

OTRC Match Report

Head of The Don

Sunday 1st October 2017

WmasD2x (Jo and Vicky)

John and I headed off for Doncaster in the "posh car" strangely lacking. No cold, damp landy to sit in feeling every bump on the journey; no trailer of boats behind us; and no rowing partner for me to talk to on the way to the event. How bizarre! (Dick had kindly agreed to tow the trailer so we could go and visit son no.1 in Leeds straight after the event. A real treat in every sense. Thanks Dick).

With just two crews representing the club we were positioned nicely to boat and then beat a hasty retreat after the first division. We rigged, took our oars down to the jetty, and had enough time to go up to the clubhouse for a rest and a wee for an hour or so, before our boating time. (long rest, short wee. In case you were wondering...)

Vicky, Rhona and I were chatted up nicely by a Marshall, which always makes a pleasant change from being shouted at by a blazer or listening to the men's 8+ moaning (you know who you are, Brian. I didn't actually mean to spill my flask in your bag. Sorry.) 😊

Despite the rain on our arrival, by the time we boated the skies were clearing and it was unseasonably warm for Doncaster. We rowed up to the start, and chatted to our oppo, noticing that although we were following them down, we were being chased by a men's masD2x and two mixedMasB2x. That couldn't be right??

As it turned out it was true, but still not right! Competitors notes stated that you had to allow overtaking crews to pass on the inside of the bends, and this we duly did, as the aggressive men's double pushed us into the reeds on the first bend. Undaunted we hardly broke our rhythm, and didn't let the pincer movement of the mixed doubles break our stride as they passed us. Our lovely new Marshall man cheered us on at the boat house as we passed the 2km mark, and we held our own, passing a couple of junior crews as we rowed under the railway bridges and the A1. We rated between 30 and 32 most of the way down and felt we had a good row, despite the steering issues. We are getting better at sticking to the race plan, and our oppo chatted to us at the finish, saying they felt it was a really close thing.

We rowed back to the jetty, and we're greeted again by our Marshall with his microphone, asking how it went. Obviously we told him!

We were a bit gutted to find we had lost the 4km race by 2 seconds, which we feel probably came from having to move over for the crews that were bearing down on us. However, given that the last few races me and Vicky have entered we have been denied a race due to a lack of opposition, it was a good day, and good to finally get a race again.

We had a good strong row, some nice oppo, a friendly Marshall, and the mens8+ won a pot. We didn't freeze, and John and I also got to have lunch with our son. Definitely worth the journey.

Notices

Social
Saturday 14th
October,
The Ship from
7.30pm.
All
Welcome.

Fundraising
for the
Clubhouse.
Sign up sheet
in the
boathouse

