



A MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAINS

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This year has been very challenging but extremely rewarding. We started the year with only a handful of rowers with minimal experience, and ended it with over 40 rowers, 4 boats entered into the summer race and an amazing sense of community. We are extremely proud of all of our members and how hard they have worked this year - persevering through three lockdowns and working hard for some amazing results in Summer Torpids. We wish the new committee the best of luck for the coming year - MCBC is going to do great things this season!



MICHAELMAS TERM - RECRUITMENT

Despite the challenges of disrupted training due to a rainy season in 2019 and then COVID-19 in 2020, MCBC ran a successful virtual recruitment fair and a whole weekend of taster outings. We had a lot of enthusiasm from across college - undergraduates, masters students, visiting students and even DPhil candidates. Despite the November lockdown, we managed to enter two boats into the Isis Winter League, and kept morale high through socially distanced partner training and virtual circuits. In place of Christ Church Regatta we ran a termly fitness competition. Thanks to a generous donation from Antonio Bonchristiano, we were able to purchase a coxed 4 boat, which enabled our seniors to get out on the water too.

HILARY TERM - LOCKDOWN TRAINING

Unfortunately COVID-19 and the January lockdown prevented the squads from returning to Oxford this term. This meant no water time, in person training or any kind of racing. However, MCBC kept their heads up and persevered with virtual training three times a week. The captains and committee took turns running online circuits over Zoom, which we opened up to the wider college community and gained some new recruits. We also held a competition between the men's and women's sides for the longest distance collectively completed accross the term. The Men's side claimed victory, but together MCBC collectively ran over 1000km from January to March.



TRINITY TERM - SUMMER TORPIDS



A return to university meant a return to the water for MCBC. This Trinity term was slightly different because not only did we have a race to prepare for, but we had 40 novices to teach the basics of rowing. Despite this, we entered five boats into the ISIS Summer League, four boats into the first ever Summer Torpids and one boat into Oriel Regatta. The team spirit of MCBC was a real highlight of this term, as we all worked extremely hard to make up for lost time. We celebrated at the end of term with a modified Torpids Dinner in the college Marquee!



After a tough battle with Catz W1 all week, Mansfield's W1 rowed on for three days of racing, only conceding to a bump by Wolfson on the last day. Overall, it was a great week for the Men's first boat, conceding to a bump on day 1 but pushing hard to bump their way into the next division on the last day. In a heated division, our women's novices bumped on day one, conceded to a bump on day 2 before rowing over and then bumping Pembroke on the last day. Finally, our Men's novice boat battled to avoid footship achieving a bump on the very last day of racing. It was an amazing week of racing for MCBC, and a great way to end a unique year of rowing. The OURC livestream enabled MCBC members, past and present to cheer us on. Knowing we had some Alumni cheering us on from afar was a great feeling and we couldn't thank you more for your support.



THANK YOU FROM MCBC

As always, MCBC appreciates any and all support from our Alumni and beyond. Being a smaller boat club with rowers from primarily state schools, means we face more challenges than most. However, with your continued support, we are able to make rowing a more accessible sport for those from all backgrounds - subsidising rowing battels and providing stash and equipment at more affordable prices. The friendly and open environment at MCBC is something we are extremely proud of (alongside our extraordinary performances in races) and this wouldn't be possible without your generous support. So for this, we thank you.



For any updates about MCBC's progress this year - email manscbc@gmail.com

For any enquiries about alumni visits to the Boat Club email emily.thornton@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

For enquiries about donations to MCBC, email regulargiving.manager@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

For continued updates about whats on at MCBC, follow our facebook page, 'Mansfield College Boat Club' and our instagram: [@biglegsmansfield](https://www.instagram.com/biglegsmansfield) and see also our website: www.mansfieldcollegeboatclub.co.uk

