

## **Lovely sailing conditions at Frostbites**

Six Norfolk Dinghies started a fourth downriver race on Sunday in warm, bright sunshine and the fresh easterly breeze meant a long beat against the tide all the way down past the boatyards, under the by-pass, through the grove and half way to Bramerton. Ray Johnson in B54 "Coot" and crewed by Wendy Bush made the best start and lead until the dreaded wind shadow of the grove when Sam Woodcock in B20 "Kelpie" crewed by Sam Archer took the lead, clearing the grove and going up the Bramerton reach at a pace to win by almost 5 minutes over Johnson. The remainder of the fleet followed sailing largely together until Pat Woodcock sailing B61 "Echo" and crewed by husband Bernie broke away in the grove to take third place.

On the return race Sam Archer helming "Kelpie" and crewed by Sam Woodcock judged the timing of the periodic gusts well and was away at the start increasing and maintaining a good lead to arrive back at the clubhouse in 48 minutes. Behind them came Mike Lees in B15 "Wee Simby" crewed by Jill Fisher, who were last into the grove but emerged in second place to finish some 2 minutes behind Archer. In third place came Ray Johnson and Wendy Bush in Coot just ahead of the rest of the fleet winning a close battle as the remaining boats all finished within a minute of each other.

Next Sunday it is hoped to sail from Whitlingham to Coldham Hall ready for the regatta on the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> May.