

Last year's Match may not have been sailed in perfect summer weather, but the north-west wind and the varying cloud formations made it a photographer's dream. It was also a fast race; the majority of barges getting round the course in 6 to 6 1/2 hours. From the Race Committee's view point it made an unforgettable sight.

Though I might be biased it was splendid to see **Cambria** sailing again. It was also the first time since 1963 that "Everards" and the LRTC" could put a wager on two sailing barges, needless to say I don't need to spell out who won!

It was another very good turnout, so my thanks go to all the Owners, Masters and Crews on whom we rely to provide this spectacular vista on the London River. I must also praise the continued support of our patrons who, in these precarious times, have continued to keep our funds up. Without them we really could not run the Match.

I would like to thanks Christopher Ryland for the use of the **MV Havengore**; she made a splendidn Committee Boat. My thnaks as usual go to all the groups and individuals behind the scenes; especially the support of the PLA. Space unfortunatley does not allow me to mention everyone, my apologies to them, but I would like to thank Mark Boyle for all his efforts.

Unfortunately we have 'lost' Roy Stanbrook, the Harbour Master at Gravesend. He has been stalwart of the Match for many years - he is now Harbour Master at Gibraltar! His successor is Chris MacQueen.

Michael Everard