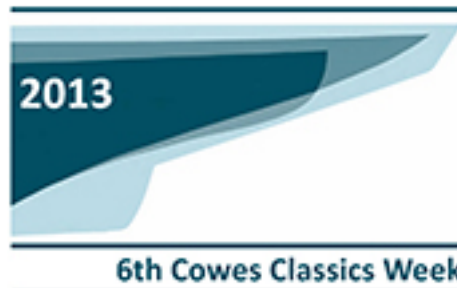


Newsletter

January 2013



Cowes Classics Week – 15-19 July 2013

Following this year's class captains meeting and the first meeting of the organising committee, plans for this year's regatta – the 6th - are falling into place and it is already shaping up to be bigger and better yet again with new classes, more boats in each fleet and with some changes to the format.

The Metre Classes

This year we will have all the major metre classes. The 6mR, who founded the event, will be joining us again and we will all look forward to seeing the 12mR out once more.



For the first time, the 8mR will be joining us. A new 8mR UK Class Association was formed a couple of years ago but the disparate location of the boats has made it difficult to organise class events. However, with new owners and a

renewed enthusiasm CCW will form a centrepiece of their 2013 programme.

90th Anniversary – Sunbeams

The Sunbeam fleet have been stalwart supporters of CCW from the outset. This year they are celebrating their 90th

Anniversary and will sail for the Queen Victoria Jubilee Cup which was given to the Royal London Yacht Club in 1886 by Queen Victoria and disappeared for almost a century until re-discovered

in 1973. They are expecting a record turnout with some boats coming up from Falmouth.



Overseas Visitors – Howth 17 Footer

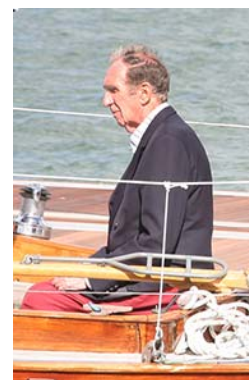
Indicative of the now well-established reputation of CCW, a number of boats will be coming over from Dublin Bay.



An 1898 design, they are probably the oldest racing one-design keelboat class in the world designed by W. Herbert Boyd who was Commodore of Howth Sailing Club for 52 years. They sail a regular match race with the Gaerloch fleet from the Clyde in the local class in alternate years. The Howth 17s will race with the Revival Old Gaffer fleet

Classic Cruiser/Racer Class

We have had requests to attend from a number of classic cruiser/racers and it certainly appears there is a latent demand from boats such as wooden IOR boats. We consequently launched



this as a new class on board David Cheverton aboard the 1958 yacht Danegeld at Danegeld at Southampton

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www.cowesclassicsweek.org

the Southampton Boat Show with the support of Classic Boat and Harken. Danegeld was designed by David Cheverton who was in attendance and is a past-Commodore of the Royal London YC. A half-model of Danegeld will be the trophy for this class. If anyone is aware of a qualifying boat it would be appreciated if details could be passed to the owner – an invitation can be downloaded from the web site. Handicapping is still to be finalised, but is likely to be that used by the classics fleet in the Baltic. The OGA will assist with handicapping the gaffer fleet.

Other Classes/Revival Class

In addition to our regular fleets of 6mR, Darings, Sunbeams, XODs, Bembridge One Designs and Loch Longs we are expecting some of our occasional attendees - Dragons, Mermaids, Squibs, Yarmouth One Design, Bembridge Redwings. It has always



been an ambition to attract more one-design classes and keel dayboats from

around the country whether they can attend as a fleet or not. Nearly every club around the country at one time had its own one-design fleet. 2012 saw the first successful Revival class which had to be split to provide good racing for the gaffers.

We are expecting a number of Swallows to attend for the first time.

We are hoping that the Mersey Mylnes will have overcome their troubles and make their way to Cowes at last. There is also a small quorum of Tumlare forming – a one-design cruising 20 sq.m. We have also had an enquiry from a French boat, a Requin – a boat similar to a 6mR. Potentially, lots of interesting boats.

These boats sail in the Revival fleet which will have three divisions this year – Classic Cruiser/Racer, Classic Keelboat and Classic Gaffer. A class start will be provided if sufficient boats attend.

Naturally, we want to encourage these boats as they have no other natural 'home' – so if you know of any appropriate boats – please let both them and us know – thanks.

Race Format

Until now, racing has intended to be a mix of laid courses and navigation courses with a Pursuit race as an added 'fun' race. Intended, because it has not always worked out that way. By alternating days of one type of course or the other, if a day was lost to weather, the balance didn't work out properly and it is only practical to catch-up with shorter races over laid courses. Also, as new classes join in, that approach is not always generally suitable. And the pursuit race, which is intended to try and get all the boats in the same patch of water at the same time has fallen foul to conditions in each of the last three years.

As a result, the class captains decided on a different approach and each class will get the type of racing they want. For most classes, the plan is to sail a laid course for the first race(s) each day and a navigation course for the last race with a finish off Cowes when suitable and with finishes timed to coincide and bring the boats together. This should offer some good photo opportunities off Cowes. Some classes have asked for windward-leeward only and some classes, such as the cruiser/racer will sail navigation courses with one long race during the week. The pursuit race has become a casualty but if anyone has ideas for other activities shared across classes, please let us know.

Royal London YC 175th Anniversary

2013 will be the 175th year of RLYC, the organising authority and host club. We should pull out all the stops to make this a memorable event for them in this year.



Posters & Invites

Posters have been distributed to all relevant clubs – if anyone needs another copy, please ask. Copies of invitations can be downloaded from the web site – on the keelboats page – please pass them around.



Monday Racing

Some classes have asked to race on Monday, although it is acknowledged that other classes find it hard to crew the boats for a full week. The race committee will liaise with those classes who would wish to race on Monday. Otherwise there will be a RLYC 175th Anniversary Race with separate prizes which will enable a warm-up or a bit of an introduction to the Solent.

Moorings

With the wider variety of boats attending, not all will use the Harbour Master's laid moorings and the launch service, so we are discussing options with the Marinas – more to follow later, but do please get in touch with Jill Stephenson, our regatta secretary (sailing@rlyc.org.uk) if you have any issues.

By the way, the operating hours for the launch service will be extended to allow for the increased numbers and more varied timing of boats leaving and returning.

Charter Boats

The Daring, 6mR and Sunbeam Fleet have boats available. Contact the class captains or through the RLYC Sailing Secretary

Socials

The programme is still up for discussion and may be affected by sponsorship requirements, but the class captains made representations concerning preferences which will be accommodated where possible – you may need your dancing shoes. The very popular tea and cakes will remain(!)

Sponsorship

A Sponsorship package has been prepared which can be tailored to any individual sponsor's needs. If any class has a need for this, please get in touch .

Volunteers

As the event has grown, it increases demands on the resources of the Cowes clubs involved. If any class has members that could offer assistance, please get in touch with Jill Stephenson, our regatta secretary (sailing@rlyc.org.uk) – it would be much appreciated.

Future Dates

Whilst it has been policy to organise CCW in the third week of July and two weeks before Cowes Week, recently events have prevented that. For 2013, that would have put CCW firmly in a week of spring tides so it has been brought forward a week. For reference, proposed future dates are:

2014	2 weeks before Cowes Week 21 – 25 July (HW Max 4.2m)
2015	3 weeks before Cowes Week 19 – 24 July (HW Max 4.4m)
2016	2 weeks before Cowes Week 25 – 29 July (HW Max 4.4m)

See you there

If you have any comments or suggestions for the improvement of Cowes Classics Week please contact your Class Captain or email david.elliott@cowesclassicsweek.org