

## Vane 36 Racing Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Wish I had had my camera with me!** Some incredibly close finishes: Peter Fothergill and mate Paul Edwards sailing sail number 96, '*Mist*', caught up Bob Pearson and mate Eric Meighen sailing number 34, '*Pppperfect in Pink*' just before the line and managed to cross in front. They were certainly, robbed! Peter and Paul again had the Gods on their side racing Anthony Warren and mate Lester Gilbert sailing number 1, '*Tweety Pie*', just at the finishing line. Anthony and Lester also narrowly lost out to Graham Wyeth and mate Ray Baker sailing number 88, '*Road Runner*' on a downwind leg in the last race of the day. So near but so far!

Five boats entered, all skippers having mates. It was good to see young Jay Britton crewing his grandfather, Pete Lawley in boat number 188 becoming more and more confident in re-trimming sails or vane gear when the boat came in. Welcome back to Bob returning to vane racing and re-familiarising himself with making his boat go quickly. After the first round Pete and Jay had to withdraw but the rest of the fleet managed a complete second round ensuring each skipper sailed all other skippers (apart from Pete) twice.

Most had top suits but the wind direction meant that spinnaker setting was not viable. Graham and Ray took till after lunch to get their downwind legs sorted. They then did not drop a race to win by 8 points from Peter and Paul who conversely had problems with their beats before lunch. In third place were Anthony and Lester, followed by Bob and Eric. Because Pete and Jay only completed one round they finished in fifth place but that included winning a downwind against Graham and Ray in the morning!

Thank you to Julie Lawley for starting and finishing at one end and I did the other (still not able to sail 😞 !!!)

The next Vane 36 race is on the **21<sup>st</sup> October**. On the morning of **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October, during half term, the Mick Thomas event for 36's** will be held. A great opportunity for creative pot hunters – remember the winner is the boat that **finishes in the middle** at the end of the event!

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