

OGA Jubilee Festival at Cowes

15th-18th August 2013

Programme of Events

Thursday 15th August:

Boats arrive at the Cowes Yacht Haven and Shepards Wharf throughout the day.

Boats dressed overall in both marinas and can be viewed by visitors.

09:00 Boats start arriving.

16:00 RNLI Lifeboats attend festival

18:00 The official opening to the festival will commence with the free welcome drinks party. This is strictly ticket only which you book when you register online for the festival. You will all be welcomed with a free drink.

18:30 Auction of the Round Britain Challenge tokens, in aid of the RNLI.

19:30 The evening entertainment begins with 'Open Mic Night', which aims to allow crews and OGA members and guests to mingle in a relaxed atmosphere, meeting old friend and making new ones. We hope to unite all the areas of OGA with music from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, East Coast, South Coast and the West Country. Participation is encouraged so bring instruments and jolly voices. An OGA sea shanty completion is arranged for those who would like to join in. A small group of Solent Gaffer Shantiers wish to challenge fellow amateur shanty singers from across the nation to write an 'unofficial' OGA50 sea shanty to celebrate this special year. See www.oga50.org for more info.

00:00 Festival Event centre closes.

Friday 16th August, Teamac Regatta Day.

09:00 Festival office opens for any questions or queries and race registration.

10:00 Race Briefing for Saturday. We invite skipper and first mate from all boats registered to race, to free coffee and biscuits. Information about the weather and the course, last minute queries on handicap and last minute entries. Important safety information for skippers and crew including large shipping movements out of Southampton water.

11:00 East Coast OGA Regatta day sponsored by Teamac. A full fun packed day for the families and crew, with a series of light-hearted and wacky waterborne games within Cowes Yacht Haven marina basin.

We encourage as many participants as possible, all should plan on getting wet.

Lunch: Barbeque facilities, BYO food, bar open

14:00 The Teamac & East Coast OGA Regatta day continues.

17:30 The Dutch challenge, to make a clog into a model sailboat and race them, winner takes all!

19:00 The Teamac & East Coast OGA Dinner Dance.

A sit-down Fish 'n' Chip supper for 400 (tickets in advance, some still available), followed by after dinner entertainment featuring "The Hot Rats" and later MC Hammett's East Coast Retro Disco.

The Hot Rats, a 3-piece band from the East Coast Area, mix the essence of "songs of the sea" with the influence of "traditional folk" from several countries served up in a "rock style" which you will remember for years!!

'Em Sea' Hammett will be bringing his Disco gear and retro vinyl by land and by sea from the East Coast to take us all back in time to the 1960s

00:00 Festival Event centre closes.

Saturday 17th August ABP Race Day

09:00 Boats start leaving to prepare for the start of the historic race.

11:00 The record breaking attempt to have the largest gaff rig racing fleet of all time. We are aiming to have over 150 gaffers racing! Join in and make history.

15:00 Around this time the racing fleet will be finishing the race and will then take part in a Parade of Sail off Egypt Point and West Cowes.

18:00 Prize giving with our sponsor trophies to be awarded; ABP-overall winner on handicap, James Lawrence Trophy for Seamanship, Classic Boat Concours d'elegance and a Youth Cup. Prizes for class winners are also awarded as per the Solent OGA annual race rules.

19:30 The ABP & Solent OGA dinner for 400. This dinner is already sold out but you can still enjoy the evening's entertainment : a fantastic local Isle of Wight band called 'The Folsom Prisoners'. Lead vocalist Damien Paul was winner of 2010 live-wired competition (playing at the IOW Festival) and his whiskey-soaked, gravely-voiced vocals are a perfect tribute to performing the music of Jonny Cash, with a few classic Rock'n'Roll and up-tempo Blues tunes thrown in for good measure. You will find it impossible not to get up and dance.

00:00 Festival Event Centre Closes.

Sunday 18th August

12:00 Boats disperse and Festival closes.