

Press Release from Bedford Rowing Club – 8th February 2010

Bedford rowers Sara Reay of Bedford RC and Miriam Taylor of Star Club, won their event at Peterborough Head of the River race on the River Nene on Saturday. The women's masters Eight showed the youngsters how it was done, by defeating crews from Cambridge and Broxbourne by over 45 seconds over the 5 km course.

Local rowers will be out in force on Sunday 14th February at Bedford Rowing Club's annual Fours & Eights Head of the River Race. The event is run as time-trial over a 2,000 metre downstream stretch of the River Great Ouse from Queens Park to just past the Butterfly Bridge. .

So far, over 200 entries have been received from over 25 clubs, schools and colleges, comprising over 100 eights & octopules and 100 fours & quadruple sculls. Host club Bedford Rowing Club is fielding crews from all the squads.

All the Harpur Trust Schools Boat clubs have large entries, as well as other local clubs – Star Club, Northampton RC and Milton Keynes RC.

From further a-field there are entries from University of Kent, Abingdon Rowing Club and Staines Boat Club. The Oxford and Cambridge college boat clubs are out in-force. Indeed, the mettle of the marshals will be tested with the two Queens Colleges, from both Oxford and Cambridge and the two Magdalen(e) Colleges, from both Oxford and Cambridge racing.

The schools attending include Hampton School and Putney High School for Girls, who have entered for the first time.

Racing is due to start at 9.15 on Sunday morning with groups of boats going off every 75 minutes. Details of the running order, including blade colours to aid crew recognition, can be found at www.bedfordrowing.co.uk so please come along and support your local crews. Programmes and results on the day will be available at Bedford Rowing Club in Duckmill Lane, next to the Park Inn Hotel.