**Captain’s Report for Gorey Regatta 2020**

It is with great thanks to the many volunteers, sailors and the Gorey Regatta committee that we had a very successful 2020 Logicalis sponsored Gorey Regatta, after a spring lockdown that hindered preparation and social gathering, but not sailing.

Due to the experience and competence of the sailing committee, a safe and memorable event was very well attended with over 90 entries, making it one of the most popular regattas ever.

The report to follow was from the Association Committee member Philip Jeune which was published in the Jersey evening Post on July 14th.

It is with thanks to Philip that we continue to get great coverage of the event both here and in the UK.

Report from the JEP...

Last weekend’s beautiful weather made for a memorable Logicalis Gorey Regatta – the 163rd time this historic event has been held.

Calm seas, clear blue skies, constant sunshine and light winds – at times just a dash too light – attracted over 90 entries for what was the first major sailing regatta of the year.

These included three fast Hobie catamarans that came round from St Aubin’s Bay to compete – the class last featured in the regatta 13 years ago and it is hoped that more might take part in the future.

The easing of Covid-19 restrictions encouraged a large turnout – both of cruisers who came round from St Helier and dinghies from St Catherine’s. Everyone was keen to get back out onto the water racing again, and the lack of any social events ashore did not diminish their enthusiasm.

Pandemic restrictions did have one impact on the racing – no spinnakers were allowed, enabling the yacht crews to comply with social distancing guidelines.

In the cruiser classes Allen Brown and his colleagues aboard The Dog’s… had a great regatta, picking up three pieces of silverware, while Gorey Regatta Association Captain Justin Horton in his catamaran Sunbeam and Bernard Azuelos in Hamsa each collected two trophies.

The dayboat class, which seems to get stronger each year, saw eight entries on both days, with new arrival Peter Carnegie in Pod competing against his son Will and grandson Felix in Soda.

Saturday saw the lightest winds of the weekend, with boats battling against tide on the runs down to the Burons beacon, and sadly this forced starter Bill Harris, head of the race committee, to make the difficult decision to abandon the first dayboat race after nearly two hours’ sailing. This did not come as particularly welcome news to the two boats that were about to round the last mark, but the decision allowed all the competitors to get back for the start of the second race and maintain the regatta schedule.

Another newcomer to the class, Charlie Cadin, won Saturday’s races in his boat Kookaburra Too while on Sunday Anthony Gibb in Eliza took the class honours.

In the dinghy classes James Mulholland and Martin Speller each took home two trophies while in the windsurfer class the silverware was shared between John Gilmore and Henry Horton. The fast cat class was won by Adrian Jesson.

‘It was a great regatta,’ said Mr Horton. ‘It was very well supported by the cruiser fleet from St Helier and we were also very pleased to welcome the fast catamarans back – hopefully we can persuade them to return next year.

‘I’d like to pay tribute to the sterling work of the race committee, who did a marvellous job of handing a busy race schedule with different events often starting and finishing at the same time, and also thank the crews from St Catherine’s Sailing Club who manned the guard boats throughout the weekend.’

**RESULTS**

**CRUISERS**: Glendewar Challenge Cup, Stevens Centenary Challenge Cup and De Faye Memorial Cup, The Dog’s… - Allen Brown; Commodore’s Cup, Super Q – Julian Barber; Richardson Trophy, 2Farr – Jeff Speller; Le Riche Challenge Cup – Paper Tiger – Peter Crabb; Yangtze Cup and C Austin Potter Cup, Sunbeam – Justin Horton; Fairey Cup and Betty Bruce Challenge Cup, Hamsa – Bernard Azuelos;

**DAYBOATS**: Frank Jeune Trophy, Eliza – Anthony Gibb; Orviss Challenge Cup, Kookaburra Too – Charlie Cadin.

**DINGHIES**: Norman Challenge Cup and Marmotier Trophy, James Mulholland; Perchard Memorial, Tom Holland; Fourth Gorey Cup and Assinder Cup, Martin Speller; Fifth Gorey Cup, Ben Rogers; George Thomas Labey Memorial, Sam Romer; Rosel Bowl, Will Dengate; Ecrehos Trophy, Olin Rogers.

**FAST CATS**: F18 Prize, Adrian Jesson.

**WINDSURFERS**: Extra Cup 1, John Gilmore; Extra Cup 2, Henry Horton.

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In summary for the year past, I would like to thank Bill Harris and his team for an excellent weekend, professionally organised from the pier, and I look forward to the 2021 regatta with our increased numbers returning to the historic event of the Gorey Regatta.

Justin Horton, Captain, Gorey Regatta Association