

# THE UNIVERSITY CROSS-COUNTRY RACES 2023

## OXFORD UNIVERSITY CROSS-COUNTRY CLUB



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## CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY HARE AND HOUNDS



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From Thames Hare and Hounds' Headquarters,  
Memorial Playing Fields, Roehampton Vale  
on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December

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### ORDER OF EVENTS

1:00 p.m.	31 <sup>st</sup> Old Blues' Race (Mob Match – all alumni welcome)	4 miles
2:00 p.m.	47 <sup>th</sup> Ladies' Race (Eight-a-side, six-to-score)	4 miles
2:45 p.m.	132 <sup>nd</sup> Gentlemen's Race (Eight-a-side, six-to-score)	7½ miles

### STARTERS

Ladies' Race: Helene Greenwood (University & Lucy Cavendish)  
O.U.C.C.C. 2015-18 & C.U.H. & H 2019-22

Gentlemen's Race: Jamie Parkinson (Somerville & Jesus)  
O.U.C.C.C. 2014-18 & race winner 2017 & 2018

England Athletics Event Licence Number: CC2023/0981

*www.varsityxc.run*





## WELCOME

Welcome to the 132<sup>nd</sup> Gentlemen's and 47<sup>th</sup> Ladies' University Cross-Country Races. Thames Hare and Hounds is privileged to be hosting them once again to continue a tradition that dates back to 1896. We hope you enjoy the afternoon's sport and what should be two exciting races.

The ladies' race will be started by **Helene Greenwood**, who is one of a select group who have competed for both sides. She ran for Oxford in 2015 and 2016, being part of the team that broke a four-year Cambridge winning streak in the latter year. She then moved to Cambridge and ran for them in 2019, 2021 and 2022. Her best finish was ninth in 2016.

The gentlemen's race will be started by **Jamie Parkinson**. Jamie ran for Oxford from 2014 to 2018 and was the individual victor in his last two years, in both cases prevailing following close battles at the front. On team matters, he was victorious in four of his five appearances, 2016 being the exception.

The teams this afternoon will be wearing the following colours and numbers:

Cambridge Ladies	White vest and white shorts	1 – 8 (reserves 9 & 10)
Oxford Ladies	White vest and dark blue shorts	11 – 18 (reserves 19 & 20)
Cambridge Gentlemen	White vest and white shorts	21 – 28 (reserves 29 & 30)
Oxford Gentlemen	White vest and dark blue shorts	31 – 38 (reserves 39 & 40)

## ENGLAND ATHLETICS LICENCE

Today's races have been licensed by England Athletics (**Licence Number: CC2023/0981**). The event officials are as follows:

Referee:	Richard Weston Thames Hare & Hounds
Race Director:	Simon Molden Hon. Secretary, Thames Hare & Hounds
Clerk of the Course:	Andrew Weir President, Thames Hare & Hounds
Medical Officer:	Dr. Andrew McLeod Hon. Medical Officer, Thames Hare & Hounds
Chief Pioneer:	Michael Farmery, Thames Hare & Hounds
Recorders, Timekeepers & Pioneers:	Members of Thames Hare & Hounds

Website: [www.varsityxc.run](http://www.varsityxc.run)

## CAMBRIDGE LADIES

1. **Phoebe Barker** *(Sevenoaks School & Robinson)*  
(2022 – 2<sup>nd</sup>; 2019 – 4<sup>th</sup>; 2018 – 6<sup>th</sup>)

Phoebe Barker is one of several very experienced runners in the Cambridge team. She has produced a number of noteworthy performances this season, including a strong leg for her club at the National 4-stage Road Relays, 12<sup>th</sup> place in the Cross Internacional de Itálica in Spain and 13<sup>th</sup> in the Liverpool Cross-Challenge. Having finished second last year, she looks in line for a similar finish today.

2. **Poppy Craig-McFeely** *(Putney High School & Robinson)*  
(2022 – 6<sup>th</sup>)

Poppy Craig-McFeely produced a strong run 12 months ago as a fresher. Since then, she has raced fairly sparingly; however, sixth place in Cambridge's Invitational Cross-Country in October secured her place in the Light Blue team again this year.

3. **Milly Dickinson** (Captain) *(Brighton, Hove & Sussex 6<sup>th</sup> Form College & Caius)*  
(2021 – 10<sup>th</sup>; 2022 – Cheetahs, 5<sup>th</sup>)

Having been a very last-minute replacement in 2021, captain Milly Dickinson dropped down to the Cambridge second team last season. She has bounced back in the Blues team this season off the back of eighth place in Cambridge's Invitational Cross-Country Race and fourth in Cuppers.

4. **Maia Hardman** *(Lewes Old Grammar School & Selwyn)*  
(2022 – 11<sup>th</sup>; 2021 – 13<sup>th</sup>)

Last season's successful captain, Maia Hardman is making her third appearance. Having not raced during the first half of the year, she has returned to competition and secured her place off the back of a strong run in the South of England Road Relays, fifth in Cambridge's Invitational Cross-Country Race and third in Cuppers.

5. **Lilian Lewis** *(Ulverston Victoria High School & St. Catharine's)*  
(2022 – Cheetahs, 4<sup>th</sup>)

Lilian Lewis has moved up to the Blues team from the Cheetahs, where 12 months ago she was part of the team that comprehensively beat their Oxford counterparts. She finished 11<sup>th</sup> in Cambridge's Invitational Cross-Country Race, but then progressed strongly to finish fifth in Cuppers and secure her place for today's race.

6. **Louise Shanahan** *(University College, Cork & Trinity)*  
(2022 – 5<sup>th</sup>; 2021 – 6<sup>th</sup>; 2019 – 14<sup>th</sup>)

Louise Shanahan is making her fourth appearance today and forms part of the experienced top end of the Cambridge team. During the summer, she again competed for Ireland in the 800m at the World Athletics Championships. This autumn, she has not raced quite so much; however, victory in Cambridge's Invitational Cross-Country and an excellent fourth on her leg at the National Cross-Country Relays indicate that she should again be involved towards the front.

7. **Holly Sprosen** *(University of Auckland & Christ's)*  
(2023 – Cheetahs, 7<sup>th</sup>)

New Zealander Holly Sprosen is a late addition to the Cambridge team following the withdrawal of 2022 winner Niamh Bridson Hubbard (Magdalene) due to European selection. She arrived at Cambridge this autumn and opened with 13<sup>th</sup> in their Invitational Cross-Country. She followed this up with ninth in Cuppers, which gained her selection for the Cheetahs, for whom she was their first runner home last weekend.

8. **Beatrice Wood** *(South Wilts Grammar School & Lucy Cavendish)*

Bea Wood arrived at Cambridge last year bringing with her an impressive school pedigree. As a 14-year old in 2018, she became the first under-15 girl ever to dip under 17 minutes for parkrun. Since then, she has won a host of junior honours, including victory in the under 20 National Cross-Country in February. This autumn, she came second in Cambridge's Invitational Cross-Country Race and won Cuppers and she should be one of the Light Blues' top finishers today.

**Reserves:**

9. Ella Colbourn *(St Aidan's C of E High School, Harrogate & Jesus)*  
(2023 – Cheetahs, 8<sup>th</sup>)

10. Rosie Vallance *(Durham University and Peterhouse)*  
(2023 – Cheetahs, 11<sup>th</sup>)

## OXFORD LADIES

11. **Elizabeth Apsley** *(St. Hilda's)*  
(2022 – 8<sup>th</sup>; 2019 – 9<sup>th</sup>; 2017 – 9<sup>th</sup>; 2016 – 4<sup>th</sup>; 2015 – 4<sup>th</sup>; 2018 – Cheetahs, 4<sup>th</sup>)  
Elizabeth Apsley is one of three former Light Blues in the Oxford side who also happen to be members of Thames. She has been in good form this autumn, finishing sixth in the first round of the Surrey League Division 1 and producing strong legs at both the Southern and National Road Relays. As the most experienced member of the Oxford octet, she should be one of their top scorers.
  
12. **Naomi Kingston** *(Queen's)*  
Naomi Kingston is a postgraduate and newcomer to Oxford this season. She finished fifth in Cuppers in October and followed this up with a strong run at the Gwent League to finish seventh and secure her place in the team for today's race.
  
13. **Madeline McDonald** *(Linacre)*  
Canadian Madeline McDonald is the second newcomer to the Dark Blue ranks this season. In her two races this autumn, she finished seventh in Cuppers and then tenth in the Gwent League. She should be amongst the Dark Blue scorers today.
  
14. **Lauren Major** *(Merton)*  
(2022 – 7<sup>th</sup>; 2021 – 8<sup>th</sup>; 2018 – 7<sup>th</sup>; 2021 – Turtles, 2013 – C.U. Cheetahs, 5<sup>th</sup>)  
Lauren Major is another experience ex-Light Blue in the Oxford ranks. She opened her cross-country season with eighth place for Thames in the first round of the Surrey League Division 1. She followed this up two weeks later with victory in Cuppers and completed her preparations with seventh place in the second Surrey League Division 1 race in November. She should feature amongst Oxford's top scorers.
  
15. **Beth Rawlinson** *(St. Hugh's)*  
Beth Rawlinson is the third of five newcomers in the Oxford team. Earlier in the year, she finished 23<sup>rd</sup> in the under 20 National Cross-Country and 45<sup>th</sup> in the English Schools' Cross-Country. Transferring to Oxford, she made an immediate mark by finishing third in Cuppers. She should be amongst the Oxford scorers in what should be the first of a number of appearances in the race.

16. **Jemima Ridley** *(Lady Margaret Hall)*

Jemima Ridley is the second undergraduate fresher for the Dark Blues. She finished just behind Beth Rawlinson in Cuppers and followed this up in November with a strong run at the National Cross-Country Relays. Like Rawlinson, she could be a mainstay of the Oxford team in the coming years and will be looking to finished amongst their scorers this afternoon.

17. **Madeline Williams** *(Corpus Christi)*  
(2022 – 15<sup>th</sup>)

Madeline Williams looks to have progressed significantly since finishing 15<sup>th</sup> on debut 12 months ago. In January, she won the Shropshire County Championship and this autumn, she was second in Cuppers and then the Dark Blues' top finisher in fourth in the Gwent League. She will be looking to continue this form into today's race and finish among Oxford's top scorers.

18. **Ruby Woolfe** *(Keble)*  
(2017 – 6<sup>th</sup>; 2016 – 12<sup>th</sup>; 2014 – Cheetahs, 4<sup>th</sup>)

Although a new face for Oxford this season, Ruby Woolfe is far from a newcomer to the University Race. She has previously competed twice for Cambridge, most recently in 2017. Since then, she has been a regular face in the Thames team and finished 17<sup>th</sup> in the opening round of the Surrey League Division 1 in October. She followed this up with 11<sup>th</sup> in the Gwent League.

**Reserves:**

19. Charlotte Buckley *(Oriel)*  
(2022 – 10<sup>th</sup>; 2021 – 7<sup>th</sup>; 2023 – Turtles, 1<sup>st</sup>)

20. Rhiannon Paton (Captain) *(Jesus)*  
(2023 – Turtles, 3<sup>rd</sup>; 2021 – Turtles, 7<sup>th</sup>)

## CAMBRIDGE GENTLEMEN

21. **Jeremy Dempsey** *(St. George's School, Harpenden & Girton)*  
(2022 – 1<sup>st</sup>; 2021 – 2<sup>nd</sup>; 2018 – Spartans, 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Jeremy Dempsey was a comfortable winner in 2022 and his form so far this term indicates that he should once again be involved at the very front of the race. In February, he finished in an excellent eighth in the BUCS Cross-Country Championship. So far this season, he has won both of Cambridge's races and produced excellent performances at the Southern and National Road Relays and the National Cross-Country Relays. Last weekend, he finished 13<sup>th</sup> in the Liverpool Cross-Challenge.

22. **Thomas Dugré** *(International School Basel & Jesus)*

Thomas Dugré is both the only newcomer and overseas runner in the Light Blues' team. So far this autumn, he has finished fifth in Cambridge's Invitational Race and sixth in Cuppers. As something of an unknown quantity, it will be interesting to see how he adjusts to the demands of the course today.

23. **Terry Fawden** *(Loughborough University & Wolfson)*  
(2022 – 14<sup>th</sup>)

Terry Fawden is returning for his second appearance and will no doubt be looking to improve significantly on 14<sup>th</sup> place last year. He has raced heavily this year and produced some notable performances, including second in the Metropolitan League in October. Although he finished only tenth in Cambridge's Invitational Race, third place in Cuppers shows that he should be up amongst the top Light Blues this afternoon.

24. **Lawrence Hollom** (Captain) *(Churcher's College & Trinity)*  
(2023 – Spartans, 2<sup>nd</sup>; 2022 – Spartans, 8<sup>th</sup>; 2019 – Spartans, 8<sup>th</sup>; 2018 – Spartans, 10<sup>th</sup>; 2017 – Barbarians, 10<sup>th</sup>; 2016 – 4<sup>th</sup> team, 9<sup>th</sup>)

Captain and Saltire Lawrence Hollom is a late addition to the Cambridge side. He narrowly missed out on selection for the team following 11<sup>th</sup> in Cambridge's Invitational Race and eighth in Cuppers; however, he has stepped up to the side after a fine second place in the Tortoises-Spartans race last weekend following injury to 2021 race winner Jamie Edgerton (Jesus).



25. **Joseph Massingham** (*Wickersley School & Sports College & Pembroke*)  
(2021 – 5<sup>th</sup>; 2019 – 9<sup>th</sup>; 2018 – 14<sup>th</sup>; 2017 – 14<sup>th</sup>)

Like Jamie Edgerton, Joseph Massingham was a late injury withdrawal in 2022 and he will be looking to make amends today. In both of Cambridge's races this autumn, he has finished second behind Jeremy Dempsey. Allied to this have been strong runs in the Northern and National Road Relays and the National Cross-Country Relays, so he looks to be in the shape to at least match his 2021 result.

26. **Peter Molloy** (*Stewart's Melville College, Edinburgh & Trinity*)  
(2021 – 4<sup>th</sup>)

Peter Molloy returns to the Cambridge side after a year abroad. He has not raced significantly this year; however, he did finish an impressive fourth in Cuppers. A repeat of his 2021 finish may not quite be on the cards; however, he should still finish comfortably among the Cambridge scorers.

27. **James Rennie** (*Eton College & Jesus*)  
(2021 – 11<sup>th</sup>; 2022 – Spartans, 4<sup>th</sup>)

James Rennie returns to the Cambridge team having dropped down to the Spartans during his captaincy year in 2022. He has secured his return following a good run at the National Road Relays and seventh in Cuppers.

28. **Thomas Spencer** (*Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School & Christ's*)  
(2022 – 10<sup>th</sup> & Spartans, 1<sup>st</sup>; 2021 – Spartans, 7<sup>th</sup>)

Twelve months ago, Tom Spencer was a late call-up from reserve and more than proved his worth by finishing tenth. He has secured a second appearance in the race following fourth in Cambridge's Invitational Race and fifth in Cuppers.

#### **Reserves:**

29. Max Walk (*University of Birmingham & Caius*)  
(2023 – Spartans, 4<sup>th</sup>)

30. George Ogden (*The Trinity School of John Whitgift & Trinity*)  
(2023 – Spartans, 6<sup>th</sup>; 2022 – Spartans, 5<sup>th</sup>)

## OXFORD GENTLEMEN

31. **Alexander Bampton** *(Green Templeton)*  
(2017, 15<sup>th</sup>; 2017 – Tortoises, 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Alex Bampton was a returnee to Oxford last year; however, he missed out on the University Race due to a late injury. He will no doubt be hoping to make amends this year. He finished 30<sup>th</sup> (running 2:24) in the London Marathon in April and then secured his place in the team following 13<sup>th</sup> in the Gwent League. He also ran strongly in the South of England Road Relays.

32. **Indy Barnes** *(Oriel)*  
(2022 – Tortoises, 10<sup>th</sup>)

Indy Barnes was originally selected in the Oxford team two years ago, but had to withdraw late in the day. Having returned to cross-country action with the Tortoises 12 months ago, he now looks to be very good form following fifth in Cuppers and ninth in the Gwent League.

33. **Alexander Gruen** *(Keble)*  
(2019 – 8<sup>th</sup>; 2017 – Tortoises, 3<sup>rd</sup>; 2016 – Tortoises, 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Australian Alex Gruen returns to Oxford this year after three years away. He looks to be in the kind of shape to at least repeat his 2019 performance, having finished third in Cuppers and ninth in the Gwent League. He was also part of the Oxford team that finished ninth in the National Cross-Country Relays in November.

34. **Jared Martin** (Captain) *(St. Cross)*  
(2022 – 15<sup>th</sup>; 2021 – Snails, 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Jared Martin captains the Dark Blues this season. He opened his season down the order at Cuppers (16<sup>th</sup>), but moved on significantly at the Gwent League to finish tenth. He should improve on his 15<sup>th</sup> place finish in 2022.

35. **Joseph Morrow** *(Queen's)*  
(2022 – 2<sup>nd</sup>; 2021 – 3<sup>rd</sup>; 2019 – 10<sup>th</sup>; 2018 – Snails, 11<sup>th</sup>)

Joe Morrow is Oxford's most experienced runner and will be making his fifth appearance today. He has been Oxford's best runner this autumn, winning Cuppers and finishing fourth at the Gwent League. Along with Alex Gruen and Naphtali Moulton, he was also in the Oxford team that finished ninth in the National Cross-Country Relays. Last weekend, he finished 54<sup>th</sup> in the Liverpool Cross-Challenge.

36. **Naphtali Moulton** *(St. Antony's)*  
(2022 – 5<sup>th</sup>)

Naphtali Moulton is the second overseas runner in the Oxford team. Arriving from the US in 2022, he acquitted himself very well to finish fifth. He should be similarly highly placed today, having finished second in Cuppers and sixth in the Gwent League and also being part of the Dark Blues' National Cross-Country Relays quartet.

37. **Thomas Renshaw** *(St. Hugh's)*  
(2022 – 9<sup>th</sup>; 2021 – 7<sup>th</sup>; 2019 – Tortoises, 3<sup>rd</sup>; 2018, 4<sup>th</sup> team, 1<sup>st</sup>)

Thomas Renshaw is another of Oxford's experienced runners, making his third appearance today. He finished sixth in Cuppers and, although he did not run in the Gwent League, he performed well at both the Southern and National Road Relays. He should be among Oxford' scorers today.

38. **Thomas Wood** *(St. Anne's)*  
(2022 – 4<sup>th</sup>; 2021 – 8<sup>th</sup>; 2019 – Tortoises, 14<sup>th</sup>)

Thomas Wood had a very strong run in 2022 and he followed this up with second place in the Welsh National in February. Since then, he has raced sparingly; however, fifth place at the Gwent League, just behind Joe Morrow, means that he should be right up there again in today's race.

**Reserves:**

39. **Matthew Fuller** *(Corpus Christi)*  
(2022 – 12<sup>th</sup>; 2023 – Tortoises, 3<sup>rd</sup>; 2021 – Tortoises, 5<sup>th</sup>)

40. **Chris Parker** *(Corpus Christi)*  
(2023 – Tortoises, 5<sup>th</sup>)

## THE 2022 UNIVERSITY RACES

(held over Thames Hare and Hounds' courses at Roehampton Vale on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December)

*The 46<sup>th</sup> Ladies' Race: Cambridge won by 29 points to 50*

1.	M.N.Bridson	Hubbard Magdalene	Cambridge	22:30
2.	P.R.A.Barker	Robinson	Cambridge	22:51
3.	A.Garner	St. Hugh's	Oxford	22:59
4.	N.E.Scott	Newnham	Cambridge	23:11
5.	G.L.Shanahan	Trinity	Cambridge	23:33
6.	P.Craig-McFeely	Robinson	Cambridge	23:42
7.	L.Major	Merton	Oxford	24:15
8.	E.J.Apsley	St. Hilda's	Oxford	24:24
9.	A.Brown	New College	Oxford	24:34
10.	C.L.M.Buckley*	Oriel	Oxford	24:44
11.	M.A.Hardman*	Selwyn	Cambridge	24:47
12.	H.E.Greenwood	Lucy Cavendish	Cambridge	24:57
13.	L.Thompson	Somerville	Oxford	25:07
14.	A.C.Kelly	St. John's	Cambridge	25:25
15.	M.L.Williams	Corpus Christi	Oxford	25:35
16.	M.W.Owen	Jesus	Oxford	26:11

(\* denotes team captain)

*The 131<sup>st</sup> Gentlemen's Race: Cambridge won by 38 points to 40*

1.	J.S.G.Dempsey	Girton	Cambridge	37:47
2.	J.Morrow	Queen's	Oxford	38:13
3.	E.C.Spencer	Trinity Hall	Cambridge	38:17
4.	T.J.Wood	St. Anne's	Oxford	38:21
5.	N.F.Moulton	St. Antony's	Oxford	39:01
6.	P.C.McKinley	Downing	Cambridge	39:11
7.	L.McCarron	Jesus	Cambridge	39:13
8.	M.H.A.Weatherseed	St Anne's	Oxford	39:19
9.	T.D.Renshaw*	St Hugh's	Oxford	39:27
10.	T.Spencer	Christ's	Cambridge	39:55
11.	M.Dubery	Jesus	Cambridge	39:58
12.	M.Fuller	Corpus Christi	Oxford	40:09
13.	A.Harrington	St. John's	Cambridge	40:11
14.	T.Fawden	Wolfson	Cambridge	40:39
15.	J.A.C.Martin	Merton	Oxford	41:35
16.	O.T.R.Jones	Brasenose	Oxford	44:41

(\* denotes team captain)

*J.W.Rennie (St. Catharine's) was Cambridge captain*

## THE 2023 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> TEAM UNIVERSITY RACES

(held over C.U.H.& H's courses at Priory Park, St. Neot's on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> November)

79 <sup>th</sup> Tortoises-Spartans Race	Cambridge won by 38 points to 40
72 <sup>nd</sup> Snails-Barbarians Race	Oxford won by 35 points to 43
65 <sup>th</sup> Gentlemen's 4 <sup>th</sup> Team Race	Cambridge won by 412 points to 988
40 <sup>th</sup> Turtles-Cheetahs Race	Oxford won by 21 points to 61
36 <sup>th</sup> Ladies' 3 <sup>rd</sup> Team Race	Oxford won by 624 points to 640

## PREVIEW OF THE 2023 UNIVERSITY RACES

Having won three of the four races since the Covid-19 break in 2020 and both races in 2019, Cambridge will be looking to extend their recent dominance into 2023 and today's races offer two differing prospects.

In the 47<sup>th</sup> Ladies' Race, although they have lost the services of double race winners Nancy Scott (Newnham) and Niamh Bridson Hubbard (Magdalene), the latter to European selection, the Light Blues have three of their first five home from their comprehensive victory in 2022. They are Irish International Louise Shanahan (Trinity), Phoebe Barker (Robinson), who was second last year, and Poppy Craig-McFeely (Robinson). To this strong trio, they also welcome Bea Wood (Lucy Cavendish), who missed out last year due to European selection and who won the under 20 National Cross-Country in February.

Against such a formidable side, a stiff challenge awaits the Dark Blues. However, they have a strong team in their own right and they will be hoping to pack strongly. They boast some significant experience of the race through three Saltires and former Light Blues: Elizabeth Apsley (St. Hilda's); Lauren Major (Merton); and Ruby Woolfe (Keble). They also have a number of promising new faces; however, given the top end strength of their opponents, Cambridge enter the contest as favourites.

The 132<sup>nd</sup> Gentlemen's Race is an enticing prospect, with Cambridge looking to become the first since for nearly 30 years to win four in a row. Their challenge will be spearheaded by last year's individual winner Jeremy Dempsey (Girton). An excellent run at Liverpool last weekend shows that he is in the form to repeat that feat. Their hopes have taken something of a blow with the withdrawal through injury of 2021 winner Jamie Edgerton (Jesus). Nevertheless, Joe Massingham (Pembroke), who missed out at the last minute through injury in 2022, and Terry Fawden (Wolfson) should provide Dempsey with ample backup. On top of this, they welcome back Peter Molloy (Trinity) – fourth in 2021 – after a year abroad.

The Dark Blues, however, should put up a very stern challenge as they field a very experienced side, six of whom ran in their agonising two-point defeat last year. Joe Morrow (Queen's) is likely to be their spearhead again and he should be able to call on very solid support from Thomas Wood (St. Anne's) and Naphtali Moulton (St. Antony's). Alex Gruen (Keble), returning after four years away, should also be right up with them. The remainder of their side has a very solid look to it with plenty of experience of the unique challenges of the common.

The outcome of the team race is very much in the balance and it should be a good one for the spectator.

## UNIVERSITY RACE COURSES

This year sees the first significant change to the courses since 2000. Both of them now divert away from Green Ride after North View and pass Hookhamslade Pond before rejoining the old course at Windmill Road. Both courses start and finish at the Thames Hare and Hounds' Headquarters at Roehampton Vale.

*Ladies' course (4 miles):*

Referring to the map on the next page, the race proceeds as follows:

*Start – A – B – C – D – E – F – G – H – I – J – K – L – M – V – W – X – Y – Z – Z1 – Z2 – Finish*

*Gentlemen's course (7½ miles):*

The race proceeds as follows:

*Start – A – B – C – D – E – F – G – H – I – J – K – L – M – N – O – P – Q – R – S – T – U – H – I – J – K – L – M – V – W – X – Y – Z – Z1 – Z2 – Finish*

The start and finish will be on the west side of Beverley Brook just across the brick bridge adjacent to the Thames clubhouse. The courses feature a number of prominent landmarks. The infamous watersplash is reached shortly after the start, runners crossing Beverley Brook from the Commons Extension playing fields. The Windmill provides a good viewing point to spectators. The ladies' race passes here once and the gentlemen's race three times. Refreshments can be enjoyed at the café. The muddiest part of the course is invariably the dreaded Butts. Only a mile or so from the finish, the boggy conditions sap the strength from the toughest of competitors.

Spectators who follow the races round the Common are asked to be aware of their position at all times and avoid causing irritation to other users. The Common is shared by many sports, including a golf course, the fairways of which may not be immediately obvious. While the races themselves do not cross any of them, spectators are likely to if they are following the races.

If you are following the race on bicycle, please take care to keep to the designated cycle routes. We also ask you keep off the sports pitches on the Memorial Playing Fields.

Our ability to host these races on the Common depends on your co-operation.

Thank you.

James Hoad

*Captain*

*Thames Hare and Hounds*

# UNIVERSITY RACE COURSES

## ROEHAMPTON VALE & WIMBLEDON COMMON



*Based on the 1995 map drawn by  
Robin Thomas*

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### *10 years ago*

In the 123<sup>rd</sup> Gentlemen's Race, Oxford suffered their heaviest defeat since 1995, losing by 30 points to 52. Cambridge's victory was achieved despite the absence of Alex Short (Robinson) due to European selection. Lewis Lloyd (Pembroke) took advantage to take the individual honours in 38:26, having been closely challenge by Oxford's Tom Frith (St. Anne's) for much of the race.

In the 38<sup>th</sup> Ladies' Race, the Light Blues recorded another comprehensive victory, filling six of the first seven places to win by 12 points to 30. International triathlete and duathlete Lucy Gossage (Downing), repeated her 2011 victory in a time of 23:15.

### *25 years ago*

In the 108<sup>th</sup> Gentlemen's Race, despite only having one of the first three home, Oxford packed solidly to win by 35 points to 43. Dan Leggate (Emmanuel) recorded his second individual victory for the Light Blues in 39:15. Cambridge's chances were hampered by the loss of 1997 victor Alex Hutchinson (Caius) to injury and Nick Mapp (Jesus) to European selection.

In the 24<sup>th</sup> Ladies' Race, the Dark Blues continued their dominance to record a sixth victory in succession (12 points to 28). This was despite 1997 winner Katie Skorupska (New College) inadvertently veering off course on the approach to the Windmill. In her place, Lucy Hasell (Queen's) took the honours (20:36) with Skorupska ending up eighth.

### *50 years ago*

Cambridge recorded their fifth victory in a row by 33 points to 45 in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Gentlemen's Race. Individually, it was dominated by future National Cross-Country winner Julian Goater (St. Edmund Hall) who came home 80 seconds ahead of Cambridge captain Martin Dell (Clare). The top end was evenly match with both sides filling three of the first six places; however, it was a Cambridge pack between seven and nine that proved decisive. The race was the end of an era as Oxford moved into a period of dominance from 1974, winning seven races in a row to equal the Cambridge record from 1881 to 1887.

### *75 years ago*

The 58<sup>th</sup> race in the men's series saw Oxford record a second victory in succession. Although they dominated at the front, taking the first three places through Jim Scott-Wilson (Magdalen), Roger Bannister (Exeter) and John Pollard (Pembroke), Chris Brasher (St. John's) headed a Cambridge pack of five to ensure that the Dark Blues' victory was by a narrow margin of six points. This was a period of Oxford ascendancy as they won eight of the nine races between 1947 and 1955.

### *100 years ago*

Despite taking the individual honours through Thomas Fooks (Christ's), the Light Blues were comfortably beaten in the 39<sup>th</sup> Gentlemen's Race by 22 points to 33. Behind him, Oxford packed five of the next six places with Cedric Morgan (Christ Church) recording the second of his three successive second places and 1922 winner Noel McInnes (New College) finishing third.

### *125 years ago*

Having been on the wrong end of the first ever whitewash in the series 12 months previously, Oxford recorded an unexpected victory in the 19<sup>th</sup> Gentlemen's Race by 25 points to 30. It was also their first win since the race moved to Roehampton in 1896. Fielding a team comprised entirely of new Blues, they were led home by Ernest Dawson (Worcester) and filled three of the first four places. Their chances were aided by the misfortune of Cambridge's Edward Balgarnie (Trinity) who lost the trail and "having studied a large part of Surrey, came home last."





Top: The start of the 1898 race outside the King's Head in Roehampton

Middle left: The runners cross the Beverley Brook watersplash in 1923

Middle right: The start of the 1948 race at the Big Holly Bush (close to Five Ways Crossing - point P - on the current course)

Bottom: The runners cross the Beverley Brook watersplash in the 1998 ladies' race.

## **RACE STATISTICS**

### **Gentlemen's Race**

Of the 131 gentlemen's races between 1880 and 2022, Cambridge have won 66 and Oxford 65. The longest sequence of victories is seven by Cambridge from 1881 to 1887 and by Oxford from 1974 to 1980.

Under the original five-a-side, five-to-score race format, the biggest victories recorded were Cambridge's whitewashes (15 points to 40) in 1897 and 1899 and Oxford's in 1901 and 1910. Under the six-a-side, five-to-score format, the biggest victories were Oxford's two whitewashes in 1926 and 1932. In 1932, Oxford also succeeded in getting their spare man home in front of all the Cambridge scorers. Under the short-lived six-a-side, six-to-score format, the biggest victory was by Oxford in 1938 (32 points to 46). Under the present eight-a-side, six-to-score format, the biggest victories have been Oxford's in 1952 (21 points to 66) and Cambridge's in 1961 (22 points to 61).

The highest number of individual wins in the race is four by Simon Mugglestone (Hertford and Keble, Oxford) from 1987 to 1990. Including joint victories, Oxford has supplied 85 winners of the race to Cambridge's 58.

The highest number of individual appearances is nine, held by William Ryle-Hodges (Queens' & Magdalene, Cambridge & St. Antony's, Oxford), from 2011 to 2019. The first gentleman to run for both sides was Nick Dorey, who competed for Queens', Cambridge, (1977-79) and New College, Oxford, (1980).

In terms of participants, the most successful college at Oxford is New College (72 runners since 1880) and at Cambridge it is St. John's (98). In terms of race winners, the most successful are Magdalen (12) for Oxford, and Christ's (11) for Cambridge.

### **Ladies' Race**

Of the 46 ladies' races between 1976 and 2022, Oxford has won 26 and Cambridge 20. There was an unofficial race in 1975, which was won by Oxford. The longest sequence of victories is nine by Oxford from 1993 to 2001. Cambridge's longest winning run was seven from 1980 to 1986.

The biggest victory in the series was Oxford's whitewash in 1976 (10 points to 34).

The highest number of individual wins in the race is three by Vicki Vaughan (Corpus Christi, Oxford) in 1986, 1987 and 1989. The first lady to run for both sides was Cathy Meunier, who competed for St. Hugh's, Oxford (1977) and Churchill, Cambridge (1978). Emma Coleman (Newnham, Cambridge & Magdalen, Oxford) became the first, and so far only, runner in both the gentlemen's and ladies' races to win for both sides. She won for the Light Blues in 1991 and for the Dark Blues in 1993. Oxford has supplied 21 race winners and Cambridge has supplied 23.

The highest number of individual appearances in the race is eight by Ellen Leggate (Merton and Peterhouse); four for Oxford from 1996 to 1999 and four for Cambridge from 2000 to 2003.

In terms of participants, the most successful colleges at Oxford are Merton, New College, St. Hugh's & Worcester (18 runners each since 1976) and at Cambridge it is Newnham (29). In terms of race winners, the most successful are Corpus Christi (three), for Oxford, and Downing and Trinity (three each), for Cambridge.

# PREVIOUS RESULTS

## Gentlemen

Cambridge leads Oxford by 66 wins to 65

2022 Cambridge	38-40	J.S.G.Dempsey (C)	1966 Oxford	27-55	J.Godding (O)
2021 Cambridge	35-43	J.M.Edgerton (C)	1965 Oxford	25-52	H.Altmann (O)
2020	<i>No race due to the Covid-19 pandemic</i>				
2019 Cambridge	32-47	P.A.Crout (C)	1964 Oxford	38-41	A.I.C.Heron (C)
2018 Oxford	30-50	J.R.G.Parkinson (O)	1963 Cambridge	38-41	T.F.K.Johnston (C)
2017 Oxford	37-41	J.R.G.Parkinson (O)	1962 Cambridge	23-58	D.M.Turner (C)
2016 Cambridge	33-45	O.J.S.Fox (C)	1961 Cambridge	22-61	D.M.Turner (C)
2015 Oxford	27-55	M.W.Unterreiner (O)	1960 Cambridge	27-57	T.J.Briault (C)
2014 Oxford	35-43	A.M.Short (C)	1959 Cambridge	37-42	S.H.James (O)
2013 Cambridge	30-52	L.A.Lloyd (C)	1958 Oxford	36-42	M.J.Palmer (C)
2012 Cambridge	38-42	J.W.Wiebel (O)	1957 Cambridge	27-55	M.J.Palmer (C)
2011 Cambridge	35-43	R.C.Franzese (O)	1956 Cambridge	32-48	M.J.Palmer (C)
2010 Oxford	29-52	A.R.Heyes (O)	1955 Oxford	37-41	=I.H.Boyd (O)
2009 Oxford	28-52	D.J.Bruce (O)	1954 Oxford	29-49	=A.D.Gordon (O)
2008 Oxford	27-53	R.C.Franzese (O)			=I.H.Boyd (O)
2007 Cambridge	32-47	P.Natali (C)			=C.W.Suddaby (O)
2006 Cambridge	35-43	P.Natali (C)	1953 Oxford	29-50	=A.J.Weekes-Pearson (O)
2005 Oxford	30-51	J.E.Blackledge (O)	1952 Oxford	21-66	I.H.Boyd (O)
2004 Oxford	38-42	F.K.Thompson (O)			=C.J.Chataway (O)
2003 Cambridge	37-43	F.K.Thompson (O)			=D.C.Law
2002 Oxford	29-49	F.K.Thompson (O)			=A.J.Weekes-Pearson (O)
2001 Oxford	32-46	J.T.S.Brooks (O)	1951 Oxford	27-51	C.J.Chataway (O)
2000 Cambridge	37-41	N.P.Talbot (O)	1950 Cambridge	34-44	C.J.Chataway (O)
1999 Cambridge	35-48	N.P.Talbot (O)	1949 Oxford	35-43	R.G.Bannister (O)
1998 Oxford	35-45	D.R.Leggate (C)	1948 Oxford	36-42	J.H.Scott-Wilson (O)
1997 Cambridge	31-48	A.B.Hutchinson (C)	1947 Oxford	17-38	=T.P.E.Curry (O)
1996 Oxford	38-43	D.R.Leggate (C)			=N.M.Green (O)
1995 Cambridge	26-54	D.E.Naylor (C)			=J.F.Pollard (O)
1994 Cambridge	29½-49½	R.W.Collier (O)	1946 Cambridge	26-29	=G.Ridding (O)
1993 Cambridge	25-59	I.R.Harkness (C)	1945 Cambridge	26-29	T.P.E.Curry (O)
1992 Cambridge	32-51	S.D.S.Baines (O)			D.A.Bond (C)
1991 Oxford	25-55	S.D.S.Baines (O)	<i>1939-45 No races due to Second World War.</i>		
1990 Cambridge	37-43	S.J.Mugglestone (O)	<i>Six unofficial wartime races held (see below)</i>		
1989 Oxford	25-56	S.J.Mugglestone (O)	1938 Oxford	32-46	P.D.Marrian (O)
1988 Oxford	29-50	S.J.Mugglestone (O)	1937 Cambridge	34-44	E.C.Weir (C)
1987 Oxford	27-55	S.J.Mugglestone (O)	1936 Cambridge	24-31	E.C.Weir (C)
1986 Oxford	33-45	R.D.Nerurkar (O)	1935 Oxford	27-28	A.A.Robertson (O)
1985 Oxford	27-57	J.D.Barton (C)	1934 Cambridge	23-32	R.M.Barrer (C)
1984 Oxford	31-52	J.D.Barton (C)	1933 Oxford	20-35	P.J.Albery (O)
1983 Cambridge	33-45	J.D.Barton (C)	1932 Oxford	15-40	=J.E.Lovelock (O)
1982 Cambridge	39-40	N.Thin (C)			=C.J.Mabey (O)
1981 Cambridge	21-57	N.Thin (C)	1931 Oxford	20-35	J.F.Cornes (O)
1980 Oxford	25-54	N.C.S.Brawn (O)	1930 Oxford	26-29	C.W.Benson (C)
1979 Oxford	37-41	N.C.S.Brawn (O)	1929 Cambridge	21-34	=J.R.Croggon (C)
1978 Oxford	35-45	N.C.S.Brawn (O)			=R.C.J.Goode (C)
1977 Oxford	26-57	=N.C.S.Brawn (O)			=A.N.Skelton (C)
		=W.A.Ewers (O)	1928 Cambridge	23½-31½	=E.E.Cowburn (C)
1976 Oxford	31-48	W.A.Ewers (O)			=A.N.Skelton (C)
1975 Oxford	29-53	W.A.Ewers (O)	1927 Cambridge	27-28	W.A.M.Edwards (O)
1974 Oxford	30-49	=A.J.Etchells (O)	1926 Oxford	15-40	W.A.M.Edwards (O)
		=J.N.Goater (O)	1925 Cambridge	23-32	T.C.Fooks (C)
1973 Cambridge	33-45	J.N.Goater (O)	1924 Cambridge	20-35	R.S.Starr (C)
1972 Cambridge	37-42	C.J.Garforth (C)	1923 Oxford	22-33	T.C.Fooks (C)
1971 Cambridge	39-39*	A.T.Moore (O)	1922 Oxford	17-38	N.A.McInnes (O)
1970 Cambridge	29-57	A.T.Moore (O)	1921 Cambridge	27-28	W.R.Seagrove (C)
1969 Cambridge	40-40*	R.A.Steele (O)	1920 Oxford	21-34	E.A.Montague (O)
1968 Oxford	28-58	J.P.Valentine (O)	1919 Cambridge	22-33	E.A.Montague (O)
1967 Cambridge	39-41	H.Altmann (O)	<i>1914-18 No races due to the Great War</i>		

1913 Cambridge	26-39	G.M.Sproule (O)
1912 Oxford	24-31	G.M.Sproule (O)
1911 Oxford	16-39	C.H.A.Porter (O)
1910 Oxford	15-40	A.W.Clemes (O)
1909 Oxford	20-35	R.E.Knight (O)
1908 Oxford	22-33	A.W.Clemes (O)
1907 Cambridge	27-28	E.C.Inman (C)
1906 Cambridge	27-28	F.M.Edwards (C)
1905 Cambridge	23-32	A.H.Pearson (C)
1904 Cambridge	19-36	A.R.Churchill (C)
1903 Cambridge	21-34	A.R.Churchill (C)
1902 Oxford	22-33	H.W.Gregson (C)
1901 Oxford	15-40	E.A.Dawson (O)
1900 Cambridge	25-30	C.E.Pumphrey (C)
1899 Cambridge	15-40	C.E.Pumphrey (C)
1898 Oxford	25-30	E.A.Dawson (O)
1897 Cambridge	15-40	W.W.Gibberd (C)
1896 Cambridge	20-35	W.W.Gibberd (C)
1895 Cambridge	23-32	W.H.Whitelaw (O)
1894 Oxford	22-33	W.H.Whitelaw (O)
1893 Oxford	24-31	C.C.Angell (C)
1892 Oxford	21-34	W.F.M.Copeland (C)
1891 Cambridge	20-35	R.F.G.Major (C)
1891 Oxford**	20-35	T.Colbatch-Clark (C)
1889 Oxford	18-37	W.Pollock Hill (O)
1888 Oxford	21-34	W.Pollock Hill (O)
1887 Cambridge	26-29	H.E.Soper (C)
1886 Cambridge	23-32	W.Pollock Hill (O)
1885 Cambridge	24-31	D.E.Payn (C)
1884 Cambridge	23-32	L.W.Reed (C)

1883 Cambridge	19-36	L.W.Reed (C)
1882 Cambridge	22-33	W.A.Rice (C)
1881 Cambridge	24-31	G.F.Wooldridge (O)
1880 Oxford	23-32	C.W.Grinstead (O)***

*Unofficial wartime series, 1940-45:*

1945 Cambridge	37-41	R.E.J.Ibbotson (C)
1944 Cambridge	37-41	J.C.C.Walden (O)
1942 Cambridge	27-51	J.W.Stone (C)
1942 Oxford	27-51	R.B.Martin (O)
1941 Cambridge	32-46	J.E.L.Pemberton (O)
1940 Cambridge	36-42	H.C.Still (C)

\* In 1969 and 1971, Cambridge won by closing its team first.

\*\* In 1890, Oxford and Cambridge approached Thames Hare and Hounds and asked them to host the race over their Roehampton course and it was staged on 25<sup>th</sup> November. Unfortunately, it turned into a fiasco as the trail was lost by the runners in the section between Coombe Hill and Raynes Park and a *no race* was declared. It was re-run at Oxford on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1891.

\*\*\* For many years, A.F.Hernaman (O) was credited as race winner; however, this is an error. He finished second.

### Ladies

Oxford leads Cambridge by 26 wins to 20 (Oxford won the unofficial race in 1975)

2022 Cambridge	29-50	M.N.Bridson Hubbard (C)
2021 Oxford	36-44	N.E.Scott (C)
2020	<i>No race due to the Covid-19 pandemic</i>	
2019 Cambridge	39-41	M.N.Bridson Hubbard (C)
2018 Cambridge	33-46	N.E.Scott (C)
2017 Oxford	23-34	F.V.Scrafton (O)
2016 Oxford	21-34	S.M.F.Saller (O)
2015 Cambridge	23-38	E.M.Ruane (C)
2014 Cambridge	<i>No score*</i>	S.M.F.Saller (O)
2013 Cambridge	12-30	L.M.Gossage (C)
2012 Cambridge	15-22	A.L.Greggor (C)
2011 Oxford	14-25	L.M.Gossage (C)
2010 Oxford	10-32	R.S.Deegan (O)
2009 Oxford	17-21	N.Taschimowitz (C)
2008 Oxford	15-24	M.Sikes (O)
2007 Oxford	13-29	C.A.Birch (O)
2006 Cambridge	14-22	P.H.R.Keen (C)
2005 Oxford	11-31	C.A.Birch (O)
2004 Oxford	10-29	A.Beverly (O)
2003 Cambridge	16-20	J.H.Bleasdale (C)
2002 Cambridge	13-26	E.J.Leggate (C)
2001 Oxford	16-21	E.J.Leggate (C)
2000 Oxford	18-19	K.W.T.Skorupska (O)
1999 Oxford	12-29	L.E.Hasell (O)

1998 Oxford	12-28	L.E.Hasell (O)
1997 Oxford	12-26	K.W.T.Skorupska (O)
1996 Oxford	15-21	S.J.Cook (O)
1995 Oxford	12-25	N.J.Lynch (O)
1994 Oxford	10-29	H.Moulder (O)
1993 Oxford	14-22	E.E.Coleman (O)
1992 Cambridge	12-28	C.E.Fothergill (C)
1991 Cambridge	17-19	E.E.Coleman (C)
1990 Oxford	10-31	J.D.Dering (O)
1989 Oxford	12-29	V.E.Vaughan (O)
1988 Oxford	17-20	M.C.Lavers (C)
1987 Oxford	15-21	V.E.Vaughan (O)
1986 Cambridge	19-19**	V.E.Vaughan (O)
1985 Cambridge	11-27	C.J.Shelley (C)
1984 Cambridge	11½-30	B.A.O'Neill (C)
1983 Cambridge	10-26	H.L.Shaw (C)
1982 Cambridge	11-25***	E.C.Hand (C)
1981 Cambridge	13-28	S.A.Hales (C)
1980 Cambridge	12-29	J.Lewtas (C) †
1979 Oxford	18-18****	J.Lewtas (C) †
1978 Cambridge	13-26	S.F.Parker (C)
1977 Oxford	17-19	K.E.Tufnell (C)
1976 Oxford	10-34	L.Wightman (O)
1975 Oxford	7-14	C.J.Meunier (O)

\* Cambridge was comfortably ahead in the team race when several runners went off course. S.M.F.Saller was awarded the individual victory.

\*\* In 1986, Cambridge won by closing its team first.

\*\*\* No score declared after a protest from Oxford about pacing of Cambridge runners by supporters.

\*\*\*\* In 1979, Oxford won by closing its team first.

† Now J.Lasenby (C.U.H.&H. President 2006-date).

## Old Blues

Oxford leads Cambridge by 18 wins to 12

2022 Oxford	147-230	J.M.Millar (O)	2003 Oxford	32-46	N.P.Talbot (O)
2021 Oxford	160-171	J.M.Millar (O)	2002 Cambridge	109-134	D.E.Naylor (C)
2020	<i>No race due to Covid-19 pandemic</i>				
2019 Oxford	180-186	W.J.A.Christofi (O)	2001 Cambridge	39-66	D.E.Naylor (C)
2018 Cambridge	98-158	M.H.Chandler (O)	2000 Cambridge	81-131	D.E.Naylor (C)
2017 Cambridge	123-183	A.M.Short (C)	1999	<i>No race*</i>	
2016 Cambridge	114-192	T.D.Frith (O)	1998	<i>No race*</i>	
2015 Oxford	223-291	W.J.Mackay (C)	1997 Oxford	45-92	R.D.Nerurkar (O)
2014 Cambridge	220-247	M.R.Leach (C)	1996 Oxford	127-127	J.W.Herries (C)
2013 Oxford	122-186	D.J.Bruce (O)	1995 Cambridge	23-34	A.J.Barber (C)
2012 Oxford	96-246	F.K.Thompson (O)	1994 Cambridge	116-241	D.A.Bond (C)
2011 Oxford	48-181	D.J.Bruce (O)	1993 Oxford	96-172	R.D.Nerurkar (O)
2010 Oxford	162-244	B.Moreau (O)	1992 Cambridge	407-415	S.C.Nash (C)
2009 Oxford	98-165	I.D.Kimpton (O)	1991 Cambridge	48-62	A.N.J.Robinson (O)
2008 Oxford	38-40	A.D.Hennessy (O)	1990 Oxford	37-40	R.D.Nerurkar (O)
2007 Oxford	97-114	M.J.Bishop (O)	* There were no contests in 1998 and 1999 due to problems associated with holding three races over the old courses on the same afternoon and the disruption it caused to the Common's golfers.		
2006 Oxford	312-354	D.A.Talbot (C)			
2005 Cambridge	137-166	D.A.Talbot (C)			
2004 Oxford	90-120	N.P.Talbot (O)			

Since 1880, the race has been staged at a number of venues:

- 1880-1895 Oxford (even years) and Cambridge (odd years) hosted the race alternately
- 1896-1925 Thames H&H's course from the King's Head in Roehampton village to the Old Well House on Putney Heath
- 1926-38 Horton Kirby course starting and finishing at Westminster Mill
- 1940-44 Wartime races - Oxford (Feb 1940, Feb 1942, Feb 1944) and Cambridge (Feb 1941, November 1942) alternated hosting. In February 1945, the race returned to Roehampton
- 1945-66 Thames H&H's Roehampton course starting and finishing at the Big Holly Bush
- 1967-69 Thames H&H's Roehampton course starting and finishing on the Common side of the pedestrian underpass where Roehampton Lane joins the A3
- 1970-74 Thames H&H's Roehampton course starting and finishing at the War Memorial on Putney Heath
- 1975-date Thames H&H's Roehampton Vale course starting and finishing at the club's new headquarters on the Memorial Playing Fields.

# THAMES HARE AND HOUNDS' WORLD ATHLETICS HERITAGE PLAQUE



The following notice appeared in *The Sportsman* on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1868:

## THAMES HARE AND HOUNDS

“A handicap ‘paper hunt’ will take place on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October, starting from the King’s Head, Roehampton Bottom (one mile from Barnes Station) at 4.30 p.m. (3.45 p.m. train from Waterloo). Hounds, who must be introduced by some member of the Thames Rowing Club or belong to an athletic club, rowing club, school, etc., will be roughly handicapped. A pewter will be given to the hound first to reach each hare.”

This was the first run of Thames Hare and Hounds, making us the oldest cross-country club in the world and we celebrated our 150<sup>th</sup> season in 2017-18.

The club provides competition for men and women of all standards on the road and country. Events range from club handicaps to regional and national championships. There are also friendly “mob matches” against other local clubs and a 5 mile race every second Sunday morning of the month which normally attracts 100 or more participants.

The club consistently fields full teams in regional and national events at senior and veteran level as well as competing in the high-quality men’s and ladies’ Surrey Cross-Country Leagues. In January 2019, our ladies’ team won the Southern Cross-Country Championships at Parliament Hill.

In addition to competition there are regular social occasions. As well as more formal functions such as the Annual Dinner and the Summer Party, smaller events are arranged throughout the year on a more impromptu basis.

In recognition of our role in the early development of cross-country, on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021, we were honoured to be named as one of seven new recipients of a **World Athletics Heritage Plaque**. The programme was inaugurated by World Athletics President Sebastian Coe on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018 and is a location-based recognition awarded for:

“an outstanding contribution to the worldwide history and development of the sport of track & field athletics and of out of stadia athletics disciplines such as cross country, mountain, road, trail and ultra-running, and race walking.”

For further information about the club, please see our website ([www.thameshareandhounds.org.uk](http://www.thameshareandhounds.org.uk)) or contact one of the below:

James Hoad (Club Captain)  
Chloe Beckett (Ladies’ Captain)  
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