



Points Week 2099

This year Swallows, XOD and Sunbeams all raced in ISC's "Points Week Keelboat Regatta" with 50 plus boats taking part. The Classes also joined together in a number of excellently organised social events including: A BBQ lunch at the Club and visit in the evening to Chichester Theatre to see "Oklahoma" on Monday. A Cocktail Party at Jetty House, Itchenor on Tuesday. Games and pig roast at Rye Cottage, Itchenor on Thursday evening. Tennis was also available for the more energetic during the week at various locations. The Sunbeams and Swallows combined in one Prize Giving supper on Friday evening. The XOD's had a supper on Wednesday and prize giving lunch on Friday. This all created a marvellous buzz both on the water and ashore.

At this point I think it is only appropriate that I thank again on behalf of the Class: Our Race Officer, Roger Wickens, and his excellent team aboard Betivuka for giving us such interesting and enjoyable racing during the week. The safety boat Crew for all their sterling work. The social event organisers: Liz Fox, Clare Blevins, our own Anne Colbourne and many willing helpers for all their hard work and enthusiasm throughout the week.

The Sunbeam turnout of 11 boats was the best ever as far as I am aware over the 20 or so years I have been in the Class. On Monday 10 boats raced in a good SW breeze with the honours going to Romany 1st, Query 2nd and Melody 3rd. Tuesday saw the wind increase to a fresh to strong SSW wind. 8 boats started the race 2 boats having decided the winds were a little too much for them to race. One boat retired following a heaving grounding when her jib tack fitting failed. The race was won by Romany again followed by Query but this time Fleury got the 3rd spot. Wednesday racing was postponed until Thursday morning because of strong and gusting winds. 7 boats raced on Thursday morning in a nice gentle SW breeze, 3 boats didn't race because of work commitments, the fourth didn't because of her

grounding the previous day. This race, however, had a twist; shortly after the start 6 boats grounded in a pod.



Photo taken by David Rolph from Tango Whisky

Those with keen eyes will see only 5 boats; by the time this photo was taken one boat had got away. Those good at counting will have noted that 1 boat didn't ground. That was Melody who having seen the trouble steered well clear winning the race by 7 minutes. Symphony was 2nd and Honey 3rd.

This is the first time we have postponed a race in this way. The advantage is we didn't lose a race; the disadvantage is that those with work or other commitments were unable to take part. I am sure Julian Money will be interested in the Class's views for future years.

In the afternoon 10 boats raced, 1 boat being ashore at Haines. The winner once again was Romany with Fleury 2nd and Query 3rd. There was no racing on Friday race abandoned because of strong winds.

All together 4 races were completed in 5 days. The overall 1st and winner of the Wengen Cow Bell was Romany sailed by Roger and George Yeoman. 2nd was Fleury and 3rd Query.