

Redgrave won gold medals at five consecutive Olympic Games from 1984 to 2000, plus a bronze medal at the 1988 Summer Olympics.

Immediately after winning the 1996 Olympic Gold Medal, he stated that if anyone found him close to a rowing boat again, they could shoot him. However, he changed his mind shortly afterward, and resumed training after a four-month break.^[10] The gold medal achieved by him and Matthew Pinsent in the coxless pair at the Atlanta 1996 games was particularly notable for being the only gold medal achieved by the entire British Olympic team across all sports during that particular Olympic games.

In 2000, he won his fifth consecutive Olympic Gold Medal and retired from the sport. In August 2000, prior to his final Olympic Games, the BBC broadcast *Gold Fever*, a three-part BBC documentary which had followed the coxless four in the years leading up to the Olympics. It included video diaries recording the highs and lows in the quest for gold. At the medal ceremony after the 2000 Summer Olympics he was also presented with a gold Olympic pin by IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch in recognition of his achievement.^[11]

World Championships

At the World Rowing Championships he won nine gold medals, two silvers, and a bronze.

He won the World Championship for Indoor rowing in 1991.^[12]

Henley Royal Regatta

He competed at Henley Royal Regatta for more than two decades, winning: the Silver Goblets & Nickalls' Challenge Cup for coxless pairs seven times (twice with Andy Holmes, once with Simon Berrisford and four times with Matthew Pinsent); the Stewards' Challenge Cup for coxless fours five times; the Diamond Challenge Sculls twice; the Double Sculls Challenge Cup with Eric Sims then with Adam Clift; and the Queen Mother Challenge Cup for quadruple sculls.

Wingfield Sculls

He won the Wingfield Sculls for single scullers five times between 1985 and 1989.

Life after rowing

Coached by	<u>Mike Spracklen</u> <u>Jürgen Gröbler</u>
Retired	2000
Medal record	
Men's rowing	
Representing Great Britain	
Olympic Games	
G	<u>1984 Los Angeles</u> <u>Coxed four</u>
G	<u>1988 Seoul</u> <u>Coxless pair</u>
G	<u>1992 Barcelona</u> <u>Coxless pair</u>
G	<u>1996 Atlanta</u> <u>Coxless pair</u>
G	<u>2000 Sydney</u> <u>Coxless four</u>
B	<u>1988 Seoul</u> <u>Coxed pair</u>
World Championships	
G	<u>1986 Nottingham</u> <u>Coxed pair</u>
G	<u>1987 Copenhagen</u> <u>Coxless pair</u>
G	<u>1991 Vienna</u> <u>Coxless pair</u>
G	<u>1993 Račice</u> <u>Coxless pair</u>
G	<u>1994 Indianapolis</u> <u>Coxless pair</u>
G	<u>1995 Tampere</u> <u>Coxless pair</u>
G	<u>1997 Aiguebelette</u> <u>Coxless four</u>
G	<u>1998 Cologne</u> <u>Coxless Four</u>
G	<u>1999 St. Catharines</u> <u>Coxless four</u>
S	<u>1987 Copenhagen</u> <u>Coxed pair</u>
S	<u>1989 Bled</u> <u>Coxless pair</u>
B	<u>1990 Tasmania</u> <u>Coxless pair</u>
Representing England	
Commonwealth Games	

In April 2006 Redgrave completed his third London Marathon, raising a record £1,800,000 for charity.

He starred in *Top Ground Gear Force* for Sport Relief in 2008, where the *Top Gear* Team (Jeremy Clarkson, James May and Richard Hammond) took on *Ground Force* with predictable results, and trashed his garden.^[13]

He launched his own Fairtrade Cotton Brand of clothing called FiveG, which is sold in Debenhams department stores.^[13]

He was involved in starting a rowing academy in India at Lavasa, the new Hill City being developed near Pune City.^[14]

In April 2008, Redgrave took part in the Olympic Torch relay for the games in Beijing, and he went on to be one of the final torch-bearers for the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, carrying the torch into the stadium, where seven young athletes shared the task of lighting the cauldron at the opening ceremony.

He was named a Patron of the Jaguar Academy of Sport in 2010.^[15]

In 2012, he took up kayaking and attempted the Devizes-to-Westminster marathon kayak race, but had to withdraw halfway through due to tiredness.^[16]

He rowed on the *Gloriana* as part of the royal pageant for the Diamond Jubilee of Elizabeth II.^[17]

In August 2014, Redgrave was one of 200 public figures who were signatories to a letter to *The Guardian* expressing their hope that Scotland would vote to remain part of the United Kingdom in September's referendum on that issue.^[18]

In May 2018, Redgrave assumed the High-Level Performance Director role for the Chinese Rowing Association^[19] to help China's rowing team's target of one gold medal at the Tokyo 2020 Games and two golds at Paris 2024.^[20]

Personal life

He married Ann Callaway (now Ann, Lady Redgrave) in 1988; also an elite rower, she represented Great Britain in the women's eight at the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984. She was Chief Medical Officer to the GB rowing team from 1992 to 2001 and since 2009 their first full-time Medical Officer.^[21] He was the honorary president of British Rowing.^[22]

Redgrave has three children, Natalie, Sophie and Zak. Natalie rowed with the Oxford University Women's Boat Club which won the women's boat race at Henley Boat Races in 2011.^{[23][24][25]}

G	<u>1986 Edinburgh</u>	Single sculls
G	<u>1986 Edinburgh</u>	Coxless pair
G	<u>1986 Edinburgh</u>	Coxed four

Updated on 6 November 2016.



Statue of Redgrave in Higginson Park, Marlow



Redgrave in 2011

He is a supporter of Chelsea Football Club.

Honours

Redgrave was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 1987, and promoted to Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 1997. In the 2001 New Year Honours he was appointed a Knight Bachelor "for services to Rowing", which he received in Buckingham Palace from Queen Elizabeth II on 1 May 2001.^{[26][27]}

He was voted the BBC Sports Personality of the Year in 2000,, and received the BBC Sports – Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011.

He was awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of the University from Heriot Watt University in November 2001, having previously been awarded an Honorary Blue in 1997.^{[28][29]}

In 2000, his fifth Olympic gold was voted the greatest sporting moment in Channel 4's 100 Greatest Sporting Moments.^[30]

The Redgrave Pinsent Rowing Lake was opened by him and Matthew Pinsent in 2006. The lake and boathouse provide training, medical and scientific facilities for the GB rowing squad.

In 2013, he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Edinburgh "in recognition of his outstanding sporting achievements and role as a sports ambassador".^{[31][32]}

Achievements

- Olympic medals: 5 gold, 1 bronze
- World Championship medals: 9 gold, 2 silver, 1 bronze
- Junior World Championship medals: 1 silver

Olympic Games

- 2000 – Gold, Coxless Four (with Matthew Pinsent, Tim Foster, James Cracknell)
- 1996 – Gold, Coxless Pair (with Matthew Pinsent)
- 1992 – Gold, Coxless Pair (with Matthew Pinsent)
- 1988 – Gold, Coxless Pair (with Andy Holmes)
- 1988 – Bronze, Coxed Pair (with Andy Holmes and Patrick Sweeney)
- 1984 – Gold, Coxed Four (with Martin Cross, Adrian Ellison, Andy Holmes and Richard Budgett).

World Rowing Championships

- 1999 – Gold, Coxless Four (with James Cracknell, Ed Coode, Matthew Pinsent)
- 1998 – Gold, Coxless Four (with James Cracknell, Tim Foster, Matthew Pinsent)
- 1997 – Gold, Coxless Four (with James Cracknell, Tim Foster, Matthew Pinsent)
- 1995 – Gold, Coxless Pair (with Matthew Pinsent)
- 1994 – Gold, Coxless Pair (with Matthew Pinsent)
- 1993 – Gold, Coxless Pair (with Matthew Pinsent)

- 1991 – Gold, Coxless Pair (with Matthew Pinsent)
- 1990 – Bronze, Coxless Pair (with Matthew Pinsent)
- 1989 – Silver, Coxless Pairs (with Simon Berrisford)
- 1989 – 5th, Coxed Pairs (with Simon Berrisford and Patrick Sweeney)
- 1987 – Gold, Coxless Pairs (with Andy Holmes)
- 1987 – Silver, Coxed Pairs (with Andy Holmes and Patrick Sweeney)
- 1986 – Gold, Coxed Pairs (with Andy Holmes and Patrick Sweeney)
- 1985 – 12th, Single Sculls
- 1983 – Single Sculls
- 1982 – 6th, Quadruple Scull
- 1981 – 8th, Quadruple Scull

Junior World Rowing Championships

- 1980 – Silver, Double Sculls
- 1979 – Single Sculls

Henley Royal Regatta

- 2001 – Queen Mother Challenge Cup
- 2000 – Stewards' Challenge Cup
- 1999 – Stewards' Challenge Cup
- 1998 – Stewards' Challenge Cup
- 1997 – Stewards' Challenge Cup
- 1995 – Silver Goblets & Nickalls' Challenge Cup
- 1994 – Silver Goblets & Nickalls' Challenge Cup
- 1993 – Stewards' Challenge Cup
- 1993 – Silver Goblets & Nickalls' Challenge Cup
- 1991 – Silver Goblets & Nickalls' Challenge Cup
- 1989 – Silver Goblets & Nickalls' Challenge Cup
- 1987 – Silver Goblets & Nickalls' Challenge Cup
- 1986 – Silver Goblets & Nickalls' Challenge Cup
- 1985 – Diamond Challenge Sculls
- 1983 – Diamond Challenge Sculls
- 1982 – Double Sculls Challenge Cup
- 1981 – Double Sculls Challenge Cup

Other

- 1996 – Winner of *Celebrity Gladiators*
- 2000 – BBC Sports Personality of the Year
- 2001 – Collected a knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II
- 2001 – Received an Honorary Doctorate from Heriot-Watt University^[33]
- 2010 – Awarded the degree of Hon. LLD from the University of St Andrews
- 2011 – BBC Sports – Lifetime Achievement Award

- 2012 – Carried the London 2012 Olympic Torch into the Olympic Stadium
- 2013 – Awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Edinburgh "in recognition of his outstanding sporting achievements and role as a sports ambassador".^{[31][32]}

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See also

- Jack Beresford, rower, Britain's most successful Olympian prior to Redgrave's fourth gold medal, with three gold and two silver medals from 1920 to 1936
- List of multiple Olympic gold medalists
- List of multiple Olympic gold medalists in one event
- List of people diagnosed with ulcerative colitis

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