



1948-2009 - Celebrating 62 Years of Personal Endeavour

1 April 2010

DW2010 Paddler Numbers, Birthdays and Quotes

153 Senior Double K2s taking part in the non-stop Devizes to Westminster International Canoe Marathon over the Easter Break.

297 boats in total, including the four day event, with 556 paddlers.

Over the 24 hours, each paddler completes an estimated 90,000 strokes.

Age range 15 to 67 years old. Youngest is James Allen at 15. Oldest is Mr Bob Vincent aged 67 from Canada.

Over 300 volunteers, with hundreds more supporting their crews over the Bank Holiday weekend.

Six people will be celebrating their birthday while stuck in a boat.

Boat Number						
YOUNGEST					Date of Birth	Age
140	Junior Doubles	Mr	James	Allen		15
OLDEST						
301	Senior Doubles	Mr	Bob	Vincent		67
BIRTHDAYS						
Fri 2 April 2010						Age on date
165	Junior Doubles	Miss	Catriona	Bell	02/04/1993	17 on Good Friday
Sat 3 Apr 2010						
387	Senior Doubles	Mr	Phil	Dade	03/04/1946	64 on Easter Saturday
Mon 5 Apr 2010						
131	Junior Doubles	Miss	Torsie	Haugli	05/04/1992	18 on Easter Monday
145	Junior Doubles	Mr	Christopher	Boddington	05/04/1993	17 on Easter Monday
707	Senior Singles	Mr	Jamie	Hancock	05/04/1962	48 on Easter Monday

Over the 61 years of the event, over 7700 people have completed the course. The include the following:

James Cracknell

Olympic Gold Medallist, Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004 (2009)

After this year's extended winter, double Olympic gold medallist James Cracknell reflects on his race last year. "I'm glad I did it in a balmy year. The Devizes to Westminster is as tough a 24 hours as I've ever had but the bacon butty at Westminster makes it worthwhile," says Cracknell.

Donal MacIntyre, BBC Radio 5 Presenter (1998 – 3rd place, 17 hours and 47 minutes)

Lord Paddy Ashdown (1965)

"We won the folding boat class. It was absolutely crippling – 26 hours. I remember saying afterwards that I could only think of one person in history who had spent a worse Easter than I had!"

Guin Batten (2005)

Olympic Silver Medallist, Sydney 2000

"DW is one of the epic events in endurance racing."

"You learn more about yourself in 22 hours in a boat, than you do in 20 years of working."

"It's got all the traditions you could want in a modern sports event – open to all, history, environmentally considerate."

Sir Ranulph Fiennes (1999)

"The Devizes Westminster Canoe Marathon is a phenomenal event. It is a personal achievement for everyone who participates. The stamina required for the training and for the race itself is a real accomplishment and an accepted part of the British annual sporting calendar."

Rebecca Stephens (1997)

"DW is the most wonderful event, mainly the spirit of it – the dedicated amateur, the friendliness and the support."

"Everyone should do it, along the lines of the London to Brighton bike ride."

"When you push yourself, the rush is incredible – it's keeping going through the fatigue."

Of 125 miles – "you get a wonderful sense of knowing what distance means – I can't drive from London to Bristol without thinking of DW."

"Coming into London and see the city from a new perspective is incredible."

Nationality	Number
British	529
Irish	6
German	5
American	2
Canadian	2
Danish	2
Dutch	2
New Zealand	2
South African	2
Australian	1
French	1
Italian	1
Polish	1
Russian	1

Gender	Number
Female	83
Male	474

From the armed forces:

Navy	8
Army	33
RAF	2

For more information about Devizes Westminster International Canoe Marathon or to follow the race online over the Easter weekend visit www.dwrace.org.uk

For more information, interviews or photographs contact Peter Hutchison on peter.hutchison@ukonline.co.uk or 07736 424200.

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