

Come fly with us!

More information at <http://flyingfifteen.mallorcaservice.de>

As promised, let's kick off with the history of the Flying Fifteen

Designed by the legendary Uffa Fox, the 6m (20ft) Flying Fifteen has maintained its reputation as an exciting and competitive two-man racing craft. It provides access to sailing at reasonable prices for men and women from 15 to 75 and beyond.

The most famous Flying Fifteen is "Coweslip" presented to the Duke of Edinburgh and Princess Elizabeth as a wedding present. Uffa Fox and Prince Philip frequently sailed together at Cowes.

The Flying Fifteen is the largest keelboat class in the World.

The Flying Fifteen has been modernised over the years with Uffa Fox agreeing to changes towards the end of his life to improve the design specification and sail plan. By this time, the class had established itself in a number of countries and when John Calvert-Jones came from Australia and won the UK championships, the stimulus was provided for the move to seek international status. Under the guidance of Tom Ratcliffe, an International Federation of Flying Fifteen Associations was formed by nine countries from four continents. The first world championships were held in Perth, Australia in 1979 and subsequently have alternated between the Northern and Southern hemispheres biennially. The first European Championship took place in Spain in May 2004.

The [2007 World Championships](#) took place at the [Reial Club Nàutic de Port de Pollença](#) in Spain during June, and were won by Mike Hart and Tim Hall sailing GBR 3817 (still in Pollensa, and available for sale). There was also a separate division for Silver and Classic Flying Fifteens which was won by Vincent and Patrick Harris in ESP 2964 and Simon Dangerfield / David Hemingway in GBR 2663 respectively.

As mentioned last month, the 2014 European Championships will be held at [Reial Club Nàutic de Port de Pollença](#) from September 14-19.

Regatta reports

The **Hugh Wilson Trophy** was a great success, with 7 boats joining the three leg race. Overall winners were Scott Walker & Andrew Harvey in Ffeil Good.

The **Championship of Mallorca** took place from July 5-7, with eleven different boats joining the fray. Friday was boisterous, with both races sailed in winds gusting over 30 knots. The pairing of world championship crew Allan Green with newcomer to the fleet Thomas Rudewald ex Artemis Americas Cup team quickly showed promise in 3804 Speedy Gonzalez, with tremendous boat speed in the strong conditions – no doubt helped by both being well over six foot tall! Unfortunately two other highly fancied contenders for the series took a serious blow in the first race, Ken Dumbleton and Chris Doorly (IRL 3753 – Olive Oil) suffering a halyard failure and then a mainsheet breakage, and David & Hannah Barber (3728 – Fine Fettle) breaking a gooseneck. This left them with a DNF and DNC, from which it would be next to impossible to recover in the six race series. Patrick & Vincent Harris (3592 – Flying High) took

second, with David Miles in Stormtrooper 3 third. Race 2 saw even more wind with the tall team winning again, followed by a close battle between David Miles and 3577 Fuego Fatuo, sailed by John Walker & Stephen Babbage, and finishing in that order.

Saturday saw lighter winds, coming from almost every direction at some time – and none at others! At some point, every boat was leading, as the winds took us every way. John Walker & Stephen Babbage spotted a hole in the wind – mainly due to half the fleet sitting in it - and duly sailed around it to take the race, followed by Michael Beecken and Steve Parry (3600 – Dragonfly) and David Miles. Race 4 was more of the same, Fuego Fatuo was forced off on starboard at the start, but this soon proved to be the favoured tack, and they consolidated this to a 500 metre lead at the windward mark, and most of the way down the leg to the wing, before sailing into a hole, allowing the fleet to catch up. Olive Oil came storming up from behind, but just metres from the wing mark, the wind dropped and headed, and they ended up beating to the mark from 20 metres away! As the wind filled, Speedy Gonzalez was able to steal the final beat, with Fuego Fatuo second and Dragonfly third.

Sunday started with little wind, and four boats (Speedy Gonzalez, Fuego Fatuo, Dragonfly and Stormtrooper 3) in contention, the Harris brothers having had 2 seventh places on Saturday. First beat saw most of the fleet go into the southern shore, and despite a continuing lift, tack to take the mark ahead of those taking the Formentor side of the beat. Flying High took the race finishing just ahead of Fine Fettle, followed by Speedy Gonzalez.

Thomas Rudewald and Allan Green now had the series, but competition for second was tight. The fluky conditions again played havoc with plans, as wind strengthened and lifted up the right side of the course. The Harris brothers and Barber family had a tight tussle, this time Fine Fettle came out on top, and Speedy Gonzalez third. Everyone knew who had won the series, but the mental arithmetic was being challenged for second and third. This was not surprising, as there were 3 boats in second place – all on 16 points! Final results were:

ESP 3804 Speedy Gonzalez	Thomas Rudewald & Allan Green	9
ESP 3592 Flying High	Patrick & Vincent Harris	16
ESP 3577 Fuego Fatuo	John Walker & Stephen Babbage	16

The Editor is joining us in Pollensa on July 20; in the next issue we'll report on his success!

Upcoming races:

- August 17 Michael Clough Trophy
- August 18 Feeder race for Conde de Barcelona
- August 21-25 Conde de Barcelona (racing with the classics!)