

# **YAK EXE DESCENT 2003**

## **RACE RESULTS**

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These results bring together the end of yet another chapter in the annals of the Exe Descent. 35 years ago the founding fathers of the event choose a November date. Because, having studied the rainfall records, it was reckoned to have the best potential for decent water levels. Something seems to have gone badly wrong with the weather patterns since then. To date this white water season has been very dry, with water levels so low as to make most rivers unrunnable.

So much so that, at a crisis meeting just 10 days before the event, the organisers considered it may be almost impossible to run the race. However those in the know (the Met Office recently relocated to Exeter) assured us that rain was predicted and that all should be OK and several regular competitors assured us that the Descent had run with even less water in the past – although none could tell when exactly. We also considered that after the various disruptions of the past several years, postponement could lead to the demise of our event. So all went ahead as planned.

Possibly because of doubts about water levels the entry was relatively low, but some 241 paddlers in 171 canoes and kayaks took to the water at Tiverton.

After some constructive criticism last year, we decided that an overhaul of the event was overdue. First on the list was the need to carry out a formal Risk Assessment. For most paddlers the most obvious result of this was the inclusion in the rules the insistence that, for obvious reasons, all paddlers wear buoyancy aids and helmets. Also all boats be fitted with secondary buoyancy. This to prevent swamping after a capsize and aid rescue. These new rules of course meant that it became necessary to scrutinise boats and safety equipment. Happily generally all was in order and no one was prevented from starting. Although there were some close calls.

Once underway there were the usual close races and crop of incidents, which make the Yak Exe Descent the event it is. I sure everyone has their tale to tell. This year was never going to be a record year, with all times being rather slow and as the results show the low flows took their toll. All the weirs had safety cover in place, so there were no compulsory portages. However I suspect several people now regret shooting Broken Weir. The carpark at Bickleigh bearing testimony to the number of broken boats (including one of the Last Boat Crew).

Congratulations to all the class winners and thank you to all competitors and their supporters for their general good will and good humour. It certainly makes the organisation easier and the whole weekend more pleasant for all.

We are once again pleased to have been able to work with YAK our sponsors. A special mention must be made of their SW representative Pete Ford, for all his input and efforts. Special thanks to Mitch and all the staff at AS Watersports, for dealing with entries and day-to-day queries, as well as organising the Saturday evening event (perhaps we'll have enough water for the rodeo next year Ewart). Thanks also to Stewart Woodward of Canoe Control for his advice on the Risk Assessment, to Richard Ward and Dave Green at the start, to Mrs Frankpitt for the use of the start field (and the bacon butties), to all the members of the local Canoe and Beach Rescue Clubs for safety cover, to Gerry Pickard and members of Westcountry Private Ambulance for providing First Aid, to the members of Tiverton Raynet for providing radio communications along the course, to the Police and Traffic Wardens who keep the traffic moving, to the Exe Riparian Owners Association and its members who we are pleased allow the event to pass along the river and access for the safety cover, to the Environment Agency and Exeter City Council, to all the members of Exeter Canoe Club who marshal along the course and provide and serve soup and refreshments at the finish, to Haven Banks OEC and Exeter Rowing Club for the use of their boat sheds. Finally thanks to Mike Crispin and Barry Arthurs who do so much work both before, during and after the event. Without these people and many more there could be no event.

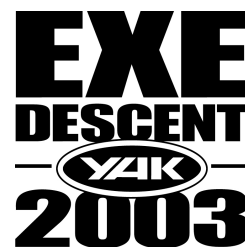
**A GREAT BIG THANKYOU TO THEM ALL.**

Finally if you enjoyed your day or weekend, now's the time to book the date for next year **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November**.

**IF YOU ENJOYED THE YAK EXE DESCENT TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND CLUB MEMBERS AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO PADDLE NEXT YEAR – SO THAT OUR EVENT CAN ONCE MORE BE TRULY CALLED THE BIGGEST DOWN RIVER RACE IN ENGLAND**

# YAK EXE DESCENT 2003

## RACE RESULTS



### Class 1A – Racing K1 Senior

1	212	Mayers.J	Runcorn	2:20:18
2	217	Martin.S	Richmond	2:23:32
3	215	Byres.K	Richmond	2:32:25
4	935	Peake O.	BOA	2:38:19
5	214	Holt.R	Richmond	2:43:48
6	220	Heard.C	Exeter	2:58:35
7	218	Dusek.M	Richmond	3:10:40
	211	Ward.R	Exeter	NR
	216	Wright.M	Exeter	NR
	219	McKeand.G	Leaside	NR

### Class 1C – Racing K1 Women

352	Burrell.N	Bath	NR
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### Class 2A – Racing K2 Senior

1	913	Healy.T	Cooke.C	Pheonix	2:07:32
2	213	Chorley.C	Cox.A	Bath	2:10:15
3	112	Beazley.D	Burbridge.P	Leaside	2:11:02
4	118	Hendron.R	Bitcon.D	Richmond	2:13:12
5	908	Maycock.A	Maycock.P	Exeter	2:17:05
6	109	Bullock.R	Bennett.S	Exeter / Bristol	2:17:20
7	104	Lewis.A	Gallimore.D	RAF	2:19:11
8	907	Froese.S	Cooper.F	Contrast	2:20:31
9	113	Shelly.P	Edyvean.J	Fowey	2:31:24
10	114	Rowley.G	Thompson.A	Leaside	2:34:47
11	103	Parker.J	Pedlar.D	Worcester	2:36:09
12	117	Wibrew.M	Bowles.P	Maidstone	2:36:29
13	102	James.P	Dunroy.N	Bristol / Richmond	2:39:53
14	931	Dawkins R.	Garner N.	Richmond	2:44:04
15	906	Goode.A	Caldwell.R	Contrast	2:50:06
16	111	Blackwell.O	Hendran.H	Exeter / Richmond	2:55:56
17	106	Bloomfield.N	Truman.M	IND	4:51:00
	108	Kewley.R	Kewley.S	Richmond	NR
	105	Scarr.P	Bruwer.D	Elmbridge	NR
	911	Kelly.C	Kyte.A	Leaside	NR

### Class 2B – Racing K2 Junior

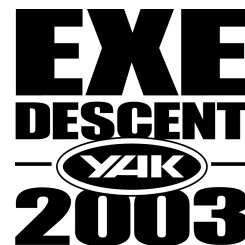
1	141	Elias.J	Thomas.W	BryanstonSchool	2:49:34
1	17	Lang.S	Newsome.R	Thomastown	2:17:55
2	101	Stuart.P	McGee.K	Leaside	2:32:29
3	171	Van Aardenne.C / Smith.S		Richmond	2:48:29
4	175	Radle	B Scott.J	RIC / Richmond	2:49:41

### Class 2M – Racing K2 Mixed

173	Dilai.M	Goodall.M	Pennine cc	NR
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### Class 3A – Wild Water Racers and Touring Singles Senior

1	306	Morrissey.M	WWKC	2:25:47
2	311	Skellern.C	Worcester	2:32:36
3	309	Bowerbank.K	Bath	2:34:29
4	314	Murphy.P	Wild Water	2:41:29
5	304	Nevitt.A	Worcester	2:44:35
6	308	Laing.P	IND	2:55:04
7	310	Milbank.C	St.Austell	3:04:45
8	303	Prentice.M	BOA	3:07:09
9	313	Roberts.S	IND	3:08:10
10	930	Day.P	Hastings	3:21:32
	916	Corden.J	MANCHESTER	NR
	934	Magrin R	Richmond	NR

### Class 3B – Wild Water Racers and Touring Singles Junior

1	351	Burrell.J	Bath	2:34:29
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### Class 3AW – Wavehoppers

1	918	Bainbridge.I	Exeter	2:46:56
2	910	Scott.K	IND	2:48:39
3	914	Powell.N	ICU	2:51:46
4	912	Leahy.P	Phoenix	2:56:51
5	337	Blowers.M	Meridian	3:01:28
6	336	Wright.A	Bishops Stortford	3:03:04
7	333	Somerset.R	Basingstoke Canal C.C.	3:03:50
8	335	Earl.S	Portsmouth	3:04:06
9	332	Brook.A	Bath	3:27:56
10	334	Hanks.N	IND	3:45:33
	915	Haithornhwaite.C	Bristol	NR

### Class 4A – Touring K2

1	261	Jones.S	Dodson.H	Bryanston School	2:38:50
2	275	Labbett.A	Allen.D	Exeter	2:47:19
3	276	Williams.K	Russell.D	Exeter	2:47:53
4	274	Sugrue.D	Williams.C	Hayle	2:56:15
5	265	Clark.S	Johns.B	Cheltenham / St Davids	2:58:15
6	269	Evans.T	Patalano.S	Aberfan	2:59:50
7	271	Kelly.C	King.S	Teignbridge	3:08:02
8	267	Coates.S	Ford.C	Hayle	3:11:35
9	268	Hallbery.S	Purse.J	IND	3:18:38
10	262	Martin.V	McNelce.P	Irish Canoe Union	3:31:58
11	264	Rayner.K	Murray.L	IND	3:39:30
13	904	Fish.R	Fish.J	Exeter	3:43:29
14	266	Thorn.A	Owen.S	IND	4:35:05
	272	Goodman.S	Noraika.J	IND	NR
	263	Leivers.A	Rayner.B	IND	NR

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### Class 5A – General Purpose and Slalom Senior

1	531	Hambley.A	Bliss Stick	3:00:31
2	514	Beavis.P	IND	3:01:02
3	540	Randall.A	Fowey	3:01:16
4	909	Breen.D	Contrast	3:04:28
5	933	Mayberry.M	St Davids	3:09:38
6	526	Brooks.P	IND	3:11:17
7	901	Mallet.H	Exeter	3:11:52
8	532	Ford.N	Hayle	3:13:26
9	502	Crowcher.M	Wiltshire Youth	3:13:28
10	932	Newton.G	Exeter	3:14:46
11	537	Lloyd.A	Wiltshire Youth	3:18:44
12	503	Lee.S	Swaledale Outdoor Club	3:22:26
13	510	Cumins.D	Adur	3:22:36
14	505	Morris.I	South Avon	3:24:03
15	521	Francis.D	Teignbridge	3:24:19
16	535	Bailey.C	Chelmsford	3:27:36
17	529	Vennart.S	Mascalls	3:30:07
18	528	Vennart.J	Mascalls	3:30:08
19	516	Noakes.B	Exeter	3:33:54
20	525	Reed.S	RMCTC	3:36:54
21	501	Duddy.K	Wiltshire Youth	3:38:08
22	302	Price.S	Exeter	3:48:32
23	520	Stevens.N	Blackwater Valley	3:51:32
24	519	Scott.R	Tower Hamlets	3:52:03
25	513	Roberts.T	Tower Hamlets	3:54:26
26	523	Hagenbuch.L	Tower Hamlets	3:54:45
27	509	Floyd.C	IND	3:56:18
28	517	Hill.G	IND	3:56:19
29	507	Field.D	IND	3:56:21
30	506	Robinson.P	Wyre Forest & Stourbridge Arm	3:56:23
31	512	Goodliffe.J	Tower Hamlets	3:56:24
32	539	Trelease.D	IND	4:00:24
33	536	Trelease.J	Devon Fire & Rescue	4:00:25
34	534	Madams.S	Bristol	4:02:40
35	533	Keyte.P	Bristol	4:02:43
36	479	de Winton.P	IND	4:04:37
37	476	de Winton.T	IND	4:04:38
38	477	Keele.M	IND	4:04:38
	508	Morley.S	Hayle	NR
	522	Hill.M	Frome	NR
	524	Paget.M	IND	NR
	542	Bristow.G	Penzance	NR
	511	Terrey Milward.D	Portland YOI	NR
	518	White.L	Portland YOI	NR
	530	Osborne.B	IND	NR
	538	Warnock.M	Tower Hamlets	NR
	902	Booth.C	IND	NR
	903	Rydin-Orwin.P	EXETER	NR

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### Class 5B – General Purpose and Slalom Junior

1	563	Brooks.D	Exeter School	3:05:44
2	564	Martin.C	Exeter School	3:08:20
3	568	Titlertington.M	Exeter School	3:32:32
4	561	Bishop.S	Exeter School	3:32:54
5	567	Miles.M	South Avon	3:39:33
6	569	Evison.I	IND	3:40:09
7	566	Blaze.Z	Duchy College	4:02:18
8	562	Fursdon.L	Duchy College	4:02:19
9	565	Trelease.R	Bicton College	4:12:59

### Class 5C – General Purpose and Slalom Women

1	608	Byrne.C	Millfield	3:24:23
2	604	Bate.T	Teignbridge	3:53:05
3	605	Ishikawa.Y	Tower Hamlets	3:53:48
4	603	Chaplin.A	Tower Hamlets.	3:54:59
5	609	Wilson.J	Devon Fire & Rescue	4:00:27
	601	Dagleish.R	Tower Hamlet	NR
	602	McCubbing.M	Tower Hamlets.	NR

### Class C2A – Racing C2

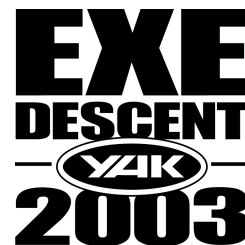
1	905	Tennant.P	Donaghey.K	IND	3:02:28
2	461	Sewell.F	Sewell.I	BSSC	3:11:07
3	464	Walker.T	Cooley.D	Bishops Stortford	3:17:00
4	463	Shipp.T	Woodcock.J	Chelmsford / Bishops Stortford	3:17:38
5	804	Woodcock.R	Surridge.P	Bishops Stortford	3:42:10
6	467	Duncan.K	Aldam.G	Bishops Stortford	3:42:46
7	462	Spooner.O	Lyle.G	IND	3:47:05
8	466	Cozens.B	Fergie.D	Chelmsford	3:47:31

### Class TC1 – Touring C1

1	478	Light.R	Itchen South Scouts	3:15:06
	475	Haskey.A	Falcon	NR
	718	Wiggans.T	IND	NR

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### Class TCA – Touring C2

1	704	Ralph.P	Ralph.T	Team Marsport	2:57:02
2	708	Blue.M	Vann.O	IND	2:58:12
3	714	Bradford.M	Bradford.B	Exeter	3:09:35
4	920	Chandler.J	Procter.R	IND	3:11:19
5	717	Woodland.D	Pring.J	IND	3:14:55
6	703	Croft.K	Sidwell.J	IND	3:20:56
7	710	Owen.E	Talbot.K	Penzance	3:22:24
8	713	Harvey.J	Farrant.G	IND	3:27:11
9	712	Evans.C	Parkin.D	Dynamic Adventure	3:27:16
10	709	Wreford.S	Hoppins.K	IND	3:30:38
11	711	Mitchell.P	Dixon.M	Dynamic Adventure	3:33:56
12	702	Fyfield.L	Clark.D	Chelmsford	3:55:43
13	716	Billing.C	Morris.R	Totnes	3:59:32
14	715	Healey.A	Ellis.B	IND	4:02:21
15	706	Thorn.P	Casey.D	Chalfont Park	4:21:35

### Class TCC – Touring C2 Women

1	731	Taylor.J	Rawlings.G	IND	3:36:18
2	732	Reader.P	York.Z	IND / Exeter	3:56:16

### Class TCM – Touring C2 Mixed

1	741	James.A	Medlyn.S	IND	3:25:58
2	743	Osbone.M	Cathrow.M	IND	3:36:59
3	742	Tomes.M	Wooley.C	IND	3:56:05
4	919	Gray.P	Lovell.C	IND	4:00:50

### YAK SPECIAL AWARDS:

Presented for entertainment value or otherwise coming to the notice of the YAK Staff on the day.

- 211 Richard Ward, the earliest retirement– broke paddle at top of Salmon ponds weir.
- 462 Oliver Spooner and Gordon Lyle, who lost their boat at Flowerpots weir – it nearly beat them over the finish
- 540 Alistair Randall who got his boat stuck at the bottom of Flowerpots.
- 709 Stephen Wreford and Keith Hoppins, for making the rescue crew at Flowerpots earn their keep – one had to be cut free from their upturned boat.

### A FEW 2004 DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES - OTHER RACES ORGANISED BY EXETER CANOE CLUB:

- February 8<sup>th</sup> Exe WWR – Tiverton to Bickleigh
- March 28<sup>th</sup> Lower Exe Race – run over last two weirs of the Descent and the two beyond and into the Exe Estuary.
- May 23<sup>rd</sup> Exe Circuit – Haslar Trophy marathon
- July 25<sup>th</sup> Upper Exe Estuary – Haslar Trophy marathon
- October 10<sup>th</sup> Lower Dart WWR – Buckfastleigh to Staverton.
- November 28<sup>th</sup> The **YAK EXE DESCENT 2004**