

Whitby Gazette Trophy Race Saturday 5th August 2017

A fine fleet of 10 boats came out on Saturday to compete for the prestigious trophy, the Whitby Gazette Bowl. They were greeted by a moderate north-westerly wind and a light swell, remaining from the week's north westerlies. The northerly end of the line was the end of choice and the majority of boats gathered there, with various successes with their timing. The two large boats, *Icon* and *Cold Steel*, forged ahead with *Minty*, *Skywalker*, *Masquerade*, *Samaki* and *Monsoon* competing for the minor places. However the remaining boats *Rampage*, *Bamboozle* and *Tiger Rag* were all in contention when handicaps were taken in to account. It was a long beat against the tide down to Sandsend and *Icon* and *Cold Steel* continued their battle. Spinnakers were rapidly deployed by most boats which provided a colourful display in the bay. The wind shifted as the boats made for the Bell Buoy forcing some to adjust their spinnakers with varying degrees of success. The first lap was completed and the Race Officer sent the boats on a small lap off the piers. By now the wind was dropping but the leading boats, *Icon*, *Cold Steel*, *Minty*, *Samaki*, *Skywalker*, *Masquerade* and *Monsoon* had no trouble finishing the race while *Bamboozle*, *Rampage* and *Tiger Rag* struggled as the wind disappeared. Ed Asquith, the editor of the Whitby Gazette kindly presented the trophy to the winners in the Clubhouse during Saturday evening.

Result: 1st *Icon* (Neil and Lorraine Williamson), 2nd *Cold Steel* (Colin Dey, Keith Gowland and Nigel Jarvis), 3rd *Skywalker* (Peter Brown).