

# Campbell amongst winners as GB squad returns to club action in Four's Head

Alan Campbell was part of a Tideway Scullers crew that won the Fours' Head of the River Race, held last Saturday 3 November on the Tideway in London, on a day which saw GB national squad members compete in each of the five winning Elite level crews.

Campbell's crew – which also included 2007 world double scull champion, Iztok Cop and 2007 world single scull champion Mahe Drysdale as well as Scullers' resident Mike Hennessy – finished the four-and-a-half mile course in 18 minutes and one second to win the race overall, beating 460 other entries.

They overcame a Leander combination of Mark Hunter, Matt Wells, Steve Rowbotham and Ian Lawson – all of whom represented GB at this summer's World Championships – to win the elite quadruple sculls category as well.

Perhaps the most eye-catching performance of the day came from the young Reading University crew, when under-23 world medallist Bill Lucas joined forces with GB senior squad member Alex Gregory as well as John Preston and Daniel Ritchie to finish third overall – beating some experienced crews.

In the women's elite quadruple sculls event, a Marlow Thames composite beat a highly competitive field to win their own category by 11 seconds and finish 35th overall. The crew was stroked by four-times world champion Katherine Grainger and contained Annie Vernon, a current world champion, as well as Olympic medallist Elise Laverick and newly-returned Sarah Winckless, who was out all of last year with an injury.

The composite held off strong competition in their category from a number of fellow British internationals including: Jane Hall, Debbie Flood, Georgina Menheneott and Louisa Reeve for Leander, who finished second; Hester Goodsell, Anna Bebington, Laura Greenhalgh and Natasha Page for Reading University, who finished fourth; Mathilde Pauls and Sophie Hosking for London/Westminster School who finished fifth; Vicki Etiebet, Jess Eddie and Rebecca Rowe for University of London, who finished seventh; and Helen Casey and Andrea Dennis for Wallingford who finished ninth.

In the fours categories, a Leander four, stroked by 2007 World Championships bronze medallist Matt Langridge won the elite coxless event while a Molesey crew of Andy Triggs-Hodge, Tom James, Tom Solesbury and Simon Fieldhouse took the elite coxed event. Molesey beat a number of international crews and representatives, including a Leander crew of British internationals Marcus Bateman, Alex Partridge, Peter Reed, Richard Egington and Phelan Hill (cox) to take top honours in their event.

GB squad members also won the women's elite coxless fours categories. A Thames crew of Alison Knowles, Beth Rodford, Carla Ashford and Baz Moffat won the coxless event, beating a Leander crew with senior GB hopeful Rachel Loveridge on board. World Championship bronze medallist Alice Freeman was part of the Wallingford crew which came third in that category.

Members of this year's under-23 squad, such as Cameron Nichol and Will Laughton (University of London elite quad), Olivia Whitlam (Agecroft elite coxless four), Atlanta St John (Wallingford elite coxless four) and Vicky Bryant, Rachel Jefferies and Kirsty Myles (all Oxford Brookes University senior two quad) were also racing for their clubs. Bob Hewitt and Chris Boddy raced as part of a Tees crew which excelled to finish 14th overall while Josh Davidson stroked the Leander crew which won senior two quad sculls.

The full list of Pennant winners is below:

Elite Quads: Tideway Scullers  
Elite coxless Fours: Leander  
Elite coxed Fours: Molesey  
Women's Elite Quads: Marlow/Thames  
Women's Elite coxless Fours: Thames  
Senior One Quads: Imperial  
Senior One coxless Fours: Lea  
Senior One coxed Fours: Isis  
Senior Two Quads: Leander  
Senior Two coxless Fours: Westminster School  
Senior Two coxed Fours: Oxford Brookes University  
Women's Senior Two Quads: Oxford Brookes University  
Women's Senior Two coxless Fours: Barnes Bridge Ladies  
Women's Senior Two coxed Fours: Furnivall/Auriol Kensington  
Senior Three coxed Fours (Club): Henley  
Senior Three coxed Fours (Academic): Edinburgh University  
Women's Senior Three coxed Fours (Club): Mortlake A & A  
Women's Senior Three coxed Fours (Academic): Osiris  
Junior Quads: Wallingford  
Women's Junior Quads: Maidenhead