Rear Commodore (Sail)

Annual Report

Racing

2025

Our 2025 Racing season finished on Saturday 27th September with the traditional Commodore's Pot, the after race prizegiving at lunchtime neatly flowed into the Annual Dinner held at the Imperial Hotel in the evening, so a full and fitting end to our season.

The program of races was well supported and I would like to extend my thanks to our generous sponsors without whom we could not have run the racing and of course thanks to the skippers and crews as well as their families for giving their time to participate. Due to the financial climate Boatworks decided to reduce the amount of sponsorship to the Club from their very generous £3,500 to (a still generous) £1,000 a year. This is directly reflected in the reduced financial contribution that racing makes to the Club. Whilst I am always looking for new sponsors, I recognise that it is increasingly difficult as, generally, sponsorship has been reduced across all amateur sports.

I especially thank our volunteers for going above and beyond in providing us all with tasty treats following the races, please don't ever think you are unappreciated, you are a huge part of what makes our club and our racing so special. Also thanks go to the rest of the Committee and the team of bar staff for welcoming the crews into the club after the races, despite sometimes not being sure at what time to open. Thanks also to my Race committee comprising of Stuart Place, Derek Knowles and Pete Saunders, you went above and beyond, turning out early mornings and standing in the rain and drizzle with your unflappable professionalism. Without you the racing could not happen and I know all the skippers and crews very much appreciate the time you devote.

Highlight of the year?

Without a doubt our victory over Jersey (again) in our own version of the America's Cup, the Lieutenant Governors' Cup which this year was held here. It nearly didn't happen though! The day of racing dawned, sunny and clear, but…… no wind, not a breath. We went out courtesy of Barry Pitfield who provided the committee boat. We set up a start line (based on where we thought the wind would come from), postponed the start for an hour and waited. Eventually the wind did fill in and we were able to get three short races in. The result was very very close. Going into the last race it was one race all, so all to race for, luckily Guernsey totalled 10 points to Jersey's 11 so we retained the trophy by one point …. phew. By the way we are currently leading with 38 wins to Jersey's 25.

2026

The Boatworks Frostbite series has been a resounding success to date with 15 boats participating across the two classes, sponsors are very happy, I try my hardest to give them as much exposure and feedback as possible. I have received only positive feedback from those who have taken part. The last race of the series being Saturday 28th March.

Moving forward everything is in place for the rest of the season. We have the usual series of the Nashcopy navigational races, Round Sark, Round Herm etc. In addition, there is the summer evening series with the season finishing off with the Commodores Pot at the end of September.

This year in conjunction with our friends at the Guernsey Yacht Club, we are re-running the successful Triangle Race at the end of May, so far we have 12 entries for the weekend which will see racing to Carteret, Dielette and back.

Cruising (Sail & Motor)

Last year saw a packed program with events including a cruise to Saint Helier, Alderney, Liberation Day pontoon party, cruise to Le Légué and an evening in Beaucette to name but a few. All the events were well supported and the more memorable ones were the weekend in Le Légué, impromptu Herm BBQ's and the very well supported dinner at Beaucette.

We have a packed calendar of events for this year, details are on the notice board, website, facebook etc. These cruises are very relaxed so please come along and have some fun supporting your Club.

On behalf myself and all those who take part, a huge thank you to Stuart and Sarah Crisp for all your hard work in revitalising and organising these events for the cruisers, it's very much appreciated.

Andrew Round
Rear Commodore (Sail)