

Swiftsure Regatta : 7th December 2014

We're mixing it up at this years' Swiftsure Regatta. It is bigger than ever, with an enthusiastic mob of St Ayles Skiff rowers from various local communities. This will be an opportunity to test the boats for possible improvements before the big St Ayles Skiff Regatta next February.

Also new will be the addition of two large, historic rowing craft , the *Admiral* and *La Chaloupe* to compare with and challenge our whaleboat, the *Swiftsure*.

This regatta is the culmination of the "On the Water" local schools programme and there will be races to compete for the newly inaugurated "**Mrs Dyson Trophy**".

- **Mixed teams.** Due to the amount of races to be held, we cannot fit in mens', womens' and mixed heats separately, so each team must have at least one member of the opposite sex rowing, to have fair competition. All races [apart from Big Buoys, if necessary] will therefore be "mixed" in the spirit of community rowing.
- **Mixed boats.** With this many teams, they will often need to use other peoples' boats anyway, so the teams will be given their boat through ballot at the start of each race.
- **Mixed Generations.** Parents and teachers will also be rowing, with a bit of role reversal in the "Kids in Kontrol" race.
- **Yummy food will be available all day:** Breakfasts from 8am, hot drinks, sandwiches, cakes and lunches including Curries.
- **Boat trips** will be available on a mix of heritage boats, moored at the rowing club pontoon 100 meters away.

Some of the Living Boat Trusts' boats will be available to try your hand at rowing or sailing, with competent skippers to help you.

We are also expecting locally owned boats to be on show, to allow guests to learn the ropes a little.

Programme of Events on the water.

8.00 practice sessions if required.

8.30 **Registration** of boats/teams [will continue at cash desk until noon]. \$2 / person for a badge & to cover some costs. Please wear badge for ID of participants.

8.40 **Volunteer instructions** explanation of duties/questions.

9.00 -11.30 Both 1km St Ayles skiffs time trials and school Grebes will be fitted in this time slot.

9.30 School Grebes will begin timed heats of 200m, alternating with Skiffs.

The following times may change subject to final numbers of teams being known.

11.30 "**Blind faith**" 2 rowers blindfold with rudderless cox 200m.

3 to 5 Grebes. Leave Buoy to starboard.

11.50 1km Time trial – St Ayles skiffs *From best 6 times*

12.15 1km Time trial – St Ayles skiffs *From best 6 times*

Races will include **Swiftsure, Admiral or La Chaloupe** in timed trials with motley crew...

Some Volunteers from slower 6 St Ayles heats can get another row under guidance from some regular big boat crews. Some big boat regulars may be in a skiff, you see?

12.40? An extra time trial perhaps just for the big boats with some crew from slower Skiff races.

also

12.40 **“Kids in Kontrol”** The Grown-ups row and kids steer. 5 Grebes 200 meters
Buoy to starboard. Winners get a funky LBT hat with “Kids in Kontrol”

13.00 **FINAL School Grebes** - Best 5 times, *race for the Mrs Dyson Trophy* [thereby hangs a tale].

13.20 **Presentation - School Grebes** - 3rd, 2nd and “Mrs Dyson” prizes +
Fastest Overall Grebe Team certificate.

13.30 **Sculling Relay Grebes** from beach -50m *buoy to starboard.*
2 Grebes, 4 or 6 scullers for “The Scull” trophy. [Presented at finish of race]

13.50 **“Big Buoys Challenge”** 1km Battle of the big boats – Swiftsure, Admiral, La Chaloupe
with crack teams *...Just to see...? Timed for the record.*

14.10 **FINAL St Ayles Skiffs.**- timed 1km race.

14.30 **Presentations – St Ayles Skiffs.**

Boats rigged for sailing.

15.00 **“The Rat Race”** for the **Everlasting Jar of Jelly Beans**. Grebes and other boats have been rigged earlier and there will be the traditional **sailing for all comers** around Rat Island; an opportunity to compare the St. Ayles skiffs under sail.

ENJOY; THERE’S HEAPS OF FUN ON THE WATER, WHY NOT HAVE A GO IN THE FUN RACES?

Please help as much as you can with packing up.