



9 Sep 25

ROYAL ARTILLERY OFFSHORE REGATTA 2025 REPORT

1. **General.** The 76th RA Offshore Regatta took place off Yarmouth on Sat 6 Sep 25. Once again, the RAYC were wonderfully hosted by the Royal Solent Yacht Club, achieving 3 races in ideal sailing conditions: sunshine and brisk 15-20 kn winds.
2. **Participation.**
 - a. There were 8 participating boats: 4 in the Cruising class (Bhopal Cup) and 4 in the IRC class (Bantry Cup). This is a marked increase over the 5 boats that participated in 2024. However, the aspiration should be to have 12-15 boats taking part, with many more from the serving Regiment.
 - b. Approximately 50 competitors took part. There was one crew of serving soldiers – White Knight 7 crewed by 16 Regt RA SNCOs and soldiers. The remaining boats were crewed by a mix of serving, civilian and retired personnel.
 - c. On the Saturday evening the 12 Regt RA Trans-Atlantic Rowing Team made up of 4 JNCOs had rowed across to Yarmouth and gave an introductory talk about themselves and their row boat to the Regatta participants, receiving the presentation of a RAYC ensign from the Admiral.
3. **Management.** The Rear Commodore (Offshore) organised the event, under guidance and direction from the Commodore. The RSYC provided the Race Officer and staff to direct and record the racing, and also provided the 3-course dinner on the Sat evening in their clubhouse, where prize-giving by the RAYC Admiral took place. As ever, the RAYC is indebted to the RSYC for their support.
4. **Race results.**
 - a. **IRC Handicap.**

i. 1 st	Kusima	Ben Archer (RA Retd)
ii. 2 nd	Dogmatix	Tony Neylan (RA Retd)
iii. 3 rd	White Knight 7	Max Wilkinson (RA SSgt serving – 16RA)
iv. 4 th	Ilex	Tim Wordsworth (RA Retd)

b. **Cruiser Handicap.**

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| i. 1 st | Buster | Kevin Raine (RA Retd) |
| ii. 2 nd | St Barbara V | Nat Webber (RA Col serving – Army HQ) |
| iii. 3 rd | Bombardier III | Richard Nugee (RA Retd) |
| iv. 4 th | Skylark | Stewart Henderson (R SCOTS Retd) |

c. **Sweepstake.** 3 boats entered the sweepstake competition returning to Gosport.

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| i. 1 st | Kusima | Ben Archer | 2hrs 34 mins 17 secs |
| ii. 2 nd | Ilex | Tim Wordsworth | 3hrs 5 mins 55 secs |
| iii. 3 rd | St Barbara V | Nat Webber | Did not finish |

5. **Trophies.** The following prizes were presented:

- a. **Admiral's Cup.** Awarded to 16 Regt RA as the first placed yacht crewed by RA units or Establishments.
- b. **Bantry Cup.** Awarded to Ben Archer and Kusima, winners of the RAYC IRC Handicap Race series.
- c. **Bhopal Cup.** Awarded to Kevin Raine and Buster, winners of the RAYC Cruiser Handicap Race series.
- d. **Nawabzada Cup.** Awarded to Tony Neylan and Dogmatix, the second placed yacht in the RAYC IRC Handicap Race series.
- e. **Morgan Trophy.** Awarded to Nat Webber and St Barbara V, the second placed yacht in the RAYC Cruiser Handicap Race series.
- f. **Solent Trophy.** Presented by Mr Paul Nicholson in 2019 to mark 70 years of continuous regattas held by the RAYC at the RSYC. Presented to SSgt Max Wilkinson as youngest skipper in any class. (NB the trophy was not present and therefore needs to be located and presented separately).

- 6. **Financial.** Race entry was £45 per boat and dinner was priced at £40 per head for a 3-course meal in the RSYC clubhouse dining room. There were 8 guests invited to dine, and whose meal costs are covered by the RAYC: RSYC Cdre, 5 x rowers, and – as is traditional – the two RAYC Bosuns. Final invoices are still outstanding, but it is expected that the race entry fees and dinner charges paid by participating members will have covered the cost of the regatta and dinner.
- 7. **Summary.** Overall an excellent Offshore Regatta with significantly greater numbers than last year in high perfect sailing conditions, and with the customary fantastic support from the RSYC. The main area to improve for 2026 and future Offshore Regattas is in continuing to increase participation, in particular by the serving Regiment.

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