

# Newsletter

## Autumn 2009

### COMPETITION ROUND UP

Awesome!! is the only way to describe this years achievements. It started at Easter with Adele Blakeborough and Jean Ashley winning the ladies event in the world's longest race, 125 miles from Devizes to The Houses of Parliament at Westminster.

Colin Cartwright and Dave Bradburn together with Mathew Harrison and Simon Goulding formed two thirds of the GB C2 team at the European Championships in Italy winning a bronze medal.

Elinor Holland became under14 K4 500m national champion. All our lightning paddlers performed well with Jake Oldfield-Connor hardly losing a race, David Hatton becoming boys under 12 and Emily Till girls under 10 Regional Champions.

David Bain continues to impress being at the top of the junior standings. In Wild Water Racing. In the summer he travelled to Switzerland to compete in the WWR Junior World Championships.

Jenny Swallow grappled with her A levels and a punishing schedule of International events. This culminated in her competing in both the European and World junior marathon championships, achieving 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> place respectively. Domestically Jenny won a number of National Championship sprint titles including the junior K1 500m blue ribbon event.

Dave and Colin are back in the C2 for the World Wild Water Racing Championships in Tasmania in October.

### GENERAL

Aside from competition the club continued to expand with junior beginners courses run on both a Wednesday and Thursday evenings. It has also been really pleasing to see more parents take to the river and join as family members – its never too late to start!!

After two desperate years of bad weather this year things improved and enabled a series of training sessions on the weir together with a trip to the Burrs white water course. Some juniors also entered their first WW race on Chester weir with Jake, Ruby and Marsha all winning their classes and James Roberts and David handling the course well.

The club has never been so well equipped. This year we have added a new full size Hody K2, 2 new lightning's, 7 buoyancy aids, 4 helmets, spray decks with more new paddles and a K2 to come soon.

The club has had a successful year so a **BIG THANKS** to everyone who has helped and contributed in any way. Everything at the club is done on a voluntary basis so your contribution is invaluable.

### **Evan update**

News from down under is that Evan is still paddling but is missing the popcorn and toast. The club sounds as if it subscribes to the Australian sporting ethos i.e. it's the winning not the taking part that counts. Evan has not been eaten by a shark and all being well will be back next summer.

### **Goodbye Vicky**

Over the last few years Vicky's commitment to the club and to the junior paddlers has transformed both the fortunes and achievements of the club. This commitment and expertise will be sorely missed and will leave a big hole to fill. A massive thanks from everyone at the club.

Vicky will be off to Oxford in September to train as a teacher. We wish her all the best for the future and look forward to seeing her during those holiday visits back home.

### **Seasonal events**

**a. Club Dinner Dance and annual awards.** Nov 20th from 7.00pm @ The Cheshire View, Christleton, Chester.

Formal event with posh frocks and dinner jackets. Awards presented by The Lord Mayor of Chester. All ages welcome. Cost £30 adults £25Children

**b. Christmas paddle and Junior Annual Awards** Sat 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. **TBA.**

Christmas hats, party dinner and maybe Chester CC's got talent/CUBE Challenge ??

**Chinese banquet.** Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec. At the club house, start 8.00pm.

Informality taken to its extreme. All you can eat banquet. Cost approx £6.00

**d. Boxing Day Race.** 26<sup>th</sup> December race start 11.00 @ club house.

Fun/Fancy dress event – barrel race 2km to burn off some calories. Spot prizes. Mulled wine and mince pies in the club house.

### **Competition Programme**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>RACE</b>
13 Sept	Chester	Well done – 7 Chester lightning's competed and raced well.
25 Oct	Chester	Regional lightning and junior race special
14 Nov	Trentham	Regional Hasler race including lightning series
14 Nov	Mersey (Manchester)	Junior series Wild Water Race.
15 Nov	Burrs (Bury)	Junior series Wild Water Race – two runs of 500 meter course.

- All junior Paddling sessions will move to Saturday Mornings at 10.00.
- Thursday evenings at the club will have running and indoor circuit training, starting at 6.00. Start date will be notified.
- In January it is hoped to start a swimming pool sessions to improve your canoeing skills. Saturday afternoon looks favourite. Start date to be notified.

