

The February round of the Bourne Plaice Winter Series took place on West Baldwin reservoir on Sunday morning. The new month brought new weather, bright, sunny and very light winds compared with last week's near gales and rain.

A good fleet of thirteen crews rigged their dinghies in the hope that the wind would not fade away completely, which it didn't until the racing started. Barely a ripple on the lake for the whole of the very slow one lap race.

As we have seen before in these sort of conditions large sails and large handicaps are the order of the day. Jerry Colman fitted his huge 8.1 metre Rooster rig to the Laser and took the lead at the first mark and drifted the fastest to take first place both on the water and after correction. Second place, on the water and after correction went to Mike Pridham in the radial Laser. However, third on the water was Ralph Kee in his standard Laser but on correction he dropped to fifth, a victim of the high handicaps of Jim Whitelegg in his 'mighty' Gull and junior, Charlie Whitbread, in a Tera.

Unusually for this winters series everyone was able to put their dinghies away with dry sails!

Manx Sailing & Cruising Club would like to thank Rob Cowell of Bourne Plaice, Keith Poole for OOD with assistance from Neil Rawlinson and Jack Osbourne and Tim Cope for manning the patrol boat. Check out the action photographs on the MS&CC Facebook page.