



THE QUEEN'S ROWBARGE

# NEWS RELEASE

## Confirmation of oarsmen and women

The Queen's Rowbarge Gloriana, which was presented to and named by Her Majesty the Queen on 25 April, today confirms the rowers and crew that will be on board as she leads the Royal River Pageant on Sunday 3rd June.

Under the auspices of Motability, Gloriana will be rowed by 18 oarsmen and women, including Olympic and Paralympic champions and members of the armed forces injured in Iraq and Afghanistan. Founded 33 years ago with Her Majesty the Queen as Royal Patron, Motability is a charity that provides specially adapted vehicles for the disabled, and recently celebrated the handing over of their 3 millionth adapted vehicle by Her Majesty The Queen. Lord Sterling was co-founder of Motability with the late Lord Goodman and continues as Chairman to this day. Of the twelve disabled people who will be on board Gloriana, both oarsmen and in the coach, eight currently use a Motability vehicle. Full biographical details of the crew are included in the notes below.

On board Gloriana, both rowing and in the coach area, will be a number of men and women who have set an example to others and given a great deal in the service of their country; in the armed forces, the emergency services and in sport; Paralympic swimming champions Sascha and Nyree Kindred, Major Kate Philp who was wounded in Afghanistan, former Police Royal Protection Officer Andrew Child and former Firefighter David Melrose.

The rowers held their first practice on Gloriana yesterday, under the guidance of Bargemaster of the Waterman's Company, Scott Neicho, who will be Master of Gloriana for the Pageant. Commenting on the first practice session, Sir Steve Redgrave said: "We have a great mix of rowers involved, from some serious medal contenders at this year's Paralympic Games to the team of injured servicemen who recently rowed across the Atlantic. Yesterday's practice was the first time I have rowed Gloriana, and whilst she is very clearly different to anything I have ever rowed before, she handles very well and I was impressed with how quickly the team came together. We all feel very honoured to be leading the Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant and we are looking forward to being part of a magnificent spectacle."



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Gloriana will be retained by the Maritime Heritage Trust with assistance from Thames Alive and be used to promote better use of the Thames. This will be achieved through providing opportunities for Royal-supported, and other charities, to play their part in occasions and celebrations upon the Thames, with a particular emphasis on events involving young people.

Conceived and commissioned by Lord Sterling, Gloriana was built with generous support from Eyal Ofer, The Gosling Foundation, The Weston Foundation, and Lloyds Register.

**-Ends -**

For Further information please contact: Brunswick Group  
Will Carnwath / Ben Fry – 020 7404 5959 or email: [GLORIANA@brunswickgroup.com](mailto:GLORIANA@brunswickgroup.com)

## **Notes to editors**

Since the naming ceremony in late April, the team has been hard at work at the boathouses in Richmond putting the finishing touches on Gloriana ahead of the Pageant. Critical to this process has been the team at Polygon led by David Cresswell, who have worked tirelessly on the final gilding work, in particular the spectacular coat of arms on the stern.

## **Oarsmen – biographical detail**

**SIR STEVE REDGRAVE CBE:** Five consecutive gold Olympic medals, three Commonwealth gold medals, nine gold World Championship medals.

**SIR MATTHEW PINSENT CBE:** Four consecutive Olympic gold medals, ten gold World Championship medals.

**GUIN BATTEN** She won silver at the 2000 Olympics in the quadruple scull with her elder sister Miriam Batten, Gillian Lindsay and Katherine Grainger. She is currently CCO Top Foundation at Youth Sport Trust.

**MIRIAM BATTEN** She won silver at the 2000 Olympics in the quadruple scull with her younger sister Guin Batten and gold at the 1998 World Rowing Championships in the double scull with Gillian Lindsay. She is a Vice President of Thames Rowing Club and Olympic Village Manager, Rowing and Canoe Sprint for London 2012

**JAMES ROE,** LTA Mixed Cox Fours 2011 and 2009 World Champion, World Silver Medallist 2010. Potential medal winner 2012.

**DAVID SMITH,** LTA Mixed Cox Fours 2011 and 2009 World Champion. Potential medal winner 2012



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**NAOMI RICHES**, LTA Mixed Cox Fours: World Champion 2011 and 2009, Paralympic bronze medallist 2008, World silver medallist 2007. Potential medal winner 2012

**PAMELA RELPH**, LTA Mixed Cox Fours: 2011 World Champion. Potential medal winner 2012

**ED JANVRIN**: Row2Recovery, 32 years old. Co-founder and skipper of Row 2Recovery. Ed spent eight years in the Royal Gurkha Rifles, serving once in Iraq and twice in Afghanistan.

**LIEUTENANT WILL DIXON**: Row2Recovery, 27 years old. Will was a Platoon Commander with the Third Battalion, The Rifles, when an IED detonated underneath his vehicle in 2009 – ten days before Christmas, and he needed a below knee amputation on his left leg

**CORPORAL RORY MACKENZIE**: Row2Recovery, 30 years old. Rory was a company medic attached to the 1st Battalion Staffordshire Reg. While on routine patrol in Basra City, Iraq in 2007, Rory was blown up by a roadside bomb. The blast traumatically amputated his right leg. Rory now works as an instructor teaching medics

**CORPORAL NEIL HERITAGE**: Row2Recovery, 31 years old. Neil was a member of the Royal Signals bomb disposal team in Iraq. In 2004, a suicide bomber detonated a device a few feet away from Neil, resulting in him needing a double above-knee amputation. Neil is now a school athletics coach

**WILL CARNWATH**, Director at Brunswick Group and media liaison for The Gloriana project. National Schools and Coupe de la Jeunesse sculler and a British Army reservist for past 11 years, including an operational tour in Iraq in 2004 with the Brigade Reconnaissance Force.

**CHRIS RODRIGUES CBE**, Chairman of VisitBritain. He rowed for Cambridge in the 1970 and 1971 Boat Race, is a past-Chairman of Leander Club and is a Steward of Henley Royal Regatta.

**MARK EDWARDS**, Master boatbuilder of The Gloriana. In 2002 he also built the shallop "Jubilant" to mark The Queen's Golden Jubilee

**ED BURNETT**: Naval architect for The Gloriana project, founder of Burnett Yacht Design

**JOHN TURK**, Boatbuilder, member of The Gloriana build team

**TYRONE MARLOW**, Boatbuilder, part of The Gloriana build team



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## **On board, in Coach area**

**SASCHA KINDRED OBE**, Paralympic swimmer: Six Paralympic, nine World and 11 Championship Gold medals, Sascha has Cerebral Palsy. Confirmed for London 2012 team.

**NYREE KINDRED MBE**, Paralympic swimmer has competed in the Paralympic Games on three occasions winning nine medals. In Sydney in 2000 she won 3 medals, 2 silver and a bronze. In Athens in 2004 she won 2 Gold medals and in Beijing in 2008 a further silver medal. She has Cerebral Palsy. Not yet confirmed for London 2012 team although has qualified. Nyree uses a manual wheelchair

**MAJOR KATE PHILP**, Britain's first female soldier to lose a leg in combat (Afghanistan) Royal Artillery

**ANDREW CHILD**, former Metropolitan Police Royal Protection Officer and high performance driver. Whilst on duty Andrew was attacked by the driver of a car he intercepted and because of the injuries he sustained, was medically retired.

**DAVID MELROSE**, Firefighter. David sustained serious spinal injuries when a beam fell on him while tackling a blaze at Eyemouth Golf Club. Now paralysed from the waist down, he uses a manual wheelchair

**MARY MACLACLAN**, GB Rowing Team Coach

**DAMIAN BYRNE**, Project Manager for The Gloriana project

**STUART ROY**, Naval Architect

**DECLAN O'MAHONY**, Director, Motability

**LESLEY BYSOUTH**, Motability

**GAIL ROSSITER**, Motability

**SCOTT NEICHO**, Bargemaster, Watermen's Company, Master of The Gloriana for the Jubilee Pageant

**CHRIS ANNESS**, Waterman

**BEN FRY**, Brunswick Group

**PAUL STARR**, Photographer

**CLARE BALDING**: BBC presenter



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## **About Motability**

The Motability Scheme was co-founded by the late Lord Goodman and the current Chairman Lord Sterling in 1977. Her Majesty The Queen has been Chief Patron from the beginning. It provides affordable, convenient, trouble-free motoring to around 600,000 disabled customers and their families and recently celebrated its 3 millionth car. It also supplies cars to injured servicemen and Paralympians. More information about the Motability Scheme can be obtained by visiting [www.motability.co.uk](http://www.motability.co.uk).

## **Craftsmen and Suppliers**

Key to this project was the industrial unit identified by Cushman and Wakefield and most generously provided by Segro in the space of 48 hours. British Telecom also kindly set up communications for the site in under 24 hours. In addition, the team would like to thank RSA for providing ongoing insurance cover for the Rowbarge, Foster and partners for their help with the visualization of the completed vessel, and Brunswick Group for providing the media liaison team. The project has involved many other organisations and individuals, who have been both generous and helpful.

## **About Hare & Humphreys**

Hare & Humphreys are decorators, guilders and artists based in central London and Royal Warrant Holders. They have worked on projects such as Windsor Castle, following the fire damage, interiors at St Paul's Cathedral and the Royal Opera House.

The company was formed by Peter Hare and Paul Humphreys who had worked together for a number of years before forming a partnership and establishing Hare & Humphreys in 1987. Both partners regularly give lectures to promote understanding of paint conservation and restoration.

[www.hare-humphreys.co.uk](http://www.hare-humphreys.co.uk)

## **About Woods' Silver Fleet**

Woods' Silver Fleet run by siblings Tom and Kate Woods is proud to have been building and operating luxury river cruisers on the River Thames for the past 60 years. Their 61m flagship, Silver Sturgeon and new luxe river taxi Silver Darling feature interior detailing by Matthew Hilton, Alma Leather and Swarovski Crystal. They privately operate from Savoy Pier. The Woods family also co-founded London's river commuter service, Thames Clippers, whose launch flagship Kate Woods decorated with Damien Hirst. Waterman to HM the Queen and Chairman, Alan Woods, designed and built six vessels featuring in the Diamond Jubilee River Pageant. [www.silverfleet.co.uk](http://www.silverfleet.co.uk)



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## **About George Smith**

George Smith is a leading British manufacturer of fine handmade furniture and fabrics. All of the George Smith collections are built by hand in the workshops in Newcastle where skilled craftsmen continue to marry traditional upholstery and joining techniques with innovative style and design. The showroom is on the Kings Road in London (587-589 Kings Road, London, SW6 2EH), there is also a showroom in Harrogate (54 Parliament Street, Harrogate, HG1 2RL) and a small showroom attached to the workshop in Newcastle. George Smith also has showrooms in New York, LA and Chicago and is available through a network of distributors throughout the rest of the USA and Europe. [www.georgesmith.co.uk](http://www.georgesmith.co.uk)

## **About The Rug Company**

The Rug Company was founded in London by Christopher and Suzanne Sharp in 1997, with the unique vision of bringing together the ancient craft of rug making with innovative contemporary design.

As well as designing its own in-house collections, the company collaborates with some of today's most talented designers including Alexander McQueen, Paul Smith, Vivienne Westwood, Diane von Furstenberg and Tom Dixon.

The Rug Company understands the unique heritage and quality of traditional rug artisanship; its weavers in Nepal continue to craft the rugs entirely by hand, using the very same techniques and naturally luxurious yarns their ancestors did. This ensures that every handmade piece is entirely individual and will last for generations. [www.therugcompany.com](http://www.therugcompany.com)

## **About Carvers and Gilders**

Established in 1979, Carvers and Gilders are a skilled team specialising in fine woodcarving and gilding, committed to providing work of the highest quality. Their work covers the conservation and restoration of fine furniture, mirror frames, carved objects and decorative surfaces as well as work on boats. [www.carversandgilders.com](http://www.carversandgilders.com)

## **About Watts 1874**

Architects of textiles, wallpaper and passementerie for over 130 years, Watts 1874 is a leading supplier of very fine fabrics, wallpapers and passementerie to the global interiors market. A unique English company, and guardians of an archive of genuine period design, Watts continues to be able to create bespoke decorative design solutions that transform a project from the commonplace to the individual. [www.watts1874.com](http://www.watts1874.com)