



JULY 2008

A brief edition of the journal, but one containing a very important announcement from the Committee on the building works currently ongoing in the clubhouse. Since this announcement was drafted, the first phase of the project—creation of a new office area—has neared completion. James Elder kindly took the photos and got busy with Photoshop to create the pictures that illustrate the announcement.

## *Building works at Thames*

At the recent Annual General Meeting of the club held on March 9, 2008, the opportunity was taken to provide to those attending an update on the building works that are proposed to be carried out shortly in and around the boathouse. The meeting requested the Committee to circulate an update to the membership as soon as practicable, which we now do as follows:

The works in broad terms comprise:

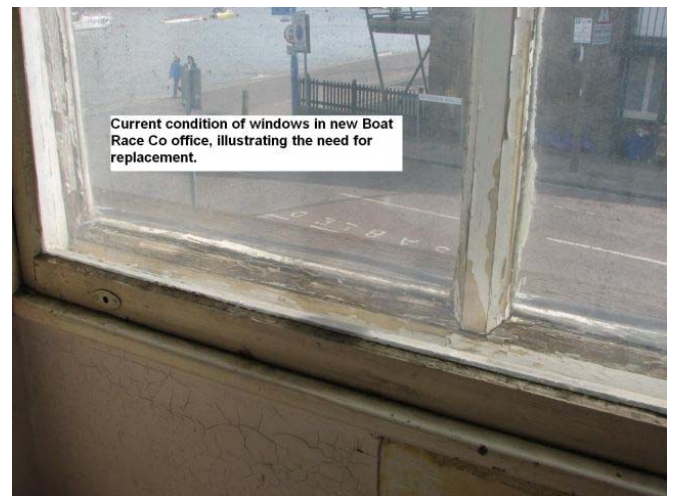
- 1 a new entrance at the rear of the clubhouse at the walkway level, which will provide a convenient thoroughfare for both men and women athletes between their respective changing rooms and the Burrough Building, and which will reduce the heavy footfall through the main “front of house” entrance of the clubhouse;
- 2 a refurbishment of the men's and women's lavatories, which are now effectively at the end of their useful life;
- 3 the creation of a new main office (occupying the former rowing office on the balcony facing Vesta) to be rented to the Boat Race Company; and
- 4 various miscellaneous works in the alleyway and rear yard in front of the Burrough Building, including surfacing, a new security gate and security lights, secure bicycle parking, and improved drainage and flood defence.

Plans of the works are attached.

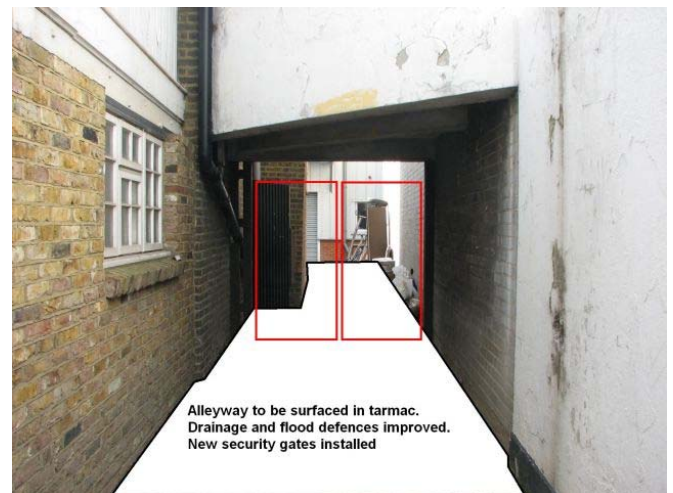
The development will be carried out by Esher Construction and has been costed at approximately £85,000 (including VAT).

A generous contribution of £65,000 is being made towards this cost by the Thames Trust, for which the Committee is most grateful.

It is expected that the costs of the Boat Race Company office, which are approximately £19,000, will be off set within 2–3 years by the rental received for that office (which, in respect of the first payment, they have generously agreed to pay in advance).



*Office windows to be replaced*



*Work to be done in alleyway between TRC and Imperial College boathouse*

The rebuilding of the Boat Race Company office will commence in the second half of May and take about 4 weeks to complete. The remaining works

will commence in mid-July and will take 4–6 weeks to complete.

The new works represent a logical development of the rear of the building, since they will allow both women and men athletes to access the Burrough Building more directly from the clubhouse and reduce the wear and tear on the social area of the Club. They will also improve security and access to the rear part of the Club at ground level.



*Position of new door in women's changing room*



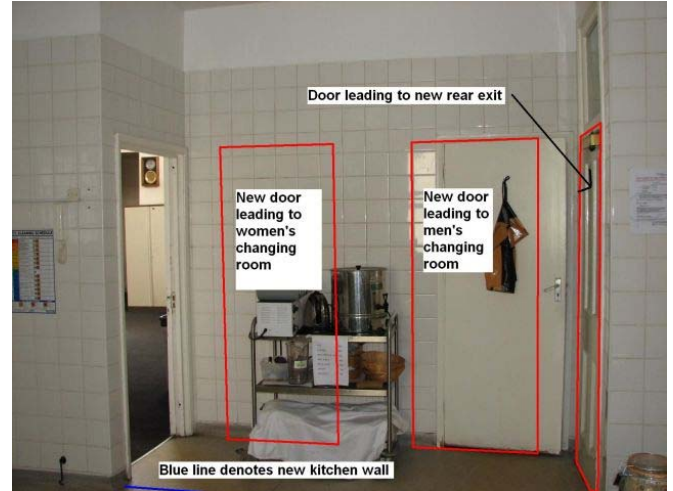
*Position of new door and new wall in men's changing room*

The development is the first stage of a proposed programme to enhance and renew our historic boathouse. Following completion of this initial stage, the Development subcommittee intends to undertake a comprehensive review of what further works would be appropriate to carry out in the boathouse. That review will consider the renewal and repositioning of the bar; redevelopment of the balcony and an improved main entrance. The review is accordingly likely to take several months, but it is hoped that

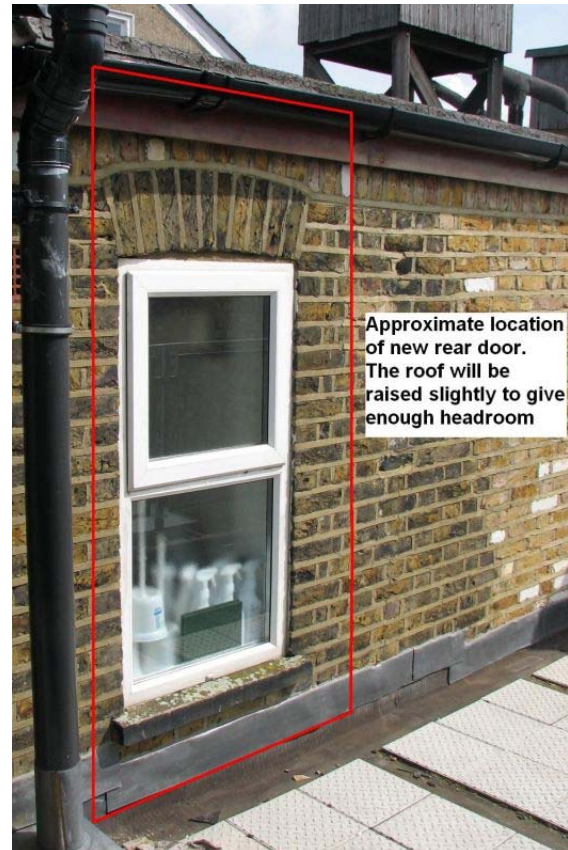
proposals will be available for wider consultation in the autumn. It will then be necessary to consider the funding and phasing of the works which are likely to take a considerable time.

Further information about the current development can be obtained from Will Powell (powell@fothergills.demon.co.uk).

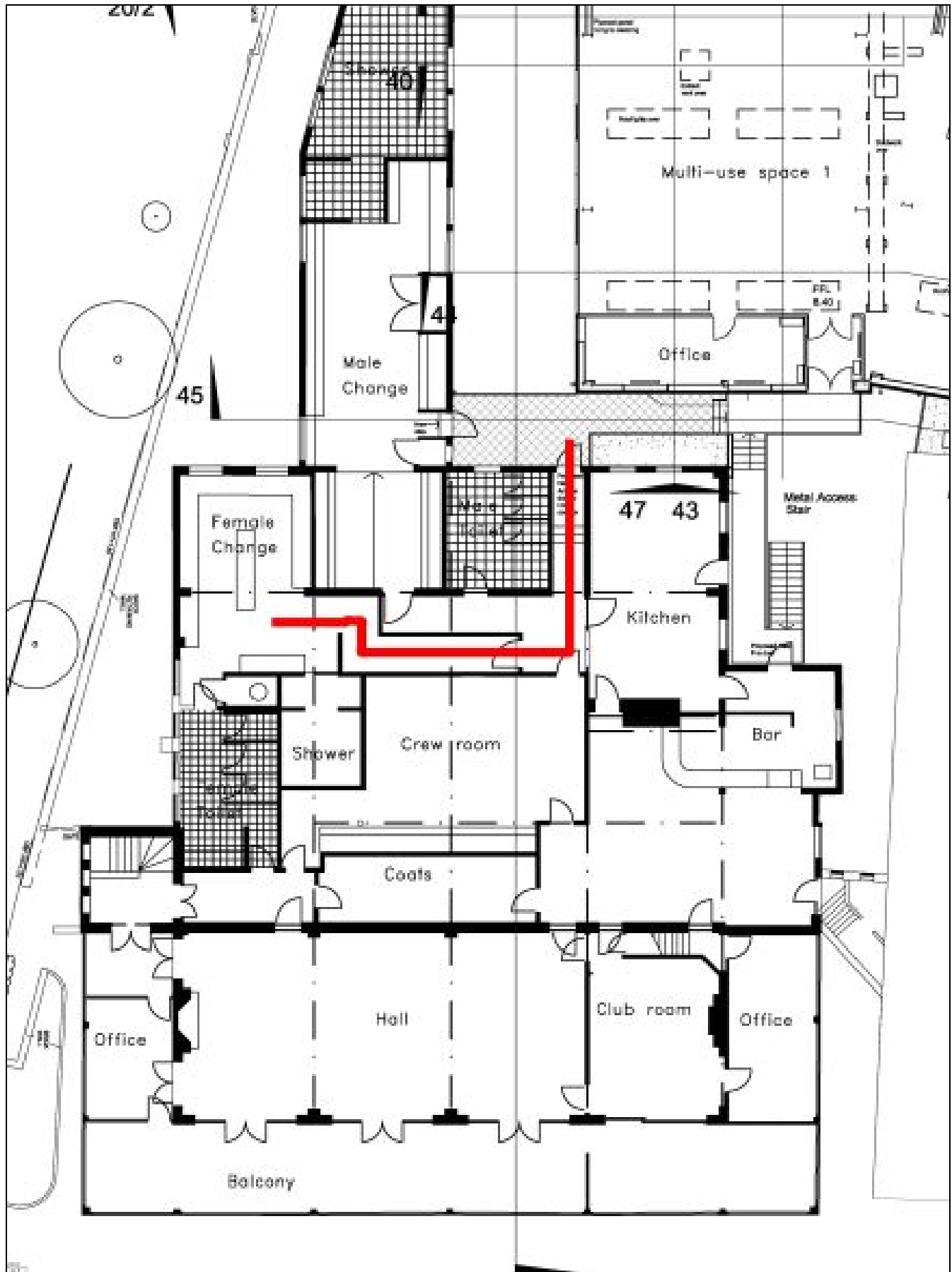
Pauline Rayner



*Position of new doors in current kitchen*



*Location of new door onto walkway to Burrough Building*



Plan of building works. Route of new corridor is shown in red

## *Crews at Henley Royal Regatta*

The following crews will compete for Thames at Henley Royal Regatta (July 2–6).

**Wyfold:** S Challen (bow), A N Other, R Ellera, O Gill (stroke).

**Britannia:** I Barclay (bow), A Dowling, M Paterson, D Davies (stroke), H Watkins (cox).

**Remenham:** Sarah Jones (bow), Jessica Chichester, Jenny Reid, Sophie Theodorou, Helen Ratcliff, Lucy Wordley, Leonora Kennedy, Abigail Carpenter (stroke), Olivia Cook (cox).

Thames “A” and Thames “B” failed to qualify for the Thames Challenge Cup, and Thames “B” failed to qualify for the Remenham.

On Wednesday, July 2, the Wyfold crew are due to race Eton Vikings at 1115 and the Britannia crew will race Upper Thames at 1850.

---

## *Captain’s meeting*

The Captain’s meeting will be held in the clubhouse on Wednesday, July 16, at 2100.

The business of the meeting will include the election of Captain, Deputy Captains and Rowing Secretary for 2008–09, and the setting of membership subscription fees for 2008–09.

Nominations for election must reach the Honorary Secretary (Administration) by Wednesday, July 2. The final agenda will be posted on the club notice board and website on Thursday, July 10.

---

## *Court and social*

### **Chairman gets a gong**

On February 19 club Chairman Pauline Rayner received an MBE for services to rowing from the Queen at Buckingham Palace. Pauline can’t remember her conversation with the Queen, but perhaps she offered to help with fundraising for the necessary refurbishments to the Palace that have been in the news.



*Pauline Rayner previews this year’s Henley outfit*

### **150 Club**

The *150 Club* is a private club lottery open to all Thames RC members. The money raised will go towards our programme of redevelopment of the boathouse and meeting some of the costs of the 150th projects to mark this major event in Thames Rowing Club’s history.

The idea is simple. Every month you pay £12.50 by standing order into the *150 Club* account (12 x £12.50 = £150) or you can make out a cheque once a year for £150 to be automatically entered into the prize draws.

There will be a monthly prize draw for £150. The *150 Club* will also have a grand prize draw of £500 once a year. You have to be a member of the *150 Club* for a minimum of 9 months to be eligible for the big end of year draw.

The *150 Club* will host a spring/summer annual event free to all members as a thank you for your kind support during the year. In other words, everyone is a winner in the *150 Club*!

All you have to do to join the *150 Club* is set up a standing order from your bank account for the first day of every month for £12.50 marked “your name” to the following account—name, “Thames Rowing Club Development Fund”; bank, Barclays Bank plc, Wandsworth; sort code, 20-90-69; account number, 40157252. Alternatively, you can make out a cheque for £150 to the “Thames Rowing Club Development Fund” or transfer the full amount into the above account to be entered into every draw for the following year.

If you have any questions please email Janet Chute or Julia Daffy at [thamessocialsecretary@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:thamessocialsecretary@yahoo.co.uk) or write to them c/o Thames RC, Putney Embankment, London SW15 1LB.

### **Easyfundraising**

A free and painless way to raise money for TRC is [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk), a website with links to online stores, including Amazon, www.lastminute.com, NEXT, Debenhams, HMV, John Lewis, The Body Shop, Comet, and over 400 others across most online retail sectors. It lets you buy books, flights, insurance, food, wine, CDs, DVDs, etc, while raising money for Thames at the same time.

Raising the money is quick and easy—simply use the links on easyfundraising when you shop online and, at no cost to you, Thames will receive a donation from the retailer for every purchase you make.

It's free to register and use. You can even receive free gift vouchers for yourself, without changing the way you shop online.

Simply visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/thamesrowingclub](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/thamesrowingclub) and when you register, select Thames Rowing Club as the organisation you wish to support.

Similarly, you can donate to Thames by using the search engine [thamesrowingclub.easysearch.org.uk](http://thamesrowingclub.easysearch.org.uk). Every time you carry out a web search using this page that yields at least one sponsored link, half of the advertising revenue (generally about 1p) is donated to the club. This might not seem much, but if we get most club members using the search engine on a daily

basis instead of Google, it starts to add up. The search engine combines results from Yahoo, Microsoft Livesearch, Ask and others.

### **Memories of Thames**

In 2010, Thames Rowing Club will celebrate the sesquicentenary of its founding in 1860. Over the next 3 years, we would like to collect as many personal recollections as possible from members and former members of the club.

They can cover any aspect or period of the club's existence. They can be as brief or extensive as you like. Anecdotes and more serious contributions are equally welcome.

Here are some ideas to spark your thoughts:

- Daily life—how did you train, race and enjoy yourselves?
- Your most memorable races, including those you would prefer to forget
- Coaches and other club characters who inspired, infuriated, or amused you
- Your contemporaries—their achievements, eccentricities, and legacy
- Impressive achievements and bad behaviour
- High points and low point
- Thames abroad
- The Boathouse—the ways it has changed and the uses it has been put to

We are not yet sure how we will use the material we gather. We may produce an update to the late Geoffrey Page's 1990 history of Thames, “Hear the Boat Sing”. We may mount an exhibition at the clubhouse in 2010. At the very least, however, we will ensure that all submissions are collected, catalogued, and retained at both the Clubhouse and the River & Rowing Museum so that they are preserved for future generations.

You can send your contributions to Jed Christiansen at the clubhouse or to [memories@thamesrc.co.uk](mailto:memories@thamesrc.co.uk). If you would prefer to have a chat with someone, let Jed know and we will see what we can arrange.

## Useful Information About Your Club

### *Door codes*

The doors of the clubhouse, and Burrough Building have coded locks to help security. If you do not know the code, contact a member of the Committee. Please do not share the codes with non-members.

---

### *Website*

The Thames RC website has a new home and new design at <http://www.thamesrc.co.uk/>.

---

### *Hiring the clubhouse*

Members wishing to hire the clubhouse for a private function should contact [house@thamesrc.co.uk](mailto:house@thamesrc.co.uk). Members are normally entitled to a 50% discount on hire rates.

---

### *Bar opening times*

During the season, the bar is open Tuesday–Thursday from 7pm to 11pm. Hot food is available from 8pm onwards.

---

### *Formal club clothing*

Tim Wilson holds a small stock of club ties, blazer buttons, and other items. Current prices are as follows:

Silk club tie £13.50  
Silk bow tie £13.50  
Regatta tie £8.00  
City tie £8.00  
Large buttons £2.00  
Small (cuff) buttons £2.00

Tim can be contacted at the clubhouse.

Members who have represented the Club at Henley Royal Regatta or Henley Women's Regatta, or who are present or past Club

Chairmen, are entitled to wear the regatta coat (white with red and black trim).

Regatta coats can be made to order by A E Clothier, 5a Pembroke Street, Cambridge (01223 354 339). Tailored regatta coats for ladies are also available. Clothier make several trips every year to the Putney clubs to take orders and measurements.

---

### *Remenham Club*

Thames is one of the seven founding clubs of Remenham Club on Henley reach, one of the finest places to enjoy the Royal Regatta. Eligibility for membership of Remenham extends to Thames members:

- Who have represented Thames at HRR or HWR and who have been members for 2 years;
- Who have represented Thames at other regattas to a reasonable standard and who have been members for 3 years.

Members are elected at Committee meetings in October, January, and April. More details can be found on the club website: [www.remenhamclub.co.uk](http://www.remenhamclub.co.uk) To find out more or to obtain an application form contact: [remenham@thamesrc.co.uk](mailto:remenham@thamesrc.co.uk)

---

### *Discount on fitness equipment*

We have arranged a 10% discount for Thames members with Fitness-Mad—a company run by David Elliot, a grandson of Jack Beresford. Fitness-Mad supply a wide range of professional fitness, yoga and pilates equipment. To get the discount, order from their website ([www.fitness-mad.com](http://www.fitness-mad.com)) and use the voucher code “Beresford”. Or, if you prefer, call 01386 859551 and mention Thames Rowing Club.

---

### *Journal contact*

Please send contributions to John McConnell ([journal@thamesrc.co.uk](mailto:journal@thamesrc.co.uk)).