

Sunshine, wind and pasties

Five visitors made the journey to Falmouth to join the local B14 fleet for the latest round of the B14 travellers trophy. As in the previous year's event Restronguet SC served up sunshine, wind, flat water, pasties (and beer) - a perfect recipe.

On Saturday three back-to-back races were held in a shifty wind varying from 10-15 knots with a few tricky shifts thrown in. In Race 1, Will McGrath and Harry Reece in Seavolution2 started as they meant to go on and were first off the line. They went hard right, battling with locals Steve Hollingsworth and Chris Murphy in 672. Will's local knowledge gained from many sailing holidays in the area meant that they knew their way to the windward mark and led round. Seavolution2 won comfortably; 672 and Mark Elkington and Sam Game in Winged Monkey battled all the way with 672 just sneaking across the line in second by a short nose.

The wind played the biggest tricks during Race 2. Rod Boswijk and Sharon Harle in Muppet Show ignored the evidence of the first race, went hard left from the start and were first round the windward mark with 672 in second place and Seavolution2 in third. Although these three boats were close, places remained constant until the last buoy when Muppet Show failed to spot the shorten course signal and set off up the beat only to watch 672 and Seavolution2 continue onto the finish - gutted!

The wind was a tad stronger for Race 3. Muppet Show led round the windward mark followed by Seavolution2. Unfortunately Muppet Show lived up to their name on lap 2 and overstood the windward mark by a considerable margin. Seavolution2 took their opportunity and dived into the lead which they held to the finish with Phil Eltringham and James Wall in Dynamic Sails in second and Muppet Show close in third.

Sunday dawned with more breeze and fewer shifts. The course was set further out into the Carrick Roads making it a bit lumpier and more of a challenge downhill. After a poor first day messing around with new rig settings, last year's winner Winged Monkey finally got their act together and were mixing it at the front of the fleet.

In Race 4, Seavolution2 continued their winning ways, going hard left off the line and leading all the way round. Winged Monkey and Muppet Show had a close race with Winged Monkey snatching the lead at the last buoy with a slick gybe drop. Race 5 and Seavolution2 had to work harder for the win this time, after opting for a rubbish start. They gradually pulled through over the five lap race and found their own private gust for the last downwind leg to blast into the lead at the final mark.

Race 6 and the wind was now at its strongest. Seavolution2 again led up the first beat, but Winged Monkey rolled them on the kite launch to take a lead down the run. Seavolution2 recovered to take the lead up the next beat only to perform a spectacular tail stand capsize at the leeward mark which took them out of contention. Winged Monkey took over the lead, only for their mainsheet attachment to break - they quickly discovered that a 1:1 purchase is hard work upwind and Muppet Show closed up quickly despite having their own mainsheet problems. They took the lead at the final windward mark and held it to the finish with the limping Winged Monkey in second, and Tony Blackmore and Richard Hingston in Sailsport in

third. The rest of the fleet decided to indulge themselves in some unplanned salt-water bathing.

Continuing the recent trend for a different winner at each B14 open meeting, Will McGrath and Harry Reece put together an almost perfect series (apart from the extended dip in Race 6) to come away comfortable winners. Rod Boswijk and Sharon Hare also showed good speed to be the best of the rest.

The B14s would like to thank Guy English (OOD), the race team (Patrick Clarke, Anne Webb, Liz Evans and Dave Sinnock), and all the other Restronguet club members who contributed to a memorable open meeting.

Results:

	No.	Name	Club	Crew	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	Net
1 st	768	Seavolution2	Starcross YC	Will McGrath/Harry Reece	1	2	1	1	1	4	6
2 nd	767	Muppet Show	Mounts Bay SC	Rod Boswijk / Sharon Harle	5	3	3	2	3	1	12
3 rd	762	Winged Monkey	Starcross YC	Mark Elkington/ Sam Game	3	4	4	3	2	2	14
4 th	672		Restronguet SC	Steve Hollingsworth/ Chris Murphy	2	1	6	7	5	9	21
5 th	777	Dynamic Sails		Phil Eltringham/ James Wall	4	5	2	5	6	9	22
6 th	644	Sailsport	Starcross YC	Tony Blackmore/ Rich Hingston	6	6	4	4	4	3	22