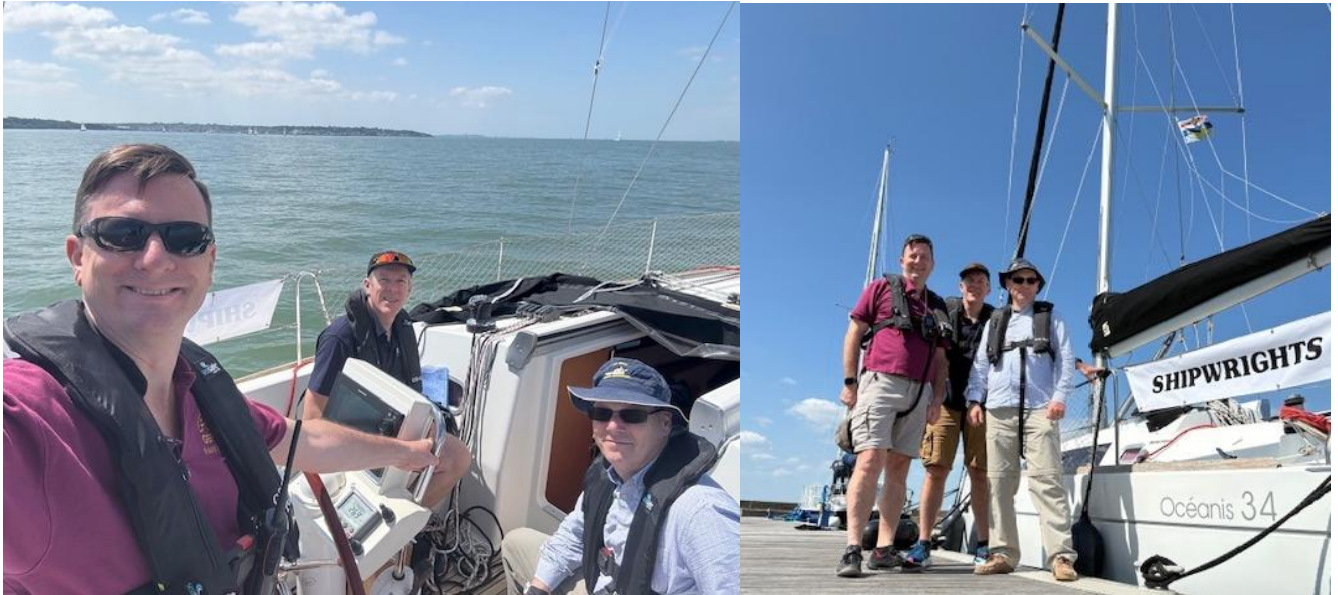


Inter Livery Regatta Report 2025

Late May saw the 56th annual Inter Livery Regatta organised by the City Livery Yacht Club (CLYC), take place in Cowes and on the Solent. The regatta is the longest running consecutive sporting event in the Livery calendar and crews compete for silverware including the coveted Lord Mayor's Cup for the overall winners, and the Visitor's Vase for boats without a CLYC member on board.



23 boats entered with some Companies entering more than one (Butchers and Leathersellers most notably). Champagne sailing conditions on the Friday passage from Gosport to Cowes allowed the Shipwrights' team of Liverymen Danny Boswell, Matthew Cox and Paul Butterworth (skipper) to practice tacking and gybes, sailing in a Beneteau Oceanis 34 and flying the Shipwrights' flag. Friday evening saw an excellent buffet dinner held in the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC) allowing an opportunity for the various crews to meet, before returning onboard for a passage planner or two, to talk tactics.



After the Saturday race day briefing at 0830 accompanied by excellent bacon rolls, strong tides and light airs made for tough racing conditions. A challenging start for some, the course headed east from the start line towards the central Solent, then back northwest towards Bramble Bank before turning southeast towards the Cowes breakwater. The morning race took longer than expected and at the break, with light airs still in play the organisers took the decision to cancel the afternoon race and all boats turned to Cowes for early refreshments.



The regatta Presentation Dinner took place in the Royal Yacht Squadron Pavilion on Saturday evening and whilst we did not win any silverware, it was super to see fellow Shipwright Rob Bellfield sailing for his mother Company the Leathersellers, win Class 2 and also come second overall. With 90 attendees, the guest speaker was the Aldermanic Sheriff, Gregory Jones KC, who spoke on behalf of the Lord Mayor about the importance of maritime, shipping and security to global trade and the City.





A murky passage back to Gosport on Sunday morning followed by 'clean ship' and we were away off home by lunch.

Our first experience of the Inter Livery Regatta will not be our last and the weekend was great fun with many fellow minded members of the livery movement. As the foremost 'maritime' livery company, it would be tremendous to have more Shipwright boats enter next year for what is a calm sailing event (unlike the Round the Island Race!) and a very well organised social programme. Membership of the CLYC is NOT required to enter the regatta.



Fair winds and following seas to all our Shipwright sailors this season!

Paul Butterworth, Court Assistant

