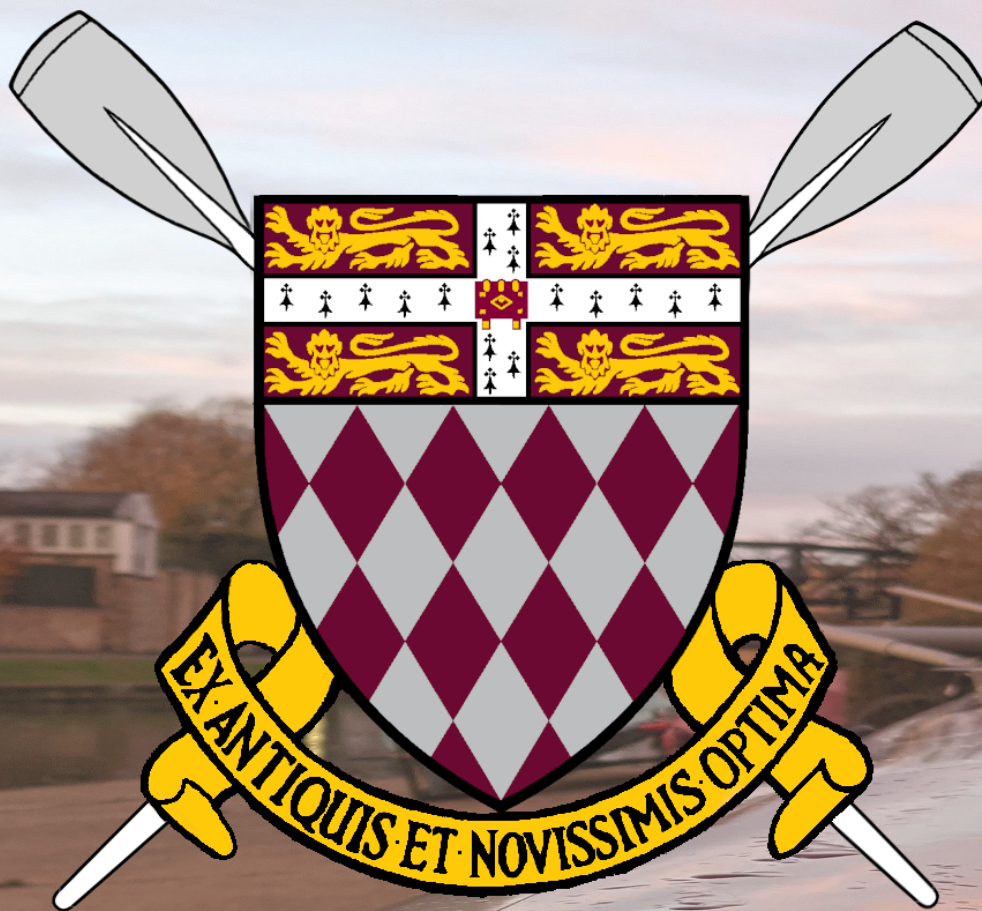




Fitzwilliam College Boat Club

Michaelmas 2021

The senior men's squad was lucky to have enough seniors to form two men's eights this term, something that is quite unusual in the recent history of the club. However, missing a year or two of freshers' flu seemed to have made it all the more potent this year and the crews worked hard to organize training around non-COVID illness that seemed to plague the senior men.

Despite these setbacks, the crews worked hard throughout term and raced in the Cantabs' Winter Head and Senior Fairbairn's. M1 also took the opportunity to race in the Autumn Regatta early in term to help get back into the swing of things. Winter Head provided a good training opportunity before Fairbairns in late November being the second or third race for some of our rowers who noviced last year. Both M1 and M2 achieved a respectable results in senior Fairbairns with M1 achieving the 16th position out of senior Oxbridge eights while M2 were the 10th fastest M2 crew to compete.



Men's Captains: Sam Kirkbride, Eryk Sokolowski

Coaches: Antony Moule, Alex Markham, David Grubb, João d'Avila



Senior Men

Returning to a more normal Michaelmas term, two boats of men's novices were recruited and they competed in some of the familiar staples of the novice calendar — Queens' Ergs and Fairbairn's.

A long term of training with our committed seniors and alumni coaches, both on the water and on land (including time in the Downing Tank), resulted in some respectable results in Novice Fairbairn's. NM1 secured a time of 12:26.0 over the 2700m course while NM2 managed to rank 8th out of all NM2 boats. At the Billygoats' BCD at the end of term, NM2 were awarded crockpots for their commitment and rowing progress.



Novice Men's Captain: Octave Oliviers

Coaches: Eryk Sokolowski, Sam Kirkbride, Octave Oliviers, João d'Avila



Novice Men

We were really lucky to have 26 returning senior women this Michaelmas, so the women's side was made up of larger W1 and W2 squads, from which we formed racing crews for Winter Head and Fairbairns. We entered W1 into Winter Head as both a 4+ and 8+, with W2 also racing in an 8+. All crews put in a good effort, and got in some valuable race practice before Fairbairns.

Despite a term of illness, injury, and restricted morning outings, we managed to put out 4 strong racing crews for Fairbairns, entering a W1 4+ and 8+, a W2 8+, and combining our novice squad into a keen NW1, as well as welcoming back an alumni crew to race as an 8+.

Fairbairns results:

On Friday, we started off the day with the 4.3k senior VIII division, with W1 coming 17th out of 25 first boats, completing the course in 18:30. Then, having never previously entered a W2 that wasn't the slowest in the senior Fairbairns division, our W2 crew made history with their time of 21:10 and established the women of FCBC as a strong presence on the river. Finally in the IV division, our W1 4+ came 5th out of 12 crews on the 3.4k course, with a time of 14:22 placing them less than 3 seconds away from third place.



Women's Captains: Maisie Matthews, Phoebe Heathcote

Coaches: Alan Marron, Matt Lawes, Jo Lee, Simina Dragos, Jessica Halliday



Senior Women

Our novice women unfortunately had their first race, Clare Novices, called off due to bad weather, but showed good determination and spirit as they prepared to race Fairbairns.

Fairbairns results:

On Thursday, NW1 raced the 2.7k course as their first ever race, coming 30th out of 46 novice boats entered.

At the Billygoats' BCD, NM1 cox Pok-man Ho was awarded the Sammi Tarling Novice Coxing Award for his dedication to the club, enthusiasm and skill.



Women's Novice Captain: Chloe Todd

Coaches: Aisha Sobey, Robert Machado, Phoebe Heathcote, Jessica Halliday, Maisie Matthews



Novice Women



Sculling

Current times have led to a great interest in sculling and Tony's 'Small Boats Sessions' were well received by our seniors this term. Towards the start of term, Nikita Almond and Eryk Sokolowski competed in the Rob Roy Small Boats Head while Kesavan Sivanesan raced in the City RC Christmas Head in early December. We look forward to seeing some of our other seniors race in small boats next term.



Boat Naming

In the afternoon before BCD we were excited to invite some of our senior rowers and alumni to the boat naming ceremony for our new men's eight. The Stampfli eight was named by and after alumnus and cox of the 1986 Blue boat, Carole Burton. M1 look forward to racing the boat in it's first bumps campaign next term.

