

### **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2019 Wells Team Race**

The members of Wells Sailing Club welcomed a team from Frostbites for the second leg of the annual team match between the two clubs for the Braconash Challenge Cup held by Wells for the last five years. Frostbites brought with them a 12 point lead from the first leg which was held at Thorpe in January.

The wind was a comfortable north-westerly in lovely conditions and the course for the first race was set starting near to the Pool buoy into the tide, around past the lifeboat station and into the bay. The return run then took the competitors back to the Pool buoy with a shortened course to finish just off the lifeboat station. Sam Woodcock for the Frostbites sailing Titania and crewed by Stephen Ellingham lead from the start and, despite a strong tide and variable winds, won the race by some distance from William Gibbs (WSC) sailing Rock-a Bye and crewed by Commodore, David Pentney-Smith. In third place was Chris Gibbs (WSC) sailing Tiger Sharp and crewed by Martin Few. These two boats pipped David Yapp and Bernie Woodcock who were close to finishing third but outdone by the tide and tactics of the home crews.

After changing over boats and some crews the second race followed the same course but the finish was set down past the Pool buoy so nearer the town quay as by now the tide was flowing out. After a tight start and many place changes Sam Woodcock, this time sailing Rock-a-Bye, again came in first with William Gibbs second in Titania this time crewed by Justine Sykes and third was Martin Few sailing Tiger Shark and crewed by Chris Gibbs.

On the day Wells Sailing Club took second, third and fourth positions in both races earning 18 penalty points against 24 for Frostbites. However the 12 point lead from the first leg meant that Frostbites won the Braconash Trophy this year. Commodore Sam Woodcock thanked Wells Sailing Club for their hospitality in the club afterwards and the owners of their lovely boats for making them available for the event wishing them well for the forthcoming British Sharpie Championships to be held at Wells on 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> June.