

# Shetland Inter-club Yachting Association

## Report of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Regatta

### 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> August 2017

The 70<sup>th</sup> Shetland Inter-Club Regatta will be remembered most of all for how well the organisers, race officers and competing sailors managed an intensive rescheduled programme of sailing on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August, the final day of the event. Before then the disruptive gales on Thursday and Friday looked like completely ruining Shetland's annual festival of sailing. But with the massive effort on Saturday thirteen races were sailed which meant that twenty nine trophies could be presented.

The Regatta began on Wednesday afternoon in windy conditions for the dipping lug sailing. Six boats representing Whalsay (3), Waas (2) and South Yell (1) took part in a fresh northerly breeze which at times proved too strong for some of the competitors and their gear. Kon-tiki sailed a perfect race for the Stout Cup and won by the width of the harbour from Relentless.

1. Kon-Tiki, L. Irvine
2. Relentless, G. Williamson
3. Styooch, M. Tait

At that time it looked as if Kon-Tiki was going to be difficult to beat but sailing can be a very unpredictable sport in windy conditions and the Whalsay boat's sheet track broke in the next race for the Murray Cup, causing the boat to capsize. In the increasing wind only Relentless prevailed to take the trophy, all the other competitors having to retire due to the conditions.

1. Relentless, G. Williamson

Race three for the Theodore Andrew Cup proved just as exciting with Kon-Tiki and Spindrift capsizing in the early part of the race, now set in the mid/south harbour in the north-west wind. Relentless closed on Styooch in the early legs but the Waas boat held firm as the wind continued to lighten to keep ahead on the run to Ham and gained on the beat to the finish.

1. Stooch, M. Tait
2. Relentless, G. Williamson
3. Vielmar, J. Smith

The two dinghy races on Wednesday evening were very competively sailed in the south harbour in lighter conditions. A fleet comprising fireballs and flying fifteens

sailed well with tight sailing allowing the flying fifteens to keep close to the fireballs. Line honours for the Scalloway Dinghy Trophy went to fireball Black Fantin, J. Manson but it was the flying fifteens that took the race places on corrected time.

1. All or Nothing (Flying Fifteen), B. Wishart
2. Under Pressure (Flying Fifteen), K. Leask
3. Ffoofighter (Flying Fifteen), T. Allan

The next race was for the LHD Cup and was the first of the team races for dinghies. Again the racing was very tight and again the fireballs could not find enough speed to get far enough ahead of the flying fifteens. Firewall, D. Grant's fireball took line honours but the corrected time placed them third.

1. Under Pressure (Flying Fifteen), K. Leask
2. All or Nothing (Flying Fifteen), B. Wishart
3. Firewall (Fireball), D. Grant
4. Tidalfire (Fireball), S. Nicolson
5. Ffoofighter (Flying Fifteen), T. Allan
6. Judgement Day (Fireball), D. Forrest
7. Black Fantin (Fireball), J. Manson

On Thursday the dinghies set out once more to the south harbour in very strong and increasing westerly wind. After a short race for the Adamson Cup, the second of the team races, it was clear that the conditions were too severe to continue safely and the session was ended.

1. Under Pressure (Flying Fifteen), K. Leask
2. Judgement Day (Fireball), D. Forrest
3. Tidalfire (Fireball), S. Nicolson
4. Ffoofighter (Flying Fifteen), T. Allan

And then the long wait for the wind to ease began with everybody frantically searching the internet for a forecast that might provide some hope of sailing. Every source said over thirty knots and they all proved to be right. There was no sailing for the rest of Thursday and the whole of Friday. With Saturday looking more promising Commodore John Abernethy called the Regatta committee together early on Friday afternoon and an intensive rescheduled programme involving simultaneous races was drawn up for Saturday to allow all competitors a chance of sailing at least three races on the day. Saturday was a much better day and the plan was put into effect by the very busy race officers and committee members.

The first race on Saturday involved dinghies for the Thulecraft Cup. It was a close run affair with only thirty nine seconds between the first three finishers in a race lasting nearly an hour.

1. All or Nothing (Flying Fifteen), B. Wishart
2. Firewall (Fireball), D. Grant
3. Judgement Day (Fireball), D. Forrest

At last the Shetland Models got a chance. The first race was for the Whalsay Boating Club Trophy, a team race, which proved to be one sided with only Solus preventing a clean sweep by the Whalsay team.

1. Comet (Whalsay), L Irvine
2. Solus (Lerwick), B. Leask
3. Skirmish (Whalsay), J. Simpson
4. Tek-Sing (Whalsay), M. Arthur
5. Vela (Lerwick) S. Nicolson
6. Chicane (Lerwick) J. Manson

While the team race progressed, the non team boats sailed for the Andrew Johnson Cup.

1. Scunner, G. Irvine
2. Armeria, I. Irvine
3. Carpe-Diem, J. Shearer

The next dinghy race was for the P&O Trophy and again the fireballs struggled to compete against the flying fifteens in the lighter sailing conditions.

1. Under Pressure (Flying Fifteen), K. Leask
2. All of Nothing (Flying Fifteen), B. Wishart
3. Firewall (Fireball), D. Grant

Starting at 11.15 the North Challenge Cup for allcomers Shetland Models proved to be an exceptional race. Close racing throughout led to a final reach to the finish from Gardie to the Pier with three boats in close contention for the trophy. Comet looked the more likely to win but the tenacious Vela held on to win by around one second with Solus only another second behind. Worthy of mention too was the performances of Scunner and Armeria finishing ahead of two of the Whalsay team boats.

1. Vela, S. Nicolson
2. Comet, L. Irvine
3. Solus, B. Leask

The Unst Dingy Cup was the next on the programme and completed the Flying Fifteen dominance in the Regatta.

1. Under Pressure (Flying Fifteen), K. Leask
2. Ffoofighter (Flying Firteen), T. Allan
3. Firewall (Firfeball), D. Grant

At two o'clock the Lerwick and Whalsay Shetland Model teams squared up for what looked to be a formality for Whalsay following the earlier competition. However the Lerwick team is made of stern stuff and wasn't about to give up without having a fair go at their opposition. Solus in particular kept Whalsay's Comet at bay as long as possible before the Whalsay boat managed to pass just before the finish line. This was a huge disappointment for Lerwick whose performance nearly reversed the earlier result. Whalsay won the team race (20 points to Lerwick's 22 points) and Comet took the second Whalsay Boating Club Trophy in the process.

1. Comet (Whalsay), L. Irvine
2. Solus (Lerwick), B. Leask
3. Vela (Lerwick), S. Nicolson
4. Chicane (Lerwick), J. Manson
5. Skirmish (Whalsay), J. Simpson
6. Tek-Sing (Whalsay), M. Arthur

The Challenge Trophy for non-team boats was the final Shetland Model race of the Regatta and was won again by Scunner with Sarepta performing well to finish second.

1. Scunner, G. Irvine
2. Sarepta, C. Irvine
3. Armeria, I. Irvine

Earlier in the day the Mirror crews sailed five back to back short races for all the trophies in the programme. The best performing boat was Heogan, J. Fraser which won all five races. Soldian, B. Harper and Nautilus, B. Laurenson also sailed well to take most of the remaining prizes. These races were sailed with a high degree of enthusiasm and it was good to see that the younger sailors had not been put off by the drastic changes to the sailing programme.

Mirror Dinghy Trophy

1. Heogan, J. Fraser
2. Soldian, B. Harper
3. Seamew, R. Morris

### Bertie Mowat Cup

1. Heogan, J. Fraser
2. Soldain, B. Harper
3. Nautilus, B. Laurenson

### SIYA Cup

1. Heogan, J. Fraser
2. Kebister, R. Fraser
3. Nautilus, B. Laurenson

### Jeanette Williamson Cup

1. Heogan, J. Fraser
2. Nautilus, B. Laurenson
3. Soldian, B. Harper

### Harry's Cup

1. Heogan, J. Fraser
2. Mousa, S. Morris
3. Soldian, B. Harper

At the prize giving Commodore John Abernethy expressed his relief that the rescheduled programme of sailing had been so successful. He thanked all the guard boat crews, the race officers and committee members and made particular mention of the sailing crews who had not been put off by the long delay caused by the weather. The Commodore ended his address by thanking the Lerwick Boating Club for the use of their facilities for the Regatta and the Lerwick Port Authority for their help in organising the event and for permitting use of part of the Victoria Pier, which was appreciated by the sailors.

### Performance Trophies

<b>Prize</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Winners</b>
Memorial Cup	Best Team of 3 Boats over the two team races	Whalsay (Comet, Skirmish and Tek-Sing)
International Paints Cup	Lowest Scoring Boat over the two team races	Comet, L. Irvine
Linklater Cup	For a boat over the North Challenge Cup and the John Stewart Trophy	Vela, S. Nicolson
Lounge Cup	For a team of two boats over the North Challenge	Tek- Sing, M. Arthur and Vela, S. Nicolson

	Cup and the John Stewart Trophy	
Devon Bowl	Best boat in the Smith Cup, North Challenge Cup and the John Stewart Trophy	Vela, S. Nicolson
Cruister Cup	Best fast handicap dinghy over 5 from 6 races	Under Pressure, K. Leask
Scalloway Dinghy Team Race Trophy	For a team of two dinghies over the two dinghy team races	Ffoofighter, T. Allan and Under Pressure, K. Leask
North Roe Cup	Best performing Mirror dinghy over three races	Heogan, J. Fraser
Commodore's Cup	Best team of three Mirrors over the two team races	Lerwick 1 ( Kebister, R. Fraser, Heogan, J. Fraser, Soldian, B. Harper)
Young Skipper Trophy	Best helm aged under 21 years	Christopher Irvine