

Trinity win 'The Ladies'

Those who were at Henley 1977 won't quickly forget the Club black and white vests sweeping up the enclosure on finals day to win, at last, the Ladies Plate. It was something to be savoured and remembered, repeating the historic win of 1875, and crowning the efforts of a concentrated three year build up involving probably the hardest training ever undertaken by a DUBC crew. Crowning too the efforts of so many other crews that down the years had worked for the same goal, and on nine different occasions had reached the finals only to have the elusive trophy slip from their grasp.

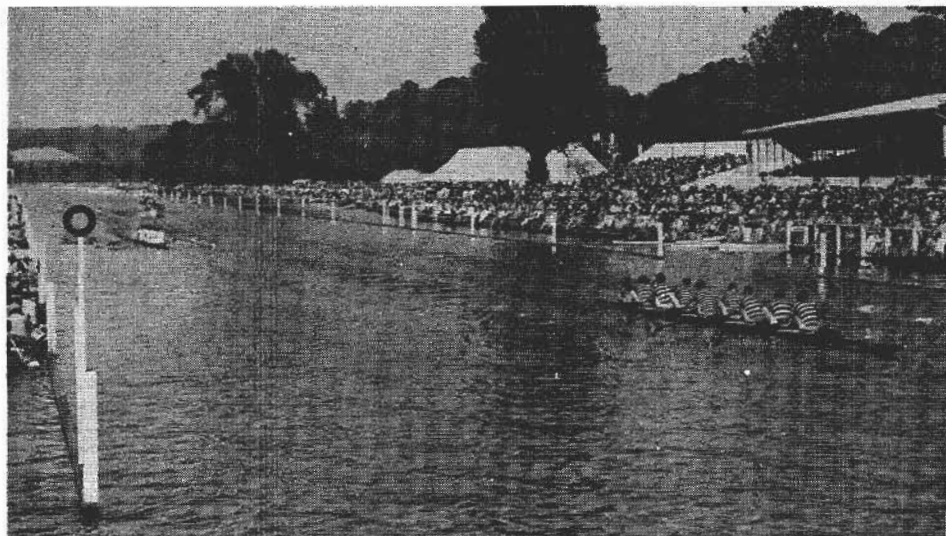
The crew had raced well throughout the year showing good pace and holding its place at the top of Irish University rowing. With the arrival of the new Caribcraft in May the final run up to Henley began. To give every possible chance for a good showing it was decided to move across to Henley a few days earlier than usual, and the crew travelled from there up to Nottingham the previous week-end for some all important racing experience at a top Regatta. There they did well on the whole coming away with the Senior A and Elite II medals on the Sunday. But they also suffered a shock in the Senior A event on the Saturday, when, having led for most of the race, they saw Durham, a Ladies Plate entry, with perfect timing, slip past them to take the race at the finish.

Of the 37 crews entered for the Ladies Plate, 6 were eliminated in time trials on the preceding Saturday. The remaining 32 included a number of overseas crews, but principally Orange Coast USA, and Ridley College, Canada. Of the English crews University College and Hospital, and Pembroke Cambridge were reported to be fast; and of course there was Durham whose pace had already been disturbingly sampled at Nottingham. As it turned out the crew was to meet in turn all of these three, Orange Coast and Ridley having already fallen to Pembroke and Durham respectively.

The draw was a kind one for Trinity putting us against Selwyn College Cambridge, one of the less experienced crews in the first round. But no-one would have wished

for a win in that heat in the way it actually came, with Selwyn, already a bit down, catching a crab and breaking a slide at the end of the island, and dropping out of the race from that point. The next heat was against Queens, Belfast, who had disposed of Clare College Cambridge in their opening heat. The crew had already raced Queens a number of times in Ireland, and so knew something of their form. But leaving nothing to chance they moved off hard from the start and establishing an early lead drew away steadily to win by three lengths. In the next round they defeated University College and Hospital by two and a half lengths. Then came the semi-finals, and really the deciding race, against Durham. A lot had been learned at Nottingham, and there was a quiet determination that the tables were now to be turned. With a clean powerful start the crew moved immediately into a slight lead, and settling into its stride continued to draw slowly away. Durham challenged hard at the three-quarter mile signal drawing back slightly, but Trinity countered strongly and holding off the challenge moved away again to win eventually by one and three quarter lengths. And so to the finals against Pembroke College Cambridge at 3.45 pm on the Sunday afternoon. The race was never in doubt. Once again the crew took an early lead, and rowing with great confidence moved ahead steadily to win by three lengths.

It was a fine win by a fine crew. After so many years anticipation Trinity Supporters burst into exuberant celebrations.



The big moment. The VIII crossing the finishing line in the finals against Pembroke.

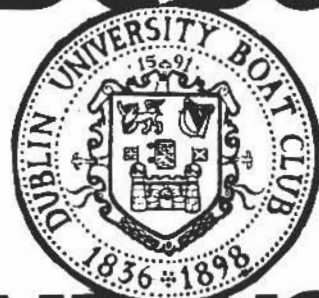
A WORD FROM THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE.

There has been a most encouraging response to the first DUBC NEWS. So we have decided to publish again. It seems to have filled a need for more regular and general communications about the Clubs activities to members old and new alike.

The winning of the Ladies Plate has of course been a tremendous achievement by the Club during the past year and we join in adding our congratulations to the Captain and crew. But there is a lot more going on as well, albeit at a less lofty level, as I think this Newsletter will illustrate.

We are aware that our direct contact with members is limited, and consequently there must be a lot going on that we are not aware of. We would welcome comments on any of the material published, and of course any snippets of information about DUBC members which might be used (or abused?) in subsequent editions. Please address all correspondence to the Captain, Dublin University Boat Club, 23 Trinity College, Dublin.

DUBC



NEWS

23 TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN.
APRIL, 1978

THE LADY ELIZABETH BOAT CLUB.

All things considered Lady Lizzie can claim to have had a very successful season in 1976-77. The most notable among a number of activities were probably the dinner given for the victorious Ladies Plate crew on their return from Henley - a unique occasion - and the Gannon Cup Spectators Bus. Nottingham with its travelling grandstand had nothing on this! There are plans to continue the service this year, with a bar on board!

Following a decision taken at Trinity Regatta L.E.B.C. has moved onto Standing Order finance with annual Membership Subscriptions two Guineas (£2.10p) payable to the club account with the Bank of Ireland. College Green, Dublin. This has given the club some financial security to meet expenses such as the I.A.R.U. affiliation fee now £35 p.a. All funds are of course put to use for D.U.B.C. and our activities during the season raised sufficient money to refurbish 'The Widow' and 'Rupert Guinness.' Costing in total about £300.

The Annual Raffle for a return trip to Henley will be run again this year, and the draw will take place at the Lizzie function on the Saturday evening of Trinity Regatta. The Captain this year is DAVID TURNER, who can be contacted through 23.0.1. T.C.D., and the Secretary ALVA BRANGAM, 'Chambers', 5 Wolseley Street, Botanic Avenue, Belfast BT7 1LG.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| April 22. | DUBLIN Head-of-the-River. |
| April 23. | GANNON CUP. |
| May 5. | UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIPS, Castletown. |
| May 6. | QUEENS REGATTA. |
| May 19-21 | TRINITY REGATTA. |
| June 10. | LIMERICK REGATTA |
| July 1. | CORK REGATTA, Iniscarra |
| July 14-15. | DUBLIN METROPOLITAN REGATTA, Blessington |
| June 24-25. | NOTTINGHAM INTERNATIONAL REGATTA |
| June 28- July 2. | HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA. |
| July 29. | HOME INTERNATIONAL, Llandeiffydd, Wales. |

AN OUTSTANDING OARSMAN.



Dr. Chris George with his "Gold."

Chris George must have achieved the ambition of his lifetime when the British Lightweight VIII on which he was rowing pulled off the "Gold" at the World Championships in Amsterdam last August. And what a cliff-hanger of a race that was with

the VIII getting home from Spain by just 7/100ths of a second in a gruelling hard fought race every inch of the way! Congratulations from us all on that superb win.

Chris's rowing career, began with D.U.B.C. in 1966. In 1968 as a member of the D.U.B.C. Junior VIII he helped win the Irish Junior Viii's Championship at Limerick Regatta. In the following year he established himself in the Bow seat of the Senior VIII which won at Trinity Regatta, a feat not accomplished incidentally for several years before, or indeed since.

Moving to London in 1970 he joined University of London, and as Captain of Boats in 1971 won among other events that year the Ladies Plate at Henley. But this was only the beginning. In the years 1970 to 1977 he won among other events the British Universities Championship 4 times, the British National Championship 5 times, the Visitors, the Stewards, and the Thames Cups at Henley. He also rowed on crews representing Great Britain at European or World Championships in 1973, '75, '76, and '77, winning a "Bronze" in the Lightweight Viii's in the World Championships in Nottingham in 1975, and last year the coveted "Gold" at Amsterdam.

All in all a truly remarkable record!

HENLEY REVISITED.

"THE PEMBROKE," the name given to Trinity new Carbocraft VIII was a source of constant questioning at Henley. Not least from the crew of Pembroke College Cambridge who they met in the final of the Ladies. It seemed to them particularly ironic that they should suffer defeat by a boat carrying the name of their very own College! But the name has of course historic links for DUBC, for the clubs origins can be traced back to 1836 and the founding at that date of the Pembroke Club at Ringsend. And so too the origin of the toast of "The Pembroke" drunk annually at the Trial Viii's dinner.

The CARBO CRAFT carrying the name has historic significance too, as the revolutionary new design is a landmark in its own way. Constructed of synthetic materials, polyurethane foam and carbon fibre it is significantly lighter and more rigid, and consequently faster, than the traditional wooden craft. Certainly DUBC found it to be a superb boat.

But not to be outdone Pembroke too were boated in a new "Superboat," also designed for lightness and rigidity — in fact the very boat used by Cambridge in the Boat Race. So as far as boats were concerned the finals of the Ladies Plate in 1977 was something of a battle of the giants!

THE PRIZE GIVING AT HENLEY had a distinctly Irish flavour with Lord Killanin, President of the International Olympic Committee presenting the prizes, and reminiscing about his own rowing days on the Liffey. More "Social than aquatic" were the words he used. Nonetheless a nice homely atmosphere for the two winning Irish crews to collect their trophies. For Garda had made their own headline by winning the Prince Philip Challenge Cup, the top coxed fours event. The first time this trophy has come to Ireland, and a great achievement by them.

The joining of the two victorious Irish parties later in the proceedings was the occasion for spontaneous and considerable combustion. There was combustion too, or so some seemed to think, in the Champagne Bar in the Stewards and in the Leander Forecourt where, the proceedings having been well and truly launched by our Club President, all and sundry competed for the honour of drowning the crew in Champagne! A speech by one protagonist high on the back of a gigantic pink Hippo (not imaginary!) though low on content lacked for nothing in dramatic effect. The Hippo, intended to remain stationary, was unexpectedly released from its shackles, and thus liberated came within an inch of a return to its natural environment. How and why it was saved is another story....!

CAPTAIN 1978.

DAVID BROWNE, Captain of the Boat Club this year is in his third year at College and doing Economics. He was a member of the Junior VIII last year. Rowing is not new to the family as he is the son of Professor Alan Browne who rowed for DUBC between 1942 and 1946, and was a member of the Senior VIII headed by a canvas in the finals of the Ladies Plate in 1946.

THE PROVOST ENTERTAINS

The round of celebrations that followed the winning of the Ladies Plate reached a brilliant climax in Dublin on the evening of 28th October when the Provost and Mrs Lyons were At Home to the winning crew, their supporters and friends. The gathering included senior members of both the College and Boat Club, the various Club Coaches, Trinity's boatmen past and present, representatives of Lady Elizabeth Boat Club and of Irish Rowing in general, and the officers of the Ladies Boat Club.

The hospitality of Dr. and Mrs Lyons soon made everyone feel at home, and as friends mingled together the famous days of last July were relived, and wonderful plans laid for the future. The Provost, in a short speech, paid tribute to the crew and Club, and the Captain, George deCourcy-Wheeler in reply spoke of the support given to the Club by the Provost, the College and D.U.C.A.C., all helping in their own way to bring about the win. In closing he spoke for all present when he thanked the Provost and Mrs Lyons for arranging a most memorable evening.



Professor and Mrs. Lyons, with George deCourcy-Wheeler, the Club Captain 1977, [centre] at the reception.

We are so impressed with your integrity, that on your next visit to us you will be astounded to see your letter, suitably framed, amid our other noteworthy relics in the bar.

Thank you for this happy little interlude which underlines the good fellowship of rowing.

We wish you well again next Henley Royal Regatta — — — because who knows what you may then return?

Mise le meas,

Scott,

House Manager, Leander Club.

To The Captain,
Leander Rowing Club,
13th, July 1977.

The Ladies Plate 1934, 1950, 1977.

Dear Captain,

I am returning in a separate parcel a Club flag which adorned the garden flag-pole during the Regatta in 1950 when Trinity College Dublin were beaten in the finals of the Ladies Plate. Having been the Coach of the crew at that time and in fact lost "The Ladies" in 1934 to Jesus by three feet I recovered the flag from one John Leather who had walked up the pole just as daylight appeared.

Since then I have kept the flag with the object of returning same to the Club when T.C.D. won "The Ladies." Now that this has at last happened after so many years of effort, I have the greatest pleasure in sending to you the old flag which I hope will appear again flowing gently to a "Bush's wind."

I may add the flag has not seen the light of day since 1950, but is in good condition.

Yours sincerely,
Maurice Horan.

To M. Horan Esq.,
31st August, 1977.

Dear Mr. Horan,

It was with great pleasure that we welcomed the return of the Leander flag circa 1950.

The saga of T.C.D., and the Ladies Plate, culminating in their popular victory this year has aroused much interest and amusement amongst our members.

Dr. John (JG) Leather was there again in 1977. We understand he found the Hippo just a bit too big to manage!

The '77 crew have, incidentally, been invited to apply for membership of Leander. Not unusual they say when you have won at Henley. But I wonder if there isn't a touch of Poacher turning Gamekeeper about it all!

THE ROWING SEASON 1977.

Nineteen seventy seven was one of the most successful seasons for DUBC for many years. Wins ranged across the board from the pre-Regatta University races — the Wylia Cup and Gannon Cup, to wins at International level Regattas, first Nottingham, and then crowning the years activities, the Ladies Plate at Henley.

The year really got going when the Seniors returned after a hearty Christmas dinner in Cairo, to resume training for the Heads of the River races. The first of these brought the Senior and Junior crews to New Ross for the twelve mile marathon in mid February. This was DUBC's first time to enter for this event and it was a satisfactory start to the season with the Seniors coming in second, 59 seconds behind Garda, and the Juniors in fourth place.

The next event, the Portora Head-of-the-River in March was won for the third time in succession by the Senior VIII. But four weeks later in the Dublin Head the crew, in a disappointing row, were beaten into third place by Garda and a strong composite Neptune/U.C.D./Old Collegians crew.

The Gannon Cup on the following weekend brought a change in fortunes and a win by four lengths for the Senior VIII. It was a very satisfying day all round for the club with the Junior and Maiden Vllls also winning their 'invitation' race.

In the Universities Championships the Wiley Cup returned to Trinity after a close tussle with Queens. Queens own Regatta was on the following day, but due to weather conditions the Regatta was called off before many of the races could be rowed, among them the Senior Vllls.

And so to Trinity Regatta on 20th to 22nd May, where DUBC had mixed success, recording only one win for the Club at the end of the day, that of the 2nd Senior IV, who won convincingly from U.C.D. The Senior VIII, drawn against their rivals the Composite VIII in their first heat on the Saturday, hesitated fatally on the start and found themselves immediately three quarters of a length down. Thoroughly unsettled the crew never really got on terms again and the race was lost by just on half a length. The Junior VIII, in an exciting race with Garda led up to the minute mark but were not able to hold off their stronger opponents and lost by a third of a length.

The Juniors were to level and indeed improve their particular score with Garda from here on. In Athlone on June 11th the seniors and Juniors both won their events,

D.U.L.B.C. GETS INTO HER STRIDE.

Dublin University Ladies Boat Club got well into its stride during the year, recording a series of wins at home and "abroad" that augurs well for the future. The most notable was at Nottingham International Regatta where on June 25th they romped home, winners by four lengths, in the Ladies Senior B event, to achieve their main target of the year, and coincidentally record the first win by an Irish Ladies Club at that Regatta. This and other successes were the results of a years hard work under their Captain Shirley Roycroft, together with her committee, and Coaches notably Jane Williams, Peter Driscoll and Dave Sanfey.



The victorious D. U. Ladies IV proudly display their medals after their win at Nottingham. Left to right, Mary O'Connor [Bow], Jane Johnston 2, Shirley Roycroft 3, Anne Blayney [Stk]. Seated, Dararca Breadan [Cox].

the Juniors turning the tables on Garda by one third of a length. The significant event of Athlone, however was the fine win by Neptune of the Maiden Championship, in a time faster than any of the competing Junior crews! The writing was on the wall in respect of the Junior Championship just one week away at Cork! And as it transpired Neptune, combining Junior and hitherto Maiden oarsmen won the Junior Championships with a fine crew by one and a half lengths, D.U.B.C. and Garda, having gone down to them in a earlier heat.

Meanwhile after Athlone the Senior VIII had travelled to Henley to put in a couple of weeks training before the main event of the season. And on the way took in Nottingham Regatta. Their wins there and of course later at Henley, in the Ladies Plate are now well known and are covered elsewhere in this newsletter. What is not so well known is that the bulk of the Junior VIII also travelled over to Nottingham on their own initiative and although they took no trophy away with them they gained two days valuable racing experience on that six lane 2000 metre international course.

Returning from Henley the crew got back into training for the Metropolitan Regatta and the Senior Championships.

Here after a close race they came in third to Garda and a strengthened composite crew. Our only victory of the day was that of the Second Senior IV who came through once more to maintain a fine record, unbeaten throughout the season.

Two men, Rory Reilly and David Weale, joined the National Squad to take part in trials for a Coxed Pair for the World Championship at Amsterdam. They were not selected, but Rory and James Murnane were subsequently chosen to make up the IV for the Home International on the Serpentine, and duly won their event. A not unfitting close to a very successful season.

LONDON LIZZIE ALIVE AND WELL.....

LONDON LIZZIE DINNER.

News has it that the annual London Lizzie Dinner is being arranged for the evening of May 20th at Trinity-by-the-Thames, otherwise known as London Rowing Club. The organisers are John Pearson, 01-942-9191, Tony Wilson 01-748-2020, and Rob vanMesdag 01-352-6879. The date coincides with Trinity Regatta Saturday so the more internationally minded can now celebrate either occasion, or both, in eminently appropriate surroundings on either island!

The exact hour, cost etc. will be pronounced upon later. But meanwhile keep this important date, May 20th, in mind.

VENICE RACE.

On May 6th a selection of the fittest London Lizzie members will renew international rowing links when they cross over to Venice to take part in the Vogalonga, the 20 mile race around the lagoon. With the help of friends in Italy Cedric Shepherd has managed to organise an Eight which will be crewed by Lizzie men and members of the London Rowing Club. Rob vanMesdag and Cedric are both old hands at the game having taken part last year. See OUT AND ABOUT.

Professor Bobbie Steen handing over the cup he has presented for Senior Pairs at Trinity Regatta to the Club Captain David Browne. Looking on is this years Regatta Secretary, Donagh McDonagh.



DONAGH McDONAGH, THIS YEARS REGATTA SECRETARY, WRITES:—

During the past five years Trinity Regatta has grown step by step from a one day affair with some races on the previous evening to a three day event spreading over Friday Saturday and Sunday. The racing over three days has been made necessary by the inclusion of some ladies events, and a full schools programme which is run on the first two days only, while the mens and ladies races span the full three days.

Something that will affect this years Regatta is the decision taken recently by the Rowing Union to bring the grading of crews more in line with our counterparts across the water and on mainland Europe. This means that the regatta will have even more events, possibly up to eighteen for men, with ladies and schools on top of that, making a total of about twenty-six events. Hopefully more events will mean fewer crews in each, thus making the draw easier and the time-table more flexible. But only time will tell.

I am delighted to say that we will have a new trophy this year, a cup for the Senior Pairs, presented by Professor Steen to mark the occasion of the winning of the Ladies Plate. This is doubly welcome this year as with the changes being brought about by the new system of crew grading there simply are not enough trophies now to go round all the events.

This year we hope to run two functions, one on the Saturday night for the visiting oarsmen, and another on Saturday night, strictly formal, for D.U.B.C. and guests. So every need should be catered for.



P.E.D. ENJOYS COACHING



The Senior VIII 1977, Captain and Coaches. From left standing, Robin Tamplin [Senior Coach], Keiran Mulcahy [Bow], Rory Reilly 7, Dave Hickey 6, David Weale 5, Jim Murnane 4, Bruce Carter [coach]. From left seated, Dave Sanfey 3, John Macken [Stk], George deCourcy-Wheeler [Captain], Jarlath McGee [Cox], Ted O'Morchoe 2. Insert right, Nick Tinne [Coach].

OUT AND ABOUT—

"First past the post" was the heading of a paragraph in the Telegraph of last March describing the 20 mile Vogalonga boat race which had just taken place around the lagoons of Venice. And taking part in this annual event were two L.E.B.C. men ROB VANMESDAG [1949-51] and CEDRIC SHEPHERD [1951] the former in a Veterans IV from London Rowing Club, the latter an VIII from Turin Rowing Club. Some 1200 boats take part, with the strictest of rules laying down "no overtaking and no swearing." Very trying indeed when a neighbouring Gondola starts nosing in front! No prizes for fitness, but great for keeping the international rowing circuit open.

TONY HARTE, (1965-68), has for the last few years been doing great work with Queens Belfast. Reports have it that a lot of the present rejuvenation of that Club stems from his efforts. He is currently Captain of the Lady Victoria Boat Club, a rare distinction for a DUBC man, and a position he is now holding for the second year running.

Still in that part of the world it is reliably reported that NOEL GRAHAM [1965-71] has ceased his active property development in the Ranelagh area of Dublin having sold his house there and moved to live in Belfast. Following his very successful coxing of the Irish Coxed Pair at the World Championships in Amsterdam last year [8th overall] he is keeping in touch with the rowing scene in Belfast, and at the same time studying for Law.

The more serious and medically minded will have been interested in a light-hearted article "Jolly Boating Weather" in the July 27th edition of World Medicine. The article came from DICK McCLELLAND [alias RICHARD LEECH] [1940-42] who reminisces nostalgically about his Boat Club days. Dick was at Henley this year, arriving just too late to see the crew win The Ladies, but fortunately in good time to see them marching up to receive the trophy. "For all my deafness" he wrote "I could hear cheers echoing from across the years."

Interest in the Gannon Cup is running high this year, as with 14 wins each and one dead heat (1950) the respective T.C.D.

/U.C.D. crews eye each other across the river. Interesting too to note that rowing at 2 in the Trinity crew in that famous dead heat was JIMMY SLAVIN, the only man to our knowledge to have competed for both Colleges in this annual tussle. Jimmy rowed at 3 in the U.C.D. boat in 1947 — the inaugural year (lost by 11). Did not compete in 1948 (re-dying vest?) Rowed for Trinity in 1949 (won by 21). Rowed again for Trinity in 1950 (dead heat). Can anyone better that?

It was good to see RICHARD SCOTT [Bow of the 1976 VIII] at Henley again this year, and keeping actively in touch with the sport. Working with the Midland Bank he was rowing at two on their IV entered for the Wyfolds. Unfortunately they were knocked out early in the event going down to a good Tideway Scullers crew in their first heat.

The latest news of DAVE WEALE and RORY REILLY [5. and 7. on the '77 crew respectively] is that they are working hard on the Thames Tradesmen's first VIII, having found themselves suitable employment in London. Priorities strictly in that order mark you! —

And congratulations too to DAVE on his recent engagement to Linda Wilson, ex-T.C.D. and Lisburn, also currently working in London. Good luck to them both.

While on the '77 crew JARLATH MCGEE (cox) is now working with a computer firm in Slough, and also keeping in touch with rowing on the Tideway. He has been seen coxing with Thames Tradesmen, and also out with the Squad lightweights. There will be a big rowing day in Clonmel on June 3rd next, the wedding day of DAVE SANFEY and JANE WILLIAMS. Dave was three on last years VIII and Captain in 1976, and Jane is President and Coach of D.U.L.B.C. A recipe for some good future oarspersons I shouldnt be surprised! All the rowing fraternity join in wishing them well.

JIM JACKSON is back in Dublin again after six months in Frankfurt where he has been with the Investment Bank of Ireland. He got in some useful sculling there with the Frankfurt Rowing Club, which he will no doubt put to good effect back here on the Liffey.

THE IRISH SCENE

The most interesting development in Irish Rowing this season is the reorganisation of the grading of oarsmen to bring it more in line with the British and European systems. The old Maiden and Junior gradings as such disappear and will be replaced by five new categories ranging from Novice, being someone who has never won any event at a qualifying Regatta, through Senior Grades C, B, and A, up to Elite, an oarsman moving up through the Grades as he accumulates wins at Qualifying Regattas. Fun and games for all — particularly Regatta Committees, as all this is sorted out and settles down!

The other notable feature is the further development of the National rowing Squad, with sights set on the Moscow Olympics in 1980, and the first stepping stone the World Championship in New Zealand in November this year. A Squad of some 30 oarsmen and coxes selected from 8 Clubs have already worked out over three weekends at Blessington and Carrick-on-Shannon under the watchful eye of Jim Railton and a committee of coaches drawn from the Clubs concerned. D.U.B.C. has its representatives there — Dave Hickey, Kieran Mulcahy, Jim Murnane and Kevin Lynch, with Robin Tamplin as one of the coaches. Noel Graham is also there coxing, under the Lady Victoria B.C. flag, so there is plenty of Trinity interest in the outcome.

THE HENLEY FUND

The Henley Fund turned up trumps this year putting up just half of the crews expenses. This was made possible by the very good response from subscribers with £804 coming in, mostly before and some after the big event. This was very welcome to meet the small additional expense of sending the crew over a few days earlier than usual, a move that contributed in its own way to the crews fine achievement. Particularly encouraging was the increase in the numbers subscribing — up to 66, from 59 in 1976.

This time the crew got accommodation in Henley town, at 33 New Street, a change from the usual plan of staying outside the town away from the heat and general distractions of the regatta. The arrangement turned out very well, mainly due to the delightful family with whom they stayed, a Dr and Mrs Duveney and their two young children, who were the most relaxed and generous of hosts. And there was the added bonus of a reduction in the general travelling costs!

THOSE NINE FINALS—

The winning of the Ladies Plate produced a spate of comment on Trinity's performance in the event down the years including the one that pre-1977 Trinity have had a crew in the finals nine times! For the record the nine occasions were: —

- 1870 Beaten by Eton.
- 1871 Beaten by Pembroke College Oxford and Eton. (Three crews in the final).
- 1872 Beaten by Pembroke College Oxford by ½ lgt.
- 1873 Beaten by Jesus College.
- 1874 Beaten by First Trinity Cambridge.
- 1875 Won from First Trinity Cambridge, by just over one lgt.
- 1934 Beaten by Jesus College by 3 feet.
- 1946 Beaten by Jesus College by a canvas
- 1950 Beaten by New College Oxford by one third lgt.