

Women's Eights Head of the River Race

## Press Release



**WEHoRR celebrate 70<sup>th</sup> Race with maximum entries 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row.**

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For the second year the Women's Head received more than 300 entries, this year the Race which is arguably the largest female rowing race in the world celebrates its 70<sup>th</sup> race.

Guin Batten the chair of the organising committee comments "Women's rowing in the UK is in rude health because crews want to just get out there and race. While our juniors, U23 and senior teams are making an impact on the world stage, the foundation rests in the clubs, schools and universities who are doing an outstanding job at teaching people to row."

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm, 2,700 women (and a few male coxes) will be led off by Leander Club, which has double Olympic medallist Debbie Flood on board. The race favourites will start amongst the new starters, it is Imperial College composite and has a flush of GB Team members in its line up including triple Olympic silver medallist Katherine Grainger.

Personnel from the women's eight that won the U23 world championships last year are spread across a mixture of crews and their impact is likely to be felt in a shift in the order of the handful of crews that make up the contenders.

Former winners Marlow RC have Paralympian Champion Naomi Riches onboard.

Award winning coach Richard Bolton has entered a Great Britain Junior Squad again this year, picking out the best juniors in the country. This is an important year for young rowers hoping to make the Youth Olympic Games, there are only two rowing places and this is a chance for some of the athletes to shine.

The University pennant is traditionally a match between Durham University, University of London (UL), Oxford and Cambridge. With UL failing to get an entry Durham must be favourites.

Only ten years ago Vesta RC was a minnow of a club amazingly this year it completes its transformation into a big player by entering the most number of crews (6), into the Race. This is some way off Thames Rowing Clubs record entry of 12 crews in 2001. Thames is the most successful club in the history of the Women's Head but their 5 crews are unlikely to be threatening the order in what is their 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year.

Year on year the veteran pennant is receiving more entries, last year Women's Head introduced the new long distance handicapping ratios, these will be used again this year and the field is wide open. Previous winners Barnes Bridge Ladies remain favourite, while the oldest crew is a veteran E (217) and has perennial competitor Pauline Rayner onboard.

**For the website and past results visit [www.wehorr.org](http://www.wehorr.org)**

**For more information please contact press officer: 07710 457 442**

**Official Race photographer for 2010 Jet Photographic <http://www.jetphotographic.com/>**

# Detail WEHoRR 2010

200 returners & 100 new crews

## Crews to watch in BOLD

Elite

### 1-Leander Club 2<sup>nd</sup> last year Favourite for Club pennant)

- B JO COOK
- 2 DEBBIE FLOOD
- 3 KIRSTY MYLES
- 4 LOUISA REEVE
- 5 FRANCES HOUGHTON
- 6 KATIE GREVES
- 7 JACQUELINE ROUND
- S RACHAEL JEFFERIES
- Cox ZOE DE TOLEDO

8- Wallingford RC A

#### New Starters

201- Canford / Glasgow Academy / Gloucester / Latymer / Nottingham / Runcorn / Stratford (Jnr Squad – sorry can't give out names) Coach Richard Bolton  
GB Rowing

### 205- Gloucester / Imperial College / Marlow / Reading University / Thames / UL

- B NATASHA PAGE (READING UNIV)
- 2 BETH RODFORD (GLOUCESTER RC)
- 3 ALISON KNOWLES (THAMES RC)
- 4 JESSICA EDDIE (UNIV OF LONDON WBC)
- 5 KATHERINE GRAINGER (MARLOW RC)
- 6 ROSAMUND BRADBURY (IMPERIAL COLL)
- 7 LEONORA KENNEDY (IMPERIAL COLL)
- S MELANIE WILSON (IMPERIAL COLL)
- Cox CAROLINE O'CONNOR (OXFORD BROOKS)

212- Worcester / Worcester University

Senior

### 2- Nottingham RC A (favourite for provincial club pennant)

3- Tideway Scullers School A  
4- Clyde / Edinburgh University / Glasgow / Glasgow University

### 5- Durham University BC A (favourite University Pennant)

#### 7- Osiris BC A

10- Molesey BC A  
18- Upper Thames RC A (Ali Gill Olympian 1988, 1992 & 1996)

Intermediate 1 Crews to watch

### 13 Thames RC A

### 14- Mortlake Anglian & Alpha BC A

16- Reading University BC A

17- Wallingford RC

19- City of Cambridge RC A

45 Reading RC A

New starters

214- Imperial College / Sport Imperial

215- Osiris BC B

Intermediate 2 - Crews to watch

9 - Agecroft RC A

15 - Cambridge University WBC

Vets 11

### 35- Barnes Bridge Ladies RC A 48<sup>th</sup> in 2009 (vet winners last year) Vet B

69- Upper Thames RC C Vet C

102- Siegburger RV 1910 eV Vet C

185- Tideway Scullers School B Vet D

New starters

### 216 -Agecroft / Bedford / City of Sheffield / Henley / Medway Towns / Molesey / Star / Walbrook Vet D (UK Gold)

217- Barnes Bridge Ladies / Burway / Fredensborg / Maidenhead / Muelheim (Ruhr) / Sons of the Thames / Thames / Tideway Scullers Vet E (Oldest boat includes Pauline Rayner Chair of Thames RC)

218- Broxbourne RC B Vet C

219- Cantabrigian / Leicester / Peterborough City / Rob Roy Vet C

220- CC Lazio Vet C

221- Lea RC B Vet C

Notable crews not racing

ULWBC (composite only) in 2009 they came 6<sup>th</sup>

Most number of crews

#### Clubs:

Vesta – 6 crews

TRC 5 (they have slipped a long way since 2001 when they had 12 crews) 2010 is their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year

#### Universities:

Manchester University 4 crews

University of Birmingham 4 crews

Number of entries broken down by classification

elite	26	9%
elite (no overseas crews)	5	2%
Senior	7	2%
Intermediate 1	13	4%
Intermediate 2	44	15%
Intermediate 3	120	40%
Novice all	66	22%
Novice academic	49	16%
Novice club	17	6%
overseas	21	7%
Jnr/school	13	4%
Univ	62	21%
Univ & academic	111	37%
Club	105	35%
Provincial Club	57	19%