

*The Voice in Munich: Regular results, forecast, tips, news and views. Rowing Voice reported live from the world championships starting on Monday 27 August, for 4 issues.*

RowingVoice is published by Rowing Ink.

Editors Rachel Quarrell and Christopher Dodd

© RowingVoice™

All rights reserved. Material may not be reproduced in any media without written permission of RowingVoice

Contact: voice@rowingservice.com

tel 07710-538114  
fax 0870-164-1650

Published irregularly.

*Our grateful thanks to Peter Spurrier/Intersport Images for the many fine photographic contributions to this issue.*

## MUNICH MEDALS

- 1st Great Britain  
(3 gold, 2 silver, and 7 bronze)
- 2nd Australia  
(3 gold, 2 silver, 2 bronze)
- 3rd New Zealand  
(3 gold, 2 silver, 0 bronze)
- 4th USA (3 gold, 1 silver, 1 bronze)
- 5th Italy (2 gold, 3 silver, 2 bronze)



*This time the tears are for joy. Annie Vernon, Debbie Flood, Fran Houghton and Katherine Grainger, world champions. Photograph: Peter Spurrier/Intersport Images*

## Quad and four win in Munich

**Race by race:** *what happened in the medal finals and where the GB crews finished, by Christopher Dodd and Rachel Quarrell.*

### Women's quadruple sculls

**World champions 2006** — Flood/Winckless/Houghton/Grainger (GBR)

**GB Crew** — Annie Vernon/Debbie Flood/Fran Houghton/Katherine Grainger

The quad, with Grainger back in the stroke seat after she rowed at bow in the heat, were awesome. They were a canvas up before 250 metres, almost a length in front of China at 500. as soon as they passed this mark they put clear water between themselves and the Chinese, and from here on in was the Germans who gave chase. The Germans began to reduce the clear water gap after 1000 metres, and made up some ground. But this one had a union flag on it from the first stroke, and put a difficult 12 months behind a deserving crew.

**GB result** — gold

**Qualified for Olympics 2008** — yes

### Women's double sculls

**World champions 2006** — Kell/Pratley (AUS)

**Olympic champions** — Evers-Swindell/Evers-

Swindell (NZL)

**GB Crew** — Elise Laverick/Anna Bebington

This was a very cool British race — or maybe a total panic, but it looked like the former. Laverick and Bebington were third at 500 and then did the slowest time for the second quarter and almost the slowest for the third quarter before switching on the lightning to bring them back through the Romanians whom they had led at the start. Then, having been four seconds down on the Evers-Swindells (who never got in front of or really threatened the Chinese Qin Li and Liang Tian), they attacked the Kiwis and missed the silver by a fiftieth of a second. A great finish. GB's first W2x medal since Laverick and Winckless at the Olympics.

**GB result** — bronze medal

**Qualified for Olympics 2008** — yes

### Legs/trunk/arms mixed coxed fours

**World champion 2006** — GBR

**GB Crew** — Vicky Hansford/Alan Crowther/Alistair McKean/Naomi Riches/cox Alan (Woody) Sherman

Germany beat GB in the heat before being wrist-slapped for an underweight boat, but came back fighting. All six boats overlapping for the first four minutes is new for these crews, and the

## Who's going

The final tally: who is going to Beijing so far:

W1x: Belarus, Bulgaria, USA, Czech Republic, China, New Zealand, France, Poland, Sweden.

M1x: New Zealand, Czech Republic, Norway, Great Britain, Germany, Sweden, Belgium, Argentina, Switzerland, Netherlands, Australia.

W2-: Belarus, Germany, Roumania, Australia, New Zealand, China, USA, Canada.

M2-: Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain, France, South Africa, Serbia, Poland, USA, Germany, Croatia, Denmark.

W2x: China, New Zealand, Great Britain, Roumania, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, USA

M2x: Slovenia, France, Estonia, Great Britain, Belarus, New Zealand, Croatia, Australia, USA, Germany, Belgium.

M4-: New Zealand, Italy, Netherlands, Great Britain, Slovenia, France, Czech Republic, USA, Germany, Ireland, Belarus.

LW2x: Australia, Finland, Germany, Denmark, Greece, China, Canada, Great Britain.

LM2x: Denmark, Greece, Great Britain, Australia, Italy, Japan, Hungary, Germany, China, France, Austria.

LM4-: Great Britain, France, Italy, Canada, China, Denmark, Australia, Poland, Egypt, Netherlands, USA.

W4x: Great Britain, Germany, China, Ukraine, Canada, USA, Austria.

M4x: Poland, France, Germany, Italy, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Russia, Estonia, USA, Australia, Cuba.

W8+: USA, Roumania, Great Britain, Australia, Germany.

M8+: Canada, Germany, Great Britain, USA, Russia, Poland, China.

At the final qualifying regatta, three singles places, one each for the women's quads and eights, and two for every other event are available.

USA made it harder with a fly-and-die strategy which saw GB third at 500m gone. GB came through, but couldn't quite squeeze past the very strong Germans despite slightly better bladework. A world title gone, and a salutary lesson that the adaptive events have moved on miles. No more easy wins from now on.

**GB result** — silver medal

**Qualified for Paralympics 2008** — yes

## Lightweight mens' fours

**World champions 2006** — CHN

**Olympic champions** — DEN

**GB Crew** — Richard Chambers/James Lindsay-Fynn/Paul Mattick/James Clarke  
Last lightweight fours gold 1992. Last LM4-medal the same year. Nothing since. Could the Lucerne World Cup win be duplicated? Britain's bows cross first, coach Robin Williams is speechless with delight, result all round. Lightweight fours is an event with a lot of emotional ties for Britain, yet the doldrums of the last dozen years have been so low that taking GB back to the top seemed an impossible dream. Overnight we have lightweight heroes again, who proved themselves the greatest with the classiest of rows. One of three GB crews to replicate a storming mid-week performance in the final, they had to keep their cool and use their fitness and strength to slide past leaders Italy then hold on. Champions. National anthem already playing as the GB women's quad land, briefly surprising them into thinking they've missed their medal ceremony.... Two top-class golds in a row: magic.

**GB result** — gold

**Number to Olympics** — 11

## Women's singles

**World champion 2006** — Ekaterina Karsten (BLR)

**Olympic champion** — Ekaterina Karsten

(BLR)

**GB Crew** — none

How much class can one woman show? Karsten rode out the storm as both Mirka Knapkova (CZE) and Michelle Guerette (USA) tried to take her on. Karsten's developed a shorten-and-sprint this year which she used to devastating effect, coming through Knapkova just before the grandstand. Meanwhile Knapkova was rumbled by Guerette and then Rumyana Neykova, who blasted through into second. Was Karsten bluffing with the small margin of victory, or really pushed to the limit? Don't bet against her just yet.

*If GB wants to send a single sculler to Beijing she will have to qualify in Lucerne next June.*

## Lightweight women's singles

**World champion 2006** — Marit van Eupen (NED)

**GB Crew** — Andrea Dennis

Van Eupen versus former Brit Jen Goldsack was always going to be the story. Goldsack tried her usual trick of a fast start, but the canny champion wasn't having any, and ripped through her at 750m gone, irretrievably. Game, set and match to the Dutchwoman. Dennis, invigorated by joining former clubmate Goldsack in the A-final, battled away for a dignified fifth, much better than her earlier season's form might have suggested.

**GB result** — fifth in final

**Number to Olympics** — none

## Men's coxed fours

**World champions 2006** — GER

**GB Crew** — James Orme/Marcus Bateman/Tom Wilkinson/Oliver Moore/cox Phelan Hill  
While the Americans led off only to be challenged and overtaken by the Serbs during the second quarter, GB languished in fifth for more than half the course before raising their act and



*Britain's men's coxless four wins the world title.... ...for the first time in 15 years.*

*Photograph: Peter Spurrier/Intersport Images*





Novice Aggar leads two-times champion Monypenny over the line. Photo Peter Spurrier

moving to third by 1500. while the Americans re-took the Serbs, the Germans re-took the Brits for the last ever bronze medal to be awarded in this event. After three straight years of straight finals, the coxed fours are out of the rowing worlds programme.

**GB result** — fourth in final

**Number to Olympics** — 0

### Arms-only men's singles

**World champion 2006** — Dominic Monypenny (AUS)

**GB Crew** — Tom Aggar (*above*)

With arms and lungs like Pete Reed, wheel-chair-bound Aggar is every inch an athlete. Longer and stronger strokes put him ahead of the opposition in the heat and semi, and there wasn't much doubt he could take gold for GB after just nine months in the sport. Monypenny wasn't going to make it easy, and guarded against attack from Israeli Eli Nawi by sticking close to Aggar. The Brit's understandable novice error of sprinting too early nearly cost him the win, but he hung on grimly, arms burning with lactate, to stay ahead for the line. Hearts in mouths, but the right outcome, even if it had him nearly zonking out just after the ceremony. A bit more race experience and this boy's going to be the real deal.

**GB result** — gold medal

**Qualified for Paralympics 2008** — yes

### Arms-only women's singles

**World champion 2006** — Helene Raynsford (GBR)

**GB Crew** — Helene Raynsford

It now emerges that Helene has been suffering not only from her usual asthma but also from a chest infection all week. Other rowers might have retired from the fray, but not tough cookie

Raynsford. While Brazil's one-legged Claudia Santos tussled Belarussian Ljudmila Vauchok up the front, Helene struggled to maintain speed, and slipped to fifth. The pint-sized Terminator will be back, as long as the event doesn't move on too far beyond her. Brazil's celebration, with full band and scantily-clad exotic dancers, beat anthems into a cocked hat.

**GB result** — fifth

**Qualified for Paralympics 2008** — yes

### Trunk/arms mixed doubles

**World champions 2006** — Brown/Madsen (USA)

**GB Crew** — Karen Cromie/James Roberts  
Brazil got to celebrate again, and USA were outclassed by a newly strengthened field. GB had bagged the Paralympic place already in the B-final.

**GB result** — second in B-final (=8th)

**Qualified for Paralympics 2008** — yes

### Lightweight men's pairs

**World champions 2006** — Rueckbrodt/Otto (GER)

**GB Crew** — Matt Beechey/Daniel Harte  
This one never quite got off the ground, and Beechey and Harte struggled in fifth after a slow start and a big mid-race push which only moved them up to fourth before the field rushed away. Sad end to the season for a combination which has regularly performed well at World Cups.

**GB result** — fifth in final

**Number to Olympics** — 0

### Lightweight women's doubles

**World champions 2006** — Xu/Yan (CHN)

**Olympic champions** — Burcica/Alupeu (ROU)

## What they said

*"They've put the rest of us to shame" — Alan Campbell, GBR M1x, watching the GBR LM4- victory*

*"It was a big test for me to come in as a two-time champion and make it three. There are so many quality guys in this field" — Mahe Drysdale, M1x*

*"I enjoyed the race. We decided Mahe is the man to beat. We thought Hacker would be the other person to show through. Tuft gave it away when I spoke to him last night. He said 'Don't go too quick off the start'. Now I can see why he said that. He did a really hard second 500. Fourth is the worst position but I'm proud of what I did." — Alan Campbell, GBR 1x*

*"I have a good partner. I've been working my way up and its nice to finally make the podium. I'm looking forward to higher things next year. I want to stay in the sweep team and get into the top boat." — Colin Smith, GBR M2-*

*"There was a lot of emotion in that race" — Katherine Grainger, GBR W4x*

*"Very, very disappointed. I think we had a good row, and through the middle 1000 we were quickest of all. We just ran out of legs in the last 250." — Steve Rowbotham, GBR M2x*

*"We thought we put in the performance that would take us to winning that race, and we said last night that it was either gold or nothing. Unfortunately it's nothing." — Matt Wells, GB M2x*

*"The first feelings are of frustration, very disappointed but also of not really knowing the answers. When we go into a race like that we are well prepared, we think we've done everything and we think we're going to go and win. Obviously something was missing there... everything we were trying to do just wasn't coming out in boat speed."* — Steve Williams, GBR M4-

*"There's nothing technical or something you could put your finger on. Maybe it's just the boat was firing on 11 and not 12 cylinders. I just can't believe we've come fourth and aren't even on the podium."* — Peter Reed, GBR M4-

*"I think we'll come back next season and there'll be a clean slate on the selection board."* — Peter Reed, GBR M4-

*"At 1100 we were going to make the race too fast for everybody else. It came to that mark at 1100 and the rhythm lifted by one percent rather than 10 percent. I feel like my guts have been ripped out."* — Peter Reed, GBR M4-

*"If we are looking for improvement we look for it together. The first thing we try to find is ourselves again rather than bits of the stroke. There's a whole host of things you can look at to say why we could have gone better – it will take a while to figure it all out – but at the end of the day you still have to have confidence in the people behind us, in Juergen and the four of us, in our strength, in our endurance."* — Andy Hodge, GBR M4-

**GB Crew** — Helen Casey/Hester Goodsell B-final, and the big one for Hester and Helen, Olympic qualification riding on their ability to nab one of the top two places. Starting relatively slowly has cost this double races, but this time a better sprint than usual was enough to whizz them into a three-way photofinish for that second place and bingo! Beijing. Australia pulled off the sneak of all time, winning the A-final from Finland and dead-heaters Denmark and Germany, after being behind for 99.5% of the course.

**GB result** — second in B-final  
Qualified for Olympics 2008 — yes

### Men's coxless four

**World champions 2006** — Williams/Reed/Partridge/Hodge (GBR)

**Olympic champions** — Williams/Cracknell/Coope/Pinsent (GBR)

**GB Crew** — Williams/Reed/Partridge/Hodge This was a fantastic race with a fatalistic result for the British (*below*). They established the lead that they wanted out of the blocks, but by very little, and their planned push at 900 metres failed to take off and close down the race for the others. Netherlands and Slovenia were past them at halfway, at 1500 they were back in fifth, with the Dutch still leading, followed by eventual winners NZ, dark horses Italy, and Slovenia. The Brits clawed back into fourth ahead of Slovenia, but fourth it was. Gutted. Kiwis' time was 5:54.24 and the Brits' time 5:57.00, just over a second slower than third placed Dutch. The silver was Italy's.

**GB result** — fourth in final  
Qualified for Olympics 2008 — yes

### Men's singles

**World champion 2006** — Mahe Drysdale (NZL)

**Olympic champion** — Olaf Tufte (NOR)

**GB Crew** — Alan Campbell  
Campbell's coach Bill Barry dreamed about a

finishing order of GBR, NZL then GER, but it was not to be. While Campbell sculled a damn good race - one of the best of his career - the awesome bare-knuckle fight between Drysdale and Tufte took them clear of the Briton and into the top medals. Drysdale poured on the power to remind everyone who's boss; Campbell fell prey to Ondrej Synek's 2007 sprint and finished fourth. The Brit did nothing wrong, just didn't have the extra percent of power he needs to win against these big guys at the end of the season, and they know it. Technique or muscle, it's going to have to come from somewhere if he is to get the Olympic gold he craves. Synek's final rush pushed Tufte down a notch too, and the crowd didn't cheer for Marcel Hacker (GER), who underwhelmed in fifth.

**GB result** — fourth in final  
Qualified for Olympics 2008 — yes

### Men's double sculls

**World champions 2006** — Macquet/Hardy (FRA)

**Olympic champions** — Vieilledent/Hardy (FRA)

**GB Crew** — Matt Wells/Stephen Rowbotham This was a disappointing result for last year's bronze medallists, but they were up against Spik and Cop of Slovenia, Macquet and Hardy of France (the 2006 champions) and Endrekson and Jaanson of Estonia, all of whom made merry and finished in that order for the medals. The Brits began at the back and worked their way up to fourth at 1500 and join in the scramble for medals in which was extremely tight between the Slovenians and French, and slightly less so between the Estonians and the Brits. Disappointing for them, and for us.

**GB result** — fourth in final  
Qualified for Olympics 2008 — yes

### Lightweight men's singles

**World champion 2006** — Purchase (GBR)

**GB Crew** — Alasdair Leighton-Crawford



*Gutted. The GBR M4- moments after losing their double world crown.*

*Photograph: Peter Spurrier/Intersport Images*





*"Medal podium's that way Caroline, shall we get going?"*

*Photograph: Peter Spurrier/Intersport Images*

Official spare Leighton-Crawford has had a fine regatta. Consistency over the course won him the B final for a ranking of seventh. Somebody did a faster time than the Brit over every quarter, but fortunately that somebody was not one person. Leighton-Crawford was second for 1000 metres, took the lead from Canada's Timothy Colson and Slovenia's Bine Pisljar, and kept it. Meanwhile, the main event was won by NZ's Duncan Grant who has made the running this year and dominated. Lorenzo Bertini (Italy) and Jaap Schouten (Netherlands) took the other medals, although Takahiro of Japan looked as if he was going to get one of them before he ran out of steam. The wooden spoon went to Ivan Baldychev, the Russian-born American who took up sculling in June 2006 and stormed into the final — coached by ex-UL man Andy Medcalfe at Penn AC. Perhaps he will return.

**GB result** — first in B final (=7th)

## Women's eights

**World champions 2006** — USA

**Olympic champions** — ROU

**GB Crew** — Carla Ashford/Baz Moffat/Alice Freeman/Louisa Reeve/Natasha Howard/Alison Knowles/Katie Greves/Jess Eddie/cox Caroline O'Connor (*above*)

The Brits only had to come fifth, but GBR W8+ coach John Keogh taught them the only way to do that was aim for a medal. USA whizz out, Roumania's vastly experienced crew try and follow. GB hit their rocking rhythm for the second time in a week, and put themselves firmly in contention for the podium while Canada and Germany worry about Beijing qualification. Clear of trouble, the sky's the limit for the GB girls, who hold Australia behind them and dash for the line. 0.19 of a second is enough for our first W8+ medal in ten years exactly. O'Connor

nearly jumped out of the boat with excitement. "Match that, lads", said David Tanner as the start of the men's eights race comes up on-screen while the women landed. And they did.

**GB result** — bronze

Qualified for Olympics 2008 — yes

## Lightweight women's quads

World champions — CHN

**GB Crew** — Sophie Hosking/Laura Greenhalgh/Mathilde Pauls/Jane Hall

Encouraging for the rest of the world to think that two of China's far-out champions of 2006 were not fast enough this year after dilution with new scullers. GB had their measure, benefiting from being between the two early leaders China and Australia, before motoring up into contention. Australia flew the coop: Britain barged past China, and into second place for Sunday's first medal. Former German U23 Pauls claimed the grandstand yelled for her, and she felt at home on the podium for GB.

**GB result** — silver

**Number to Olympics** — 0

## Lightweight men's quads

World champions — Italy

**GB Crew** — Simon Jones/Rob Williams/Chris Bartley/Dave Currie

Defending champs Italy are going even faster now they have the sculling legend Leonardo Pettinari in the bows. France made all the running at first and GB used both to stay up with the pace before breaking Germany's will and coming in a deserved third.

**GB result** — bronze

**Number to Olympics** — 0

## Women's pairs

**World champions 2006** — Marquardt/Rum-

*"All this way for fourth. The Sunday Times doesn't do defeat" — ST feature writer Andrew Longmore, in Munich just for one day.*

*"It was totally amazing, we gelled together really well. I was U23 world champion last year, but this is another level!" — James Dallinger, NZL M4-*

*"The four, our leading boat, becoming fourth — I'm not very happy with that, and I think overall we have a strong team. But the top end didn't come out as we hoped. I think that the sport at the top end has really moved on this year. We haven't stood still, but on the day we were not good enough, and we have to be again in the driving seat. I have to sharpen my eyes again, of course I'm responsible for the whole men's team, my main motivation was to qualify as many as possible for the Olympics, working with coaches. That's done, that's good." — Juergen Grobler, GBR men's heavyweight chief coach.*



*"We have two guys who never won a medal who have won a medal now. Smith is in the top boat!" — Juergen Grobler.*

*"The last [GB champion] crew that did that [came 4th] ended up winning the Olympics" — Andy Hodge, GBR M4- strokeman*

*"To come back third year on the trot I think is a massive achievement. I'm pleased at least to have pushed her!" — Jen Goldsack, USA LW1x, on winner Marit Van Eupen*

*"Very shortly we'll have to focus on the way to Beijing, and it'll be gloves off among the lightweight women in the States. I'm excited about adding to that mix." — Jen Goldsack.*

*"A message to The Rat — my father's local, a generous sponsor: Thank you very much guys and I'll see you this week for a pint." — Jen Goldsack, USA LW1x, ex GBR*

*"I believe the US will have a warm winter training camp and I am definitely up for that. I had enough of UK winters." — Jen Goldsack*

*"In a weird way I enjoyed that. Never has 8th place seemed so welcome.." — Helen Casey, GBR LW2x*

*"We've changed people around a lot. In some ways it's a strength, depending on how you deal with it." — Acer Nethercott, GBR M8+*

*"They've really grown throughout the regatta. Just a tad frustrating that we were so close (to the Germans). Fantastic." — Mark Banks, GBR M8+ coach*

ball (CAN)

**Olympic champions** — Damian/Susanu (ROU)

**GB Crew** — Beth Rodford/Natasha Page

The Brits never really got into this race. It was led for most of the way by the Canadians who may have won the main event at Eton last year but didn't qualify for the final. At the end the Americans Portia McGee and Anna Mickelson, the big hope of the US team, won. Belarus ran away with the gold in the A-final.

**GB result** — sixth in B final (=12th)

**Qualified for Olympics 2008** — no

## Lightweight men's double sculls

**World champions 2006** — Rasmussen/Quist (DEN)

**GB Crew** — Zac Purchase/Mark Hunter

The GB double are another crew who prefer to do it from behind. Fifth at 1000, they flew in the second half in a race which the holders had sewn up. Italy were early leaders until the Danes took command, but the Greeks had similar tactics to the Brits, though they put their foot down earlier to get the silver. This will count as unfinished business next year, but for now it was historic: GB's first Olympic-class lightweight worlds medal. Fifteen minutes later the coxless four added another.

**GB result** — bronze

**Qualified for the Olympics 2008** — yes

## Men's eights

**World champions 2006** — Germany

**GB Crew** — Tom James/Tom Stallard/Tom

Lucy/Tom Solesbury/Josh West/Richard Edgington/Robin Bourne-Taylor/Alistair Heathcote/cox Acer Nethercott

Rocket-fuelled Russia showed first but Canada, US and Germany were soon catching them. GB were mooching along in fifth for a thousand metres, and then Heathcote took them into the fastest second thousand metres of the entire field, with Canada in command but Germany coming into GB's reach with every stroke.

Germany 5:37.19, GB 5:37.95. Pity the Brits didn't quite get there, but it was an oarsome performance, a big step up from their first race at the regatta. We have an eight in the medal zone again — and in John West and Mark Banks, a coaching team which blends Molesey and Leander. Cripes.

**GB result** — bronze

**Qualified for Olympics 2008** — yes

## Men's quads

**World champions 2006** — POL

**Olympic champions** — RUS

**GB Crew** — Simon Fieldhouse/Sam Townsend/Alex Gregory/Ian Lawson

GB in the C final, coming third a reasonable reflection of their speed. The quads plot is the longest-term one, 2012 beckoning for the youngsters at least, and those in the current under-23 team. In the big boys final, Poland renewed their acquaintance with gold medals from the front, France bursting through to rob Germany of silver.

**GB result** — third in C final (15th)

**Number to Olympics** — 11



Coaches West (L) and Banks (R) with the eight that came good. Picture: Peter Spurrier





*Bronze medallist Smith to Langridge:  
'That's another fine mess you've got me  
into, Matt'* Photo: Peter Spurrier

## Men's pairs

**World champions 2006** — Ginn/Free (AUS)

**Olympic champions** — Ginn/Tomkins (AUS)

**GB Crew** — Colin Smith/Matt Langridge

Ginn's on course for his golden retirement in Beijing. Row like him and you won't go far wrong. The Aussies led nearly all the way, headed only briefly just after halfway by Nathan Twaddle and George Bridgewater before screwing up the speed a gear to see the Kiwis off and cruise to the win. Smith and Langridge (*above*) stalked Serbia and France for the first half then upped the pace and came rapidly through. Bronze might have been silver: Bridgewater nearly fell apart after his big effort against Australia failed, and GB very nearly caught them before New Zealand rallied. Though the Brits did sprint well, both said it wasn't up to the

usual standard as they had to row through the Aussies' socking great puddles two lengths ahead beside them. Bloody good medal even so.

**GB result** — bronze medal

Qualified for Olympics 2008 — yes

## Women's coxless fours

**World champions 2006** — AUS

**GB Crew** — Georgina Menheneott/Rebecca

Rowe/Vicki Etiebet/Vicky Myers

A straight final in which the rump of the eight squad were consistently fourth at the markers while China and Italy diced behind them and the US, Germany and the Aussies diced in front of them - the Americans took the gold.

**GB result** — fourth in final

Number to Olympics — 0

## Lightweight men's eights

**World champions 2006** — ITA

**GB Crew** — none

Italy thought they could come back and do it for the third year running, but Holland had other plans. They decimated the Italian lead after two minutes and rowed away to win without having to sprint. Germany mopped up the silver while Italy faded to third.

**Number to Olympics** — 0

## Men's coxed pairs

**World champions 2006** — Serbia and Montenegro

**GB Crew** — none

Poland all the way, with Italy moving past Germany for silver. Canada, with Boat Racer Kip McDaniel in the bow-seat, sneaked bronze with a very good final sprint.

**Number to Olympics** — 0

## The British tally

19 crews out of 24 in medal races

11 crews out of 24 on the podium

46 out of 77 racing athletes with medals

11 Olympic crews qualified for Beijing

4 Paralympic crews qualified for Beijing

## Statsmeister Corner

### Olympic medal table:

1st New Zealand (2G, 2S)

2nd Great Britain (2G, 5B)

3rd= Belarus/Australia (2G)

5th= Denmark/China (1G, 1B)

### Adaptive medal table:

1st Brazil (2 golds)

2nd GBR (1gold, 1 silver)

3rd Germany (1 gold)

4th AUS (2 silvers)

5th Belarus (1 silver)

### Non-Olympic medal table:

1st Italy (2G, 2S, 1B)

2nd USA (2G, 1S)

3rd Netherlands (2G, 1B)

4th Australia (1G, 2B)

5th Germany (3S, 1B)

### Number of medals:

1st Great Britain — 11

2nd Germany — 10

3rd= Australia/Italy — 7

5th= New Zealand/USA — 5

### FISA Team Cup points

1st Great Britain — 96pts

2nd Germany — 81pts

3rd Italy — 66pts

4th USA — 65pts

5th Australia — 64pts

## Hear it for the coaches

Britain's secret weapon in Germany, its coaches, deserve a bit of recognition. Top of the class this year is **Robin Williams**, with two historic medals and all three lightweight boats through to Beijing, just two and a half years after taking responsibility for that section of the team. The turnaround has been phenomenal, proof that we always had the athletes - they just needed the right guru. Kudos also to **Paul Thompson**, chief architect of women and lightweights, and coach of the W4x, and his new recruit, **John Keogh**, for the amazing W8+ medal. **John West** and Mark Banks pulled off the same trick with the M8+, and while heavyweight men's chief **Juergen Grobler** may be down about his four, he did get five out of six crews to A-finals, and the first M2- medal since 2002. Plus the adaptive coaches, and all whose crews won medals.

*Left: Purchase and Hunter's  
15 minutes of fame as  
Britain's first ever Olympic-  
class lightweight medallists.*

*Photograph: Peter Spurrier/  
Intersport Images*



**RESULTS****2007 World Championships***26 August to 2 September, Munich.***Saturday Finals****Women's single sculls**

1 E Karsten-Khodotovitch (Belarus) 7:26.52;  
2 R Neykova (Bulgaria) 7:27.91; 3 M Guerette  
(USA) 7:28.48; 4 M Knapkova (Czech Rep)  
7:28.67; 5 X Zhang (China) 7:33.37; 6 E  
Twigg (New Zealand) 7:37.26.

Places 7-29: FRA, POL, SWE, RUS, ITA,  
ESP; AUS, SRB, HUN, NOR, POR, SLO;  
CUB, UKR, GER, ESA, SUI, KAZ; BEL,  
ARG, THA, COL, SIN.

**Men's single sculls**

1 M Drysdale (New Zealand) 6:45.67; 2 O  
Synek (Czech Rep) 6:46.48; 3 O Tufte (Nor-  
way) 6:47.58; 4 A Campbell (Great Britain)  
6:49.21; 5 M Hacker (Germany) 6:52.96; 6 L  
Karonen (Sweden) 6:53.01.

Places 7-28: BEL, ARG, SUI, NED, AUS,  
BUL; IRL, AUT, CYP, CHN, ITA, LAT; MON,  
KOR, BLR, IND, FRA, EST; DEN, IRQ, ISR,  
MKD.

**Women's pairs**

1 Belarus 7:06.56; 2 Germany 7:07.99; 3  
Romania 7:08.87; 4 Australia 7:10.85; 5 New  
Zealand 7:12.49; 6 China 7:16.28; 12 GB (B  
Rodford, N Page) 7:23.07.

Places 7-13: USA, CAN, NED, DEN, RUS,  
GBR, ITA.

**Men's pairs**

1 Australia 6:24.89; 2 New Zealand 6:30.19; 3  
Great Britain (C Smith, M Langridge) 6:31.06;  
4 France 6:33.64; 5 South Africa 6:35.57; 6  
Serbia 6:38.45.

Places 7-23: POL, USA, GER, CRO, DEN,  
CAN; ESP, SLO, CZE, NED, ITA, BLR; CHN,  
GEO, EGY, ARG, INA.

**Women's double sculls**

1 China 6:54.38; 2 New Zealand 6:57.72;  
3 Great Britain (E Laverick, A Bebington)  
6:57.74; 4 Romania 6:59.98; 5 Czech Rep  
7:02.42; 6 Germany 7:04.73.

Places 7-16: ITA, USA, AUS, HUN, KOR,  
NOR; BLR, EST, KAZ, MKD.

**Men's double sculls**

1 Slovenia 6:16.65; 2 France 6:16.93; 3  
Estonia 6:18.32; 4 Great Britain (M Wells, S  
Rowbotham) 6:19.10; 5 Belarus 6:22.90; 6  
New Zealand 6:24.72.

Places 7-26: CRO, AUS, USA, GER, BEL,  
POL; GRE, RUS, CHN, CZE, LTU, ITA; UKR,  
NOR, KOR, UZB, THA, TUR; INA, HUN.

**Men's coxless fours**

1 New Zealand 5:54.24; 2 Italy 5:55.15; 3  
Netherlands 5:55.49; 4 Great Britain (S Wil-  
liams, P Reed, A Partridge, A Triggs Hodge)  
5:57.00; 5 Slovenia 5:59.05; 6 France 5:59.19.  
Places 7-24: CZE, USA, GER, IRL, BLR,  
AUS; GRE, CAN, EGY, ARG, CRO, ESP;  
POR, ROL, ROU, CHN, IND, SRB.

**Women's coxless fours**

1 USA 6:37.94; 2 Germany 6:40.36; 3 Aus-  
tralia 6:43.03; 4 Great Britain (G Menheneott,  
R Rowe, V Etiebet, V Myers) 6:46.55; 5 China  
6:47.61; 6 Italy 6:52.09. No others.

**Men's coxed pairs**

1 Poland 7:00.10; 2 Italy 7: 01.84; 3 Canada  
7:02.94; 4 Australia 7:03.79; 5 Germany 7:05.07;  
6 Croatia 7:05.23.

Places 7-9: USA, CZE, UKR.

**Lightweight women's single sculls**

1 M Van Eupen (Netherlands) 7:38.02; 2 J Gold-  
sack (USA) 7:39.59; 3 M Kok (Canada) 7:45.24;  
4 M Rajle (Croatia) 7:50.27; 5 A Dennis (Great  
Britain) 7:53.25; 6 L Hiltunen (Finland) 7:53.80.

Places 7-22: FRA, SUI, DEN, GER, ITA, AUT;  
IRL, ESP, BEL, TUR, POR, TUN; RUS, MYA,  
COL, ALB.

**Lightweight men's single sculls**

1 D Grant (New Zealand) 6:53.89; 2 L Bertini  
(Italy) 6:57.43; 3 J Schouten (Netherlands)  
6:58.81; 4 J Koch (Germany) 6:59.42; 5 T Suda  
(Japan) 7:03.77; 6 I Baldychev (USA) 7:19.73; 7  
A Leighton-Crawford (Great Britain) 7:12.09

Places 7-21: GBR, SLO, CAN, EST, CHN, FIN;  
ESP, SVK, FRA, PLE, UZB, HKG; COL, POR,  
ISR.

**Lightweight men's eights**

1 Netherlands 5:42.06; 2 Germany 5:44.52;  
3 Italy 5:46.33; 4 Denmark 5:48.51; 5 USA  
5:51.97; 6 Poland 5:52.65. No others.

**Arms-only women's single sculls**

1 C Santos (Brazil) 5:57.58; 2 L Vauchok  
(Belarus) 5:58.57; 3 M Snopek (Poland)  
6:08.54; 4 S Kupriianova (Ukraine) 6:18.06;  
5 H Raynsford (Great Britain) 6:19.14; 6 L  
Schwanger (USA) 6:19.84.

Places 7-12: ITA, CAN, CHN, HKG, FRA,  
JPN.

**Arms-only men's single sculls**

1 T Aggar (Great Britain) 5:13.13; 2 D Monypen-  
ny (Australia) 5:14.72; 3 E Nawi (Israel) 5:15.04;  
4 P Laureau (France) 5:30.77; 5 R Harvey  
(USA) 5:32.85; 6 P Morel (Canada) 5:44.91.

Places 7-16: CHN, ITA, HUN, BRA, ESP, GER;  
POR, HKG, JPN, KOR.

**Trunk arms mixed double sculls**

1 Brazil 4:10.69; 2 Australia 4:13.24; 3 Poland  
4:16.74; 4 Italy 4:17.41; 5 USA 4:26.19; 6  
Ukraine 4:29.37.

Places 7-16: CHN, GBR, CAN, GER, ISR, BLR;  
HKG, JPN, KOR, RUS.

**Legs trunk arms mixed coxed fours**

1 Germany 3:34.99; 2 Great Britain (V Hansford,  
A Crowther, A McKean, N Riches, cox A Sher-  
man) 3:36.19; 3 Canada 3:37.19; 4 Italy 3:37.92;  
5 USA 3:38.93; 6 Netherlands 3:44.06.

Places 7-14: RUS, BRA, ISR, CHN, JPN, UKR;  
POR, KOR.

**Sunday finals****Men's coxed fours**

1 USA 6:10.36; 2 Serbia 6:11.17; 3 Germany  
6:12.49; 4 Great Britain (J Orme, M Bateman,  
T Wilkinson, O Moore, cox P Hill) 6:13.78; 5  
Netherlands 6:14.62; 6 Italy 6:16.60.

No others, straight final.

**Lightweight men's pairs**

1 Italy 6:38.00; 2 Germany 6:39.43; 3 Australia  
6:42.05; 4 France 6:42.33; 5 Great Britain (M  
Beechey, D Harte) 6:42.91; 6 Greece 6:48.39.

(continued)

Places 7-12: JPN, NED, CAN, USA, ESP,  
DEN.

**Lightweight women's quadruple sculls**

1 Australia 6:35.97; 2 Great Britain (S Hosk-  
ing, L Greenhalgh, M Pauls, J Hall) 6:38.78;  
3 China 6:40.32; 4 USA 6:41.82; 5 Germany  
6:42.69; 6 Netherlands 6:48.20.

Places 7-8: ITA, MYA.

**Lightweight men's quadruple sculls**

1 Italy 6:01.70; 2 France 6:02.94; 3 Great  
Britain (S Jones, R Williams, C Bartley, D Cur-  
rie) 6:03.83; 4 Germany 6:07.65; 5 Denmark  
6:09.46; 6 USA 6:11.08.

Places 7-8: SRB, HUN.

**Lightweight women's double sculls**

1 Australia 7:07.18; 2 Finland 7:07.41; 3= Den-  
mark and Germany 7:08.97; 5 Greece 7:11.76;  
6 China 7:12.27; 8 Great Britain (H Casey, H  
Goodsell) 7:08.31.

Places 7-18: CAN, GBR, JPN, POL, USA, ITA;  
ESP, HUN, NOR, IRL, CUB, UZB.

**Lightweight men's double sculls**

1 Denmark 6:24.21; 2 Greece 6:25.89; 3 Great  
Britain (Z Purchase, M Hunter) 6:26.92; 4 Aus-  
tralia 6:28.75; 5 Italy 6:29.95; 6 Japan 6:30.00.

Places 7-27: HUN, GER, CHN, FRA, AUT,  
CAN; CUB, POR, CZE, BEL, NZL, SUI; USA,  
TUR, URU, SVK, ESP, ISR; KOR, KAZ, ARM.

**Lightweight men's fours**

1 Great Britain (R Chambers, J Lindsay-Fynn,  
P Mattick, J Clarke) 6:16.21; 2 France 6:17.43;  
3 Italy 6:17.49; 4 Canada 6:18.92; 5 China  
6:19.04; 6 Denmark 6:20.09.

Places 7-26: AUS, POL, EGY, NED, USA, IRL;  
GRE, RUS, CZE, AUT, ESP, SRB; JPN, UKR,  
RSA, POR, INA, TUR; IND, VIE.

**Women's quadruple sculls**

1 Great Britain (A Vernon, D Flood, F  
Houghton, K Grainger) 6:30.81; 2 Germany  
6:32.02; 3 China 6:33.91; 4 Ukraine 6:34.55; 5  
Canada 6:40.37; 6 USA 6:41.02.

Places 7-12: AUS, ROU, FRA, RUS, BLR,  
LTU.

**Men's quadruple sculls**

1 Poland 5:49.42; 2 France 5:50.95; 3 Ger-  
many 5:52.40; 4 Italy 5:53.83; 5 Czech Rep  
5:57.28; 6 Ukraine 5:59.05.

Places 7-19: RUS, EST, USA, AUS, CUB,  
BLR; ARG, CAN, GBR, CHN, CRO, EGY;  
ROU.

**Women's eights**

1 USA 6:17.20; 2 Romania 6:18.33; 3 Great  
Britain (C Ashford, B Moffat, A Freeman, L  
Reeve, N Howard, A Knowles, K Greves,  
J Eddie, cox C O'Connor) 6:19.66; 4 Aus-  
tralia 6:19.86; 5 Germany 6:19.99; 6 Canada  
6:23.10.

Places 7-9: NED, CHN, NZL.

**Men's eights**

1 Canada 5:34.92; 2 Germany 5:37.19; 3 Great  
Britain (T James, T Stallard, T Lucy, T Soles-  
bury, J West, R Edgington, R Bourne-Taylor, A  
Heathcote, cox A Nethercott) 5:37.95; 4 USA  
5:41.26; 5 Russia 5:41.60; 6 Poland 5:43.63.  
Places 7-16: CHN, AUS, SUI, NED, FRA,  
BLR; NZL, CRO, ITA, EST.

**82 medals spread between 22 nations.**



## Voices off in Munich

### Septemberfest falls flat

An unprecedented triumph of hospitality took place in the Kaisersaal of the Residenz Muenchen on the 1st of September when the great and the good, plus your correspondent, were invited to partake of a reception at the appointed hour of 7.30. At 7 pm buses arrived from all over greater Munich and deposited the blazerati in the splendid, if rather bloodthirsty hall with its remarkable chandeliers illuminating the paintings aloft of semi-naked people carving each other up with sabres while, it appeared, having a picnic. A picnic would have been a fine thing. Bread was scattered about on delicate tables, but no liquid refreshment appeared until after the keen audience (whose common language is Fisaspeak, defined loosely as a discussion of highly technical subjects by Scandinavians in middle English etc.) had heard out 30 minutes of speeches. First came the great orator **Siegfried Schneider**, Bavarian State Minister of Education and Religious Affairs, followed by president **Helmut Griep** of the Deutscher Ruderverbund, translated into English by **Arno 'Protocol' Boes**, FISA's master of ceremonies and the editor of Ruderspeak, and then **Denis Oswald**, the eminent professor of law at Neuchâtel University and president of FISA, who spoke eloquently and, let it be said, in short sentences and briefly, in three of the languages he has mastered. Mein Gott, there were no chairs unless you were adaptive and had brought your own. Just as we thought speakers would give way to trays of foaming beer and casks of wine, as befits southern Europe's capital of booze, so the **Bavarian State Minister of Education and Religious Affairs** seized the microphone again for a repêchage. I cannot tell you a single thing he said because I was interrupted at this point by a waiter speeding past with full glasses on his tray. This, however, was a mirage. The final straw was **Patrick Rombaut**, Big Cheese of umpires, commandeering the microphone to spend another ten minutes extolling the virtues of a commission member of his who was retiring owing to the fact that he was no longer young enough to decide the fate of infringers and chancers on the water. Quite right too, but by this time there had been serious leeching down the grand staircase, and **Hammer** in the company of a distinguished body of Stewards, commissioners, umpires and disappointed hangers on who had spent days blagging invitations to the kind Bavarian State Minister of Education and Religious Affairs's reception, loosely but erroneously known as the nations' dinner, made exodus for a schnitzel and chips hof. To be fair to the State Minister, he was standing in for the Bavarian Minister-President, who no doubt would have made a speech commensurate with the gravitas of his office had he not mercifully had a prior engagement.

### Don't mention the war....

All week the GB supporters' club had seating trouble, their FISA Friends & Family A-block tickets by the finish line having mysteriously gone missing. I can't believe the ugly rumour now circulating, that Germany had done it on purpose in retaliation for being given poor seats at the Eton worlds last year. GB had the last laugh as parental yells from the M-seats at 150m to go spurred on no fewer than six British crews to beat Germany in finals.

### Peleton points

There's been a bit of competition in the coaching cycle posse this year, with ex-Olympic champions Martin Cross and Tim Foster trying to beat each other on the ride back to the start. Crossy reports ruefully that Foster's coaching career in Switzerland is working wonders for his lungs, but both were regularly trounced by GB lightweight coach Robin Williams, whizzing off at twice the speed of his champion LM4-. Now we know why they're so damn quick: it's having to try and keep up with him.

### Bet your shirt

What's up with the men's eights? One 7-man stood up after the A-final, peeled down his all-in-one, ripped off his WorldRowing undershirt, and chucked it at his 5-man. Niiice....

### Learn the words

The closing ceremony, complete with flag handovers to Beijing and Linz, included the German national anthem. Right through. To make sure everyone could sing along to every verse, the words were projected up on the big screen. Very worrying poetry indeed.

### Flag quibbles

A nasty moment as the LM2x crews walked to the medal podium, Zac Purchase having been handed a GB flag branded with Siemens (not an approved FISA sponsor). Regatta boss Mike Tanner had to hiss an urgent warning: "Leave the flag here, or you'll lose your medals", them being the very strict rules. Luckily the switch was made and Zac got a plain Union Flag to wrap around himself just in time.

### What about next year?

The Munich question — how many spectators can you find to fill the huge grandstand? — has been well and truly answered. Thousands and thousands packed the 200-metre long concreteness all week, yelling enthusiastically for races. 65,000 tickets sold in all, apparently. Any bets on how many will turn up for next May's World Cup Regatta?

*Hammer Smith*

tittle and tattle to [voice@rowingservice.com](mailto:voice@rowingservice.com)

*Our correspondent writes:*

"The Commonwealth Rowing Association met in Munich before Sunday's A-finals. The Scottish delegation gave a full explanation that, because of the gradings of sports recently made by the International Commonwealth Federation, rowing now had a status that currently kept it out of the Glasgow 2014 bid programme.

The meeting recognised and agreed that some work was going on, in conjunction with FISA, to attempt to improve rowing's position. Three possibilities for staging a Commonwealth Champs in 2010 were floated - Cardiff, South Africa or India, where the 2010 Games will be staged.

The idea of hosting a Commonwealth rowing camp, possibly in Canada, was also explored. There will be a further meeting of the Association during the Linz Championships next year."

*Somewhat ironic that between them the top three countries on the medals table in Munich represent six Commonwealth nations. Isn't it about time the Commonwealth Games recognised a top sport? — eds*

### It's off to Bled we go BREAKING NEWS, Monday 3 September:

Our spy in the Congress hall reports that the great and good of FISA have snubbed Lucerne. Given the choice between picking the Rotsee and Bled's lake for the 2011 world championships, they plumped for the latter. Bled won the vote by a huge margin: 129 votes for, not many against. The lake last hosted a worlds in 1989, at which time it was behind the Iron Curtain. Congress also voted to return to Eton for the 2011 juniors, so that it can be the pre-Olympic test event. Votes for: ≈ 90, votes against: ≈ 50.