

# Cadet News

**Junior Open, Saturday September 6th 2003**



**Lining up for the start - Photo by Nicky Cumber**

As competitors arrived for the Junior Open the sun was shining and there was a very gentle offshore breeze.

Rick Pegrum, Race Officer and his team of helpers made their way out to the committee boat early to set the courses but it was questionable whether there was enough wind to be able to race.

Back at the pontoon, the WOEC rib's outboard was misfiring. With so little wind, would it really be needed? Special thanks to Bill Barker who turned up at very short notice and successfully repaired it. So far so good.

But... despite the deceptively calm conditions on the dinghy park, the wind was building rapidly out on the water.

Once the boats were released, the fun began! Sailing downwind to get to the start line, several of the Optimists "nose-dived" and the rescue team had a hard time attending to the number of capsized boats in what was now a force 4, gusting 5, wind.

Plans made at the rescue boat briefing held earlier in the morning swung into action as children were transferred to "Beaver" to be taken ashore with their boats in tow.

As an indication of the conditions, of the 53 boats that left the shore, only 22 crossed the finishing line.

The support teams were not without "casualties." Richard Way who kindly used "Owaissa" as mother boat, fell in whilst sorting out three Mirrors tied to his stern, caught on camera by official photographer for

the day, Nicky Cumber. (By the way, Richard, I don't think you should be supplying alcohol to the competitors whilst racing-Rick Birley, please note!)

Nicky took many superb photos of the day's sailing and these can be seen in an album in the Clubhouse (available for only £1.00 each!). I just wish I'd had a camera as Ben Evans heroically tried to sail the 29er back to the Clubhouse single-handed with only a jib, having rescued its crew members!

Undaunted by the morning's events and fortified by a superb lunch provided by the catering team, many of the younger children were keen to go out again, this time in Mirrors with more experienced helms.

After lunch, the wind remained strong, providing those who stayed the course with some challenging and exhilarating racing.

Castle Cove honours went to Will Davies (1st), Fred Shone (2nd) and Hugh Shone (3rd) who battled it out at the front of the Laser fleet.

Josh Tozer-Brown was the winner of the slow handicap fleet in his Topper, with Elspeth Cumber and Anya De longh coming third in their Mirror.

Philip De longh did very well, being the only Castle Cove Optimist to complete all three races and finishing third in the Optimist fleet.

Many thanks to everybody that helped to make the day so enjoyable.

**Dave Cumber**

## FOR SALE

Optimist  
'Poppy Eyebright'  
fair condition, ideal as a  
first boat, but not for the  
serious racer  
£100 o.n.o.  
Tel 01305 760205  
**Alban & Amanda Blunt**