# DUBCINEWS

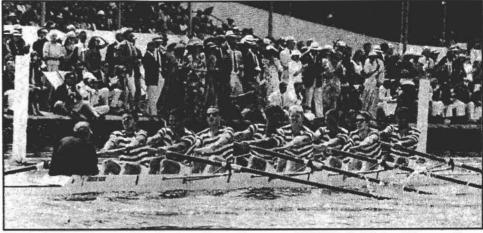
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## Close Call in Henley Final

THE SENIOR report for the 1993/4 season breaks very little new ground. As in previous years, we tried hard, we trained hard, and we failed to realise the potential which we felt we had. This may seen unnecesarily despondant, but sometimes one feels that there are ancient and powerful gods that we have offended.

Our season was written off by the pundits along the tow path. All but one of the previous year's VIII had moved on. This left the senior coach, Nicholas Dunlop, in the unenviable position of following the departure of a successful crew, with a body of oarsmen who, apart from Brendan Smyth, had never won a championship medal of any grade. A decision was made to train a great deal more in single sculls and pairs. To this effect, a Janousek scull was purchased and the club fleet of Janouseks were refurbished.

We entered St Michael's Head in sculls, pairs and IVs, and discovered that, with the possible exception of Tim Coote, none of us could scull to save our lives. We trained hard during Michaelmas term; lifting weights, running, sculling, and setting off on interminable pairs and fours outings on Blessington Lake. Over the Christmas break most of us went down to Cappoquin to train on the Blackwater. There, over the course of some harrowing trips to Youghal and back, we finally began to make



Through the enclosures, bow to stem, Conor Fennessy, Allil O' Reilly, Michael Persson, Ross Hassett, Greg Johnston, Martin Murphy, Brendan Smyth, Tim Coote and Cox Donal Lunney

some progress. We returned to Dublin suitably heartened, and were encouraged with a win in the open IVs at the Lagan Head.

We continued to train in the fours and pairs for the next three weeks or so, and then shortly before the Eme Head we were allowed in to the eight. For myself and the majority of the crew, it was the first time we felt even remotely like the DUBC Seniors we had watched as Novices. Eme Head was a singularly terrifying experience. From the two seat, I could see the

black and white striped backs stretching up to the stern, feeling both proud to wear the stripey and terrified of living up to its reputation. We headed the river at Erne, beating BRC and UCD in the process, and collected the cup from Robert Northridge, Portora rowing master and Lizzie man.

Our training continued in Dublin and Wicklow, but we were unsuccessful a Dublin Head. The Galway Head saw us come closer to

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## Captain's Report

### Words of wisdom from Tim Coote

IN LOSING to Imperial at Henley, DUBC may be forgiven for thinking that, having lost the last three consecutive finals, the place is becoming unlucky. However, with a large number of both last year's Senior and Novice oarsmen returning to row, DUBC is once again pushing for that elusive enley victory and, whatever happens, a promising and exciting season is guaranteed.

The Novice squad still contains more than 20 badly blistered members, all hoping to be in the first VIII which will defend the Novice Championships title this year. Under the coaching regime of Brian Roberts, James O'Reilly and Willie Galvin, the squad has made remarkable progress. Unfortunately their efforts have yet to be rewarded on the water; St Michael's Head was cancelled and equipment failure ruined any chance of success at both

Lagan and Erne. On the brighter side, a training camp Galway for five days during the midterm break has brought remarkable changes to previously unorthodox rowing techniques, thanks to the patience and persistence of Messrs Roberts and Pearse Coyle.

The Intermediate IV, composed of last year's Novice squad, are being coached by an injured member of the 1994 Senior VIII, Conor Fennessy, and by a DUBC oarsman of a somewhat better vintage, Peter Wolfe. They recently won their events at Erne, the University Championships and Queens, and are confident of further success.

There is no shortage of experience in the Senior squad; four of last year's Henley finalists have returned in the hope of holding their seats against the most promising of the 1994 Novices, while the club has also been fortunate

to have attracted two new members who have both competed at junior international level.

Recent testing and a high quality of rowing has demonstrated the potential for finally winning the Temple Challenge Cup. Nick Dunlop has returned as Senior coach and continues to devote seemingly endless amounts of time and enthusiasm to the squad's development. He has been joined in the coaching launch by Robin Tamplin, Raymond Blake, Dan Murray, Phil Browne and Alan Thomas. He has also been assured by Gerry Macken and Sean Tuney that they too will be available to help later on in the season.

Training on the water has concentrated on the use of small boats such as sculls, pairs and IVs which are instrumental in developing good, all-round oarsmanship. That the club enjoys a fleet of such boats is largely thanks to the old boys appeal fund and the generosity of past members.

Thus the club remains in a healthy position and I am confident that a successful racing season approaches. Finally, I look forward to seeing you all at both Trinity Regatta and Henley.

#### Bill Millar died on August 2, 1994.

BY HIS death the sport of rowing had lost a most committed oarsman and a friend of the utmost integrity.

A member of the Dublin University Boat Club from 1935 to 1939, Bill was elected captain in 1938. All who rowed with him will recall his complete commitment to the club, the crews, and to the individual members.

During those years the club was successful in winning the Senior VIIIs championship in 1936, '37 and '38 - the latter win at Trinity Regatta with WNR Millar at stroke.

He won the Senior sculls in 1938 and '39, and under his captaincy the club was 6th in the Putney Head of the River in 1938.

During the war, Bill served in the anti-aircraft section of the Royal Artillery, and, with thousands of others, was one of those who were evacuated from the beaches of Dunkirk.

Following his marriage to Diana, he entered the family firm, becoming chairman of the board, and of the Wine and Spirit Association.

His colleagues testify that he upheld high standards and principles, possessed a light touch, was fair minded and encouraged harmonious relationships all round.

All his life Bill maintained his constant interest in DUBC and in rowing. In addition he loved to walk the Wicklow hills with Diana, and to care for the fine gardens at Delbrook, the scene of much entertainment for Trinity and visiting crews. He also found time to play for the Monkstown Rugby Football Club 1st XV in 1939.

The success of the International Blessington Regatta owed much to the hard work and interest of Bill Millar over the years. As a trustee of the Metropolitan Regatta, he saw the purchase of the enclosure at

### WNR (Curly) Millar



# An Appreciation

Blessington, and the DUBC buy into the boathouse there.

For many years he was a Trustee of the

Henley Fund and became Senior Trustee in 1980, on the death of Maurice Horan. In November 1982, Bill was elected President of DUBC, a position he held until 1989. During his college days, he had organised the DUBC Centenary Dinner in 1936; 50 years later, as President, he was chairman of the Sesqui-Centenary Dinner in the dining hall on January 24th, 1986 when there were 140 guests present.

During the Sesqui-Centenary Regatta, Bill and Diana entertained the Cambridge University BC and many visiting crews to an evening function in Delbrook.

At Trial VIII's Bill Millar raised the toast of "The Pembroke" over many years. That link with the Pembroke Rowing Club came from his ancestors: James McGregor Millar had rowed for the Pembroke at Ringsend, and Bill's father, RN Millar, had been a member. At the time of Bill's election as captain of DUBC, W De Courcy (Curly) Millar was a vice-president. Bill coached the Junior and Maiden crews with great success, and later the Neptune Senior VIII.

Bill and Diana and their family were regular supporters of their parish church of Taney and, in latter years, Rathmichael. He took a keen interest in the welfare of the elderly, and the handicapped, and was on the boards of Simpson's Hospital and the Sunshine Home. In addition, St Catherine's Trust, the Royal British Legion and Poppy Day all received his concern.

Shortly before his death, he and Diana had celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

All past and present members of DUBC will extend their sympathy to Diana, and to Richard and Catherine, and all members of Bill's family in their bereavement

JCD

## **Close Call in Henley Final**

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Neptune than at Dublin, but still we were unable to bridge that elusive gap. Hiliary term had come and gone and we started the preparations for the regatta season and the Gannon Cup. The annual UCD nerve match did not go according to our battle plan - National had not been even considered as serious opposition all year, so why get tense about a foregone conclusion? They got away to an early lead, and the foregone conclusion became the confidence we would regret. They won, ending our hopes of a three in a row for Trinity.

Neptune and Commercial regattas followed soon after. At Neptune we entered VIIIs, IVs and sculls but only our taciturn American crewmate, Greg Johnston, managed a win at Novice sculls. The following day at Commercial we had some success in IVs and VIIIs, but Neptune and all the real opposition had stayed away.

Slightly disheartened, we returned to college for Trinity term. We began to spend an increasing amount of time on the water in the lead-up to Trinity Regatta, in what we all knew would be the final selection phase before Henley. We resorted to travelling to Newry canal in Co Down, perhaps hoping some of the magic of that county's Gaelic team would rub off on us. We entered the regatta in good spirits and our confidence was rewarded when the first IV beat Neptune in an exciting final. The second IV was only denied a medal in their final against Carlow because of an untimely crab at the minute mark. This left the crew feeling ready to bring down the Neptune Senior VIII in the final on Saturday. Sadly, it was not to be, and Neptune won the University Grand Challenge by over a length.

Henley was very enjoyable. Our hosts, the Dudeneys, were as marvellous as we had been led to expect; the regatta was just as impressive as we had been told; the racing was as tough as we had been warned.

We were seeded, and drew Nottingham Trent University in the first round. We were jumpy on the start but Nottingham simply were not up to the pace, and we left them in our wake.

At the Lizzie dinner that evening an old boy - who also mentioned that he had lost his parliamentary seat to Ian Paisley - confessed his fondness for Lady Margaret Boat Club. I forgave him his moment of disloyalty as we moved steadily away from Maggie the next day. Eton College had progressed to the semifinal and we felt that we had one of our best rows in beating them the following day.

Suddenly we were faced with a Henley final. As the day dawned and we saw the practically empty boat tents, we realised jsut how close we were to that elusive title. Brendan Smyth calmed us down before the race, and after the coaches had their final word, we felt ready to throw the kitchen sink at the Imperial.

The bogey crew of so many other Trinity crews, Imperial were vulnerable and in our sights. We went off as hard as we knew how and quickly opened our a lead of a length and a half. However, Imperial seemed bigger, longer and stronger, and gradually they pegged us back. By the mile post they were moving through us, and they had a lead coming into the enclosures. We lost by a length and a half.

Bitterly disappointed, we returned home and resumed training after a short break. Unfortunately the crew failed to respond well to the defeat. In the National Championships the VIII came sixth in the final of the senior VIIIs.

Half that crew have returned this year, and are preparing for a stronger end to the 1995 season.

# Breaking status in style

Novices round off a winning season with a comprehensive victory in the

National Championships at Cork

Ithough traditionally overshadowed by the results of the senior squad, the 1994 novice season will not be easily forgotten. Predictably defended by its members as ranking among the best naiden squad ever, pudits will regard last year's performance as it least the most eventful DUBC has enjoyed for many years.

The year began with the usual noardes of eager Freshers arriving at Islandbridge determined to take up rowing. In charge of moulding these naive ambitions were the A Team of Brian Roberts, James O'Reilly and Willie Galvin. The early season problems of procuring equipment and preventing accidents, as well as overcoming the language barrier presented by Erasmus students, were all tackled with some degrees of success. Wonderful conditions at the St Michael's Head in December convinced all of us that this was the sport for us.

As ever, enthusiasm blistered badly as the training schedule began to become more demanding, so that after Christmas the squad had shrunk to two VIIIs and a IV. January saw our first major race and defeat at Lagan, weighed down as we were by high expectations and our Novice clinkers.

Several members of the intermediate squad who had not broken Novice status were introduced at this time, increasing the size and competitive element of the squad. In addition, the 1993 Men's and Ladies' senior coaches, Mark Pattison and David Cushen respectively, became involved, beefing up the experience and depth of the coaching regime.

Things began to move more quickly. We had soon won the Erne, Galway and Dublin Heads, with respectable performances from the second eight, but a lack of opposition had left us feeling unchallenged. This feeling was to continue after the Gannon Cup when equipment failure in the UCD boat turned the race into a non-event.



Maiden Victors: Left to Right, Shane Duffy, Shane O'Neill, Liam Pentony (hidden), Michael O'Connell, Irene Nolan, Peter Lennon, Simon CLements, John Mohan and Rory Mulcahy.

It was not until Neptune Regatta in late April that we experienced our first competitive racing of the season. A gutsy UCD still smarting from their disaster a week earlier beat us by one length in the final. It was our first taste of defeat and we did have to wait long for revenge - we beat National convincingly at Commercial Regatta the following day.

The season was now entering May, but having enjoyed a successful start to the regatta season, disaster now struck. Avoiding the traditional tendency of oarsmen to blame the cox, a huge flow coupled with gale force winds swept the novice VIII over the weir at Islandbridge, destroying the Curly.

It was the first such accident to strike a club VIII since the Rosie perished on the weir in 1957 and thus guaranteed us a place, albeit unwelcome, in DUBC history.

Incredibly, nobody was hurt, but a good boat was lost and we now had to return to the older boats to compete in the University Championships. That we had hit the low point of the season was confirmed when we lost to UCD in the final. Our frustration at losing the race was compounded when we repeated our feat at Commercial by beating them the following day at Queens.

It was now May: a difficult period for all Trinity oarsmen with exam pressures co-inciding with the perparations for Trinity Regatta and Henley. For the Novices, the withdrawal of UCD and lack of quality opposition meant that Trinity Regatta was a disappointment. We won both the VIIIs and IVs but were never really challenged: the best race being that between our first and fourth Novice IVs.

Following rough conditions and disappointment at Athlone (with the consolation of Furlong's seemingly neverending hospitality) we moved out of exam season and on to Blessington. Rowing in an VIII and a IV - a second-hand VIII had been purchased in a tension-filled bidding war from the IARU - we laid the foundations for success with long evenings on

the water.

Confidence rose as the National Championships approached but defeat to the Defence Forces at Metro brought us back down to earth with a bang. Mark Pattison drilled our race plan into us, leaving nothing to chance.

At the championships, the IV failed to recover from early mistakes, and the success or failure of the season now depended on the performance of the VIII. We exploded off the stakeboats, taking a half length off the Defence Forces and leaving the rest of the competition in our wake. Slowly and agonisingly, our lead increased, and by the 1500m mark we had two lengths.

The pressure never flagged as we rowed home comfortably ahead, a fitting reward for months of sacrifice and blisters.

We had come a long way from the days of Freshers' Week; progress which would have been impossible without the combined efforts of coaches Mark Pattison, David Cushen, James O'Reilly, Brian Roberts and Willie Galvin.



Vesta glide to the catch in the 1994 Veterans' Head with Bill Lewis at six and Rob Van Mesdag in the bow seat.

## Tales from the Tideway...and beyond

### Drift Wood monitors the activities of London Lizzie

he London Rowing Club continues to merit its nickname, "Trinity-by-the-Thames". Henry Clarke, captain in 1951, coined the phrase some years ago when he noticed, from the club's balcony, the large number of ex-DUBC oarsmen rowing in London boats beneath him.

Nothing, it appears, has changed. The fittest face around is that of Chris George, winner of gold in the British lightweight VIII in the World Championships at Amsterdam in 1977. When questioned in which crew he planned to race the London Head of the River, he asked: "Which head? There are two." He explained that he planned to row in a "Scullers" VIII in the Head for veteran oarsmen on Sunday. March 26th, while he hoped to gain a place in one of the London elite crews racing in the main head the day before.

Trinity-by-the-Thames boats boast several veteran VIIIs. George Hallowes rows in the first one. Being in his mid-fifties, he is among the youngest in his crew. There is another veteran VIII composed of people who row regularly and therefore are called "The Irregulars". They are somewhat slower. Bill Lewis fills the six seat in this crew, with Rob Van Mesdag doing his bit in bow. Rumours of the formation of a second VIII for the Head, featuring Chris Von Patzeld at cox and

crewmen John Pearson, regular sculler Anthony de Winten and possibly Joe Boultby could not be confirmed as we went to press.

From the safety of the embankment shore, Cedric Sheppard keeps a weather eye on the above men's fitness in order to select the best from among them for his IV which he will cox in the next Vogalonga, an ecological rowing tour of 30 kilometres through the lagoon of Venice in May. Roger Wolff once coxed this event but has not been invited since. He took the last mark of the course too wide by three inches, when half an inch at the most would have sufficed.

Overseeing Trinity rowing from further away are dentist James Tarpey and accountant Enda Cahill, both Londoners now. Brian Williamson has not been seen on the river of late. He now owns a comfortable Thames launch which he keeps at his newly-acquired cottage at Shiplake. While last year he was fishing in Scotland at Henley time - "a somewhat unfortunate timing," he admits - he hopes to attend this year's regatta, making his way there in style. With any luck, his wife Diana will be helping him carry the icebox with oysters which has become such a welcome feature during the Guinness party on the Saturday evening. David Browne is too busy to row, helping Robin Tamplin in Ireland with the London end of fundraising and no doubt preparing the

next dinner at Henley for the senior VIII prior to their regatta.

Gerry Blanchard has just announced plans for a Lizzy dinner in Thames this autumn. He hopes that many ex-DUBC oarsmen of recent vintage will join older colleagues who know only too well how enjoyable such evenings can be. Gerry can be contacted c/o Thames RC, Embankment, Putney, London SW 15, almost next door to Trinity-by-the-Thames.

## Appeal News

THE RESPONSE to the annual Boat Club Appeal has tended to fluctuate a little each year, which is probably to be expected. Some people prefer to give a good contribution every couple of years. Others, for various reasons, come in and out year by year. The fluctuation last year has, however, been greater than usual, and unfortunately in the wrong direction. The final figure of £2,280 compares unfavourably with the £4,000 or more regularly donated in the last couple of years.

It is not easy to see why this drop should have taken place. The numbers who contributed last year may give a clue, being down a lot. This must prompt the question: Is the appeal letter gathering dust in a 'think about it' tray somewhere, or has it just been dumped?

Either way, we would love to hear from you. As was pointed

out in our note last year, the club can do with all the financial support it can get these days. Boats and other equipment cost more and more and the demands on DUCAC make it very hard for them to help us as much as we would like. The club itself is in great shape, let there be no mistake, with oarsmen at all levels rowing and training hard and with total commitment. And there is a team of dedicated coaches. To all those who did contribute last year - thank you. It really is a great help, and please keep

Finally, a word must be said. We are all going to miss 'Curly' and the unstinting work he put in on this appeal year after year, for as long as most of us can remember. But we do have wonderful memories of that lovely man, and therein lies our consolation.

RT

## **Veteran antics**

Lizzie men continue to compete on the Liffey and around the globe, dividing their time between Ryans of Parkgate Street and World Veteran Regatta

eteran rowing this year centred around the World Veteran Regatta at Groningen, Netherlands, in September, 1994.

An unprecedented haul of medals was made by Irish crews at this event. The Old Collegians/Lizzie entry was the most successful to date, recording no fewer than four wins, of which two were in eights.

The regatta itself was the largest ever, with a grand and somewhat daunting total opposition of 2,000 veterans.

Rory Reilly and David Hickey also took to the water, representing Upper Thames.

Outings this year to date have included encouraging rows at the Erne, Dublin, Lagan and Galway heads. Training continues nightly during the regatta season with the crew boating from UCD clubhouse

Further victories are anticipated as the season progresses.

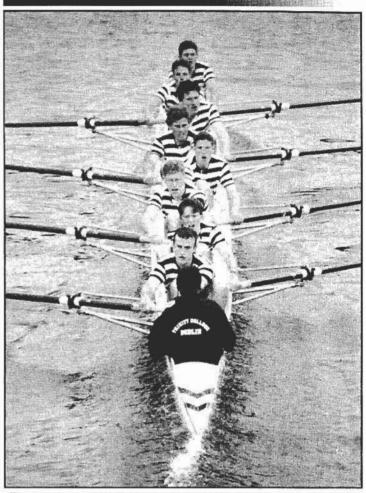
Important events to note for your diaries:

The 1977 Ladies Challenge Plate winning crew will hold a reunion at Henley in July 1997. The entire '77 crew have indicated that they will be there (has anybody got an address for Jarlath McGee?)

This reunion will be a launch pad for the 1998 Centenary Regatta at Islandbridge in the following year. That commemoration will mark the 100th anniversary of the club's move from Ringsend.

These two events are not far away - please begin to plan now to ensure you can join us there.

# Young guns triumph at Dublin Head



The first victory in the Dublin Head since 1966. Bow to stroke, Tim Coote, Mark Pollock, Paul Coyle, Michael Persson, Peter Lennon, Michael O'Connell, James Linsay-Flynn, Martin Murphy. Cox, Bernard Cullen

### STOP PRESS! The season to date

OPTIMISM REIGNS in the DUBC Senior camp as the 1995 season draws to a close. Following positive rows at the Erne and Galway Heads, the VIII pulled away from Neptune to win the 1995 Dublin Head, the first victory in this event since 1966.

This was followed by a stylish win in the Gannon Cup, coming from behind in a composed response National's 'pacemaker' philosophy. The Wylie Cup was also recaptured in fine style at the University Championships on Castlewellan Lake. Wins in both the Senior Intermediate VIII events shattered the much vaunted Queens crew's pretentions to university dominance.

### Long hours on the Blackwater

IT HAS become almost customary for DUBC to send a crew to Cappoquin to train after the New Year. The time afforded by the Christmas holidays, coupled with the superior conditions to both Islandbridge and Blessington provides an excellent opportunity to gain valuable training before the Head season begins.

Well-blistered hands reflect the intensity of this training period; not only does Cappoquin provide important practice for the oarsmen, but it is also used as an important test in the battle for crew selection. This year proved no exception; the senior squad arrived at Cappoquin with an assortment of boats under the tutelage of Nick Dunlop. Perfect conditions ensured that the week lived up to its tough reputation as long, uninterrupted pieces became the



The Cappoquin maestro, Dan Murray, relaxing with Tim Coote and Jim Holden at Henley Royal Regatta 1994. Dan's help in providing the facilities of Cappoquin Boat Club proved invaluable in moulding the 1994 Senior Crew. Dan has also been an honoured and entertaining guest at the last two Trial VIII suppers.

established training routine. A selection of voices - Dan Murray,

Raymond Blake and Robin Tamplin - all evaluated the crew.

## Out and About

UBC weddings were once a rare event, isolated mishaps which were tolerated for the amusement they provided the groom's crewmates. Such has been the activity in that department of late, however, that this newsletter has been approached by McDowells Happy Ring House, a number of hotels, dress hire shops and mortgage companies with enquiries on our advertising rates. Black blazers are getting married like the business was going out of fashion which, by all accounts, it is.

Aside from the scurrilous rumours which are periodically put in circulation about some individuals, there have been a number of confirmed "kills" in the past year. Out and About was only recovering from Len Dunne's stag night when news arrived that no less an oar than Dr John Caird had caught the proverbial boat stopper. All of a sudden, the flood gates opened. In quick succession, Mick Doyle, Andy Hogan, Mickey Burgess and Barney O'Neill all took the plunge, and, given that spring is in the air, others are expected to dip their toes in matrimonial hot water in the near future.

DUBC men continue to turn out in green vests on home and foreign waters, though some of these tops are spoiled by a sombre black band. The Neptune machine is presently being well oiled by the Lizzie talent of Cal Levins, Brendan Farrell, Aidan McMahon, Ciaran Lewis, Brendan Smyth and, upping the



Captain Sensible, Brendan Smyth gets amorous at the Bawley Far.



Nicholas Dunlop, James O'Reilly and Raymond Blake discuss the form following Trinity's semi-final win against Eton on the Saturday of Henley Week. The white blazer amid the black betrays Mr. O'Reilly's origins as a Christ's Third May crewman.

average age somewhat, Kevin Lynch. All these men have done their time in the Widow and are the better for it. And apparently all of them are still referred to as "students" by their more established clubmates.

Just next door to this "Lizzie on the Liffey" club, the Commercial penthouse boasts the legendary rowing talent of Mickey "The Comeback Kid" Burgess, the steady state pair of James Somerville and John Caird, as well as Nick Mahony and Mark Pattison. The latter, avid readers will remember, coached Trinity crews with some success in recent years, picking up the Novice VIIIs Championship last year. Mark spread his wings and flew the coop after that victory, becoming captain of Commercial a few months later. In addition, he is also developing a coaching course with the IARU which aims to provide a recognised qualification for those unsung towpath heroes.

Green vests of a decidedly different category, however, are being worn by Donal Hanrahan and Cal Levins. The ex-DUBC duo are now in Sweden training with the Irish lightweight squad, with their sights firmly fixed on the World Championships and the Atlanta Olympics. As we went to press, the Irish group had moved into a sealed indoor training centre in Sweden, in which oxygen supply is regulated to give the same benefit as training at altitude. Now that, it must be admitted, is a long way from the technique of pitching the Widow with a hammer before Saturday morning outings. Both gentlemen hope to be in the lineup for the French Open in Paris in late

June, before a further few weeks abroad in preparation for the championships in Tampere, Finland in August.

Old boys making their mark in other sports include Moss Cox, a member of this year's victorious Cambridge rugby XV, and Phil Browne, recently appointed Secretary of the Irish Rugby Football Union.

The involvement of Mick Doyle, Andy Sides and Brian Roberts in Salesians rugby club appears to have tapered off somewhat, however. Brian has higher rugby thoughts on his mind, having abandoned an infant Novice crew to set up camp in South Africa for the Rugby World Cup, while Deano has sought further mining greatness in, of all places, Bristol.

While we're on the subject, the absence of photos from Henley 1994 in this newsletter can be partly attributed to the organisational capacities of the aforementioned Mr Sides. Having conspired to bring a camera with him to the Fawley Bar, and shoot 36 exposures of enclosure bores, Andy discovered that "compact and easy-to-use" are not manufacturer's shorthand for "film loaded".

Anybody with a camera this year is warned to load before they aim to fire.

And it was not all disappoinment for the black blazers in the enclosures at this year's Henley. Mike Ryder's son picked up a medal on the Sunday, but the general enthusiasm for the victory was tempered somewhat by the manner of its execution - Ryder jnr was the six man in the Imperial Temple Challenge VIII.