## Esther Tan for RowSab\*!





ME NOT KNOWING WHAT TO DO DURING A CAPSIZE! A FUNNY MEMORY BUT ALSO A LESSON AND CALL TO ACTION

## **ABOUT ME!**

I learned to row at Jesus College Boat Club in 2021. I took to it like a duck to an oil spill—I was probably the least natural rower anyone had ever seen! Enjoying the novelty of being out on a river before sun up—the concept of doing a water sport completely foreign to me, having grown up in China and Malaysia—I got hooked very quickly, and ended up rowing in our W2 for Summer VIIIs that year!

I was Women's VC of JCBC for the 2022-3 academic year, learned to cox, and proceeded to cox the W1 boat that dropped to div 2 in Torpids (blades got tangled up in bunglines...) as well as the M2 that went -5 in Summer VIIIs (featuring our director of accommodation and our Principal in the crew, I might add). I trained with OUWLRC in its last iteration before the merger that year, coxed a crew at BUCS, and helped out with Dev Squad (and got to transport sandwiches and pour Pimms at HRR). This was my first taste of rowing outside the College environment, but made me appreciate just how chaotic Bumps is as a format and enthusiastic about how to make it even better.

I was JCBC Secretary in 2023-4, gained some experience writing and disseminating meeting minutes, coxed our W1 (and found out how annoying BROE2 could be), and am now Captain of Coxes, learning how to explain coxing to keen would-be novices who haven't been in a boat before.

Aside from JCBC and OUWL, I have also coxed at Marlow Rowing Club, Sons of the Thames (for which I now coach part-time!), Norwich Rowing Club, and occasionally at CORC (Quintin Head in 2024, a very eventful race but great experience).

## **ROWSAB GOALS**

- Run safe and competitive Bumps campaigns!
- Swim tests and more swim tests; retention of the late sessions for late joiners (more rowing!)
- Be a point of communication between College Boat Clubs and all other river users, as well as with Head of Sport and Physical Activity, Director of Rowing and Sports Safety Officer, and British Rowing Regional Safety Advisor
- Administering OURCs activities, including reviewing OURCs constitutions and rules. Maintaining a system for logging use or loan of equipment. Checking flag when needed.
- Continue to be on-hand for committees and OURCs, fulfil my duties effectively
- Continue OH's office hours for increased Captains-RowSab and rowers/coxes-OURCs communication—making College rowing as open and its management as transparent as possible. I will be as responsive on email and other modes of communication (ex. Messenger) as much as possible (chronically online for the good of College rowing)
- Safety: as CoC and having been Women's VC I have been responsible for the safe conduct of all crews and coxes I have sent out. Having been involved in a capsize myself, I am passionate about safe rowing and making sure everyone knows what to do in an incident. Looking into making a widely-available "cheat sheet" for dealing with unsafe scenarios like capsizing of larger boats
- · Continuing OH and SM's work in centralised lifejacket servicing
- Publicising development opportunities for keen rowers and coxes (re: Dr Rachel Quarrell's email about Twickenham RC looking for more keen coxes) and widening participation in adaptive rowing





I MOONLIGHT AS FACE PAINT ARTIST



I <3 ROWING