

Home success in Manvers dragonboat spectacular

Story by:
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AN ADRENALINE pumping, fun-filled day of action was held at Manvers Lake with a very special success story for a South Yorkshire water sports team.

Nine teams from all over the country competed at Manvers Waterfront Boat Club in the British Dragon Boat Racing Championships on Sunday.

The Yorkshire Sharks Dragonboat Club from Bradford, the North Anaconda Dragon Boat Club from Nottingham, the Tees Valley Dragons from Stockton-on-Tees and Team Manvers Dragons were some of the teams who took part in the event.

Originating in China around 2,000 years ago, the sport sees teams of around 20 paddlers, one drummer and one helmsman competing in 200m, 500m and 2km races of large canoe-like vessels fitted with a dragon's head and tail.

Events are held across the world with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge raising awareness of the sport and its popularity over the years.

Team Manvers Dragons, proudly representing South Yorkshire, took first place in the men's 200m and second in the women's 200m on an extremely hot day.

Trevor Goldson (61), from Ravenshoe, is site supervisor at Manvers Waterfront Boat Club and he was "incredibly proud" of his team.

He said: "For a team with only three years experience to be competing and winning national competitions is absolutely brilliant."

"They took part at the Blue Ribson BDA National Championships in Nottingham three years ago where they successfully gained a third prize despite having only been formed a couple of months before."

"We've battled the effects of the pandemic and to be where we are now is a fantastic success story for South Yorkshire."

"It's great for the community too as it brings so many people together, albeit competitively, from all over the world to share their stories and experiences of a wonderful sport."

"You would not believe how many people are interested in wanting to be involved with the sport after they come and see it for themselves — you can see why it is one of the fastest growing sports in the UK."

Manvers Waterfront Boat Club hosts a number of water sports activities and you can get involved here: <https://tinnal.com/Manvers-Boat-Club>



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