



Twas the 60th year of reigning as our Queen that the pageant celebrations at Henley on the great River Thames took place.

We rowed down to the Temple Island start in good time and applied the crew skills for a right royal 'Molly'. Our pageant red shirts with their royal embroidery were fitting royalty - in all respects!

We led about 30 rowing boats and with Colin

showing his beautifully made skiff just to our stern. The steamship 'Alaska' concluded the fleet but no kettle on offer!



The crew rowed with the minute time-gap as the measure between the rowers and the fleet vessels. The cheers along the course were largest at Phyllis Court



where we were recognised and applauded merrily. At Caroline's Rachel was on the balcony and did a great wave with her guests.



After the bridge - with a slight mast flagpole reduction to save the flag - and great cheers from some who then walked to the Meadow, we did a salute good enough for the Lord Lieutenant, John Howell MP and of course the Mayor in his finery.

Round the island and back up to Phyllis court seemed a tough extra when others just stopped but we followed the rules and passed the Angel for a second time then onwards to find the nominated rowers mooring.

The rowers started down at Temple Island at the rear of the fleet so a long walk to get to us and low and behold the final mooring was also at the farthest section of the nominated pageant end - another long walk but nearest to the Museum so useful for the comfort break!

Then the picnic was really needed. But the tables and chairs were in Mill Lane! Hampers on board so at least some sustenance was available until the furniture arrived. We had a picnic fit for the Queen so we wished her well! Everyone had made great food and we had enough to welcome those from the Angel who walked to meet us. The Mayor in his finery came along to say hello and a great time was had by all! Well done to Madeleine and Paul and Robin for providing the core parts of organisation as well as transport of essentials.



Well done to all the crew for a high standard of rowing and exemplary saluting! Thanks to Henley for organising a great flotilla and Pageant and of course congrats to the Queen for reigning so well for so long!

Speaking of reign congrats also to the weather for a splendid warm summers day to start June off!

Hooray!Hooray!Hooray!

