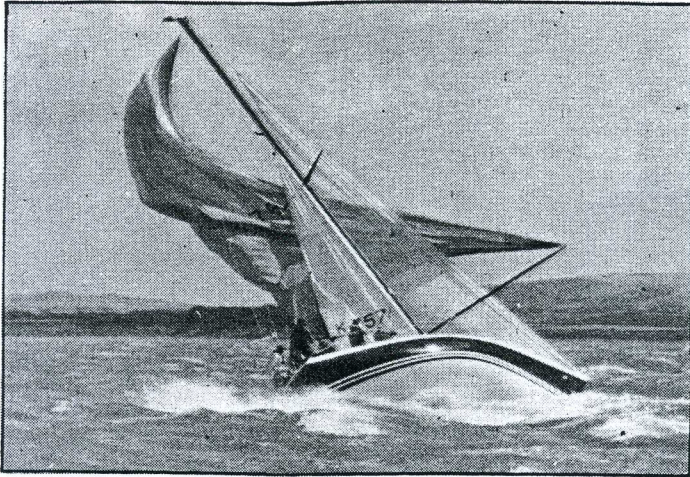


WINSOME IV the previous 'Winsome' to Mantra



David May's Class I Winsome broaching spectacularly.



Arthur Slater's Prospect of Whitby was well in gear during the week.

COWES - THAT WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS

by Julian Everitt

THE GERMAN Sparkman and Stephens designed *Saudade* was undoubtedly the star of this years Cowes Week. A member of the German Admiral's Cup team, she started the Fastnet race holding a substantial points lead after a fourth place in the Channel Race and two first places in the inshore races. Backed by the equally new S & S designed *Rubin* and Carter designed *Carina*, she helped put the German squad into an

overall points lead prior to the Fastnet ahead of the favourites Australia.

Team consistency in the highly competitive 48 boat fleet has been the key to success even when the conditions haven't favoured on particular size of

yacht. The Australian team of *Ginkgo*, *Apollo* and *Ragamuffin*, all big boats, hung on grimly in the Channel race when fortune favoured the tiddlers while America slumped right back with their two giants *Charisma* and *Salty Goose* placing in the high 30's. England were not helped by *Quailo's* performance. But with Peter Nicholson at the helm, *Quailo* redeemed her position in the two inshore races and this allowed the team to pull up from sixth to third place prior to the Fastnet but still 30 points behind Germany.

As I write this I am still sticking to my prediction that Australia will win although I am equally glad that an outside team Germany are doing so well. I figured them for third place overall, but maybe they will hold second or even retain their lead. You will know the answer by the time you read this.

Holland are the other outsiders hanging on well after

a spectacular performance in the Channel race when their small boats *Nymphaea*, *Standfast* and *Polka Mara* were favoured by the conditions.

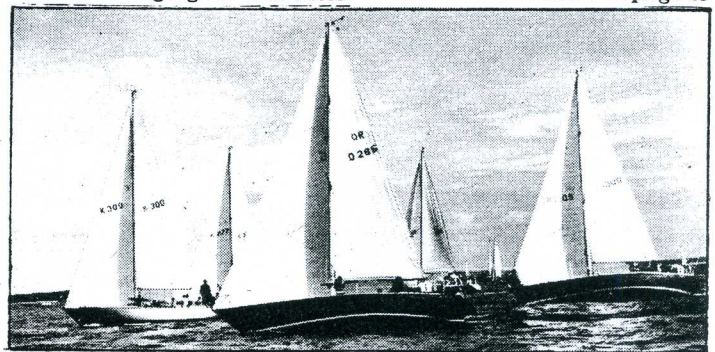
After the second inshore race on Wednesday they were 67 points behind Britain - perhaps too far to be any threat while America were a further seven points back in fifth place. It is just conceivable that they could pull up to second or third slot if conditions really favour the heavies and Ted Turner at the helm of the minimum rating *Lightnin'* can pull off a 1969 Dick Carter style finish when he brought the tiny *Red Rooster* in before the breeze died on the rest of the small boats.

Italy slowly slipped back in the two inshore races after lying third in the Channel Race and the expected good results from the Argentinians, who placed fourth in the last contest, never materialised. *Revolution's* overall win in the Channel race helped the otherwise poor performances of the other French yachts and she maintained the best results of the three yachts in the two inshore races although they were not good enough to give the

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G. Bartlett's Minstrel - a Ballad class racing in class 4.



Loujaine K300 lead the Danish Tai Fat D285 and the Dutch Standfast H1909.

That was the week that was

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team better than seventh place.

As the yachts got off to a delayed start on Saturday morning for the 605 mile Fastnet, it looked like being a straight battle between Germany, Australia and Britain.

Winds gusting well over 30 knots on the Monday of Cowes Week, prevented any handicap racing and gave the 48 Admiral's Cup team yachts a clear Solent to play with. The heavy airs seemed to suit **Quailo** pretty much and she slipped into third slot behind **Saudade** and the giant of the whole fleet, the Brazilian **Saga**.

The Aussies would have made a spectacular score of second fourth and fifth if **Ginkgo** had not got too near the bottom off Gurnard Ledge. As it was she slipped down to seventh, but it gave the other nations a foretaste of how fast these yachts were in hard air. Unfortunately for them, conditions did not prevail for the Wednesday race and 15 knots over the deck gave the 'Brits' exactly what they wanted with **Morning Cloud** placing second, **Frigate** fourth and **Quailo** eleventh. This boosted the team more than somewhat.

With Monday cancelled the Week proper got under way on Tuesday, although several yachts were still not racing after storm damage and dismastings on the Sunday.

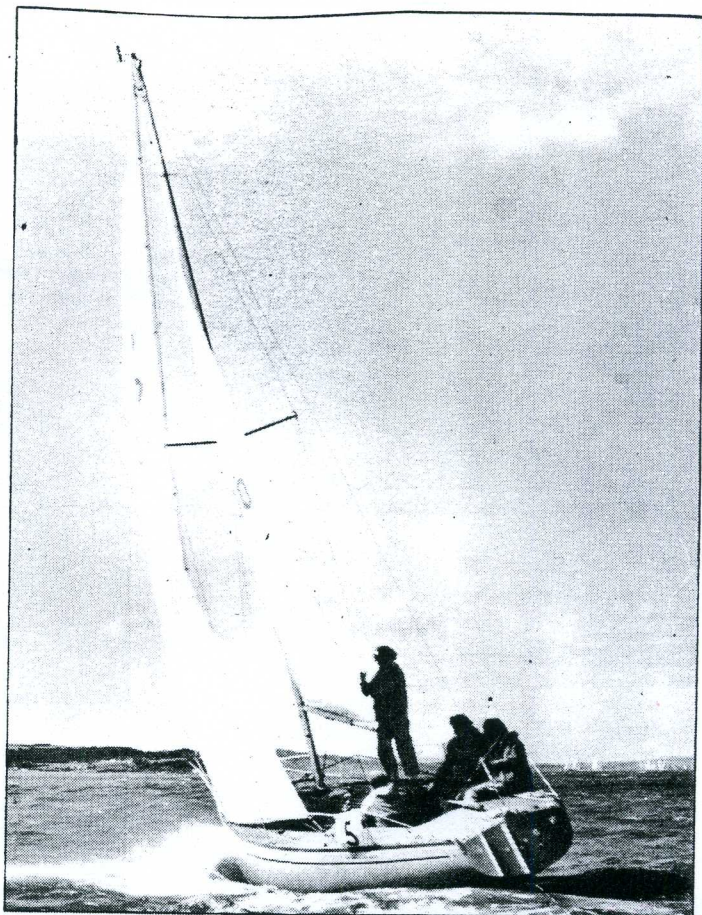
Arthur Slater's **Prospect of**

Whitby gave more evidence that the formulae of heavy displacement and reasonably narrow beam was paying off by winning class I on Tuesday. She is the same hull as **Saudade** so between them they were doing pretty well. The American **Sorcery** — all 61 foot of her took line honours from the original **Apollo** although neither of them had the big Red Bird American **Eagle** to contend with. She was safely tucked up the Medina river, albeit named **War Baby** and painted a smokey light blue. Her crew, used to the relatively tiny **Swan 48**, by the same name were reluctant to take their new baby out in so much wind.

In Class II, the Roger's brothers scored a win in their new **One Tonner Thunder** and their performance during the week together with that of her sistership **Winsome** bodes well for them in the One Ton Cup for which they both departed on Friday.

Class III is still pretty much of a battle between S & S 34's and Hustler 35's with John McCarthy's **Solent Saracen** and the S & S 34 **Morning Brig** leading the proceedings on most days.

Class IV saw Brian Saffery Cooper's **Racketeer** and Ernest Juer's **Brother Cup** busy tuning for their appearance in the Half Ton Cup later this month although **Windy of Hamble** and **Two Step** got the better of them



David Rayment's **Petit Fleur** was best of the Quarter Tonners in the hard air at the beginning of the week.

mostly. On Thursday, after a brilliant start **Bes**, the yacht that won the Half Ton last year under the guidance of Paul Elvstrom and now helmed by Rodney Patisson won from the Brise de Mer type **Alouette** from the Royal Cork YC.

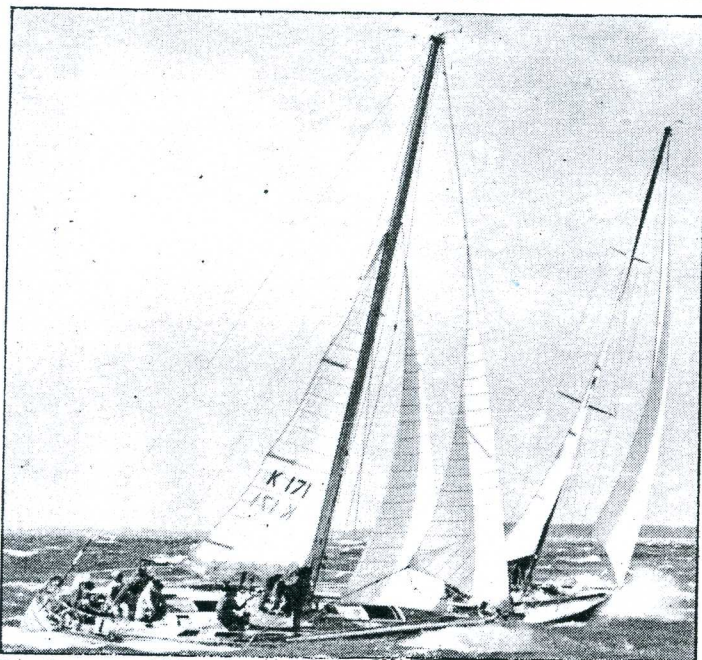
Perhaps some of the fiercest racing apart from the Admiral's Cup was in the Quarter Tonners racing in Class V. David Rayment's **Petit Fleur** liked the heavy air and surprisingly the tiny **Ruffian**, **Muffin** revelled in the gusty conditions on Tuesday to take the gun from the **Ecume Calico**. In the lighter conditions on Thursday **Tiger Rag** came

into her own to beat **Petit Fleur** and **Tequila**. The final Saturday saw **Quarto** get into gear to place first ahead of **Tiger Rag**.

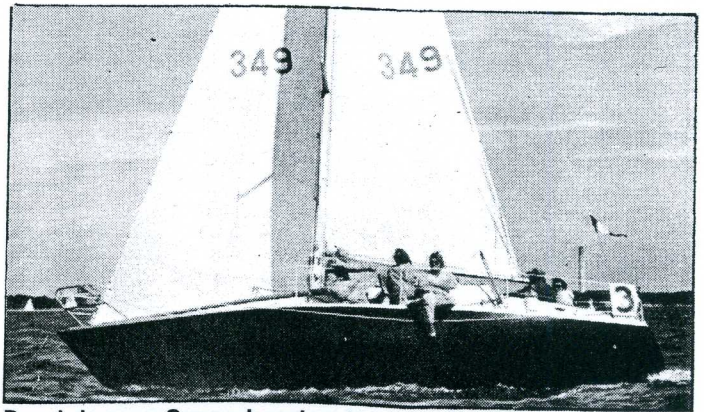
The amount of useful tuning gained by these yachts during the week should set them up well for the Quarter Ton to be held in Weymouth in a couple of weeks time.

Thursday also saw the Twelve **War Baby** out but she couldn't find her old form and she only finished in fifth place behind **Sorcery**, **Safari**, **Salty Goose**, **Charisma** and **Apollo**.

Late news: **Sorcery** was first round the Fasnet rock followed by **Charisma** and **Saga**.



Battlecry and **Morningtown** slog it out to windward.



Bandolero, a Scampi racing in class 3 couldn't break the dominance of the S&S 34's and Hustler 35's.