

## Jersey Rowing Club Social Season Opening Race – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021



Paul Lakeman captured this stunning image of the start line, with the blue skies belying the cool temperatures.

The weekend saw the return of racing for the Jersey Rowing Club, with 20 boats taking to the water. The success of the recent "Have A Go Row" sessions has led to the formation of several new novice crews, with the crews of R Wright and J Overbury taking part in their first ever race.

Whilst the race was officially billed as a social season opener, standards and competition levels were high. Line honours went to the men's quad of Team Mourant, featuring a number of Jersey Sport Foundation supported athletes. The next two boats were crews from the Project Gold initiative, a men's quad and ladies quad respectively. Particularly impressive was the performance of the ladies crew, finishing 6 minutes ahead of their nearest competitors and managing to beat the experienced men's quad of R Salkeld.

Elsewhere in the field, the returning Highvern ladies quad engaged in a race long battle with Nexus Technology, with Nexus Technology finally opening up clear water to finish second in their class. Rosemary Satchwell, so often the only ladies singles rowing in 2020, used her experience to see off Natasha Searson in tough conditions in the final leg of the race.

S Hayes and P Wright of Dragonfish, who are training to row across the Atlantic, were competing in their first race and gained valuable experience. A former Atlantic rower, I Blandin, and his mixed doubles partner S Clinton had a close race against the mixed doubles of R Rouille and F Le Quelenec before the latter pair overcame them.

Officially competitive racing is due to commence on Sunday 2nd May at 10am, with the first race of the annual GinD series.

Interested in joining the rowing club? Email [thejerseyrowingclub@outlook.com](mailto:thejerseyrowingclub@outlook.com) or find us on Instagram @jerseyrowingclub .