

First overall — Two's-Up

Two's Up wins rough water Manx

TWO'S-UP, driven by Brian Griffin and John Bennett, streaked across the finishing line to win the Rothmans and Power Boat Manx Marathon, and the Rothmans Trophy in one hour and nineteen minutes.

The Manx Power Boat Club's Manx Marathon, organised by the OPC, attracted an entry of 64 boats. Due to the dockers refusing to handle big boats Class I and II's race was cancelled. This was extremely unfortunate as this was the first time that this race had qualified as a world championship race.

The lack of co-operation of the dockers also caused a depletion of Class III D entries.

The weather was fine at the start of the weekend, but by Saturday afternoon the wind was starting to blow and the sea was roughing up. So, with a weather forecast of Force 5 to 6 for Sunday, it was decided to do a repeat of last year's race and transport all the boats overland from Douglas to Peel. Unlike last year, when as soon as the boats were at Peel the sea calmed down, the forecast was correct and only the rough weather course on the west side of the island, totalling 70 miles, could be used.

An extra drama was added to the weekend's excitement when it was rumoured that a convoy of between 2 and 30 boats were heading for the island on their own bottoms to race. In fact it was only three boats — **Catapult**, **The Aristocat** and **Streak**.

Catapult, driven by John and Paul Davey had to turn back with engine trouble, and **The Aristocat** driven by Mr and Mrs Keith Dallas, together with **Streak** driven by Mr and Mrs John Campfield, eventually made Douglas after a great deal of trouble.

The troubles included **The Aristocat** taking a 'Green 'un',

running out of fuel and having to be towed by **Streak**, beaching and refuelling and finally arriving in Douglas on one engine. Unfortunately Keith Dallas was unable to get **The Aristocat**'s other engine going properly and could not make the start. **Streak** managed to race, but did not get to the starting line until five minutes after the start, but still managed to be third in Class III D.

There were five Irish boats and nine Manx boats entered in this Class III race.

The skies were overcast and a cold wind was blowing as on the sheltered west side of the island the sea was fairly calm. Due to the change of the start the start boat was unobtainable, so the race was begun from a standstill, which from the remarks of the spectators was spectacular.

Bootlegger (Ted Jelf and Clifford Irving), true to form; led the field, closely followed by **Two's-Up**, **Red Alligator II** and **The Martian**. Halfway round the first lap **Bootlegger**'s shaft snapped in one engine, forcing Ted Jelf to retire.

Buccaneer (Frank and Rodney Muir) retired at the same place, having damaged a bottom unit. **Two's-Up** — a prototype carbon re-inforced Avenger — led all the way to the finishing line, with **Red Alligator II** — a standard Avenger — following close behind.

Terry Sleap and Andrew Brownsward in **The Martian** continued to lead Class III C and finished only ten minutes behind **Two's-Up**.

Jupiter II (Harry Barrington and Alan Cranston) lost her gears just before crossing the start line. Norman Rickets seemed to have overcome some of the problems with **Sundance**, for the boat went better than it has all year. Nobby Nievens blew the head gasket on **Shady**

Lady forcing him to retire.

One of the Manx boats, **Hot Stamper** driven by Edward Caley and R. Rudge, lost its bung, but was able to finish and still be third in Class III A, although it necessitated fast pumping and quick recovery.

Shlomo (ex-**Wicked Alf**), driven by Alan Bateson and Anthony Glazebrook, was forced to retire after the first lap with fuel starvation.

De Javu (Alf and Andrew Bullen) retired with a broken drive shaft and loose power head.

Although Class III A had more entries than usual the two regulars, **Spinebender** and **In-**

terceptre came out on top. Alan Taylor and Paula Carminati in **Spinebender** (Fletcher) were compensated for the fact that they still cannot make up the two minutes on Robin Champness and John Higgins in **Interceptre** (Planecraft) in that they picked up three prizes.

Wallace Moore in **Itzwal** was forced to retire having lost one blade off a prop in the first lap and the second in the second lap, due to the fact that he used his practice prop instead of his racing prop.

RESULTS:

Class III D: 1, **Two's-Up**, (Brian Griffin and John Bennett, 1 hr. 19 min); 2, **Red Alligator II**, 1.19.16; 3, **Streak** (John Campfield and Derek Lloyd) 1.44.5.

Class C: 1, **The Martian** (Terry Sleap and Andrew Brownsward, 1.29.05); 2, **Thumper** (Norman Cordiner and Hugh Holmes, 1.31.20); 3, **Nightmare** (Keith Gladwin and James Bennett, 1.31.45).

Class B: 1, **Diewasserfahrt** (Tim Baker and Charles Peppercorn, 1.49.00); 2, **Sundance**, (Norman Rickets and Peter Croucher, 1.51.45); 3, **Fancey Boy**, (Malcolm Fancey and M. Ring, 1.54.00).

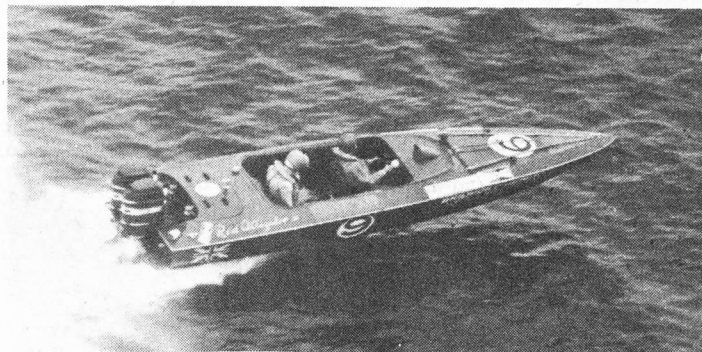
Class A: 1, **Interceptre** (Robin Champness and John Higgins, 1.54.25); 2, **Spinebender** (Alan Taylor and Paula Carminati, 1.56.30); 3, **Hot Stamper** (Edward Caley and R. Rudge, 2.12.56).

Concours d'Elegance and Ladies' Prize: **Spinebender**.

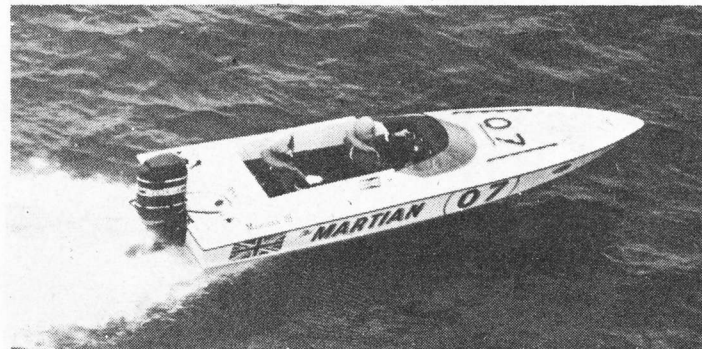
First Manx boat: **Bari Gri**, John and Graham Scott.

First Irish boat: **Thumper**. Team Prize: **Red Alligator II**, **The Martian** and **E-Type** (Malcolm Read and Paul Irving).

ROB BAVERSTOCK



Second — Red Alligator



Third — The Martian