

Nottingham Sprints June 2009

A small Basingstoke team of Katy, Jason, Mike, Naomi and Isobel braved the traffic and the weather to make it to the June regatta at the National Watersports Centre.

Despite the traffic everyone made it in time to get the tents up before the heavens opened.

Fortunately the weather cleared up a little for Saturday's races; which saw Mike Rees-Clark off first:



Mike charges down the 500m course

Katy also had her first go in the 200m races:



Katy joins the ladies synchronised kayak team

The weather reversed itself for Sunday's racing, staying clear most of the night but this time the rain started with the racing. Fortunately most of the team had been able to practice sea kayaking the week before (who'd have thought that a sea trip would be good practice for a flat water race on an enclosed lake?). So no swims this time; although at one point it looked like a 1000m breast stroke race might have been easier to organise.

So it was Jason who kicked off the 1000m in dreadful conditions:



Jason, using those surfing skills to make it down the 1000m course

With steady driving rain only the geese seemed to enjoy watching the races:



The crowd go wild....



Few families made a day of it! Most people left as soon as they could get away leaving Naomi and Isobel to finish with a 3rd place in the 1000m K2 final:



So well done everyone – especially Mike who was immediately promoted to Boys C. Let's hope July is a little warmer!

Howard Smith