

Welsh Dragon 2013



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Tom Johnson, Cardiff USC's PR and Events Secretary's report to the Cardiff University student newspaper, *Gair Rhydd*:

Last weekend (22 – 24 November) saw a host of sailors from universities across the UK descend on Cardiff for two days of intense action both on and off the water in Cardiff University Sailing Club's annual 'Welsh Dragon' team racing event. Following an evening of arrivals from as far afield as Edinburgh and with an eventful excursion to Ladybird, Saturday morning dawned frosty, setting the scene for some brisk competition in the fleets of Fireflies.

The first day was characterized by some very close contests and a few surprising results. While Bristol 1 and Edinburgh won all six of their races, teams such as Plymouth 1 and Bath languished toward the bottom end of the fleet. Given the near perfect conditions for racing, all 63 were completed in good time, and saw Cardiff's entry, a team of freshers, lying just inside the top half in tenth.



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After a great curry, the teams headed out to Flux in their finest fancy dress to let their hair down a little, unaware of the spanner in the works to befall them on Sunday. Regardless of how well you prepare, sailing ultimately depends on the wind, and Sunday saw scarcely enough to move

the boats across the bay, let alone race. Despite the club's repeated attempts to start, after just 21 races the day was brought to an abrupt close at lunch time, and, with the results totted up, Bristol 1 took victory.



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Many thanks to all the members of CUSC, both social and team who put so much effort into making the event run smoothly, despite weather mishaps, with their trademark hard work and wit. Bread, gloves and the occasional muddy puddle cleared from the changing room, boats were packed away, and we sadly waved goodbye to Welsh Dragon for another year. What a weekend!

Results:

1st Bristol 1, 2nd Edinburgh, 3rd Plymouth Old Boys,
Portsmouth 2, Southampton, Exeter 1, Swansea 1, Birmingham 1, Birmingham 2, Cardiff,
Plymouth 2, Bristol 2, Bristol 3, Swansea 2, Exeter 3, Exeter 2, Plymouth 1, Plymouth 3,
Portsmouth 1, FXU, Bath



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See also: article under 'BUCS Review' in *Gair Rhydd* - Monday, 2 December, 2013 (p28):
<http://cardiffstudentmedia.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/issues/1017.pdf>