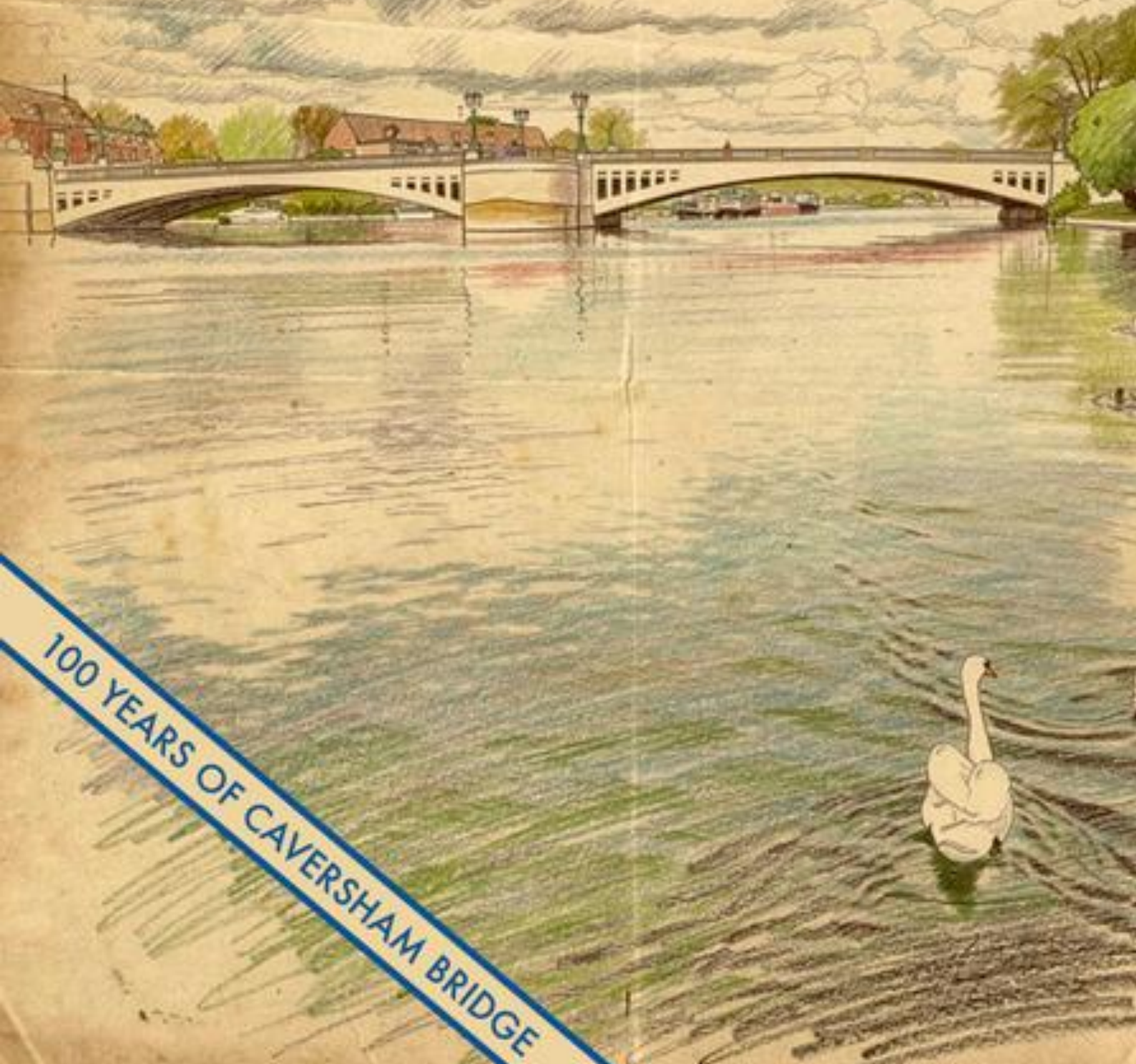


RAR 2026

13th and 14th June

Official Souvenir Programme



100 YEARS OF CAVERSHAM BRIDGE

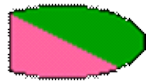
Club Colours



ASL American School in London BC



ARM Army RC



AKN Auriol Kensington



BAU Bath University



BEB Bewl Bridge RC



BOU Bournemouth University



BRX Broxbourne RC



BTC BTC Southampton



CAN Canford School Boat Club



CAP Canterbury Pilgrims RC



CHR Christchurch RC



EMA Emanuel School



FRC Fairlop RC



FAL Falcon RC



GLB Globe RC



HAB Haberdashers Monmouth



HAM Hampton School



HPY Hartpury University



HEN Henley RC



HER Hereford RC



JEO Jesus College, Oxford



KHS Kew House School BC



KRC Kingston Rowing Club



LEH Lady Eleanor Holles Boat Club



LTU Latymer Upper School



LEA Lea Rowing Club



LOT London Otters RC



LRC London RC



MHD Maidenhead RC



MIN Minerva Bath RC



MBC Molesey BC



MAA Mortlake Anglian & Alpha BC



MOS Mossbourne Rowing Academy



NSC Norwich School



NCR Notts County Rowing Association



ORO Oriel College



OUN Oundle School BC



OUB Oxford University



WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT, 13TH JUNE 2026

It is my great pleasure to welcome competitors, coaches, officials, volunteers and supporters to the banks of the Thames for another weekend of racing at RAR.

This year's Regatta is especially significant as we celebrate several milestones in our rowing community. We mark 100 years of the present Caversham Bridge, a familiar landmark for generations of rowers on this stretch of the Thames. We also celebrate 100 years since the University of Reading received its Royal Charter and recognise the centenary of the Reading University Boat Club in its modern form.

Our regatta continues to attract crews from across the UK and overseas, and I am particularly pleased to welcome the visiting crew from Colgate University, whose presence adds to the spirit of friendship and competition that makes this event so special. Saturday racing takes place over the usual 1500 metre two-lane course, offering side-by-side competition for crews seeking the challenge associated with the Henley regattas. Sunday's shorter 1000 metre course provides opportunities for clubs and developing crews to enjoy racing at a major regatta.

This year also marks the first Regatta following the sad loss of Andrew Wilbey at the end of 2025. Andrew served the Reading Amateur Regatta Committee for four decades and played an enormous role in shaping the Regatta. He was a good friend and valued colleague, whose wisdom, kindness and unwavering support will be greatly missed.

My sincere thanks go to the many volunteers, umpires, sponsors and supporters whose hard work makes the Regatta possible. I wish all crews safe racing, close competition and an enjoyable and successful weekend.

Jane K Parker

President, Reading Amateur Regatta

IN MEMORY OF ANDREW WILBEY – A TRUE GENTLEMAN

Reading Amateur Regatta lost one of its guiding lights with the passing of Andrew Wilbey shortly before Christmas 2025. Andrew stepped down as President only last year, after more than 40 years of extraordinary service to rowing in Reading and to the Regatta itself. His contribution was immense, quietly delivered, and often unseen.

Andrew joined the University of Reading in 1983, following a successful career in the food industry, and became a respected lecturer in the Department of Food and Nutritional Sciences at the University of Reading. A specialist in dairy technology, he was widely known for his expertise in ice cream, cheese and winemaking – not a bad combination! He was much admired by colleagues and students alike for his kindness, generosity and encyclopaedic practical knowledge.

Yet for many in the rowing community, Andrew will be remembered above all for his unwavering commitment to the river. He was an active member of the Reading University Boat Club, taking his single scull onto the water even in recent years and remaining a familiar and supportive figure on the bank.



Andrew Wilbey 1946-2025 (Photo Credit: Gareth Rollema)

Andrew formally represented RUBC on the Reading Amateur Regatta Committee, but his involvement extended far beyond that role. He had been part of the Regatta since arriving in Reading in 1983, serving over the years as Chief Crew Steward, Chairman from 2011, and President from 2018. In truth, his role in running the regatta touched almost every aspect of its organisation.

He oversaw commentary, communications, umpires and trophies, but it was behind the scenes where Andrew's remarkable ingenuity truly came to the fore: calculating the perfect pontoon dimensions, determining the correct angles for stake boats, repairing radios and megaphones, crafting bespoke boxes for our silver trophies from old wine cases, providing spanners to help the less prepared crews in trouble and turning yellow buoys red overnight by covering them in red swimming hats. His practical solutions were legendary.

RAR was far from his only commitment. Andrew was deeply involved with Reading University Small Boats Head, Thames Valley Park Regatta and the Thames river user community. Above all, he remained modest, simply getting on with the job, never seeking recognition. Andrew was a good friend and colleague to many of us, and his wisdom, humour and quiet kindness will be deeply missed. The Reading Amateur Regatta Committee will miss him enormously, and his shoes will be very hard to fill.

A true gentleman

JKP



The Dodd & Wilbey Challenge Cup

The Charles Dodd Challenge Cup for Senior Sculls was presented to the regatta by Mr Charles Dodd, the then President, to commemorate his 40 years association with the regatta. In 2026 this trophy has been renamed The Dodd & Wilbey Challenge Cup, reflecting the substantial contribution made by Andrew over 40 years of dedication to the Regatta.

Saturday Morning Division

1. Schools/Junior Eights (Band 1)	The University of Reading Challenge Trophy
2. Schools/Junior Eights (Band 2)	
3. Junior 15 Eights (Band 1)	
4. Junior 15 Eights (Band 2)	
5. Women's Eights (Band 1)	Austin Balsom Challenge Cup
6. Women's Eights (Band 2)	
7. Women's Eights (Band 3)	
8. Women's Eights (Band 4)	
9. Women's Eights (Band 5)	
10. Women's Junior 16 Eights	Janet B. Snow Trophy
11. Open Coxed Fours (Band 1)	Guinness Cup
12. Open Coxed Fours (Band 2)	
13. Junior 16 Coxed Fours	Jane Club (UK) Trophy
14. Women's Schools/Junior Coxed Fours	Tonbridge Cup
15. Women's Junior 15 Coxed Fours (Band 1)	
16. Women's Junior 15 Coxed Fours (Band 2)	
17. Women's Junior 15 Coxed Fours (Band 3)	
18. Open Coxless Fours (Band 1)	Stanmore Challenge Bowl
19. Open Coxless Fours (Band 2)	
20. Open Quads (Band 1)	Reading Challenge Vase
21. Open Quads (Band 2)	
22. Junior 16 Quads	Vulcan Challenge Shield
23. Women's Quads (Band 3)	
24. Women's Schools/Junior Quads	RMA Challenge Cup
25. Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 1)	
26. Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 2)	
27. Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 3)	
28. Women's Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 1)	
29. Women's Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 2)	
30. Women's Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 3)	
31. Open Double Sculls	Harrison-Jones Trophy

Saturday Afternoon Division

32. Open Eights (Band 1)

Reading Grand Challenge Cup

33. Open Eights (Band 2)

34. Open Eights (Band 3)

35. Open Eights (Band 4)

36. Junior 16 Eights

37. Women's Schools/Junior Eights

Royal Military College Challenge Cup

38. Women's Junior 15 Eights (Band 1)

39. Women's Junior 15 Eights (Band 2)

40. Schools/Junior Coxed Fours

Lipscombe Cup

41. Junior 15 Coxed Fours (Band 1)

42. Junior 15 Coxed Fours (Band 2)

43. Women's Coxed Fours (Band 1)

J.P. Turrill Challenge Cup

44. Women's Coxed Fours (Band 2)

45. Women's Coxed Fours (Band 3)

46. Women's Junior 16 Coxed Fours

James E. Mallard Cup

47. Schools/Junior Coxless Fours

Reading Challenge Bowl

48. Women's Coxless Fours (Band 1)

Sandeman Challenge Cup

49. Schools/Junior Quads (Band 1)

Colonel Field Challenge Trophy

50. Schools/Junior Quads (Band 2)

51. Women's Quads (Band 1)

Logan Dahne Cup

52. Women's Quads (Band 2)

53. Women's Junior 16 Quads

Botley & Lewis Challenge Cup

54. Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 1)

55. Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 2)

56. Women's Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 1)

57. Women's Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 2)

58. Women's Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 3)

59. Women's Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 4)

60. Open Coxless Pairs

Dymore-Brown Challenge Trophy

61. Women's Double Sculls

Newman Memorial Trophy

62. Open Sculls

Dodd & Wilbey Challenge Cup

63. Women's Sculls (Band 1)

Miller Cup

64. Women's Sculls (Band 2)

Saturday Prize Giving

SATURDAY WINNERS' PRESENTATIONS

Trophies and medals from the morning division will be presented from 12.30 – 14.00 by Nigel Smith (elite rower, England international coach and past President of Reading Amateur Regatta).

Trophies and medals from the afternoon division will be presented from 17.45 – 19.30 by Lucy Ryan, (Home International winner, 2019 RAR champ, Captain of boats RUBC)



Bring all your supporters to the medals tent



For-Saturday's
up-to date race
times and results



To everyone on the water...
ENJOY YOUR REGATTA!



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READING AMATEUR REGATTA

EST. 1842

JUNIOR TROPHY GUIDE



Victor Ludorum

The Radley
Cup



Sch 8+
Uni of Reading
Challenge
Trophy



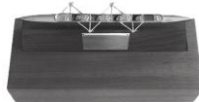
J16 8+
The Lipscombe
Cup



Sch 4-
Reading
Challenge
Bowl



Sch 4x
Colonel Field
Challenge
Trophy



J16 4+
Jane Club UK
Trophy



J16 4x
Vulcan
Challenge
Shield



W Sch 8+
Royal Military
College
Challenge Cup



W Sch 4+
Tonbridge
Cup



WJ16 8+
Janet D Snow
Trophy



W Sch 4x
Royal Military
Academy
Challenge Cup



WJ16 4+
James Mallard
Cup



WJ16 4x
Botley & Lewis
Challenge Cup



READING AMATEUR REGATTA

EST. 1842

SENIOR TROPHY GUIDE



Victor Ludorum
Saunders
Challenge
Cup



8+
Reading
Grand Challenge
Cup



4+
The Guinness
Cup



4-
Stanmore
Challenge
Bowl



4x
Reading
Challenge
Vase



2-
Dymore
Browne
Challenge Cup



2x
Harrison Jones
Challenge
Cup



1x
Dodd & Wilbey
Challenge
Cup



W 8+
Austin Balsom
Challenge
Cup



W 4+
JP Turrill
Challenge
Cup



W 4-
Sanderman
Challenge
Cup



W 4x
Logan Dahne
Cup



****JUNIOR****
W J15 8+
Haslam
Trophy



W 2x
Newman
Memorial
Trophy



W 1x
Miller
Cup

A Century over the Water: Caversham Bridge 1926–2026

This year Caversham is celebrating the hundred year anniversary of Caversham Bridge. First written records of a bridge in Caversham go all the way back to 1231. This was during the reign of Henry III and the period of the construction of monastery Reading Abbey which took over 200 years. Back then, the wealthy would cross the river by bridge whereas those with less money would have to go by boat! The bridge was the site of terrible fighting during the 1643 siege of Reading. Since then, fighting over the bridge has mostly been confined to who will be funding repairs and reconstruction. In the 18th century the bridge was only wide enough for one vehicle to pass and the Caversham side was made of stone, while the Reading side was made of wood. In 1868, work started on replacing the mismatched bridge with an iron bridge. This followed a boom in the economy of Reading as the railways allowed expansion of key industries including the biscuit factory in the 1840s, which is around the time of the first Reading Amateur Regatta in 1842. This iron bridge proved to be too narrow and so in 1911 when Caversham was brought into Reading, plans were hatched to widen Caversham Bridge (and to also build a new bridge a little further down stream). Work started on the new Caversham Bridge in 1924 and was completed in 1926 when Edward Prince of Wales opened it. One hundred years on, the bridge acts as the backdrop for battles on the water as crews competing in Reading Amateur Regatta race towards the finish line just upstream of the bridge. Whereas, in Feb/March crews duelling at Reading University Boat Club's Head of the River Race fight to be quickest through the bridge with the finish just downstream of Caversham Bridge.

With thanks to CADRA for the history of Caversham Bridge



Photo Credit: Gareth Rollema



Swan Support are on site throughout the regatta to protect the swans and respond to any incidents if required. Please follow their guidance:

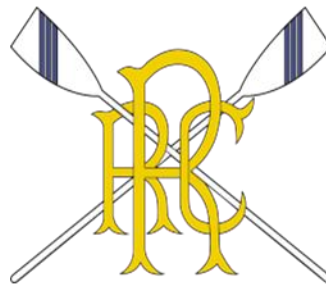
DO NOT FEED THE SWANS



Hold your Event at Reading Rowing Club

VENUE HIRE

- Large function room and bar accommodating 150 guests
- Available to hire to both members and non-members
- Competitive rates for parties
- Kitchen facilities available



TRAINING CAMPS

- 6km of river
- Access to training facilities, ergos, weights, TV for video training, shower facilities
- Use of launch
- Storage of boats

LEARN TO ROW courses available for adults and juniors

Experienced rower welcome to join our adult squads

For more information, see www.readingrc.org

Sunday Divisions 2026

Sunday Morning

1. Masters D/F Eights
2. Masters G/H Eights
3. Women's Eights
4. Women's Junior 14 Octuples (Band 1)
5. Women's Junior 14 Octuples (Band 2)
6. Open Coxed Fours
7. Junior 15 Coxed Fours
8. Women's Novice Coxed Fours
9. Open Quads
10. Women's Masters D/E Quads
11. Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 1)
12. Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 2)
13. Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 3)
14. Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 4)
15. Women's Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 1)
16. Women's Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 2)
17. Women's Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 3)
18. Women's Junior 13 Coxed Quads (Band 1)
19. Women's Junior 13 Coxed Quads (Band 2)
20. Junior 15 Double Sculls (Band 1)
21. Junior 15 Double Sculls (Band 2)
22. Junior 15 Double Sculls (Band 3)
23. Women's Novice Double Sculls
24. Women's Junior 16 Double Sculls
25. Women's Junior 14 Double Sculls (Band 1)
26. Women's Junior 14 Double Sculls (Band 2)
27. Women's Junior 14 Double Sculls (Band 3)
28. Novice Sculls (Band 1)
29. Novice Sculls (Band 2)
30. Masters B/C Sculls
31. Masters D Sculls
32. Masters E/F Sculls
33. Junior 14 Sculls (Band 1)
34. Junior 14 Sculls (Band 2)
35. Women's Junior 15 Sculls (Band 1)
36. Women's Junior 15 Sculls (Band 2)
37. Junior 14 Octuples
38. Masters D/E Coxed Fours
39. Women's Junior 15 Coxed Fours (Band 1)
40. Open Coxless Fours
41. Novice Quads
42. Masters D/E Quads
43. Masters F/H Quads
44. Schools/Junior Quads
45. Women's Quads
46. Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 1)
47. Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 2)
48. Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 3)
49. Junior 15 Coxed Quads (Band 4)
50. Women's Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 1)
51. Women's Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 2)
52. Women's Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 3)
53. Women's Junior 14 Coxed Quads (Band 4)
54. Masters C/D Double Sculls
55. Junior 14 Double Sculls (Band 1)
56. Junior 14 Double Sculls (Band 2)
57. Junior 14 Double Sculls (Band 3)
58. Women's Double Sculls
59. Women's Schools/Junior Double Sculls
60. Women's Junior 15 Double Sculls (Band 1)
61. Women's Junior 15 Double Sculls (Band 2)
62. Women's Junior 15 Double Sculls (Band 3)
63. Open Sculls
64. Schools/Junior Sculls (Band 1)
65. Schools/Junior Sculls (Band 2)
66. Junior 16 Sculls
67. Junior 15 Sculls (Band 1)
68. Junior 15 Sculls (Band 2)
69. Women's Novice Sculls
70. Women's Masters C Sculls
71. Women's Masters F/G Sculls
72. Women's Schools/Junior Sculls
73. Women's Junior 16 Sculls
74. Women's Junior 14 Sculls (Band 1)
75. Women's Junior 14 Sculls (Band 2)

Sunday Afternoon

37. Open Eights
38. Women's Masters C/D Eights

Sunday Prize Giving

SUNDAY WINNERS' PRESENTATIONS

Trophies and medals from the morning division will be presented from 12.00 -13.30 by Tom Barras. He won a bronze medal in the single sculls at the 2017 World Championships and a silver medal in the quadruple sculls at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Trophies and medals from the afternoon division will be presented from 17:30 – 19.00 by Lucy Ryan, (Home International winner, 2019 RAR champ, Captain of boats RUBC).

*****Bring all your supporters to the medals tent*****



JUNIOR VICTOR LUDORUM (left)

The Radley Cup for the most successful club in Junior and Schools events over the weekend will be awarded on Sunday evening once the winner has been confirmed.

SENIOR VICTOR LUDORUM (right)

The Saunders Cup for the most successful club over the weekend will be awarded on Sunday evening once the winner has been confirmed.



For Sunday's up-to
date race times
and results

A Century on the Water: Reading University Boat Club, 1926–2026

As the University of Reading marks its centenary in 2026, Reading University Boat Club celebrates one hundred years of rowing under the University charter – although its roots stretch back much further. Rowing at Reading began long before 1926, with the College Boat Club founded in the late nineteenth century and the Women’s Sculling Club established in **1894**, becoming the first sports club associated with what would become the University of Reading. At a time when women’s sport was often discouraged, Reading stood apart in offering opportunities for female students to row.

Among the early pioneers was Edith Morley, Secretary of Women’s Sculling between 1905 and 1907. Later celebrated as Britain’s first woman professor, Morley championed opportunities for women students during a period when even the suitability of rowing for women was questioned. Her influence helped shape the inclusive sporting culture that became a hallmark of Reading rowing.



Photo credit: MERL for providing the photo

Ladies from St Davids Hall in Reading rowing crew who were narrowly defeated by Wessex in the final of the Challenge Fours in 1924.

Following the award of the Royal Charter in 1926, Reading University Boat Club entered a new era, making its first Henley appearance that same year. The Club grew steadily through the twentieth century, establishing a permanent home on the Thames in Caversham and launching the Reading University Head of the River in 1935, now one of the country's leading student rowing events. Through triumphs and setbacks – including the loss and rebuilding of its boathouse after the 1989 fire – the Club continued to thrive.

Today, Reading University Boat Club stands among the UK's leading university rowing programmes, particularly in sculling, producing international athletes and introducing generations of students to the sport. In its centenary year, the Club achieved its greatest success yet at BUCS Regatta 2026, winning an extraordinary 30 medals (15 gold, 7 silver and 8 bronze) and becoming the first university ever to secure both the Men's and Women's Victor Ludorum titles in the same year – a fitting celebration of one hundred years of ambition, inclusivity and excellence on the water.



RUBC first raced London University at Henley in a private fixture in 1926. This photo was taken of the crew preparing to race University of London in 1929.

Thank You

We would like to give a huge thank you to all the volunteers who have worked with us in 2026, and without whom, there would be no regatta:

Regatta team: Rob Burnage, Jon Carpenter, Duncan Coneybeare (Hon. Treasurer), Al Craigie (Chief Umpire), Ania Haskins, Nick Haskins (former Chair), Spencer Kemsley, Tamsin Kemsley (Hon. Secretary), Louise Lazenby (Chair), Jasbir Malhi, Jane Parker (President), Gareth Rollema, Alex Wilbey, Simon Williamson and RUBC for help with the parking.

RRC volunteers including Andy Ciercierski (President), Steve Pratt (Captain) and many members of the club providing catering, crew stewards, marshalling and logistics.

Prizegiving and commentary: Tom Barras, Emily Faulkner, Liz Haskins, Nick Haskins, Neil Jackson, Ollie Morgan, Rob McDonald, Lucy Ryan, Nigel Smith, Ian Volans.

And critically the following dedicated team of umpires: Daniel Baillache, Hugh Cooper, Al Craigie, Paul Crooke, Stephen Drury, Cassandra Gilbert-Ward, Sam Gilbert-Ward, Tony Gordon, Neil Hewlett, Anne Jenkins, Quentin Knowlson, Caroline Lytton, Jerry Mitchell, Mark Nixon, Charlotte Orrell, Richard Packer, Liz Platts, Roy Prosser, David B. Reid, David M. Reid, Edward Richardson, Hugh Richardson, Qianyi Sun, Zoltan Szotyori, Katie Thomas, Carrole-Ann Turner, Mark Vellacott, Daniel Walker, Justin Young with help from Tim Armstead, Jonathan Fry, Jez Hopkins, Linda Hull and Steve Jump.

We would also like to thank Will Everitt for his ongoing support with our software and hardware needs.

Last but not least we are always grateful to Reading Borough Council, Thames Valley Constabulary and the River Users Group who help us ensure that our beautiful promenade and course are prepared effectively and made safe for the event.

We are always in need of more volunteers – if you would like to join us, please chat to any of the committee directly or contact us by email rarchair@gmail.com.

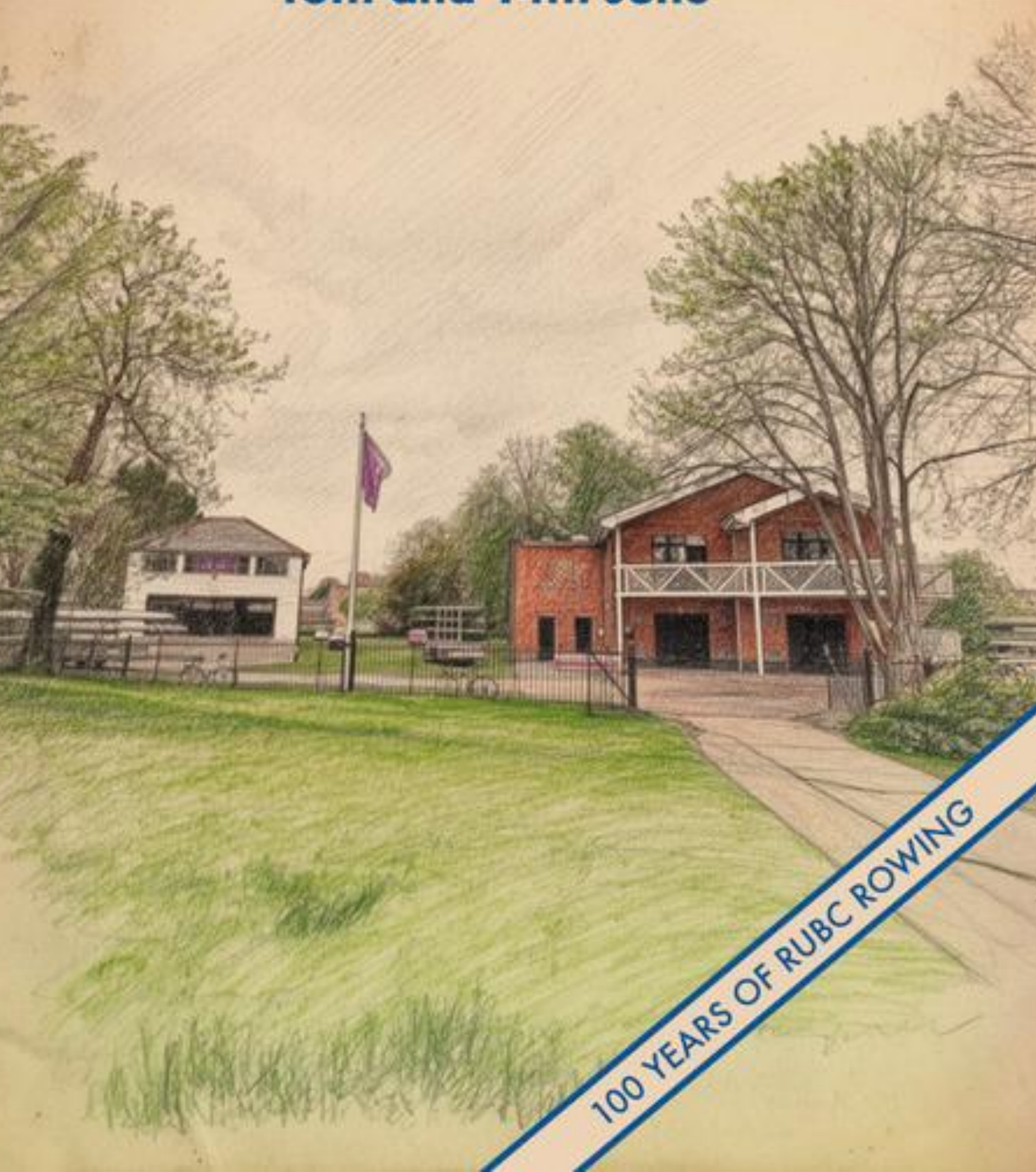
RAR Committee

Club Colours

	RDG Reading RC		TLA The Langley Academy
	RDU Reading University		TWK Twickenham RC
	ZAG Ruderclub Germania D Düsseldorf		UKA UK Armed Forces Rowing Club
	SHP Shiplake College		UBI University of Birmingham
	SHV Shiplake Vikings RC		USU University of Surrey
	SWP Sir William Perkins School		UTC Upper Thames RC
	SOU Southampton University		WAD Wadham College
	SPS St Paul's School		WBK Walbrook RC
	SAN St. Andrew BC		WRC Wallingford RC
	STA Star Club		WAR Warwick BC
	STO Stowe Sculling Club		WEY Weybridge RC
	SBT Surbiton High School		WHS Wimbledon High School
	TAU Taurus BC		WIN Winchester College
	THS Thames Scullers		WBS Windsor Boys School
	KCA The King's School Canterbury		ZEAS Wasser-Sport-Verein Dusseldorf Rudergesellschaft von 1893 E.v.

RAR 2026

13th and 14th June



100 YEARS OF RUBC ROWING