

COBRA Newsletter

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Olympic Special

COLERAINE OLD BOYS ROWING ASSOCIATION



Beijing 2008



Beijing 2008 Olympic Regatta



Alan Campbell in the last 250m of his final

With consistent A final places in the World Cup series races, the two lightweight Coleraine men, Richard Archibald and Richard Chambers, had realistic medal chances at the Olympics Regatta held at the newly built Shunyi Olympic Rowing & Canoeing Park, despite Archibald in the Irish coxless four only qualifying for the start line two months before.

For heavyweight single sculler Alan Campbell, even getting to the start line was a massive achievement after having surgery on his knee and spending three weeks on crutches in June, although anyone who had met him knew not appearing was never an option, and it would be dangerous to bet against him also taking a medal back to Coleraine.

The Olympics officially began on Friday the eighth day of the eighth month in the year 2008, at eight minutes past eight in the evening at the commencement of the opening ceremony. The oarsmen, however, had to watch this on television like the rest of the world as the regatta started the next day so they couldn't afford to spend hours standing around wasting energy, especially as the lake and their accommodation was outside Beijing.

At 14:30 on Saturday afternoon, Alan Campbell was the first to begin his Olympics quest in his heat of the Men's Single Sculls. Unusually, Campbell was trailing behind Jurkowski of USA after 500m, though it was soon apparent that the American was on a 'fly-and-die' strategy and soon ran out of steam, finally finishing in fourth. Campbell

went on to win the heat after a close fight in the second half with the Australian, Hardcastle, and progressed to the quarter final stage.

With the small boats and big boats alternating days at the regatta, the Lightweight fours were racing on Sunday in their heats. The British crew of Chambers, Lindsey-Fynn, Mattick and Clark had favourites, China, alongside them. The three crews who would directly progress to the semi-finals were quickly chosen as China, Great Britain and Australia led the field from start to finish. The Irish crew of Moynihan, Towey, Archibald and Griffin were in a close heat, and with only two seconds separating first and last, they finished an agonising fourth only three tenths behind Poland in third. Their time would have easily qualified them in either of the other heats, however they would now have to progress to the semi-finals

through a repechage, or second-chance race against the other fourth and fifth place finishers.

Campbell was in action again on Monday in the first of the quarter finals. Three of the six competitors would progress and it was clear early on these would be Campbell, Hacker of Germany, and Vonarburg of Switzerland. It didn't stop them competing for it and all three would hold first, second and third positions in the course of the race. In the end Campbell crossed the line in second behind Hacker, and continued on to the semis.

The repechage of the light fours was a formality for the Irish and they easily finished in first, though they would have an extra race in their legs when it came to the semi finals compared to the main competition.

Campbell's semi-final was a classic race. As usual Campbell led off the start with good friend and rival Mahe Drysdale (NZL) in second and Ondrej Synek (CZE) in third after 500m. In the middle kilometre they vied for places and with the top three going on, it seemed it would turn in to a simple race for lanes in the final. At 1500m, Drysdale led, followed by Synek and in turn by Campbell. Drysdale was on course to secure the top spot and set a benchmark for everyone else when the Greek athlete, Christou, came from nowhere and brought Synek and Campbell with him. The last 200m was a desperate scramble between the four scullers for the top three spots. Ranking for the final suddenly became unimportant and simply getting there was the immediate priority. Synek rowed through Drysdale to take the lead, as did Campbell, and the



Richard Archibald and Ireland finish 4th in the B-final of the LM4-

three-time world champion New Zealander suddenly looked like he was going to let the Greek through as well and not even make the final. Drysdale crossed the line in third place on the line, only four tenths before Christou.

Archibald and Chambers were drawn in the same semi-final and this was set for Thursday, however bad weather delayed the race by 24 hours to Friday. Six crews were again racing for the top three places for the A-final. Great Britain got off to a great start and led at 500m, followed by Denmark and France. The Danish showed their pedigree in the lightweight fours event by rowing through to take the lead soon after, and France also rowed through the British in the last 500m to leave them a comfortable third spot and therefore an outside lane in the final. The Irish didn't fare so well, finishing in fourth. Despite being way ahead of Italy and the USA they never threatened the top three and were destined for the B-final, for places 7-12. Soon after, Gearoid Towey would become ill, and for the B-final the next day, he was replaced by Richard Coakley. A change in crew was the last thing the Irish needed, and in the end they finished fourth in the B-final, 10th overall, behind crews they'd easily beaten earlier in the regatta. Archibald, however, was philosophical, *"We'll go away from here holding our heads high. From coming 12th in the World Champion-*

his knee as hard as he could without worrying about the consequences for the next race. The line up of Maeyens (BEL), reigning Olympic Champion Tufte (NOR), Karonen (SWE), Synek (CZE), Campbell (GBR) and reigning World Champion Drysdale (NZL) again showed the high standard of the Men's Single Sculls event – arguably the toughest event in the Olympics let alone rowing. As expected, Campbell came out of the blocks hard and took an early lead; the question was, would his knee hold out till the end? Karonen of Switzerland was the first casualty, and went through the 500m in sixth and never recovered. Meanwhile, by half way Tufte had taken the lead from Campbell, who in turn led Maeyens, Drysdale and Synek. The third 500 took its toll on Campbell and Maeyens who dropped to fifth and fourth respectively as Drysdale took the lead from Tufte and Synek went from fifth to third. Although he is famous for his fast finishes, it was clear that Campbell was now out of the medal race which Drysdale was again seemingly in control of, being almost two seconds ahead of the pack, but Tufte showed why he was the 2004 Olympic Champion and powered through him with Synek in tow. The race finished with Olaf Tufte retaining his Olympic Champion status, followed by Synek, just ahead of Drysdale, who gave everything he had in the last few hundred meters and subsequently had to be lifted out of his boat onto a

looking toward London 2012 where he will only be 29, young by Men's Single



Archibald with COBRA supporters; brother Steven and William Wright

Sculls standards – three of the finalists at Beijing were over 30, including the champion, Tufte, 32, *"This is not the last you have seen of me. We will put together another four-year plan and I feel I can step up from here."*

Chambers final was on Sunday and featured current World Champions Great Britain, Canada, 2004 Olympic Champions Denmark, France, Poland and the Netherlands, any one of which could take the top spot. Denmark showed their class and took the early initiative, stamping their name on the Gold medal, leaving the others to fight it out for the minor medals. Canada held second place at half way, with Britain in third and France and Poland close behind. Poland put in their push in the third 500, powering their way from fifth to second, while Canada slipped behind the British crew, still in third. In the last quarter, Denmark continued to lead, while Poland held on to the silver medal position, and Great Britain let Canada and France slip through. On the finish line it was Denmark for Gold, Canada just beaten to Silver by Poland, and France and Great Britain (fifth) ahead of Holland. This was a disappointing result for the British Crew who were realistic Gold medal contenders after a successful 2007 season, but was part of a remarkable transformation in International Lightweight rowing in the UK, along with the Gold medal winning double of Zac Purchase and Mark Hunter – British lightweights had barely featured in the Olympics since it became a discipline in 1996. No doubt Chambers will carry on with the young squad to London 2012 where he will hopefully compete alongside Campbell.

Alex Humphrey



The GB four speak to BBC's John Inverdale before the regatta

ships last year to where we are now, it was some ride and I'm glad to have done it with these guys, they were great."

Saturday also saw the A-finals for the small boat categories - Campbell had achieved his main aim of reaching the start line of the Olympic Final and now had nothing to lose. He could now push

stretcher by the on-site medics – testament to how much effort it takes to win an Olympic medal. Campbell finished fifth overall, far better than any of the medical staff who repaired his knee two months earlier would have bet on. Afterward he told the BBC *"I feel I can hold my head high. I did my best and that is all you can ask."* He is already

2008 World Cup Series and Olympic Preparation

In an Olympic Games year, the World Cups are less about winning the yellow jersey and the series than gaining vital racing experience, getting every last second out of the boat and learning about the competition as everything can change in the months leading up to the Olympic Regatta.

For the two men rowing in British colours, Alan Campbell (GBR M1x) and Richard Chambers (GBR LM4-) they had at least qualified their boats for the Olympics at the 2007 World Championships at Munich. While this technically did not mean they themselves would necessarily be in it, over the winter training camps and selection process, both secured their spots at the Olympics. Alan in particular, proved again and again that he was by far the best single sculler in the UK at every test. Richard Archibald rowing in the Irish Lightweight coxless four (IRL LM4-) had agonisingly finished one place outside automatic qualification at Munich, and would therefore have to race at the



Irish lightweight four competing at Lucerne

weights were in the A final of the Light Fours. Chambers (bow), with his team mates James Lindsay-Fynn (2), Paul Mattick (3) and James Clarke (stroke), finished second behind China, managing to retake Germany who pushed through them at the 1500m marker, to consolidate their World Championship win from the previous season. Archibald (3), along with Eugene Coakley (bow), Gearoid Towey (2) and Paul Griffin (stroke), finished a respectable fifth, just behind fourth place France to prove that they were back to A-final standard after a disappointing 2007 season, and showing they were on the right track for Olympic qualification.

Lucerne was not as successful for the Coleraine boys, with Campbell just pushed out of the medals despite leading the first half of the race. He finished 0.4 seconds behind Karonen of Sweden in third, who in turn was behind Synek and Drysdale (New Zealand). In the Lightweight Fours, Chambers and Archibald finished a disappointing fifth and sixth respectively, despite the former being in second at the first timing marker. Notwithstanding the result, both crews were again demonstrated their A-final status, the only place you can win medals from in Beijing.

gery to remove the infection and a lengthy recovery including walking on crutches for three weeks. All this only six weeks before the games would seriously damage his chances to even get to the Beijing regatta, let alone compete for the medals.

At Poznan, the first week was the Olympic Qualification Regatta. Archibald had to finish in at least the silver medal position to secure his spot on the Beijing start line. In the final, despite an early charge from Spain, the German and Irish crews took gold and silver comfortably. This was a massive relief for the Irish crew who could finally book their flight to China and settle down to the final preparations for the Olympics. The second week of competition at Poznan was the third World Cup race where only Chambers was competing. In the final they were never on the pace and finished sixth, six seconds behind France in first.

After Poznan the three crews went off for their final training camps before heading off to China and the Shunyi Olympic Rowing Park less than two months later, where the last four years of hard work would be put to the test.

Alex Humphrey



Alan Campbell at Munich

Olympic qualification regatta, only eight weeks before the Games for one of the last two spots.

The first World Cup was also at Munich in May and all three oarsmen came to prove a point. In the final, Campbell, as usual, stormed out to a two second lead off the start and let Synek of the Czech Republic and Tufte of Norway fight for second in the middle of the race. In the end Campbell held off a charge from Cynek and finished in Gold medal position. Yet again, the two COBRA light-

Things were to get much worse for Campbell between Lucerne and Poznan, than a disappointing result. He picked up a virus which resulted in an infection in his knee. The only option was sur-



GB light four off the start at Munich

The Inst 2007-08

2008 was not only successful for the Inst Old Boys, it was also one of the best for the school in recent times, with medals at all levels, from the local regattas to national and international championships.

This year's club was similar to the last number of years, being made up of a small number of dedicated boys, so racing for the senior squad was mainly in small boats, particularly the J18 4x, which was now unbeaten in the North for three seasons.



Irish Champs Silver medal quad

The regatta season got off on the wrong foot for all the clubs in Ireland, especially for the schools and universities when the Irish Schools/Universities Championships at Castlewellan Lake had to be cancelled due to bad weather, as did Queen's Regatta the next day, however the boys made up for this a fortnight later at Portadown where they won four events. Jonathan Mitchell won the J18 1x, as did the J18 double, coxed four and quad. The junior squad also performed well, many of them racing for the first time, with the J15 quad and eight both losing out in the final to Belfast Inst and the J16 four and eight also racing the final - defiantly promising results for the future.

At Belfast Sprints the J18 quad completed their fourth season unbeaten, and also won the Senior quads event, in a final against local rivals Bann.

The domestic season culminated in the Irish Championships, as usual at Innis-

carra Lake, Cork, at which the junior double and quad was entered.

The first heat of the junior quads consisted of Carlow, CAI, Portora, St. Michaels and Galway, with Robert Hart, Johnny Mitchell, Michael McNaul and Jamie McBurney competing for Inst as usual. This was a comfortable win for CAI's quad by seven seconds over Carlow in which CAI's rate had reduced to 28 after the first 500m. This heat was a good victory for them as having not raced any southern crews at all this season they were unsure of how they would fair. Heat B was Skibbereen, Portadown, Coláiste Iognáid and Clonmel Presentation. This heat was the slower of the two with Skibbereen winning comfortably over Galway and Portadown.

The final came just before lunch with the leading crews thought to be Carlow, CAI and Skibbereen. The race got off to a good start for all crews, Carlow who were big contenders last year, stormed into the lead from the starting blocks with about a canvas on CAI in turn a Canvas over Skib. During 500m CAI pulled into the lead with Carlow dropping into 2nd and Skibbereen staying just back in 3rd. This was very unsettling for knowing spectators as to why Skib were behind in 3rd at this stage after their early promise. During 750m CAI pushed and pulled three quarters of a length up on Carlow who were now level with Skib who were closing down on them. At 1000m Skib pushed towards CAI who responded well and held them off. Carlow's early lead seemed to be their only strong input to challenge the title and they now dropped behind as the leading pace quickened. This was now a two-boat race with neither crew willing to pull one light stroke. Another push at 1500m saw CAI and Skib almost level with Inst just inches ahead. Coming into the last 200m they were still level, and on the line Skibbereen were ahead of the Inst boys who were seven seconds ahead of Carlow. Still it



Jonathan Mitchell (2nd left) and the Irish coxed four

was fine performance and a well deserved silver medal at the Champs for CAI. The final positions were 1. Skibbereen, 2. CAI, 3. Carlow, 4. Clonmel, 5. Galway, 6. Portadown.

The other race of the day was the double of Johnny Mitchell and Michael McNaul, who were eliminated in the heat after coming third with the top two boats to go through to the final, despite their time being quicker than the winners of the other heats.

Throughout the year the senior boys also took part in the Irish trials for the Coupe De La Jeunesse, and Home International championships, with Jonathan Mitchell and Michael McNaul both winning Irish jerseys (well all-in-ones!).

At the end of July Johnny Mitchell again travelled to Cork to compete in the Coupe De La Jeunesse for Ireland. This is effectively the European Junior-18 Championships, and Johnny had been selected to stroke the coxed four of himself, Eddie Mullarkey (Coláiste Iognáid), Thomas Little (Portora), David Power and cox Rory McCafferty (St Michaels).

Racing was over two days. On Saturday it was Spain, France, Italy, Great Britain and of course Ireland in the final. After the first 500 meters Ireland were unfortunately in last place despite rating 49 off the start. Their cox, however, knew they could do better and pushed them to second position by 1000 meters. In the final 500 they held on for dear life as Italy stormed from half a length down to half a canvas by the finish line. Great Britain came first with a time of 6.28.66, Ireland followed in a time of 6.32.58 and Italy with 6.33.02.

On Sunday the four knew they needed to have a faster start and this time were in 4th position by 500 - not much better! By the final 500 the home crowd went ballistic hoping to drive the four into a medal



Michael McNaul (stk) in the double-Silver Irish Home International 8+

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The long road to China - 2007, the Olympic Qualification year

The pre-Olympic year is critical within World Rowing. The majority of boats secure places at the World Championships prior to the Olympic Games, but as you will see, the CAI old boys had mixed fortunes. As ever, Alan Campbell was racing in the British single scull, Richard Chambers in the British lightweight four and Richard Archibald in the Irish lightweight four.

The first World Cup regatta of the season at Linz in Austria, saw Richard Chambers in the bronze medal winning boat, with Alan going one better and claiming the silver. The second regatta was in Amsterdam and the British lightweight four improved to claim the silver, with Alan losing out in a very close final finish to come 6th.

Henley Royal Regatta saw a number of CAIBC old boys attending, but pride of place goes to Alan Campbell of Tideway Scullers. Having been released from the British squad for the event, he was determined to repeat his performance of 2003 and get the Diamond Sculls trophy back. He progressed through the



World Champion Richard Chambers

rounds to meet double world champion, Diamond trophy holder and good friend Mahe Drysdale in the finals.

This was one of the best races in recent memory, and brought the crowds to their feet to cheer Lammy on. He got out of the blocks quickly and took the lead. With Mahe in his sights he was able to withstand the numerous pushes from the Kiwi. Alan held on through the enclosures to get his hands back on the trophy.

The third and final World Cup regatta took place in Lucerne and again saw medals for two old boys.

The British lightweight IV- stamped their authority on the field from the start, and with Richard Chambers calling the shots from the bow seat, held onto Gold. Alan Campbell looked to capitalise on his win at Henley and fought for every inch of the course in a very tight field. Mahe Drysdale stormed into the lead and held off Lammy's finish by less than 0.3s, to leave Alan with the silver medal.

The 2007 World Rowing Championships were held in Munich, Germany with three COBRA members competing.

Alan progressed quickly through the heats and semi-finals to claim his place in the final. The final saw the best scullers in the world fight it out for the medals with Alan (GB), Drysdale (NZ),

Synek (CZE) and Tufte (NOR) fighting it out for the top 3 places. The positions changed often throughout the race with Alan losing out on a medal in the final stages of the race. Drysdale retained his title as World Champion, with Synek getting the silver and Tufte the bronze, leaving Alan in fourth ahead of Hacker (GER) in fifth and Karonen (SWE) in 6th.

The lightweight IV- semi-finals saw the COBRA clash with Richard Chambers in the British crew and COBRA captain Richard Archibald in the Irish crew fighting for the 3 qualifying places. The British crew saw off stiff competition to win the semi-final with the Irish crew only 4 seconds behind missing out on qualifying for the A final.

The B finals saw 6 crews, including the Irish, fighting out for the 5 Olympic qualifying positions. The Irish crew started well, but were piped at the post to lose out on qualifying for Beijing 2008. The crew has one more chance in the World Cup at Poznan this year to claim one of the 2 remaining Olympic qualification positions.



Campbell and Drysdale at the World Championships



Ireland at Linz World Cup

The lightweight IV- A final was a brilliant race to watch with little separating the crews throughout the race. The British crew with Richard Chambers were in the thick of it from the start but left it late (the last 250m!) to edge out in front. None of the other crews could deal with the British sprint, and the British crew won the gold, making our own Richard Chambers a World Champion in 2007.

William Wright

'COBRA Day' 2007



Clark Black unveils the 'Killowen'

The day began down by the river Bann with the annual Old Boy verses School Boy race between COBRA and CAIBC. The toss of the coin for race stations was done under the watchful eye of CAIBC head coach and COBRA Patron Bobbie Platt MBE. COBRA Captain Richard Archibald won the toss and chose the Co. Londonderry station for his crew.

The race was held in good conditions and as is becoming the norm, the BBC had sent a camera crew to cover the race. In its sixth year since the traditional old boy vs. schoolboy race was restarted by COBRA, the course from the Cutts beside the Salmon Leap to Bann Rowing Club Boat House was the scene for a good battle.

Race umpire and World Champion Richard Chambers lined up and started the two crews, with the lighter schoolboys storming out to a half length lead, which they held round the first bend. The slower starting COBRA VIII+ began to come to term with the school

VIII+ and pulled in front as both crews fought a tough battle through the New Bridge. The COBRA crew eased slowly ahead of the spirited schoolboys to win by three lengths in a time of 5:54.

After the race there was a naming ceremony for four new rowing boats. The purchase was organised and funded by COBRA, with assistance from the Coleraine Old Boys Association and the Friends of Coleraine Inst. This substantial investment for a relatively young association represents COBRA's continued commitment to support CAIBC in any way it can.

Ryan Dinsmore, captain of CAIBC began events by thanking COBRA, the old boys, the parents and all supporters of CAIBC for all their help to the club. Richard Archibald, captain of COBRA thanked Ryan and introduced the boat naming ceremony.

Clarke Black, who has devoted many years of support to the school club named the coxed four/quad 'Killowen', while Dr Barry and Mrs Jenny Mitchell, who organised the successful Floral Art demonstration fund raiser named the double 'Barmouth'. Reigning World Champion in the GB Lightweight IV-, Richard Chambers named the lightweight single 'Somerset', while fellow GB squad and COBRA member Alan Campbell, named the heavyweight single 'Mountsandel'.

In the evening it was time for the COBRA AGM at the Royal Court Hotel. Reports were given on the progress of

both CAIBC and COBRA over the last year, which was both very busy and very successful for COBRA. The AGM was followed by the annual dinner where everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable night.

After the dinner, our Patron Bobby Platt MBE introduced the after dinner speaker, Richard Chambers. After the sustained round of applause for his stunning accomplishments in 2007, Richard gave us a brief overview of his year, and a taste of what life is like in the GB squad. Everyone enjoyed the interesting insight into life in the GB camp, and some were even seen to be taking notes.



The Old Boys enjoyed Richard Chambers' after dinner speech

Afterwards, everyone took the opportunity to catch up with old friends and make some new acquaintances, with everyone agreeing it was a really entertaining evening.

William Wright

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position. It worked with Ireland increasing their rate to 44. Spain's half length and Italy's one length leads were soon gone, with Italy and Ireland again locked in a battle for second. At the finish the Italians cheered only to find out to their dismay that the photo finish showed Ireland ahead by one tenth of a second. These two silvers helped Ireland achieve a record 4th team ranking overall. Also from Coleraine was Bann's Peter Chambers, in the double with Peter Hanily. They came 3rd on Saturday but stormed out on Sunday into Gold medal position.

The next weekend was the Home International Championships, an International regatta between the four home countries or Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales. This year the race was being held in Cardiff Bay in Wales and Michael McNaull was selected to row in the men's

sweep squad. This squad travelled to Galway for an intensive training camp, at which by the end of Michael was selected to stroke both the eight and the coxed four with three oarsmen from The Bish in Galway, two from Galway Rowing Club, and one each from Cork and Methody.

The day of racing brought perfect rowing conditions on the bay for which the coxed four had a nervous three and a half hour wait. Eventually they were lined up at the start against the other nations. With a quick start from Ireland and a crab from the English crew, it left the Irish four in second place, which they held until the finish line behind Scotland by three quarters of a length.

After another two hour wait the boys launched for the eights race, which was the blue ribbon event of the day. England was the favourite to win this event and as

expected had the fastest start out of the four crews, leading the field at the 500m mark, with Wales half a length behind and Scotland a further quarter behind that, and Ireland in last. By half way Ireland were still battling against Scotland for the bronze medal position, while Wales had taken England to now lead the race. Coming into the last 500 meters the Irish Cox called for the crew to "Wind". At this point the Irish VIII up the rate to 48 strokes per minute and left the Scottish behind closing in on the fight between England and Wales. In the last 100m, Ireland had drawn level with the strong English crew. With an extra push for the finish line, the Irish 8 took the silver medal position just being piped by Wales who took gold.

Alex Humphrey with contributions from Peri Stynes, Johnny Mitchell and Michael McNaull

Easter Table Quiz

Wednesday the 19th March was the date for the fifth annual COBRA table quiz. This was the first event for the newly elected Fundraising Committee lead tirelessly by acting chairman Jason Taggart and its success can be put down to their personal commitment to COBRA's mission statement of "Supporting Coleraine Inst oarsmen, past, present and future".

Jason Taggart acted as quizmaster, overseeing the evening's activities and ensured that all those who attended had an enjoyable and entertaining evening. It was particularly pleasing for the organisers to see over 70 people in attendance, including school boys with their

friends and families, old boys with their friends and families, representatives of the school as well as members of Bann Rowing Club. Twelve tables battled it out, with the team 'Badger Blaney' pulling out to an early lead to finally win with an impressive 95.5 points. Congratulations go to Graham Campbell, Philip Rowan, Stuart Armstrong and Jonathan Dunlop for their fine performance.

Andrew Wright



Over 70 people attended the annual table quiz

CAIBC branch out into Floral Art



Dr. Mitchell introduces James Burnside

On Tuesday 9th October C.A.I. hosted a floral art demonstration as an opportunity for raising money for the rowing club at the school. The idea had been very kindly suggested

months ago by Dr. and Mrs. Barry Mitchell, who, with the C.O.B.R.A. fund raising committee's go-ahead, booked the National Floral Art Demonstrator, James Burnside for the evening. Inst's headmaster, Dr. Carruthers, welcomed the large crowd of parents, grand-parents, friends and fellow floral art enthusiasts. James Burnside didn't disappoint and presented a magnificent range of displays incorporating the rowing theme, flowers for celebration, flora and fauna and a more modern approach with a Rennie Mackintosh piece, all of which really

captured the imagination and managed to really impress.

After an interval for supper and the selling of much sought after raffle tickets for each of the displays, Richard Archibald thanked all those involved in organizing the demonstration. Many people of all ages attended this marvellous exhibition and thought the night was a great success. The rowing club and COBRA would like to thank all those people who supported the event in various ways. Without their support the night would not have been such a resounding success.

Robert Hart - CAIBC vice-captain

For more information on COBRA or rowing past or present at CAI, visit the website at www.cobrarowing.co.uk or contact William Wright:

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