

# Classic Boat

THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL BOATS

## Dazzling Cowes

Kelpie steals the show

Down the Shannon: racing the Irish way

Making Mischief ready to sail again

Elizabeth Meyer  
Queen of the J-Class

PANERAI COWES REGATTA  
BCYC's best yet

SEASIDE SUMMER SPEEDBOATS  
Day-trip Chris-Craft

CB COMPETITION  
Design a cruiser





## PANERAI BRITISH CLASSIC WEEK

# Celebrating difference at BCYC

The weather wasn't the best – on the opening Sunday F7 winds caused the classic Round the Island race to be cancelled while rain and storm clouds also dogged the middle of the week – but despite that, and with 72 boats, this was the best British Classic Yacht Club regatta yet.

The most significant aspects of this year's BCYC Panerai British Classic Week were the number of boats and the difference in design. There were gorgeous gaffers, from the 57ft (17m) *Kelpie* to the 29ft 6in (9m) *Jap*; an Ian Howlett 12-M, *Crusader*; no fewer than five Spirit yachts, a Folkboat...

What? A Folkboat? Yes, small boats were much in evidence, with two SCODs, the Folkboat *Little Otter*, an East Anglian – *Cherette* – and portrait artist Michael Frith's 24ft (7.3m) *Blue Eagle*. "This feels really great," Michael said after racing.



EMILY HARRIS



CLUB GUB AN TING



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**Above:** Jack Gifford of GL Watson at the helm of *St Patrick*  
**Far left:** Ben Frecheville and Rory Boyle, crew of the 8-M *Athena*.  
**Left:** founder Tim Blackman - BCYC admiral.

"We're not the fastest around the course and to be honest we've crossed the line after the committee boat had left, but as long as our time can be recorded, we're very happy."

Allowing the smaller boats to race meant that William Collier, head of GL Watson and one-time CB columnist, brought his exquisitely restored *St Patrick*, a GL Watson BRA 18ft class, which is just one of those sweet-lined small boats everyone loves to see. Having been restored at Fairlie she's also quick, and many people (often in larger boats) were seeing her overtaking them.

This year Panerai rolled out a vast courtesy lounge and there was more of a tented village feel to things – hotter sun and it would start to feel like the Med!

And that's really the point. By creating a more diverse regatta along the lines of what happens on the continent, Cowes really is set up for something spectacular next year. Tell those captains in the south: no more excuses! Come and race in tidal waters with the BCYC!

DH



CLUB GUB AN TING



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**Far left:** Water WAGs? Waiting for the boats to come in. **Left:** Andrew Thornhill brought two 22 SqMs to the event and helmed *Vigilant*





KATHY MANSFIELD



EMILY HARRIS

Above: Some of the sails look more IRC than BCYC, but the club hosts a contingent of the Spirit class of modern classic yachts. Far left: *Infanta*, Tim Blackman's yawl. Left: *Lora*, a 100-year-old Pain Clark design



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Far left: The *SCOD Marbella* and Michael Frith's *Blue Eagle* enjoy some racing. Left: Hal Sisk and *Peggy Bawn* were providing the 1880s look