

## 2015 World Rowing Masters Regatta: medals for Bill, Sarah and Helen

Written by Administrator

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Over 3000 athletes competed at the 2015 World Rowing Masters Regatta from September 10th - 13th. The regatta was held over 1000 m of the eight-lane international course at Hazewinkel in Belgium, within easy distance of Antwerp and Brussels. Competitors were aged from 27 to over-90, with standards ranging from novices to ex-Olympians. A total of 674 clubs entered the regatta from 49 countries, with Germany sending 618 rowers from 173 clubs. Great Britain entered 477 athletes from 90 clubs, with Nottingham RC, Derby RC, Trent RC, Leicester RC and Nottingham & Union RC representing the East Midlands region. The regatta was impressively well organised, with races taking place every five minutes.

First local winner was **Bill Payne**, who lives in Burton Joyce. A very successful member of Nottingham Rowing Club, he won J Single sculls for over 80s, beating opposition from Germany, Norway, Brazil and the USA. Next was West Bridgford resident

### **Sarah Royles**

in a combined D four that beat the Netherlands, York City RC, Ardingly RC, France and Australia. Club Captain

### **Helen Bloor**

won D coxless pairs with her Tideway Scullers partner Pauline Peel, in a gutbuster clash which saw them down at 500m and winning by a foot overcoming York City RC, Brazil, USA and Australia. Helen said: 'The Club had great races and excellent support. Next stop Copenhagen 2016!'

Men and women from Nottingham Rowing Club raced over the four days in a variety of boats and combinations, with second places and close finishes but no more medals. Tony Lorrimer said: 'It was very sunny, but there was a steady headwind at times. Nottingham Rowing Club was the 7th largest club in attendance, with 34 entries. Club crews were well in the mix and with a little luck we could have picked up more wins. At least everyone was happy.'

Web link: <http://www.worldrowing.com/news/over-000-rowers-seats-successful-2015-masters-regatta>

Below: some of the Nottingham contingent on the last evening

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