

UKSRL Presidents Report by Chris Lane February 2019

Hi All.

So we've got through another year with some great racing and surprisingly good weather at the events bar one.

The season started with a scorching weekend in June away in Wales which brought some waves and some good racing over the two days.

As ever our Welsh friends played on a great event. Freshwater West offers great racing conditions and the size of the beach enables

safe racing. The first event also saw the debut in competition of the surfboat hull Peter Gaisford has been working very hard on.

Producing competitive hulls in this country is the key to growing our sport and its a fantastic gesture for Peter to have devoted so much

time and effort. I know the boat has progressed throughout the year and we are looking forward to seeing how we can take this opportunity forward.

The next event was back in Cornwall in July. Again , the sun was out and we again had some great racing across the mens & ladies crews.

We intended to see the racing season out with finale one off event at Saunton Sands, but this sadly was cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.

Also in the calendar last year UKSRL had teams visiting Germany for their open series with as usual great success and helping to keep the profile

of the UKSRL in Europe..even as our government does exactly the opposite !!

So all in all the season did have some good racing and the events were generally well run but as in the last few seasons our numbers are not what we would

really expect. Its something that needs seriously looking at. We have the boats in the uk now, its a case of motivating the clubs and rowers to compete at the events

that are laid on. With this in mind we have seen a welcome return to the SLS events and thank Nigel Bowden for his efforts in making this happen.

We are hoping that this will encourage some of the clubs that have boats to re engage with the sport as there will be points at stake.

Full dates will be decided at the AGM with all the info we have .

There is also a potential RedBull event later in the year. We are working hard to make this happen. Watch this space. Apologies from the committee for the missed prize giving to the ladies & mens teams. We are putting things in place so this wont happen again.

Lastly I would like to thank all the committee for their hard work the past year. Especially Dan Berriman who is stepping down this year , Mike Lord for the sorting the Welsh events , Louise Fielden our Chair and a huge thank you to Tess Theobald who has really pushed the social evening rowing scene throughout the year with the help of the Aussie Stu ! and the behind the scenes with the general day to day running of the league. Sorry if Ive missed any one out .

We need your help to make the events happen . And the league needs more members so please if you can volunteer for any empty posts or filled ones ! and any ideas are welcome
Its your league .. lets not loose it !!

Thank you ...