stories/faith-fordham/>

➤ New Committee

The new 2017-18 committee will be selected at this week's AGM. Their positions and contact details will be listed on the college website in the coming weeks.

The image shows a historical 'CHART OF THE EIGHTS' from 1967. It is a large grid with columns for boat names and rows for different categories (I to IX). The chart lists various boat names such as 'Oriel', 'St. John's', 'Magdalen', 'Wadham', 'Ch. Ch. II', 'St. Peter's II', 'Balliol II', 'New Coll. II', 'St. Ed. Hall III', 'Kehle II', 'Oriel II', 'Merton II', 'Kehle III', 'University II', 'Trinity II', 'Lincoln II', 'Magdalen II', 'Worcester II', 'Newman II', 'Queen's II', 'Lincoln III', 'St. Peter's II', 'Pembroke II', 'Univ. III', 'Worcester III', 'Ch. Ch. III', 'Trinity II', 'Balliol III', 'St. Catharine II', 'St. Ed. Hall IV', 'Oriel III', 'Merton III', 'Queen's III', 'Lincoln III', 'Kehle III', 'St. John's III', 'Worcester III', 'Pembroke III', 'Univ. IV', 'Magdalen III', 'St. Ed. Hall V', 'Trinity IV', 'Ch. Ch. IV', 'St. Ed. Hall VI', 'Worcester IV', 'Trinity III', 'Mertonfield', 'St. Catharine III', 'Kehle V', 'St. John's IV', 'New Coll. III', 'Lincoln IV', 'Oriel IV', 'Ch. Ch. V', 'Pembroke IV', 'Univ. V', 'Kehle VI', 'Wadham III', 'St. Ed. Hall VII', 'Magdalen IV', 'Worcester V', 'Mertonfield', 'Exeter III', 'St. John's V', 'Lincoln V', 'Balliol IV', 'Oriel V', 'Jesus III', 'University VI', 'Queen's IV', 'Grosvenor IV', 'Queen's V', 'Kehle VI', 'Mertonfield II', 'St. Peter's III', 'Mertonfield III', 'Merton IV', 'Jesus IV', 'St. Catharine IV', 'St. Peter's IV', 'Balliol V', 'Jesus V', 'St. Ed. Hall VIII', 'Oriel VI', 'St. Ed. Hall IX'.

PCBC would like to thank Dan Bowen for a stellar commentary on the Facebook Live Stream over Eights week - these videos are available on PCBC's Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/PCBCOxford/> - and pictures from the week on Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/pcbcoxford/>

To reflect on the achievements of this year, the crews and results of Summer Eights 1967 are inserted below, courtesy of alumnus James Watters.

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