

Helen Popescu for Rowing Sabbatical

Proposed: Amy McLennan (Wolfson)

Seconded: Felicity Shelley (OUWBC)



Previous Experience:

OURCs Committee (May '08 – Jan '09)

Race Secretary for Autumn Fours and on Race Committees for Summer Eights and Isis Winter League time trials. I am well-placed to help next year's Secretary and Committee run well-organised events.

St Hugh's BC Captain (Oct '07 – Jun '08)

Having been a captain means I understand the challenges of this difficult role and I would always be available to offer the Captains support and guidance.

Coach (Jul '08 – present)

By coaching at St Hugh's BC and OARC I have gained a thorough understanding of safety considerations.

Rower (Oct '06 – present)

I have rowed for St Hugh's BC, Wolfson BC, OUWBC (trialisst this year – withdrawn because of injury), Worcester BC and Oxford Academicals RC, in Oxford-based and external events.

Cox (Oct '07 – present)

I have coxed men's and women's crews from St Hugh's BC, Wolfson BC, OUWBC, Exeter BC, City of Oxford RC, Oxford Academicals RC and Reading RC, in training and competitions.

Administrative Assistant

Working in admin roles for the Environment Agency and St Hugh's College has allowed me to develop the skills necessary for the Sabbatical role



Committed to:

- Staying available and open to requests from members of the rowing community by holding weekly drop-in sessions for anyone to bring up their concerns and ask for assistance and by promptly responding to email and phone queries
- Expanding the safety section available on the OURCs website so that coaches and coxes can make more developed risk assessments to maximise water time and working with the Internet Secretary to develop a centralised resource displaying restrictions to help Captains plan outings
- Working with the future Secretary and Committee to ensure that Oxford-based events are run smoothly and fairly
- Organising ARA and RYA courses in the Oxford area to help members of the rowing community gain necessary skills and qualifications and holding briefings for novice coaches in Michaelmas Term to help them come to grips with safety and planning issues
- Maintaining good relations with other river users and encouraging participation from non-college crews in events such as IWL or Autumn Fours
- Offering my support to the University squads to make the already-difficult trialling experience more attractive to a larger number of talented college rowers

Why?

I want to be Rowing Sabbatical because of my love for rowing as a sport. I believe our overall aim is to raise the standard and prestige of Oxford rowing, and I would like to be a part of this by making it a worthwhile experience for everyone involved, at all levels, during training and competition. By working closely with you, the Captains, and offering you my full support, I want us all to gain the most out of next year's rowing.

