



# The Bull

## TAURUS BOAT CLUB NEWSLETTER

Issue 5 of the 21st century — November 2009

**Feeling dull and bored in Britain's horrible winter weather?  
Or working your socks off overseas, relishing a better  
climate but missing all the Taurus action? Help is at hand.**

In this newsletter, a feast of memories from the successful Brookes and Taurus 2009 season, and advance warning of next year's action, both on and off the water.

Plus, if you receive this before **Sunday November 29th 2009**, come down to the Brookes boathouse at noon that day for a naming ceremony for five boats, purchased with funds including a generous Taurus donation.

Olympic champions Ben Hunt-Davis, Rowley Douglas and Steve Williams will all be naming boats after themselves, and boats will also be named for Alex Partridge and Fred Scarlett. See [www.taurusboatclub.co.uk](http://www.taurusboatclub.co.uk) for details. A splash-about on the water may be involved if enough people decide to bring their lycra (not obligatory).

### Social dates for the diary

#### Taurus Annual Dinner

It's party time again, following the successful revival of the Taurus dinner last year.

**Provisional date Saturday 6th March 2010,  
Henley-on-Thames (tbc)**

Lovely grub and booze, and the best Brookes and Taurus company that money can't buy.

Keep an eye on Facebook/Twitter or let us know at [info@taurusboatclub.co.uk](mailto:info@taurusboatclub.co.uk) if you want to be informed by email.

#### **2010 HRR BBQ - Saturday 3rd July**

#### Taurus on Facebook

<http://brookes.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2459861924>

### Upcoming rowing events

*All support welcome*

#### 2009

6th Dec	Wallingford Head
19th Dec	GB trials (Boston)

#### 2010

13-14th Feb	GB trials (Dorney)
6th Mar	Reading Univ HRR
13th Mar	Women's Head
27th Mar	Head of the River
28th Mar	Vet's Head

### Sign up to Taurus:

visit <http://tinyurl.com/yd8a3r2> and send the completed form to Simon Speirs. A bargain £20 a year, you can support Brookes rowing while keeping Taurus running smoothly.

#### Taurus on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/taurusboatclub/>

# Taurus storms back to HRR

**W**e have become accustomed to seeing Brookes athletes past and present making their mark at Henley, and 2009 was happily no exception.

The first mention must be for the winners of the Prince Albert Challenge. The event, for university coxed fours, is only four years old and had so far eluded Oxford Brookes. However, this summer, just three years after winning the Temple, the Brookes students picked up another university title, a credit to the work of athletes and coaches alike and a demonstration of the ongoing supremacy of Brookes' rowing.

The manner in which the five crew-members took the title was emphatic, winning every race by clear water and beating a strong Yale crew in the final by over four lengths. **Scott Durant, Matt Tarrant, Chris Abraham, Karl Hudspith** and cox **Hannah Clews** (*below*) enjoyed their triumph to the fullest and we congratulate them on their success.



Another undergraduate to win this summer was **Peter Chambers**, who stroked a composite lightweight quad to victory in the Men's Quads. Peter, who arrived at Brookes last September, has wasted no time in emulating older brother Richard Chambers' achievements, as he is already an established member of the British U23 team. But with this victory he now can pride himself of having one over his Olympian brother who has yet to win at Henley.

**Caroline O'Connor** has long been a servant of Brookes and has loyally retained her affiliation with the club even now that she is fully involved with the GB squad. After so many years of being within touching distance of that win but always coming up short, we are happy to report that 'Boycie' finally has her first Henley medal from coxing the GB women's eight to victory in the Remenham Challenge Cup. She did so over the challenge of four other Brookes stars, Rachael Jefferies, Leonora Kennedy, Vicky Bryant and Zoe de Toledo, in the U23 women's eight beaten by Caroline's crew in the semis.

**Tommy Burton**, now rowing for Leander, was part of the GB men's eight which, after thirteen years finally became Grand Challenge Cup champions as the British squad crew. Tommy is the first rower from Taurus/Brookes to win the Grand.

The Stewards' Challenge Cup, for international coxless fours, was also won by GB which meant that after a year in the eight, former Brookes oarsman **Alex Partridge** returned to the four and has added yet another Henley medal to his collection.

Nobody could forget Eton's PE win, giving **Alex Henshilwood** his third HRR trophy in six years. If coaches got medals he'd be rivalling Danny Marett by now. Special mentions also go out to **Alistair Cordey** and **Liz O'Neill**. Since winning the Temple in 2006, Al has worked relentlessly at Molesey and was part of

their eight which stole the show in the Thames Cup. After her time with Brookes Liz returned to cox her home club of Agecroft, which this year ended a long wait when they triumphed in the Britannia Cup.

So much more to include — Roger Ewing a Thames Cup finalist for Henley; Danny Harte stroking London and unlucky enough to be 3ft the wrong side of the semi-final against Leander (grr); Brookes & Tethys qualifying for the Remenham, two Brookes eights in the Temple. And a big cheer for Wallingford — aka Adam Moffat, Will Bryant and Ruben Reggiani with talented junior Erlan Hazine, who lost by a measly 1/3 length to Nottingham and Union in the semi-finals.

For all of us members of Taurus though, the main highlight must have been seeing that electric blue lycra racing down the course after years of absence (*above, right*). Peter Randolph, who stroked the Taurus eight at this year's Head of the River, teamed up with Oxford Brookes captain Alex Holden-Smith to produce a competitive pair in the Silver



Goblets. After a fantastic opener where the duo dispatched good American students, they had to concede against the combination of Murray and Bond, the New Zealanders who have since then become world pairs champions.

The 2009 Royal Regatta will also be remembered for the return of the famous Taurus barbeque which was surely the social event of the regatta attracting a strong crowd on the Saturday night. We would like to thank Robbie Kennedy, Tamsin Adams and all those involved, for their efforts in organising such a memorable bash (*see overleaf*).

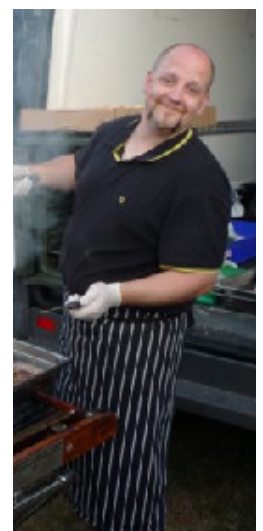
*Ruben Reggiani & Rachel Quarrell*



*Winners in Brookes lycra: the new 2009 champions celebrate with Mossy and Henry*



# ....and HRR isn't all about winning races....









# Taming the HRR lions

*Taurus President Pete Lowe had a sobering shock during the HRR 2009 festivities.*

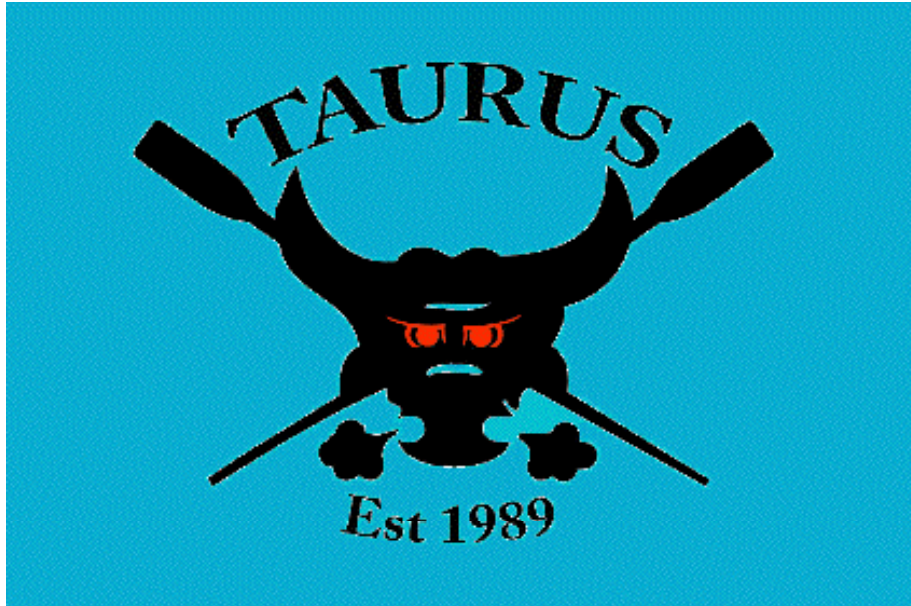
**S**aturday 4th July 2009: great weather, good racing, and excitement as Brookes has a crew in the final. What better recipe for another successful Taurus barbeque?

This year however, it was decided to change venue from car space N10 in Lion Meadow. The change was agreed following a number of "discussions" with my wife, whose car space it is. In fact, my mother-in-law has car space N11, so in the interests of family harmony I was persuaded to relocate the Taurus event.

Brookes blazers, all comers' blazers, they all came to the Taurus barbeque.

The (two!) watering cans were flowing, the queue built around the barbeque for the burgers. The team was flying, getting the sausages and burgers on to the fire as quickly as they could. We could hardly keep up with the demand.

It was at about the height of the evening when I took a look around to check on it all. I



An appropriate place was identified by Tamsin, Robbie and myself in Butler's Field. We parked just inside the hedge close to where the boat trailers are left. The huge new Taurus flag (*design, above*) was raised across the windscreen of the caterers' van.

The (industrial sized) barbeque was fired up just after the last race on Saturday. Dewintons caterers are run by ex Poly oarsman, James Symington, who provided everything required for a proper Taurus knees up.

Admittedly we were anxious whether or not we would be found in our new "hidden away" spot. Worry not, as the Enclosures emptied, the Taurus flock began to arrive. Poly blazers,

spotted Dom Day (who would have spent the whole day in the bar) talking very earnestly to a well turned out gentleman who, it appeared, was not in a particularly good mood..... I approached to listen in to the conversation:

Dom — "No it's not a commercial event, we are simply trying to raise funds etc etc.... no, no it's not usually this big...."

Smart man — "It's totally unacceptable, we can't have an event like this here, look how many people you have, I'm not at all happy with Taurus!!"

(Usual anti Poly/Brookes stuff all over again, I thought.)

As I listened, I noticed that the gentleman had a friend standing next to him, with headphones, a mouthpiece, and an aerial sticking out of his head. He even looked like he might have a shooter in his inside pocket.

Were we about to be closed down?, I thought. How do I shift 150 people who are getting stuck in?

Dom was holding his own but looking for back up. I noticed Fred (Scarlett) standing also listening to the conversation. Oh heavens, don't let Fred get involved, he could really fire it up.

Cue me — "Hello, I'm Pete Lowe, Taurus president. I'm afraid I didn't catch your name?"

Smart man — "Daniel Grist."

Me — "I am so sorry for any trouble we appear to be causing you, It's entirely my responsibility."

Daniel Grist — "!!"  
(fuming, and it didn't help that the barby smoke was blowing directly into his face.)

Me, trying to defuse the situation — "I can only apologise. Would you like me to write to the Secretary of the Regatta??"

DG — "You are looking at him."

Oops.

After much continued debate, Mr Grist The Secretary of Henley Royal Regatta reluctantly conceded there was bu\*\*er all he could do there and left us smelling rather like an onion burger.

A letter of apology has since been written to the regatta and we will just have to find another venue and make it bigger and even better next year.

*Peter Lowe*

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## Yale Unlocked

*13 years after Brookes won the Brit, a new generation of champions broke Yale's spirit in the 2009 final of the Prince Albert Challenge Cup. Cox Hannah Clewes looks back...*

On the morning of the race I was nervous, I felt the pressure that is only felt before a Henley final. I remember Rich giving me a pep talk in the boat tent saying that this was the biggest race of our lives, I knew that we all had to be the best we had ever been.

To be honest the paddle up to the start was a blur, but I have a vivid memory of sitting on the stake boat staring down the course. Just don't mess up Hannah! This was it.

Attention, GO!

I knew we had a great start because at the end of the island I glanced round and saw that Yale already had a deficit of about half a

length. The head wind was undoubtedly strong and I could feel it as we came out of the island but the boys were relentless and started to break any connection which still existed between the crews. The boys were awesome! The remainder of the race was testimony to all the blood, sweat and blisters that we have all put in during the year. As we came through the Stewards' Enclosure I remember thinking to myself, we are going to win Henley, WE ARE GOING TO WIN HENLEY! As we crossed the line I felt sheer relief and pride in what we had achieved.

That day was incredible and will stay with me and the boys forever. The whole crew would like to thank Rich, Henry and Mossy, I am glad that we could repay all of your time and effort with a Henley win. As always thanks and respect is there for everyone at Brookes and Taurus. This was not just a win for 5 people but it was a win for the club, past and present.

*Hannah Clewes*

# Beating the world...

Steve Williams on a pre-retirement year off, Richie Chambers recovering from injury, Al Heathcote becoming the coaching hero of Thames and Jonno Devlin now the official pin-up boy for Carla's Point2Fitness operation — anyone would have thought the glory days of Brookes and Taurus in the senior GB team were now over with so many absences.

But no, there was still Spratley-trained talent at the senior worlds, while the next generation, under the tutelage of **Henry Bailhache** and Nick Strange, was busy making the under-23s a roaring success this year.

## WORLD CHAMPS 2009

First we visit Poznan, the less glamorous successor to the Beijing lake and the site of this year's senior world championships. Poland used to be something of a dull location for rowing, but Poznan has turned into a party town in recent years, making it a much more appetising prospect for spectators to visit.

2009 was **Tommy Burton's** year, as he made it into the senior team after what seems like decades of merely winning fistfuls of Henley medals. After a reasonable season a very new **M8+ men's eight** ended fifth at the worlds, probably about what was expected. But their real moment of glory came a week earlier, when they clinched a finals spot at the first attempt.

Picture the scene in the opening heat: Germany's revived eight (the eventual winners) way in front, with Australia thinking themselves safe in the second qualifying place behind them. Up charged the Brits, Tommy stroking the crew from the 2-seat (obviously), sprinting for their lives. Photofinish, but the GB arms have already gone up, and they're right, beating Australia by 0.05 seconds. Great result, though having to wait a week to race again may have taken the edge off for the final.

The **W8+ women's eight** was helmed again by cox **Caroline O'Connor**, and they also finished fifth overall. An originally decent medal chance was hit by last-minute illness (training camp mumps) and injury which forced them to change line-up twice during the week.

But the biggest Brookes/Taurus story was in the **M4- men's four**, with an even more cunning Grobler plot than usual. In April, Jürgen decided his two returning Olympic champions, Pete Reed and Andy Triggs Hodge, would try their luck in the pair. With so many retirements and years off, that left just three other Olympic medallists (Langridge, Egington & Partridge) to form a new four with Alex Gregory.

The four quietly did well enough to know it was fast, and profited when Germany decided to put their fastest guys in the eight. That left just Australia as the only top-class four our boys hadn't already beaten when they got to Poznan, even though the attention was all on the pair. They got the mumps early in training camp, and came to the worlds fighting fit. In the final the Brits surged out and won the coxless fours again, Redgrave style, from the front. And that is how **Alex Partridge** (*below, right*) became world champion for the third time, another tick in the ex-Brookes box.







## U23 WORLDS 2009

In the 18 years of the Under-23 worlds and Nations' Cup, Brookes rowers are rarely absent from the podium. In 2009 every single GB medal crew involved Brookes expertise, including the women's eight (*above*), unfamiliar territory to GB Rowing since it was added to the programme in 2006.

The W8+ squad got together in April: the plot was racing, the more the better. First Essen (third), then Henley Women's Regatta (second to winners Yale), then HRR (knocked out by Boycie's GB senior crew in the semis). And finally the real goal of the season, the U23 worlds in the Czech Republic.

By this time the crew was confirmed with **Zoe de Toledo** coxing, and bookended by current and former Brookes rowers **Vicky Bryant** (bow), **Leonora Kennedy** (7) and **Rachael Jefferies** (stroke). Unbeatable. The girls won their heat, avoided a hurricane which smashed up the GBR M4+ and the POL W8+, waited out the next two days with nothing to do, and then, on Sunday, created the perfect race.

Leading quickly, they got a couple of seats on Poland within a minute, half a length by 1km, and not far off clear water over 2nd as the Americans finally disposed of Poland and started to charge. Too much for the USA to make up, and anyway Britain had speed to spare. Vicky Bryant was the first rower in the race across the line. They became the new champions of the world — Britain's first W8+ world gold of any kind (junior, senior, Olympic),

ever. Wow. Historic. And it was amazing to watch. Congratulations everyone.

Meanwhile two other Brookes rowers and a coach were busy picking up excellent bronze medals. The M8+ men's eight (*below*) included **Chris Abraham** and was coached by **Henry Bailhache-Webb**. They finished third behind roaring Polish and German crews. Not gold, but the first men's eights medal since 1993, an amazingly good result in a tough event.



And the feisty LM4x lightweight men's quad, stroked by **Pete Chambers**, continued the promise shown at Henley Royal by pulling in a solid bronze of their own.

The other Brookes U23 talent this year were **Karl Hudspith** (bow of the M4+, miserably 9th overall after a disastrous week which saw their 4+ written off in the storm), and **Matt Tarrant** and **Scott Durant** (2 and stroke in a hopeful but overwhelmed M4-, 11th overall).

*Rachel Quarrell.*

# Taurus endurance rules land & water

**T**hey may have hung up their rowing blades but some former Brookes athletes have far from lost their competitive spirits. Last Easter, when most of us were enjoying our chocolate eggs, four Taurus members embarked on the infamous Devizes to Westminster Race (DW). Two teams of two decided to take on the challenge, quite unaware of each other until only a few days before the event. It may not be rowing, but the quartet showed their attachment to being on the river as they prepared to kayak 126 miles non-stop at their own chosen pace.

Tamsin Adams and Kate Robinson took up kayaking at the beginning of the season because as Tamsin says: "we wanted to do something fun and not too serious!" It must have seemed as their plan backfired when they found themselves entering one of the hardest kayaking races in the world.

Not so much preparation for Adam Moffat and Tom Parker. The actual event was only the boys' fourth outing after they carried out their capsize drill in a heated swimming pool as Adam didn't want to get cold. The main aim of taking part in the DW though was to raise money for Harry Mahon Cancer Trust. They did so successfully - the boys would like to thank everyone for their contributions.

Back to the DW. Both teams put forward a fantastic effort as they paddled all day and all night, jumping in and out of their kayaks and carrying their boats over every lock in their path, grabbing small power snacks and hydration from their devoted support teams.

They arrived at the Tideway in the early morning of Easter Sunday and then prepared for the last surge all the way to Westminster. Despite really struggling with back pain and exhaustion in this last section the girls' team of Tamsin and Kate completed the race in just shy of 26 hours, two hours ahead of the boy's team who almost missed the docking

station beyond the finish line and were nearly swept off by the strong stream. Even after completing the challenge there was little time for celebration as the kayakers got into a well deserved marathon sleeping session.



**I**t wasn't quite an over 24-hour haul, but in France, Ryan Davies and Danny Marett competed in the Paris marathon. It was, for both, their first marathon - Ryan decided to face his running gremlins and trained hard with his target to run within four hours, on the day he managed it with time to spare, 3h 57min! It was also Danny's first full marathon but he has a little more experience in running and completed the 26 miles in a very creditable 2h 58min. Well done to them both.

These are all fantastic achievements by former Brookes rowers and we can't help but feel proud as we congratulate them on their accomplishments. No doubt the hard training they went through at the Boat Club contributed to their successes.

*Ruben Reggiani*





## Hell in a canoe

*Tamsin's version...*

Devizes to Westminster.

125 miles, 77 locks, 1 kayak, 2 people.

The 2009 event was hotly contested and featured several Taurus rowers who had turned to the dark side. Adam Moffatt, Tom Parker, Kate Robinson and myself set out to complete this inexcusable idea for a race as two separate entries. I would love to talk about how it was the battle of the sexes, and Domesday for some, but I have the utmost respect for anybody and everybody who even attempted it, let alone completed the course.

Well done Moff and Parks, who completed it in the kayak equivalent to the Megapac and raised £4500 for the Harry Mahon Cancer Research Trust. Needless to say though it was the girls who came through on the day, finishing second out of all the women's entries and beating the boys by over an hour.

There's not a lot I can tell you about the actual race, as, 'flu-ridden, i was dosed up on codeine and thoroughly enjoying my 'trip'. I did however get my comeuppance by spending the twelve hours after the event in hospital. All fine now and living to tell the tale. The best quote from the entire event was when Willy Bryant told Rich about the girls beating the boys. "How does that work?" was a very confused Spratley's reply.

Clearly his usual calculations about erg-scores, height and weight didn't quite work on that occasion...

*Tamsin Adams*

Photos: Kate and Tamsin in action (*top*); Parks and Moff portaging (*left*); the Taurus runners-up pose with their kayak (*below*).



Donate to the Harry Mahon Cancer Research Trust and raise the total even more by visiting the HMCRT website [www.hmcrt.org.uk](http://www.hmcrt.org.uk).

# Out and about — other Taurus action

## First across the Indian Ocean

Ex-Brookes rower Andrew Delaney became a world record holder this summer when he and Guy Watts (*below*) won the Indian Rowing Race as **Team MSS**. They took 102 days to make the crossing, beating the other double in the race by just under a day. The row was in aid of male cancer charity Orchid, and they raised £76,500 for the trip.

As well as being the first and fastest duo to row unassisted from Western Australia to Mauritius, they became the first crew ever to row the Indian Ocean land to land.



"Those early mornings and long hours on the Thames at Wallingford being shouted at by the university rowing coach Richard Spratley seem like heaven now, compared with the endless rowing, food cravings and sores that I experienced in unmentionable places!", Delaney told the autumn issue of Brookes magazine *Observe* (*below*).

### PEOPLE



#### ALUMNUS IN EPIC ROWING ADVENTURE

But (unemployment graduate) Andrew Delaney earned a crop of world records this summer as he and friend Guy Watts crossed the three seas of the Brookes Indian Ocean Rowing Race 2009 first in their class.

#### ALUMNUS RETURNS FOR NEW BBC TWO SERIES

The no-nonsense expertise of Business School graduate Sarah Wingham will return to the small screen later this year in a new series of BBC Two's popular reality show *The Restaurant*.

#### BROOKES CREATIVE WRITING FELLOW AWARDED MBE

Novelist and Oxford Brookes Creative Writing Fellow Bernadette Ebersole has received an MBE in this year's Queen's birthday honours list. The MBE, recognising her contribution "to a major voice in the multiplatform panorama of British Literature" — came as a surprise to Bernadette. "I was so shocked when the Cabinet Office contacted me, I consider it a lovely and unexpected honour from my country."



The autumn issue of *Observe* also included a full-spread feature on rowing at the university (*above*), a cover photo featuring current oarsman Mason Shoebridge, a tribute to Brookes BC benefactor Neil Ashley, and kindly pointed out that the club is "now one of the strongest in the world". Oh, and there was a generous mention of Taurus, too. To read the full issue go to <http://bit.ly/Fcmqc>

## Kit stop restarts

Plans are afoot to kick-start Taurus kit again: an energetic sub-committee is looking into options, and hopes to have some answers by the 29th November boat-naming day.



Ties will be resurrected, we're having a sample for a possible Taurus pashmina made up, and t-shirts are on their way to all who signed up as members last year. Polo shirts (*above*) are still in stock and will be brought to the club on Sunday 29th.

We're afraid there is almost no old-style blue Poly blazer material left, so anyone who needs to let theirs out may have to go on a diet!



## Merrily down the Thames

Anyone for a quick paddle? Five Taurus hearties rowed the length of our favourite river this May, a trip initiated by Alex Hoodless as the David Bradley Thames Row, in memory of his uncle-in-law who died young, a year earlier.

Pictured (*right*) — James Symington, Alex Hoodless, Andre Zlattinger, Alex Henshilwood and Pete Lowe, navigating their way downriver during Oxford's Eights week. The row raised £3882.22 for the RNLI, and an inshore rescue boat will be dedicated in David Bradley's name. Sincere thanks to all Taurus members who donated.



## Spotted....

The girls get their Taurus lycras out to have a quick go in coastal boats at Salcombe Regatta (*right*).... Then the boys demonstrate that they're hot stuff in blue too (*below, left*).....

And Tom Parker keeps his cool at bow in the Twickenham Tridents surf rowing crew (*below, right*)...



## Heading for glory

21st March 2009, and nine friends reunited at Barn Elms with one aim in mind — to complete the Eights Head course as Taurus.

Nine men arrived, but there were only eight seats to fill. A dilemma only Richard Spratley could solve — by finding a certain active member of Taurus a seat in the Tideway Scullers' second VIII.

Oxford Brookes' 1st, 3rd and 4th crews came 6th (Bernard Churcher trophy); 92nd (Senior 4 pennant); and 129th (Novice pennant), while Taurus finished a very respectable 32nd overall.

The next day, Taurus 1 and 2 finished 4th and 31st in the Vet's Head.

Interested in rowing with Taurus this year? Contact [dan.marett@lifemarque.co.uk](mailto:dan.marett@lifemarque.co.uk)



## Dinner dinner dinner dinner Taurus!

Mayhem at Freuds, 21st Feb 2009. A very fine time was had by all.







This year's dinner was a huge success, with over 120 Taurus members gathering in Oxford. It began in very restrained fashion by Taurus standards, not one bread roll thrown — which may have been because Tommy B was not around at the time...

However the evening got really hot, along with the curtains, when fire briefly broke out during the speeches. The increased levels of whispers and outbreaks of laughter did not deter John Rafferty, who stood with his back to the source before finally noticing what was going on.

Behind him a posse of brave waiters were climbing ladders in an attempt to put out the fire, just managing to save the curtains before they went up in smoke. With spirits high »







« Al Heathcote took his speech to the bar, (he stood on it) whilst challenging the entire room to a drinking contest. And so the theme continued until all the glasses and bottles on the table had been drunk - what a good guest speaker!

From then on the Freud's venue transformed from a 'nice', 'normal' restaurant to official Taurus Party Venue. By the time pudding was served the tables had become platforms on the dance floor. A good night. So good in fact that a certain GB rower's hen night decided to come along to join the party.



Thanks to everybody involved and well done Robbie Kennedy, giving his first virtuoso performance as Taurus social secretary.

*Tamsin Adams*

*Editor's note — modesty clearly prevents Tamsin from mentioning her own joint organising role along with Robbie. Well done to them both!*

## Bits & bobs

We're after updates — births, marriages, wins, trips, adventures — for the next newsletter in 2010. Email [info@taurusboatclub.co.uk](mailto:info@taurusboatclub.co.uk) with your latest gossip so we can tell everyone: We especially want to catch up on family news, which has been a bit sparse in the last few editions because our spies aren't working hard enough.

doing sterling coaching work in schools, clubs and colleges, and Carla Ashford running Point2Fitness. It's now a fact — the Spratley/ Tim Levy regime is taking over, and there's a rumour that Concept 2 is going to reprogram their erg monitors for easy logging of 20-20-20 (and indeed 20-20-20-20-20) Monday evening work-outs.

## Hot off the press

Congratulations to Ben Lewis, Taurus stalwart, who has just been appointed as new high performance coach at Molesey, following successful stints at Leander and coaching American students. Ben will start in December.

His new role means four of the major-league Thames region clubs are now coached by ex-Brookes/Poly rowers — Eton (Alex Henshilwood), Thames (Al Heathcote), Molesey (Ben) and of course Brookes itself (Henry Bailhache-Webb). Not to mention the dozens of other Brookes-trained oarsmen and women

Today the UK, tomorrow the world?



**Taurus**  
— “it's not rocket science”