



1948-2011 - Celebrating 64 Years of Personal Endeavour

20 April 2010

DW2010 Paddler Numbers, Birthdays and Quotes

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

327 boats in total, including the four day event, with 599 paddlers.

Over the 24 hours, each paddler completes an estimated 90,000 strokes. If all boats finish they'll paddles the equivalent of travelling one and a half times round the planet.

Age range 15 to 73 years old. Youngest is Xavier James at 15. Oldest is Brian Kelly aged 73.

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

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

Boat Number	Class	Name	Date of Birth	Age
Youngest				
145	Junior Doubles	Xavier Burgess		15
Oldest				
349	Senior Doubles	Brian Kelly		73
Birthdays				
Friday				
724	Singles	Philip Kennedy	22/04/1958	53 on Good Friday
Saturday				
56	Vet/Junior	Yvonne Carpenter-Warren	23/04/1968	43 on Easter Saturday Paddling with Cameron Carpenter-Warren (son? Who is 17)
723	Singles	Jan Laenen	23/04/1981	30
311	Senior Doubles	Nick Adie	23/04/1985	26
Sunday				
607	Endeavour	Simon Lees	24/04/1965	46 on Easter Sunday
391	Senior Doubles	Peter Langworthy	24/04/1968	43
143	Junior Doubles	Caoimhe McLaughlin	24/04/1995	16

18 Nationalities

Nationality	Total
British	554
Irish	9
South African	8
German	4
New Zealand	3
Belgian	3
Dutch	3
Czech	2
Canadian	2
Hungarian	2
Australian	2
Indian	1
American	1
Singapore	1
Danish	1
Spanish	1
Argentinean	1
New Zeland	1
Grand Total	599

Gender	Number
Female	95
Male	504

From the armed forces:

DW over the years...

Over the 64 years of the event, over 8300 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."

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.

-- ENDS --