DAYBOAT WEEK.

The 1958 Dayboat Week took place at Poole, under the burgee of the Poole Yacht Club, from August 11th-15th. This venue proved to be well nigh perfect, the club having all the facilities for an event of this importance.

All the visitors and their craft were received by an official of the club on arrival and the boats were immediately launched and taken out to specially prepared moorings. No boat was allowed to be hauled out during the Week unless it needed repair and then only with the permission of the Sailing Committee. By keeping the boats on moorings this cut out the arduous task of manhandling them into and out of the water which is usually associated with other dinghy meetings. Launches very efficiently ferried the crews to and from their boats for every race.

Thirtyfour entries were received and there were approximately thirty starters every day. The weather could hardly be described as summer, there being quite a lot of rain and very little sunshine. The wind, however, gave perfect racing conditions, being fresh enough to get the best out of a Dayboat but not making it necessary to reef. Occasional prolonged squalls during some of the races provided plenty of excitement and had many of the boats There were several very close finishes.

As is now expected of the Dayboat there were no capsizes and the only boat to suffer serious damage was Miss S. Hack's 'Penelope' who broke her mast on the Friday. John Harrison, last year's champion, was prevented at the last minute from taking part and defending his title but 'Bali Ha'i' (J.W. Humphries) a brand new cold-moulded boat built by him carried off the majority of the trophies. All the trophy races took place in the mornings using triangular courses designed to give the least advantage to local helmsmen. However most of the visitors imagined that there was less water than there really was and during the first races carefully followed every move made by the yellow painted 'Moonraker' (E.Cake) the local favourite. Eric Cake found this rather embarassing and on one occasion he was so closely followed that he was unable to go about and was forced out into the main tide when he would have preferred to do short tacks inshore.

There were two afternoon races over an interesting course right the way down through Poole Harbour and back again and on other afternoons launches were laid on to show visiting crews and their families the beauties of this wonderful sailing ground.

The club house was a hive of industry all day. Competitors gathered in the bar for a much needed refresher and the inevitable post-mortem after racing. First class meals, prepared and served by the ladies, were most welcome. The social events started with a cocktail party on Monday evening and throughout the Week there were parties, dances, and a theatre party to Bournemouth. The Week was rounded off with the club's Regatta on the Saturday and the majority of visitors took part.

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The 'Weston Bay' (Championship) Trophy.

lst. 119 Bali Ha'i J.W. Humphries. Weston Bay Y.C. 2nd. 41 Roberta DR.H.F.Kay. Weston Bay Y.C. 3rd. 48 Minx J.Wright. Aberdeen S.C.

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