



Waterside C Briefing

Pewsey Wharf to Newbury

23 March 2025

Event sponsored

MARSPORT
CANOES AND KAYAKS



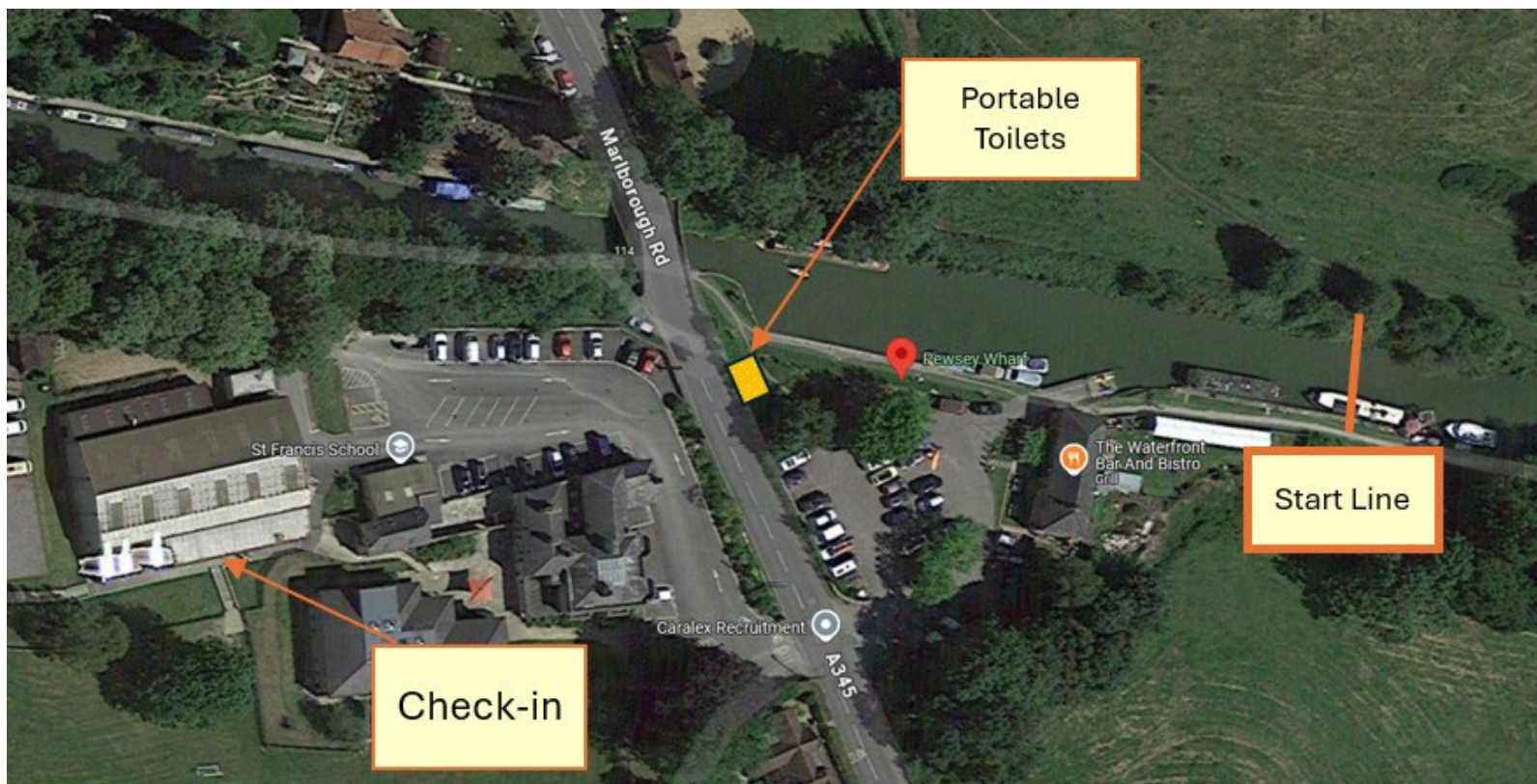
Changes for 2025

We are not using the Waterside Centre this year

- **Finish**
 - The finish is under the right arch of the bridge just after last year's finish line, and the same as for Race A
 - The finish team will be on the right bank
 - Exit your boat on the right bank, or past the weir on the left
- **Newbury Canoe Club – access under A339 road bridge**
 - Paddlers food and drink
 - Changing gazebos
 - Hot drinks and cake for support crews £1
- **Toilets**
 - Public toilets, Wharf car park—free for all paddlers and support crew

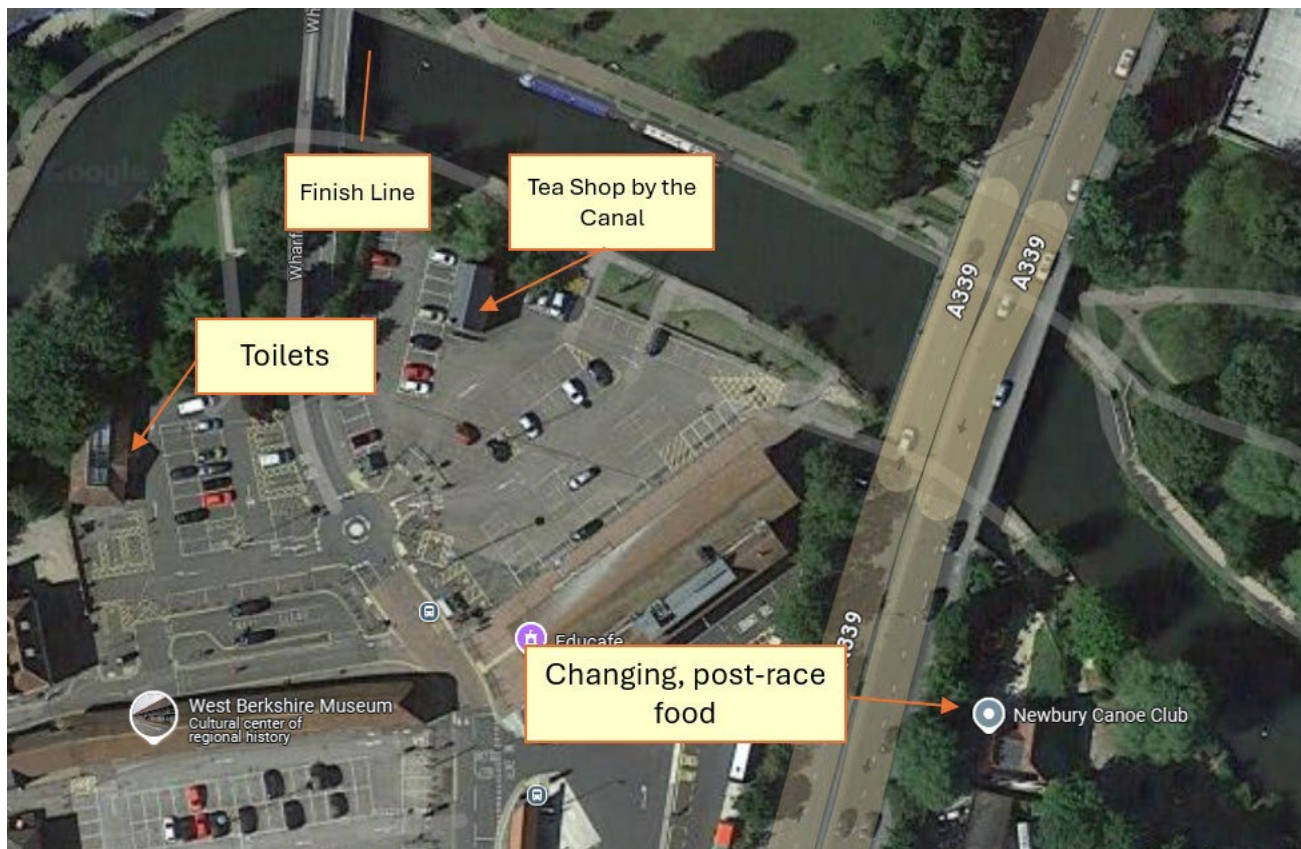


Start – Pewsey Wharf





Finish - Newbury





Safety

Clothing

- All juniors must wear buoyancy aids
- Appropriate clothing and footwear should be worn by all competitors

Race notes

- Keep right or centre downstream
- Look out for inflows / outflows, weirs and fallen / submerged trees



Course description 1

WOOTTON RIVERS

- 3 mile pound from Pewsey to Wootton Rivers, lots of debris in the water
- Portage with a road crossing

BRUCE TUNNEL

- 400m long straight tunnel
- Strictly no overtaking – will lead to a penalty or disqualification
- If stopped due to barge traffic, the waiting time will be deducted
- There is a shallow ledge on the right side of the tunnel and a chain to help in case of a capsize. Shout to alert rescue boat.
- Safety/rescue boat is at the end of the tunnel
- If a boat capsizes ahead of you, you must check the paddlers are OK but you are then allowed to paddle past and alert the safety boat. If you stop to help, time will be deducted



Course description 2

LOW BRIDGES

- Hungerford Church – advisory portage
- West Mills swingbridge – compulsory portage
- Head injuries on low bridges are the biggest cause of traumatic injuries on the series and on DW. If in doubt, portage
- If race officials are concerned you have a concussion injury, you may be asked to stop paddling



Course description 3

WIERS AND FLOW

- Lock after Kintbury road crossing
 - Keep away from the weir prior to the landing stage
- Cross flow and weir 500m after Hampstead (Marsh Benham) road crossing
 - Keep centre and enter flow with rudder slightly right. Proceed into flow and then maintain centre or right of centre as you pass the weir on left
 - Keep paddling
- Newbury (last lock)
 - Keep centre. Flow will push you from side to side – keep paddling
- After finish
 - Keep away from the weir on the left



Paddler etiquette

- It is the duty of overtaking paddlers to keep clear of those being overtaken. This applies on the water, at portages and on the towpath. You are the more capable paddler.
- Do not block portages. Go to the side to eat and drink.
- The public have right of way on the course. Please be considerate to all other users of the course.



Support crews

- Please park legally and considerately
- Support crew parking is our most significant organisational issue. It is a major risk to us being allowed to run the races
- Do not park where we have placed yellow NO WAITING cones or red/white cones or signs
- Do not block rail level crossings
- Never cross a closed level crossing
- Crews can be penalised because of support crew behaviour



Support crews

LOCATIONS

- No support access at Little Bedwyn
- Froxfield—maintain passing places
- No access to Dunmill via the A4
- Go through Hungerford town centre and across the common
- Parking at Kintbury is limited to rail car parks
- Support crews for juniors only at Marsh Benham

PARKING IN NEWBURY

- There is a football match starting at 2pm at the Faraday Road football pitch that will make the Faraday Road car park busier than usual.



Thank you

Have a good race and have fun!

Event sponsored by

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