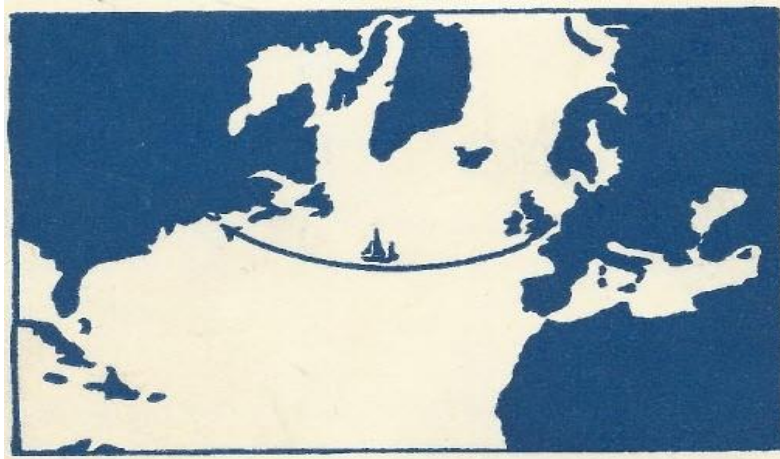


The ROYAL WESTERN YACHT CLUB of ENGLAND

OSTAR 1976



the
ROYAL WESTERN / OBSERVER
SINGLE-HANDED
TRANSATLANTIC RACE

5th June 1976
11:00

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

1976 ROYAL WESTERN / OBSERVER STAR

Even before the start, the storm was brewing. Controversy exploded around the entry of Alain Colas' gigantic monohull *Club Mediterranee* that measured in at 236ft (72m). Few believed that a boat this size could be sailed safely by one man without being a risk to himself and others at sea, and many saw the race as getting out of control. A total of 125 boats crossed the start line in a shadow of sadness at the death of one of the competing skippers wives. Mike McMullen, an ex-marine commando, had bought *Three Cheers* from Tom Follet and had tragically witnessed his wife accidentally electrocute herself as she helped prepare the boat just days before the start. Sadly, McMullen and *Three Cheers* disappeared during the race.

Five low pressure systems followed each other one after the other, relentlessly generating an average wind speed of 35 knots and a raging, chaotic, short, crossed sea for over a week. The fleet were decimated with the well-chronicled retirement of Yvon Fauconnier (*ITT Oceanic* previously *Vendredi Treize*) and the break-up of Jean-Yves Terlain's 70ft catamaran *Kriter II*. Two skippers were lost at sea in the storms - Mike Flanagan and the recently bereaved Mike McMullen. Only 73 of the 125 starters finished the race within the time limit.

Eric Tabarly racing his 73ft ketch *Pen Duick VI* had at one stage considered turning back when his self-steering gear failed. But the 1964 winner found new strength and crossed the finish line first in dramatic circumstances; with no sight nor sound of Tabarly since the start, concerns were growing for his safety. But Tabarly appeared out of the fog in Newport just as the French navy were on the verge of launching a full-scale search operation. Alain Colas' *Club Mediterranee* stopped in Newfoundland for repairs to the rigging and then also had to take a penalty for accepting a tow that relegating him to 5th place overall, although he crossed the line in second. Another amazing performance came from Canadian Mike Birch on the "tiny" 31ft trimaran, *The Third Turtle*. He crossed the line in third but was finally awarded second place. Multihulls had staked their claim in storm-force windward conditions - there could be little to stop them now.

ROYAL WESTERN / OBSERVER SINGLE-HANDED TRANSATLANTIC RACE 1976 --- The Fifth OSTAR

Plymouth - Newport

05-Jun-76 11:00

Started: 125

Finished: 73 (+ 5 over time)

Classes

J

Jester: up to 38 ft

GM

Gipsy Moth: up to 65 ft

P

Pen Duick: no upper size limits

| Skipper | Boat name | Type | LOA | Class | Elapsed Time | Corrected Time | O/A Place | Class Place | Corr Place | Nation |
|----------------------|-------------------|------|------|-------|--------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|------------|--------|
| TABARLY, Eric | PEN DUICK VI | M | 73 | P | 23 20 12 | | 1 | 1 | | FRA |
| BIRCH, Mike | THE THIRD TURTLE | T | 32 | J | 24 20 39 | | 2 | 1 | | CAN |
| JAWORSKI, Kazimierz | SPANIEL | M | 38 | J | 24 23 40 | | 3 | 2 | | POL |
| GROSSMAN, Tom | CAP 33 | T | 53 | P | 26 08 15 | | 4 | 2 | | USA |
| COLAS, Alain | CLUB MÉDITERRANÉE | M | 236 | P | 26 13 36 | | 5 | 3 | | FRA |
| PARISIS, Jean Claude | PETROUCHKA | M | 47 | GM | 27 00 55 | | 6 | 1 | | FRA |
| PALMER, David | FT | T | 35 | J | 27 07 45 | | 7 | 3 | | GBR |
| GREENE, Walter | FRIENDS | T | 30 | J | 27 10 37 | | 8 | 4 | | USA |
| TIMSIT, Jacques | ARAUNA IV | M | 38 | GM | 27 15 32 | | 9 | 2 | | FRA |
| GABBAY, Alain | OBJECTIF SUD 3 | M | 38 | J | 28 09 58 | | 10 | 5 | | FRA |
| STOKES, Francis | MOONSHINE | M | 40 | GM | 28 12 46 | | 11 | 3 | | USA |
| BIANCHI, Carlo | VENILIA | M | 54 | GM | 29 00 15 | | 12 | 4 | | ITA |
| FRANCIS, Clare | ROBERTSON'S GOLLY | M | 37.5 | J | 29 04 22 | | 13 | 6 | | GBR |
| VERSLUYS, Gustav | TYPHOON V | M | 34.5 | J | 29 21 12 | | 14 | 7 | | BEL |
| DE TRAFFORD, John | QUEST | T | 54 | GM | 30 07 30 | | 15 | 5 | | GBR |
| ANRYS, Yves | PAWN OF NIEUPORT | M | 30 | J | 30 15 34 | | 16 = | 8 = | | BEL |
| RIGUIDEL, Eugène | NOVA | T | 33 | J | 30 15 34 | | 16 = | 8 = | | FRA |
| VATON, Gilles | ACKEL FRANCE | M | 38 | J | 31 03 12 | | 18 | 10 | | FRA |
| PIERRE, Daniel | LORCA | M | 29.5 | J | 31 14 45 | | 19 | 11 | | FRA |
| DUMAS, Patrice | SIRTEC | M | 39 | GM | 31 23 09 | | 20 | 6 | | FRA |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---|------|----|----------|----|----|-----|
| HORNETT, Guy | OLD MOORE'S ALMANAC | T | 42 | GM | 32 02 06 | 21 | 7 | GBR |
| HOWELL, Bill | TAHITI BILL | C | 43 | GM | 32 05 19 | 22 | 8 | AUS |
| HALES, Geoff | WILD RIVAL | M | 34 | J | 32 13 48 | 23 | 12 | GBR |
| PALLARD, Bernard | PETIT BRETON | M | 33.5 | J | 32 19 57 | 24 | 13 | FRA |
| GRAF, Folkmar | DADZTOY | M | 38 | J | 32 20 55 | 25 | 14 | GER |
| RAAB, Ernesto | CARINA | M | 41 | GM | 33 01 22 | 26 | 9 | ITA |
| RYOTT, Rome | ADHARA | M | 33.5 | J | 33 02 54 | 27 | 15 | GBR |
| RIBOULET, Pierre | PIERRE | M | 38 | J | 33 03 39 | 28 | 16 | FRA |
| BUCKING, Gerd | HELENE III | M | 35 | J | 33 08 41 | 29 | 17 | GER |
| CLIFFORD, Richard | SHAMAAL II | M | 25.5 | J | 33 12 51 | 30 | 18 | GBR |
| EVERETT-SMITH, E. | WIND QUEST | M | 40 | GM | 34 08 44 | 31 | 10 | USA |
| VENNEMANS, Burg | PYTHEAS | M | 38 | J | 34 10 10 | 32 | 19 | NED |
| CLIFTON, Nicholas | AZULOA | T | 32 | J | 35 03 35 | 33 | 20 | GBR |
| MANSELL, John | INNOVATOR OF MANA | M | 28 | J | 35 12 25 | 34 | 21 | NZL |
| HOWELLS, Philip | FROMSTOCK FILIUS | M | 28 | J | 35 16 07 | 35 | 22 | GBR |
| CLARK, D.H | FREEMERLE | M | 32 | J | 35 22 50 | 36 | 23 | GBR |
| GEORGIEV, Georgi | KOR KAROLI | M | 30 | J | 36 01 50 | 37 | 24 | BUL |
| OLIVAUX, Yves | PATRIARCHE | M | 33.5 | J | 36 05 14 | 38 | 25 | FRA |
| RADFORD, Ian | JABULISIWE | M | 28 | J | 38 08 44 | 39 | 26 | GBR |
| WALLGREN, Lars | SWEDLADY | M | 27.5 | J | 36 11 10 | 40 | 27 | SWE |
| AUSTONI, Edoardo | CHICA BOBA | M | 41 | GM | 37 06 00 | 41 | 11 | ITA |
| CASTIGLIONI, Ida | EVA | M | 34.5 | J | 37 10 20 | 42 | 28 | ITA |
| LABOURGADE, Elie | EVALOA | M | 34 | J | 37 10 24 | 43 | 29 | FRA |
| SCHRODT, Klaus | LILLIAM | M | 29.5 | J | 37 21 25 | 44 | 30 | GER |
| MCCLEOD, Jock | RON GLAS | M | 47 | GM | 38 17 40 | 45 | 12 | GBR |
| NUGENT, Rory | EDITH | T | 31 | J | 39 04 30 | 46 | 46 | USA |
| BUTLER, Chris | ACHILLES NEUF | M | 30 | J | 39 06 02 | 47 | 32 | GBR |
| GUIU, Juan | CRISAN | M | 38 | GM | 39 08 15 | 48 | 13 | ESP |
| KONKOLSKI, Richard | NIKE | M | 22.5 | J | 39 10 49 | 49 | 33 | CZE |
| YOUNG, James | ENGLISH ROSE | M | 30 | J | 39 11 29 | 50 | 34 | GBR |

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|---------------------|-------------------------|---|------|----|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|-----|
| CROWTHER, Peter | GALWAY BLAZER | M | 42 | GM | 39 12 57 | 51 | 14 | GBR |
| WHITE, David | CATAPHA | M | 32 | J | 39 17 15 | 52 | 35 | USA |
| MITCHELL, H.G | TULOA | M | 33 | J | 41 11 59 | 53 | 36 | GBR |
| VIDAL PAZ, Enrique | CASTENUELA | M | 34 | J | 42 10 10 | 54 | 37 | ESP |
| PYLE, David | WESTWARD | M | 30 | J | 42 10 11 | 55 | 38 | GBR |
| PUCHALSKI, Zbigniew | MIRANDA | M | 38 | GM | 42 13 14 | 56 | 15 | POL |
| WANDERS, Wolfgang | AMITIE | M | 35 | J | 42 17 30 | 57 | 39 | GER |
| JUKKEMA, Henk | HESPERIA | M | 29.5 | J | 42 21 18 | 58 | 40 | NED |
| BOURGEOIS, Max | ACHILLE | M | 33 | J | 43 08 41 | 59 | 41 | FRA |
| DI MAJO, Corrado | TIKKA III | M | 37 | J | 44 00 37 | 60 | 42 | ITA |
| SUTCLIFFE, David | LADY ANNE OF ST DONATS | M | 25.5 | J | 44 03 47 | 61 | 43 | GBR |
| PREDEN, Angelo | CAIPIRINHA | M | 30 | J | 44 04 45 | 62 | 44 | ITA |
| WOODS, Stuart | GOLDEN HARP | M | 30 | J | 44 19 14 | 63 | 45 | IRL |
| WILLS, Martin | CASPER | M | 31 | J | 44 21 05 | 64 | 46 | GBR |
| ELLIOTT, Richard | LAURIC | M | 34 | J | 45 02 29 | 65 | 47 | GBR |
| POTTLE, Henri | JANINA | M | 25 | J | 45 03 12 | 66 | 48 | GBR |
| BOURGEOIS, Michel | DRAGON | M | 37.5 | GM | 45 12 45 | 67 | 16 | FRA |
| COWPER, David | AIREDALE | M | 29.5 | J | 46 11 17 | 68 | 49 | GBR |
| LANG, Nigel | GALADRIEL OF LOTHLORIEN | M | 25.5 | J | 48 03 10 | 69 | 50 | GBR |
| KENDALL, Rodney | SONGEUR | M | 24 | J | 49 05 40 | 70 | 51 | NZL |
| DIJKSTRA, Gerard | BESTEVAER | M | 54 | GM | 49 07 22 | 71 | 17 | NED |
| KASEMIER, Eilco | BYLGIA | M | 40 | GM | 49 10 34 | 72 | 18 | NED |
| LENGYEL, Bob | PRODIGAL | M | 25 | J | 49 19 30 | 73 | 52 | USA |
| WHITE, Rod | BLUFF | M | 26 | J | | OutsiGER time | limITA | GBR |
| EVANS, Peter | MEINWEN | M | 32 | J | | OutsiGER time | limITA | GBR |
| ROPERT, Jean | BIGOUDEN BRISE | M | 27.5 | J | | OutsiGER time | limITA | FRA |
| SLOAN, Dr F. | BALLYCLAIRE | M | 33.5 | J | | OutsiGER time | limITA | GBR |
| LUSH, Anthony | ONE HAND CLAPPING | M | 28 | J | | Disqualified, outsiGER time | | USA |
| FLANAGAN, Mike | GALLOPING GAEL | M | 38 | J | Skipper lost overboard | | | USA |
| BULLIMORE, Tony | TORIA | T | 42 | GM | Fire, abandoned, crew safe | | | GBR |

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| TERLAIN, Jean Yves | KRITER III | C | 70 | P | Boat broke up and sank, crew safe | FRA |
| FEHLMAN, Pierre | GAULOISE | M | 57 | GM | Sank in storm, crew saved | FRA |
| BERTHIER, Dominique | 5100 | M | 37 | J | Sank after collision, rescued next day | FRA |
| SZEKELY, P. | NYARLATHOTEP | M | 42 | GM | Structural failure, abandoned, safe | FRA |
| MCMULLEN, Mike | THREE CHEERS | T | 46 | GM | Skipper and yacht lost | GBR |
| ROEMERS, Kees | BOLLEMAAT | M | 45 | GM | Unable charge batteries | NED |
| KRIEGER, Heiko | TINIE II | M | 36 | J | Retired to Azores | GER |
| OGLE, R.J | JADE | M | 51 | GM | Electrical Problems, retired Corunna | GBR |
| BRAZIER, Jock | FLYING ANGEL | M | 63 | GM | Self Steering and electrical problems | GBR |
| SCHULTE, Hans | SILKE | M | 25 | J | Steering gear, mast and hull damage | GER |
| RICHEY, Mike | JESTER | M | 26 | J | Retired in favour of Irish Cruise | GBR |
| HOWELLS, Val | UNIBRAS BRYTHON | M | 38 | J | Skipper injured in fall, retired Ireland | GBR |
| FOGAR, Ambrogio | SPIRIT OF SURPRISE | C | 25 | J | Structural failure, retired Azores | ITA |
| FAUCONNIER, Yvon | ITT OCEANIC | M | 128 | P | Skipper injured, sail damage - St Johns | FRA |
| DE JONG, Andre | AQUARIUS | M | 28 | J | Self Steering failure, retired Guernsey | NED |
| CHRISTIAN, John | ET SOEKI | M | 27 | J | Paraffin stove fire, returned Plymouth | GBR |
| LE MERRER, Christian | ACTEIA II | M | 36 | J | Collision | FRA |
| GUZZETTI, Edoardo | NAMAR V | M | 45 | GM | Steering gear failure, retired Brest | ITA |
| SCIARRETTA, Paolo | VALITALIA | M | 42 | GM | Retired to Horta | ITA |
| CHARBONNIER, Pierre Yves | KARATE | M | 33 | J | Injured arm, retired Fowey | FRA |
| KANE, Michael | SPIRIT OF AMERICA | T | 62 | P | Hull Damage, retired Plymouth | USA |
| SMITH, Chris | TUMULT | M | 23 | J | Sick, retired Azores | GBR |
| PRICE, Hywell | MC ARTHUR | M | 35 | J | Rudder failure | GBR |
| FRIGOUT, Gérard | PEN AR BED | M | 40 | GM | Self steering damage | FRA |
| DI BAGNOLO, Doi Malingri | CS & RB II | M | 60 | GM | Collision | ITA |
| LINSKI, Marc | OBJECTIF SUD 1 | M | 38 | J | Self steering damage, leak, ret'd Azores | FRA |
| PRIMROSE, Angus | DEMON DEMO | M | 33 | J | Dismasted in capsized, jury rig Plymouth | GBR |
| WARD, C.S.W | ALTERGO | T | 39 | GM | Broken Rudder | GBR |
| O'DONOVAN, Patrick | SILMARIL | T | 31 | J | Dismasted, towed US | ISR |
| BEST, Mike | CRODA WAY | T | 35 | GM | Damaged float, returned Plymouth | GBR |

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|-------------------------|-----------------|---|----|----|--|-----|
| CORNOU, Guy | KERVILOR | M | 34 | J | Skipper slipped disc, rescued | FRA |
| MONTESINOS, Jean Claude | KEEP CAP D'AGDE | M | 53 | GM | Hit drifting buoy | FRA |
| MASCHERONI, Paolo | PANDA 31 | M | 32 | J | Retired cause unknown | ITA |
| RICHARDSON, Mike | ARCTIC SKUA | M | 31 | J | Self steering damage | GBR |
| BRAY, Andrew | GILLYGALOO | M | 32 | J | Self steering damaged by whale | GBR |
| DRUMMOND, Colin | SLEUTH HOUND | M | 32 | J | Knocked overboard Force 11, injured | GBR |
| CHARPENTIER, Joel | WILD ROCKET | M | 63 | P | Sails and rigging damage in storm | FRA |
| MARCHARD, Aline | LOGO | M | 38 | J | Dismasted, jury rig Azores | FRA |
| BRUNET, Guy | IRONIGUY | M | 32 | J | Steering gear failure | FRA |
| VIRDEN, Jonathan | SHARAVOGE | M | 25 | J | retired to Bermuda. No wind | GBR |
| LE MOING, C.H | PRONUPTIA | M | 43 | GM | Azores for repairs, no wind | FRA |
| MARCEL, Alain | DRAKKAR III | M | 39 | GM | Self steering failure | FRA |
| DEBRA, Oscar | VANESSA | M | 43 | GM | Sails and self steering damaged in storm | BEL |
| HUNTER, Simon | KYLIE | M | 26 | J | Calms and head winds, ret'd Azores | GBR |
| NEDELLEC, Yann | OBJECTIF SUD 2 | M | 38 | J | Three capsizes, dismasted, rescued | FRA |
| START, Brian | TRUE NORTH | M | 36 | J | Retired to Halifax | CAN |

Penalties:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| CLUB MÉDITERRANÉE | Assistance | Penalty 10% elapsed time |
|-------------------|------------|--------------------------|

Entered but did not start: ALEPH; BRIS; DEPOLLUTION; GAZELLE; GRAND LARGE; GREAT BRITAIN III; JAN; LADY GARUDA; MANUREVA; MARTINA; MEX; PALLAS; RO; SEXAGINTA PRISTA; WHISPER; WHITE DOLPHIN .