



The ROYAL WESTERN YACHT CLUB of ENGLAND

OSTAR 1972



the
OBSERVER SINGLE-HANDED
TRANSATLANTIC RACE

17th June 1972
12:00

Organising Authority: **The Royal Western Yacht Club of England**

1972 OBSERVER STAR

After 1968 a 500-mile qualification passage became obligatory, 55 boats qualified for the fourth edition of the race.

Eric Tabarly's *Pen Duick IV* had retired from the 1968 race, but in the intervening years prior to the 1972 OSTAR she had been tested and developed and then sold to former crewman Alain Colas, another icon of early French single-handed sailing.

In contrast to the 1968 race the North Atlantic threw up only one brief gale and it was perhaps due to the light conditions and skill of her skipper that Colas was able to steer his 67ft trimaran across the line first in the remarkable time of 20 days and 13 hours - five days faster than Geoffrey Williams' four years earlier. In the process, Colas beat the giant monohull Jean-Yves Terlain's 128ft *Vendredi Treize* by 16 hours. With Colas' victory and other multihulls taking third, fifth and sixth places, the future of ocean-going racing catamarans and trimarans was sealed. With the exception of the 1976 race, all the subsequent single-handed transatlantic races have been won by multihulls and today they are the undisputed champions of the ocean.

Developed by the pioneering Tabarly, *Pen Duick IV* was a boat well ahead of her time, despite her aluminium construction and beams that appeared to have been made from scaffolding. Tabarly had been inspired to commission her after sailing on board Derek Kelsall's trimaran *Toria*, winner of the first two-handed Round Britain and Ireland race in 1966. With no keel for ballast, a racing multihull's lightweight requires less power to drive it and is therefore easier for the single-hander to manage. Rigged as a ketch, *Pen Duick IV* was originally fitted with rotating masts to improve the flow of air over her mainsails - a prelude to the rotating wing masts that would become standard on future trimarans.

As for Colas this same boat would take him around the world single-handed and into the history books the following year. Tragically, while competing in the first Route du Rhum in 1978, both boat and skipper were lost for reasons unknown.

Marie-Claude Fauroux (*Aloa VII*) was the first woman to finish the course coming 14th after nearly 33 days at sea, while her fellow colleague Anne Michailof racing *PS* was the last to cross the line, finishing just a few hours before the time limit of 60 days.

OBSERVER SINGLE-HANDED TRANSATLANTIC RACE 1972 --- The Fourth OSTAR

Plymouth - Newport

17 Jun 1972 12:00

Started: 55

Finished: 40 (+ 3 over time)

Skipper	Yacht	Type	LOA	Class	Elapsed Time	Corrected Time	O/A Place	Class Place	Corr Place	Nation
COLAS, Alain	PEN DUICK IV	T	70		20 13 15	16 19 15	1	1	1	FRA
TERLAIN, Jean-Yves	VENDREDI 13	M	128		21 05 14	21 05 14	2	1	24	FRA
VIDAL, Jean-Marie	CAP 33	T	53		24 05 40	17 10 20	3	2	2	FRA
COOKE, Brian	BRITISH STEEL	M	59		24 19 28	16 18 08	4	2	15	GBR
FOLLETT, Tom	THREE CHEERS	T	46		27 11 04	19 17 04	5	3	3	USA
PESTY, Gérard	ARCHITEUTHIS	T	55		28 11 55	19 21 35	6	4	4	FRA
MINTER-KEMP, Martin	STRONGBOW	M	65		28 12 46	22 21 06	7	3	28	GBR
GLIKSMAN, Alain	TOUCAN	M	34.5		28 12 54	15 22 34	8	4	12	FRA
FAGGIONI, Franco	SAGITTARIO	M	50.5		28 23 05	19 07 25	9	5	20	ITA
FERRIS, James	WHISPER	M	53.5		29 11 15	15 06 35	10	6	9	USA
LINSKI, Marc	ISLES DU FRIOUL	M	48		30 02 45	19 16 05	11	7	21	FRA
BARANOWSKI, Krzysztof	POLONEZ	M	45		30 16 55	17 09 35	12	8	17	POL
McMULLEN, Mike	BINKIE II	M	32		31 18 10	10 13 30	13	9	3	GBR
FAUROUX, Marie-Claude	ALOA VII	M	35		32 22 51	14 18 11	14	10	7	FRA
BRAZIER, Jock	FLYING ANGEL	M	46		33 09 21	14 07 01	15	11	6	GBR
CHARPENTIER, Joel	WILD ROCKET	M	63		34 13 38	27 06 18	16	12	30	FRA
OLIVAUX, Yves	ALOA I	M	35		34 17 30	16 12 50	17	13	13	FRA
PIAZZINI, Guy	CAMBRONNE	M	45.5		35 10 24	20 15 04	18	14	22	FRA
CHASSIN, Pierre	CONCORDE	M	43		36 01 19	22 17 59	19	15	27	FRA
WEBB, Bruce	GAZELLE	M	47.5		36 02 07	18 14 07	20	16	18	GBR
HOLTOM, John	LA BAMBA OF MERSEA	M	34		36 04 30	12 09 10	21	17	4	GBR

HORNETT, Guy	BLUE SMOKE	M	26	36 21 26	07 07 06	22	18	1	GBR
KIRCHNER, Wolf-Dietrich	WHITE DOLPHIN	M	32	38 07 17	16 14 37	23	19	14	GER
MCLEOD, Jock	RON GLAS	M	47	38 09 50	15 19 30	24	20	11	GBR
CLIFFORD, Richard	SHAMAAL	M	25.5	38 10 30	13 03 10	25	21	5	GBR
BURN, R. Lancy	BLUE GIPSY	M	28	39 08 30	09 08 30	26	22	2	USA
WELD, Philip	TRUMPETER	T	44	39 13 25	31 15 35	27	5	5	USA
HEHNER, Claus	MEX	M	35	40 08 23	21 01 03	28	23	23	GER
FOGAR, Ambrogio	SURPRISE	M	38	41 04 45	22 12 05	29	24	26	ITA
CHILTON, P.	MARY KATE OF ARUN	M	38	41 17 17	18 17 17	30	25	19	GBR
SUMNER, Eric	FRANCETTE	M	25	43 09 38	15 02 18	31	26	8	GBR
PUCHALSKI, Zbigniew	MIRANDA	M	39	45 10 05	26 10 05	32	27	29	POL
KRIEGER, Heiko	TINIE	M	26.5	46 15 30	17 01 10	33	28	16	GER
CARTWRIGHT, Jerry	SCUFFLER III	M	32.5	49 02 00	21 21 20	34	29	25	USA
ELLIOTT, Christopher	LAURIC	M	34	51 14 33	na	35	30		GBR
SPEDDING, Andrew	SUMMERSONG	M	28	51 23 05	28 11 05	36	31	32	GBR
BLAGDEN, David	WILLIN GRIFFIN	M	19	52 11 06	15 15 46	37	32	10	GBR
REMISZEWSKA, Teresa	KOMODOR	M	42	57 03 18	39 01 58	38	33	31	POL
RICHEY, Mike	JESTER	M	26	58 08 18	27 06 58	39	34	34	GBR
MICHAILOF, Anne	PS	M	30.5	59 06 12	36 10 52	40	35	33	FRA
KONKOLSKI, Richard	NIKE	M	22.5	60 13 12	OutsiGER time limit				CZ
WILLS, Martin	CASPER	M	31	63 22 00	OutsiGER time limit				GBR
CROWTHER, Peter	GOLDEN VANITY	M	38	88	OutsiGER time limit				GBR
MASCHERONI, Carlo	CHICA BOBA	M	41		Retired to Gibraltar				IT
MITCHELL, H.G	TULOA	M	33		Leaking, returned Plymouth				GBR
HOWELL, Bill	TAHITI BILL	C	43		Collision, towed to Newport				AUS
MILLER, Bob	MERSEA PEARL	M	43		Dismasted, abandoned, crew picked up by ship				GBR
DIJKSTRA, Gérard	SECOND LIFE	M	71		Dismasted, towed to St Johns				NED
DEBRA, Oscar	OLVA II	M	46.5		Fuel Leak, returned Plymouth				BEL
CHICHESTER, Francis	GIPSY MOTH V	M	57		Skipper sick, assisted to Plymouth				GBR
SAYLE, Murray	LADY OF FLEET	C	41		Dismasted, towed to Newport				AUS

SALMON, Bob	JUSTA LISTANG	M	25	Dismasted, abandoned, crew picked up by ship	GBR
RIGUIDEL, Eugène	ONYZ	M	43	Rigging trouble	FRA
BARTON, A.	BRISTOL FASHION	M	24.5	Dismasted, returned Plymouth, dismasted again	GBR
GUZZETTI, Edoardo	NAMAR IV	M	32.5	Ill, retired to Azores	IT

Yachts started late / restarted after damage: NIKE – dismasted, left Plymouth 29/6; LAURIC – started 1000 4/7; SUMMERSONG – collision, left 24/6; SCUFFLER III – Leak, left Falmouth 27/6; WILD ROCKET – Split sails, left 20/6 .

Penalties:

SAGGITARIO	Late qualifying	Penalty 18 hrs
KOMODOR	Late arriving	Started a.m. 18/6
OLVA II	Late arriving	Penalty 24 hrs
ARCHITEUTHIS	Late arriving	Penalty 24 hrs
MEX	Late arriving	Penalty 24 hrs
P.S.	Late arriving	Penalty 24 hrs
WHITE DOLPHIN	Late arriving	Started a.m. 18/6
ISLES DU FRIOUL	Over the line	Penalty 75 mins
ALOA VII	Over the line	Penalty 50 mins

Yachts entered but did not start: LEEN VALLEY VENTURER; MYTH OF MALHAM; WHITE LADY; TANG'O .