

## **WALLINGFORD ROWING CLUB LTD**

WEB: [www.wallingford.rowing.org.uk](http://www.wallingford.rowing.org.uk)  
NEWS AND PUBLICITY: [news@wallingfordrc.co.uk](mailto:news@wallingfordrc.co.uk)

**PRESS RELEASE 13<sup>th</sup> April 2007**

### **WOMEN'S EIGHT HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE (WEHORR) SATURDAY 17TH MARCH 2007**

**Started 208<sup>th</sup>, finished 48<sup>th</sup>, time 20:18.88**

Freezing cold, towering waves, gales of wind and pouring rain – for once crews competing in the Women's Eights Head of the River Race (WEHORR) had none of these things to deal with at the Tideway, leaving Wallingford's S2 VIII crew to enjoy some very welcome spring sunshine. Although for a few of us it was our first WEHORR, the atmosphere was generally relaxed, not least because we'd been lucky enough to secure the top coxing services of Mike Floyd and had coach Mick Brind on hand to offer sterling advice such as, 'row really hard til the end, then stop'. There was even time for a quick drink in The Dove (orange juice of course) before boating from Furnival.

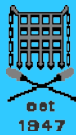
With 207 other crews in front of us we got some quality sunbathing in before it was our turn to spin and head for the start line. For the next 20 minutes and 18.88 seconds my memory's a blur – I think we overtook a few people, went under bridges somewhere along the way and there was definitely somebody wearing red sitting in front of me, but beyond that things are a bit fuzzy. However, by the time we crossed the finish everyone was still in the boat, the boat was still in one piece and everyone agreed it had been a good effort. Top 100 maybe? Derigging the boat, we load trailer and headed back to Wallingford for a much needed shower and food.

Then about 6pm the results came in and the high-pitched phone calls started – "48<sup>th</sup>! WE CAME 48<sup>th</sup>!" The whole crew was over the moon – we'd all hoped to do well, but moving up 160 places was beyond anyone's expectations. It was a great boost for the squad and a very positive start to the 2007 racing season.

Special thanks to Mike for his expert steering skills, Mick for his ongoing efforts to cut the mincing and Ben Townsend for braving Furnival's unpredictable parking arrangements to make sure we had a boat!

#### **WEHORR crew:**

Cox – Mike Floyd  
Stroke – Jay Philcox  
7 – Rosie Elmes  
6 – Suzie Pilkington  
5 – Bea Longworth  
4 – Emily Townsend  
3 – Heather Miller  
2 – Heather Musgrave  
Bow – Caroline Barnes



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Looking ahead to the summer season, the Women's Squad will field what promises to be an exhausting number of boats at Abingdon Head on 22nd April 2007 and plans to race at Wallingford, Monmouth, Reading and more in the coming months.

**-Ends-**

### **Notes to Editors**

Report by Bea Longworth, Wallingford Rowing Club Women's Co-Captain.

For more information on the Womens' squad email [WomensCaptain@wallingfordrc.co.uk](mailto:WomensCaptain@wallingfordrc.co.uk)  
For information on joining Wallingford Rowing Club visit [www.wallingford.rowing.org.uk](http://www.wallingford.rowing.org.uk) or email [membership@wallingfordrc.co.uk](mailto:membership@wallingfordrc.co.uk).