

Javelins At Alton Water 8th&9th May 2010

The forecast Northerly wind with showers materialised but luckily with the first start at 1300 we managed to sail the whole weekend without rain. The Northerly wind was another matter, giving the race officer some very awkward decisions to make with courses. He got them right moving marks to the optimal positions to suit the wind. Racing was exceedingly close and made intriguingly more so by the variable and swinging wind. The results don't bear it out but everyone had their moment of glory, some also managed a moment of ignominy. Just how did Brian and David capsize in the first race and how did Gavin fall out of the boat in Race three (poor Rosie you just can't get the staff these days!).

The battle at the front of the fleet between Richard Kathryn Smith, Brian and David Earl and Mike Pickles with star guest crew Steven Oosterheart was intense the result of the open not being decided until Mike had a moment at the last wing mark whilst lying second. The rest of the fleet had a similarly hard fought weekend with some of the most tactical sailing the fleet has had in many years. Greg Brown and Ollie showed some tremendous upwind speed in the oldest boat even leading race five for a short time and Cath Fox in only the second outing of her new boat Foxtrot began to show just how quick she will be when she finds all the right strings to pull.

The hungry sailors and camp followers descended on The Gardeners Arms at Stutton for dinner and were treated to an excellent meal and local ale replete and ready to face the rigours of a night under canvas we returned to Alton where the sky was lit by a massive firework display somewhere to the East.

A massive thankyou our races team of Martin Pavey, Jerry Andrews and John Glasspool at Alton Water for managing to arrange such good courses in such difficult conditions. It really was quite a feat to run all six races and get everyone away in time to journey home at a reasonable hour.

POSN	Helm	Crew	Sail No	Club	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	NET
1	Richard Smith	Kathryn Smith	568	Glossop	1	1	1	(3)	2	2	7
2	Brian Earl	David Earl	558	Chichester	3	2	3	1	1	1	8
3	Mike Pickles	Steven Oosterheart	562	Southwold	2	(3)	2	2	3	3	12
4	Gavin Johnson	Rosie Johnson	565	Alton Water	5	4	(8)	5	5	4	23
5	Cath Fox	Ben Fisher	573	Southwold	(7)	7	5	4	4	6	26
6	Cliff Sagar	Andy Cross	560	Carsington	4	6	4	(7)	7	7	28
7	Greg Brown	Ollie Boyes	514	Southwold	(6)	5	6	6	6	5	28