

The Head of the Trent and Masters of Trentside 2016

Written by Administrator
Thursday, 03 March 2016 15:31 -

This year the Head of the Trent and Masters of Trentside, run by local city clubs Nottingham Rowing Club and Nottingham & Union Rowing Club, was compressed into a one day event due to a fixture clash with Nottingham Forest.

As Chairman of the Organising Committee Tony Lorrimer explained: "Last year we ran an exclusive head for Masters on the day before the Head of the Trent, and from the feedback we received it was deemed a great success. Unfortunately this year the date clashed with a Nottingham Forest home game which meant we couldn't run the event from Trentside. We investigated other possible sites and dates but this simply wasn't feasible. Therefore the Organising Committee decided that for 2016 the Masters of Trentside would be incorporated into the Head of the Trent. In 2017, subject to the Nottingham Forest fixtures being favourable, we will return to the format of two separate events on successive days."

The event, held on February 28th, was a great success. It was rowed in three divisions all starting at Clifton Bridge, with divisions 1 and 3 over 5,700m and division 2, mainly for Novices, over 3,850m (finishing just above Trent Bridge). Conditions were cold but dry and the river level was normal. Over 200 crews from as far afield as Edinburgh, Newcastle, Canterbury, Worcester and Chester raced against the Cambridge Boat Race crew over a 5,700m course from Clifton Bridge to the TS Orion, home of the Nottingham Sea Cadets. Cambridge, rowing as Goldie BC, were first home in Division 1 ahead of Eton College. Nottingham University won Intermediate 2 Eights. Nottingham Rowing Club recorded its first win of the day in a Composite Women's D eight with **Sarah Royles** and **Ellie Welham** in the crew, winning a unique Masters of Trentside medal.

Division 2 saw three more wins for the club. The men's novice eight of **Jordan Page, Joshua Jones, Jack Smart, Hugh Pelly, Christopher Hoole, James Doleman, Matthew Nicholls** and **Elliot Marples**, coxed by

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Hannah Flemington

and coached by Andy Brown, was the first winning crew home. The Women's Novice Eight of **Catherine Rhodes-Jones**

,

Magda Buczek

and

Victoria Clayton

from Persephone Wynne's squad joined forces with

Annie Campbell-Orde

,

Grace Haracz

,

Fleur Tavare

,

Kate Parsons

and

Georgina Grainger

from the High Performance group, together with cox

Daniel Thompson

, and with only one outing under their belt won by over 40 seconds! The in-form WJ16 quad of

Jenna Draycott

(Kesteven and Grantham Girls School),

Aimee Richards

(Carlton Academy),

Abi Clarke

(East Leake Academy) and

Bella Barlow

(Nottingham Girls High School) coached by Declan Gamble and Martin Kay, fresh from success at the Hampton Head, won their race.

Division 3 saw another two eights wins. The Masters D crew of **Chris Beesley, Canice**

O'Reilly

en Hill

, **Steph**

,

Andy Townsend

,

Andy Brown

,

Shane MacSweeney

,

Iain Hill

and

Paul Williamson

coxed by

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Clare Angus

became Masters of Trentside, a satisfying result after losing out last year. The High Performance girls coached by Dez Atkins of

Kat Aguilar-Agon

,

Ellyce Stehlin

,

Sammy Dartnall

,

Laura Wheeler

,

Rosie Wilkins

,

Kirstie Maxfield

,

Katie Bartlett

and

Caitlin Boyland

coxed by

Vicky Atkins

won Women's Elite Eights, the Robin Haslam Trophy and set themselves up for the Women's Head of the River on the Thames next weekend.

Below: Aimee Richards, Abi Clarke, Bella Barlow and Jenna Draycott with their trophies

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