

# THE WINGFIELD SCULLS

## BRITISH AMATEUR SCULLING CHAMPIONSHIP AND CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE THAMES

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### 2008 Championships

	Mile Post	Hammersmith Bridge	Chiswick Steps	Barnes Bridge	Finish
Sophie Hosking (LRC)	4.56	8.42	13.40	18.22	22.05
Katie Greves (LC)	5.09	8.58	13.53	18.37	22.21
Tina Stiller (LC)	5.02	8.50	13.54	18.40	22.27
Umpire Guy Pooley (1991-92 Champion)					
Aligner Bob Downie (LRC)					

It was evident from the very first stroke that Paul Reedy had prepared Sophie Hosking well for the Championship. She shot into the lead and quickly came across to take Stiller's water. Reedy worked hard steering his charge to secure her a good lead by Hammersmith. Whist Stiller clung on gamely to challenge it was evident that Leander had not prepared its scullers for the Tideway challenge. Greves began to scull better after Hammersmith and drew away from Stiller in perfect conditions beyond Chiswick Pier.

Hosking was a worthy Champion rising to the Tideway challenge, producing a tough no nonsense performance. She went one better than her father second in 1979. There is just room on the LRC honours board of Wingfield winners to fit Hosking's name under David Sturge, their last winner. This race was exactly eighty years on from the first WARA Championship won by Margaret Barff by a length from Amy Gentry in 26.52.

Unfortunately both Ro Bradbury and Ruth Walczak withdrew sick.

	Mile Post	Hammersmith Bridge	Chiswick Steps	Barnes Bridge	Finish
Mahe Drysdale (TSS)	4.40	8.23	12.53	17.40	21.14
George Whittaker (IC)	4.43	8.28	12.59	17.47	21.22
Adam Freeman-Pask (IC)	4.46	8.31	13.12	17.56	21.34
Richard Ockendon (Molesey)	4.48	8.34	13.27	18.02	21.42
Simon Hislop (IC)	4.49	8.37	13.36	18.14	21.52
Umpire Guy Pooley (1991-92 Champion)					
Aligner Phil Rowley (TSS)					

The 168<sup>th</sup> race for Henry C Wingfield's silver sculls and the Championship of the Thames saw the winners of the Scullers Head, Pairs Head and Fours Head line up alongside each other. After last year's withdrawals there was no shortage of challengers for the Championship. The reigning Champion didn't have things his own way. Led at first by Freeman-Pask it was Whittaker who emerged as the most stubborn pursuer. The field spread out but never lost touch with each other. Only when Whittaker steered a little tight after St Pauls did the Olympic medalist get a slight breathing space. It was a good contest across the whole field with no one losing touch with the man in front. With each sculler steered from a launch and the PLA as well it was quite a flotilla that followed the race.

Tideway Scullers laid on an excellent spread of food and there was a good throng of helpers and supporters for the presentation by Elise Laverick in their clubroom.

Record times		
Mile post	4.52	E.Laverick 2007
Hammersmith	8.39	E.Laverick 2007
Chiswick Steps	13.30	E.Laverick 2007
Barnes Bridge	18.11	E.Laverick 2007
Finish	21.53	E.Laverick 2007

Record times		
Mile post	4.12	M.W.Wells 2005
Hammersmith	7.32	M.W.Wells 2005
Chiswick Steps	12.21	R.Henderson 1990
Barnes Bridge	16.45	I.J.Lawson 2003
Finish	19.58	P.M.Haining 1994