

Report on Loe Beach Regatta, Saturday 1st June 2024

Encouraged by sunshine and near perfect sailing conditions, more than 150 competitors in 53 boats enjoyed the first Port of Falmouth Village Regatta at Loe Beach on Saturday 1st June. This was the largest number of entries since 2018. Some stronger gusts before the start of racing resulted in gear failure on one of the large working boats which was forced to retire but the capsized dinghies recovered in time to race. Racing was very close in several of the classes, with places being decided by just seconds on corrected time, which allows for differences between boat types by applying a time correction factor. There were also several nominations for the Owers Trophy, given to the competitor who best exemplifies the spirit of the Village Regatta. These included experienced sailors who involuntarily tested the temperature of the water after racing but the winner was Marley Pound, a young dinghy sailor competing in her first regatta who had an unfortunate encounter (bump) with a Working Boat but continued steadfastly to complete her race. Prizegiving was accompanied by teas which, judging by the comments on social media, were enjoyed just as much as the sailing. Sailing was supported by safety crews and Patrol Boats from Restranguet Sailing Club, St. Mawes Sailing Club, Mylor Yacht Club and the Royal Cornwall Yacht Club, who also provided the equipment, including the Committee Vessel, needed to hold such an event. Teas were made by volunteers from Feock and the surrounding villages. The notes of thanks received after the event from competitors made it clear that they had enjoyed themselves and that is what makes the event worthwhile for the volunteers who give up their time and resources to stage the event.

Robert Talbot

Chairman and Race Officer, St Feock and Pill Creek (Loe Beach) Regatta