

# THE WINGFIELD SCULLS

## BRITISH AMATEUR SCULLING CHAMPIONSHIP AND CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE THAMES

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### 2009 Championships

	Mile Post	Hammersmith Bridge	Chiswick Steps	Barnes Bridge	Finish
Sophie Hosking (LRC)	4.59	8.48	14.06	19.03	23.05
Jessica Eddie (ULWBC)	5.10	9.07	14.28	19.28	23.34
Umpire Ian Lawson (2001-3 Champion)					
Aligner Steve O'Connor (LRC)					

Sophie Hosking wore a poppy on her racing all-in-one and attacked the defence of her title without any thought of taking prisoners. She shot off over 40 and over the top of the chop, leaving Jess Eddie bouncing. Only after the mile post did Eddie find a better rhythm and start to scull more strongly but by then Hosking was gone. Her father shouted from Hammersmith to go for the record but that was never on offer on such an awkward day. The wash from two PLA work boats did not help. Paul Reedy's careful preparation was evident again so London RC have another Champion to add to their honours board.

	Mile Post	Hammersmith Bridge	Chiswick Steps	Barnes Bridge	Finish
Alan Campbell (TSS)	4.32	7.58	12.37	16.49	20.27
Mahe Drysdale (TSS)	4.40	8.07	12.46	16.57	20.37
Graeme Coleman (Notts & Union)	4.44	8.20	13.12	17.54	21.45
Umpire Ian Lawson (2001-3 Champion)					
Aligner Tom Gale (TSS)					

We have had to wait a while for this show down between the World's two fastest scullers and Alan admitted afterwards he was happy to have waited three years. The race may not have looked that close but the two athletes pushed themselves extremely hard over the whole course. Graeme Coleman bettered most of last year's times and led the World Champion until the water flattened. As in the women's race it was the start that counted and Alan gritted his teeth and battered through the waves while Mahe wallowed on Middlesex. Only up the Eyot did Alan falter but never below 30 while Mahe was never above 30 he held the distance he had gained by the mile to the finish. In the conditions four seconds outside the Barnes record was exceptional.

Tideway Scullers laid on an excellent spread of food as did Ruth Hatton in the launch, the press were out in strength for the showdown and were well rewarded.

The secretary took the opportunity to announce the date of next year's race, 10<sup>th</sup> August 2010, returning to the date of Henry Wingfield's birthday for the 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The chief coaches have agreed this date and we hope it will form part of London's build up to 2012. A Champions' dinner will be held after the race. The PLA has stated that a summer date will require a river closure which will cost £3,000, which we will need to raise before then.

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