



PENZANCE SC PASAB '78

MULTIHULLS rule OK? might well have been the hail after Penzance SC's first 100-mile Penzance, Around Scillies And Back offshore race. On her first outing the 35ft Kelsall Tri 'Mary Jane Louise' sailed by owner/builder Adrian Davis, finished almost 6 hours ahead of the also quick E Boat 'Smile E Too' (Brian Sanders), who had in turn sailed clear of the fleet in the prevailing light conditions.

Right from the 10.30 start on August 26th the tri pulled away from the other 14 entrants and after the dog-legs across Mount's Bay via Low Lee and Mountamopus buoys held a clear lead as the fleet beat slowly down to Lands End finding what zephyrs of breeze they could.

The forecast northerly Force 4 began to fill in as the leaders edged away from the land to give a superb spinnaker reach out to the Wolf and on down to the Bishop's Rock light. Here 'Mary Jane Louise', turning at 2100, led easily from 'Smile E Too' who turned in close company with the German 'Lady Garuda' (Wolfgang Quix) just before midnight. These two then spent the rest of the night cross tacking against the foul stream and failing breeze in poor visibility up the north side of the Scillies while the bulk of the fleet bunched up close behind them at the Bishop. The tri had meanwhile slipped clean away, carrying her tide up to Round Island before the wind died.

The little Hunter 'Patience' (Brin Berriman) was at this point challenging 'Smile E Too' for her corrected time (Portsmouth Handicapping) second place and others close enough to be a danger included 'Daruma' (C.Harrison) and 'Sandy the Second' (C.Quick), it being noticeable that all these front runners numbered good dinghy helmsmen among their crew.

By the time the breeze returned about midday on Sunday, 'Mary Jane Louise' was already home, crossing the line off Penzance harbour at 1135 but the Force 4 to 5 northeaster gave a fine windward thrash for the rest as they headed back to the Wolf and on into Mounts Bay. 'Smile E Too', at last shaking off 'Lady Garuda', finished an hour ahead at 1728. 'Patience' finally lost her chance of second when the wind faded at dusk, leaving her to struggle to the line at 0129 Monday morning.

The Penzance Club undoubtedly have a successful race on their hands. The combination of an unusual and demanding course, good organisation and the all-too-rare opportunity for mono and multihulls to compete together should appeal to many in both camps. No complaints were heard at the excellent informal prizegiving which followed and most expressed their intention to return next year. It is to be hoped that others will join them.

Andy Brooks

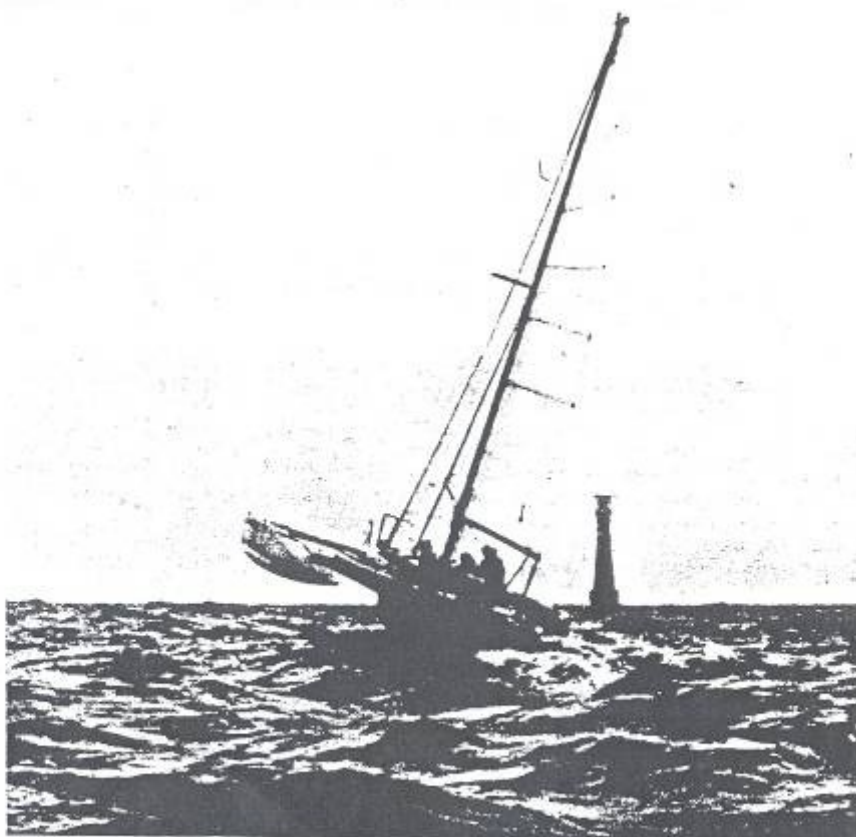
Abbreviated Results: Overall winner on Corrected Time (Portsmouth Handicapping) 1st

Mary Jane Louise (Adrian Davis) 26hr 24.44, 2nd Smile E Too (Brian Sanders) 28hr 09.02, 3rd Patience (Brin Berriman) 29hr 39.23. Under 20ft Class on Corrected time: 1st Patience (B.Berriman) 29hr 39.23, 2nd Leonora (B.Thiel), 20ft to 30ft Class on Corrected time: 1st Smile E Too (B.Sanders) 28hr 09.02, 2nd Daruma (C.Harrison) 29hr 48.39, 3rd Sandy The 2nd (R.Quick) 30hr 46.56. Over 30ft Class on Corrected time: 1st Lady Garuda (Wolfgang Quix) 30hr 29.02, 2nd Ultima Thule (R.Woods) 32hr 59.32, 3rd Rozelle (S.Tomlinson) 33hr 44.36. 1st Boats Home on Uncorrected Time: 1st Mary Jane Louise 25hr 5.30, 2nd Smile E Too 30hr 58.00, 3rd Lady Garuda 32hr 00.30.

MULTIHULLS AT BRIGHTON

ELEVEN cruising multihulls competed in the first regatta to be held at Brighton Marina. The Iroquois MK II 'Chiquita V', well-sailed by David Smith, won the first race on Sunday August 20th in Force 4-5 south-westerly over a two-round triangular 22-mile course. The new Wharram designed Pahi 35 'Areoi', fresh from Round Britain, was second. The Kelsall 28 'Gazelle' was going very fast on the reaches to finish first, but did not save his time. Meanwhile 'Comanche's' crew had been hard at work repairing some minor Round Britain damage on 'Runaround'. 'Comanche' and 'Susumi' arrived during the day to swell the fleet. Monday was a shirts-off day, Force 2-3 southerly. 'Runaround' made a good start

The new 36ft Kelsall tri 'Mary Jane Louise', overall winner of the Penzance-Scillies And Back, pictured off the Bishop.



and had passed all the monohulls, except 'Farrago', by the end of the first round, only to sail the wrong course on the second round. 'Scarlet O'Hara' joined in on a Provisional Portsmouth Number, Walter Schofield and his crew sailed her hard to win convincingly. 'Chiquita V' finished only 3 minutes behind 'Comanche' to take second place.

On Tuesday the wind freshened again, Force 4 SW. This time 'Runaround' made no mistakes and took line honours and first place. Wednesday was a lay day and on Thursday the High over Southern Ireland caused half-an-hour's postponement. 'Runaround' looked like being very late but ghosted over the line in the lead. 'Areoi', 'Aquablue' and 'Comanche' were not so lucky, being Schvepped over the line outside the ODM by the flooding stream. The course was shortened after only one round, an Etchells 22 beat 'Runaround' across the line, but it was 'Scarlet O'Hara', a minute behind 'Chiquita V', who took first place, the Laceys in 'Swingalong' being second. On Thursday evening the Royal Marines beat retreat and MOCRA held a party on 'Comanche'.

On Friday the forecast northerly 3-4 only appeared as a Force 1. A Tornado, 'Brain Juice', was allowed to join in, but did not save her time on 'Runaround', who won again from 'Scarlet O'Hara'. In this regatta the Portsmouth Numbers were adjusted by a quarter of the difference in performance each day. This closed up the corrected times and gave all competitors a chance of winning the prizes presented by Schveppes.

Robin Musters