

Doggett's Coat and Badge

The Doggett's Coat and Badge is a sculling tradition that goes back to 1715. The oldest annual sporting event in the world is rowed each year between London Bridge and the Swan, Chelsea (now Cadogan Pier). Named after Thomas Doggett, an actor, it was inaugurated in 1715 with the prize of a scarlet coat and a silver badge for the winner and various monetary prizes for the finishers. Six Watermen traditionally contest the race within a year of the completion of their apprenticeships. You can find on various internet sites and from published literature the names of the winners of the race in any year but it is more difficult to locate a list of the other rowers in an particular race. This information is of interest to family historians that are researching a link with the river and may help to establish or confirm a family connection.

We have collated data from various sources to make that information available and whilst it is not complete yet it still provides a fascinating insight into the other competitors in this famous race.

August 1863

Rowers

Henry Price, Bankside

John Mears, Deptford

Edward W. Edwards, Tower

Frederic R. Russel, Bermondsey

Thomas Young, Prince's-stairs, Rotherhithe

John Egelton, Blackwall

Prizes

Winner	Coat & badge & £1 1s
2 nd	£4 17s 9d (5/8ths of the interest on £200 South Sea Stock)
3 rd	£2 18s 9d (3/8ths of the interest on £200 South Sea Stock)
4 th	£1 11s 6d
5 th	£1 1s
6 th	£1 1s



August 1864

Rowers

1 st	Coombs
2 nd	Kilsby
3 rd	Darby
4 th	Whittington
5 th	Dog
6 th	Groves

Prizes

Winner	Coat & badge & £1 1s
2 nd	£4 17s 9d (5/8ths of the interest on £500 South Sea Stock)
3 rd	£2 18s 9d (3/8ths of the interest on £500 South Sea Stock)
4 th	£1 11s 6d

5th £1 1s

6th £1 1s



August 1865

Rowers

1st Wood, Mill Stairs, Bermondsey



August 1869

Rowers

1st George Wright, Bermondsey

2nd Harry Kent, Fountain Stairs



August 1870

Rowers

1st James Griffiths, Wandsworth in 34 mins

2nd John Westbrook, Legal Quays

3rd Richard Harding, Blackwall

4th Richard Marston, Bermondsey

5th W.R.J. Banks, Rotherhithe

Prizes

Winner Coat & badge & £5 5s plus a bottle of prime old port

2nd £4 17s 9d

3rd £2 18s 9d

4th £1 11s 6d

5th £1 1s

6th £1 1s



August 1871

Rowers

1 st	F.J. Mackinney, Richmond
2 nd	A.C. Fortescue, Lambeth
3 rd	W. Hambledon, Horsleydown
4 th	J.O. Mostyn, Horsleydown
5 th	J.H. Maxwell, Custom House
6 th	J. Murphy, Horsleydown



August 1872

Rowers

J.T. Lyons
P. Murphy
W.A. Messenger
G.J. Chapman
Thos. Green
Jos. Banks



August 1873

Rowers

Benjamin Buttery, blue, Long Ditton
George Tarryer, red, Bermondsey
Henry George Messum, white, Richmond
Edwin Manning, yellow, Lambeth
Thomas W. Christopher, black, Limehouse
Gaddis Beatty, green, Battersea

Prizes

Winner	Coat & badge & £6 6s
2 nd	£5 5s
3 rd	£3 3s

4 th	£2 2s
5 th	£1 11s 6d
6 th	£1 6s



August 1875

Rowers

1 st	Wm. Phelps, Putney
2 nd	Jas. John Watkins, Gravesend
3 rd	Thomas Bowen Audsley, Lambeth
4 th	Geo. W. Looker, Limehouse
5 th	Charles Wells, Hammersmith
6 th	Wm. Gregory, Limehouse