



The FF Fleet Captain presenting money raised by the Cross-Channel Expedition to Geraldine Newmark, representing the NSPCC.

Flying Fifteen News

Rumour has it that the 1993 Inland Championships will be held at Grafham – at the request of the various 'travelling competitors' who preferred our facilities to some of the other possible venues (this despite the lack of wind on the Saturday and food on Sunday after sailing two morning races back to back!)

One of the features of the 1992 event was the standard of rule observance and volunteers may be required for 'on the water umpiring' for next year. Any offers? (bullet proof life jackets available)

Nick Heath and Graham Wadely have travelled the country to fly the Grafham flag at most of the major FF events including the Worlds in Ireland where they finished 23rd.

Fleet racing has been keen and competitive and some new names will be appearing on the silverware at the Fleet Dinner in the Spring.

The more adventurous members of the fleet are awaiting the next 'Simon Needs Challenge' to follow this year's Channel crossing – he is reputed to have been seen talking to Annela Rice!!!

Duke of Edinburgh Trophy

For many of the 69 competitors who entered and sailed in this, the unofficial 'Club Championship' on Sunday 19th September, it was a frustrating day with light and variable winds which favoured some classes but was certainly not to the liking of the catamarans and boardsailers.

Tony Lincoln and Mark Longstaff took the Duke of Edinburgh Trophy with a wide margin over their Fast Fleet competitors, with Dave and Jenny Philpott receiving the IF Only Trophy.

Terry Adcock won the Sailboard Class and Matthew Reynolds (Topper) the Junior Trophy.

Results.

Fast Fleet

1. Javelin 551 Tony Lincoln and Mark Longstaff 1-1-1 1.5 pts
2. 505 – 8432 Debbie Jarvis and Mark Darling 2-2-3 4 pts
3. 505 – 8376 Martin and Dave Lucas 3-3-2 5 pts
4. 505 – 8444 Peter Danby and Stephen Burwood D-5-4 9 pts
5. 505 – 8243 Stephen Carson and Mike Allwood NS-4-6 10 pts
6. 505 – 8448 John Walpole and Simon Lake 6-R-5 11 pts

Slow Fleet

1. MR 3291 Dave and Jenny Philpott 2-1-1 1.5 pts
2. FF 3216 Nick Heath and Graham Wadely 5-3-2 5 pts
3. FF 3188 Graham Smith and Tim Palmer 3-5-3 6 pts
4. MR 3487 David Forsdike and Richard Adams 7-2-5 7 pts
5. FF 2977 Paul Stevens and Frank Elkington 9-4-4 8 pts
6. FF 3127 Peter Waghorn and Ian Utting 1-11-11 11.75

Race Officer was Commodore Jack Edwards assisted by John Lucas, James Carrier and Margaret Farnie with Delila Heath manipulating the computer.

505 Fleet

Autumn is a season of change but in contrast to nature's way of preparing for Winter and hibernating, activity in the 505 fleet becomes more frenzied. The National Championships were held comparatively late in the year (the first week in September).

A complement of 14 boats sailed under the burgee of Grafham Water Sailing Club at Lyme Regis in what was a comparatively windy week but one organised and run by Lyme Regis Sailing Club to the highest standards. Our congratulations go to Mark Longstaff and Paul Willmott for finishing tenth overall, the highest placed Grafham boat.

The Autumn Travellers' series started on 11th October and was preceded on the Saturday by an Association training day under the watchful eye of Colin Merrett. The day was dramatically enhanced by the provision of professional video facilities, courtesy of Rupert Maynard.

This back-up enabled Colin's analysis and incisive criticism, together with his infectious sense of humour, to make training well worth while and learning great fun. As a result of this increased awareness and newly fired enthusiasm, the fleet is positively looking at ways in which we can incorporate a training input to our regular sailing, with the aim of helping all fleet members across the board.

Roger Driver