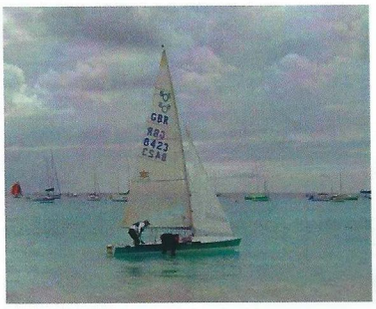
Osprey sailors go 505ing at the 505 World Championships in Barbados.



Way back when at the Osprey Open at Burnham in 2012, a discussion was overheard at the Saturday BBQ that some Osprey sailors had hatched a mad idea to go to the 505 World Championships in Barbados in May 2013. Mick Greenland & Jerry Dixon took the view that, although it was not their idea, it was nevertheless a very good one & decided to jump onto the bandwagon....& so the search for a reasonably cheap second hand 505 that could be re-sold after the championship, began. By the time a suitable boat was found, after a long & until that point fruitless search, of the 3 potential boats who were going only Mick & Jerry were left over. But they decided to go anyway, not because it was the 505 World Champoinship but because it was in Barbados!! Nevertheless a ball had started rolling & Russel Wheeler & Lee Marriot decided to join the party after having tracked down & collected a 505 in Scotland & the Mikes Pickering & Priddle also booked their tickets after Tim Rush had to drop out & they were able to take over his boat & accomodation & so the scene was set for the trip of a lifetime...to Barbados!!

Full report Mick Greenland...

<u>The Caribbean Experience.</u>

August last year someone (Jerry) whispered in my ear 'fancy sailing in 30°c if so, get yourself a 505 dinghy and compete in the 2013 World Championships in Barbados. I thought about it for 10 minutes then dismissed it as I don't own a 505. However last October a reminder of the event was back on the table, actually in a bar with Jerry, (my sailing crew from Belgium) at the Proms concert in Antwerp & after a few beers we decided "yep lets go for it".

Buy a boat was the next task; most five O's starting price is 15k+! Let's look for a slightly less pricy one; if you can find one. Looked at a 10k 9 year old but again it's only for one event, looked lower & came across Martin Wrights Krywood (8423) which after a haggle we came away spending a lot less but needing attention in the rigging and fittings department.

By now the original instigators, two Osprey teams (the Mikes and Paddy) had dropped out. However our names were down for space in a container and that's it - we were going! We had to collect the boat from Rugby and by careful planning arranged to pick up the boat after the SailJuice Draycote Dash event ie Jerry would tow and drop the boat at my house on his way back to Belgium and I brought the Osprey back. But before all these logistics were sorted we all finished up in a Draycote bar on Saturday night with the 505 boys annual dinner. We met with most of the Barbados fleet and the alcohol worked! By the end of the evening Russell Wheeler with Lee Marriott (more Osprey sailors) had signed up in their heads, they too needed a boat.

Russell and I found one (8432) in Loch Lomond and after stopping off in Manchester for his office Christmas party continued the trek north to collect it, a 1000 mile round trip!

From November to April our boat was slowly fettled and set up similar to the Osprey, plus the odd £1200 spent; still, think of the weather, UK -30°F, Caribbean + 30°C, not the money!

With airfares and hotel sorted the day came for loading the boats, minus 2°c and snow dripping down your neck! We fitted (just) 9 boats in a container at Queen Mary's SC plus there were two other containers loaded further north making a total of 25 boats. I managed to track the ship (Elsbeth) on the AIS from Southampton to Le Harve then it went out of European waters; next time I found her she was in Port De France Martinique then onward to Bridgetown.

In the mean time Tim Rush was unable to go and lent his boat to the Mikes so there were three teams from the Osprey fleet now going!.

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The event lived up to all expectations, opening ceremony, flag bearers of all the competing nations, speeches and the purpose built 'beachhut' (50mx15m) erected on the foreshore loaded with free beer and drinks every evening when you came off the water, plus our own specially flown in trolley dollies, Teresa, Hannah, Helen, Bridget, and Charlotte, plus Jerry's Mum and Dad.



The opening ceremony

After the first pre-worlds race it was apparent that our older boats (i.e. myself & Jerry had the oldest and Russ & Lee second oldest) were outgunned regarding pointing and this set the pattern for the event i.e. trailing round at the back so we made it up with beer and Mount Gay rum. The Mikes had several gear failures and the worse anyone could wish for in a borrowed boat, a German on Port teeboned them before the start! Tim took it well given the news & my duct tape did a pretty good job for the rest of the event. The only other negative was the two 21/2hour races a day with the windward mark 1Nm away! Most of the places were sorted after the first beat; they should adopt the Osprey fleet 1 hour race and lots of them. SAP the main sponsors equipped us with trackers/transponders which displayed our positions on a massive HD screen

during the racing in the beach hut, Richard; Jerry's Dad took a picture of us in 10th overall at one point!



Blow up this picture & you will see we really were 10th!!

...about our only claim of the week or that's what we thought,.. so on the first day the top three prizes were presented followed by a prize for the boat in 58th this being the 58th worlds and yes Jerry and I marched up to collect the prize!! Russell and I had both been aiming for this as it was about the only trophy we could achieve.



Lee Marriott holding up his hand conceeding hat Mick Greenland was more deserving of the prize!!

Anyway, the racing continued day after day plus the evening drinking sessions, we were joined at the bar by fellow Osprey sailor Robin Tooz Hobson, who had sailed from St Lucia in his 42 foot Catalina yacht called Sophie Ems. Robin has basically left the UK for another life cruising the Caribbean and after fixing his starter motor one morning he invited me to join him in St Lucia after this event for a 'busman's holiday', then travel with him down to Trinidad with all islands in between, it would have been rude to say no, so I didn't (!) so that story continues later...

When you think of the Barbados, sun, sea, and warm temperatures, Concorde flying daily (now in a museum next to the airport), you think of luxury, but we didn't experience this. In Bridge Town the capital, we witnessed poverty; 50-80 people queuing for food handouts given by the local churches from the back of an estate car in the main square; plus pavements or lack of, roads in poor condition and the food in restaurants was expensive. Beggars on the streets "have you got a biscuit?" but, they were all friendly and polite to us saying "hi" or "good morning" from everyone you passed.

There in Barbados, a 2 BB$ (60pence) bus system was based on15 seater Toyota minibusses with usually 20 to 25 onboard. However on our way back from Oistins (a fish market restaurant town) the bus driver said two more so Russ and I jumped in the already crowded bus, he then drove 100 yards and picked up two Mikes, Helen, Bridget, and Charlotte, then another 50 yards two more got in; now over 28 and no time to lose drive back to our hotel. It had taken an hour to get there and 10 minutes to get back, then to the bar over the road from our hotel for more drinking! Sailing, eating & drinking...what a decadent life...

The organisers put on various evening events including a visit to the Mount Gay Rum visitors centre & a German sausage bbq night

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Caribbean flavoured German sausage bbq night

Like all good experiences they have to come to an end; the last day was suddenly upon us and there was a rush to pack the boats away. There was a sad end or non-starter for some competitors; one of the Americans containers got lost and arrived on the Thursday preceeding the last day of racing! Not happy bunnies. Most of them had flown home by then.

The Closing ceremony was upon us on the evening of the last day of racing, speeches were made & prizes distributed; the Germans took the first three places and I believe Ian Pinnell came 8th being the best Brit. Halfway between the 10th overall and the winner ,Geest Line presented a special trophy award for the competitors with the most perseverance! Yep, out of the blue as they announced our sail number and names; Jerry and I had a grin that covered the entire Caribbean Sea! What have we done to deserve this? Well, we had sailed every race and received the highest points so an event to remember 66th out of 80 & the MUST TRY HARDER prize!



Russell & Lee on their way home; unbeknown to them being stalked by one of the many female admirers they attracted while in Barbados. Russell had to send her back when they got to Sheppey...

The way things were!! Below is a statement of Accounts for the Osprey class Open meeting held at Poole from way back in 1969...my how the value of money has changed!! It was sent in by Jeffery Wear a former Treasurer of the class. As he commented… "a £15 profit on £44 turn-over!!"

OSPREY OPEN WEEKEND - FINANCIAL REPORT

Income/Expenditure Account

Postage & Stationery	£2 0 10	Entry fees	£45 0 0
Prizes	3 9 0	Cash float from Racing A/c	5 0 0
Refund of entry fee to Osprey 665	1 0 0		
Cheques & P.O.'s to Racing A/c(Note 1)	43 10 2		
	£50 0 0		£50 0 0

Note 1 This sum can be broken down as follows:

Bills sent to the Club for payment :

Printing	£3 16 0	
Prizes	14 4 0	
Engraving (note2)	4 0 0	
		£22 0 0
Cost of cartridges (estimate)		1 10 0
Cash float		5 0 0
Profit from Profit & Loss A/c (below)		15 0 2
		£43.10. 2

Approximate Profit/Loss Account

Cartridges (estimate)	£1 10 0	Entries (less refund)	£44 0 0
Printing	3 16 0		
Postage & stationery	2 0 10		
Prizes	17 13 0		
Engraving (note 2)	4 0 0		
	£28 19 10		
Profit	15 0 2		
	£44 0 0		£44 00 0

Note 2 No advice note has yet been received for the engraving of the additional prizes purchased for cash on 4th October; an estimated figure of £1 has been allowed.

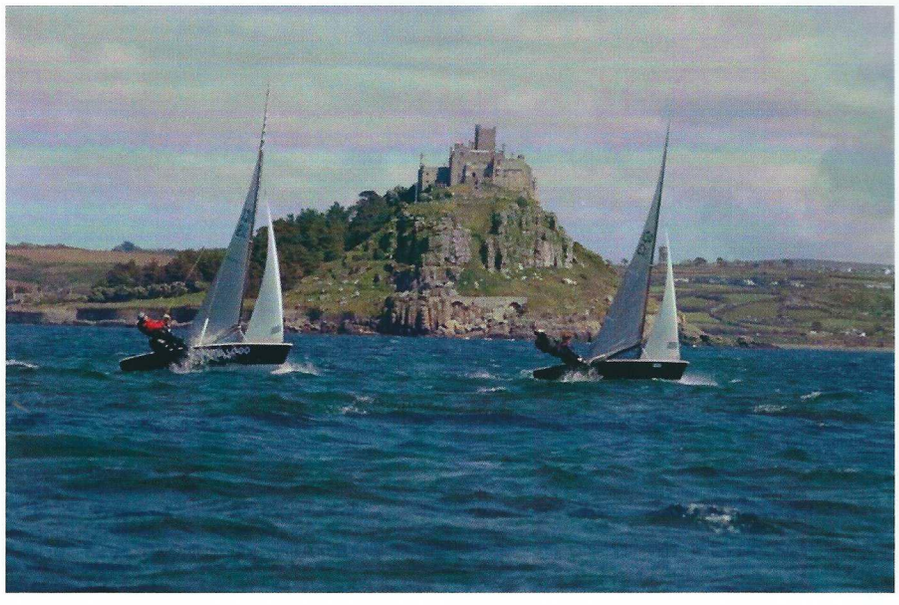
J.I.WEAR

14th October 1969.

Mounts Bay Open by Paddy Lewis

"Sermon on the Mount"

Blessed are the wonderful ladies of Mount's Bay Sailing Club who fed and watered us not with loaves and fishes but with delicious Chicken and Meringues for pud. This is often left to the end of the article but they were so lovely and work so hard it only seems right to bring them to the beginning. As the story goes the first shall be last and last shall be first etc etc.



The situation on the water was similar. On the windy, wavy Saturday the big lads were first but performed less well on the sabbath when the waters were calmer. On Sunday Basher Marshal parted the waves, to continue the analogy and used the advantage of his slight but muscular frame to guide him and spray tanned Jonathan Osgood to a 1st & 2nd place on calmer waters. The two for one spray tan offer in North London finished last week so Osgood was pleased to be able to top up with a bit of real sun on Sunday.

After Bashers streaking shenanigans at Blithfield, Mrs Basher came along to keep an eye on him and to make sure he got to bed in good time - worked a treat, you may need to come to more events Mrs B.

This weekend was momentous for a number of reasons and I feel it's my duty to bring one of these to surface even if its just to keep Lord Justice Leveson busy. The rumour that Doc Ellery had disappeared from our lives forever proved to be incorrect. Various members of the Flat Earth Society, which the Doc is a participating member of had told stories of him living like a hermit with his two Ospreys in a barn, not seeing anyone and prescribing the application of a leech for all aliments brought to him by his patients.

I am delighted to report only the leech part of the above is true. The Doc now has a delightful Mrs Doc called Jo, who not only crewed for him but also brought with her a picnic basket containing sandwiches, pasties, crisp, cake and a large metal flask of tea. What was surprising is this went onboard the boat in a quest to keep his finely tuned body sustained between races. In order to counter balance the additional weight of the banquet he removed everything from the boat that was superfluous, which included the toe straps, which are now for sale on ebay marked as "only used once by Andy Barker but never by Doc Ellery"

Despite having three large square meals on board Doc and Mrs Doc showed us that the old magic was still there by arriving at the windward mark in the first race in second place and finishing third in race 4 on Sunday morning after a particularly heavy night on potato vodka back in the barn with posh George.

I should add that Mrs Doc is also a Doc and anyone finding themselves in need of medical treatment outside Mr Docs room should drag themselves a bit further down the passage to Mrs Docs room to get a more sympathetic ear and probably a more sensible diagnosis of the problem. Lovely to meet you Jo and we all look forward to seeing more of you on the circuit.

Saturday was windy with a good dose of waves and Stevie George and Mikey Greig showed us all how its done in these conditions. They are the proud owners of a stiffer mast (coated with some of the famous performance enhancing gel) and foil to counteract the addition extra muscle they have developed over the winter. They stormed away in the first race leaving us all for dust. The second race Martin Cooney and Peter Frith found their form to take the win after



combos, two father and daughter teams in Alex and Nick Willis as well as Katie and Richard Hattersley as well as a father and son team of George and Harry Odding. This was Katies first open meeting and she sailed really well and had a big grin on her face in every race all captured on the Gopro, which I'm sure will be played back to see if Dad did anything wrong! Its really important these teams continue to develop for the good of the class and we must all encourage more to do the same.John Matthews was out there and as an ex National Champion had plenty of magic for the youth policy to learn from.Martin Cooney & Pete Frith showed that the early shower on Saturday was not going to disadvantage them and took a 2nd & 1st place on Sunday in the light wind to keep Pete & I out despite the fact that I was concentrating really hard in both races, which is rare! Well done guys.

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which they returned to the beach for a rest and an early shower. Race three went to Pete and I followed by Kevin Francis and Phil Male who spent all weekend up at the front and always in the mix. These guys are good and need to be watched.Terry Curtis and Tim Bowden in 1281 had a good weekend sailing well in both the heavy stuff on Saturday as well as the lighter wind on Sunday. Tim has really got himself fit this winter by competing in his local calf wresting championships, which the calf won but the exercise has done his sailing the world of good. Terry spent the winter practising for this event at the OK Worlds in Thailand, in which he finished 10th.1281 has a new carbon rig, which looked very smart. Watch these two, they only need a bit more time in the boat and they will be up at the front. It was great to see boats sailed by husband and wife

All in all it was the most fantastic weekend of sailing and socialising. I never want to leave Mounts Bay when I come down to sail there. It was even more of a wrench this time because we were in the chocolates which required receiving a prize from the lovely and famous Marathon runner, Mrs George!

Thank you to everyone at Mounts Bay for a great weekend. The Osprey Circus is just the best so come along and join in and lets try and convert some more unbelievers o our wonderful boat.



Overall Results:

Pos	Sail No	Helm and Crew
1	1290	Martin Cooney and Peter Frith
2	1337	Paddy Lewis and Peter Greig
3	1343	Richard Marshall and Jonathan Osgood
4	1296	Kevin Francis and Phil Male
5	1281	Terry Curtis and Tim Bowden
6	1280	Steve George and Michael Greig
7	1319	Adam Ellery and Jo Ellery
8	1291	Alex Willis and Nick Willis
9	1198	George Odling and Harry Odling
10	900	John Mathews and Buck Medlicott
11	1250	Katie Hattersley and Richard Hattersley

Coniston Open Meeting Bank Holiday

25th to 27th May 2013.

Despite a rather disappointing turnout the Ospreys that attended this year's Open Meeting at Coniston enjoyed 3 days of excellent racing enhanced by wall to wall sunshine on the first 2 days and a cracking breeze on the Monday.

David Springett and Paul Berry proved to be the masters of a fickle and interesting westerly on the Saturday, posting 2 convincing wins. However Viola and Mike Scott who had been unable to attend on the previous day arrived in outstanding form and won all three races on the Sunday in a steady southerly. Behind her the rest of the fleet enjoyed some very close racing with most teams recording at least one decent result.

In complete contrast to the previous two days, Monday dawned grey with heavy rain but little sign of the forecast stronger winds. Fortunately this kicked in shortly after the start and greatly assisted the fleet in its 4 mile beat to the first mark. If the uphill grind had been hard work the ride back down the lake was an exhilarating experience with the leading four boats in close contact and constantly changing places as first one and then the other caught a gust and surged ahead. Viola and Mike kept their cool and posted another win in a much tighter race than the previous day.

So with one race to go Viola and Mike only needed to finish to win, David and Paul had done enough on the first 2 days to be secure in second place but two teams,

Ros and David Downs and John Shenton and Steve Offer were still in contention for third place. On another long course Ros and David stormed into an early lead and despite John and Steve reeling them in managed to hang on to a well deserved win. Viola and Mike relaxed a little bit too early and went for a swim before securing a fourth place and the meeting.

Coniston Sailing Club once again proved to be capable and welcoming hosts and the social side of the weekend was enjoyed by all. Special mention should be made of John Rayner and Les Green from Hornsea who despite over 140 years combined age in the boat and additional complications managed to join the fleet for several races - in the circumstances a splendid effort!



Poole Open 29th/30th June 2013 by Paddy Lewis

Basher dealt the ultimate blow with a bit of help from Wendy

Richard "Basher" Marshall crewed by Piers Strong finished the weekend on top of the leader board and he did it without needing to contact his insurance company to request a claim form, which is rare.

At the interview in the changing room afterwards, Basher proudly puffed out his red hairy chest and commented that this weekend's success can be put down to having read "The adventure of Peter Pan in Never Land" to his new crew Piers. "It is one of my favourite books of all times and has inspired me through out my sailing career" said Marshall. He went on to say that Piers was going to be a permanent fixture at the front of the boat and was hoping he would agree to being called Wendy from now on.

On the water Marshall and Strong dominated the event with two 1st places and a 2nd to count, winning the first race on Saturday by at least half a leg. Piers has clearly been a fabulous addition to the boat and his training last year in the GBR Olympic squad coupled with skills picked up that led to the top spot in the 420 Nationals in 2009, made these two major contenders for the Nationals this year.

Elsewhere in the fleet there were mixed fortunes. Stevie George and Mikey Greig sadly had limited success on the water. However, the weekend was not a complete disaster thanks to a chance meeting in a lay-by on the way to the event with a Welsh gentleman, needless to say called Dowie, who was selling a sofa and some other flat pack furniture. After a bit of haggling a price of half the starting figure was agreed and the sofa was proudly loaded on to the roof of the van, flat pack inside and of they trotted to Poole.

Stevie excitedly called the lovely Mrs George post the opportune transaction to say he had brought her a new sofa but when he told her where he'd got it it was rejected. Luckily Mikey had a plan B. His brother Pete was moving house on Saturday and was sure to need a sofa, flat pack wardrobe, chest of draws and a bedside table. A call was made to Pete, a 20% margin added, the deal done & collected that evening. Great trade guys, better luck on the water at Weymouth.

Pete Frith and Martin Cooney were in the hunt over the weekend sailing consistently both days. However, Sunday nearly didn't happen for them because Pete managed to drop his car keys down the drain outside his house, which he then hoped to retrieve with a magnet later. Apparantly he was later arrested for breaking & entering!

Other news from the weekend, Russ Wheeler filled us in on his conquests at the 505 world championships in Barbados, none of which were on the water. Well done Russ! Although does a visit to the doctor qualify as a prize?

Midge Watkins helmed her dad Alastair Watkins and didn't stop smiling all weekend. Other teams reported hearing lots of "Come on Daddy are you ready to tack" and "You'll have to be a bit quicker that that if we are going to get past Paddy and Ollie" which they did a couple of times! One to watch.

There was some impressive sailing from Broomhall and the Young Man. More from them was expected at the Nationals.

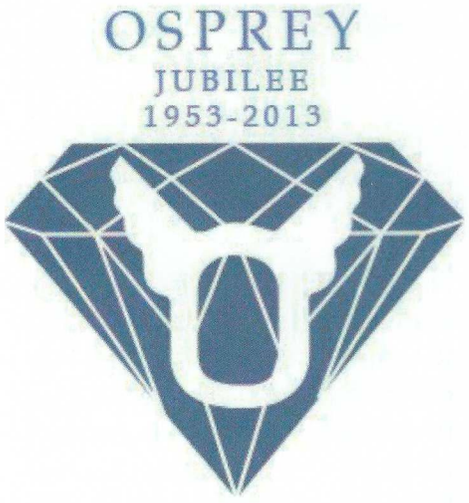
Terry Curtis and Tim Bowden in 1281 had a great result as runners-up. They may need to brush up on the three boat length rule before Weymouth but other than that had an impressive weekend back at 1281's old home.

All in all another fantastic weekend's gossip interspersed with some sailing. Thanks to everyone at Poole for laying on such a great couple of days. Heaven knows why 160,000 people chose to go to Glastonbury rather than coming to the Poole Osprey Open meeting. It's actually lucky they stayed away because we would have run out of cake.

Osprey 2013 National Championships at Weymouth SC

by Alan Henderson

40 Ospreys came to Weymouth for four sun soaked days of championship racing. The Osprey class enjoyed a big jump in the number of entrys this year, up from 29 last year, in this, the 60th year of the class. Boats ranged from brand new FRP examples to wooden boats of up to 50 years vintage, and all enjoyed equal competition at Weymouth Sailing Club from July 20th to 23rd.





The major sponsor was Palmers, the local brewery, whose provision of daily beer vouchers to all competitors may have helped encourage the high entry!

Entries included both newcomers trying out the class and many ex Osprey sailors thinking about returning. One of the returnees enjoyed the Championship so much in his borrowed boat that he whipped out his cheque book and bought an Osprey on the spot. There were many lady helms and crews and many young sailors trying the class. One such was Radial sailor Emma Stevenson, 16, sailing an Osprey for the first time. But top of the young ladies was another 16 year old, Alexandra Willis, who was helming for her Dad Nick. Alex was the top under 21 helm and the top lady helm.

There was a great variety of sea conditions, winds and course shapes, to provide new challenges to crews each day. The first day was fresh conditions and big steep waves, winds moderate on the second day, lighter subsequently. The event finished with a single race on the final day, before the sea mist rolled in, preventing any further sailing. The sailors enjoyed a mix of trapezoid and sausage triangle courses over seven races in a four day championship.

Championship winners Andy Barker and Peter Greig took the lead on the first day but were hard pressed by Martin Cooney and Peter Frith, who took a pair of wins on the second day. Third overall were Phil Meakins and Richard Anderton both sailing in their first Osprey Nationals.

The quality of competition in the fleet was shown by a pair of sailmakers taking fourth and fifth, with Tim Rush & Sam Pascoe in fourth and Dave Wade & Bernard Gammon in fifth.

Newcomer to the class Emma Stevenson said, "I was very struck by how friendly and sociable the crews were as well as being very expert sailors. After being unsure about entering, I was very pleased I did. I learnt a lot, had a great time and would now like the opportunity to helm an Osprey again and develop my skills. Many thanks to everyone who made the four very enjoyable days possible."

Images at www.fotoboat.com

Weymouth in pictures...

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3rd Phil Meakins &

Richard Anderton.



2nd Martin Cooney

& Peter Frith.



Winners at Weymouth Osprey National Championships 2013 Andy Barker and Peter Greig

Osprey sailor reels in a big one by Alan Henderson

...otherwise known as the 2013 Keilder Open 14th & 14th September

An Osprey, otherwise known as a fish eagle, is a bird which likes to swoop down out of the skies to pluck unsuspecting victims out of the water.

Did you know that sailors of Osprey dinghies are also skilled fishermen? So when Willie Crichton, helm of an Osprey at the Kielder Water open meeting, spotted a large wet object in the water, he didn't hesitate. Swoop, down he went and landed his biggest catch yet. Pulling it in proved tricky though.

For his catch was none other than a 13 stone Tempest crewman. Winds were rising fast, past 30 knots,and two Tempests had already capsized. Tempests are keelboats, so conditions were a little, well, Tempestuous. Competitors hadn't even waited for the Race Officer to abandon but were all heading for the shore at speed. But in attempting to dock,one Tempest lost his crewman, Graham Donkin, over the side. In the water, the wind whipped him away before he could even swim to the jetty, and off he went for an extended swim in the lake meanwhile dodging other passing Tempests.

Luckily Osprey sailor Willie spotted Graham and went to the rescue. He tried with all his might to haul Graham onboard, but landing this fish proved beyond his strength and instead Graham enjoyed a somewhat undignified passage ashore, a hitchhiker hanging onto the stern of the Osprey.

But fear not, gentle reader, there are easier ways to get a test sail of an Osprey. Just come to the Sail-Juice winter series, where a team of Osprey sailors will be competing and have a word or contact Osprey builder Hartley Boats.

In between rescuing passing swimmers the Osprey sailors enjoyed an excellent open meeting at Kielder Water SC on September 14/15. Part of the national Wilkinson Sword Osprey series the event had two contrasting days. On the Saturday, winds were shifty, up to about 10mph in patches. In keeping with the close nature of competition in the Osprey fleet, the three races produced three different winners, in Alan Henderson/ Alastair Barrie, Rob Shaw/ Ian Little, and Mark Weston/ Tim Keighley. Shaw and Little, sailing their new boat for the first time, edged the overnight lead by just a point.

On the Sunday two races were scheduled but with a forecast of a severe gale, competitors launched with some trepidation. Winds were still light, with just the gusts hinting of what was to come. The race started promptly, and up the first beat the leaders were Weston and Henderson. By the second beat big winds were starting to come. But Viola and Mike Scott belied their reputations as light weather demons by charging towards the leaders, overtaking on the run with the help of one of those big gusts. The gusts came with big changes of direction, one of which caught the Scotts on the next beat costing them a swim and the lead. Weston and Henderson resumed their contest at the front before being interrupted by another challenger, Alec Mamwell and Chris Lawrence, the latter sailing an Osprey for the first time. But Weston held on to win from Henderson, with Mamwell third. Shaw took fourth. The big wind duly arrived, and there was no chance of a fifth race. With three teams covered by just a point, it was Henderson and Barrie who took the event on a tie break from Shaw and Little, with Weston/ Keighley third.

Overall Results: (top five)

1. Alan Henderson & Alastair Barrie, Prestwick SC, 5pts
2. Rob Shaw & Ian Little, Kielder Water SC, 5pts
3. Mark Weston & Tim Keighley, West Riding SC, 6pts
4. Alec Mamwell & Chris Lawrence, Coniston SC, 12pts
5. Viola & Mike Scott, Kielder Water SC, 13pts

Did you know? Ospreys can be raced legally with a crew of three, so if ever you pick up a stray swimmer, you can keep racing!Club for hosting an excellent event.

Ospreys Fly at Windy Shoreham by Phillip Meakins

Forget Paris in the Springtime , the real deal is Shoreham in the Fall. This is arguably the best sea sailing venue in the country and it produced wind, waves, warm water and an equally warm welcome at the club for the 9 Ospreys who turned up for the combined Osprey/505 meeting.

Saturdays forecast of force 6 Easterlies never fully materialised , but with frequent gusts of 20 knots and wind over tide conditions these well mannered boats were in their element. 2 young women helms were snapping at the heels of the leaders throughout, and class stalwart Russell Wheeler broke no less than two crews in a vain effort to keep pace.

Sunday brought challenges of a different nature. The wind backed into the NE giving flatter seas and wonderfully shifty conditions . With 3 wins and a second Chris Gould and Nick Broomhall were convincing winners , but apart from the last race had to fight very hard for their result. Terry Curtis and Tim Bowden took a well deserved second overall , although they were gifted one of their second places when novice crew Philip Meakins decided to dive over the side rather than hook on just short of the line. That left the Sheppey team of Mick Greenland and Ian Knight in third overall, one point clear of the two girls Alex Willis and Bryony Meakins ; 4th equal despite both having to put up with their fathers on the wire (or in one instance, off it!).

Sixteen year old Alex is an inspiration and the local pairing of John and Caz Mills were heard to wonder if they shouldn't emulate her by putting Caz on the helm and John on the wire. Just do it guys , it's the way to go!

Great sailing, great boats and great company. I can't wait for the next one.

Girl Power at Tata Steel SC October Regatta

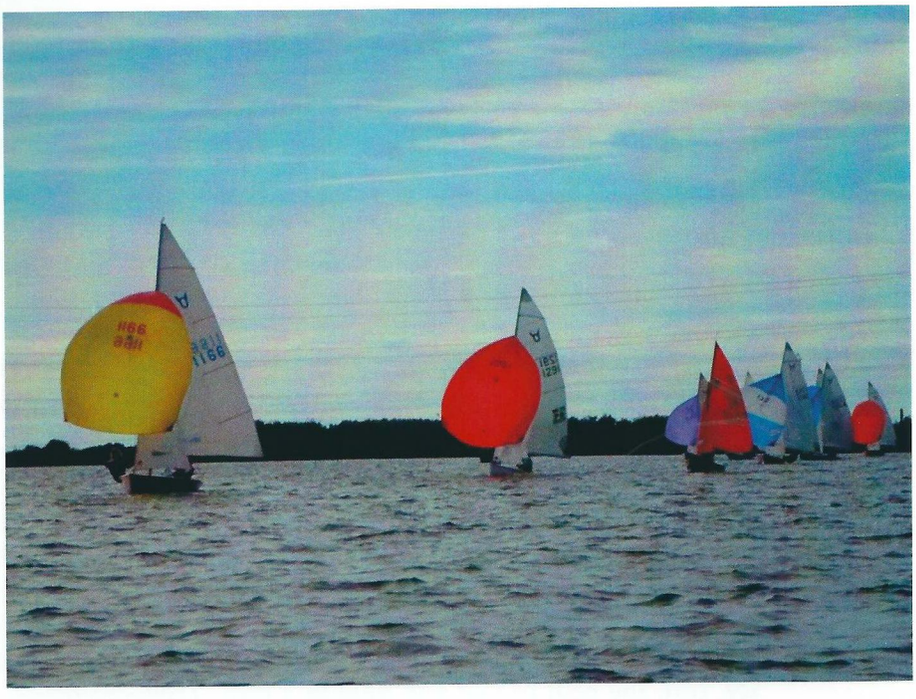
The Tata Steel Sailing Club October Regatta is normally a well-attended event with an increasing Osprey presence over recent years. This year on the 5th and 6th October over 50 boats attended with the Ospreys being the largest fleet with 10 entries and having a class start. Tata Steel SC at the Eglwys Nunydd reservoir at Margam in South Wales may be better known to you as British Steel and was once a strong Osprey club so there was a good deal of satisfaction to see a strong Osprey presence once again.

The weather over the weekend was pleasantly warm with light breezes from the East which gave the Race Officer an interesting challenge in setting courses suitable for boats ranging from Mirrors to B14s.

The Ospreys started last on a course that took in most of the lake and required a degree of navigation skill to avoid going wrong. Mike and Pam Murray, showed that they had lost none of their old magic despite many years out of the class and won the first race after a close battle with Alex and Nick Willis. In the second race Ros and David Downs led at the first mark only to find themselves the wrong side of some asymmetric boats going to a different mark which allowed several boats through. This time Alex and Nick Willis went on to win with Mike and Pam second. Ros and David again led the third race, this time they managed to avoid obstacles and led until the final mark when Alex and Nick as a result of a slicker spinnaker hoist were able to get through and take the win.

An early start was planned for Sunday but racing was initially postponed awaiting the breeze to build and become steady. When racing did start it was on a much simpler, but quite small trapezoidal course. Mike and Pam found the right way round in the shifty breeze to win. Alex and Nick built up a comfortable lead in the second race of the day to win the event after a consistent set of results with a race to spare. Behind them the rest of the fleet were battling it out for second place with Ros and David Downs just beating John Roderick and Nick King. With the Willis' ashore packing their boat away the way was clear for Ros and David to win the final race.

So it was a good weekend of sailing and a popular first open meeting win for Alex Willis. With ladies in the first three boats and two of them helming this was a real triumph for girl power! It is hoped that Tata SC may be able to put on an Osprey event in 2014 provided that a suitable date can be agreed. We look forward to welcoming you all to it.

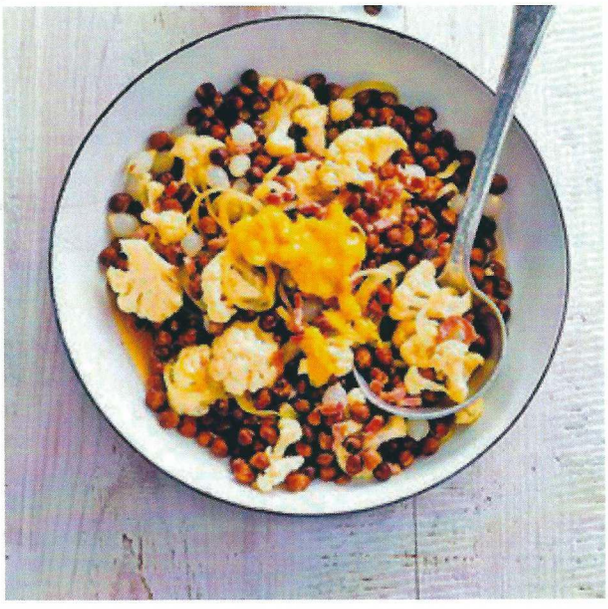


Overall results were:-
1st 1291 Alex Willis & Nick Willis
2nd 1166 Mike Murray & Pam Murray
3rd 1114 Ros Downs & David Downs
4th 1342 Ted Lewis & Matt Goldwait
5th 1354 Jeff Hughes & Paul Yedder
6th 1333 John Roderick & Nick King

A Captain's Dinner...thoughtfully provided by Jetkse De Vries, a long time ago neglected girlfriend of an Osprey sailor and now famous publisher of yummy receipe books in Holland.

Here's a taster...

OSPREY
JUBILEE
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Captain's dinner

Ingredients (for 4)

- 250 g bacon
- 350 g cauliflower florets

150 g onions (in rings)) ±

- 1tin young capuchins (800 gr)
- 150 g pickled onions

4 tbsp piccalilly ±

Prepare:

Heat a frying pan with no oil or butter and fry the bacon over medium in 5 minutes until golden Brown and cooked through. Meanwhile cook the cauliflower in 4 minutes until al dente, drain and leave te drain. Add the onion to the bacon and cook for 2 minutes on.

Rinse the capuchins off in a colander under cold running water, Bring to a boil with 1 cup of water, turn the heat to low and heat in 5 min. Then drain.

Add the pearl onions, cauliflower, the bacon and onion to the capuchins. Divide among 4 plates and scoop a spoonful piccalilli on each plate.