

5th Ravenglass Seaquest, Sunday 3rd April 2010

Despite a 24 hour delay, to avoid gales, the 5th Ravenglass Seaquest took place on Sunday 3rd April, in glorious weather again. Apologies to those who couldn't make the revised date and thank you to those who could make it! We were delighted with the turn out.

We donated nearly £200 (plus Gift Aid) to National Coast Watch, who will be opening a station in Workington soon. This follows on from previous Seaquest donations of £567 to the Search and Rescue Dogs (SARDA), £437 to Wasdale Mountain Rescue and £600 to St Bees Life Boat. A big thank you to all Seaquesters and the event helpers. And also thank you to the Coastguard who helped with safety cover

The "Thurlow Open 5 Scoring Technique" was adopted (hope James doesn't charge royalties); this involved low score controls near the start (as always), and then again at the far end of each river; so a few people changed their tactics. The course was shorter than previously (due to a beer barrel and wind – not what you think!). Despite the shorter course only a few visited all controls. Kate Duffus was the first solo lady ever to complete the course. Kate is famous for kayaking round Cumbria – see <http://cumberlandring.blogspot.com/> - it's a great read, fantastic piccies – well done Kate.

John Willacy from Anglesey in a Rockpool Taran was again the winner of the sea kayak category. And managed to go round a 2nd time to collect in most of the controls for us – what a man! John manages the Performance Sea Kayak web-site where you can find all the Seaquest results and details of other events - see <http://www.performancesekayak.co.uk/Pages/Events.html>.



Chris McSweeney, who travelled up from Worcester, on a surf ski (and with the help of a bit of running) is shown left. (He did Seaquest on a Surf ski & drove up – just in case there was ambiguity!). But later Macclesfield's Ned Price and John Kavanagh in a skinny K2 seen just behind Chris raced ahead to be the over-all winners. John Bunyan also from Macclesfield, again completed the course, in his EIC 18X, as did Simon Milligan from Kendal competing in Seaquest for the first time.

Alistair Hornsby and Ian Coleman deserve a mention for powering a beautiful wooden canoe faster than most kayaks.

The mixed kayak double winners were locals (and Blengdale Runners) Clare Tyler and Robin Keith – kayaking only for the second time. And the Open Canoe mixed winners were Pete & Barbara Nelson with Luath The Dog, who sniffed out the controls and raced to them. (Perhaps I should have used electronic punching and if Luath had the dibber on her nose I think the Nelson team would have won!).

Two couples (Sally & John Soady, and Rhiannon George & Stu Mair) in single kayaks acquired the same very high scores and all finished at the same time. Going round together, I thought, but I see they chose different routes.



Copeland Canoe Club, as always, supported the event en masse, and did well in the prizes. “Up The Creek” shown in the Canoe left won the kayak Team category. Jack Watson & Robin Watson also shown left did extremely well in small river boats.

It’s always great to see the families in Canoes. The Harris Team (below left) raced ahead of the Law Family (below right) and the Jesson Family. Many more had entered but I think the late change in date to Mother’s Day prevented them from entering.

The Glow Stick Award, was not awarded this year. But in hind-sight we should have given it to Jim Willis from Dumbarton, who came back 14 minutes late, therefore accrued 35 penalty points but still came a credible 9th. If he had been 15 minutes late all points would have been lost.



I missed giving out a few prizes on the day, as I’d combined too many categories. Prize winners are in italics in the results that follow. Phil apologises for buying English wine as prizes, as he tested the bottle I dropped and wasn’t impressed. Those prize winners who were lucky

enough not to receive a prize on the day will get Free Entry to next year's event rather than a bottle of English Wine through the post (I'll e-mail those lucky people!).

A massive thank you to all of our helpers - Phil for all sorts, Josh Rice for Irt Patrols & results, Will Mullineaux for Mite Patrols & results, Eileen Benyon for main lagoon look-out, Phil & Leanne Hanson for Esk Patrol & photographers, and Mel Gould for main photographer. Also we had safety cover from the Coastguard.

And I've already hatched a plan for next year to ensure those who clear the course within three hours, get their money's worth, and stay out for the full three hours (and it doesn't involve collecting in the controls, John)

Thank you for your support & positive comments. Hope to see you all next year.

Annette, annette@blengdalerunners.co.uk



Kayak Mixed Pair	Sally & John Soady	Sheffied CC	2:43	310		310	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1
	Rhiannon George, Stu Mair	Penrith	2:43	310		310	1	1	1		1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Mike Jesson & Rachel Pickering	Beeston	2:07	160		160	3		1	1	1		1				1				1	1	1
Kayak Mixed Double	Clare Tyler & Robin Keith (Double)	Blengdale Runners	2:50	310		310	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1
	Bridget Keogh & Steve Omerod		3:08	310	11	299	2	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Canoe Mixed	Pete, Barbara Nelson & Luath the dog	Cleator	2:04	290	4	286	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1
	Andy Biggs & Penny Excell	West Cumbria CC & Penrith	2:03	240	3	237	2	1	1	1	1		1	1	1		1			1	1	1	1
Canoe Male	Alistair Hornsby & Ian Coleman	West Cumbria CC	2:46	320		320	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kayak Team	Up the Creek (Andrew Woollard, Josh Havlin, Nathaniel Green, Michael Green) (Juniours)	Copeland CC (Juniors)	2:42	260		260	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1				1	1	1
	Risely & Green Team of Five	Ribble CC	2:35	250		250	2	1	1	1	1		1	1			1	1		1	1	1	1

Canoe Genera tion	Harris Team (Barbara, Tim & Paul Clarke (10))	St Bees	13:43:00	220		220	1	1	1	1	1		1	1			1			1	1	1	1	
	Law Family (Helen, Dave, Jessica & Samuel)	Southport	13:49:00	180		180	2		1	1	1		1	1			1				1	1	1	
	Jesson family (Sean, Lojska, Robbie & Pete)	NW Sea Kayakers	13:05:00	160		160	3		1	1	1		1				1					1	1	1
Kayak Genera tion	Andy Bennion, Robyn Watson	Copeland CC	13:59:00	260		260	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1				1	1	1	1	1
	Al Yates, Jack Watson	Copeland CC	14:04:00	240	4	236	2		1	1	1		1			1	1	1	1			1	1	1
	Matthew Team (Ray & Matthew Owen)	Copeland CC	13:56:00	230		230	3	1	1	1			1	1	1	1						1	1	1



5th Ravenglass Seaquest – Map NB Checkpoints 1 and 2 were not open.

