

Sailing secretary's report on racing 2012

Sailing Series

The **summer sessional** racing began in warm March sunshine with the first competitive race of the season attended by a pleasing 13 boats. For a few races we sailed in t-shirts then, the weather turned cold, winter sailing gear was brought back into use and kept in use well into June while the other theme of the year emerged- rain and lots of it.

A number of sessional races had to be cancelled due to high flows making sailing either impractical or unsafe. Efforts were made to replace lost races by the hosting of back to back races. Despite one race being scheduled and then cancelled on three occasions the back to back races, and the annual spare race in the programme, meant that most of the programme was sailed successfully. The back to back races also seemed popular with sailors giving close racing on short courses with the result in contention throughout. The high flows did restrict attempts to set creative courses and utilise our full sailing area. However, one set of races was held off the Orleans' House steps and some variety of courses was set. One memorable race was held entirely above the normal start line on a course tucked up below Eel Pie Island to shelter from the current.

In total only two sessional races were lost after catch up races had been held, both from session 1.

The **Wednesday racing** was much less affected by the current for some reason meaning that the scheduled number of 12 races were sailed, although for the year 2013 fourteen races have been scheduled in keeping with tradition.

The **winter series** was heavily disrupted and only two races could be run due to the exceptionally high rainfall and extended draw off.

The final results are tabulated at the end of the report along with those of cups and open meetings.

Cups, Special Races and Open Meetings

Lifeboat week was disrupted by the heavy rains and high flows and fewer races than normal were sailed.

All cup races were able to be sailed.

An exciting **Firkin Trophy** was held above Eel Pie Island in challenging conditions. The result was tied on points with Minima Yacht Club winning on first place count back.

The following day the **Enterprise and Solo open meeting** was held. A number of competitors dropped out faced with high winds and in some cases feeling the effects from the previous day's demanding sailing. Nevertheless there was a good turn out of

Solos featuring five visitors and two home boats who all enjoyed some lively sailing. There was a smaller turn out in the Enterprise Class.

The Nephele trophy was notable for being won by Tim Elliott in Blue Stocking on handicap by a single second.

The national 12 open meeting could not be held due to strong flow and weak winds. However, good organisation by the class captain Alistair Edwards meant that no visitors travelled to Twickenham unnecessarily.

Sailing away from Twickenham

The **trailer sailors'** activities will be reported by them.

Over 50 sailors attended Keyhaven in August. The weather was very windy at the start of the week but warm and sunny with light breezes by the end.

Alistair Edwards was crewed by Mark Marston at the National 12 open meeting in January 2012. Also in January Alistair Edwards, crewed by Amy McElroy and Tom Hill crewed by Luke sailed the Bloody Mary race at Queen Mary reservoir.

Owen Lewis was crewed by Lionel Van Staden at the Spinnaker Yacht club National 12 Gill series meeting, placing 17th out of 23 boats and by Mark Marston at the Burton week event which was a valuable learning experience despite serious boat damage.

Tom Hill attended the Minima regatta and retained the handicap trophy.

In Summary

2012 was a year of hostile weather. However, it still saw nearly all the sailing programme implemented with a visit to the South coast, exciting racing and close competition at Twickenham and a number of sailors visiting other clubs.

Sessional and Wednesday Night Racing

	Enterprise	Solo	National 12	Handicap
Session 1	1)Jim Francis/ Double Dragon	Ian Herst/ Ned	Alistair Edwards/ Catatonic	
	2)Bob Hitchcock/R Supwards2	Nick Martin/ La Rondine	Tom Hill/ Arctic Fox	
	3)Gill Timmis/ Joint Affair	David Wolsey/ Pelican	Owen Lewis/ Silent Running	
Session 2	1)Tim Elliott/ Blue Stocking	Ian Herst/ Ned	Alistair Edwards/ Catatonic	
	2)Bob Hitchcock/R Supwards2	Nick Martin/ La Rondine	Tom Hill/ Arctic Fox	
	3)Stephen Tallis/ Sea Badger	David Wolsey/ Pelican	Pip Deverson/ Arctic Tern	
Session 3	1)Jim Francis/ Double Dragon	Ian Herst/ Ned	Alistair Edwards/ Catatonic	
	2) Bob Hitchcock/R Supwards2	Nick Martin/ La Rondine	Owen Lewis/ Sabre Tooth	
	3) Tim Elliott/ Blue Stocking	David Wolsey/ Pelican	Mark Marston/ Next Tern	
Overall Sunday	1)Jim Francis/ Double Dragon	Ian Herst/ Ned	Alistair Edwards/ Catatonic	
	2) Bob Hitchcock/R Supwards2	Nick Martin/ La Rondine	Owen Lewis/ Sabre Tooth	
	3) Tim Elliott/ Blue Stocking	David Wolsey/ Pelican	Mark Marston/ Next Tern	
Sunday Crews	Anne Pickard	David Mitchell	Irena Clarke	
Wednesday Nights				1 ^l Ian Herst/ Ned 2 ^l Alistair Edwards/ Catatonic 3 ^l Sea Badger/ Steven Talliss
Wednesday Crews				1)David Mitchell 2)Robert Brignell 3)Charlie
Winter Race*	Jim Francis/ Double Dragon	Nick Martin/ La Rondine	Roger Hidden/ Sandpiper	1)Roger Hidden/ Sandpiper 2)Nick Martin/ La Rondine

Special Races

	1 st	2 nd	3rd
Glovers Island	Nick Martin/ La Rondine	Ian Herst/ Ned	Paul Tippel/ Pegasus
Cutty Sark Race	Alistair Edwards/ Catatonic	Roger Hidden/ Sandpiper	Pip Deverson/ Arctic Tern
Round the Bends	Nick Titley/ Soleil D'Or	Roger Hidden/ Sandpiper	Mike O'Doherty/ Double Dragon
Nephele Trophy	Tim Elliott/ Blue Stocking	2=Pip Deverson/ Arctic Tern	2=Nick Titley/ Summertime
Regatta	Enterprise- 1)Tom Drake/ Sea Bear	Solo 1)Ian Herst/ Ned 2)Nick Titley/ Summertime	National 12 1)Pip/ Arctic Term 2)Alistair Edwards/ Catatonic
Lifeboat Week	Alistair Edwards/ Catatonic	Edward Skipper/ Laser	Tom Hill/ Arctic Fox
Firkin	Minima Yacht Club	Twickenham Yacht Club	
Enterprise Open	Time Elliott/Blue Stocking	Stephen Talliss/ Sea Bear	
Solo Open	Ed Pepper/ Short Straw	Godfrey Clarke/ Huffin n Puffin	Gareth Griffiths/ Islander
Solo Open best TYC	Nick Titley/ Summertime		
Long Distance to Anglers	Paul Tippell	Club boat	
National 12 Open	Cancelled		