THE UNIVERSITY CROSS-COUNTRY RACES 2017



OXFORD UNIVERSITY CROSS-COUNTRY CLUB



CROSS-COUNTRY CI

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY HARE AND HOUNDS

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

ORDER OF EVENTS

1:00 p.m. 26th Old Blues' Race 4 miles

(Mob Match – all alumni welcome)

2:00 p.m. 42nd Ladies' Race 4 miles

(Seven-a-side, five-to-score)

2:45 p.m. 127th Gentlemen's Race 7½ miles

(Eight-a-side, six-to-score)

Starters

Ladies' Race: K. Hedgethorne (Murray Edwards)

C.U.H.& H. 2014 & 2015 & Captain, 2014

Gentlemen's Race: A. R. Leach (Lincoln)

O.U.C.C.C. 1983 & 1987.

<u>Officials</u>

Referee: M. J. Farmery

President, Thames Hare & Hounds

Clerk of the Course: J. T. McMullan

Captain, Thames Hare & Hounds

Medical Officer: Dr. D. M. Justins

Hon. Medical Officer, Thames Hare & Hounds

Chief Pioneer: E. Catmur, Thames Hare & Hounds

Recorders, Timekeepers

& Pioneers: Members of Thames Hare & Hounds



WELCOME

Welcome to the 127th Gentlemen's and 42nd Ladies' Inter-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 42nd Ladies' Race will be started by Katy Hedgethorne, who ran for Cambridge in the 2014 and 2015 races, and was captain in the former year. She was on the winning side on both occasions, finishing fifth in the 2015 race.

The 127th Gentlemen's Race will be started by Andrew Leach (Lincoln), who ran for Oxford in 1983 and 1987. He finished 14th in 1983 in a contest won by Cambridge by 33 points to 45. In 1987, he finished second in a race won by the Dark Blues by the wide margin of 27 points to 55. That year was significant for Oxford in that it put them ahead in the overall series for only the third time in its history (the other two being after the first race in 1880 and then briefly again in 1955).

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

| Cambridge Ladies | White vest and white shorts | 4 - 10 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | (reserves 11 & 12) |
| Oxford Ladies | White vest and dark blue shorts | 13 – 19 (reserves 20 & 21) |
| Cambridge Gentlemen | White vest and white shorts | 22 – 29 (reserves 30 & 31) |
| Oxford Gentlemen | White vest and dark blue shorts | 32 - 39 (reserves 40 & 41) |

CAMBRIDGE LADIES

4. **E. J. Apsley** (Captain) (Marple Sixth Form College & Pembroke) (2016 – 4th; 2015 – 4th)

Elizabeth Apsley, who captains the Light Blues this year, is running in her third race. She was first Cambridge runner home last year, matching her 2015 finish. Her performance in races so far this season suggest that she might not quite be in the shape to produce a similar result this time; however, she should still feature strongly in the Cambridge scoring team.

5. **N. Bridson Hubbard** (Newstead Wood School for Girls & Magdalene) (2016 – 5th)

Niamh Bridson Hubbard has been the Light Blues' leading runner this season and secured her place in the team with an excellent fifth place in the Metropolitan League race at Welwyn. She also ran strongly in the Kent League in October and was selected for the Oxford & Cambridge team for the athletics matches against Harvard/Yale and Penn/Cornell in the spring. She should be amongst the first few home in today's race.

6. **F. S. Bunn** (St. Helen & St. Katharine, Abingdon & Queens')

Fiona Bunn is a newcomer to the Light Blue ranks this season. She has featured at the upper end of the Cambridge team in all of the club's races this season, including the R.A.F. match and the Metropolitan League race. She also recently finished third in the Bucks, Berks and Oxon Championships and in September she was second in the British and Irish Junior Mountain Running Championships at Peebles. Although a debutant, she should feature at the sharp end of the race.

7. **R. C. Falloon** (The Blyth School & Jesus)

Rachelle Falloon is the second new face for Cambridge this year. This season, she has raced twice for her home club in the North East Harrier League, finishing 14th and eighth. At Cambridge, fifth place in the R.A.F. match and third in Cuppers have secured her place in the team. A strong race today could see her make the scoring five.

8. **R. S. Longstaff** (Cheltenham Ladies' College & Magdalene)

Having missed the race in 2016 due to injury, Rachel Longstaff will be looking to make amends today. Although she has competed fairly sparingly this season, victory in Cuppers suggests that she should feature centrally in the Light Blue team today.

9. N. E. Scott

(Heathside School & Newnham)

Nancy Scott is the third fresher in the Cambridge team. She secured her place with an excellent 11th place finish in the Metropolitan League, just ahead of her captain. She also won the 3000m at the Freshers' Varsity Athletics Match. In February, she finished 24th in the Under 20 race at the National Championships. She may well feature amongst the scorers today.

Ruby Woolfe was a late replacement in the Cambridge team in 2016 and returns for her second appearance. She is a member of Thames Hare and Hounds and has recorded a number of impressive performance this season, including in the Surrey League and London Championships. For the Light Blues, she produced a tenth-place finish at the Metropolitan League and second in the R.A.F. match. She should be at the top end of the Cambridge team today.

Reserves:

- 11. **R. A. Frake** (Wreake Valley Community College & Corpus Christi) (2017 Cheetahs, 5th; 2015 Gazelles, 1st: 2014 Gazelles, 12th)
- 12. **M. Butler** (Sherborne Girls & Corpus Christi) (2017 Cheetahs, 2nd)

OXFORD LADIES

13. **D. L. Chattenton** (Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School & Wadham) (2016 – 3rd; 2015 – 11th)

Dani Chattenton's third place last year was critical to the Dark Blues' first victory in five years and she returns in the form to feature at the front of the race. She was 32nd (and second Oxford) in the Milton Keynes Cross-Challenge race and fifth in the Chiltern League in October. Earlier in the year, she was selected for the Oxford and Cambridge team for the Harvard/Yale and Penn/Cornell athletics matches.

14. **C. Dannatt** (Farnborough Hill School & Sixth Form & St. John's) (2015 – 14th)

Charlotte Dannatt is the first of four freshers in the Oxford team. In March, she finished 28th in the English Schools' Championships. Her debut for Oxford in October saw her finish a fine second in Cuppers. With a good run today, she could easily feature in the Dark Blues' scoring five.

15. **K. M. Horner** (Luther College, Iowa & St. Catherine's)

Another newcomer to the Oxford ranks this year, Kimberly Horner has produced a number of strong performances this season. She opened her account with victory in Cuppers in late October, having won the ladies' race at the Oxford Half-Marathon in 78:35 a few weeks before. She followed this up with a strong performance in the E.C.C.A. Cross-Country Relays at Mansfield and was third Dark Blue home (in 34th) at Milton Keynes. She should finish at the upper end of the Oxford scorers today.

16. **C. E. Hurton** (Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Penrith & Pembroke)

Connie Hurton is the second undergraduate fresher in the team and like Charlotte Dannatt, competed in the English Schools' Championships in the spring, finishing 52nd. She also won the Cumbria County Championships (under 20) in January. She did not take part in Cuppers; however, 39th at Milton Keynes, just behind her team mate Sophia Saller, secured her place in the Oxford team.

17. H. H. M. Plaschkes

(King's College School & New College)

 $(2016 - 11^{th}; 2014 - Turtles, 1^{st})$

Hannah Plaschkes was 11th on her debut last year. She finished fourth in Cuppers at the start of the season, but made a big stride forward at Milton Keynes to finish 40th and third in a pack of three Dark Blues along with Connie Hurton and Sophia Saller. A good performance today could push her into the Oxford scoring five.

18. **S. M. F. Saller** (*The German School, Petersham & St. Catherine's*) (2016 – 1st; 2015 – 2nd; 2014 – 1st; 2013 – 3rd; 2012 – 7th; 2011 – Turtles, 1st)

Sophia Saller is the most experienced runner in the Oxford team by quite some distance, this being her sixth appearance. Two of those previous races have brought her individual victory and she has been in the first three on two other occasions. Her cross-country performances this season indicate that she may not be in the form to repeat last year's victory, having finished 38th at Milton Keynes. She did, however, record the second fastest leg for Oxford at the E.C.C.A. Cross-Country Relays. She also competed strongly in the I.T.U. World Cup over the summer, including 13th in the elite women's race at Huelva in Spain in September. This, along with her experience of the Common, should stand her in good stead.

19. W. F. V. Scrafton

(University of Birmingham & Worcester)

Floren Scrafton is the final new face in the Oxford team and brings with her a considerable pedigree. She finished 15th in the Cardiff Cross-Challenge event in early October and followed this up with 24th at Milton Keynes (and first Oxford runner home). In addition to this, she has produced strong performances at the Midland and National Road Relays and the 13th fastest leg overall at the E.C.C.A. Cross-Country Relays in early November. It would be a surprise if she did not feature at the top end of today's race.

Reserves:

20. **E. V. S. Bolton** (Clitheroe Royal Grammar School & Keble) (2017 – Turtles, 1st)

21. **A. J. Sharp** (Peter Symonds Sixth Form College & Queen's) (2017 – Turtles, 3rd; 2016 – Turtles, 14th)

Captain:

R. A. Skokowski (Princeton University & University) (2015 – 13th; 2017 – Turtles, 7th; 2016 – Turtles, 9th)

CAMBRIDGE GENTLEMEN

22. **P. R. Aste** (Canyon Crest Academy, California & Caius) (2015 – 4th team, 1st)

Paul Aste is in his third year at Cambridge and makes his debut in the Blues race, having won the fourth team contest at Oxford two years ago. He opened the Cambridge season with fourth place in the R.A.F. match and followed this up with 21st (fifth Cambridge) in the Metropolitan League race at Welwyn to secure his place in the team. He has also appeared in the Southern 6-stage and E.C.C.A. Cross-Country Relays in the colours of Cambridge and Coleridge.

23. **J. A. Cara** (Rugby School & Caius) (2016 – Spartans, 16th)

Joshua Cara is another race debutant, having run for the Spartans is 2016. He secured his place in the team by finishing tenth in the R.A.F. match and 31st in the Metropolitan League.

MacGregor Cox – who captains the Light Blues this year – will be hoping to improve on 16th in each of the last two Blues races. His performances this season have largely been comparable to 2016, including 23rd in the Metropolitan League. However, a very fine run in the Southern 6-stage Relay at Crystal Palace in September indicates that he is in the form to move up the rankings.

Phillip Crout is one of Cambridge's most experienced runners. His performances in the Metropolitan League and R.A.F. match suggest that he is not quite in the form of 12 months ago; however, his experience of the Common should serve him well and he should be well up amongst the Cambridge scorers today.

In 2016, Oliver Fox produced an exceptional run to win the race comfortably in the second quickest time over the present course (introduced in 2000). His results this term suggest that he should once again be vying for top honours. Although he has raced sparingly, both of his performances have been of the highest quality: victory in the R.A.F. match and fourth in the Metropolitan League.

27. **G. E. D. Gathercole** (Royal Grammar School, Guildford & Caius) (2016 – 9th; 2015 – 11th)

Back for his third appearance, George Gathercole looks to be in shape to improve considerably on his two mid-ranking performances. He finished ninth in the R.A.F. match, but then produced two excellent performances in the E.C.C.A. Cross-Country Relays and Metropolitan League, where he was tenth (and second Cambridge). He should be one of the Light Blues' top scorers this afternoon.

28. **J. T. Massingham** (Wickersley School & Sports College & Pembroke)

Joseph Massingham is the third newcomer for the Light Blues. He arrived at Cambridge off the back of some impressive school performances, including winning the South Yorkshire Schools' Championships, third in the Yorkshire County Championships and 36th in the English Schools' Championships, as well as a very strong leg at the Southern 12-stage in the spring. 34th place in the Metropolitan League secured his place for today's race.

29. **W. E. Ryle-Hodges** (St. Antony's College, Oxford & Magdalene) (2016 – 4th; 2015 – 8th; 2014 – 9th; 2013 –3rd; 2012 – 7th; 2011 – 3rd)

Last year, William Ryle-Hodges became officially the most successful participant in the race's history with his sixth win (in six appearances), outstripping Nick Brawn's (Oriel) five wins from 1976 to 1980. Eighth in the R.A.F. match and 17th in the Metropolitan League indicate that he should once again be involved towards the front of the race and he will no doubt be hoping to maintain his perfect record of team victories.

Reserves:

- 30. **N. Shreeve** (University of Southampton & King's) (2017 Spartans, 1st)
- 31. **J. W. M. T. Coxon** (St. Paul's School & Jesus) (2017 Spartans, 4th; 2016 Barbarians, 4th; 2014 C.U. 4th team, 12th)

OXFORD GENTLEMEN

32. W. J. A. Christofi

(Dauntsey's School & University)

 $(2015 - 2^{\text{nd}}; 2014 - 4^{\text{th}}; 2013 - 10^{\text{th}})$

William Christofi makes a welcome return for Oxford having missed the 2016 race due to European selection. Coming off the back of injury, he finished eighth at Cuppers. However, he then made a significant stride forward in the Milton Keynes Cross-Challenge race to finish 12th (third Oxford). It is likely he will be in the battle towards the front of the race today.

33. L. Metselaar

(Delft University of Technology & St. John's)

 $(2016-6^{th}; 2015-11^{th})$

Luuk Metselaar is making his third appearance in the race. He was second man home for Oxford last year and looks to be in the form to feature again at the sharp end. In September, he ran a 67-minute half-marathon at Purmerend in the Netherlands and followed this up with 2:22 for the Amsterdam Marathon. He secured selection with 13th at Milton Keynes (fifth Oxford).

34. **J. M. Millar**

(*University of Nottingham & University*)

The first of three new faces for Oxford, Jack Millar should bolster the top end of the Dark Blue team. In his two races for O.U.C.C.C. this season, he finished second in Cuppers and tenth (third Oxford) at Milton Keynes. On top of this, he ran strong legs for his club in the Midland and National 6-stage Relays and the E.C.C.A. Cross-Country Relays. He also finished 50th in the National back in the spring.

35. D. J. Mulryan

(Lytchett Minster School & Trinity)

 $(2016 - 12^{th}; 2015 - Tortoises, 2^{nd}; 2014 - Tortoises, 1^{st})$

After having waited patiently as reserve for two years, Daniel Mulryan made a solid debut in the Blues Race 12 months ago. Results this season suggest that a scoring place in the Oxford team is again a possibility today. He finished fifth in Cuppers and then 22nd (eighth Oxford) at Milton Keynes.

36. J. R. G. Parkinson

J. R. G. Parkinson (South Dartmoor Community College & Jesus) $(2016-7^{th}; 2015-4^{th}; 2014-3^{rd}; 2011$ - O.U. 4^{th} Team, 5^{th})

After a slightly disappointing seventh place in 2016, Jamie Parkinson looks to be back to his best as he makes his fourth appearance in the race. He missed Cuppers; however, he then more than made up for it with an outstanding seventh place (first Oxford) at Milton Keynes. He should be involved at the front of the race today.

37. **O. W. Paulin** (King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys & Merton) (2016 – Tortoises, 7th; 2015 – Tortoises, 7th)

The second newcomer in the Oxford team, Oliver Paulin has made a big step forward in his running after two seasons in the Tortoises. He set out is stall by winning Cuppers in October and followed it up with 17th (sixth Oxford) at Milton Keynes. He should finish amongst the Oxford scorers today.

38. **K. P. Smith**

(University Tulsa & Trinity)

Kirk Smith is the last of the new faces in the Dark Blue team. He arrived at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar this autumn from the University of Tulsa, where he was a former captain of the team. He missed last year's N.C.A.A. Championships due to his Rhodes Scholarship interviews. At Oxford, he opened his account with fourth place in Cuppers and then secured his place in today's team finishing as seventh Oxford man home (in 21st) at Milton Keynes.

39. **E. J. Totten**

(Imperial College, London & Hertford)

 $(2016 - 10^{th})$

Eoghan Totten was a late call-up to the Oxford team last year and performed admirably to finished tenth. Since then, he has made a big step forward and should feature amongst the top Oxford scorers this afternoon. He finished 20th in 67:21 in the Great North Run in September and followed this up with 50:33 to win the Armagh 10 in early October. At Milton Keynes, he was eighth (and second Oxford) to secure a second appearance in the Blues Race.

Reserves:

40. **A. Bampton** (University of Birmingham & Lincoln) (2017 – Tortoises, 2nd)

41. **A. J. Gruen** (Melbourne Grammar School & Balliol) (2017 – Tortoises, 3rd; 2016 – Tortoises, 3rd)

Captain:

L. M. Cotter (Wales High School & St. Catherine's) (2016 – 2nd; 2015 – 13th; 2017 – Tortoises, 7th; 2014 – Tortoises, 6th)

THE 2016 UNIVERSITY RACES

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

(* denotes team captain)

| The 41 st Ladies'. | Race: | Oxford | won l | by 21 | points to 34 | |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|--------------|--|
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|--------------|--|

| 1. | S.M.F.Saller | St. Catherine's | Oxford | 23:40 |
|-----|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 2. | B.R.Murray | Jesus | Oxford | 23:43 |
| 3. | D.L.Chattenton | Wadham | Oxford | 23:52 |
| 4. | E.J.Apsley | Pembroke | Cambridge | 24:05 |
| 5. | M.N.Bridson Hubbard | Magdalene | Cambridge | 24:10 |
| 6. | H.L.C.Record | Trinity | Oxford | 24:14 |
| 7. | K.Curran* | Corpus Christi | Cambridge | 25:03 |
| 8. | R.A.Frake | Corpus Christi | Cambridge | 25:09 |
| 9. | H.E.Greenwood* | University | Oxford | 25:16 |
| 10. | E.M.Ruane | Magdalene | Cambridge | 25:23 |
| 11. | H.H.M.Plaschkes | New College | Oxford | 25:34 |
| 12. | R.S.Woolfe | Girton | Cambridge | 25:53 |
| 13. | H.K.Morton | St. Catharine's | Cambridge | 26:05 |
| 14. | S.M.McCuaig | St. Hilda's | Oxford | 27:55 |

The 126th Gentlemen's Race: Cambridge won by 33 points to 45

| 1. | O.J.S.Fox | Robinson | Cambridge | 37:33 |
|-----|-------------------|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| 2. | L.M.Cotter | St. Catherine's | Oxford | 38:07 |
| 3. | B.Mazaheri | Emmanuel | Cambridge | 38:16 |
| 4. | W.E.Ryle-Hodges | Magdalene | Cambridge | 38:22 |
| 5. | P.Crout | St. Catharine's | Cambridge | 38:24 |
| 6. | L.Metselaar | St. John's | Oxford | 38:29 |
| 7. | J.R.G.Parkinson | Jesus | Oxford | 38:48 |
| 8. | A.J.Howard | Christ Church | Oxford | 38:57 |
| 9. | G.E.D.Gathercole | Gonville & Caius | Cambridge | 38:59 |
| 10. | E.J.Totten | Hertford | Oxford | 39:05 |
| 11. | D.A.M.Wilson | Jesus | Cambridge | 39:14 |
| 12. | D.J.Mulryan | Trinity | Oxford | 39:26 |
| 13. | J.L.Spill | Jesus | Oxford | 39:47 |
| 14. | P.J.Roddy* | Robinson | Cambridge | 40:11 |
| 15. | M.H.A.Weatherseed | Lady Margaret Hall | Oxford | 40:44 |
| 16. | M.J.Cox | Robinson | Cambridge | 40:52 |

M.H.Chandler (Lady Margaret Hall) was Oxford captain

THE 2017 2nd-4th TEAM UNIVERSITY RACES

(held over O. U. C. C. C's courses at Shotover Country Park on Saturday, 25th November)

| 74 th Tortoises-Spartans Race | Oxford won by 37 points to 42 |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 67 th Snails-Barbarians Race | Cambridge won by 34 points to 45 |
| 60 th Gentlemen's 4 th Team Race | Oxford won by 818 points to 1,007 |
| 35 th Turtles-Cheetahs Race | Oxford won by 23 points to 36 |
| 31 st Ladies' 3 rd Team Race | Oxford won by 252 points to 418 |

Preview of the 2017 University Races

The 2017 races look like they will be graced by four strong teams and two interesting races should emerge. In the 42nd Ladies' Race, Oxford will be looking to build on 2016, which was their first victory since 2012. They should be optimistic about their chances with what is on paper their strongest team for six or seven years. Two of their top three from last year return in the shape of international triathlete Sophie Saller (St. Catherine's) and Dani Chattenton (Wadham). The upper end of their team should be bolstered by the arrival of two graduates – Kimberly Horner (St. Catherine's) and Floren Scrafton (Worcester) – both of whom look to be in the form to feature highly amongst the Oxford scorers. Completing their team is another 2016 returnee Hannah Plaschkes (New College) and two undergraduate freshers, Charlotte Dannatt (St. John's) and Connie Hurton (Pembroke).

The Cambridge team also has a strong look to it. Niamh Bridson Hubbard (Magdalene) has led the way for them this season and will be looking to improve on fifth place in her debut in 2016. She led the team home at the Metropolitan League race in a fine fifth place. However, the Light Blues should gain much confidence from strong packing behind her in that race with four more in the top 12 in the form of Fiona Bunn (Queens'), Ruby Woolfe (Girton), Nancy Scott (Newnham) and captain Elizabeth Apsley (Pembroke). Their team is completed by newcomer Rachelle Falloon (Jesus) and Rachel Longstaff (Magdalene), who will doubtless be hoping to make amends for having missed out last year through injury.

The two teams look to be very evenly matched and with plenty of new faces in both of them, it is hard to pick a clear favourite, which should provide for an exciting contest.

The 127th Gentlemen's Race looks to be similarly evenly balanced. The Light Blues will be optimistic of providing the first man home in 2016 winner Oliver Fox (Robinson). He should be ably supported by George Gathercole (Caius) – who is appearing for the third time – and Phillip Crout (St. Catharine's), for whom this is his fourth appearance. And of course, they are still able to field William Ryle-Hodges (Magdalene) who has appeared for both sides in the contest and has proved to be a lucky charm each time, with six wins from six appearances. He looks to be in the form to produce another good run over the Common.

Oxford, however, will be confident that they have the firepower at the top end to match their rivals. At the Milton Keynes Cross-Challenge race in November, they produced an exceptional five home in the first thirteen in Jamie Parkinson (Jesus), Eoghan Totten (Hertford), Jack Millar (University), William Christofi (University) and Luuk Metselaar (St. John's). With their other three team members — Oliver Paulin (Merton), Kirk Smith (Trinity) and Daniel Mulryan (Trinity) — finishing in the top 22, they appear to have an enviable strength-in-depth and this might be where they have the slight edge over their rivals.

Of the other four Light Blue runners, one or two of Paul Aste (Caius), Joshua Cara (Caius), fresher Joseph Massingham (Pembroke) and captain MacGregor Cox (Robinson) will have to get stuck in amongst the Oxford pack if they are to carry off the team honours. This should not be beyond any of them; however, Oxford's strength throughout their eight makes them the slight favourites to nudge back ahead in the overall series.

University Race Courses

The courses currently used for the University Races were introduced in 2000. Both start and finish at Thames Hare and Hounds' Headquarters at Roehampton Vale

Ladies' course (4 miles)

Referring to the map opposite, the ladies' race proceeds from the start to the finish via the following:

$$Start - A - B - C - D - E - U - V - W - K - L - M - N - P - Finish$$

Gentlemen's course (7½ miles)

The gentlemen's race proceeds from start to finish via:

$$Start - A - B - C - D - E - V - F - G - H - Q - R - S - T - B - C - D - E - U - V - W - K - L - M - N - P - Finish$$

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.

This year's course retains the amendment made last year. The start and finish will be on the west side of Beverley Brook just across the brick bridge adjacent to the Thames clubhouse. From the start, the course will stay on the west side of the brook until the watersplash is reached. In the final stages of the race, once the runners reach the south-west corner of the playing fields (point P), the course crosses over the bridge there and returns to the new start/finish area.

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. We also ask you keep off of the sports pitches on the Memorial Playing Fields.

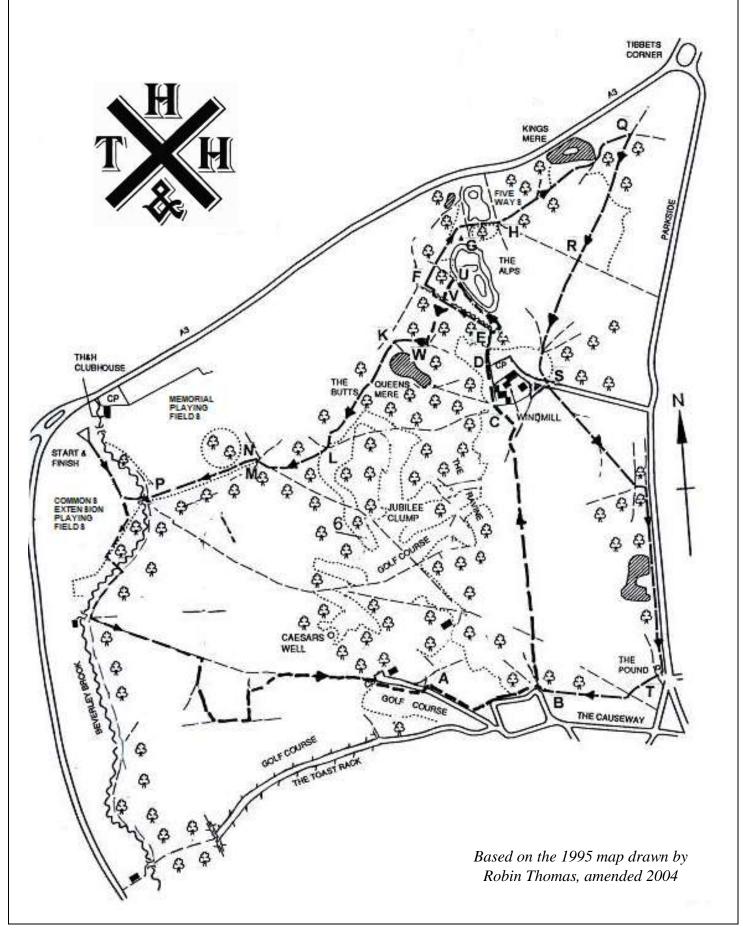
Our ability to host these races on the Common depends on your co-operation.

Thank you.

James McMullan
Captain
Thames Hare and Hounds

UNIVERSITY RACE COURSES

ROEHAMPTON VALE & WIMBLEDON COMMON



FROM THE ARCHIVES

10 years ago

In the 117th Gentlemen's Race, Cambridge notched up a second consecutive victory, by 32 points to 47. Paolo Natali (Christ's) was first home for the second year, this time in 39:06. He was followed by Oxford's Ian Kimpton (Lincoln) and team mate James Kelly (Jesus). The Light Blues' victory nudged them back ahead in the overall series, by 59 wins to 58. In the 32nd Ladies' Race, Oxford avenged their unexpected 2006 defeat with a comprehensive 13 points to 29 victory. Merton's Courtney Birch followed up her 2005 victory to take the individual honours in 24:24. The Light Blues were significantly disrupted by injury, with three of their original sextet not making the start line. This included Charlotte Roach (Trinity), for whom it was the start of unparalleled sequence of bad luck as she was to miss out in similar manner again in 2008 and 2010.

25 years ago

In the 102nd Gentlemen's Race, Simon Baines (Magdalen) was the individual winner for the second time. However, this time Oxford were comprehensively beaten by 32 points to 51. The race was the start of a very poor run for the Dark Blues with heavy losses in the next three races before their surprise win in 1996. In the 17th Ladies' Race, Cambridge secured what would be their last victory for ten years with a 12 points to 28 success. Channah Fothergill (Fitzwilliam) took the honours in 17:20 for the old 3½-mile course.

50 years ago

Cambridge registered their only win of the period 1964 to 1968 with a narrow two-point victory. Henk Altmann (New College) recorded his second victory in three years in a time of 39:02. Oxford were heavy favourites going into the race. John Dawson (Corpus Christi), who had run for Cambridge at second team level and was finishing his medical studies at Oxford was asked for his opinion of who would win: "Oxford – unless it snows!" was his response. Heavy snow arrived in the days leading up to the race and the rest, as they say, is history.

75 years ago

1942 witnessed two races of the unofficial wartime series. Firstly, in February Oxford emerged victorious over home territory by the wide margin of 27 points to 51. R.B.Martin (Magdalen) was first home. Then in November, the Light Blues exactly reversed the scores with their captain John Stone (Jesus) leading the way. Cambridge went on to win the wartime series by five victories to one.

100 years ago

With the Great War into its fourth year, there was no University Race once again, Cambridge having won the last contest in 1913.

125 years ago

Despite having the first man home in William Copeland (Trinity Hall), the Light Blues were soundly beaten by Oxford in the 13th match of the series. Five of the next six places were taken by Oxonians with Aylmer Scott (Keble) leading the way in second and future race winner (1894 and 1895) and Thames runner William Whitelaw (New College) in third. There were only three races of the years of home advantage left before the transfer to a neutral venue (and hosting by Thames) came about in 1896.



The runners cross the watersplash in the 102nd Gentlemen's Race in 1992



The start of the 77th Gentlemen's Race in the snow in December 1967

RACE STATISTICS

Gentlemen's Race

Of the 126 gentlemen's races between 1880 and 2016, both Oxford and Cambridge have won 63 times. 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 83 winners of the race to Cambridge's 57.

The highest number of individual appearances is seven, held jointly by Warwick Ewers (Worcester, Oxford), from 1971 to 1977 and Nick Talbot (University, Oxford), from 1996 to 2002. Assuming he makes the start line today, William Ryle-Hodges (Queens' & Magdalene, Cambridge & St. Antony's, Oxford) will join this elite group. 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 (70 runners since 1880) and at Cambridge it is St. John's (97). In terms of race winners, the most successful are Magdalen (12) for Oxford, and Christ's (11) for Cambridge.

Ladies' Race

Of the 41 ladies' races between 1976 and 2016, Oxford has won 24 and Cambridge 17. 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 20 race winners and Cambridge has supplied 21.

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 St. Anne's and St. Hugh's (17 runners each since 1976) and at Cambridge it is Newnham (24). 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

Oxford and Cambridge tied on 63 wins each

| 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) | | | =A.D.Gordon (O) |
| 2008 Oxford | 27-53 | R.C.Franzese (O) | 1954 Oxford | 29-49 | =I.H.Boyd (O) |
| 2007 Cambridge | 32-47 | P.Natali (C) | | | =C.W.Suddaby (O) |
| 2006 Cambridge | 35-43 | P.Natali (C) | | | =A.J.Weekes-Pearson (O) |
| 2005 Oxford | 30-51 | J.E.Blackledge (O) | 1953 Oxford | 29-50 | I.H.Boyd (O) |
| 2004 Oxford | 38-42 | F.K.Thompson (O) | 1952 Oxford | 21-66 | =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) | 17 17 0.11014 | 1, 50 | =N.M.Green (O) |
| 1995 Cambridge | 26-54 | D.E.Naylor (C) | | | =J.F.Pollard (O) |
| 1994 Cambridge | 291/2-491/2 | R.W.Collier (O) | | | =G.Ridding (O) |
| 1993 Cambridge | 25-59 | I.R.Harkness (C) | 1946 Cambridge | 26-29 | T.P.E.Curry (O) |
| 1992 Cambridge | 32-51 | S.D.S.Baines (O) | 1945 Cambridge | 26-29 | D.A.Bond (C) |
| 1991 Oxford | 25-55 | S.D.S.Baines (O) | ε | | • • |
| 1990 Cambridge | 37-43 | S.J.Mugglestone (O) | 1939-45 No race. | | |
| 1989 Oxford | 25-56 | S.J.Mugglestone (O) | Six unof | ficial wartii | ne races held (see below) |
| 1988 Oxford | 29-50 | S.J.Mugglestone (O) | 1938 Oxford | 32-46 | P.D.Marrian (O) |
| 1987 Oxford | 27-55 | S.J.Mugglestone (O) | 1937 Cambridge | 34-44 | E.C.Weir (C) |
| 1986 Oxford | 33-45 | R.D.Nerurkar (O) | 1936 Cambridge | 24-31 | E.C.Weir (C) |
| 1985 Oxford | 27-57 | J.D.Barton (C) | 1935 Oxford | 27-28 | A.A.Robertson (O) |
| 1984 Oxford | 31-52 | J.D.Barton (C) | 1934 Cambridge | 23-32 | R.M.Barrer (C) |
| 1983 Cambridge | 33-45 | J.D.Barton (C) | 1933 Oxford | 20-35 | P.J.Albery (O) |
| 1982 Cambridge | 39-40 | N.Thin (C) | 1932 Oxford | 15-40 | =J.E.Lovelock (O) |
| _ | 21-57 | N.Thin (C) | 1902 Omora | 15 10 | =C.J.Mabey (O) |
| 1981 Cambridge | 25-54 | | 1931 Oxford | 20-35 | J.F.Cornes (O) |
| 1980 Oxford | | N.C.S.Brawn (O) | 1930 Oxford | 26-29 | C.W.Benson (C) |
| 1979 Oxford | 37-41 | N.C.S.Brawn (O) | | 21-34 | =J.R.Croggon (C) |
| 1978 Oxford | 35-45 | N.C.S.Brawn (O) | 1)2) Cambridge | 21-34 | =R.C.J.Goode (C) |
| 1977 Oxford | 26-57 | =N.C.S.Brawn (O) | | | =A.N.Skelton (C) |
| 10760 6 1 | 21 40 | =W.A.Ewers (O) | 1928 Cambridge | 231/2-311/2 | =E.E.Cowburn (C) |
| 1976 Oxford | 31-48 | W.A.Ewers (O) | 1)20 Cambridge | 23/2-31/2 | =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 | |
| | | =J.N.Goater (O) | 1925 Oxford 1925 Cambridge | | W.A.M.Edwards (O) |
| 1973 Cambridge | 33-45 | J.N.Goater (O) | _ | 23-32 | T.C.Fooks (C) |
| 1972 Cambridge | 37-42 | C.J.Garforth (C) | 1924 Cambridge | 20-35 | R.S.Starr (C) |
| 1971 Cambridge | 39-39* | A.T.Moore (O) | 1923 Oxford | 22-33 | T.C.Fooks (C) |
| 1970 Cambridge | 29-57 | A.T.Moore (O) | 1922 Oxford | 17-38 | N.A.McInnes (O) |
| 1969 Cambridge | 40-40* | R.A.Steele (O) | 1921 Cambridge | 27-28 | W.R.Seagrove (C) |
| 1968 Oxford | 28-58 | J.P.Valentine (O) | 1920 Oxford | 21-34 | E.A.Montague (O) |
| 1967 Cambridge | 39-41 | H.Altmann (O) | 1919 Cambridge | 22-33 | E.A.Montague (O) |
| 1966 Oxford | 27-55 | J.Godding (O) | 1914-18 No race. | s held due t | o the Great War |
| 1965 Oxford | 25-52 | H.Altmann (O) | | | |
| 1964 Oxford | 38-41 | A.I.C.Heron (C) | 1913 Cambridge | 26-39 | G.M.Sproule (O) |
| 1963 Cambridge | 38-41 | T.F.K.Johnston (C) | 1912 Oxford | 24-31 | G.M.Sproule (O) |
| 1962 Cambridge | 23-58 | D.M.Turner (C) | 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 A.F.Hernaman (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 25th 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 11th February 1891.
- *** Contemporary newspaper reports suggest that the 1880 race may have been won by C.W.Grinstead (Oxford), who is credited as having finished second.

Ladies

Oxford leads Cambridge by 24 wins to 17 Oxford won the unofficial race in 1975

| 2016 Oxford | 21-34 | S.M.F.Saller (O) | 1995 Oxford | 12-25 | N.J.Lynch (O) |
|----------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|----------|--------------------|
| 2015 Cambridge | 23-38 | E.M.Ruane (C) | 1994 Oxford | 10-29 | H.Moulder (O) |
| 2014 Cambridge | No score* | S.M.F.Saller (O) | 1993 Oxford | 14-22 | E.E.Coleman (O) |
| 2013 Cambridge | 12-30 | L.M.Gossage (C) | 1992 Cambridge | 12-28 | C.E.Fothergill (C) |
| 2012 Cambridge | 15-22 | A.L.Greggor (C) | 1991 Cambridge | 17-19 | E.E.Coleman (C) |
| 2011 Oxford | 14-25 | L.M.Gossage (C) | 1990 Oxford | 10-31 | J.D.Dering (O) |
| 2010 Oxford | 10-32 | R.S.Deegan (O) | 1989 Oxford | 12-29 | V.E. Vaughan (O) |
| 2009 Oxford | 17-21 | N.Taschimowitz (C) | 1988 Oxford | 17-20 | M.C.Lavers (C) |
| 2008 Oxford | 15-24 | M.Sikes (O) | 1987 Oxford | 15-21 | V.E.Vaughan (O) |
| 2007 Oxford | 13-29 | C.A.Birch (O) | 1986 Cambridge | 19-19** | V.E.Vaughan (O) |
| 2006 Cambridge | 14-22 | P.H.R.Keen (C) | 1985 Cambridge | 11-27 | C.J.Shelley (C) |
| 2005 Oxford | 11-31 | C.A.Birch (O) | 1984 Cambridge | 111/2-30 | B.A.O'Neill (C) |
| 2004 Oxford | 10-29 | A.Beverly (O) | 1983 Cambridge | 10-26 | H.L.Shaw (C) |
| 2003 Cambridge | 16-20 | J.H.Bleasdale (C) | 1982 Cambridge | 11-25*** | E.C.Hand (C) |
| 2002 Cambridge | 13-26 | E.J.Leggate (C) | 1981 Cambridge | 13-28 | S.A.Hales (C) |
| 2001 Oxford | 16-21 | E.J.Leggate (C) | 1980 Cambridge | 12-29 | J.Lewtas (C) † |
| 2000 Oxford | 18-19 | K.W.T.Skorupska (O) | 1979 Oxford | 18-18*** | J.Lewtas (C) † |
| 1999 Oxford | 12-29 | L.E.Hasell (O) | 1978 Cambridge | 13-26 | S.F.Parker (C) |
| 1998 Oxford | 12-28 | L.E.Hasell (O) | 1977 Oxford | 17-19 | K.E.Tufnell (C) |
| 1997 Oxford | 12-26 | K.W.T.Skorupska (O) | 1976 Oxford | 10-34 | L.Wightman (O) |
| 1996 Oxford | 15-21 | S.J.Cook (O) | 1975 Oxford**** | *7-14 | C.J.Meunier (O) |
| | | | | | |

- * In 2014, with Cambridge comfortably ahead in the team race, several runners went off course, so no score was declared. S.M.F.Saller was awarded the individual victory.
- ** In 1986, Cambridge won by closing its team first.
- *** In 1982, no score was declared following a protest from Oxford about pacing of the Cambridge runners by their supporters.
- **** In 1979, Oxford won by closing its team first.
- ***** The 1975 race (held at Oxford) was unofficial and is not counted as part of the series.
- † Now J. Lasenby C.U.H.& H. President since 2006.

Old Blues Oxfords lead Cambridge by 15 wins to 10

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

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 (even years) and Cambridge (odd years) hosted the race alternately |
| 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. |

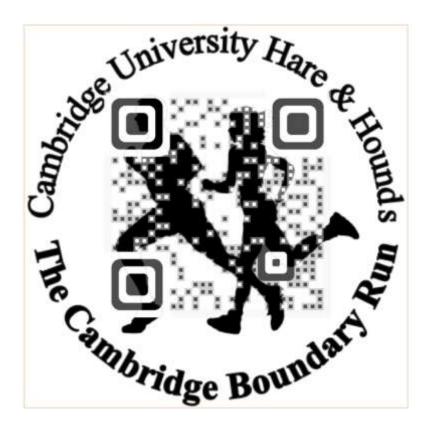
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THAMES HARE AND HOUNDS

The following notice appeared in *The Sportsman* on 3rd October 1868:

THAMES HARE AND HOUNDS

"A handicap 'paper hunt' will take place on Saturday 17th 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. We are currently celebrating our 150th season.

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 a number of friendly "mob matches" against other local clubs that may be scored as many as 50-a-side. 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 recent years the club has achieved a number of successes, such as winning the men's National Cross-Country Championship and Road Relay for the V35 and V45 age groups, Surrey League Division 1, the men's UK marathon championships at London and taking bronze medals at the Ladies' Southern 4-Stage Road Relays.

The club meets regularly at its headquarters on Wimbledon Common. Wednesday evening training runs depart from here at 7.30 p.m., after which refreshments are taken at The Green Man on Putney Heath. Runs tend to last between five and ten miles. There is a 5 mile race every second Sunday morning of the month from the clubhouse which normally attracts 100 or more participants. A number of Thames runners also do a high quality session at the Kingsmeadow track from 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday nights. In the winter season this alternates each week between the track and hill sessions.

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

For further information, see our website, www.thameshareandhounds.org.uk, or contact one of the below:

James McMullan (Club Captain) jamesmcmullan@hotmail.com

Annette Gould (Ladies' Captain) annetteichase@hotmail.com

Simon Molden (Secretary & Club Archivist) simon@scmolden.co.uk