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COWES WEEK



**SPECIAL
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**Lucky escape
that made
me stop
and think**

Shelley Jory-Leigh
Page 13



The sloop "Cetewayo" leading the fleet in the eastern Solent at the British Classic Yacht Club Panerai Cowes Regatta

Photo: Panerai/Lloyd Images

Classic beauty at Cowes

THE 52-boat fleet in the British Classic Yacht Club Panerai Cowes Regatta was bathed in glorious sunshine providing the flock of photographers with the chance to capture the beauty of the unique gathering of classic racing yachts.

As the sun set over the Solent, the regatta which is a new addition to the Panerai Classic Yachts Challenge series this year was being

hailed as the most successful in the event's nine-year history.

It was a perfect curtain raiser just days ahead of Cowes Week when nearly 1,000 yachts and 8,000 sailors compete in the Solent. But for all its style and unique history, the world's biggest regatta cannot always quite match the elegance of the classic champions of yesteryear.

The overall first prize for the

classics went to the 1957 vintage sloop Cetewayo. As overall winner of the long distance race and the overall regatta, Cetewayo's owner, British Classic Yacht Club Commodore David Murrin, was presented with two Panerai watches. He immediately donated them to the Special Boat Service, a charity that supports members and families of the Royal Navy.

The 1985 12 Metre, Italia, received the Sea Dragon Island Trophy for taking overall line honours in the long distance race. The Lallow Cup for best-presented new entrant went to the 1898 Gaff Cutter, Kismet.

Founded in Florence in 1860, Officine Panerai was the official supplier of precision instruments for the Italian Navy.

www.britishclassicyachtclub.org/regatta



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