

Fowey River Canoe Club – Racing Highlights 2021-22

2021

2021 was a slightly truncated season, but a much better year for racing than 2020.

The highlight was getting club members selected for the Marathon World Championships, which took place in Romania. Benji Cabrera and Joe Railton had a fantastic race to finish 9th in the under 18 category. They made the lead group from the start and stayed there for much of the 12 mile race, finishing just over a minute behind the leaders.

Benji was also selected for the Sprint World Championships, which took place in Portugal. He raced the Olympic distance of K2 (two person kayak) 500m with partner 'JJ' from Chelmsford Canoe Club. The boys came 11th overall.

The club took a fair-sized team to the Marathon National Championships in Reading. Conditions were very warm, and we had some great results. Highlights: Matt Collinge 4th in under 23 K1, Ethan Hunt 5th in under 14 K1, Benji 3rd under 18 K1, Joel Wain 18th in senior K1, Martyn Collinge 15th in over 54 K1, and Pete Wilkes' 3rd in Senior K2 with partner Will Stroud from Chelmsford.

Club members attended the National Sprint Regattas in Nottingham. James Drage, Matt, and Pete all got promoted to Men's A (the premier men's division), and Joe was promoted to Boys' A. Pete came 4th at the senior national championships in the Olympic distance of 1000m K1.

2022

The 2022 season is still young, but Benji Cabrera kicked it off with a bang. He won every race he competed in at the April National Sprint Regatta (u18), and has been selected for the Sprint European Championships.

Over the Easter weekend, Dan Palmer raced in the 125 mile Devizes to Westminster race with partner Billy Butler from Oxford. They finished an agonising 2nd, around two minutes behind the eventual winners – a tiny margin over such a long distance.

Matt Collinge went to his first international competition, at Brandenburg in Germany. He raced well to win both the 500m and 1000m K1 events in the u23 category.

The club has also been competing in the Hasler Series, in the South West region. There have been three races so far in 2022 – Camel, Chippenham, and Exeter. We are battling it out to finish top four (out of 29) clubs in the region to qualify for the Hasler Final, and are currently sitting in fifth position.