

For the latest round of the Watling Streetworks Winter Series, there was little wind in the forecast and what was expected would be from the East. That side is protected by the ridge that separates East and West Baldwin with some, possibly, catabatic wind with the cooler air rolling down from Carraghan so it was patchy and mostly from Northerly direction down the West Baldwin valley.

The first race started ok but it soon turned into a stop start affair that eventually split the fleet into two groups. If you were in the second group there was no escape and no chance of 'leaping the gap'.

Tera's were leading a variety of much faster craft as they all drifted along at the same pace, the first group however seemed to get more luck with the odd puff of breeze and stretched further ahead. It was a painful affair and the prospect of a second race was looking doubtful.

As luck would have it the wind picked up and steadied in direction, unusually, the nice breeze between the 1st and 2nd races persisted beyond the start giving exceptionally close racing.

The honours in the first race went to the Enterprise of Joe & Eric Whitelegg with Andrew Dean placed second and Dave Batchelor third, both in ILCA 6's, best junior was Will Osbourn in his Aero 5 in 6th and Jake Walker best Tera in 9th place.

In race two, over the same course, Dave Batchelor upped his game to take the win with two sailors who had been trapped in group two in race one taking the next two slots, Thomas Watterson (Aero 5) second, Jerry Colman (Finn) third, best lady and second junior Lettie Hyett in 4th.

Manx Sailing & Cruising Club would like to thank Doug Watling for his continued support, Race Officer Keith Poole and the patrol boat crew. For full results go to the club Facebook page and Website.