

THE UNIVERSITY CROSS-COUNTRY RACES 2024

OXFORD UNIVERSITY CROSS-COUNTRY CLUB



v

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY HARE AND HOUNDS



From Thames Hare and Hounds' Headquarters,
Memorial Playing Fields, Roehampton Vale
on Saturday, 7th December

ORDER OF EVENTS

1:00 p.m.	32 nd Old Blues' Race (Mob Match – all alumni welcome)	4 miles
2:00 p.m.	48 th Ladies' Race (Eight-a-side, six-to-score)	4 miles
2:45 p.m.	133 rd Gentlemen's Race (Eight-a-side, six-to-score)	7½ miles

Starters

Ladies' Race: Emma Huepfl (née Slinger) (Jesus)
O.U.C.C.C. 1991

Gentlemen's Race: Richard Ollington (Pembroke)
C.U.H.& H. 2014

England Athletics Event Licence Number: CC2024/1397

www.varsityxc.run



WELCOME

Welcome to the 133rd Gentlemen's and 48th 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 **Emma Huepfl**, who ran for Oxford in 1991, finishing seventh in a race the Dark Blues lost narrowly by 17 points to 19.

The gentlemen's race will be started by **Richard Ollington**. Richard ran for Cambridge in 2014, finishing 13th on a day when the Dark Blues' strong packing brought them victory by 35 points to 43. Richard is also a former captain of Thames Hare & Hounds, serving for three seasons from 2019 to 2022, including the Covid pandemic period.

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: CC2024/1397**). 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

CAMBRIDGE LADIES

1. **Niamh Bridson Hubbard** (*Newstead Wood School & Magdalene*)
(2022 – 1st; 2021 – 2nd; 2019 – 1st; 2018 – 3rd; 2017– 2nd; 2016 – 5th)

Niamh Bridson Hubbard is by far the most experienced runner in the Cambridge side, having notched up six previous appearances, including two individual victories. Last year, she missed out due to European selection. Her form this season suggests she should again be involved at the front of the race, having finished seventh in the senior race at the Liverpool Cross-Challenge.

2. **Eleanor Colbourn** (*St Aidan's C of E High School, Harrogate & Jesus*)
(2023 – 16th & Cheetahs, 8th)

Eleanor Colbourn was a late call-up to the Cambridge team in 2023. This year, fifth place in Cuppers secured her second appearance in the race.

3. **Milly Dickinson** (*Brighton, Hove & Sussex 6th Form College & Caius*)
(2023 – 11th; 2021 – 10th; 2022 – Cheetahs, 5th)

Milly Dickinson is a former captain and another experienced runner for Cambridge, having previously competed in 2021 and 2023. She won the Light Blues' opening fixture of the season – the Megacross Invitational – and followed this up with 23rd in the under 23 race at the Liverpool Cross-Challenge.

4. **Maia Hardman** (*Lewes Old Grammar School & Selwyn*)
(2023 – 10th; 2022 – 11th; 2021 – 13th)

Maia Hardman is another former captain and experienced runner in the Light Blues' team. She finished third, just behind her captain, at Cuppers to secure her fourth appearance in the race.

5. **Lea Meinecke** (*University of Glasgow & Selwyn*)

Lea Meinecke has stepped into the Cambridge team to replace captain Poppy Craig-McFeely, following the latter's European selection. A new arrival at Cambridge this autumn, she finished third in the Megacross Invitational and sixth in Cuppers.

6. **Niamh Thompson** *(Surbiton High School & Homerton)*
(2023 – Cheetahs, 14th; 2022 – Cheetahs, 3rd)

After two years running at second team level, Niamh Thompson has made the step up to the Blues team this year following second place in the Megacross Invitational and fourth in Cuppers.

7. **Stella Wernicke** *(Heidelberg University & Emmanuel)*
(2023 – Cheetahs, 10th)

Stella Wernicke is the second member of the Cambridge team to have moved up from the Cheetahs in 2023, securing her place after finishing sixth in Cuppers. Earlier this year, she registered a time of 2:46 in the London Marathon.

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

Having missed out due to European selection and injury for the past two seasons, Beatrice Wood will be making her debut today. However, she is an exceptionally talented runner – as shown by finishing fourth on her leg at the National Cross-Country Relays in November – and should be involved right at the front of today's race.

Reserves:

9. **Beth Rogers** *(Ilkley Grammar School & Jesus)*
(2024 – Cheetahs, 8th)

10. **Rosie Vallance** *(Durham University and Peterhouse)*
(2024 – Cheetahs, 10th; 2023 – Cheetahs, 11th)

- Poppy Craig-McFeely (Captain)** *(Putney High School & Robinson)*
(2023 – 7th; 2022 – 6th)

Today would have been captain Poppy Craig-McFeely's third appearance. However, she has been ruled out following selection for the Great Britain and Northern Ireland team for the European Cross-Country Championships.

OXFORD LADIES

11. **Josephine Auer** *(Magdalen)*
One of four new faces in the Oxford ranks this season, Josephine Auer opened her season by finishing sixth in Cuppers. She followed this up with seventh at the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Championship to secure her place in the team.

12. **Charlotte Buckley** *(Oriel)*
(2022 – 10th; 2021 – 7th; 2023 – Turtles, 1st)
Having missed out on the Oxford Blues team in 2023, Charlotte Buckley has recaptured her form of earlier years and returns to the team. She should be one of Oxford's higher scorers having finished third in Cuppers and 15th in the under 23 race at the Liverpool Cross-Challenge.

13. **Laia Casajoana Guardia** *(St. John's)*
Hailing from Spain, Laia Casajoana Guardia is a new face to the Dark Blues ranks this season. In her two races for Oxford, she finished sixth in Cuppers and then fifth in the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Championship to achieve selection for the Blue team at the first time of asking.

14. **Rebecca Flaherty** *(St. Catherine's)*
Rebecca Flaherty arrived at Oxford this autumn with an impressive track record from school, including finishing 13th in the English Schools Championship in March. She opened her Dark Blue career with victory in Cuppers and then finished eighth in the under 20 race at the Liverpool Cross-Challenge.

15. **Lauren Major** *(Merton)*
(2023 – 5th; 2022 – 7th; 2021 – 8th; 2018 – 7th; 2021 – Turtles, 2013 – C.U. Cheetahs, 5th)
Lauren Major is a member of Thames and the most experienced runner in the Dark Blue octet. She will be notching up her fifth appearance today. Her record in the race is incredibly consistent and eighth place for Thames in the Surrey League Division 1 race in November suggests she should again be one of Oxford's key scorers.

16. **Beth Rawlinson** *(St. Hugh's)*
(2023 – 14th)

Beth Rawlinson will be making her second appearance today, hoping to improve on 14th place on debut last year. She did not compete in either of Oxford's races this autumn; however, ninth place in the Midland Women's League Division 1 race in November was a very strong performance and indicates she should be among the Dark Blue scorers.

17. **Jemima Ridley** *(Lady Margaret Hall)*
(2023 – 12th)

Another runner making her second appearance today, Jemima Ridley will also be looking for a strong run this afternoon. She has been highly placed in both of Oxford's races this season with fourth in Cuppers and third in the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Championship. She also finished tenth in the junior women's race at the re-arranged National in September.

18. **Lauren Russel** *(Balliol)*

The second of two undergraduate freshers, Lauren Russel boasts a similarly impressive school running pedigree to Rebecca Flaherty, having finished seventh in the English Schools Championship. She was second in Cuppers and then just three places behind Flaherty at the Liverpool Cross-Challenge.

Reserves:

19. **Anika Schwarze-Chintapatla (Captain)** *(Trinity)*
(2024 – Turtles, 2nd; 2022 – Turtles, 9th)

20. **Clara Hartley** *(Queen's)*
(2024 – Turtles, 3rd; 2023 – Turtles, 5th)

CAMBRIDGE GENTLEMEN

21. **Cameron Deverill** *(Williamwood High School & St. Catharine's)*
(2023 – Barbarians, 1st)

Cameron Deverill has made the significant step up from third to Blues team in one season. He secured his place after finishing sixth in the Megacross Invitational and seventh in Cuppers.

22. **Thomas Dugré** *(International School Basel & Jesus)*
(2023 – 14th)

Thomas Dugré is making his second appearance and his form suggests that he should be able to improve on 14th place in 2023. This was shown when he opened the season with victory in Cambridge's Megacross Invitational race.

23. **Terry Fawden** *(Loughborough University & Wolfson)*
(2023 – 6th; 2022 – 14th)

Terry Fawden had a very strong run in 2023 to finish sixth for the Light Blues and being heavily involved in the eight-runner pack that ultimately decided the team score. Third place in Cuppers and a very strong run in the rearranged National in September, where he finished 19th, suggests that he should again be in amongst the action.

24. **Joseph Massingham** *(Wickersley School & Sports College & Pembroke)*
(2023 – 2nd; 2021 – 5th; 2019 – 9th; 2018 – 14th; 2017 – 14th)

Joe Massingham is Cambridge's most experienced runner, competing for the sixth time today. Having won Cuppers and run strongly in the various regional and national relay competitions over the autumn, he looks to be in the form to repeat his 2023 performance.

25. **George Ogden** *(Trinity School, Croydon & Trinity)*
(2023 – Spartans, 6th; 2022- Spartans, 5th)

George Ogden is one of two new faces for the Light Blues, having run for the Spartans for the past two seasons. Fifth place in Cuppers was enough to secure his place and he followed this up with 36th in the under 23 race at the Liverpool Cross-Challenge. He should finish among the Cambridge scorers.

26. **Ewan Spencer** *(Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School & Trinity Hall)*
(2022 – 3rd; 2021 – 12th; 2023 – Spartans, 8th)

Ewan Spencer returns to the Light Blue team, having dropped down to the Spartans in 2023. Second place in Cuppers behind Joe Massingham and seventh place on his leg at the National 6-Stage Relay in October suggest that he has recaptured his form of 2022 and he should be one of Cambridge's top scorers.

27. **Thomas Spencer** *(Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School & Christ's)*
(2023 – 15th; 2022 – 10th & Spartans, 1st; 2021 – Spartans, 7th)

Like brother Ewan, Thomas Spencer is making his third appearance in the race. His performance in Cuppers, where he finished two places behind Ewan suggests that he should be looking to improve significantly on 15th place last year.

28. **Max Walk** *(University of Birmingham & Caius)*
(2023 – Spartans, 4th)

Max Walk is the other new face for Cambridge, having been reserve 12 months ago. So far this season, he finished third in the Megacross Invitational and sixth in Cuppers to earn his debut in the Blues race.

Reserves:

29. James Egerton *(The King's School, Macclesfield & Jesus)*
(2021 – 1st; 2019 – 11th; 2024 – Spartans, 8th; 2019 – Spartans, 2nd)

30. Dillon Hobbs *(Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys & Girton)*
(2024 – Spartans, 9th)

Captain

- Alex Beeston *(Judd School & Downing)*
(2024 – Spartans, 13th; 2023 – Barbarians, 4th)

OXFORD GENTLEMEN

31. **Alexander Bampton** (*University College, London & Green Templeton*)
(2023 – 10th; 2017, 15th; 2017 – Tortoises, 2nd)

Alex Bampton is one of Oxford's most experienced runners, having first appeared in the race back in 2017. After injury ruled him out in 2022, he returned last year to finish right in amongst the pack. He has raced sparingly this autumn; however, he had a strong run in the Gloucestershire League race in November to finish third.

32. **Alexander Gruen** (*Melbourne Grammar School & Keble*)
(2023 – 3rd; 2019 – 8th; 2017 – Tortoises, 3rd; 2016 – Tortoises, 2nd)

Alex Gruen produced an outstanding run in 2023 to head home the Dark Blues. His only race this autumn has been the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Championship; however, second place in that suggests he should be highly placed again today.

33. **Matthew Kearney** (*Massachusetts Institute of Technology & Magdalen*)

A Rhodes Scholar, Matthew Kearney is one of two Americans in the Oxford octet and has brought with him an impressive university track record. Although only ninth in Cuppers, he moved up very strongly in the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Championship, finishing fourth, to secure his selection.

34. **Joseph Morrow** (*Alcester Grammar School & Queen's*)
(2023 – 13th; 2022 – 2nd; 2021 – 3rd; 2019 – 10th; 2018 – Snails, 11th)

Joe Morrow is the old hand in the Oxford team and will be looking to bounce back after a disappointing run in 2023. Results this season are promising, including second place in Cuppers and 39th in the rearranged National in September. Joe should be back among the top Oxford scorers today.

35. **Christopher Parker** (*Reading Blue Coat School & Corpus Christi*)
(2023 – Tortoises, 5th)

Chris Parker was a reserve last year as a fresher and has moved up strongly in the past 12 months. After finishing third in Cuppers, he won the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Championship, leading home a pack of four Dark Blues. He should be involved at the sharp end of the race.

36. **Jared Ward** *(Brigham Young University & Keble)*

The other American in the Oxford team, Jared Ward arrived at Oxford this autumn bringing with him an impressive international running pedigree. He has a best 5km time of 13:34 and marathon time of 2:09:25, set at Boston in 2019. In 2016, he represented the USA in the Olympic Marathon in Rio, finishing sixth. For the Dark Blues, he won Cuppers in October and he should be right up at the front of today's race.

37. **Nicholas Whittaker** *(University of the Witwatersrand & Wolfson)*

South African, Nicholas Whittaker, adds to the international flavour of the Oxford team and is another newcomer. He has recorded a personal best in the 1500m of 3:44.89 and marked his arrival for the Dark Blues when he finished third in the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Championship.

38. **Thomas Wood** *(Ysgol Santes Ffraid & St. Anne's)*
(2023 – 5th; 2022 – 4th; 2021 – 8th; 2019 – Tortoises, 14th)

Thomas Wood is another experienced face in the Oxford team and will be making his fourth appearance. He has not raced so far this autumn; however, his prior experience should stand him in good stead for this afternoon's race.

Reserves:

39. Thomas Renshaw *(Hale School, Western Australia & St. Hugh's)*
(2023 – 9th; 2022 – 9th; 2021 – 7th; 2024 – Tortoises, 1st; 2019 – Tortoises, 3rd)

40. Jared Martin *(Regent House Grammar School, Newtownards & St. Cross)*
(2023 – 8th; 2022 – 15th; 2024 – Tortoises, 2nd; 2021 – Snails, 2nd)

Captain

Samuel Waite *(Worcester)*
(2023 – Snails, 16th; 2022 – Tortoises, 14th)

THE 2023 UNIVERSITY RACES

(held over Thames Hare and Hounds' courses at Roehampton Vale on Saturday, 2nd December)

The 47th Ladies' Race: Oxford won by 32 points to 46

1.	P.R.A.Barker	Robinson	Cambridge	23:12
2.	E.J.Apsley	St. Hilda's	Oxford	24:19
3.	N.S.M.Kingston	Queen's	Oxford	24:44
4.	M.L.Williams	Corpus Christi	Oxford	24:50
5.	L.Major	Merton	Oxford	25:00
6.	M.L.McDonald	Linacre	Oxford	25:03
7.	P.E.G.Craig-McFeely	Robinson	Cambridge	25:09
8.	L.T.M.Lewis	St. Catharine's	Cambridge	25:13
9.	G.L.Shanahan	Trinity	Cambridge	25:25
10.	M.A.Hardman	Selwyn	Cambridge	25:32
11.	M.D.E.Dickinson*	Gonville and Caius	Cambridge	25:40
12.	J.E.Ridley	Lady Margaret Hall	Oxford	25:48
13.	H.M.Sprosen	Christ's	Cambridge	25:54
14.	B.K.Rawlinson	St. Hugh's	Oxford	26:14
15.	R.S.Woolfe	Keble	Oxford	26:16
16.	E.Colbourn	Jesus	Cambridge	27:02

(denotes team captain; R.M.Paton (Jesus) was Oxford captain)*

The 132nd Gentlemen's Race: Cambridge won by 38 points to 42

1.	J.S.G.Dempsey	Girton	Cambridge	38:36
2.	J.T.Massingham	Pembroke	Cambridge	39:06
3.	A.J.Gruen	Keble	Oxford	39:19
4.	P.W.Molloy	Trinity	Cambridge	39:40
5.	T.J.Wood	St. Anne's	Oxford	39:41
6.	T.Fawden	Wolfson	Cambridge	39:42
7.	I.M.Barnes	Oriel	Oxford	39:46
8.	J.A.C.Martin*	St. Cross	Oxford	39:47
9.	T.D.Renshaw	St. Hugh's	Oxford	39:49
10.	A.C.Bampton	Green Templeton	Oxford	39:50
11.	L.Hollom*	Trinity	Cambridge	39:51
12.	N.F.Moulton	St. Antony's	Oxford	40:13
13.	J.D.Morrow	Queen's	Oxford	40:21
14.	T.E.R.Dugré	Jesus	Cambridge	40:30
15.	T.P.Spencer	Christ's	Cambridge	40:39
16.	J.W.Rennie	Jesus	Cambridge	41:40

(denotes team captain)*

THE 2024 2nd-4th TEAM UNIVERSITY RACES

(held over O.U.C.C.'s courses at Shotover Country Park on Saturday 30th November)

80 th Tortoises-Spartans Race	Oxford won by 21 points to 63
73 rd Snails-Barbarians Race	Oxford won by 23 points to 65
66 th Gentlemen's 4 th Team Race	Oxford won by 2,324 points to 1,841
41 st Turtles-Cheetahs Race	Oxford won by 27 points to 55
37 th Ladies' 3 rd Team Race	Oxford won by 2,496 points to 1,633

PREVIEW OF THE 2024 UNIVERSITY RACES

The 2024 University Races present an intriguing prospect with the Dark Blues looking potentially to be in a position to secure their first double victory since 2017.

The 48th Ladies' Race should prove to be a tight affair. The Light Blues' prospects have been hampered by the loss of captain Poppy Craig-McFeely (Robinson) to European selection. However, in 2022 victor Niamh Bridson Hubbard (Magdalene) – making her seventh appearance – and Beatrice Wood (Lucy Cavendish), they have two runners who should feature strongly at the front. Behind them, Oxford will fancy being able to pack their runners. They have two very talented undergraduate freshers in Rebecca Flaherty (St. Catherine's) and Lauren Russel (Balliol) as well as the experienced Charlotte Buckley (Oriol) who will very likely lead their challenge. Behind them, their octet has a very solid look to it. Although two former Light Blue captains in Milly Dickinson (Caius) and Maia Hardman (Selwyn) should also be in amongst the thick of the battle, on paper the Cambridge team has a longer tail. As a consequence, if the Dark Blues are able to stack their runners solidly throughout the middle order, they should just about shade the team honours and secure their first back-to-back victories since 2017. However, the outcome is far from certain and an exciting contest should play out.

In the 133rd Gentlemen's Race, on paper at least, it appears that after four consecutive defeats this might finally be Oxford's year again. The fact that they have been able to leave four resident Blues out of their team and their emphatic victories last weekend point to a formidable strength in depth this year. They are also able to bring in four very strong debutants, the most outstanding of which is former international marathon runner and Olympian Jared Ward (Keble). Chris Parker (Corpus Christi) has improved significantly from 12 months ago and has registered impressive finishes in both of Oxford's races this season. To add to the newcomers are four experienced returning Blues. Perhaps the pick of them are Joe Morrow (Queen's), who, after a blip in 2023, looks to be back in the form that brought him a second-place finish in 2022, and Australian Alex Gruen (Keble) who was third last year.

The Light Blue team also looks to be strong on paper, with Joe Massingham (Pembroke), Terry Fawden (Wolfson) and the Spencer brothers all being in good form and likely to feature strongly at the front of the race. However, a bit like their ladies' team, on current form they look perhaps to have a slightly longer tail than the Dark Blues. Oxford's top-end firepower backed up by consistent strength down the order should make them a difficult team to beat and they head into the contest as marginal favourites; however, the result is far from certain and another enthralling contest should ensue.

UNIVERSITY RACE COURSES

The courses currently used for the University Races were introduced in 2000. Both 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 on the Common. 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.

Bethanie Murray

Captain

Thames Hare and Hounds

UNIVERSITY RACE COURSES

ROEHAMPTON VALE & WIMBLEDON COMMON

Exact locations of the points on the course can be found using the QR code below



Based on the 1995 map drawn by Robin Thomas

FROM THE ARCHIVES

10 years ago

The 124th Gentlemen's Race turned out to be something of a thriller. The Light Blues entered the contest off the back of three consecutive wins and as firm favourites. However, despite dominating at the front, with Alex Short (Robinson) and Lewis Lloyd (Pembroke), Oxford packed seven of their eight runners in the next eight places to take the team honours by 35 points to 43. In their team was Will Ryle-Hodges (St. Antony's), running for them for the first of two times before returning to the Light Blues and ultimately notching up a record nine appearances.

The 39th Ladies' Race was sadly memorable for entirely different reasons as seven of the leading runners veered off course in the closing stages, taking a shorter route home. However, with six being Light Blues, the race was awarded to them. The individual honours were given to Oxford's Sophia Saller (St. Catherine's) who led for much of the way and completed the correct course.

25 years ago

In the 24th Ladies' Race, the Dark Blues produced another dominant performance to register their seventh win in a row. Lucy Hasell (Queen's) recorded her second individual victory and captain Ellen O'Hare (Merton) made the last of her four appearances for them. She moved to Cambridge in 2000 and making another four to become the overall record holder in the ladies' contest.

In the 109th Gentlemen's Race, what looked on paper to be a close contest did not materialise, as Cambridge ran out comfortable winners by 35 points to 48, despite Oxford having the first two home in Nick Talbot and Jeremy Bradley (both University). However, with the Light Blues packing their entire team in the next ten places, the result was never in doubt.

50 years ago

In the 84th Gentlemen's Race, Oxford finally ended a sequence of five Light Blues victories with a strong 30 points to 49 victory. Leading the way home jointly were Andy Etchells (St. John's) and future National Cross-Country champion Julian Goater (St. Edmund Hall). As Etchells commented to the *Oxford Mail*, "At the six mile mark Julian and I agreed to go in together. When you have trained all term and run a whole match it's difficult to fight for first position."

75 years ago

As reported by *Athletics Weekly*, the 59th Gentlemen's Race proved a much closer affair than anticipated, with the favoured Dark Blues winning by the relatively small margin of 35 points to 43. First home was Roger Bannister (Exeter) and back in fifth was one of his partners – although a rival on this day - in his future successful attempt on the 4-minute mile barrier, Chris Brasher (St. John's).

100 years ago

In the penultimate race over the old Roehampton course before the move to Horton Kirby in 1926, the Light Blues secured a very comfortable 20 points to 35 victory. Ralph Starr (Christ's) narrowly beat the only Dark Blue in the top five, Cedric Morgan (Christ Church) to first place.

125 years ago

Led home by the exceptionally talented Ernest Pumphrey (Christ's), the Light Blues unexpectedly secured a second 'lowest possible' score in three years, filling places one to five in what was then a five-a-side contest. The Cambridge President, Robert Conway (St. Catharine's) put the margin of the Dark Blues' defeat down to their choice of wearing rubber-soled shoes, rather than spikes.



Top left:
Ernest Pumphrey
(Christ's), winner of
the 1899 and 1900
races, pictured
leading the famous
Wilson Run at
Sedbergh School.

Top middle:
Ralph Starr
(Christ's) winning
the 1924 race with
runner-up Cedric
Morgan (Christ
Church) in the
distance.

Top right:
Lucy Hasell
(Queen's) winning
the 1999 Ladies'
Race.



Middle:
Roger Bannister
(Exeter) winning the
1949 race.

Bottom:
The start of the 2014
Gentlemen's Race.

RACE STATISTICS

Gentlemen's Race

Of the 132 gentlemen's races between 1880 and 2023, Cambridge have won 67 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 61.

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 47 ladies' races between 1976 and 2023, Oxford has won 27 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 26.

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 and St. Hugh's (19 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 67 wins to 65

2023 Cambridge	38-42	J.S.G.Dempsey (C)	1967 Cambridge	39-41	H.Altmann (O)
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)			=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)			=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.Loveloek (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)

1914-18 No races due to the Great War

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 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.

*** 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 27 wins to 20 (Oxford won the unofficial race in 1975)

2023	Oxford	32-46	P.R.A.Barker (C)	1999	Oxford	12-29	L.E.Hasell (O)
2022	Cambridge	29-50	M.N.Bridson Hubbard (C)	1998	Oxford	12-28	L.E.Hasell (O)
2021	Oxford	36-44	N.E.Scott (C)	1997	Oxford	12-26	K.W.T.Skorupska (O)
2020	<i>No race due to the Covid-19 pandemic</i>						
2019	Cambridge	39-41	M.N.Bridson Hubbard (C)	1996	Oxford	15-21	S.J.Cook (O)
2018	Cambridge	33-46	N.E.Scott (C)	1995	Oxford	12-25	N.J.Lynch (O)
2017	Oxford	23-34	F.V.Scrafton (O)	1994	Oxford	10-29	H.Moulder (O)
2016	Oxford	21-34	S.M.F.Saller (O)	1993	Oxford	14-22	E.E.Coleman (O)
2015	Cambridge	23-38	E.M.Ruane (C)	1992	Cambridge	12-28	C.E.Fothergill (C)
2014	Cambridge	<i>No score*</i>	S.M.F.Saller (O)	1991	Cambridge	17-19	E.E.Coleman (C)
2013	Cambridge	12-30	L.M.Gossage (C)	1990	Oxford	10-31	J.D.Dering (O)
2012	Cambridge	15-22	A.L.Greggor (C)	1989	Oxford	12-29	V.E.Vaughan (O)
2011	Oxford	14-25	L.M.Gossage (C)	1988	Oxford	17-20	M.C.Lavers (C)
2010	Oxford	10-32	R.S.Deegan (O)	1987	Oxford	15-21	V.E.Vaughan (O)
2009	Oxford	17-21	N.Taschimowitz (C)	1986	Cambridge	19-19**	V.E.Vaughan (O)
2008	Oxford	15-24	M.Sikes (O)	1985	Cambridge	11-27	C.J.Shelley (C)
2007	Oxford	13-29	C.A.Birch (O)	1984	Cambridge	11½-30	B.A.O'Neill (C)
2006	Cambridge	14-22	P.H.R.Keen (C)	1983	Cambridge	10-26	H.L.Shaw (C)
2005	Oxford	11-31	C.A.Birch (O)	1982	Cambridge	<i>11-25****</i>	E.C.Hand (C)
2004	Oxford	10-29	A.Beverly (O)	1981	Cambridge	13-28	S.A.Hales (C)
2003	Cambridge	16-20	J.H.Bleasdale (C)	1980	Cambridge	12-29	J.Lewtas (C)
2002	Cambridge	13-26	E.J.Leggate (C)	1979	Oxford	18-18****	J.Lewtas (C)
2001	Oxford	16-21	E.J.Leggate (C)	1978	Cambridge	13-26	S.F.Parker (C)
2000	Oxford	18-19	K.W.T.Skorupska (O)	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.

Old Blues

Oxford leads Cambridge by 18 wins to 13

2023 Cambridge	143-209	J.Carr (C)	2003 Oxford	32-46	N.P.Talbot (O)
2022 Oxford	147-230	J.M.Millar (O)	2002 Cambridge	109-134	D.E.Naylor (C)
2021 Oxford	160-171	J.M.Millar (O)	2001 Cambridge	39-66	D.E.Naylor (C)
2020	<i>No race due to Covid-19 pandemic</i>		2000 Cambridge	81-131	D.E.Naylor (C)
2019 Oxford	180-186	W.J.A.Christofi (O)	1999	<i>No race*</i>	
2018 Cambridge	98-158	M.H.Chandler (O)	1998	<i>No race*</i>	
2017 Cambridge	123-183	A.M.Short (C)	1997 Oxford	45-92	R.D.Nerurkar (O)
2016 Cambridge	114-192	T.D.Frith (O)	1996 Oxford	127-127	J.W.Herries (C)
2015 Oxford	223-291	W.J.Mackay (C)	1995 Cambridge	23-34	A.J.Barber (C)
2014 Cambridge	220-247	M.R.Leach (C)	1994 Cambridge	116-241	D.A.Bond (C)
2013 Oxford	122-186	D.J.Bruce (O)	1993 Oxford	96-172	R.D.Nerurkar (O)
2012 Oxford	96-246	F.K.Thompson (O)	1992 Cambridge	407-415	S.C.Nash (C)
2011 Oxford	48-181	D.J.Bruce (O)	1991 Cambridge	48-62	A.N.J.Robinson (O)
2010 Oxford	162-244	B.Moreau (O)	1990 Oxford	37-40	R.D.Nerurkar (O)
2009 Oxford	98-165	I.D.Kimpton (O)			
2008 Oxford	38-40	A.D.Hennessy (O)			
2007 Oxford	97-114	M.J.Bishop (O)			
2006 Oxford	312-354	D.A.Talbot (C)			
2005 Cambridge	137-166	D.A.Talbot (C)			
2004 Oxford	90-120	N.P.Talbot (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.

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 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 and we celebrated our 150th 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 9th 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 2nd 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) or contact one of the below:

Bethanie Murray (Club Captain)
Macgregor Cox (Men’s’ Captain)
Simon Molden (Secretary & Club Archivist)

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THAMES HARE AND HOUNDS 2024