

Henley Women's Regatta 2013 report

Not content with a dominating performance at the Walton and Weybridge and Weybridge Ladies Regatta on 1st and 2nd June, young athletes from Weybridge Rowing Club notched up an impressive win at the prestigious Henley Women's Regatta on Sunday (23rd June 2013).

The Women's Junior 16 coxed Four won their event after beating friendly local rivals Walton Rowing Club in round one on Saturday, then Bedford Girls School Rowing Club in the quarter final, local school Lady Eleanor Holles Boat Club in a semi final described by one Umpire as 'the best example of club rowing seen at the event' coming up against Sir William Borlase's Grammar School in the Final.

Borlase's are a highly respected opponent and they set off at a blisteringly fast pace. By half way along the 1.5km course on the famous Henley stretch of the Thames Weybridge had caught up to win by 'a canvas' (about 3m) in a race that had the commentator contradicting himself again and again as to the likely outcome.

In the true spirit of rowing sportsmanship the first to congratulate the Weybridge crew were the crew and coach from Sir William Borlase, and the Captain of Walton Rowing Club.

The Weybridge crew, coxed by Bishop Wand 15 y/o student Emily Skinner, was 16 y/os Emelia Cole and Megan Pickering, both from Sir John the Baptist School in Woking, and 15 y/os Phoebe Truett from Heathside School in Weybridge and Layla Wheeldon who attends Fullbrook School in Woodham. Layla's relatives in South Africa were able to watch the whole event on the on-line audio visual coverage, a first for any regatta at Henley.

The cup and medals were presented to the Weybridge Coach, Katy Knowles, and winning crew by Olympic Gold Medallist, the inspiring Katherine Granger.

Clive Capel ~ 23/6/13