

THE 46th YARE NAVIGATION RACE

Saturday 17 September saw the annual sailing event for river cruiser class yachts racing from Coldham Hall Sailing Club to Breydon Water and return. Contestants chose their own start time from 7.30 am and at 15 minute intervals to suit the weather, tide, boat performance and crew abilities. A long-distance planning exercise.

The weather forecast was a lively NW wind with the odd shower. It lived up to its promise. It would be a run to Reedham, a reach onto Breydon Water and return to Reedham, followed mainly by beating back to Coldham Hall Sailing Club.

All but three yachts were away by 9.45 am with the last two away by 10.30 am. Little seemed to be gained by an early or late start, but it was clear that being on the line at the start kept you out of the melee and allows unimpeded clearer wind and direction.

33 yachts entered, 4 did not start and there were some unfortunate incidents along the way. A broken mast, broken gaff jaws, broken bowsprit, sprung planks and a bash reduced the fleet with another deciding not to battle the wind.

For the five trophies and their second and third places, twelve yachts shared the honours.

Glory, with 4 hours and 21 minutes and clear by 4 minutes on Jessie May, took the YNR Trophy (available for all and applying handicaps) as well as the Starlight Lady Trophy, for yachts over 28 ft and was clear by 6 minutes from Wandering Rose. A good day for a local yacht helmed by Colin Brown.

The yacht, Starlight Lady completed the race in 4 hours and 5 minutes, taking the Moonraker Trophy (fastest real time), 4 minutes ahead of Stellar.

The Jeckells Trophy (length from 25 ft to 28 ft) was achieved by Jessie May, outstripping Waxwing by 8 minutes. Modwena showed clean heels to Pickle by 16 minutes in The Wilberforce Smith Trophy (under 25 ft in length).

A bottle of rum, donated by Coldham Hall Boatyard was some comfort to the slowest boat which started at 7.30 am and arrived back safely taking very nearly 7 hours to complete the race and gain the Wooden Spoon.

Drinks, sustenance and conviviality were enjoyed in The Tavern with the presentation of trophies, brass plaques and bottles of beer.

RESULTS	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
YNR TROPHY	Glory 4hr 21 m 5 s	Jessie May 4 hr 25 m 45 sec	Wandering Rose 4 hr 27 m 26 s
MOONRAKER	Starlight Lady 4hr 5 m 1 sc	Stellar 4 hr 9 m 16 s	Meggie 4 hr 29 s 21 s
STARLIGHT LADY	Glory 4 h 21 m 5 s	Wandering Rose 4 hr 27 m 26 s	Starlight Lady 4 hr 36 m 52 s
JECKELLS	Jessie May 4hr 25 m 45 s	Waxwing 4 hr 34 m 18 s	Tinkerbelle 4 hr 38 m 7s
WILBERFORCE SMITH	Modwena 4hr 32 m 60 s	Pickle 4 hr 52 m 5 s	Daisy 5 hr 31 m 29 s