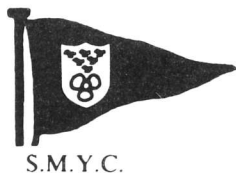


The above picture shows the historic Prince of Wales Britannia Trophy – which will be awarded to the winner of the London to Brighton Offshore Powerboat Race 1987.

THE FABERGÉ BRUT



1st London to Brighton Powerboat Race 9/10th May 1987

by Tim Brand Crombie

IT has just been announced that FABERGÉ will sponsor the first ever London to Brighton Offshore Powerboat Race on Sunday May 10th 1987. At 10am, just as the Mars London Marathon gets under way, 40 boats, one of the largest entries for offshore since the early '70s will set out on its 170 mile journey, east down the Thames from the Tarmac Group owned Heron Quays in the heart of the new Docklands project and will arrive at their destination of the Brent Walker Marina Village in Brighton at around 3.30pm.

After leaving the Thames, the fleet will head south for Ramsgate, Kent. The first boat is expected to arrive at around 11am for re-fuelling and a re-start in Ramsgate Harbour. Spectators will be able to view the powerful boats on the Thames, at Ramsgate, and en route from Dover and Beachy Head.

This race replaces the old Putney to Calais race and is open to all offshore classes and cruisers and they will race at speeds of up to 100mph. There is a trophy for each of the four classes and Class 3 boats will compete for the particularly coveted and historic Prince of Wales Britannia Trophy. This trophy was presented to the Sussex Yacht Club by HRH the Prince of Wales (later Edward V111) in 1931 and was first competed for in the Britannia International Trophy Race in 1931 when 15 boats entered — a total of only 4 horsepower. It has remained in the Club's possession for many years awaiting a really exciting and prestigious race and the SMYC envisages stiff competition for the honour of winning it.

Amongst the entries will be many old faces and new rigs including Ray McEnall who has joined up with the Culpin Brothers

to field a new Class 1 boat 'Outsider'. Ray started racing in the late '70s and then teamed up with Noel Edmunds in 'Mac 1' a Class 3 monohull powered by twin Mercs. before they both moved into Class 2 with the triple Mercury powered Cossack sponsored boat number 19. Ray then dropped out of the limelight before returning with 'Outsider', the ex-Toleman Cougar.

Whilst talking about the Tolemans, the twins will be campaigning again in 1987 under the same banner as last year with Roger Trotman as navigator. The Miss Fitz duo spearheaded by Alan Gorry with his new co-driver Richard Strutton junior have now bought the aluminium Cougar of John Craxford, the first aluminium Cougar cat built which was originally called 'Roman Sabre' and powered by twin Ford Sabre Diesels.