

Bluebottle creates a buzz at the Dragon World Championship 2022!

The latest addition to The Royal Yacht Britannia's historic fleet, Bluebottle, is hoping to continue its sailing success at the Dragon World Championship 2022 in Kühlungsborn, Germany.

Formerly owned and much-loved by the late The Duke of Edinburgh and widely considered to be the most iconic of all Dragons, 75-year-old Bluebottle (GBR 192) will join its modern-day counterparts for the international, biennial sailing regatta.

World-class sailors Julia and Graham Bailey plus European Junior Champion Will Heritage will crew Bluebottle at the event which takes place 12-17 June 2022.

The classic dragon was built by Camper and Nicholson in 1947 and presented to Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Prince Philip as a wedding present by the Island Sailing Club, Isle of Wight. In the years to follow, both The Prince of Wales and The Princess Royal learned to sail in the classic dragon.

Since coming into the ownership of The Royal Yacht Britannia Trust in 2019, Bluebottle has been painstakingly restored to racing form by David Heritage Racing Yachts in Cowes.

The Baileys and Will Heritage will be hoping to build on their success since Bluebottle returned to racing last year. In August, they won Overall Champion in the Dragon Class at Cowes Week. Just three weeks later, they finished 2nd in the Scottish Dragon Class Championships and 3rd overall in the British Dragon Class Championships (Edinburgh Cup) at the Royal Forth Yacht Club in Granton, Edinburgh.

In 1956 Bluebottle was loaned to the British sailing team competing at the Melbourne Olympics, with Lt Cdr Graham Mann at the helm, winning a Bronze Medal, the only British Dragon to have done so. The Royal Yacht Britannia Trust is hoping Bluebottle's legacy continues!