

## First ever GP14 Open meeting at Maylandsea Bay SC?

The GP14 Southern Travellers have added a new venue to the circuit at Maylandsea Bay SC which is located on Mayland Creek with racing in the creek and on the River Blackwater in Essex. In what is believed to be the first ever GP14 Open at Maylandsea in the 70<sup>th</sup> year of GP14 racing twelve visitors travelled from Welsh Harp, Frensham Pond, Tollesbury and Leigh on Sea to join the small local fleet with 14 boats on the start line on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2021. With a strong Spring Tide and a variable F2/3 from the northwest Race Officer Bill Wright stated the first race with a beat out of the creek against the flooding tide. The decision when to cross the channel was crucial and led to a number of positional changes until the fleet headed out to the Blackwater led by Cooper/Barrie, Magic/Lomax and Innes/Trubridge before Rogers/Lyn and Street/Howard came through. The final beat again resulted in big changes with Magic/Lomax taking the win followed by Rogers/Lyn and Street/Howard.

The second race started from Mayland Spit buoy with a long beat across the Blackwater to Osea Island still with a strong flooding tide. Cooper/Barrie and Magic/Lomax lead into a long spinnaker run followed by Street/Howard and Innes/Trubridge. The fleet split with those on the north shore benefitting from less tide with Innes/Trubridge coming through to take third followed by Keith Street and Cathy Howard, Sarah and Lucy Street and Steve Corbet and Martin Fischer.

After a short break the third race started as the ebb kicked in and the wind became highly variable with a big northerly shift burying those who went left off the line. Cooper/Barrie led from the start followed by Street/Howard and Szakola/Cotter in third. The fleet again split on the first spinnaker run but these positions were maintained as the fleet raced home up Mayland Creek in a long closely fought spinnaker reach against the ebb. Magic/Lomax were fourth followed by Innes/Trubridge and Isles/Szady

At the prizegiving the race officer was thanked by all for three excellent varied races and the club was thanked for inviting the GP14 Southern Travellers to Maylandsea. They were also thanked for providing a lead boat for all three races without which much confusion would have probably reigned!

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Helm</b>	<b>Crew</b>
1st	GP14	14151	Welsh Harp	Stephen Cooper	Lucy Barrie
2nd	GP14	14121	Welsh Harp	Maciek Matysazczuk	Chris Lomax
3rd	GP14	13787	Welsh Harp	Keith Street	Cathy Howard
4th	GP14	14234	Frensham Pond	David Innes	Paul Trubridge

5th	GP14	13237	Welsh Harp	Tomasz Szakola	Charlie Cotter
6th	GP14	13939	Tollesbury	George Rogers	Nick Lynn
7th	GP14	4166	Welsh Harp	Sarah Street	Lucy Street
8th	GP14	13763	Maylandsea	Vicky Broomfield	Richard Broomfield
9th	GP14	13299	Welsh Harp	Jamie Isles	Michal Szady
10th	GP14	13693	Welsh Harp	Amy Street	Denise Vale
11th	GP14	14179	Leigh on Sea	Steve Corbet	Martin Fischer
12th	GP14	14265	Frensham Pond	Kate Whyatt	John McGuinness
13th	GP14	12448	Maylandsea	Dean Saxtron	Mark Harman
14th	GP14	13502	Frensham Pond	Neil Carruthers	Imogen Carruthers