

Leicestershire Radio Yacht Club

METER MUG IOM OPEN 2009

A calm lake in brilliant sunshine is some people's ideal of paradise. Well not if you have come to Loughborough to take part in the 2009 Meter Mug IOM OPEN, It was panning out to be a "watch paint dry day" After booking in and the skipper briefing the boats took to the water for a slow beat to the wind ward mark. It is always good to see the light air skippers shooting into the lead, Don Charlesworth and Tony Edwards



Archive photo LOOK! THIS IS WHAT WIND LOOKS LIKE

seemed to have this part of sailing off to a tee. Moving their boats around the course with the total absents of wind. Not even a ripple on the water, at least not until their boats broke the reflections on the mirror glazed water. Mike Clifton from Two Islands managed to move his new Mad Max through the fleet and finish 1st in front of Tony and Don.

As the morning went on the wind make a fickle entry only to disappear 5 minutes later and then streak across the lake in a black patch catching some skippers out. A lot of concentration was needed for rounding the wind mark. On a few occasions inconsiderate sailing caused a raft of boats drifting around the mark, allowing boats from behind to over take and beat the unfortunate.

Tony and Mike did not have all the top spots with 6 different skippers gaining a first place. Don, Mick, Laurie and Darin where the luck guys, however they could not stay consistent to challenge Tony. Mike had a few teething problems with his Mad Max, finding out after the event that his newly glued mast box had not set fully and allowed his mast to sink lower and become stuck. Better it happen now.

Worthy of a mention for her sailing is Sandra Smith with her top scores being a 5th a 6th two 8th places. Her husband Bill tried and tried but could not keep her in his grasp. Definitely! A lady heading for the top. The Fat Boy clan may have wished they sailed thin boys today as the conditions did not suit. Darin did manage a 1st but could not keep in the front pack, not all his fault as some tried to push his boat out of the way to gain places. A new comer to the district joined us today all the way from Lincoln. Bob Geary sailed well with his top score being a 9th; however he suffered battery failure putting paid to his afternoon. Thank you Bob for staying and helping with the observing. We managed 15 races during the day with a rest after every 3 or 4 to rest weary bones young and old. I think most of the skippers will be a sleep early having been worked hard.

Just as a note Mike C and Tony E both used their new boats prior to going to the IOM worlds on the island of Barbados and going by the results today they are well prepared. Good Luck to you both.

As OOD I decided to take one skipper out of each race to assist me in observing and finish line duty. This worked very well with the quality of racing being extremely good with good humour all day. I would like to thank all skippers for listening to the briefing and making the day go so well, with no upset or protests.

Finally I would like to apologise to Laurie, Mike Clifton and Mike Weeks for making errors in their placing. This did not affect anyone else though. Sorry guys, perhaps Craig is right about using a pen and paper. On the other hand he does have to put his feet out the bottom of his car, for it to move. Yab bah dabar doooo Craig!!

<i>Event</i>		METER MUG IOM OPEN				
<i>Date.</i>		14/06/2009				
<i>Host Club</i>		LEICESTER				
MYA No.	Skipper	Club.	Design	Sail No.	Total	Posn
165	TONY EDWARDS	LRYC	2	75	17	1
2	MIKE CLIFTON	TISLANDS	1	02	37	2
133	LAURIE BROWN	MKT BOSWORTH	2	69	43	3
140	MICK SHILLINGTON	BOURNVILLE	2	110	49	4
164	DON CHARLESWORTH	LRYC	2	77	51	5
2453	DARRIN BALLINGTON	MANOR PARK	2	98	71	6
1823	MIKE WEEKS	LRYC	2	31	73	7
2063	PETER MOORE	BOURNVILLE	2	24	79	8
2342	GRAHAM WHALLEY	MANOR PARK	2	12	79	9
669	DAVID ASTON	MKT BOSWORTH	2	505	90	10
1331	TONY SNEDKER	MKT BOSWORTH	2	83	104	11
2193	SANDRA SMITH	MKT BOSWORTH	2	95	109	12
1749	BILL SMITH	MKT BOSWORTH	2	20	145	13
670	PETE COLLINS	LRYC	1	58	156	14
new	BOB GEARY	LINCOLN	2	06	165	15

Congratulations to Tony Edwards for returning the Meter Mug and taking it home with him on the same day. Perhaps his name will be engraved on it this year.

Thank you Craig and Mike for taking bookings and bringing the equipment and helping with setting the best course during the day

Photo Sandra Smith
Words Graham Allen