



More Pots for Beccles Stash

Beccles Rowing Club returned from the gruelling 4400m Norwich Head on Saturday 23rd February with more trophies for the mantelpiece as the club continues to go from strength to strength.

A renascent competitive force burned brightly in Phil Marler who flicked his way to victory in typically fluid fashion in his Single scull in the afternoon session. His time of 18:21 saw him finish an impressive 25 second ahead of his nearest rival and fully deserve his first pot of 2008.

The Viking duo of Benjamin Turner and Nicholas Beck battled home in gritty, determined style to claim emotional pots in the Senior 3 Double Sculls Category in the morning Division in a time of 17:19. Turner dedicated his pot to Grandad Alfred "Fido" Turner who passed away peacefully on Friday 22nd February at a marvellous 95 years of age.

The club entered a strong contingent in all three Divisions and put up strong competitive displays throughout the day. In the morning session the mixed Novice Four of Rebecca Haste, John Collins, Nick Davies and Liz Beedham had a particularly pleasing row under the expert tutelage of cox Stuart Lamb, who drove them home in a very solid 18:55.

In the shortened 2500m Second Division of the day, the Men's Novice Four of Mark Adcock, Alan Bliss, Mark Taylor and Chris Humphries posted the fastest time of the session by almost 30 seconds in 10:12 coxed by their Coach Phil Marler. The mixed Senior 4 pairing of Nicholas Beck and Vicky Collins also had a powerful race and recorded the fifth fastest time of 11:05 after a dynamic start cheered on by their adoring fans.

The afternoon session saw the Men's Novice Four compete again over the full distance, this time with a young sub cox. Their time of 19:56 placed in 26th place in the field in occasionally blustery conditions. Beck and Collins also hooked up again to record a gutsy 21:32 having stacked it dramatically in the bank on the first sweeping corner. The Mixed Senior 3 Double of Club Captain Jon Benest-Bartram and Vice-Captain Liz Beedham showed all their guile and experience to race home in a very sprightly 19:13 and declared themselves proud of their performance and of the overall efforts of all those involved.

The Beccles haul of three pots from eight boats across all three of the day's divisions demonstrated both strength in depth and a vibrant, well-supported club keen to succeed on the competitive stage. Those wishing to assist or sponsor the club should visit www.becclesrowingclub.co.uk