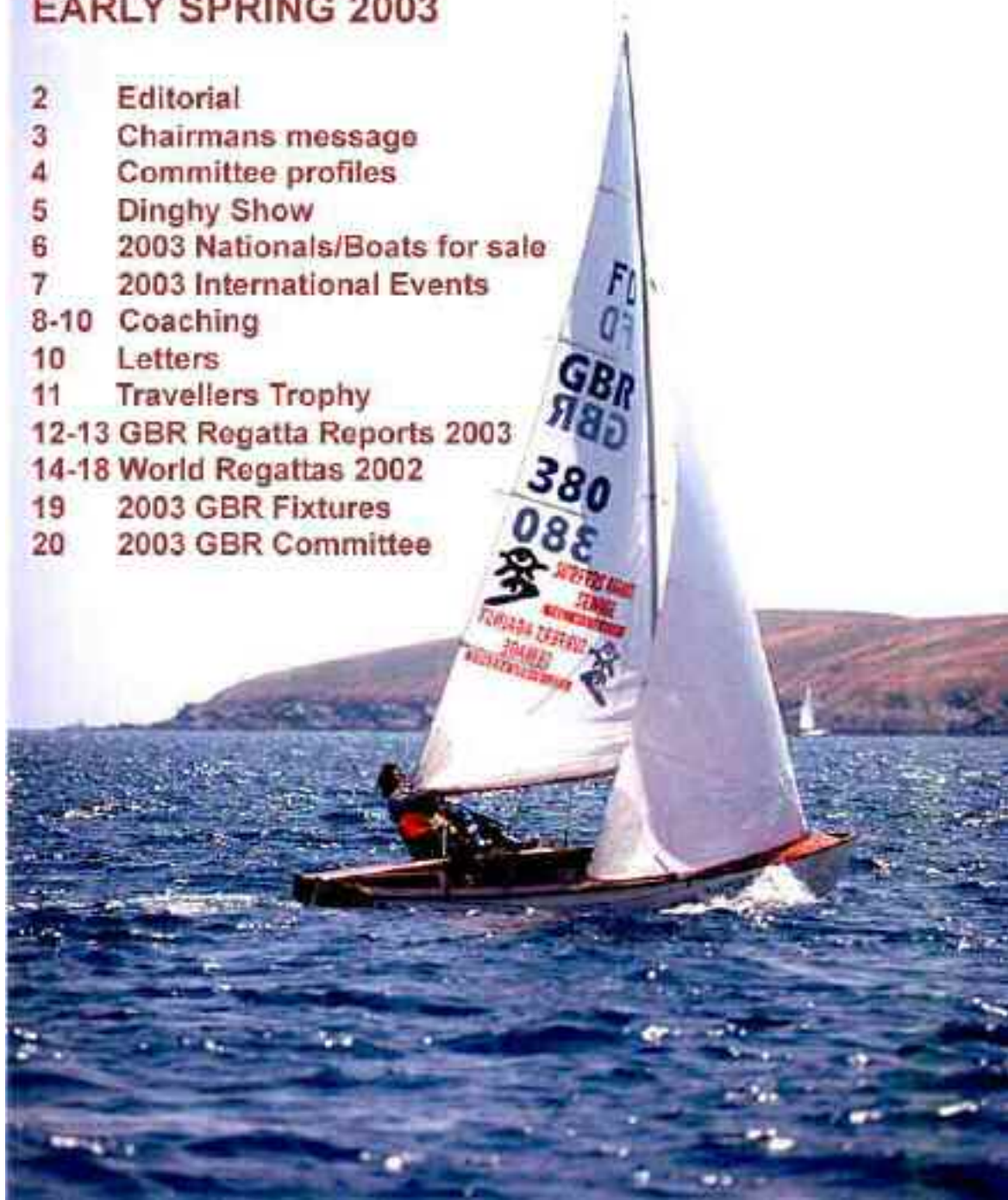


FD GBR

EARLY SPRING 2003

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2 EDITORIAL

Thanks (in no particular order)

Steve, all the committee members who can write, Toby, James, Richard, Peter, Dawn, Tony, Jamie, and Cathy for putting up with it, and helping.

Trying to do something useful for the new year, I am putting together my first effort as editor of the IFDCO (BS) newsletter. Thanks first to Rosie and Neil, for their work as editors over the last couple of years, and for their successes with the organisational side of the nationals at Ullswater and Whitstable. I hope I can live up to their example, and produce newsletters to keep everyone informed as to what is happening in the British FD scene. Doing this effectively will involve me with a lot of hard work, something which is rapidly becoming obvious as I write, but the quality of what you get will also depend on contributions and ideas from the whole membership. If you have anything to say, I would welcome it, or if you want anything that the class is not giving you then this is the place to discuss it. Lets have a stream of mail, either e-mail, or by normal post, of interesting stuff to include. Thanks in anticipation!

Julian

Cover Pic - FD sailing in Wales - note warm steady southerly, sunshine, beautiful scenery, seals, beach and island, well, you can see the island, this may be Abersoch at the other end of Wales, but turn to page 6 to learn about something even better this year.

Next issue – will include more photos, NOR for Nationals, training event, etc, more coaching stuff, the rebirth of the crews union page and all you need to know about FD sailing in Britain. Contributions to me by 31 March please - on your doormat by Easter.

Best photo emailed to me by the end of March becomes cover pic for next issue, otherwise it may be me in my Mirror in 1974 - you have been warned.

GOSSIP

Sad news, David Wilkins has sold his boat, IRL 8 to the NEDS, although there is talk of him getting another one sometime soon, and Andy Moss is so tied up with being the parent of an International standard Cadet sailor that he may do the same – don't do it mossman, there is a great year coming up, you don't want to miss it mate.

3 CHAIRMANS MESSAGE

Welcome to 2003, hopefully a good year for the British Section.

Firstly a big thank you to John Best for his years at the helm of both the Class and his boats, having done this role before I know how difficult, and at times frustrating it can be. I cannot say that I will be able to produce the excellent paperwork that JB produced for events, but hopefully you will have kept the relevant information eg. Accommodation lists, maps etc. Also thanks to Neil and Rosie for their contribution to running the British Section, producing the newsletter and organising of the stand at Sailboat.

We have a small Committee dedicated to keeping the British Section in existence and the FD alive in the UK. This is a task not to be underestimated, and we look to all our members for support, ideas and constructive criticism. Our biggest problem is a source of second-hand boats to offer prospective newcomers to the Class. Tony Lyall needs all the information he can get about boats laid up in various garages and gardens around the country, which may be either for sale or available to charter.

We are spending a reasonable sum of money, courteously permitted by our Treasurer, Richard Phillips, on the stand at Sailboat this year to “upgrade” our image, and provide a wide range of information about the Class.

I look forward to meeting you there and hearing comments. Toby Dale is the man charged with creating our new image!!

The fixture list is not too demanding so I really hope that as many of you as possible will support the events being put on. There will be an all inclusive entry fee for the National Championship at Saundersfoot which promises to be a really fun event, both on and off the water. I am optimistic by nature and therefore believe that the British Section can thrive, and we need to progress steadily, really make newcomers welcome, and support events.

With my International Vice President Championship hat on I would highly recommend the European Championships in Dervio, Lake Como, Italy in July. It is a really beautiful place, and sailing in very friendly conditions. If you have never been abroad with your FD this would be a brilliant place to start. Camping, B&B, hotels from 3 to 5 stars all available. GO ON, JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL SET!!!

Thanks to Julian for this newsletter, and for liaising with Saundersfoot.

Stephen Parry. GBR 383.

4 COMMITTEE MEMBER PROFILES

I though it would be a good idea to know who the officers and committee of the class in the British Section were. So in the next couple of issues we will have brief profiles, and hopefully photos of those who make it all happen for us. They will appear in the order in which they learn to write.

1 Richard Phillips

Current BS roles - Hon Treasurer and Webmaster

FD involvement - first sailed in an FD in 1978 and then crewed in FDs in UK and international events from 1979. Owned GBR 342 and then GBR 352. Chairman FD BS 1981 - 1989 when appointed IFDCO General Secretary until 1995. Currently IFDCO Councillor of Honour and IFDCO webmaster.

Since 1995 crewed for Peter Doran in GBR377. Organised (with Stephen Parry) 1991 European Championship at Abersoch.

Other recent (2002) sailing - crewing Folkboat (in Solent) and J120 (Cross Channel races). Member of Lymington Town Sailing Club.

Real Life - looking after a few sailing websites, teaching IT at local College of Further Education and promoting Learndirect.

FD Sailing Aspirations - Continue to enjoy FD sailing, Top 3 at Nationals and win 100+ Trophy at Worlds (when Ian McCrossin retires!!)

2 Julian Bridges -

BS roles - newsletter editor, coach, court jester.

FD involvement - since 1984, owned IRL 4 / GBR 380 since 1995, normally sailing with my wife Cathy, competed in every major international event in Europe since then.

Other sailing - sail at Port Dinorwic / Y Felinheli on the Menai Strait, currently club president, run adult coaching scheme, Osprey champion crew twice, and third in Hornet worlds as helm,

Real life - run the plant biology research greenhouse complex at University of Wales, Bangor.

Sailing aspirations - continue to enjoy FD sailing at home and abroad for as long as boat and body permit.

5 SAILBOAT AND WINDSURF SHOW 2003

This years Sailboat and Windsurf Show - or the Dinghy Show as everyone who is not associated with the RYA knows it - is nearly here again!

The show will be open on 1st and 2nd March and once again your dedicated committee is slaving to put on the best possible display in an attempt to entice the uninitiated into the fold. This year Toby and James are kindly allowing "Biggles" to be used on the stand in her new 2003 livery.

The class is very conscious of the slowly diminishing numbers of active sailors so please, please come and talk to us and we may even be able to tempt you to this years events!

If you still need an excuse, then come to the stand on Saturday afternoon at 1700, and have a friendly beer with us! It's free, honest!

Tickets are available in advance charged at £7.50 for adults and £2.75 for 5-16's or you can get them on the door costing £9.00 for adults and £4.00 for 5- 16s. Under 5's are admitted free.

For advance tickets call the RYA ticket hotline: 0845 345 0424 or visit the RYA website at www.rya.org.uk.

Editorial note – don't miss it, the best weekends sailing possible, without the need to take your boat. Come and support the class, admire the stand and see the boat that is going to win the world championships this year.

6 2003 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Formal notice of race next time, but for going on with.....

This year we will be returning to Wales, (hooray!) in this instance to Saundersfoot SC in Pembrokeshire. They are experienced in running small and medium sized championships. Its a lovely seaside resort, two hours from Bristol, 15 miles from the end of motorways, and we are invited to join the SSC August Bank Holiday regatta. Part of the regatta, and part of our championships, is a long distance race around Caldey Island - straight line distance approx 14 miles / 23 km, or the same as a normal race in the worlds. It unusual for us, but was unanimously endorsed by the committee.

date	sailing	social
Fri 22		club
Sat 23	1430 2/3 races	championship dinner
Sun 24	1030 Round Caldey Race	competitors hearing, club
Mon 25	1030 2/3 races	prizegiving after sailing

Entry fee £50.00 including two seats at the dinner - more available!

Please be warned, there is plenty of accommodation of all types in the area, but you are very strongly advised to shape up and book it now.

club website - <http://www.johns.family.btinternet.co.uk/ssc/about.html>

tourist info - www.exploreembrokeshire.com

Its a great venue, both for sailors and families, so lets see if we can get back to double figures this year, and show another part of the world what FD sailing is about. If you intend to go, or want further information - please contact Julian Bridges.

BOATS FOR SALE

GBR 310	Hoare,all wood,July 1978	£1000	David Youde	02920 708321
GBR 318	Hoare,all wood, Jan 1980	£950	Peter Weekes	01492 533154
GBR 346	Hoare,kevlar/wood,Feb 1984	£1500	Simon Capper	01394 382209
GBR 381	L.Mader, all wood, 1970s	Offers	Richard Austin	01248 384075
Unregistered	Hoare, c.1978	£1500	Doug Seaden	01206 284412

If you buy or sell an FD, please let Tony Lyall know the details so the class records can be kept up to date.

7 INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

With the worlds on the far side of the globe this year, the class will also hold an European Championships. We therefore have the opportunity to compete in two major international events. The commitment to go to Australia is something that only a few of us will have, but as all the world seems to be able to get to the Italian lakes to race, its an ideal chance to make that first step into international competition. If you have never tried it, you dont know what you're missing, and be assured that the British team will be delighted to be joined by anyone on their first trip, and will offer every help to support your venture.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Venue - Sandringham Yacht club

Dates - 27 Dec 2003 -

Entry fee - AUS dollars 350

Late entry date - 281103

Final entry date - at clubs discretion (AUS dollars 525)

Website - <http://www.sailmelbourne.com.au>

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Venue - Centro Vela Dervio, Lake Como, Italy,

Dates - 13 - 20 July 2003.

Entry fee - Euros 300.00

Late entry date - 28 02 03 (Euros 330.00)

Final entry date - 31 05 03

Website - <http://www.centroveladervio.it>

General info - hot, sunny, medium strength southerly winds, accomodation available through club, 85 km north of Milan, on the southern side of the Italian Alps.

As a favour to the NEDS, think about the Coen Gulcher memorial regatta on Oct 11/12. A weekend at Looostrecht, bashing around a small lake full of interesting traditional pleasure craft, the excellent Dutch hospitality, a fantastic clubhouse - a cross between the Royal Yacht Squadron and somewhere like Trent Valley SC - old money solidly built in wood in a gorgeous lakeside setting - and the NED regatta equating to Rutland as the end of season party. For most British sailors, its closer than visiting us in North Wales. Tony Lyall is bound to go, bother him for information, or try Marianne Lubbers, 030 6994646, mob 06 47940005, email - pr@sailfd.com

8 COACHING

Two bits this time, firstly my 'coaching diary' from last years weekend event, followed by 'what we saw from the RIB'. We will be doing it all again this year at Rutland on the same weekend. Full details next time.

Leaving Felinheli on Friday after a session with the club adult improvers - everything from a mid sixties GP14 with its original sails to a timid near beginner in a Contender - I drove to the M1 / A 50 junction before collapsing at 0100 Saturday. As I went to sleep in the van I wondered what the weekend would bring. The prospect of trying to enlighten the UK FD race fleet was pretty daunting, most folks have been in the class longer than me, how would it go working with David Wilkins and John Best, would anyone actually listen and do what they were told, etc, etc.

Saturday at Rutland I sorted out the handouts, kindly provided by the University of Wales, picked up the RIB and a couple of buoys and had time to put the boat together for Sunday, the troops turned up, and then - lights, camera, action - I'm on stage. I felt that we had a really good day, the fleet exercises allowed - forced - everyone to work hard on tacking, and hoists, gybes and drops. I wanted to watch the gilded youth more, and then go back to those further down the food chain with tasty morsels, and didnt manage that, but all boats did, thought, experimented and improved during the session. As far as running the session went, the FDs ability to disappear into the next county was reinforced by the amount of throttle needed on the RIB, and we could have done with an even larger bit of water, without anyone else on it. We did some starts, and then ran a series of short races with me following boats and David calling sail set adjustments to the crews. It was great working with David, I really enjoyed it, we settled down into just being two lads working a boat on a Saturday afternoon very quickly and I think we gave everyone stuff to think about. As one who has recently escaped from club responsibilities at Trumpton sailing club I was very very impressed by Davids ability to make the vast enterprise of Rutland happen properly whilst simultaneously having a serious career and a real life.

Then the evening session, mainly thanks to David who, whilst talking about reasonably simple stuff like centreboards, gybing drills etc, gave us all some eye opening stuff on the level of detailed commitment needed to do sailing properly - then we tried this or that for a week until we were sure about it - which I think was the thing that most showed the gap between Olympic standards and our leisure sailing. It was so good, and all were in rapt attention, so I only got a short burst of RYA speak - I might deride it all,

9 COACHING

and frequently, but the method got five medals in Sydney so it works, we all need goals to work towards, profiling to analyse the areas to work on, and teamwork guidelines to make each area work better.

Sunday was a less frantic day for me, bit of sailing with Tobetoo, who found trapezing and spinnaker trimming to his liking, and JB taking the RIB to run a series of short races and chase and advise on the water. The breeze was up enough to make the racing exciting, and a successful days was had by all. We missed out on a formal debrief afterwards and I am afraid I never saw the results, but apart from the gilded youth we were all very close, and even before we left there was talk about next time.....

Like sitting on the club terrace, watching a race, its easy to see what people are doing wrong from the RIB. So back to basics with the five essentials:-

Balance - Keep the boat flat - watching from the RIB as boats heeled in gusts surprised me by the amount and speed of leeward slip - half a boatlength at times. Gust response is really important, with harder hiking and loads more working the traveller, both hands stabbing down immediately the gust hits, pushing the bow up and easing the traveller, then both hands back up to pull the bow back to the groove and bring the traveller back up as the weight has gone out further. Van Essen designed the hull to be symmetrical, but only when its held flat.

Trim - fore and aft - Cath and I scamper about the boat a lot, possibly more than is needed but it does look good, the serious bit is to keep close together fore and aft, some teams seemed to have personal hygiene or personal space problems, snuggle up close, especially for those Whitstable size waves.

Sail set - Obviously we have far too much to play with for our own good with the FD, but constant and sympathetic sail control adjustments, as the breeze changes strength, are needed. The trim guide on the net gives an idea of what we need to be looking for, perhaps if JB is to retire to blazer world soon we could pick his brains for an update. In the meantime measure, log and then repeat what feels right and what works – wouldn't an animated computer program be lovely to watch, from mast upright with crew in the boat, to max rake mad bastard conditions, just to be able to visualise the sail shape and the flow round them, its worth trying it on the shore - fully adjusting the rig from one extreme to the other - so you can

10 COACHING

walk round the boat and see what is happening from different viewpoints - dont try this at home unless someone is holding the mainsheet.

Centreboard - Something that beginners often forget about, that's why it is an essential - but for us, the position and rake when going upwind in different wind strengths is what counts, adjusted in sympathy with the rig, we need to pick David's brains for this, as I stupidly took no notes, he seemed to indicate slightly less messing with it than we all thought, so the only advice is to experiment.

Course made good - the final essential - a catchall for everything else, from not over standing the weather mark, to staying in the middle at Ullswater where there might be some wind, to positioning yourself for an overlap in the middle of a frantic drop, to staying between the finish and the next boat, main point is look and think beforehand so you know what you want to do, and you can then set about it.

Last thoughts - if its a youth group you can make the team slowest to be ready to go afloat do twenty press ups, and then you get more done, if I had a video I would have spent all w/e learning to use it rather than more useful things, and Toby and James said they spent the whole journey home discussing and noting down useful stuff they had learned and wanted to try out. I was really pleased they had got so much from the weekend, and I hope all the teams were doing the same on the Sunday evening as they left, after what to me was a very satisfying event.

LETTERS

Crew available to sail in FD events in 2003 season. I am particularly interested in attending the Italian European championships. So if anyone doesn't have a crew for any event this season please drop me a line. I have spent most of my FD career sailing with Julian Bridges at club and local open level, also I have sailed in a few circuit events, most recently at Bala with Peter Doran.

I don't mind travelling as long as I get plenty of warning, in order to negotiate the rail system. I do have exams in late May / early June but I don't sit them at weekends. If anyone is interested then please contact me

cheers Jamie Whitaker
Email: jamieawhit@aol.com

phone 01248 351 346
mobile 07763 488 037

11 TRAVELLERS TROPHY

The Travellers Trophy is awarded to the team that achieves the best overall results from the races in the qualifying regattas.

Any FD helm who attends a qualifying event with an FD will be automatically included in the results of the Travellers Trophy so long as he/she is a paid up member of IFDCO and the crew is a paid up member of the IFDCO British Section.

Qualifying Events 2002/3 - Category A

50th Anniversary Regatta – Loosdrecht - 2002

Rutland 2002 (Midland Area Championship)

Oxford

Rutland – May 2003

European Championship 2003

Bala

Lee-on-the-Solent - Southern Area Championship

National Championship

Qualifying Events 2002/3 - Category B

These are events at which 3 or more British Section FDs compete, at least one FD travels from designated home club and proposed attendance at event is notified to Webmaster/Travellers Trophy co-ordinator at least 30 days in advance.

FD sailors wishing to be advised of Category B events should send their email to the webmaster.

Scoring system (as for 2002)

Any boat starting at least one race in a qualifying event shall score 5 point plus the number of British Section boats that it beats in the overall results in that event.

Boats attending an event but not starting a race will score 5 points.

Boats not attending an event will score 0 points.

Best 4 events to count

Tie Breaker

in the event of a tie the boat that travelled the furthest miles from its home club to attend events in the UK shall be judged the winner. If two or more boats on equal points travelled equal distances in the UK, they shall be ranked in order of the number of events attended so that the boat attending the highest number of events is ahead.

Richard Phillips

12 UK REGATTA REPORTS

Southern Areas, Lee-on-the-Solent S.C, 27/28 07 02. - Toby Dale

Lots of sun but very little wind made this years Flying Dutchman Southern Areas at Lee-on-the-Solent Sailing Club very enjoyable, very challenging and, at times, very frustrating.

Competitors gathered through the morning hoping that the 3-5 knots of wind would build before the first race at 1pm. This was not to be but Race Officer John Best set a suitably reduced course and ordered the fleet afloat for the three scheduled back-to-back races.

In the first race, Peter Weeks crewed by Steve Symonds, led from start to finish followed by Tony Lyall and Collin Burns. Toby Dale and James Cole briefly challenged for the lead however a navigational error cost them dearly and they were only able to claw back to third.

Race 2 went to Dale/ Cole who took the lead at the end of the first beat. Weeks/ Symonds came second showing consistent boatspeed in the difficult conditions. Lyall/ Burns were third.

In Race 3 Weeks/ Symonds broke clear closely followed by Lyall/ Burns. Dale/ Cole recovered from a poor first beat to join the challenge for the lead. At the final leeward mark no more than half a boat length separated these three boats. Weeks/ Symonds finally managed to edge ahead and take the gun from Lyall/ Burns followed by Dale/ Cole.

The race officer offered a fourth race but the fleet politely declined in view of the lack of wind and gratefully accepted the offered tows back to the beach. The club provided an excellent dinner on Saturday night and it was great to see some past champions continuing to support the class.

Sunday started with the same lack of breeze as the day before however the Race Officer once again persuaded the fleet afloat.

Lyall/ Burns and Dale/Cole started the day tied for second and it was these two who led the fleet away in Race 4. Lyall/ Burns read the difficult first beat well establishing a good lead that was never challenged. Dale/ Cole held off a late charge from Peter Doran and Richard Phillips to take second.

With the absence of Weeks/ Symonds due to work commitments, the overall results hinged on the last race with Dale/ Cole needing a win to secure victory from Lyall/ Burns. Both boats opted for a port tack start and got away cleanly. Dale/ Cole quickly established close cover on Lyall/ Burns and led at the first mark. A poor spinnaker hoist by Lyall/ Burns let Doran/ Phillips through into second place. On the third beat - in an increasing breeze that finally let all the crews trapeze for the first time in the weekend - Doran/ Phillips and Lyall/ Burns opted to head to opposite corners of the beat. Neither boat made any significant gains and the positions remained the same until the finish.

13 UK REGATTA REPORTS

Victory in the final race gave Dale/ Cole the Championship for the second year running. Lyall/ Burns were second with Weeks/ Symonds third having done enough on the first day to be able to count a DNS in their score.

Midland Area Champs, Rutland S.C., 26/27 10 02 - James Cole

The weekends dire forecast, with severe weather warnings being issued across the breadth of Britain did little to dampen enthusiasm for the FD Classes annual outing to Rutland Sailing Club. Given that any racing on Sunday was unlikely, three short races held were scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Only a few brave souls ventured out for the first with winds gusting to 27 knots. Toby Dale and James Cole led from the line. Tony Lyall and Colin Burns were second after a close fight with David Wilkins and guest artist Richard Stenhouse who unfortunately suffered an untimely dunking in the difficult conditions!

The second race saw the breeze drop markedly for a time, allowing David and Richard to take the lead from Toby and James. A finish line manoeuvre gained Peter Doran and Richard Philips third from Tony and Colin.

The final race of the day saw an increased breeze and the closest racing at the front of the fleet. David and Richard took the lead on the first gybe, but lost out on the next beat to eventual winners Toby and James. Peter and Richard took third.

As predicted, following an excellent Class Dinner on Saturday evening, the fleet awoke to gale force winds and hangovers and prizegiving after breakfast revealed Toby Dale & James Cole in first position, Dave Wilkins and Richard Stenhouse in second with Tony Lyall and Colin Burns hot in pursuit for third position.

The Race Officer needed no prompting, however, to hoist the chessboard allowing everyone to return home at a very civilised time.

GOSSIP

The story of the black mast.....

At the AGM at Rutland, IFDCO (BS) extended the dispensation for carbon masts to all events in the country, including the national championships.

We are ahead of the rest of the world here, and Toby and James are open to persuasion to lend their carbon mast to those interested in trying it.

Form an orderly queue behind me.

14 INTERNATIONAL REGATTA REPORTS

World Championships, Tavira, POR. 28 Aug - 03 Sept. Julian Bridges

Lovely report from John Best in the last newsletter, but no results, so here they are. I think it is great that there are eight different countries in the top ten. For full nostalgia wallow, try the club website - www.cnt.pt - where there are some lovely photos.

PI	Sail #	Helm/Crew	Points
1	HUN70	Szabolcs Majthenyi / Andras Domokos	18
2	GER87	Hans-Peter Schwarz / Roland Kirst	22
3	ITA10	Roberto Cipriani / Stefano Morelli	29
4	NED12	Klaas Tilstra / Adriaan Schmal	36
5	ESP66	Ginés Romero / J. C. Sánchez-Herrero	39
6	AUS33	Ian Mc Crossin / James Cook	48
7	GER33	Hans Genthe / Hauke Drengenberg	50
8	USA410	Lin Robson / Serge Jorgensen	58
9	ITA45	Francesco Vespasiani / Marco Ungaro	62
10	GBR382	John Best / James Cole	64

Of the four British boats at the event, three were happy playing in midfleet, with the relative positions changing daily, while John Best and James Cole worked at and just succeeded in making the top ten, despite a few moments of over anxiety during the light winds in the middle of the week. The fog in midsummer on the Algarve was bizarre, as was the only real on the water slip by the race management, which saw the majority of the fleet out of time in the first race. However the race committee drawing attention to signals by the use of a bronzed bikini-clad cutie rubbing sun oil on herself on the committee boat cabin roof was very effective. Everyone enjoyed the hospitable club, the excellent weather, and not having to work on the salt pans or on the dredger in the harbour entrance.

British overall results

10 John Best & James Cole 9 16 22 4 (23)(DSQ) 5 6 2
34 Peter Doran & Richard Phillips (DNF) 30 43 28 (45) 35 25 24 27
38 Tony Lyall & Colin Burns (DNF) 34 31 34 (44) 31 36 32 28
41 Julian & Cathy Bridges (DNF) 41 20 40 35 27 42 38 (DNF)

See also www.sailfd.org/worldsreo02.htm

15 INTERNATIONAL REGATTA REPORTS

50th Anniversary regatta, Loostrecht, NED. 11-13 1002, Dawn Barnsley

(Loads of lovely photos and info, through the IFDCO website, www.sailfd.org and GBR - JB)

At the Royal Loosdrecht Yacht Club over the 11th to the 13th October, an incredible 68 Flying Dutchman graced the club plus past champions who participated in a special series of races on the Saturday. The regatta was one of the largest gatherings of the fleet in recent years and competitors came from a total of 12 countries for the series of 5 races that were to occur over the 3 days.

Day 1 was greeted with strong winds, sunshine and a lot of very enthusiastic sailors. The fleet had been split into 4 flights, all of whom would race each other over 3 races, 2 on the Friday and 1 on the Saturday.

Tactics on the lakes are always interesting due to large islands and reed beds, which can cause very interesting wind shifts! However, this did not appear to affect Jorg/Jacob Boysen- Moller(Denmark) who came through with two firsts from the day, Klaas Tistra/Adriaan Schmal(Netherlands) won another and the current world champions Szabolcs Majtheny/Andras Domokos(Hungary) the last. Also in contention for the top spots were Bas/Mark van der Pol(Netherlands) and Toby Dale/James Cole(UK).

The second day was the beginning of the lightening winds and, through the bitter cold (3°C drysuits ruled!) the flights sailed into a very shifty force 2-3. The Boysen-Mollers again proved their mastery of this technical class by creating an impressive lead over their flight to finish first while Tilstra/Schmal won the other race of the day.

During the afternoon, past and present champions of the class were invited to take part in a series of races. The Boysen-Mollers won, but only by a very narrow margin from multiple Olympic medal-winner, Rodney Pattison. During the evening, spectators and sailors alike were bussed into Amsterdam and treated to an evening of dinner, music and lots of dancing! Many friendships were renewed and even more made.

The final day proved to be even lighter in wind than the previous day with the anemometer recording a force 1-2 in the cool and drizzly weather. The fleet had, on the results of the previous 2 days, been split into gold and silver fleets with awards for the top 5 in each. The shifty wind provided some interesting results but, all of the sailors remembered a salutary lesson when, due to the failing wind, the windward mark was moved and some missed the change. Positions changed, but not enough to prevent the Boysen-Moller's winning the event overall with Majtheny/Domokos hot in pursuit in second. Tistra/Schmal were the talented crew in third.

16 INTERNATIONAL REGATTA REPORTS

A fax from Jan-Willem Denny Gulcher (son of Coen Gulcher - father of the FD class) summed up the feelings of the class over the weekend. "The inspiration of the FD was not just a boat, speed, Olympics and world achievement but fun, knowledge and searching for new ideas. It (the FD) stood the test of time and in my Guinness book of records, it is the same principal of sailboat design as music is to Bach."

Overall Results:

Pos	Sail No	Helm	Crew	Pts
1st	DEN21	Jorge Boysen Moller	Jacob Boysen Moller	6
2nd	HUN70	Szalbolcs Majtheny	Andras Domokos	7
3rd	NED12	Klaas Tilstra	Adriaan Schmal	14
4th	NED32	Bas van der Pol	Mark van der Pol	15
5th	GER 206	Kay-Uwe Ludtke	Karsten Klenke	15

Invitational Series:

During the afternoon of the 12th October, past and present champions of the FD class were invited to take part in a series of races. The wind was force 2-3 and hazy. Race 1 saw the Jacob & Jorge Boysen Moller take the lead from the beginning but close racing behind eventually led to Rodney Pattisson and Bob Smolders crossing the line 2nd and 3rd respectively.

However the second race led to a superb display of boat handling and tactical racing. After a close first beat, the fleet rounded onto the reach where the Boysen Mollers became embroiled in a luffing match, allowing Rodney Pattisson the opportunity to draw away. It did not take the Danish team long to recover the lost distance but, after a tight rounding onto the beat a tacking match of epic proportions ensued. On the line the Boysen Mollers managed to squeak ahead to win with Rodney in hot pursuit. Third over the line was Willem Potma and the van der Pol's retired due to a small issue over Bas's crew trying to trapeze off of the elastic causing an unexpected 'tea-bagging'!

The 3rd race was characterised by the Boysen Mollers getting a good start and first beat with Rodney in hot pursuit. Rodney and Bob Smolders then proceeded to enter into a very tightly fought contest which ended at the finish line with both of them approaching the line neck and neck. Rodney tacked onto port, trying to get in front of Bob and block his path to the line but, after a very spirited call of starboard, Rodney had to tack back and Bob came second by a nose.

After a very impressive show of boat handling and tactical racing, the Boysen Mollers' triumphed by a narrow margin, multiple Olympic medal

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winner, Rodney Pattisson was 2nd and Bob Smolders battled through to 3rd. But in company such as Peder Lunde Jr., Heike Blok and Enno Kramer, nothing was taken for granted.

Invitational Series Results:

Pos	Sail No	Helm	Crew	Pts
1st	DEN21	Jorgen Boysen Moller	Jacob Boysen Moller	3
2nd	NED 325	Rodney Pattisson	Niels Kamphuis	7
3rd	NED9	Bob Smolders	Guido Alkemade	12

Austrian National Championships, AUT, Aug 9 - 11, Tony Lyall

the Land of 'Sound of Music', Trolls, Lederhosen, Kaiserschmarren and Tirolegrostle

The Stats:- 23 Competitors, 4 Nations (AUT, GBR, GER, & ITA)
The Course:- Traditional Olympic or Windward/leeward
The Event:- Austrian National Championships (5 races over 3 days)
shared with two other Classes.

Since we had left the car at Munich and flown home the previous Sunday evening after the Silber FD Event at Tegernsee, as reported by Colin in the last newsletter, getting to this event was easy, a quick hop on a plane to Munich, drive to Tegernsee to pick up the boats (1 hour and a bit) and in just over another 50 minutes or so of driving through green pastures and over the odd hill or two we were there.

Friday 9th - One race sailed this day over a windward/leeward course as the wind was from the south (never normally comes from that direction we were told). Conditions were very light and fluky (always a good wind we were told). However we made hay whilst the sun shined (well maybe a little glimmer from behind the clouds) and by playing the shifts finishing 5th with John in 9th place.

Saturday 10th - Three races sailed in conditions similar to the previous day so patience and guile being the order of the day once again. We recorded an 8th, 10th & 14th. whilst John had a poor day by posting three 17th's. Consistent if nothing else!!!

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Sunday 11th - We awoke to pretty gloomy conditions cloud sitting just above rooftops and hammering down with rain, but at least there was wind and plenty of it (good force 5) blowing from the North. Having breakfasted we had dragged ourselves away from the cosy confines of the dining room and made our way down to the club where reality was just as bad.

John decided early on that the conditions were not to his liking and headed for the warmth of the clubhouse (or should I say chateaux) and was definitely not coming out to play.

So up went our BM medium, pre-set on clew 2 but fully expecting that clew 3 may well become the order of the day once we got on the water. Keen to get some practise in and the rig set up properly we went afloat early. After about 15 minutes or so of thrashing around we had our lives (and the rig) sorted and were ready to race, about the same time that is, as the wind started to decrease at a somewhat alarming rate. Oh shit I thought, what I wouldn't do for my light Genoa as we went from top clew 2 to clew 1. The race under way (Olympic course for a change) the wind continued dropping, and as the mast went more up right we went further down the fleet finally taking root in 13th place. I'm sure the mathematicians amongst you can quote some theorem that covers this decline.

Poor results in race's 4 & 5 pushed us down to 10th. place overall but on reflection we are not too disappointed with that result. John's 18th. place however was not greeted with so much enthusiasm but as he says himself with three 17th. finishes what more can you expect?

What did we learn from our experiences? Windward/leeward courses are very boring, Austrian hospitality is great and finally if the helm from AUT 9 heads your way plan an exit route quickly as he is seriously off the wall.

But results aside we had a great few days, the venue was everything it had been cracked up to be and with some decent weather, and acceptance that the courses can be a bit wacky, Achensee is a great place to sail, even if the race management was at times a bit like a scene from Dads Army.

Well that's it for us this season in Bravaria, next stop the Worlds and then onto the land of windmills and Amstel Bier.

19. 2003 IFDCO (BS) FIXTURES

Please remember:

- 1 Stick this on the wall, make sure your crew/helm does so as well.
- 2 All contacts would greatly appreciate your courtesy of informing them that you intend to compete.
- 3 * primary IFDCO (BS) travellers trophy events, #secondary IFDCO (BS) travellers trophy events

DATE	T	VENUE	AREA	EVENT	CONTACT	PHONE	EMAIL
MAR 1/2		Ally Pally	London	Dinghy Show	Toby Dale	02380 485888 07815 989439	fdbiggles@rya-online.net toby.dale@moody.co.uk
APRIL 26/27	*	Oxford SC	Oxford	Open meeting	Peter Doran	01865 726331	fdsec@sailfd.org Peter_Doran@btinternet.com
MAY 17/18		Rutland SC	Rutland	Training w/e	Julian Bridges	01286 830922	j.m.bridges@bangor.ac.uk
24		Rutland SC	Rutland	Try FD day	David Wilkins	01664 474773	
25/26	*	Rutland SC	Rutland	Open meeting	David Wilkins	01664 474773	
JUNE 7/8	*	Lee on Solent SC	Southampton	SOUTHERN S	Stephen Parry	01705 552809	championship@sailfd.org TyCornel@compuserve.com
JULY 05/06	*	Bala SC	North Wales	Open meeting	Julian Bridges	01286 830922	
13/20	*	LAKE COMO	ITALY	EUROPEANS	Stephen Parry	01705 552809	championship@sailfd.org TyCornel@compuserve.com
AUG 23-25	*	SAUNDERS FOOT SC (T. T. 2003-2004)	SOUTH WALES	NATIONALS	Julian Bridges	01286 830922	j.m.bridges@bangor.ac.uk
SEPT 20/21	*	Rutland SC	Rutland	MIDLANDS	David Wilkins	01664 474773	
DEC/ JAN		MELBOURNE	AUSTRALIA	WORLDS	Stephen Parry	01705 552809	championship@sailfd.org TyCornel@compuserve.com

PAY ATTENTION! The date for Lee is not June 14/15 as previously published.

It is provisionally June 7/8, complete with barbeque and disco, to be confirmed in next issue and on the BS website.

20. 2003 IFDCO (BS) OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The officers and committee exist solely to serve the membership.
Please feel free to contact them about any aspect of FD sailing.

NAME	BS ROLE	OTHER ROLES	PHONE	FAX	EMAIL	CLUB
Stephen Parry	Chairman	IFDCO VP Champs, Lee on Solent contact	02392 552809 07831 296442	01705 552809	championship@sailfd.org TyCornel@compuserve.com	Lee on Solent
Tony Lyall	Secretary, Membership secretary, Boat register	Grafham water contact	01707 321633	01707 329845	Tonylyall@msn.com	Grafham V
Richard Phillips	Treasurer, Webmaster	IFDCO webmaster, IFDCO councillor of honour	01590 670962		Richard@sail-cd.demo.co.uk	Lymington
Peter Doran		IFDCO secretary, Oxford contact	01865 726331 07721 776345		fdsec@sailfd.org Peter_Doran@btinternet.com	Oxford
Julian Bridges	Newsletter editor, Coach	North Wales contact	01286 830922		j.m.bridges@bangor.ac.uk	Port Dinorwic
Toby Dale	Class promotion		02380 485888 07815 989439		fdbiggles@rya-online.net toby.dale@moody.co.uk	Felinheli Lee on Solent

Measurement :- sail measurement through Steve Parry, Hugh Myers, Peter Weekes

Useful websites

IFDCO (BS)

<http://www.sailfd.org/GBR>

IFDCO

<http://www.sailfd.org>

2003 Worlds

<http://www.sailmelbourne.com.au>

2003 Europeans

<http://www.centroveladervio.it>