



Patrons: **Sir Steven Redgrave CBE and Dr Lady Ann Redgrave**
Chairman: **Naomi Ashcroft**

30 December 2023

Former Chairman Miriam Luke awarded MBE

Henley Women's Regatta (HWR) would like to congratulate former Chairman Miriam Luke on being awarded an MBE in the King's New Year's Honours List, for services to women's rowing.

Luke (née Batten) took over as HWR Chairman in 2012 and served until 2021. Under her leadership the regatta expanded enormously, particularly with the introduction of live streaming to bring racing to a global audience.

Before joining the HWR committee, Luke raced at HWR on several occasions, including racing for Thames Rowing Club in the inaugural regatta in 1988.

Luke learned to row at Southampton University. She broke into the Great Britain squad in 1990 and represented her country for 11 years, winning several world championship medals including gold in the women's double sculls in 1998, alongside Gillian Lindsay.

At the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, Luke, her sister Guin Batten, Gillian Lindsay and Katherine Grainger became the first British women's crew to win an Olympic medal with a stunning silver in the women's quadruple sculls.

Since retirement from competitive rowing, Luke has played a leading role off the water. She is current President of Henley Rowing Club, where she has also coached the junior squad for a number of years; a Vice-President of Thames RC; and was appointed as a Steward of Henley Royal Regatta in December 2016.

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