

# Worcester Race Report

Here we are once again, up with the lark, food is prepared and packed, kit is all nice and clean, I am off to collect Angela, then over to our illustrious team captains house, to be driven once we have picked up Roger to our latest race venue, maybe I should have been slightly concerned about the forthcoming days events, as David who was waiting for us outside his house, was MINUS his paddle, not a good start.

The drive was proving uneventful, until a phone call from Les, had we noticed that the road from Swindon over to the M5 was possibly closed, some quick thinking, lets ring Cheryl & Malcolm as they have sat nav ( how posh are the Orgills ) now you might think this was a really easy and simple option, but ringing Cheryl is like trying to have an audience with the Pope, nigh on impossible, as the phone rings, but is never answered, I think that the 21<sup>st</sup> century is passing her by.....however we are in luck, and are informed that they had taken a different route, so over to our navigator in chief, Roger, and he plots a very scenic route to Worcester.....but wait, we are being pursued by a stalker.....in a silver BMW.....is it the police.....phew....no its only Les.

We arrive at our destination only about 25 mins late, at least we don't get a rollicking from Les for once, as he is still shadowing us, and we have also picked up another stalker, it is Kevin D.....you guys really should invest in some up to date maps ( David please take note. ).....as we drive onto the racecourse, we notice our boat and driver is stuck up a very very narrow road and is trying desperately to turn round, Jim took the wrong exit to the race site, how many times have you driven to Worcester Jim, someone else who needs a new map.

Time is of the essence so our captain David informs us that we need to get changed at once, so we all start putting the race kit on ( now as you know we are having a new kit made for the Hurricanes ) however David has already been modelling a new item of clothing, in readiness for next season, some of you might well ask what the new item is, well I am here to tell you all, that in future all males will have to wear PINK THONGS, as we must follow our captains example, Yes David Randall had packed his pink thong to wear over his lycra shorts.....How fetching we will all look next year... ( he tried to say, that this really belonged to Louise ) I have real doubts about his explanation... and maybe even his sexuality.

So onto the days racing.....our first race was a close run thing but BA triumphed over Bristol & Amathus B...by a matter of a few 100's of a second, an excellent start, ( maybe even Les would be happy and smile for once ) this put us straight into the final....no semis for us.....we were drawn against Kingston & Three River Serpents who were to be our Achilles heel for the whole day.....we came third.....but in a faster time than our first race.....things were looking good.... ( I think Les even smiled a little )

So a considerable wait now till the 500's.....a good thing really, as we were able to relax and have lunch.....Kevin Tighe was going to need all the time possible as Indra had decided not to attend this event, and Kevin had to feed and water himself for the day, simple tasks, like opening a bottle of water, peeling a banana, buttering a malt loaf, opening the cool bag, were all proving to be beyond Kevin's comprehension, ( he obviously

considered these to be pink jobs ) we were all very concerned as to whether he would survive the day, or collapse through famine or dehydration.....but luckily there were enough ladies there who took pity on him and helped him through these trying times. Indra please no more days off, we cant stand the sight of a grown man CRYING.

Onto the 500's....first up against Amathus B and Powerhouse, we romped home comfortably first, morale was high, and still Kevin D had not had an argument or the inclination to have a fight ( things would change ) things were looking good, the next race saw us drawn against our old foes WAM & Three Rivers....we came a very close second to Three Rivers.. WAM were no where to be seen...This put us straight into the cup semi.....against Amathus & Kingston.....an even faster time by us could not stop us coming marginally third.....however an Amathus paddler obviously took umbrage at our competitive paddling and decided to spear Kevin D with his paddle and give him some verbals.....whoops here we go.....Kevin is spitting....steam coming out of his ears.....wants to go and argue his point, wants to have a little physical combat, Kevin I know we are all for one, and one for all, but they have 4 teams... full of mostly males, we have 1 team 50% of whom are ladies,....please think about the odds first....he is finally dissuaded...PHEW.....in the cup race off we come 3<sup>rd</sup> again to Three Rivers.....pesky varmints.....so we are into the minor final.....again we just lose out to Three Rivers & Bristol Empire.

In conclusion it has to be said that BA put on a really hard , competitive, and good days racing ( we even had Batchworth cheering us on at one point ) and received several compliments on our performance and paddling.....so thanks are due to Kevin Tighe for all his cajoling and hard work at training and Jim for all his good work as our helm.....we finished the day 5th ahead of Thames & Henley...what a great days racing.

I have decided to make some awards for the day.....so here goes

The Maureen driving school award for sense of direction.....Jim Green  
The Trinny & Susanna dress sense award .....David Randall  
The Rocky Marciano award.....Kevin D'Mellow  
The Gordon Ramsey cuisine award.....Kevin Tighe  
The Spielberg award for filming.....Cheryl Orgill  
The Little Ray of sunshine award.....Les Sibley

Please note the author has no way allowed for the truth or actual facts to get in the way of a good mickey take.