

**Clevedon Sailing Club.**  
**Reverend John Ashley Trophy – 27.07.08**

The Reverend Doctor John Ashley was an Anglican priest, who in 1835 began The Missions to Seamen which in 2000 changed its name to the Mission to Seafarers.

This trophy is presented in his honour.

After a 30 minute postponement to allow the light South-westerly wind to stabilise, 15 boats started this long distance open trophy race.

Chris Tayler and Amelia Tayler-Mogg in their Fireball led the fleet, soon to be caught and passed by Anthony and James Willcocks also in Fireball who extend a substantial lead over the chasing pack.

Robin Goff in his Solo was also at the front squeezing every ounce of speed from his boat as was Sarah Hotchkiss also in a Solo.

As the fleet headed seaward to the Clevedon Buoy, the positions changed. The Willcocks twins still leading, but now closely followed by Ian Hotchkiss & Andy Black in their 505 & Andy & Andrea Willcocks, Martin & Ella Gibson & Chris & Amelia all in Fireballs, Goff had now dropped to fifth on the water but was still looking very promising for the win on handicap.

The Final leg of the course brought the boats back in to the pier mark and the finish.

Ian & Andy in the faster 505 flying an enormous blue spinnaker had overtaken the Willcocks brothers but were only seconds ahead.

With the other 3 Fireballs finishing in close succession it was all down to Robin in his Solo to finish quick enough to beat the faster boats on handicap.

Goff, under pressure, fouled the Pier mark incurring a penalty turn handing Anthony & James the honours by just a third of a second on corrected time.

Andy & Andrea Willcocks, winners of the previous 2 years, came in third.

The John Ashley Trophy and glassware prizes were presented by The Reverend Philip Auden & Yvonne Flanagan on behalf of The Mission to Seafarers & Clevedon Sailing Club.

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Anthony & James Willcocks – Fireball

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Robin Goff – Solo

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Andy & Andrea Willcocks – Fireball