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#### The 2021 Gregory River Canoe Marathon Review.

The 46<sup>th</sup> Gregory River Canoe Marathon was a huge success with 172 paddlers participating. There was a large contingent of paddlers from the Tinaroo Canoe Club and the Sunshine Coast and paddlers as far as Tweed Heads and Echuca.



**CANADIAN CHALLENGE**

- 4:28:24 Beauties and the Beast
- 4:30:31 Tinaroo Canoe Club
- 4:31:58 Figure Head Racing
- 4:54:46 Poo Canoe
- 5:01:01 Makky D
- 5:18:51 Nunya



The diversity in age and craft was amazing, with paddlers in the long course as young as 17 and as old as 77 and craft ranging from stand up paddle boards, short sit on top plastics and sleek K1's and K2's.



**Gregory River Canoe Marathon**

<b>K1 OVERALL</b>	<b>K1 CATEGORY</b>
3:26:29 John Lakeland	Open 3:26:29 John Lakeland
3:27:06 David Smith	M2 3:48:24 Paul Wood
3:39:18 Geoff Pearce	3:59:20 Rhet Rutherford
3:48:24 Paul Wood	5:18:24 Anthony Milne
3:58:41 John Westcott	M3 3:27:06 David Smith
3:59:20 Rhet Rutherford	3:39:18 Geoff Pearce
5:18:24 Anthony Milne	3:58:41 John Westcott

**NORTH WEST Canoe Club Inc.**

Kenny's Corner and Kamaga Rapids were two of the tricky spots to paddle through and saw a number of boats come unstuck and enjoy the freshness of the water.



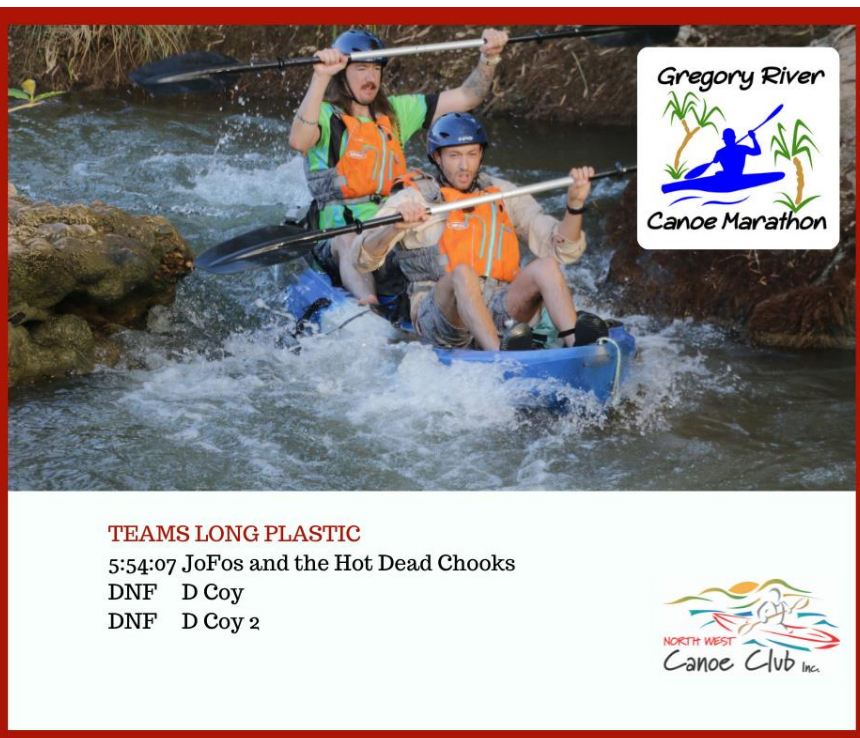
**Gregory River Canoe Marathon**

<b>LONG PLASTIC OVERALL</b>	<b>LONG PLASTIC CATEGORY</b>
3:45:27 Mace Bennett	Junior 4:10:09 Curtis Bennett <b>RECORD SET</b>
3:55:53 Gary Hume	Open 4:00:17 Joel Savage
4:00:17 Joel Savage	M1 3:45:27 Mace Bennett
4:04:57 Leon Bennett	4:04:57 Leon Bennett
4:10:09 Curtis Bennett	4:23:03 Craig McPhan
4:23:03 Craig McPhan	M3 3:55:53 Gary Hume
DNF John Scott	DNF John Scott

**NORTH WEST Canoe Club Inc.**

The race was won by John Lakeland from the Sunshine Coast in a time of 3.26.29. He was closely followed by David Smith in 3.27.06 and Geoff Pearce in 3.39.18.





The hotly contested TC2 Canadian Challenge was won by Mount Isa team Beauties and the Beast, Tav Cameron, Justene Cameron, Megan Crowther and Lucy Cameron in a time of 4.28.24. Second place was the Tinaroo Canoe Club in 4.30.31. Tinaroo Canoe Club also took home the random draw prize of a unique Gregory River Canoe Marathon esky. Third place was Figure Head Racing in 4.31.58.



The stand up paddlers are relatively new to the event, with Matty Kretschmann-Smith encouraging participation in the event over the last 3 years. 2021 saw 4 stand up paddlers take part, 3 in the long race and 1 in the short race.



## RECREATIONAL COURSE RESULTS

1:19:57	John Van Ryt <b>NEW RECORD</b>
1:26:52	Ross Johnston
1:39:00	Jenni Johnston
1:40:50	Peter Walters
1:43:50	Paul O'Brien and Hunter Asanuma (Obi & Hunt)
1:50:30	Cynthia Wardle
1:52:21	Trish Sanderson
1:52:24	Doug and Rebecca Humphries (Blind leading the Blind)
1:52:43	Diana Malureanu and Sabiena Van Es
1:56:29	Joyce McCulloch and Leighanne Hann (Team Croaked)
1:57:19	Maryann Campbell, Mark Campbell, Kimberley Cunningham, Dylan Trott (In Deep Ship)
1:57:42	Katrina Bennett
1:58:30	Paul Wragg
2:00:13	Chris King and Tom Currie (King Currie)
2:03:51	Georgina Watt and Jason Watt (Watt the Family)
2:06:24	Bethany Bennett and Courtney Simshauser
2:07:26	Mark Rennick
2:08:09	Ayla Savage
2:09:24	John Viney
2:12:05	Andrew Murphy
2:22:21	Pat Melton, William Melton, Hannah Clarke, Vanessa Koina (Running River Rowers 1)
2:22:49	Michelle Guilliat
2:23:13	Tegan Kastermans, Fleur Brown, Margaret Alexander, Michael Alexander - (Knot Your Average Crew)
2:23:48	Dan Battle, John Clarke, Brando Goldstein, Callum Melton (Running River Rowers 3)
2:25:10	Koby Savage and Tamara Savage
2:25:16	Isabell Bennett
2:25:50	Samantha Smorfitt
2:28:41	Louis Lowe and Marilyn Chaney
2:29:06	Fallon McMahon
2:30:24	Bridget Clarke, Peta Meehan, Amanda Hughes, John Hughes (Running River Rowers 2)
2:30:31	Hannah Hillman
2:30:55	Bevlee Callaghan
2:45:50	Gabrielle McNamara
3:15:25	Sara Sinnott
3:19:56	Danae Giardina
3:20:48	Jenna Perry
3:23:05	Albert Young

Gregory River



Canoe Marathon





The short, recreational race showcased a record 40 boats on the start line and the win and the record was taken by John Van Ryt in the time of 1.19.57. The first female across the line was Jenni Johnston from Townsville who crossed in 1.39.



<p><b>TK1 OVERALL</b>  3:58:12 Chris Barnes  3:59:13 Jeff Stuart  4:04:47 Mark Sanderson  4:16:19 Ray Robinson  4:48:05 Wayne Reading  5:04:38 John Smallwood  5:05:25 Alistair Cameron  5:31:55 Stephen Watt  DNF Gary Baker</p>	<p><b>TK1 CATEGORY</b>  M2 3:58:12 Chris Barnes  DNF Gary Baker  M3 4:04:47 Mark Sanderson  4:16:19 Ray Robinson  4:48:05 Wayne Reading  M4 3:59:13 Jeff Stuart  5:04:38 John Smallwood  5:05:25 Alistair Cameron  5:31:55 Stephen Watt</p>
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Whilst at the river we also celebrated a number of milestones with Steven Jenje reaching 35 years of paddling the Gregory, John Westcott with 20 years and Tav Cameron with 15 years.



<p><b>TC2 2 PERSON TEAM</b>  4:02:01 Lance Bennett and Hayden Hartwig  4:20:45 Rod and Judi Clark  4:36:19 Sammy Hemsley and Robert Parkinson (double blade paddle)</p>	
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## 2014 MENS M3 RECORD BROKEN

**K2**

4:07:59 Terence McClelland and Tony Marnane



**TK1 FEMALE**

4:40:58 Donna McCormack







It was a wonderfully warm weekend, reuniting the Gregory family and welcoming our newest recruits. This iconic race is a highlight on the paddling calendar and is unique due to it's remoteness, beauty of the river, the community atmosphere and the friendships made.

Regards

Gregory Committee  
Alison Whitehead  
Larry Wilson  
Paul Fletcher  
Georgie Athanasiou

