

## **Kelpie revels in the gusty conditions at Frostbites**

It was a cold day at Frostbites on Sunday with a fresh south, south-westerly breeze which brought frequent strong gusts. This was enough to put most sailors off. However two boats ventured out, one with a single reef.

In the first race, Race Officer Mike Lees set an upstream course from "A" start line up to the top starboard mark for the first round, down past the clubhouse to the lower starboard mark, followed by a beat back up to the top-middle port mark and on for 3 rounds, later shortened to 2½. Both boats started close together. Sam Woodcock in B20 "Kelpie" and crewed by Sam Archer had no problems but Danny Tyrrell in a reefed B53 "Twinkle" crewed by Bruce Thompson hit a header and was caught "in irons" for a few seconds allowing Woodcock to get away. The gusts hit at different times and hit Tyrrell more than Woodcock, particularly when rounding the top mark. After 25 minutes Woodcock finished with Tyrrell over 4 minutes later. On handicap the positions were the same.

In the second race the top mark was altered to port but despite alerting crews to this at the start Tyrrell managed to round it the wrong way and only realised when he was almost back at the clubhouse and could see the course-board. Being the honest chap he is he promptly returned to the top mark, undid his error, rounded correctly and then continued the race albeit a lap behind Sam Archer, who had taken over the helm of Kelpie, with Sam Woodcock crewing. After 3 rounds Archer finished in just over 30 minutes and left the spectators to watch Tyrrell completing the course some 13 minutes later. On corrected time the result was understandably the same. This was to have been the Arthur Mann Memorial race but due to the low turnout was carried over to next Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January.