

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE AWARD 2012

To mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year,
the Chairman invited all British Rowing members
to nominate people who had gone that extra mile for our sport
and who through their dedication have
helped to lay down a legacy
for future generations of rowers.

The following have been awarded this medal in recognition of their dedication to rowing, with grateful thanks.

Rodney Andrews

has been a volunteer coach at Wadham College, Oxford for 31 years. Gavin Stewart was a protégé of Rod's who rowed for GB at the Olympics in 1988 and 1992. He is described as a tireless volunteer who always 'goes the extra mile', creating a legacy that has seen more than a thousand athletes progress through his coaching.

Keith Baldwin

President of Twickenham Rowing Club. A true 'leader', tireless, methodical, diplomatic and an achiever - give Keith a problem and he will resolve it. He is still pressing on with the third phase of upgrades to the club and his work will leave a great legacy for all rowers there.

Ted Bates

of Molesey Boat Club – has recently retired as the long-serving Secretary of Molesey BC. During his time at the club he has been a key facilitator in ensuring good partnerships with the Local Authority, vital to its successful development.

Bob Bayliss

'Mr West Midlands'. As a long term Regional Chairman he has seen through many changes in the Region. He was instrumental in the provision of a regional rowing centre at Worcester, and has been a dedicated supporter of staff in development work in the region.

John Bell

of Tyne Rowing Club. In a long and varied rowing career John has been Chairman of Bedfordshire Schools Rowing Association, Director of Rowing in Zimbabwe, Chairman of Durham Regatta. In 2007 he was the recipient of a Local Heroes Award for his 'remarkable achievement'.

John Biddle

of Burway Rowing Club. A key member of the Umpires Committee, John brought his extensive experience and expertise to the role of Event Organiser on Water for international rowing events in 2005, 2006 and 2011 and for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. He is a highly respected on-water organiser worldwide.

Alan Blackman

of Medway Towns RC. During the club's redevelopment, Alan dispensed with the usual facilities development team and (in effect) 'sent them out coaching' while he stood in the front line. The effect was the club membership was able to grow while building work was going on. He has simply made things happen at MTRC that would not otherwise have happened.

Peter Blaseby

of Marlow Rowing Club has spent 57 years in the sport. He was responsible for organising the ARA Centenary Pageant in 1982 – a huge undertaking. He is still heavily involved as Trustee of the Trafalgar Project and Chairman of Marlow Regatta.

Steve Bull

Secretary of Hants and Dorset whose 'organisational skills are second to none'. In the past he has served water safety in Wessex with energy, passion and dedication. A 'rowing stalwart' he will be a very hard act to follow if he ever decides to retire.

John Canton

of Peterborough Rowing Club. Having messed about in boats from the age of seven, John has contributed as Regatta Secretary, Captain, Vice Captain. He has never forgotten the grass roots and Peterborough benefits from his drive, dedication and commitment. He is at the club tirelessly day in and day out.

Ray Cassidy

of Curlew Rowing Club. 'He is an inspiration, people like Ray are few and far between and his dedication to the sport of rowing is second to none. Curlew is what it is because of him.' Ray is the Chairman and Trustee of the Royal Albert Dock Trust and was the Chairman of the Coaching Commission for the SERR. He is a long-serving coach and Coach Educator.

Helen Christison

Vice President of Vesta Rowing Club. A Chief Umpire at Vesta events she will also be found manning the food stand at the end of the day. Helen is happiest working at grass roots level on the water. She has introduced hundreds of novices to the sport and has had a lasting effect in passing on her love of rowing.

John Clayton

of Maidstone Rowing Club – a club that he co-founded. He has been an officer there for more than 25 years and represented his Division on British Rowing's Council, at times doubling up as Regional Chairman. An 'amazingly committed and passionate ambassador for the sport of rowing'.

Arnold Cooke

of Minerva Bath Rowing Club. Arnold is an Empire medallist and is a past Chairman of the Masters Commission. He has also served in the past as Regional Chairman of WAGS Region. In 2011 Arnold set a new world 2,000m indoor rowing record in the over-70s age group.

Carol Cornell

of Walton Rowing Club. Carol has helped to drive participation amongst young people, particularly through her work at Tiffin School as an inspiring coach. She is a real motivator who has played an important role in the development of Kingston Rowing Club.

Simon Darnbrough

of Hollingworth Lake Rowing Club and coach at Bradford Grammar School. Simon is an umpire, an event organiser and a past long-serving Divisional Representative on British Rowing's Council. He is also secretary of the National Competition Committee.

James Davey

of Putney Town Rowing Club. James served with Nottingham RC before moving to London where he joined PTRC where he became Treasurer and represented the clubs in his Division on British Rowing's Council. He leads the Learn to Row courses which are allegedly, 'the best L2Rs you can go on'.

Margaret Denham

Margaret Denham has been involved with Henley Town and Visitors Regatta for many years. Without her loyalty, commitment and enthusiasm the fund-raising events would not raise the substantial amounts that they do. Margaret is the archetypal volunteer who gets on with things without any fuss or bother – in short the ideal recipient of a Diamond Jubilee medal.

Fiona Dennis

A Vice President of Derby Rowing Club. Fiona is a National Umpire who achieved FISA umpire status and served on the Jury in 2012 for the Paralympic Games. She has served as a member of Executive and Council, besides keeping up a very active role in major events as Chief Umpire. Fiona is currently Chairman of the Competition Committee.

Jim Downing

Chairman and founder of London Youth Rowing which in just eight years has become one of the leading young people's rowing groups in the country, particularly in areas of deprivation, bringing rowing to a new audience in the East of London. Last year more than 9,800 young people took part in LYR programmes.

John Gill

of Marlow Rowing Club. John joined the sport in 1961 'to keep himself out of trouble'. A winner of a number of World Masters medals he retired from active rowing due to ill health and now coaches both at Marlow and in Scotland to give back to what he calls the world's greatest sport.
'He is a true ambassador for rowing.'

Alan Granlund

of Durham ARC and past Chairman and Treasurer of the Northern Region. Coaching and Junior co-ordinator under whose leadership and welcoming approach the junior squad has trebled. Alan has been a dedicated and influential member of the club for 30 years and has made an outstanding contribution to DARC's development and success.

Mike Hendry

of Walton Rowing Club guided the Walton redevelopment scheme through various setbacks and as an engineer, successfully project managed the club's rebuild. Mike works with British Rowing to provide guidance to other facilities schemes and aspiring schemes.
He is also an umpire and successful event organiser.

Max Heron

of Norwich Rowing Club and Whitlingham Boathouses. Max formed a 'formidable' development team to tackle a huge opportunity for several rowing and canoe clubs on the Norwich and Whitlingham estate.
Thanks to his commitment, drive and expertise rowing in the area is thriving.

Nick Hodges

of Evesham Rowing Club. Nick has been Chairman of West Midlands Regional Umpires' Commission and the National Umpires' Commission, serving the sport as an umpire for fifty years. He has been instrumental in the recruiting and training of new umpires. 'He sets standards and does it with a smile for all the umpires within his Region.'

Pauline Higgins

of Queen Elizabeth High School Boat Club. Pauline is described as 'the inspirer of so many young people through her work as a teacher and coach, the Wells brothers name her as their inspiration.' Pauline also heads up the Junior Commission for the North Region

Barry Hudson

of Durham ARC. Barry put together an excellent development team and produced the best fundraising effort in recent years to achieve a £1m facility and links to local educational initiatives. He has also worked alongside British Rowing to give club management advice to a number of other clubs.

Amanda Jones

of Broxbourne Rowing Club. Amanda was nominated because she is the sort of person that makes the difference between a scheme happening or failing. In addition to her 'everyday' club duties Amanda had a key role in heading up the second phase of redevelopment of the club.

Andrew Kelly

of Broxbourne Rowing Club. Andy joined the club as a boy and has served as club captain, club steward as well as carrying out maintenance and gardening work. He has made a significant contribution to acquiring the new boathouse; 'if we did not have Andy the club would not be as prosperous regarding members as it is.'

Mike Kennedy

Chairman of Spitfire Boat Club and Director of Rowing for the University of Kent and Kent College. A coach who assists young and old, a past divisional representative, 'a volunteer whose enormous goodwill and knowledge is generously shared with appropriate humour'. Mike is currently working to expand Spitfire BC through Explore Rowing.

Chris Llewellyn

of Birmingham Rowing Club. An umpire and past Chairman of the National Competition Committee, and member of British Rowing's Board and Council. Chris is responsible for compiling British Rowing's annual calendar of Competition, a job he carries out with remarkable patience.

Tony Markey

of Gloucester Rowing Club. Tony is a dedicated and tireless fundraiser for the club. He is a champion of the development project to provide a rowing centre at Gloucester that will benefit the whole community and leave a lasting legacy for rowing.

Peter Moore

has been a divisional representative, an umpire and a regatta organiser for many years, Peter has also served the sport as Secretary of the National Competition Committee. He is 'a dedicated and worthy recipient who gives all to the sport and expects no return.'

Ann-Louise Morgan

the Director of Rowing for LOCOG for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Prior to that Ann-Louise was an exceptional manager of World rowing events, working alongside British Rowing and with FISA, Rowing's International Federation.

Chris Morrell

of Windsor Boys School Boat Club. Through his coaching at the school Chris has brought crew sculling at his school to the highest level. Last year he was awarded an MBE in recognition of his services to school sport.

Stuart Mountford

of Devoran Pilot Gig Club. Stuart breathed new life into a weary group of gig rowers who were let down after a constraint was discovered on negotiated land. He was instrumental in finding a new site and the building work is imminent. A modest man who deserves much praise for the work of himself and his team.

Pete Mulkerrins

of Star Club who began his rowing career there as a schoolboy nearly 30 years ago. In 1986 he made history for the club when he was part of a crew that won a Henley medal. He returned to the club as a coach and in 2012 the club were winners again, a testament to his 20 years of coaching. 'His contribution to Star has been immense'.

Rod Murray

of Henley Rowing Club. Rod has been described 'a stalwart, both in his club and in everything that he does to help organise events'. He has raised the standard of umpiring through his work for the Thames Regional Rowing Council.

Jon Neale

'The most persistent person in our sport.'

For years Jon tried to establish a site in the Denham area for West Herts RC, and when his own project was on hold with the gravel extractors, he worked with British Rowing to open up other gravel extraction opportunities. He has also assisted with rowing projects on other lakes such as Welsh Harp

Jim Newcomb

of Runcorn Rowing Club. Jim has created a legacy as the driving force behind the club's new boathouse, pontoon and footprint. He has been instrumental in establishing a long term agreement with Liverpool University and contributing to a robust and dynamic club competing at the highest level and growing in numbers.

Ian Pankhurst

of Henley Rowing Club. A club captain and club chairman who negotiated a new site for the club and designed the current club building. Ian is a trustee of Henley RC who can see a legacy from his commitment, from the junior to senior members of the club.

Richard Phelps

of Thames Rowing Club. Richard was an international athlete who committed to taking on a number of roles at the end of his international career to 'put back something into the sport'. He has contributed to rowing as an Umpire, an Appeal Panel member, and was a member of British Rowing's Council for 16 years.

Maggie Phillips

of Kingston Rowing Club and Leander. Maggie was an international rower and is now a national and FISA Umpire. She is also Honorary Editor of the British Rowing Almanack and a regular contributor to Rowing & Regatta. She also finds time to coach young rowers.

Philip Phillips

of Derby Rowing Club. Phillip is described as a major catalyst at Derby RC. 'His enthusiasm, dedication and sheer hard work as a club official and coach over the last fifty years leaves a legacy clearly identified.' Without his input the club would not be what it is today.

Kay Plumtree

of Twickenham Rowing Club where for 30 years she has worked as a volunteer as Treasurer and membership secretary. She has worked on the constitution, run the 150 club and is club photographer. Kay is the go to person for so many 'how do we do this and where is' questions, always answered with patience and good humour.

Paul Rafferty

of Northwich Rowing Club. A committed coach who started Matt Langridge on his international career with a World Junior gold Medal. 'A true club man who inspires all those he works with and those he coaches'.

Pauline Rayner

of Thames Rowing Club. Pauline was the driving force behind the recent rebuilding and refurbishment of Thames creating a fantastic new facility for the club. A very active rower and coach with a lifetime of dedication to the sport she is also Chairman of Thames RC.

David (C.D.) Riches

of Westminster School Boat Club. David ('CD') has been a driving force behind the Schools Head of the River, under his watch the event has grown and there is now a separate event for sculling. He has taken a lead role for the annual GB/France Match for under 16 rowers and is also an enthusiastic supporter of coastal rowing.

Liz Rowbotham

parent of an international rower and co-ordinator of the Team Supporters Groups. Liz was a Volunteer in 2005, 2006, 2011, 2012 for World and Olympic events. She has travelled the world supporting the team and has been described as 'defender of the athletes'.

Andrew Ruddle

'Mr HERR. He does not suffer fools gladly but he is the most modest of men,' A dedicated and extremely efficient organiser of events, particularly The Head of the River Race one of largest and most popular fixtures in the Head season.

Don Seymour

of Rame Gig Club. Don is described as 'the best fund raiser in the South West.' Financially astute, he has worked tirelessly to ensure that Rame Gig Club obtained one of the best and most efficient small footprint facilities in the sport.

Andy Smith

of Star Club. Following a back injury Andy took up coaching, bringing his 'invaluable experience to the club.' An adviser and volunteer of the highest order, he acts as a marshal at events and in many other ways to ensure the smooth running of the club and the success of its rowers.

Nigel Smith

of London Rowing. Nigel has been a club secretary for 20 years and the driving force behind the Metropolitan Regatta with moves from Thorpe to the Docks to Dorney. He has been a coach at Emanuel, a national and FISA umpire, and is recognised 'for the influence he has had and the dedication that was necessary to achieve that influence.

Shane Sullivan

of Charlestown Rowing Club. Shane is Club Chairman and has been a driving force in heading up the team that succeeded in obtaining a new site in the Charlestown Harbour, raising the profile of the club with the aim of attracting many new members to gig rowing.

Mervyn Theaker

Vice President at Derby Rowing Club and also Hon Secretary of Henley Rowing Club. Nominated by Derby for his work there the club says he was a major catalyst in the success of the club. His enthusiasm, dedication and sheer hard work over the last fifty years has left a legacy that makes the club the success it is today.

Tommy Thomson

of Vesta Rowing Club. Tommy has covered a huge number of roles within the ARA and British Rowing. He was Chairman of the Instructional Committee and the National Championships Committee during a royal visit. He has been a divisional representative, past Chairman of the Thames Region and negotiated the Women's Centre. He has also served as a FISA Umpire, as a member of Council for 36 years and as a member of British Rowing's Executive Committee.

Beryl Tregear

of Looe Rowing Club. Beryl worked tirelessly to obtain the planning and funding for the new club premises. The new boathouse means that boats can get on the water all year round and Beryl's contribution to the build has resulted in a real legacy for rowing in the local community.

Stuart Ward

of Loughborough and Bradford Amateur Rowing Clubs. Stuart has served as the past Chairman of British Rowing's Water Safety Committee, Honorary Water Safety Adviser, and is a past officer of Bradford Rowing Club. He helps with organisation of events in his Region and 'if a job needs doing Stuart is the man to ask!'

Nicole Weiss

of King's College School RC. Nicole has helped with the plans for refurbishing the club. She is an extraordinary fund-raiser - from quiz nights to black tie dinners 'she always gets in the spirit of things'. Nicole acts as driver when needed and has also produced a parents' guide to rowing.

Richard West

of Kingston Rowing Club. Richard is a long-serving Divisional Representative and Umpire, who also regularly helps out as a commentator at regattas and head events. He has been a valuable link to the Environment Agency and also the Port of London Authority for British Rowing.
