GB ROWING TEAM – London 2012 Olympic Games - Background

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SUMMARY

The GB Rowing Team has a proud history as one of GB’s most successful Olympic sports producing World and Olympic Champions from across the UK.

The GB Rowing Team qualified boats for London 2012 at the 2011 World Championships in 13 of the 14 Olympic class events (all except the women’s single scull).

The GB Rowing Team’s official website is [www.gbrowingteam.org.uk](http://www.gbrowingteam.org.uk)

CONTACT US at GAMES TIME

The GB Rowing Team press office will be operational during the Games for any rowing-specific enquiries.

Caroline Searle, the GB Rowing Team Press Officer, will transfer across to Team GB for the duration of the Games and can be contacted for on-site and phone interviews with the team and information on: 07831 755351 or Caroline@matchtight.co.uk

Any requests for rower appearances or media interviews post-Games should be directed to Miranda Edwards who will collate them all and work with the GB Rowing Team general and press offices to organise them. She is contactable on (01225) 443998 or Miranda@matchtight.co.uk

Andy Sloan, who is responsible for the GB Rowing Team’s regional media enquiries and all social media enquiries will be operational throughout the Games on (01225) 443998 or 07714 168391 and will provide back-up to Caroline Searle on media enquiries – Andy@matchtight.co.uk
**OLYMPIC HISTORY**

Rowing is one of Britain’s most consistently successful Olympic sports with the GB Rowing Team winning 24 gold, 20 silver and 10 bronze medals in the history of the Olympic Games, from 1900, up to and including Beijing in 2008.

It is the only GB sport to have won gold at every Games since 1984 and boasts Britain’s greatest Olympian, Sir Steve Redgrave, who won five golds in five successive Games between 1984 in Los Angeles and 2000 in Sydney. In 1988 he also won an additional bronze medal, doubling up in the pair and coxed pair.

Rowing made its Olympic debut in 1900 after false starting in 1896 when bad weather prevented it from featuring at the very first Games. Women’s rowing was introduced at the 1984 Games in Los Angeles and lightweight events have featured since the 1996 Games in Atlanta.

The 2008 Olympic Games was the GB Rowing Team’s most successful Games of the modern era with two golds (men’s four and lightweight men’s double), two silvers (men’s eight and women’s quadraple scull) and two bronze medals (men’s and women’s double scull) – making GB the top rowing nation.

**The 2012 Team**

Among the established “names” in the British squad for the Olympics are:

- **Katherine Grainger** - GB’s most decorated female rower who has won a silver medal at each of the past three Olympic Games. She is joined by Anna Watkins in the women’s double scull. Both are 2010 and 2011 World Champions and Watkins is a Beijing bronze medalist in the same event;
- **Andrew Triggs Hodge, Peter Reed, Tom James** - returning Beijing gold medalists from the men’s four. They row with 2009 and 2011 World Champion Alex Gregory in London;
- **Zac Purchase and Mark Hunter** – returning Beijing gold medalists from the lightweight men’s double scull and 2011 World Champions;
- **Alex Partridge, Ric Egington, Matt Langridge** – all 2008 Beijing silver medalists in the men’s eight, won men’s four world gold together in 2009 and Egington and Langridge are 2011 World Champions;
- **Greg Searle** - 1992 Olympic gold medalist who has returned to the sport after a 10-year break to try and win a medal in London aged 40 in the eight;
- **Frances Houghton and Debbie Flood** - Twice Olympic silver medalists in the women’s quadruple scull;
- **Helen Glover and Heather Stanning** – twice World silver medalists in the women’s pair.

Talented newcomers in the squad this year or since Beijing 2008 include:
• **George Nash** – 2011 World U23 Champion in the men’s pair who races in London with **Will Satch**;

• **Kat Copeland** – 2011 World U23 Champion in the lightweight single scull who races at London 2012 with 2009 and 2011 World medalist Sophie Hosking in the lightweight women’s double scull;

• **Sam Townsend, Bill Lucas, Vicky Thornley, Charles Cousins** – all World Cup or World Championship medalists and are among approximately 30% of the current team that has emerged from the GB Rowing Team’s ground-breaking and successful START talent identification and development scheme which has received substantial lottery and commercial backing.

• **Moe Sbihi** – 2011 World Silver medalist in the men’s eight is also a graduate of the Start scheme. A practising Muslim and the tallest member of the team. Of Moroccan ancestry, he was identified as a 16-year-old at a London comprehensive school and enticed away from his love of basketball.

Read more about the GB Rowing Team’s Olympic history ([http://www.britishrowing.org/gb-rowing-team/events/olympic-games](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb-rowing-team/events/olympic-games))

**BOAT CLASSES AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES**

There are 14 different rowing events, known as ‘boat classes’, at the Olympic Games. Each has a standard abbreviation for start-list and results purposes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Boat class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women</strong></td>
<td>Single scull (W1x)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Double scull (W2x)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pair (W2-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quadruple scull (W4x)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eight (W8+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Men</strong></td>
<td>Single scull (M1x)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Double scull (M2x)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pair (M2-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quadruple scull (M4x)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Four (M4-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eight (M8+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lightweight women</strong></td>
<td>Double scull (LW2x)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lightweight men</strong></td>
<td>Double scull (LM2x)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Four (LM4-)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A boat with a cox is denoted by a ‘+’ and a coxless boat by a ‘-‘.
Sculling boats, where each rower has two oars, are designated by an ‘x’.

Each sculler uses two oars and each rower (in the sweep oar classes) has one oar. Boats are then numbered according to the number of athletes e.g. Double Scull has two rowers, therefore, (2x) and a quadruple scull has four rowers (4x).

A sweep-oar rowing boat with two rowers is called a ‘pair’ (2-), with four rowers a ‘four’ and eight rowers an ‘eight’. The eights at the Olympic Games are the only events to have a cox.

Lightweight rowers must conform to a maximum weight standard before they are allowed to race. A lightweight event is denoted by a ‘L’.

Women must not weigh more than 59 kgs and men must not exceed 72.5 kgs. For crew events, the average weight for a womens’ crew must not exceed 57 kgs and for men, 70 kgs.

**MEDALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Olympic regatta</th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
<th>Bronze</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008 (Beijing)</td>
<td>2 (M4-, LM2x)</td>
<td>2 (M8+, W4x)</td>
<td>2 (M2x, W2x)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004 (Athens)</td>
<td>1 (M4-)</td>
<td>2 (W4x, W2-)</td>
<td>1 (W2x)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 (Sydney)</td>
<td>2 (M4-, M8+)</td>
<td>1 (W4x)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2008 Olympic medalists (Beijing, China):**

- M4-: Tom James, Steve Williams, Pete Reed, Andrew Triggs Hodge
- LM2x: Zac Purchase, Mark Hunter
- M8+: Alex Partridge, Tom Stallard, Tom Lucy, Richard Egington, Josh West, Alastair Heathcote, Matthew Langridge, Colin Smith, Acer Nethercott
- W4x: Annie Vernon, Debbie Flood, Frances Houghton, Katherine Grainger
- W2x: Elise Laverick, Anna Bebington (now Anna Watkins)
- M2x: Matthew Wells, Stephen Rowbotham

See all GB rowing medals and medal winners at Olympic regattas since 1900 ([http://www.britishrowing.org/gb-rowing-team/events/olympic-games](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb-rowing-team/events/olympic-games))

**2011 World Champions (Olympic-class events, Bled, Slovenia):**

- W2x: Anna Watkins, Katherine Grainger
- M4+: Matthew Langridge, Ric Egington, Tom James, Alex Gregory
- LM2x: Zac Purchase, Mark Hunter
KEY FACTS

The GB Rowing Team trains at a variety of centres with its national training base at the Redgrave Pinsent Rowing Lake near Reading.

The rowers train up to three times a day, seven days a week, 49 weeks a year.

Rowing is a high-calorie burner, working all the major muscle groups, and GB rowers consume up to 6,000 calories a day.

Rowing is the only sport where competitors cross the finish line backwards.

There are two types of rowing: sculling and sweep. In sculling the rowers have an oar in each hand, while in sweep rowing they have both hands on a single oar.

The current GB Rowing Team contains rowers from a wide range of occupations and backgrounds including a PE teacher, prison officer, shot putter, Naval Lieutenant and PhD students in maths, homicide and science.

The performance director for the GB Rowing Team is David Tanner, supported by chief men’s coach Jurgen Grobler and chief coach of the women and lightweights, Paul Thompson.

GLOSSARY

New to rowing? Don’t know your crabs from your coxes? Brush up on rowing terminology:
http://www.britishrowing.org/gb-rowing-team/news/media-centre/glossary
CREW LIST FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES

(Listed bow to stroke and with name, club, home town and date of birth)

WOMEN

Pair

Helen Glover (Minerva Bath/Penzance/17.06.86)/
Heather Stanning (Army RC/Lossiemouth/26.01.85)
Coach: Robin Williams

Eight

Olivia Whitlam (Agecroft RC/Warrington/16.09.85)/
Louisa Reeve (Leander Club/London/16.05.84)/
Jessica Eddie (Univ of London BC/Durham/07.10.84)/
Lindsey Maguire (Wallingford/Edinburgh/15.01.82)/
Natasha Page (Gloucester RC/Hartpury/30.04.85)/
Annabel Vernon (Leander Club/Wadebridge/01.09.82)/
Katie Greves (Leander Club/Oxford/02.09.82)/
Victoria Thornley (Leander Club/Wrexham/30.11.87)/
Cox - Caroline O'Connor (Oxford Brookes Univ BC/Ealing/25.04.83)
Coach: Nick Strange

Women’s Sweep Reserves

Jo Cook (Leander Club/Sunbury-on-Thames/22.03.84)/
Emily Taylor (Leander Club/Lincoln/28.06.87)

Double Scull

Anna Watkins (Leander Club/Leek, Staffs/13.02.83)/
Katherine Grainger (St Andrew BC/Aberdeen/12.11.75)
Coach: Paul Thompson

Quadruple Scull

Melanie Wilson (Imperial College BC/London/25.06.84)/
Beth Rodford (Gloucester RC/Gloucester/28.12.82)/
Frances Houghton (Leander Club/Oxford/19.09.80)/
Debbie Flood (Leander Club/Guisley, W Yorks/27.02.1980)
Coach: Ade Roberts

MEN

Pair
George Nash (Molesey BC/Guildford/02.10.89)/
Will Satch (Leander Club/Henley-on-Thames/09.06.89)
Coaches: Christian Felkel

Four

Alex Gregory (Leander Club/Wormington/11.03.84)/
Pete Reed (Leander Club/Nairnworth, Glos/27.07.81)/
Tom James (Molesey BC/Wrexham/11.03.84)/
Andrew Triggs Hodge (Molesey BC/Hebden, N. Yorks/03.03.79)
Coach: Jürgen Grobler

Eight

Alex Partridge (Leander Club/Alton, Hants/25.01.81)/
James Foad (Molesey BC/Southampton/20.03.87)/
Tom Ransley (York City RC/Cambridge/06.09.85)/
Richard Egington (Leander Club/Knutsford/26.02.79)/
Mohamed Sbihi (Molesey BC/Surbiton/27.03.88)/
Greg Searle (Molesey BC/Marlow/20.03.72)/
Matthew Langridge (Leander Club/Northwich/20.05.83)/
Constantine Louloudis (Leander Club/London/15.09.91)/
Cox – Phelan Hill (Leander Club/Bedford/21.07.79)
Coaches: John West & Christian Felkel

Single Scull

Alan Campbell (Tideway Scullers School/Coleraine/09.05.83)
Coach: Bill Barry

Double Scull

Bill Lucas (London RC/Kingswear/13.09.87)/
Sam Townsend (Reading Univ BC/Reading/26.11.85)
Coach: Mark Earnshaw

Quadruple Scull

Stephen Rowbotham (Leander Club/Winscombe, Somerset/11.11.81)/
Charles Cousins (Reading Univ BC/Willingham, Cambs/13.12.88)/
Tom Solesbury (Leander Club/Petts Wood, Kent/23.09.80)/
Matthew Wells (Leander Club/Hexham/Northumberland/19.04.79)
Coach: Mark Banks

Men’s reserves:

Marcus Bateman (Leander Club/Torquay/16.09.82)
Cameron Nichol (Molesey BC/Glastonbury/26.06.87)
LIGHTWEIGHTS

WOMEN

Double Scull

Sophie Hosking (London RC/Wimbledon/25.01.86)/
Katherine Copeland (Tees RC/Ingleby Barwick, Stockton-on-Tees/01.12.90)
Coach: Paul Reedy

MEN

Four

Peter Chambers (Oxford Brookes/Coleraine/14.03.90)/
Rob Williams (London RC/Maidenhead/21.01.85)/
Richard Chambers (Leander Club/Coleraine/10.06.85)/
Chris Bartley (Leander Club/Chester/02.02.84)
Coach: Rob Morgan

Double Scull

Zac Purchase (Marlow RC/Tewkesbury/02.05.86)/
Mark Hunter (Leander Club/Romford, Essex/01.07.78)
Coach: Darren Whiter

Lightweight reserve:

Adam Freeman-Pask (Imperial College BC/Windsor/19.06.85)
BIOGRAPHIES

For comprehensive biographies of every rower in the GB Rowing Team including background, results and vital stats go to www.gbrowingteam.org.uk.

(Listed below by squad - women, men, lightweight women, lightweight men)

WOMEN’S SQUAD:

Jo Cook

World bronze medalist in 2011 and World finalist in 2010 in the women's eight, from Sunbury.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/jo-cook

Jessica Eddie

World bronze medalist in 2011 and Olympic finalist in 2008 in the women's eight, from Durham.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/jessica-eddie

Debbie Flood

Twice Olympic silver medalist, three-times World Champion in the women's quadruple scull and a trained prison officer from Guiseley near Leeds.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/debbie-flood

Helen Glover

PE teacher from Penzance who was identified in 2008 through the “Sporting Giants” initiative before joining the GB Rowing Team’s START programme in Bath and won World silver in 2010 and 2011 in the women’s pair.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/helen-glover

Katherine Grainger

GB’s most decorated female rower. Triple Olympic silver medalist from three successive Games between 2000 and 2008 and six-times World Champion from Aberdeen. 2011 World Champion in the double scull.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/katherine-grainger
Katie Greves

World bronze medalist in 2007 and 2011 and Beijing Olympic finalist in the women’s eight, from Oxford.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/katie-greves](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/katie-greves)

Frances Houghton

Double Olympic silver medalist and four-times World Champion from Oxford in the women's quad scull competing at her fourth Olympic Games.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/frances-houghton](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/frances-houghton)

Lindsey Maguire

World bronze medalist in 2011 in the women’s eight. From Edinburgh and a graduate of the GB Rowing Team’s START programme in Durham.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/lindsey-maguire](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/lindsey-maguire)

Caroline O'Connor

World bronze medalist in 2007 and 2011, Beijing Olympic finalist coxing the women's eight and a science teacher from Ealing.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/caroline-oconnor](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/caroline-oconnor)

Natasha Page


Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/natasha-page](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/natasha-page)

Louisa Reeve

World bronze medalist in 2007 and 2011 in the women’s eight and Beijing Olympic finalist in the pair and the eight, from London.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/louisa-reeve](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/louisa-reeve)

Beth Rodford

Beijing Olympic finalist in the women's eight and 2010 World Champion in the women's quad scull, from Gloucester.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/beth-rodford](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/beth-rodford)
Heather Stanning
World silver medalist in 2010 and 2011 and World U23 Champion in 2007 in the women’s pair, an army officer from Lossiemouth and a graduate of the GB Rowing Team’s START programme in Bath.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/heather-stanning-0](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/heather-stanning-0)

Emily Taylor
World University Rowing Champion in 2010 in the women's four, World U23 Champion in 2009 in the women's eight, from Lincoln.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/emily-taylor](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/emily-taylor)

Victoria Thornley
World bronze medalist in 2011 and World U23 Champion in 2009 in the women's eight, former model and semi-pro show jumper from Wrexham. Recruited to rowing via the Sporting Giants initiative and graduated from the GB Rowing Team’s START programme in Bath.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/victoria-thornley](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/victoria-thornley)

Annabel Vernon
Olympic silver medalist in Beijing and double World Champion (2007 and 2010) in the women's quadruple scull. From Wadebridge in Cornwall and a graduate of the GB Rowing Team’s START programme in Cambridge.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/annabel-vernon](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/annabel-vernon)

Anna Watkins
World Champion in 2010 and 2011 and Olympic bronze medalist in Beijing in the double scull. A maths PhD student from Leek in Staffordshire and a graduate of the GB Rowing Team's START programme in Cambridge.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/anna-watkins](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/anna-watkins)

Olivia Whitlam
Beijing Olympic finalist in the women’s pair and 2010 World finalist in the eight. From Warrington and a graduate of the GB Rowing Team’s START programme in Manchester.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/olivia-whitlam](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/olivia-whitlam)
Melanie Wilson

2009 Worlds finalist in the women's eight and helped qualify the women's quad for London 2012 at the 2011 World Championships. A trainee doctor from London.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/melanie-wilson

MEN’S SQUAD

Marcus Bateman


Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/marcus-bateman

Alan Campbell

Won silver in 2009 and bronze in 2010 and 2011 at the World Championships in the men’s single scull and overcame illness and surgery to be an Olympic finalist in Beijing. From Coleraine in Northern Ireland.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/alan-campbell

Charles Cousins

2010 World finalist in the men's quadruple scull and World U23 Champion in 2008 in the men's double scull. A psychology student from Willingham near Cambridge and a graduate of the GB Rowing Team's START programme in Cambridge which he joined after being tested at his local school.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/charles-cousins

Ric Egington

World Champion in 2009 and 2011 in the men's four and Beijing Olympic silver medalist in the men's eight. A zoology graduate from Knutsford in Cheshire.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/richard-eginton

James Foad

Won silver in the men's eight at the 2010 and 2011 World Championships, from Southampton.
Alex Gregory

Reserve at the 2008 Olympic Games and World Champion in the men's four in 2009 and 2011. From Wormington in Gloucesstershire and a graduate of the GB Rowing Team's START programme in Reading.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/alex-gregory

Phelan Hill

World silver medalist in 2010 and 2011 coxing the men's eight and an taking time out from being an adviser to HM Treasury, from Bedford.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/phelan-hill

Tom James

Reigning World and Olympic Champion in the men's four after returning from two years out to win gold at the 2011 World Championships. From Wrexham.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/tom-james

Matthew Langridge


Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/matthew-langridge

Constantine Louloudis

World U23 gold medalist in 2011 in the men’s pair and reserve at the 2011 World Championships. Classics student from London.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/constantine-stan-louloudis

Bill Lucas

2010 World finalist in the men's quadruple scull – the first GB crew to reach the finals of that event since 1982 - and 2008 World U23 champion in the men's double scull. From Kingswear in Devon and a graduate of the GB Rowing Team's START programme in Reading.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/bill-lucas
George Nash

World U23 gold medalist in 2011 in the men’s pair and called up to the senior squad as reserve for the 2011 World Championships. From Guildford.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/george-nash

Cameron Nichol


Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/cameron-nichol

Alex Partridge


Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/alex-partridge

Tom Ransley

World silver medalist in the men's eight in 2010 and 2011, county basketball player turned rower from Ashford in Kent.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/tom-ransley

Pete Reed


Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/pete-reed

Stephen Rowbotham


Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/stephen-rowbotham
Will Satch

2011 World U23 medalist from Henley promoted to the senior squad for 2012 and raced to a silver medal at the Belgrade world cup with George Nash in the men's pair.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb-rowing-team/biographies/will-satch

Mohamed Sbihi

The tallest in the GB Rowing Team and World silver medalist in 2010 and 2011 in the men's eight. From Surbiton and a graduate of the GB Rowing Team's START programme in London after being tested at his local school.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/mohamed-sbihi

Greg Searle

1992 Olympic gold medalist in the men’s coxed pair, from Marlow, selected for his fourth Olympics after a 10-year break. Won World silver in 2010 and 2011 in the men’s eight.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/greg-searle

Tom Solesbury

Beijing Olympian in 2008 and World bronze medalist in 2007 in the men's eight before switching to the sculling squad. A qualified solicitor from Petts Wood in Kent.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/tom-solesbury

Sam Townsend

2010 World finalist in the men’s quadruple scull – the first GB crew to reach the finals since 1982. From Reading and a graduate of the GB Rowing Team's START programme in his home town. Set to marry fellow GB squad rower Natasha Page after London 2012.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/sam-townsend

Andrew Triggs Hodge

Beijing Olympic gold medalist and double World Champion in the men's four (2005 and 2006) and three-times World silver medalist (2009-2011) in the men's pair. From Hebden and aiming for his third Olympic Games.
Matt Wells

2010 World silver medalist from Hexham aiming for his fourth Olympic Games after winning GB men's first Olympic sculling medal since 1976 with bronze in Beijing in the double scull.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/matt-wells

LIGHTWEIGHT WOMEN’S SQUAD

Kat Copeland

World U23 gold medalist from Stockton on Tees who broke into the senior squad in the lightweight women’s double scull for 2012 after winning the GB Rowing Team Senior Trials.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb-rowing-team/biographies/katherine-copeland

Sophie Hosking

World bronze medalist in 2009 and 2011 in the lightweight women's double scull whose father was a lightweight World Champion in 1980. A chemistry and physics graduate from Wimbledon.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/sophie-hosking

LIGHTWEIGHT MEN’S SQUAD

Chris Bartley

World Champion in 2010 and World bronze medalist in 2011 in the lightweight men's four. A freelance photographer and rowing coach from Chester.

Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/chris-bartley

Richard Chambers


Full biography: http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/richard-chambers
Peter Chambers

2011 World U23 and senior gold medalist in the non-Olympic class lightweight men’s pair. Younger brother of Richard Chambers, also from Coleraine in Northern Ireland.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/peter-chambers](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/peter-chambers)

Adam Freeman-Pask

2011 World finalist from Windsor in the lightweight single scull and 2010 World finalist in the lightweight men’s pair. Environmental engineering PhD student from Windsor.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/adam-freeman-pask](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/adam-freeman-pask)

Mark Hunter

Reigning Olympic and World Champion in the lightweight men’s double scull with Zac Purchase and a qualified waterman from East London aiming for his third Olympic Games.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/mark-hunter](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/mark-hunter)

Zac Purchase

Reigning Olympic and World Champion with Mark Hunter in the lightweight men’s double scull and 2006 World Champion in the lightweight men’s single scull. From Tewkesbury.

Full biography: [http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/zac-purchase](http://www.britishrowing.org/gb/biographies/zac-purchase)

Rob Williams

2010 World Champion and 2011 World Bronze medalist in the lightweight men's four and a 2009 World finalist in the men's double scull. A PhD scientist from Maidenhead.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow the GB Rowing Team on:

- Twitter (www.twitter.com/GBRowingTeam)
- Facebook (www.facebook.com/GBRowingTeam)
- Youtube (http://www.youtube.com/user/GBRowingTeam)

The GB Rowing Team’s official website is www.gbrowingteam.org.uk.

ROWING LINKS

- GB Rowing Team’s START programme (http://www.britishrowing.org/gb-rowing-team/rowing-gb/start-programme) - Have you got what it takes to become a GB rower?
- British Rowing (www.britishrowing.org.uk) - Governing body for the UK
- FISA (www.worldrowing.com) - Governing body for world rowing
- British Olympic Association http://www.olympics.org.uk/