

St Patrick Sails Again



LAST sailed in the 1960's the uniquely original 92 year old racing yacht St Patrick has been re-launched.

Traced to a garden in Scotland, the yacht was the subject of a planned restoration some 20 years ago, but this did not materialise. Recovered in 2009 by her original designers, GL Watson & Co Ltd, St Patrick has been restored by the Fife specialists Fairlie Restorations using the same techniques as the William Fife yard who originally built her in 1919.

St Patrick, is one of four

identical yachts designed by GL Watson & Co for the Boat Racing Association 18ft Class. The 'Saints' were commissioned by Capt L Lindsay-Smith for the Salcombe Yacht Club. These were the first racing yachts to be commissioned after the First World War and were named after the patron saints of the United Kingdom.

After an initial period based in Devon, all four boats were purchased by the Royal Norfolk & Suffolk Yacht Club where they were based until 1930. After being sold by the RN&SYC, St Patrick went to the River Deben and then on to Brightlingsea before being moved to the Solway Firth and extensively raced in the 1950s. Thereafter St Patrick's condition steadily declined.

St Patrick is a near unique survivor of this type of lightly built yacht that characterised the development classes in British yachting from the 1890s to the mid 1920s. The hull was built using techniques that Fife pioneered in the 1890s. All the planks are full length and close seamed with a thread of caulking lodged in a small groove rolled into the plank edge. The planking is Alaskan Yellow Cedar and the framing is all steamed timbers.

Mid restoration St Patrick was exhibited at the London Boat Show and now returns to the water fully restored and sporting the original livery.

sea facts

- THE CNB Bordeaux 60 Osprey won the 2011 80th Anniversary JP Morgan Asset Management **Round The Island Race** in June.

This annual race around the Isle of Wight is organised by the Island Sailing Club and is one of the largest yacht races in the world as well as the fourth largest participation sporting event in the UK after the London Marathon and the Great North and South Runs.

Some 16,000 sailors faced wind speeds of up to 28 knots and there were huge swells to contend with off the Needles.

Osprey was designed by Philippe Briand and built in 2009 by CNB in France.



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