

SPRING 2021

SilverRudder

Wargrave & Shiplake *Regatta*



We've missed you!

Like every outdoor - particularly local - event, we were devastated not to be able to hold Wargrave & Shiplake Regatta in 2020.

For so many, the Regatta represents so much more than just two days of racing on the river - and although inevitable, we too woke on that Friday and Saturday morning sad that we couldn't take advantage of such sunny weather!

But another year, another opportunity!

So we are sending you this 'Spring' edition of Silver Rudder to update you on our thinking for 2021 ...

Another year, another opportunity!



As you will understand, we intentionally held back on communicating our thoughts on 2021 until after the Government's announcements on the 'roadmap' out of lockdown last Monday February 22nd.

Like so many others, our hope was that this might offer us greater clarity on the opportunities for - and circumstances under which - we might hold a regatta this coming August ...

And in many ways, it did! Most significantly, of course, we know that from June 21st, it is hoped that all legal limits on social contact can be removed and restrictions on large events lifted. This is supported, of course, by the hugely successful vaccination programme that continues apace.

However, we remain equally mindful of the hurdles that need to be cleared for this to happen, and that our scheduled Regatta dates of Friday 6th & Saturday 7th August are only a few short weeks after this hoped-for target date.

Likewise, the practicalities of delivering a COVID-safe regatta - with social distancing most likely still to be required, a need to operate a 'Track & Trace' system and a potential need to limit numbers as a result - remain uppermost in our minds.

Armed with all this information, we will be using the next few weeks to evaluate our options and to look at whether - and if so, how - we might be able to hold a COVID-secure Wargrave & Shiplake Regatta this coming August.

In doing so, our highest concerns remain the health, safety and welfare of all the Regatta's stakeholders: organisers, suppliers, contractors, competitors and spectators.

Further, we acknowledge the Regatta's role in supporting society's efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19 and in particular, our need to ensure this within our local community.

We will communicate our decision on whether or not we will be holding a regatta in 2021 by Easter weekend: Saturday 3rd April 2021.

**This, we hope, will give clarity to everyone involved with the event, in whatever way ...
And allow us to plan ahead for what we ALL hope will be a brighter summer!**

With enormous thanks for your ongoing support!

WSR Committee

Our warmest thanks!

A special thank you to those who so kindly maintained their financial support of the Regatta in 2020. Your generosity allowed us to cover the Regatta's overheads in a year where we would otherwise have had to draw on reserves, monies set aside for maintaining our fleet of traditional boats ...



Virtual Punting Trophy

It had to happen!

2020 really was a year of firsts!

And in true WSR fashion, we were no different! Thanks to our amazing DrawMaster, *Hugh Wolley*, 2020 gave rise to the first WSR Virtual Punting Trophy!

Held on that much-loved punting course in our heads, 86 crews entered - a new record for an inaugural event! - and right from the get-go, competition was fierce ...

Like all punting races, imagination was required - and duly delivered! Three rounds, four quarter finals, two semis and the Final later, worthy winners *Sophie and Henry Snape* crossed the line in inspirational fashion, truly showing us all how it should be done - and with some of the most co-ordinated punting action ever seen on our virtual course!

Huge congrats to them both!

And the deepest of thanks to our DrawMaster for keeping the good times in our heads, no matter what the challenge!



The riverbank was alive with reaction to our new event ...

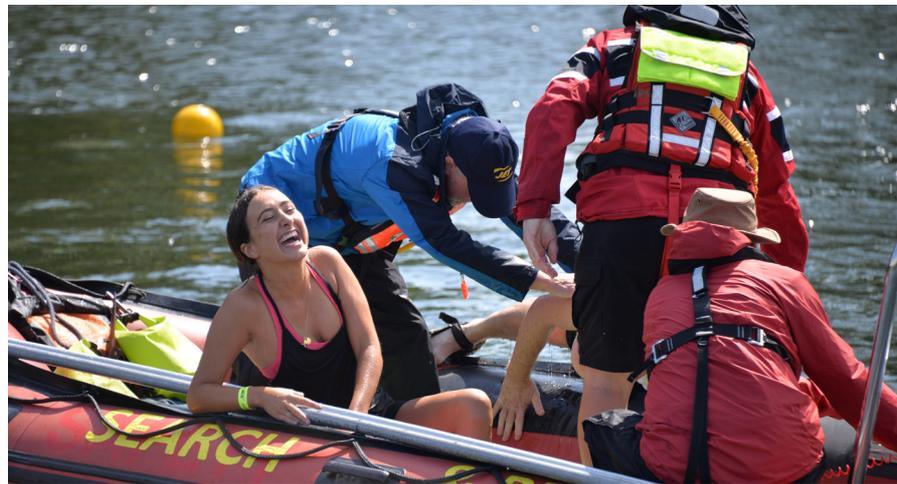


We've been practising on the sofa throughout lockdown!

Hey, we've been virtually training all year for this!

What a fantastic idea! - something I can enter with my wife with no fear of an argument ...

Rather disappointed not to be taking my usual involuntary 'dip' in the Thames this year!



Huge thanks to Tim Hodges for allowing us to use some of his superb pictures for this Spring edition of Silver Rudder!



DrawMaster: 1900

There are some interesting draws! At 5 weeks, the youngest competitor is Margot Wolley in race 40; the one with the most legs is Ozzie the Dog in race 16; and the Hudson family already have a clash in race 28. Typical ...

Can you draw me on the best station against easy opposition please? We're new to this and have never punted in canoes before!

Looking forward to racing. A one and only chance for anyone in my family to win a punting in canoes race!

Our virtual ankles and knees are in much better fettle than the real ones - we feel confident about this ...

Even in the virtual world, I end up doing their W&SR entries! The odds of them getting to the end of the virtual course without getting wet are rather better than their usual performance ...





DrawMaster: 0630

And so it begins!! It's been a really busy morning already with 22 races completed before 0600. The weather's perfect, the umpires very tolerant and no-one has fallen in ...

Partner back in Control Tent before 6.00 and me on the gin before 6.00. It's going to be a long day

It might be a little windy in our canoe which could play havoc with our steering - please could we have a lenient umpire who understands such difficulties?

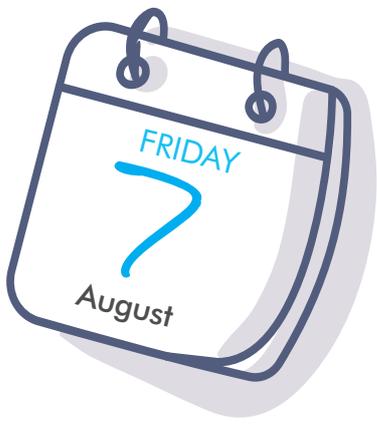


© Tim Hodges Photography



All that training has been worth it. I reckon we have a 50% chance of getting through to the next round. Better odds than we've ever had before!

Hey, we're old! How dare you put us in the second race of the day?



DrawMaster: 1142

There's been 'some furious' activity this morning - some are furious that after 11.5 months' training, they've been despatched so easily by lunchtime on Friday! Reactions to preliminary round results were immediate ...

*Are you sure no no-one fell in?
My surreptitious outward follow-through flick as the canoes came together didn't work then ...*

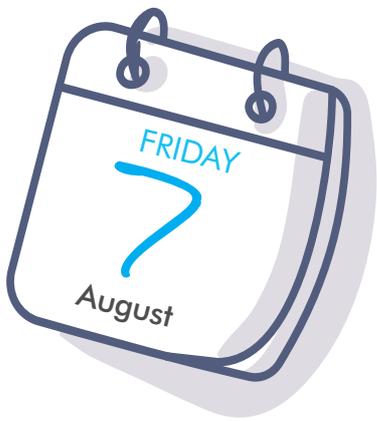
Oh well. First round fodder again. As ever, we will watch the crew who beat us with great interest, hoping honour is restored when they get to the finals ...

I asked a great punting friend for a few tips - I was getting a little bit nervous. She suggested a Pimms or a large gin & tonic 20 minutes before our race. I'm not sure that's a good idea ...

Can't wait for our race this afternoon! We'll have to carry a 'Baby on Board' sign at the back of the canoe to make sure our opponents don't travel too close behind!

Out on Friday morning at last!! I can finally ENJOY the refreshment tent for once ...





DrawMaster: late afternoon

Hey, this is getting serious ...



© Tim Hodges Photography

Such a relief not to have to battle with crosswinds this year! After a first round family showdown, Florence and I are keen to give Liz and Christine a good race next ...

Did the Control tent enjoy my reverse dive, tuck, somersault, followed by pike into the Thames? Surely worthy of a photograph in the Henley Standard? This is so very exciting!



Right. We're off for a little jog to warm up before our race, do some stretches and sand down our punt poles. That might make our opposition think we know what we are doing. In fairness, we have no idea!



We were only beaten by youth. Mind you, my partner's preparations in dressing as a tea bag (ready for a long soaking) may have influenced the result ...



DrawMaster: *lunchtime*

Good afternoon Punters! Well, I imagine it's a good afternoon for most, except perhaps those who've had medically recommended doses of Pimms to deal with the stress of waiting for results ...

Ooh! I see we are in a family quarter final! Aunties v Niece & Nephew! (DrawMaster: we clearly got that right then!)

Well, lunch and the first Pimms out of the way watching the quarters after going out in the previous round. Sort of pleased that the pair who put us out went out to Annie and George. Next Pimms in hand, ready for the semis - well, might need another before that ...

Whaaaaat? Out before the quarter finals? Never mind, it was enjoyable while it lasted ...





DrawMaster: 1610

The semi-finals have taken place - and the results were never in doubt. After the extensive training undertaken by the winners of the first, the winners of the second must be quaking in their gym shoes ...

We hoped 150+ years of 'experience' in the boat might just see us through! - but clearly technique and athleticism won in the end. Still, a quarter final is a thrilling achievement!.

A great event. All that excitement, and such an excellent view from the beer tent ...

Sad to be out, but no surprises - it was a fair race especially as my husband punted the whole way without even knowing he was there ...

Gutted to be out! Team Askew went literally 'askew' towards the end, so well done to the Snapes and good luck in the final everyone!





DrawMaster: 1755

The finalists are at the start and the result will be known in a few minutes ...

Annie Paddison in the final again? Hmm, beginning to look like a committee backhander ...

It will become known as the 'Heat in the Heat'. The umpire's launch was quite unable to keep up with the crews who completed the course in 23 seconds with 5 mighty pushes each. Fortunately the judge in the control tent is tech proficient and had a high speed video camera on hand to record the margin of victory which was announced to be 2mm ...

The Final - how exciting! We are busy sanding the poles, taking extra sugar, keeping out of the sun, and NOT drinking Pimms! Husband feels sick with nerves - and is still on the gin!!



© Tim Hodges Photog



Is this the first Granny & Grandson combination in the Final?



*DrawMaster: **And afterwards ...***

You may ask what the worthy winners win?
The ultimate - a vast virtual cup!

Thanks to all who supported this event! Glad to have maintained some old friendships and rivalries!



Fabulous. Can you tell me what time the fireworks start?

Always a pleasure to compete at W&SR! Btw, I think I left my kagoule on the bank near the pontoons ...

Perhaps it's time to buy shares in the makers of Pimms ...

Winners of the inaugural W&SR Virtual Punting Trophy 2020!

SOPHIE SNAPE & HENRY SNAPE



WRS Virtual Punting Trophy DRAW RESULTS

Virtual Punting in Canoes 2020

Round of 64	Round of 32	Race	Round of 16	Race	Quarter finals	Race	Semi Finals	Race	Final	Winners
Emma Beasley & Jess Beasley	Emma Beasley & Jess Beasley	71	Mark Bowers & Alex Reeve Tucker	79	Annie Paddison & George Hounsell	83	Annie Paddison & George Hounsell	85	Annie Paddison & George Hounsell	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape
Sherwood Burge & Charles Burge	Mark Bowers & Alex Reeve Tucker		Annie Paddison & George Hounsell							
Pete Lowe & Krista Lowe	Annie Paddison & George Hounsell	72	Rhona Floate & Fiona Floate	80	Caroline Simmonds & Poppy Simmonds	84	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape	81	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape	
Mark Bowers & Alex Reeve Tucker			Mark Bowers & Alex Reeve Tucker							
Annie Paddison & George Hounsell	Mark Bowers & Alex Reeve Tucker	73	Wardy Winters & Jo Hall	74	Gaye Hudson & Laura Green	82	Denise Askew & David Askew	82	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Stuart Lindsay & Lucy Rogers	Wardy Winters & Jo Hall		John Sutcliffe & Virginia Black							
Elliott Stubbs & Rachael Stubbs	Wardy Winters & Jo Hall	74	John Crawford & Irene Crawford	75	Kate Watson & Corinne Peacock	81	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape	81	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape	
Maggie Hodgkins & Darcy Hodgkins	John Sutcliffe & Virginia Black		Gerry Black & Sue Black							
Megan Barr & Poppy Winters	John Sutcliffe & Virginia Black	75	Kate Watson & Corinne Peacock	76	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape	84	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape	84	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape	
Archie Scofield & Fiona Stubbs	James Robinson Ranger & Georgina Robinson Ranger		Liz Hillier & Christine Gardiner							
Morag Broom & Zoe Lane	James Robinson Ranger & Georgina Robinson Ranger	76	Liz Hillier & Christine Gardiner	77	Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell	83	Denise Askew & David Askew	83	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Rhona Floate & Fiona Floate	Wardy Winters & Jo Hall		Deborah Templing & Florence Templing							
Sian Barr & Ben Phillis	Wardy Winters & Jo Hall	77	Deborah Templing & Florence Templing	78	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	82	Denise Askew & David Askew	82	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Andy Murphy & Nick Higginson	Jem Askew & Tabbie Hall		Sophie Snape & Henry Snape							
Andy Murphy & Nick Higginson	Jem Askew & Tabbie Hall	78	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape	79	Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell	81	Denise Askew & David Askew	81	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Nicola Hounsell & Stu Hounsell	Caroline Simmonds & Poppy Simmonds		Holly Green & Ben Green							
John Sutcliffe & Virginia Black	Caroline Simmonds & Poppy Simmonds	79	Holly Green & Ben Green	80	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	82	Denise Askew & David Askew	82	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Tom Crook & Matt Crook	Gwen Barr & Betty Askew		Delia Etherington & Roger Etherington							
James Robinson Ranger & Georgina Robinson Ranger	Gwen Barr & Betty Askew	80	Delia Etherington & Roger Etherington	81	Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell	83	Denise Askew & David Askew	83	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Wardy Winters & Jo Hall	John Crawford & Irene Crawford		Tamryn Settle & Keith Settle							
Amanda Andrews & Robin Andrews	John Crawford & Irene Crawford	81	Tamryn Settle & Keith Settle	82	Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell	84	Denise Askew & David Askew	84	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Jem Askew & Tabbie Hall	Lizzi Denham & Andrew Denham		Russ Warren & Phil Clayton							
Emma Paddison & Grace Paddison	Lizzi Denham & Andrew Denham	82	Russ Warren & Phil Clayton	83	Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell	85	Denise Askew & David Askew	85	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Caroline Simmonds & Poppy Simmonds	Gerry Black & Sue Black		Sophie Edwards & Augusta Johns							
Lucy Roberts & Nick Roberts	Gerry Black & Sue Black	83	Sophie Edwards & Augusta Johns	84	Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell	86	Denise Askew & David Askew	86	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Gwen Barr & Betty Askew	Gaye Hudson & Laura Green		Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell							
Mike Crook & Eleanor Crook	Gaye Hudson & Laura Green	84	Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell	85	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	87	Denise Askew & David Askew	87	Denise Askew & David Askew	
David Beasley & Sarah Beasley	Charles Hudson & Sophie Vellacott		Henry Lenthall & Adam Hunt							
John Crawford & Irene Crawford	Charles Hudson & Sophie Vellacott	85	Henry Lenthall & Adam Hunt	86	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	88	Denise Askew & David Askew	88	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Lizzi Denham & Andrew Denham	Kate Watson & Corinne Peacock		Cedd Burge & Lisa Curry							
Gerry Black & Sue Black	Kate Watson & Corinne Peacock	86	Cedd Burge & Lisa Curry	87	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	89	Denise Askew & David Askew	89	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Gaye Hudson & Laura Green	Freddie Simmonds & Maggie Goodall		Denise Askew & David Askew							
Rory van Zwanenberg & Pia van Zwanenberg	Freddie Simmonds & Maggie Goodall	87	Denise Askew & David Askew	88	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	90	Denise Askew & David Askew	90	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Charles Hudson & Sophie Vellacott	Liz Hillier & Christine Gardiner		Tom Jacob & Piper Jacob							
Jonathan Hudson & Mary Wolley	Liz Hillier & Christine Gardiner	88	Tom Jacob & Piper Jacob	89	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	91	Denise Askew & David Askew	91	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Kate Watson & Corinne Peacock	Deborah Templing & Florence Templing		Jane Pope & Geraldine Burge							
Ian Wild & Catherine Lamb	Deborah Templing & Florence Templing	89	Jane Pope & Geraldine Burge	90	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	92	Denise Askew & David Askew	92	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Freddie Simmonds & Maggie Goodall	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape									
Liz Hillier & Christine Gardiner	Sophie Snape & Henry Snape	90		91	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	93	Denise Askew & David Askew	93	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Dodo Snape & Paul Snape	Holly Green & Ben Green									
Deborah Templing & Florence Templing	Holly Green & Ben Green	91		92	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	94	Denise Askew & David Askew	94	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Florence Lenthall & Alex Lenthall	Tim Simmonds & Sophie Simmonds									
Sophie Snape & Henry Snape	Tim Simmonds & Sophie Simmonds	92		93	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	95	Denise Askew & David Askew	95	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Holly Green & Ben Green	Delia Etherington & Roger Etherington									
Henry Bettie & Matthew Pearson-Miles	Delia Etherington & Roger Etherington	93		94	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	96	Denise Askew & David Askew	96	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Tim Simmonds & Sophie Simmonds	Tamryn Settle & Keith Settle									
Diane Freeman & Margaret Freeman	Tamryn Settle & Keith Settle	94		95	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	97	Denise Askew & David Askew	97	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Delia Etherington & Roger Etherington	Russ Warren & Phil Clayton									
Michael Dudley & Marilyn Dudley	Russ Warren & Phil Clayton	95		96	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	98	Denise Askew & David Askew	98	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Tamryn Settle & Keith Settle	Sophie Edwards & Augusta Johns									
Graham Jerome-Ball & Caroline Jerome-Ball	Sophie Edwards & Augusta Johns	96		97	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	99	Denise Askew & David Askew	99	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Malcolm Kemp & Lisa Kemp	Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell									
Russ Warren & Phil Clayton	Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell	97		98	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	100	Denise Askew & David Askew	100	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Sophie Edwards & Augusta Johns	Adam Wolley & Margot Wolley									
Oliver Scofield & Suzie Scofield	Adam Wolley & Margot Wolley	98		99	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	101	Denise Askew & David Askew	101	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Thomas Hounsell & Zena Hounsell	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler									
Paul Nash & Thomas Nash	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	99		100	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	102	Denise Askew & David Askew	102	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Adam Wolley & Margot Wolley	Henry Lenthall & Adam Hunt									
Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	Henry Lenthall & Adam Hunt	100		101	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	103	Denise Askew & David Askew	103	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Henry Lenthall & Adam Hunt	Denise Askew & David Askew									
Cedd Burge & Lisa Curry	Denise Askew & David Askew	101		102	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	104	Denise Askew & David Askew	104	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Denise Askew & David Askew	Nick Dibden & Andrew Hedges									
Nick Dibden & Andrew Hedges	Nick Dibden & Andrew Hedges	102		103	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	105	Denise Askew & David Askew	105	Denise Askew & David Askew	
Tom Jacob & Piper Jacob	Tom Jacob & Piper Jacob									
Jane Pope & Geraldine Burge	Tom Jacob & Piper Jacob	103		104	Vicki Rothwell & Jess Fidler	106	Denise Askew & David Askew	106	Denise Askew & David Askew	
	Jane Pope & Geraldine Burge									

Fashion sense ...

So here's a question ...

We've been producing Wargrave & Shiplake Regatta t-shirts through our Regatta Shop ever since the early 1980's. They've been one of the annual must-haves for anyone wanting to keep up and look the part in Wargrave and Shiplake ...

But what's the oldest one - regularly worn and not being kept in the cleaning rags basket - still in existence??

Evidence is required! Send your pics to secretary@wsregatta.co.uk ...

And the prize??! Worth it, we promise!





Cook-off, WSR-style ...

Flapjacks or fruitcake; burgers, pasta salad and Pimms: what are your Regatta weekend picnic favourites?

We thought it was high time we shared some of the Regatta recipes that have been handed down by tradition through the generations. After all, they're what makes Regatta weekend so special!

We'd like you to share your favourites with us!

Ideally we'd like a mix of treats, cakes, main courses, salads, puds and drinks. Even better, tell us a bit about whose recipe it is, why it's special and maybe even add a photo.

The idea is we'll collect them all together and put them in a book which we'll make available for sale at the Regatta Shop.

So what do we need?

Simple really, just the following ...

- Recipe title
- Roughly how many it feeds
- A couple of sentences on why it's special, or when you eat it
- A list of ingredients
- Cooking instructions
- A photo of the family, the dish - or better still the family enjoying it!



To get your family favourite in the book, please send all your recipe and photos to:
Rob Pooley at: robertgpooley@gmail.com

Ideally, we'd like them by end of April to give us plenty of time to collate something special.



And here's an example to get you thinking ...

Oscar's Watermelon Salad

Helpings: 4

This salad goes really well with any BBQ, but especially Lamb Burgers. If Oscar offers to help make this, DO NOT leave him alone in the kitchen. If you do, you'll end up with a very happy Oscar BUT a very small salad. You have been warned!

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 Watermelon
- 2 good handfuls of watercress (or rocket)
- 1/2 block of Feta cheese
- 1 good handful of black olives
- Olive oil

PREPARATION

- Chunk up the watermelon into bite sized squares and put them in a bowl
- Slice up the Feta cheese and add it to the watermelon
- Tear up the watercress and add it to the mix
- Throw in the olives
- Drizzle over some olive oil and/or oil out of the olive pot
- Mix well



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