

# GB ROWING TEAM SUPPORTERS



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## Newsletter

Welcome to the first issue of the Supporters' Newsletter for 2011. I'd like to start the New Year by thanking all GB Rowing Team Supporters of all squads who did an amazing job last year in supporting not only their nearest and dearest but all other athletes in the squad as well. And well done to all our rowers we are proud of every single one of you.

GB Rowing Team Supporters very much value the support given by Siemens to, not only our rowers, but also the 'Friends and Families' supporters of Adaptive and Senior teams. A lot seems to be happening at the moment in the world of Supporters:

- Looking ahead, if you want to support a rower, a boat or the whole team at the 2012 Olympics then don't forget to register now (on the London 2012 website), as tickets for the FISA F&F Grandstand will be extremely limited. You need to keep your options open.
- Coming soon for members only : a dedicated on-line forum where you can seek advice, share news etc and also buy exclusive GB Rowing Team Supporters branded merchandise – go to the website to renew or join now.

We are learning as we go along and certainly do not have a monopoly on support but we do try to act as a conduit to ensure that we can all enjoy the sport. Don't forget to share photos through our flickr website and keep an eye on our section in the GB Rowing Team web pages as we do need feedback.

GB Rowing Team Office has just been informed that tickets for the World Rowing Junior Championships will be £60. Also FISA have said that information about all other World Rowing Events this year, including ticket prices, will be out within the next 2 weeks. As soon as it is available we will publish it on the GB Rowing Team website Supporters' Events page.

A big thank you must go to our small but hard working committee who will be sending out more information to you soon. Meanwhile, enjoy this Newsletter and I look forward to meeting up again along side a rowing lake somewhere

Finally, all the very best to all our rowers in their various competitions in the near future.

**Liz Rowbotham**



## **‘A message from David Tanner GB Rowing Team’s Performance Director’**

Many thanks to all of our brilliant GB Rowing Team Supporters at the 2010 championships. As always our crews heard your voices of encouragement. It was good to see so many parents at the Juniors in Racice – cheering despite the deluge, at the U23s in Brest – overcoming the challenge of the border crossing, and of course at the World Championships in Karapiro. It says a great deal for the back up our rowers have that at the Siemens’ sponsored reception after the last final day we had a great evening with so many people there despite being on the other side of the world.

We have had a tremendous year and our best ever medal haul and there was lots to celebrate at the Team Dinner in January. And another record was the number of supporters at the Dinner – six tables’ worth of you. I think and hope you had a really good evening.

We are now well on the way to the Olympics and Paralympics – on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March there will be just 500 days to go to the Olympic Opening Ceremony. We started our own orientation for our potential team on 25 November with a “recce” to the Olympic village and park in Stratford and to the LOCOG headquarters in Canary Wharf. Our rowers and coaches looked tremendous in their GB tracksuits and we all had a real sense of the excitement and anticipation at the amazing preparations for the Games and the chance our rowers have to make history at Eton/Dorney.

2011 is a very important year and it is another chance for our Juniors and U23s to show what they can do and lay down a marker for the Rio Olympiad. For our seniors the World Championships in Bled will be the first chance to qualify boats for the Olympics and Paralympics and that is our main priority.

I look forward to seeing you during the Summer.

David Tanner  
GB Rowing Team  
**Performance Director**



## **2011 World Rowing Junior Championships** **VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED!**

The World Rowing Junior Championships will be coming to Dorney Lake in August 2011 & the Organising Committee are issuing a final call for volunteers! Around 350 volunteers will be required in a variety of roles including accreditation, health & safety, team information, marshalling, IT support, media & marketing, stewarding, hospitality, communications, site facilities, spectator services, volunteer support and ticketing.

Anyone interested in volunteering can register at <http://www.wrjc2011.com/volunteers> and give details of skills & experience and any areas they would particularly like to work in. Dates for training events will also be shown on this website.

### **GB Rowing Team Supporters Membership**

Thank you to those who have joined GB Rowing Team Supporters. The membership year runs from 1st April - 31 March and Supporters who do not renew their membership by the end of May will be taken off the database. Any Supporter who has paid a subscription since 1st January 2011 is covered for the 1st April 2011 -31st March 2012 membership year. A membership renewal form is on the last page of this Newsletter.

Membership costs £10 per year for a family of up to four or £50 for a life membership and is purely to cover administrative costs. For those of you who have paid for life membership there is no need to renew this year but please do tell us if any of your contact details have changed.



### **Olympic Rowing Tickets:**

The GB Rowing Team have advised us that all Supporters are strongly advised to register their interest for tickets on the London 2012 website – if you haven't registered yet, please register now. It is a simple process which will only take a few minutes to complete and will also save you time when tickets go on sale.

Applications for London 2012 Olympic Games tickets will open on Tuesday 15 March 2011 and will remain open for a period of six weeks, closing at 11.59pm on Tuesday 26 April 2011. Paralympic Games ticket applications will open on Friday 9 September 2011 and further information will be released later in the year about this process.

FISA has stated to David Tanner that tickets will be available through the GBRT Office for the FISA Family Grandstand at Eton/Dorney. As at previous games these will be limited to bone fide family members but we should be realistic that the number of tickets per rower / team official will be limited. At this stage the price of these tickets is unknown.

## **Junior Report** -submitted by Peter Beaumont

### **J16 GB v France match, 11th July 2010, Nantes**

The junior international season got off to an excellent start with the boys winning five out of seven events at the Joneliere rowing course in Nantes. The pair and quad came second, with the eight, coxed four, double and single sculls ensuring a 5-2 win. Ben Eames from Trent Rowing Club won the single scull event and was awarded the Entente Cordiale trophy by the umpires for the most outstanding performance of the match. The girls faced a tougher match with France winning all six events giving France a win by 8-5 overall and reclaiming the trophy that GB had won in Cardiff in 2009.

### **Coupe de la Jeunesse, 30th July - 1st August 2010, Hazewinkel, Belgium**

The Coupe de la Jeunesse provides an international European competition for athletes who have just missed out on selection for the GB Team in the World Rowing Junior Championships and provides excellent competition and experience. This year's racing at Hazewinkel was dominated by two very strong teams from GB and Italy. The GB boys' coxless four led their squad to victory winning gold on both days. The boys' team returned home with an outstanding haul of medals.

### **World Rowing Junior Championships, 5th -8th August 2010, Racice, Czech Republic**

The most memorable event was the sight of the girls' eight powering through the torrential rain, dominating their final, and winning gold by over 3 seconds from the USA, the first ever women's gold at this event. The second was the Czech weather, one day beautiful sunshine, the next torrential storms. It did not dampen the Supporters' spirits however.



An excellent reception organised by the GB Rowing Team to bring together all F&F and rowers just before racing started, helped to create a clear bond between the Supporters right across the various classes. The loud and strong 'Go GB' was heard every time the red and blue hoops raced down the course. Nearly 70 F&F travelled to Racice watching some great racing showing strong performances from the GB Team.

The boys four put in a superb performance winning silver behind a very strong Romanian crew. They pressurised Romania during the early stages of the race and held off the challenge from Spain. The boys quad was involved in a nail biting finish, just being edged out of the medals by New Zealand. This result demonstrated the success that the increased focus on junior sculling is having with two of the crew trialling for 2011 selection. We may see some greater successes coming from our scullers at Dorney in August.

**Thank you! to all Supporters, your being there  
is really appreciated by all our rowers**

## Junior report - cont.....

### **Youth Olympics 14 - 26 August 2010 Singapore**

A total of 96 athletes from 45 countries competed in four boat classes (single sculls, and pairs) at last year's inaugural Youth Olympic Games in Singapore. Rowers qualified either based on successes at the previous World Rowing Junior Championships or through a 'universality' route to bring in nationals such as Sudan and Thailand. All boats were supplied by the organisers and racing was over 1,000m.

A superb final performance for Fiona Gammond and Georgia Howard-Merrill won them a Youth Olympic gold medal, adding to their World Rowing Junior Championship's gold in the eights only 11 days earlier. In the boys pairs event, Ed Nainby-Luxmoore and Caspar Jopling from Eton College, both silver medallists from the coxless four just missed out on a medal finishing fourth.

### **Looking ahead.....**

So now we look forward to 2011 and the highlight of the year will certainly be the World Rowing Junior Championships being held on home water at Dorney Lake. The F&F supporting all of our Junior teams abroad is always amazing and it is going to be another massive support task with a much wider group of F&F and fans expected to turn up. We will certainly be the best supported team and hope that our athletes can bring home even more medals.

### **UNDER 23 REPORT**

-submitted by Sarah Tarrant

Several of our Under 23 champions have now moved on to the Senior squad with some new talented members joining from the Junior squad. The lads have recently returned from a high altitude camp in Sierra Nevada where the senior squad were also training. They enjoyed a variety of training experiences including swimming, weights, ergos, running and walking distances in the gorgeous snow. The Under 23 women had an opportunity to train together in Wales for their winter camp.



After the great successes of the Under 23 squad in Belarus, all are looking forward to this year's World Championships in Amsterdam from 21-24 Jul.

<http://www.amsterdamrowing.com>

A resume of the past incredible successes of the Under 23s include winning **GOLD** in the LM4-, **SILVER** in the LM2x, M4- and LM1x, **BRONZE** in the M8+, LM4x and M4+, with the W4- 4<sup>th</sup>, and the LW2x 6<sup>th</sup>.

At the World University Rowing Championships, representatives from the Under 23 squad won **GOLD** in the M8+ and W4- in Szeged in Hungary. What a lovely way to end the 2010 season and congratulations to all our young rowers.

## ADAPTIVES REPORT

Tom Aggar, World Champion AS men's single sculls, shares his views on the 2010 season and looks forward to the 2011 season

Since returning from the 2010 World Championships, the Paralympic squad can reflect on what has been a successful medal haul and team performance. Prior to selection Sam Scowen and Andy Houghton in the mixed TA double scull were unfortunate to suffer some injury setbacks so the team for New Zealand was Helene Raynsford and Tom Aggar in the women's and men's single respectively and the newly formed LTA4+ sweep boat, the same crew that had such a successful early season through the World Cup regattas.

All crews qualified directly from the heats with Helene having been relegated to 6th position for a strapping infringement after a strong 3rd place finish in the race for lanes. Following a rule change since Beijing 2008, Helene's seat was non compliant and in the days following her relegation attempts to adjust the strapping to the required level sadly caused an injury that subsequently led to her withdrawal by team doctor Ann Redgrave.

The long awaited finals day for the two remaining crews was filled with much expectation having had a great season of preparation. In difficult conditions on Lake Karapiro Tom Aggar, after a cautious start pulled clear from the field by the first quarter and continued to dominate, extending his unbeaten international record to win Great Britain's first Gold medal of the championships.

After posting the third fastest time in the heats, the coxed four knew they would have to be at their best to beat the Canadian and German crews. After a great first 500m the GB crew looked like it was on for a second consecutive World Championship gold, however the second half saw the Canadians claw back and slowly push through the British in the last 100m, crossing the line 0.55 seconds ahead.



Since returning to training, back into the cold and icy conditions much of the training has been indoors to ensure we continue to maintain and build on our fitness going into the 2011 qualification season. One positive for the squad is that World Champion Dave Smith has returned from injury and is making great headway in his performance and has high expectations for the forthcoming season.

# WEBSITES!!

We are endeavouring to put up to date news about GB Rowing Team Supporters and event specific information on the Supporters' section of the GB Rowing Team website at: [www.britishrowing.org/gb/supporters](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/supporters)

We are aware that a lot of lovely photos are taken by Supporters and so we have set up a flickr site: [www.flickr.com/photos/gbrsc](http://www.flickr.com/photos/gbrsc). Images can be uploaded by forwarding them to Peter Hodge or Mike James ([news@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk](mailto:news@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk))

Information about world rowing events and news can be found on the official website of FISA, the international rowing federation at [www.worldrowing.com](http://www.worldrowing.com)

For newcomers a glossary of rowing terms is at: [www.britishrowing.org/juniors/glossary](http://www.britishrowing.org/juniors/glossary)

## **GB ROWING TEAM SUPPORTERS MERCHANDISE (exclusive to members)**

GB Rowing Team Supporters merchandise is available through 'New Wave' at most International Rowing events. Items include; teddy bears (see front page), pin badges and mugs.

We are developing a range of goods with 'Rock the Boat' which will be available to order by telephone or through the post in time for the new season. These will only be available to signed up members so as to protect our exclusive use of the GB Rowing Team logo. Items will include,

polos and fleeces (to match the ones supplied by Siemens last year), t-shirts and long sleeve shirts, spaghetti tops, rucksacks and waterproofs, all at reasonable prices.

There is no limit to the range of goods we can develop, so if you have a particular idea of what you need, please let us know. In the meantime, a full range of rowing and other supporters kit is available through British Rowing, on their website. Our aim is to have the best supported team in competition and to have a highly visual presence at International events.

We hope you will join us and buy the kit. Any surplus funds will be used to support emerging rowers, so all proceeds will be ploughed back into the sport.



**So come on, let us have your ideas!**

## INFORMATION ON VENUES

Coming soon to the GB Rowing Team website, Supporters' pages, will be information on the venues for this year's World Cups, World Championships (Juniors, U23, Adaptives and Seniors).

This information is intended to make travelling to these events a little easier, it will be full of suggestions, hopefully helpful, concerning travel, accommodation and what to expect when you get there. All this gleaned from previous experiences of members who have already travelled there. These pointers should help with all the how/what/where questions everyone has at some time or another! If you have anything to add to these suggestions then contact us at: [news@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk](mailto:news@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk)

## TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

Eagle Travel is the travel company which has helped GB Rowing Team Supporters for the last 10 years. Eagle's staff will help in any way they can to be of assistance to those who travel to support our rowers and can help at individual or group level, whichever is needed. If groups wish to travel together it can often be cheaper and Eagle Travel will always endeavour to get the best possible deal for us, quite often with transfers from airports and to venues (if groups are large enough).

Information from Eagle Travel will appear on the Supporters' pages of the GB Rowing Team website but for further information and direct contact do speak to Jessica Wilson on 01234 348882 or through the web at [www.Eagletravel.co.uk](http://www.Eagletravel.co.uk).

## GB Rowing Team Supporters Contacts

Coordinator: Liz Rowbotham: [info@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk](mailto:info@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk)  
Secretary: Sue Rodford: [membership@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk](mailto:membership@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk)  
Treasurer & Membership: Peter Hodge: [membership@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk](mailto:membership@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk)  
Newsletter/Communications: Mike James: [news@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk](mailto:news@gbrowingteamsupporters.org.uk)  
Merchandise: Robert Plumb  
Photo Coordinator: Peter Hodge  
Social/People: Sara Plumb & Tricia Whitlam  
Links:

Juniors: Peter Beaumont  
U23s Sarah Tarrant  
Adaptive: Bob Aggar  
General: Robin Walker  
Honorary Patron: Brian Foster

**Also be aware!**

**There are several U23  
champions rowing in  
The Boat Race on  
26<sup>th</sup> March 2011.**





## Membership & Renewal Application Form

Please send this application form and any monies to the Treasurer:  
Peter Hodge, The Grange, Hebden, Skipton, BD23 5DY



**NAME (S):**

**POSTAL ADDRESS:**

**POSTCODE:**

**TEL. NOS: Landline:**

**Mobile:**

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_ (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

**Are you happy to receive up-dates by email?**  yes (please tick)

### Rower(s) Supported:

| Rower's name | Current squad | Relationship |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|
|              |               |              |
|              |               |              |

**Do you have any connections yourself with rowing? If so what?**

**Would you be willing to help out with "GB Rowing Team Supporters"?**

If so – what skills or expertise could you offer?

**Would you be willing to be a link person for the squad that you support?**(eg Junior, U23, Adaptive, Senior Women, Senior Men)

**How much time could you give?**

As part of your membership GB Rowing Team Supporters would like to share your details (name & email) with carefully screened and rowing related third parties to allow you to access membership benefits.   
If you do not wish your information to be used in this way please tick the box.

**Please complete this section and sign & return to Peter Hodge as mentioned above.**

**I wish to join / renew\*** (please delete as necessary)

- Annual Membership £10** (Annual Membership 1 April – 31 March) **OR**  **Life Membership £50**  
 **I enclose a cheque made payable to "GBRTS" OR**  
 **I have paid by BACS transfer to A/C No: 61483323, Sort Code 40-42-06**  
(Please use your initials as reference)

**Signed:**

**Initials:**

**Date:**

GB ROWING TEAM SUPPORTERS