Dear Caians,

I am delighted to report to you on the incredible chain of successes CBC experienced last term. W1 started the term with a string of wins in Winter Head-to-Head and Newnham Short Course, which M1 also won. Pembroke Regatta again painted the Cam minty, with W1 reaching the final against Newnham although sadly not prevailing, M1 winning the event, and most importantly, there was once again a Gonville Boat Club final in the alumni division. Then it was on to full scale bumps preparations. The club has expanded in numbers this year which is extremely exciting, with an M1-3 and a W1-3 getting on to race, sadly with our M4 just missing out. The bumps statistics were indeed superb, with four sets of blades awarded this term, a record for the club since 1998 we believe where six sets of blades were awarded! The crews which secured blades were W3, M3, W2 and M1, who bumped LMBC off Headship station! W1 also had a strong week, going up three and only missing out on blades from a boat two ahead bumping out astounding quickly one day – bumps can be about the luck of the draw.

As M1 secured headship station, this came with it an invitation to race at Henley Boat Races against the fastest Oxford crew (decided off a race rather than Torpids) which this year was Wadham. Caius won by an impressive margin of five lengths, adding more silverware to the Caius collection in the space of a couple of weeks.

Our trialists of course have also had their most busy of terms. Victoria Walker again rowed in the lightweights boat, this year alongside Catherine King. They sadly were not victorious this year, while Catherine Walker in the spare pair won comfortably. Calum MacRae raced with Goldie, and of course Matthew Holland this year was coxing the men’s Blue boat, both of whom won their races. We also had Joe Nash and Ben Dyer training as part of the Goldie squad. We are excited to be welcoming all our trialists back into the club, making our speedy crews even faster for Mays.

There is no rest for the wicked, with W1, M1 and M2 entering BUCS Regatta this coming weekend (4th-5th May) to fight off against university crews from across the country. This promises to be an exciting weekend, taking us away from our memorised race course to pit ourselves against largely unknown competition. We hope this will give us a clear idea of our standing, looking ahead to Henley Royal and Henley Women’s in a couple of months’ time. We also currently have three men trialling with CUBC development squad, Charlie Smith, Nathan Caplan and Reef Boericke, with Reef topping their first erg test and Nathan coming fourth. Very promising for the term ahead!

We hope you will be able to join us at our marquee on Caius Meadows on Saturday 15th June for the final day of bumps, serving Pimms as always.

Chris Gilmartin
Captain of Caius Boat Club 2018-9
Bump on LMBC for Headship station:

An expanded CBC: