

Colin Hunt – A lifelong member of TwRC



Colin Hunt passed away on the 12th December 2022 at the age of 87. Born in Alton Road, Richmond in 1935 Colin moved to Twickenham as a teenager, when he joined Twickenham Rowing Club. He remained a member of the club for the rest of his life.

At this time Colin was also a member of a couple of local tennis clubs and it was from these that he recruited a number of other lifelong TwRC members, such as Don Ross and Derek Dunlop.

Colin rowed at Henley for Twickenham as a 21-year-old in 1956. He occupied the 2 seat of the First Eight, then coached by George Plumtree. He was in many crews over the years and was also a keen skuller.

Colin also helped to start up and organise the veterans eight in the late 70's, persuading his 11-year-old son to cox the crew. With no experience, no electronic aides and an eight full of experienced oarsmen intent on achieving the boat speed of bygone decades this was a slightly daunting prospect – but despite this the crew returned safely from every outing. This crew also included other long standing club members such as Bob Scott, Roy Dixon and many others. On occasion Colin's persuasive powers ensured two crews were able to row alongside each other- a sight to behold. Reciprocal links were established with London Rowing Club, Upper Thames Rowing Club and Chris Lloyd with the Free Press (PH) crew in Cambridge, with outings taking place on the Tideway, at Henley and on the Cam, as well as at Twickenham. Many of this veteran crew were regularly rowing together until well into the 2000's and over the years took part in international events in Delft, Munich, Berlin and Venice.

In the early 90's Colin served as Club Captain for a number of years. As a career banker he was always keen to ensure the Club finances were as healthy as possible – but equally he was determined that the club facilities and boats should be of the highest standards as he knew this was key to success on the water. After his time as Captain he continued as a committee member and Vice President.

Colin was also a Remenham member and attended Henley nearly every year from the 1960's until Covid struck – often there for every day of the regatta.

Rowing and the Club were some of his main passions in life and as well as being out on the river he very much enjoyed attending dinners and seeing old friends. It was therefore very fitting that his coffin had the Twickenham badge at one end and the Remenham badge at the other – with a photo of a typical Henley Regatta scene running its length.

All his friends and family miss him very much and I know that Dad would be very proud to have a boat named after him. Twickenham to Richmond was his favourite stretch of the river and if he can no longer be out on the water himself then he would be delighted that at least there will be a boat bearing his name, representing the club that meant so much to him.

Julian Hunt
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