



DARTMOUTH ROYAL REGATTA SAILING WEEK

MKS Dinghy Regatta @ DSC - Day 4 & Overall

27 August 2024

If I were pushed to describe this year's MKS Dinghy Regatta in one word, that word would be **FUN**.

If I were pushed to describe it in a few more words, I might tell of the infamous and vexed confustication that was gate-gate; the continuing saga of an old yellow sponge and half a banana; perhaps the nascence of novel and complex financial instruments in aid of the RNLI; our lovely visitors from near and far afield (or lake, river, valley or ria); our massed ranks of lovely volunteers; sparkingly brilliant and well-managed sailing; gorgeous views and food; all interspersed with villainous piratical acts and impressions of duck-billed platypi – and most importantly of all **FUN**.

A lot of **THANK YOUs**

Of course all this could not have happened without a legion of volunteers from the club, generous as ever with their time and skills, on the water and/or onshore. You have all been thanked personally and en masse, and are too numerous to name here, but once again, a huge **THANK YOU** from everyone who helped us put on such a marvellous, friendly and fun event.

Moore Kingstone Smith's continuing sponsorship is hugely appreciated, and allows us to provide (amongst other things) such amazing food and drink after racing every day, all included in the already excellent value entrance fee; along with daily cap prizes and the laminated (sadly gateless) course charts for every competitor. Many thanks as ever to all our supporters at MKS.

Race Management & Safety Boat Teams

Our race management team on board Nikita, led by Mike Foster, were magnificent, given the, typically uncooperative Dittisham winds and no winds and even too much wind on occasions. But through flexibility, good race management, judicious use of gates and not-gates we completed the full eight races, and actually finished the racing in time to hold the Prizegiving on time! Well done Mike and the Nikita team.

You all kept the busy and marvellous Safety Boat team (led by John Charnley) rather busy most days, and the team (especially Susi S) were particularly adept at salvaging highly valuable RNLI fund-raising materials (see below).

Saving lives at sea by drinking free beer/wine; capsizing for charity; and salvaging sponges, half-eaten fruit & entire spinnaker systems in aid of the RNLI.

The absolutely free Regatta beverage service, flotsam & jetsam buy-back scheme, and waterborne upsidaisy fund resulted in donations to the RNLI (as counted and audited by my aged mother) amounting to staggering £756.47 + one Euro – absolutely brilliant. Thank you all for your utterly spontaneous and totally unprompted generosity. It has already been handed to the RNLI, who were very thankful...

FOOD & PRIZEGIVING

The traditional last-day post-race repast was provided by the DSC regatta fleet themselves, and magnificent it was – more waterside buffet finger-food with a magnificent view than even someone as light of finger and fat of hand as I could gainsay – beaucoup de thanks go to Denise and Ann-marie for organising the smorgasbord of plentiful tastiness over the four days, helped by Pam, Paul, Caroline and so many others.

This year's prizegiving was notable for: firstly being on time as planned; and secondly for not being as entirely shambolic as in previous years – although there was still a good deal of sham and bolics, for which I take entire responsibility...

Well done to all the winners:

- Victory Montgomery in the Laser Radials
- Sam Mogridge in the Lasers (again)
- Howard Frear in his Streaker in the Slow Handicap (again)
- Stuart Hydon & Ann Biglin in their Lark in the Fast Handicap (again)
- Jack Norton in the Solos
- Sailing as a sport

Detailed results for Day 4 and overall can be found on the Regatta webpage.

<https://dartmouthsailingweek.com/results-2/>

The following awards will not be found on any official website...

Dittisham Tourist Board Awards (Dittisham Fudge): **All our lovely visitors** from Stoke Gabriel, Salcombe, Chew Valley, Sutton Bingham, Lensbury & Ranelagh

Furthest Travelled Award (Most Glorious and Noble County of Devon flags): **The Ranelagh SC boys (Will, Will & Jack)** in their venerable but rather swift wooden Solos from the Thames

Top Crew Award (Beer/cider): **ALL OF THEM** Chris Bates (Albacore), Pauline Mogridge (Enterprise), Ann Biglin (Lark), Pete Richards (GP14) & Phoebe (biggest Regatta smile) Holiday in the RS200

Nobility of Spirit Award: Riley Sentance (SGBA) – For manfully taking the only SGBA full rig Laser in the wildy winds so that his young charges could use the less powered Radial Rigs – leaving less than heavy

Dummy Spit/Toys out of the Pram Award: Not presented – once again everyone was remarkably well-behaved and softly spoken – and if they did mutter a mild expletive in the heat of the moment, they apologised unreservedly soon after

Pugwash Award (for despicable piratical acts in attempting to board other vessels – mine, to be exact): **Graeme Montgomery**

My Little Unicorn Award (for touching belief in lovely but impossible things): **Pete Joscelyn** for cutely believing he could make the first Solo start on the last day, when only arriving at the club after the PY fleet had already started their race – which he didn't!

And finally, everything was rounded off by some very kind words from Jack Norton (Solo winner from Ranelagh SC) on behalf of the visitors – which were much appreciated.

That's all,

See you next year...and a heartfelt thank you to you all for joining in the spirit.

Cheers,

Steven & the organising team

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