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MITSUBISHI MAIDENS ENJOY SAILING SUCCESS DESPITE THE DRAG

A team of plucky girls from Mitsubishi Electric spent last weekend competing in the 25th anniversary Little Britain Challenge Cup in the waters around the Isle of Wight.

The Mitsubishi Maidens took part in the three-day event, which sees scores of amateur construction industry sailors take to the waters around Cowes. The Little Britain Challenge Cup is a huge fundraiser for a whole raft of charities and 68 corporate teams competed in this year's competition.

Amongst the chosen charities for 2012 are the Ellen MacArthur Cancer Trust, the Jubilee Sailing Trust, the Cirdan Sailing Trust and the Skandia Team GBR Paralympic Classes Squad.

"Once again, we couldn't quite make the podium in terms of sailing ability but I think we were recognised as the hardest socialisers and all the crew deserve a medal for their efforts both on and off the water," said Harriet Evans, Mitsubishi Electric's team leader and Corporate Sales Manager.

"Each year around half of our crew have never even sailed before they step on board, so I am proud of their bravery."

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The Mitsubishi Maidens finished 11th in their class but enjoyed phenomenal success in Race Two, where their excellent teamwork saw them cross the line in 6th place.

Mitsubishi Electric has taken part in the event for the past 5 years and traditionally enters the only all-female crew. This year though, the skipper had to drop out at the last moment to be replaced by a man. Owain Peters, suddenly had to become Zoe for the weekend, don a fetching blonde wig for the occasion, and also chat happily about lipstick and dance moves.

“We also use the weekend as a team building exercise so it was important that we found a way to overcome the fact that our skipper had to change at the last minute,” explained Harriet.

The event also gives the team an opportunity to network with other companies working in the construction industry. The Mitsubishi Maidens this year were: Harriet Evans, Alex Black, Sarah Hayler, Penny Calvin-Thomas, Michelle Goodman, Megan Pugh, Hema Myanagr, Kerry Mooney, Helena Kadir, Natalie Pell, and guest sailor Abigail Matthews of structural engineers Momentum.

Over the event’s history, Little Britain has donated in excess of £1m to sailing charities helping disadvantaged or disabled people experience the world of sailing. The 2011 regatta raised £40,000 alone and organisers are hoping that this year’s event raises even more.

It’s not too late to make a donation and further details on the event and the charities can be found on the official website: www.littlebritain.co.uk.

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Note to editor: For further press information contact Russell Jones on 020 8647 4467.

Further Notes: All colour separation enquiries will be processed by email only. Please send all requests to sep@garnettkeeler.com.

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