

Blustery conditions for the Power Station Race at Frostbites

Race Officer Pat Woodcock assisted by Jan Hubbard set an upstream course against the tide from "B" start line for the nine Norfolk Dinghies, three of them reefed, in a gusty and strong south-westerly wind. Stephen Ellingham sailing B30 "Willa" and crewed by Jill Fisher made the best start with Sam Woodcock in B20 "Kelpie" crewed by Karen Armitage in hot pursuit. Behind them came David Mackley in B6 "Lucifer beyond repair" crewed by Kate George, and Ray Johnson in B54 "Coot" crewed by Wendy Bush. Ellingham was soon overhauled and later retired leaving the other three to battle it out, each taking the lead at times. At the beginning of the second round, near the clubhouse, Mackley lifted free and lead for the remainder of the four round course finishing first after 40 minutes. In second place just 30 seconds later came Woodcock and in third place finishing a minute and a half behind Woodcock was Danny Tyrrell sailing B53 "Twinkle" and crewed by Bruce Thompson. The rest of the fleet came in several minutes later lead by Johnson. On handicap the first three positions remained the same.

The second race at 12.20pm was the annual trip upstream towards Norwich and the site of the former power station. Safety boat 1 manned by Dominic and Harrison Hornor laid the port hand mark near Carrow Yacht Club and waited. The eight competitors had a long beat all the way up the cut in difficult conditions. Sam Woodcock in "Kelpie" this time crewed by Heather Drysdale made the best start and lead from start to finish, hotly pursued all the way by Kate George sailing "Lucifer beyond repair" crewed by David Mackley. After the long beat upstream, the run back was fast with a following wind and tide under them. Woodcock finished in 41 and three-quarter minutes with George just 23 seconds behind. In third place was Ray Johnson in "Coot" again crewed by Wendy Bush around two minutes later. One boat got into difficulty upstream and filled up. Safety boat II was manned by Alex Powell and Philip Board and they did a brilliant job of bringing the boat back safely to the club and emptying her out.

The Breydon Challenge Cup for the Power Station Race was won by Sam Woodcock, crewed by Heather Drysdale in B20 "Kelpie".