

# Cambridge University Cruising Club

## Commodore's Report for the Year 2015/16

---

### Introduction

Over the last few years, the Club has undergone an extensive renewal. This renewal has established a sound foundation for continued competitive success and the excellent results recorded in this report are the fruit of continued work, contribution and effort from current and past members.

The Club has entered a new era with the well-deserved retirement of our 20-year old flight of Fireflies at the end of the year. The CUCrC now enjoys one of the highest quality infrastructures in the country, with one of the youngest fleet of boats and boards of any university. Last September, six brand new Fireflies arrived, temporarily bringing to fleet to an impressive 18 Fireflies (one of the largest in the country), along with the other Lasers and windsurfing boards that the Club owns. It is safe to say that the CUCrC now enjoys some of the best facilities in the country - for both sailing and windsurfing. This remarkable result is the fruit of several years of continued and extensive work by bosuning teams, plus the contributions of our generous and supportive alumni. I would like to personally thank our Senior Secretary Anthony Butler for his significant work towards making this possible, and the continuing generosity of our former members! I would also like to thank our Senior Committee Members, Jeremy Johnson and Mike Hayles, and our Trustees for their support – particularly Patrick Gifford in his role of managing the Club's portfolio of investments.

I am also very grateful towards the Junior members of the General Committee, who have provided invaluable support in running the Club. In particular, my special thanks go to George Hopes, Junior Secretary, who was a great help to me in running the day-to-day affairs of the Club.

### Team Racing

CUCrC has developed a well-established reputation for good event organisation, and this year was no exception. With the help and collaboration of Grafham Water SC, the BUSA Team Racing Finals were held at Grafham and acknowledged as an exceptional BUSA Championships. This success was accompanied by great results on the water, with Cambridge Blue retaining their Champions title for the third consecutive year, on their home waters!

The weather conditions at the start of the year made it difficult to organise competitions. Both the Generations Event and the London 6-Pack were abandoned (due to both extreme wind and the lack of it). As a result, the Michaelmas Term focused on training the large intake of fresher sailors. During Lent, it became apparent that despite the replacement of a good many sailors across all the teams, Cambridge talent was not diminished. At the Midlands Qualifiers, Cambridge repeated last year's success in getting two teams straight through to Finals (Blue and Black leading the scoreboard), with Yellow qualifying via the Playoffs a few weeks later.

The Cam Cup was a brilliant success once again. Congratulations to Hugo Sloper who, despite not sailing most of the year due to a heavy academic workload, organised a top quality event. With Playoffs for Yellow taking place the following week, team Black kindly offered their entry to team Yellow to fine-tune Yellow's preparation, and then supported Hugo in running the event. Many thanks to the team Black members and to all the former sailors who stepped in to man the start and finish boats and assist the umpires!

In April, it was time to organise one of the largest team racing events in the world. BUSA Finals were happening at Grafham and CUCrC was organising them. Preparations involved a considerable amount of planning, logistics and driving around the country because the organising committee and sailing team trailed in no less than 24 boat to Grafham. The following numbers say it all...

- 1 event
- 3 Cambridge teams qualified, the maximum possible
- 28 teams participating, the best team racers on the circuit out of over 80 entries

- 42 boats rigged, repaired and prepared
- 63 volunteers, helpers, umpires, officials
- 168 sailors
- 2396 miles driven, moving 24 Fireflies around the country
- Countless hours of preparation

The event was a success on all fronts, including the result. Team Blue defended its title in home waters, winning BUSA for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year, whilst team Black made it to the Semi-Finals.

A few weeks later, all three teams were invited to the Wilson Trophy, where Cambridge Black successfully defended its U21 trophy.

The season ended on an impressive 4-0 Varsity Match victory from Cambridge Mixed, repeating last year's result, while the Ladies indulged in a breath-taking competition - eventually winning 4-3.

I would like to take this opportunity to note the special involvement of Tim Gratton and the time he contributed to club affairs. As Captain Tim has done an amazing job of training the freshers, coordinating three teams, organising a significant part of the BUSA championships (with both himself and his parents driving trailers around the country), helping Oxford run Varsity, spending countless hours maintaining the boats, providing coaching to the other Cambridge team and contributing greatly to the retention of our BUSA title. Much of this year's success is down to this one sailor. On behalf of the entire Club and every sailor, I would like to express my deepest gratitude and congratulations to Tim for all he has done and achieved.

## Windsurfing

The windsurfers have also sailed and surfed through a successful year.

Remarkable coordination between the Windsurfing and the Dinghy Sailing committees allowed for several combined casual sailing and windsurfing trips to take place throughout the year. Over Easter 11 Cambridge windsurfers (and five darker blue rivals) returned from the 8th consecutive Oxbridge Windsurfing Trip in Fuerteventura. Alas, the wind was a little shy, but the sun shone through the whole week. Although the more advanced windsurfers despaired the lack of wind, the beginners loved the conditions - perfect for rapid skill progression. All in all, the week was a great success, and the surfers are already counting down the days to next year...

Shortly after the trip, five windsurfers sailed at the SWA Championships in Weymouth, where Cambridge came 9<sup>th</sup> overall in the team (relay race) event.

In the Varsity Match Cambridge won both the 1<sup>st</sup> Team (Blues) and 2<sup>nd</sup> Team matches.

## Dinghy Sailing

Dinghy Sailing continues its renewal, with several casual sailing trips run throughout the year. Unfortunately, the weather conditions did not make it easy to promote sailing amongst beginners and intermediate sailors. Nonetheless, Esther Sidebotham and Will Reid did an excellent job in running yet another fully booked beginners' course in Michaelmas, with the help and support from Grafham and Sportivate.

## Alumni

Alumni relations followed their established pattern with an excellent O&CSS Generations event and dinner at Oxford in October and regular email newsletters throughout the year. The January student telephoning campaign concentrated on making thank-you calls to those alumni who have been so generously supporting the Club in recent years. The usual drinks party, with a talk by Annie Lush and Sam Davies on their Volvo Ocean Race participation, was held in the O&C Club, Pall Mall in March.

Although 2018 is still some way off, planning is already under way to celebrate in style '125 Years of Sailing and 40 Years of Windsurfing at Cambridge'. There will definitely be a dinner in a Cambridge College, but sailing and windsurfing events are unlikely to happen because of crowded fixture lists.

## Conclusion

It has been a privilege and a great honour to lead the Club this year. I am delighted to see the progress the Club has made over my time in Cambridge, and its continuing success in all areas. I am proud to handover the Club in such a strong position and am confident that my successors will continue to build on what has already been achieved to maintain the Club at the forefront of university sailing and windsurfing in the UK. I would like to wish all the best to the incoming Commodore, his Committee and to the many new sailors who will be joining the Club in the coming year.

***Bryan Ormond***  
**Commodore 2015/16**

An appendix to this report lists officers, major competition results, and teams for 2015-16.

# Officers, Results, and Teams in 2015/16

## Officers

President:	Ian Liddell (St Johns)
Commodore:	Bryan Ormond (Pembroke)
Senior Treasurer:	Tom Ridgman (Wolfson)
Senior Secretary:	Anthony Butler (Clare)
Senior Committee:	Mike Hayles (Churchill - Attending Trustee)
Senior Committee:	Jeremy Johnson (Christ's)
Junior Treasurer:	James Pinder (Robinson)
Junior Secretary:	George Hopes (Corpus Christi)
Trustees:	Patrick Gifford (Magdalene)
	Julia Gore-Randall (Pembroke)
	Mike Hayles (Churchill)
	Jo Lucas (Caius)
VC Team Racing:	Tim Gratton (St Catharines)
VC Windsurfing:	Ben Lawrence (Caius)
RC Dinghy Sailing:	Will Reid (Queens)
Ladies Captain:	Rachel Tilley (Christ's)

## General Results and Teams

### Team Racing

Event	Date	Blue	Black	Yellow	Pink	Grey
O&CSS Generations Event	3 Oct	Abandoned (Light airs, so insufficient races)				
Oxford Magnum	31 Oct – 1 Nov	4 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>		
London 6-Pack	21/22 Nov	Abandoned (Gales and no wind)				
Nottingham Snakebite	13/14 Feb				11 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>
Wessex Winter Warmer	13/14 Feb		9 <sup>th</sup>			
Cam Cup	27/28 Feb	3 <sup>rd</sup>		8 <sup>th</sup>		
Oxford Top Gun	5/6 Mar	1 <sup>st</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>			
UKTRA (Bough Beech)	12/13 Mar	4 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>		
Wilson Trophy	8-10 May	16 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>		
Wilson Trophy U21	8-10 May		1 <sup>st</sup>			

**Blue:** Tim Gratton (St Catharines – Capt) and Daisy Baxter (Trinity Hall)  
 Robbie Gilmore (Magdalene) and Cat Wallace (Emmanuel)  
 Chris Eames (Selwyn) and Rachel Tilly (Christ's)  
*Will Reid (Queens) and Cat Wallace (Emmanuel) – Wilson Trophy only*  
*Hugo Sloper (Selwyn) and Rachel Tilley (Christ's) – Wilson Trophy only*

**Black:** Bryan Ormond (Pembroke - Capt) and Jamie Webb (Caius)  
 James Pinder (Robinson) and Chloe Macaulay (Clare)  
 Anna Prescott (Magdalene) and Paris Thomas (Magdalene)

**Yellow:** Duncan Hampshire (St Catharines - Capt) and Philip Binns (Caius)  
 Greg Sale (Jesus) and Cleodie Rickard (Trinity Hall)  
 Henry Morley (Christ's) and George Hopes (Corpus Christi)  
*Greg Sale ((Jesus) and David Robertson (Jesus) – Wilson Trophy only*

## Match Racing

Event	Dates	Blue
RYA Winter Match Racing, Weymouth	19-29 Mar	3 <sup>rd</sup>

Blue: James Pinder (Robinson - Helm)  
Bryan Ormond (Pembroke)  
Cat Wallace (Emmanuel)  
Jamie Webb (Caius)

## Windsurfing

Event	Dates	Blue
Aussie Kiss (Roadford Lake, Launceston)	7-8 Nov	10 <sup>th</sup>

Blue: Ben Lawrence (Caius - Capt)  
Torben Heinsohn (Caius)  
Helen White (Emmanuel)

Individual: Jeremy Boge (City)  
Thomas Brouwer (Homerton)  
Bethany Campbell (Newnham)  
Samantha Flint (Newnham)  
Emily Guest (Alumnus – Girton)  
Corin Smith (Sidney Sussex)  
Jack Tawney (Alumnus – Pembroke)

## College and Individual Competitions

**Team Racing Cuppers (14 Jun):**                    **Robinson 2** Magdalene 1  
James Pinder and Alex Berry  
Arthur Henderson and Olivia Collin

**Team Racing Silver Fleet (14 Jun):**            **Caius**

**Windsurfing Cuppers (14 Jun):**                **Sidney Sussex 1** Robinson 0  
Laurel Townsend

## BUCS/BUSA Championship Results and Teams

### Ladies BUSA & Nationals (Farmoor 20/21 Feb):

**Ladies Blue:** *Cancelled due to gales*  
Rachel Tilly (Christ's - Capt) and Cat Wallace (Emmanuel)  
Anna Prescott (Magdalene) and Chloe Macaulay (Clare),  
Katie de Lange (Trinity) and Daisy Baxter (Trinity Hall)

### BUSA Team Racing (Cambridge, Grafham Water SC 29-31 Mar):

#### Blue: 1st

Tim Gratton (St Catharines - Capt) and Daisy Baxter (Trinity Hall)  
Robbie Gilmore (Magdalene) and Cat Wallace (Emmanuel)  
Chris Eames (Selwyn) and Rachel Tilly (Christ's)

#### Black: 4th

Bryan Ormond (Pembroke - Capt) and Jamie Webb (Caius)  
James Pinder (Robinson) and Chloe Macaulay (Clare)  
Anna Prescott (Magdalene) and Paris Thomas (Magdalene)

## Yellow: 18th

Duncan Hampshire (St Catharines - Capt) and Philip Binns (Caius)  
Greg Sale (Jesus) and Cleodie Rickard (Trinity Hall)  
Henry Morley (Christ's) and George Hopes (Corpus Christi)

## SWA Championships (Weymouth 25/26 April):

**Blue:** 9<sup>th</sup>  
Tom Edwards (Jesus - Capt)  
Helen White (Emmanuel)  
Adam Heath (Trinity)

**Advanced:** 16<sup>th</sup> Tom Edwards  
35<sup>th</sup> Helen White

**Intermediate:** 18<sup>th</sup> Adam Heath

**Beginners:** 10<sup>th</sup> Samantha Flint (Newnham)  
17<sup>th</sup> Bethany Campbell (Newnham)

## BUCS/BUSA Yachting Championships (Port Solent 21-24 March):

**Blue:** 21<sup>st</sup>

Antoine Magré (Girton)	Skipper
Barbara Muehlemann (Jesus)	Pit
Rob Glew (Queens)	Main Trim
Matthias Schnellman (Selwyn)	Tactician
Linda Lin (Murray Edwards)	Downwind Trim
Tom Weatherby (Churchill)	Upwind Trim
Damien Arnol (Queens)	Bowman
Jeremy Pearce (Downing)	Mastman

## Varsity Match Results and Teams

*(Sailing team trios are listed as: 1st Helm, 2nd Helm, Crew. Ladies: Helm, Crew, Crew)*

## Windsurfing (Grafham, 27 Mar):

### First (Blues) Team: 1-0 to Cambridge

Ben Lawrence (Caius - Capt)  
Tom Edwards (Jesus)  
Torben Heinsohn (Caius)

### Second Team: 1-0 to Cambridge

Helen White (Emmanuel - Capt)  
Millie Mitchell (Clare)  
Thomas Brouwer (Homerton)

## Team Racing (Royal Southern YC, Hamble 28-30 Jun):

### Mixed: 4-0 to Cambridge

Tim Gratton (St Catharines - Capt), James Pinder (Robinson), Paris Thomas (Magdalene)  
Robbie Gilmore (Magdalene), Bryan Ormond (Pembroke), Jamie Webb (Caius)  
Chris Eames (Selwyn), Hugo Sloper (Selwyn), George Hopes (Corpus)

### Ladies: 4-3 to Cambridge

Rachel Tilley (Christ's - Capt), Daisy Baxter (Trinity Hall), Chloe Macaulay (Clare)  
Anna Prescott (Magdalene), Hannah Bibby (Christ's), Cat Wallace (Emmanuel)

## Yachting (Port Solent, Portsmouth 19/20 Mar):

**Blue: 2-5 to Oxford**

*Same team as BUCS/BUSA Yachting – see above.*

## Match Racing

*Not sailed this year.*

## Awards

(WS = Windsurfing, otherwise Team Racing)

### Full Blues

Daisy Baxter  
Chris Eames  
Robbie Gilmore  
Tim Gratton  
Chloe Macaulay  
Bryan Ormond  
James Pinder  
Anna Prescott  
Paris Thomas  
Rachel Tilley  
Cat Wallace  
Jamie Webb

### Half Blues

Hannah Bibby  
George Hopes  
Ben Lawrence (ws)  
Hugo Sloper

**All Cambridge BUCS/BUSA/SWA sailing results are listed in this appendix for historical convenience. Where a CUCrC member sails on a Yachting (CUYC) team, that fact is noted.**