

GAFFERS LOG

March 2010



The Official Newsletter of the Old Gaffers Association

**Welcome to the Gaffers Log March 2010 edition
including the biggest ever list of OGA and related
traditional boat events – 6 pages in all**

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need to keep in touch*



Front cover: 'New Sails' by Danielle Hicks NIOGA – 2009 OGA
photographic Competition entry

Bristol Channel and Devon Gaffers invited to attend
Clovelly Maritime Festival for the first time
New Canadian Area opened affiliated to the OGA.
OGA 2009 Photographic Competition results
Around the Areas keeps you in touch with your Area
and what's happening there AGM report, annual accounts, minutes,
and articles both serious and not so serious



The very beautiful Clovelly harbour, North Devon.

Editorial

I start this, my second term as Editor of Gaffers Log, with fear and trepidation, having had a year off-watch. What to do with the magazine to bring a fresh look to it and what support will I get from Area Secretaries and members?

Well, as to support from Area Secretaries, many have already responded brilliantly with articles, photos and dates of events planned for 2010, and more is promised before this edition is sent to publication. I sincerely hope that all will reply in time, but if your Area is not represented to your satisfaction, please write to your Area President and ask why or write directly to me and we will do all we can to rectify the situation.

As to you, the members, I urge you to write in with your views and comments, photos and articles. The more the merrier, as they say. I will print all that I can, and be your comments positive or negative, I welcome them and will print them on the "Letters" page. We have an open forum section on our OGA website which you can also use, but, a good old letter or e-mail will reach all members, computer literate or not via these pages. So please WRITE IN with your views, wishes, ideas, moans and groans.

Before I go any further, I wish to thank Keith Watson who took over from me in January of last year. He has done a sterling job. He would have carried on, I know, except that full time work demanded so much more of his time. I was always very aware that full time work and running the Log do not make happy bedfellows. Well done Keith and thanks for the year off.

This year has already begun with changes within the OGA General Management Committee. These are the people who give their time freely to run the organisation for you, the Membership. Most importantly Mike Shaw (Solent Area OGA) has taken over as President from Brian Hammett who stands down after four years of great work on the helm. There are other changes, but these are recounted elsewhere within the Honorary Secretary's Report, which I shall leave to him.

However it does lead me on to my own election at the recent AGM and to make it clear to all (you can read this in the minutes of the AGM printed elsewhere in this edition) it was as 'Log Editor until such time as a permanent Editor can be found'. So the vacancy still exists and is open to anyone who has a wish to take on this most interesting (the most interesting if you ask me) role in the Old Gaffers Association. However you do need time and I would suggest someone, who is recently retired and looking for a challenge to keep the 'little grey cells' alive, would be best suited to the job. When I took it on back in 2002 or was it 2003, I had never done anything like it in my life before, so don't be put off if you don't have experience in printing or publishing - it's not rocket science.

We have a full list of events planned for 2010 which are listed across the central spread of this issue, so, if cruising in your own Area or in waters new, do see what is going on and try to join in. You are always sure of a great welcome at a Gaffers' "do".

With best wishes and "bon vent" for 2010

Phil Slade

The closing date for the next edition (June) is the 1st May.





Would you like to get involved with the running of the OGA?
If so we have the following vacancies that need filling:

OGA Merchandise Coordinator: This requires some one with good organisational skills to run the purchasing, stocking and sales of all National OGA merchandise to members.
Contact Chris Brown on 01462 769071 or email hontreasurer@oldgaffersassociation.org

OGA Publicity Coordinator: We need someone, preferably with current or previous experience in the field of publicity, to draw together items and articles of interest from all Areas in the OGA to run a united Publicity program involving contacts with all the major sailing media. We need someone NOW to enhance the OGA profile in the run up to our 2013 fiftieth anniversary and related events and beyond. Contact Robert Holden on 01843 582997 or email secretary@oldgaffersassociation.org

Gaffers Log Editor: See Editorial on pages 4 and 5 for further information or contact the Editor directly on 00 33 2 33 34 5320 (France) or email philip.slade@orange.fr



National Historic Ships are about to launch their 2010 photographic competition. Robert Holden will get the full details soon so ask him for details. The editor understands that some good prizes will be on offer for photos of maritime heritage subjects.



E Borders and all that stuff

Members will not be generally aware, although Area Secretaries and Presidents have been kept informed, that your National Hon Secretary, Robert Holden, has been working hard behind the scenes on behalf of the OGA and sailors generally to have the e- borders legislation, proposed by the UK government, squashed. In brief if this comes into force then we will all be obliged to log with HM Customs and Excise all voyages we make, short or long, checking in on arrival etc to mention but a little of the proposals. The RYA has also been protesting strongly with HM government along the same lines to have this blocked.

Robert has worked hard on this rather 'un' glorious subject but along with others has been met with some success in that following extensive lobbying with local and Euro MP's the Select Committee looking into the matter has declared that:

'We conclude that it is only in exceptional cases, based exclusively on the conduct of the individual concerned, rather than as part of a blanket requirement, that an EU Member State can impose any requirement, other than simple production of a valid identity document, to restrict the entry into or exit from that Member State of an EU citizen. The e-borders programme is therefore, as far as we can ascertain, likely to be illegal under the EU treaty'.

An example of what the GMC does behind the scenes on behalf of all OGA members.

Well done Robert.



OGA Photographic Competition

OGA photographic competition 2009



The total numbers of entries in 2009 was similar to the previous two years. For the first time however, this year there were entries from Holland, numbering half the total entry with a significant 64 photographs. This is a welcome development, particularly since the corresponding entries from the UK and Ireland were down by a similar number, for reasons that are not clear. A very special thank you to Molly Vingerhoets who co-ordinated and forwarded all the Dutch entries. The quality of the entries were excellent from both sides of the North Sea and judging was as tough as ever. Inevitably meaning, that a number of fine photos were eliminated at the final hurdle even though there are four 'Highly Commended' images in each of the categories. Congratulations to all the winners and commiserations to those not so lucky.

Winners - Under 18 Category

The winner of this category is Jonathon Brain with *Finishing Line*- A fine picture taken from the safety boat during a race at Ullswater.

Sailing Gaffers

Highly Commended were *Stormy* by Keith Allso, *Ragamuffin* by Rik Homan
Windwards by Ninke Plaatsman and *Kestrel in the morning sun* by Else Wagemakers

3rd Place was *Bona* by Tony Pickering- An eye catching photo showing some of the tension of manoeuvring a large boat with limited sea room

2nd Place was *Raven on the River Stour* by Han Weaver- the joy of sailing with plenty of wow factor!

1st Place went *The Power & the Glory* by Mike Brackstone- all in the title- a powerful and glorious photograph

Sailing Shots

Highly Commended were *Slow to Answer* by Simon D'Arcy, *New spinnaker tactics* by Peter Kruitwakon, *Rotten Rudder* by Nicole Diemer, and *How can I feed the crew* by Erik Franks.

3rd Place was *Cabin Boy* by Carol Laird- a lovely shot- 'I'm looking for a bumble bee, anyone seen one?'

2nd Place was *Skating & Sailing* by Molly Vingerhoets- an unusual take on sailing ice gaffers- where's the wind gone?

1st Place was *Thunderstorm over Wrabness* by Joachim Van Houwereninge- a strong contrast of colour and gloom makes a terrific photo

OGA Photographic Competition

Having the entries sent in from Holland is an excellent development and will hopefully encourage entries from wherever you live in the world, please do send them in. The 2010 competition is now open!

Viv Head



'Raven on the River Stour' by Han Wever Netherlands OGA.
Second Sailing Gaffers Category OGA Photocomp 2009



Gaffers Log

'A selection of 2009 entries to the OGA photographic competition'



Kestrel in the morning sun by Else Wagemakers NLOGA 'Sailing Gaffers Highly Commended'



Slow to answer by Simon D'Arcy SOL OGA 'Sailing Shots Highly Commended'



Ragamuffin by Rik Homan NLOGA 'Sailing Gaffers Highly Commended'



Windwards by Nynke Plaatsman NLOGA 'Sailing Shots Highly Commended'

OGA Trophy Awards 2009

Cape Horn Trophy

Judged by Tom Cunliffe and Sam Poole, the Cape Horn Trophy went to Bob Angell NWA OGA who, single-handed, made an 11-hour voyage from Conwy, North Wales to attend the September event in Holyhead. In company were two much larger boats. Bob's boat 'Comrades' is a well-found and sturdy Welsh Nobby (Morecambe Bay Prawner), 26' on deck, a gaff-rigged cutter with a diesel engine, but no self-steering or autopilot. After 30 miles of difficult sailing and with only a short distance to go, his natural determination was to complete the passage, but instead he listened to the advice of the other two experienced skippers who had both decided to turn back. What should have been an easy trip had soured because the weather conditions had deteriorated badly. Determined, he tried anchoring for an hour, waiting for slack water around Carmel Head, before he decided that the safest option was for him also to return to Conwy.



David Cade Memorial Trophy

Judged by the GMC, this was awarded to Peter Lyons who during 2009 put in a huge amount of personal effort to finalise Phase 1 of the Gaffers Online Database. He not only did this, but also kept up his role of Membership Secretary for the Association.



OGA Trophy Awards 2009

Grumpy II Cups

For 2009, this has been awarded to Stephen Clarkson, skipper of Morna, and Matthew Wylie, young crew, for taking part in the Small Ships Race this Summer. They competed in this fairly local race at Greenock, and came first in their class. In the passage race to Belfast they came 2nd in their class. Crew included Attracta Neeson and Robin Brennan, Andrew Newberry, John Ferguson and Matthew Wylie.



Alan Aston very kindly accepted the trophy on Stephen and Matthew's behalf as they were unable to attend.

Janty Cup

Judged by George and Brenda Jago for the best article by a young person under the age of 25 in Gaffers Log during 2009, this was awarded to Hannah Goram, aged 10. Hannah's article appeared in the September Log entitled "Exciting Experience at Beale Park". Her father, Malcolm, confirmed that she did not want him to make any alterations to the article, that it was written in her own words entirely. Her article also contained three photographs and is "a credit to someone of her age" said George and Brenda. "We are sure with her charming and persuasive character she is a very up and coming member of the OGA and well deserves the trophy".



OGA Trophy Awards 2009

Gaffers Tales Trophy

This is awarded for the best article to appear in Gaffers Log in the year and is judged by the Editor, Keith Watson. In Keith's words, "During the year there were a fabulous number of excellent articles, but this one was nicely composed with a lovely turn of phrase and some humour which never goes amiss in the Log. We all began our sailing experience somewhere, and this was a lovely story about starting out in a more innocent age - now long gone". Well done to David Grainger for his article which appeared in the March Log entitled "How it All Began".



Trailer Section – Seamanship Trophy

This is a new trophy for the Trailer Section, given to the Association by Malcolm Goram, to be awarded at the Association AGM.

For 2009 the nomination was sent to me by Malcolm Goram and seconded by Sue Farrer. The nomination reads:

"For always maintaining a clear appreciation of this year's varying and at times extremely difficult sailing conditions during the Trailer Section rallies, imparting his advice to other less-experienced members and demonstrating that safe and seaman-like boat-handling and sailing safety is paramount on all waters."

The award goes to Gordon Bourne owner of Falcon a 10ft. West Cheshire Clipper.

Gordon was not at the AGM, but the award was given to him at a dinner at Menai Bridge by Sue Farrer.



OGA Trophy Awards 2009

Onwards in to 2010

Sue wanted to remind every Area Secretary to keep our National Trophies in mind during the sailing season and to nominate members for an appropriate trophy as and when a suitable opportunity arises.

Many Areas have their own local trophies, which are also very important, but if a particular opportunity arises to nominate one of your members for a National Trophy please do so.

And finally:

Retiring President Brian Hammett presenting retiring Membership Secretary Peter Lyons with an Elder Gaffer burgee. The award of Elder Gaffer was made to Peter by the Officers of the Association at their meeting for his tremendous work as Membership Secretary over many years in office and his efforts to create the OGA online database.



Sue Farrer
OGA Trophy Secretary



The Big Log Book for Little Ships. Published in 2010 by Starfish Books www.StarfishBooks.co.uk. Design and illustration by Claudia Myatt Copyright, Claudia Myatt 2010 ISBN-13: 978-0-9550269-3-5 ISBN-10: 0-9550269-3-8 A smaller (A5) version of this log book is available under ISBN 978-0-9550269-4-2. Orders can be placed directly with Starfish Books by telephoning 01437 541201.

Gaffers Log

Ice-skating and sailing in Holland by Molly Vingerhoets

Skating on natural ice is a very popular sport in Holland and a really old Dutch habit going back to the times long before man was even able to make iron. The very first skates were made out of bone. The sharp edge of a dead animal's shin-bone for instance would serve quite well for a simple way of skating.

Where, in other northern countries, they used mainly sledges for transportation over frozen lakes and rivers, in Holland they understood the fun and the feeling of freedom and lightness that one experiences when skating and sailing over a slippery and shiny frozen watersurface. The same lakes and waterways where we sail in summer time, will serve - as soon as the surface is frozen in wintertime - as a solid ice-floor for skating, sledging or ice-boating, for young and old, for rich and poor, for man and woman. The only thing is that it doesn't freeze every winter anymore. The winters, as seen in the famous paintings of the old Dutch masters with people and dogs, horses and carriages on the ice in a white landscape all over, aren't as common as they used to be.



Ice sailing Gouwzee Monnickendam

Therefore it was quite exceptional that we did have in January 2009 and again at this very moment in early 2010 ice strong enough and thick enough to carry the hundreds and thousands of people who will dig up their skates from attics and cellars and tie up for a ride. And the happy few who own an ice-sailing boat can't wait to have their boats ready and out in time.

Skating as such is not so exceptional as we do have ice rinks and stadiums where one can go throughout the year, but skating on natural ice to undertake long trips from one village to the next, instead of making the same round over and over again, is not always possible. It may take ten years before the next period of severe frost happens. This is what makes it so worthwhile. Usually one will find what we call "koek-en-zopjes" along the way; farmers or rather farmers' wives and children who sell hot chocolate and rum or hot pea soup, sausages or cakes. A simple construction of a table, some old chairs, a generator or gas burner or an electric connection with the nearest farm will do.



Skating and Sailing

Skating on natural ice is a sport that brings people who normally wouldn't even think of talking to each other, together. Quite often skating is difficult because of an ice cold wind blowing from the north-east, from the Russian plains. One asks oneself: why for heaven's sake am I doing this? But another time, the sun shines bright, the ice is black and smooth, the skates are sharp (it's faster than biking and much faster than running) and life on the frozen waterways is wonderful.

Near Amsterdam there are two clubs with ice-sailing yachts, one in Gouwzee, Monnickendam and the other in Lelystad. Most are mainly modern light ones but the club at Monnickendam has some classic ice-sailing yachts, about twenty-four wooden, gaff rigged ones, all of which are over a 100 years old. They are heavy on the ice, need more wind and the wood needs a lot of attention. It is difficult to find people willing to take care of them. Nowadays sailors prefer the modern lightweight faster ones because they can be taken apart easily and

Gaffers Log

stored in the summer. It may take up to ten years before we have another icy winter period, not many people do have enough space to store an extra boat for so long. Monnickendam is a sort of museum at the same time, they have a huge shed where they keep and maintain the boats. There may be about 1500 ice boats in the Netherlands though perhaps no more than fifty gaff rigged ones. But if the ice gets thick enough this year, I hope to get a ride on one of them.



"Which way now?"

There are two websites worth having a look at for some interesting photos www.ijschuiten.nl (click on the Fotos link) and www.ijszellen.nl (available in English).

Molly Vingerhoets
Netherlands OGA

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OGA Boat Register

The OGA Boat Register

The OGA Boat Register was started by our 1st Secretary John Scarlett in 1967, and in 1980 he published the first copy to be available to members. After his death in 1984 Dick and I took over the task of maintaining and developing this Register. In 1992 with Mike Burn's help the records were transferred to a database and in 1993 Mike published a Membership List and Boat Archive.

Increasing pressures of work led to us giving up the task in 1999 when Nick Miller took on the task. He has worked hard in keeping the records up to date and has upgraded the simple computer system Dick and I set up.

As members will now know Nick has retired from the GMC after ten years of fantastic effort and work on behalf of the Association which largely went unrecorded. The boat register is a vital part of our organisation and will, I believe, become even more important as the years roll by and old boats gradually fade away. The OGA boat register will then be probably the only surviving major boat data base to record the type of craft that many of our members own, care for and sail.

I was proud to be elected to this post again and now I have much more time to devote to the role. My first job will be to complete the task that Nick started in preparing the database so that all members can access it online.

The problem with any database is keeping it up to date and before the system goes live I want to make sure that it is as accurate as I can make it. Looking at the 2009 Yearbook I know that there are boats linked to Solent members who sold them years ago. I suspect that this is also true for other areas. So I have a request, please spare the time to look at your copy of the 2009 OGA Yearbook and let me know if your boat's details are entered correctly or if your fine craft is not listed. I can be reached on 01983 760655, or e-mail me at boatregister@oldgaffersassociation.org.

In future editions of Gaffers Log I will be keeping you informed of my progress and I welcome all the support that you can give me.

Pat Dawson

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The Lake District breaks new ground or should I say ice

A couple of years ago I wrote an article about the resourcefulness of the Lake District Sailor, depicting Ullswater with snow on the hills above the lake. That was at Easter 2008. This year a new challenge resulted in a more adventurous undertaking. It was decided to hitch up our boats and aim for new horizons.

After careful consideration and a great deal of planning we headed for the Leeds Liverpool Canal. Once we had broken through the ice with pick axes, and attaching the ice breaker to the bow patent pending!, we were finally ready for the great adventure. As there was no safety cover the (RNLI had decided not to participate) we set forth. The lead boat (pictured), with Tom at the helm, made steady progress. The downfall was that we had forgotten that there were locks to negotiate, but fortunately as those of you who have sailed the canals will know, a hostelry is never too far away. After suitable refreshments, in this case large amounts of mulled wine, we headed for home, after once more breaking the ice to get enough momentum up so that the 'ice breaker' (patent still pending!) could admirably perform its task.



It has been decided that this will become a regular winter activity with the Prize Giving taking place on the 1st of the 4th month.

Entry forms will be made available next year via my website www.sailinginthelakes.com

Barry Healas

OGA Lake District and trailer section

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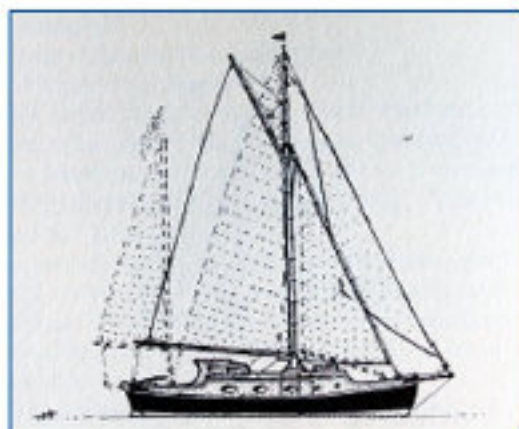
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Gaffers Log

A Glutton for punishment

In 1994 I had been in the OGA for 5 years. I had sailed on friends' boats, but was on the lookout for a Gaffer of my own. I found a lovely little Paglesham-built gaff cutter called Honora and I bought it locally here in Northern Ireland. Over the last 15 years I fitted Honora with 3 different engines, painted her countless times and fitted her with a new suit of Jimmy Lawrence sails. Honora was sailed from Bangor as far North as Colonsay, and as far South as Dublin, as well as around the Isle of Man quite a few times.

In 2007 it came to my attention that another boat, once a gaffer, was coming onto the market, Ocean Dove, a Maurice Griffiths design, slightly bigger than Honora, but with a lot more room below, was for sale. It belonged to a member of my own Yacht Club, Royal North of Ireland YC, Roger McMichael. I still had Honora and made good use of her in the Summer of 2007 and 8. I was hesitant about buying the Dove; I did not really want two boats, so I started trying to sell Honora. It is funny when you want to sell something, nobody wants it. Eventually I put it onto the Gaffers website and Keith Watson put her into the Log.



In April 2009 Ocean Dove was about to be moved away from our YC, so I bit the bullet and offered Roger a price which he accepted. I was a two-boat owner. Later that Summer I got a call from Iain Nicholls from Anstruther in Scotland. Cutting a long story very short, Iain bought Honora and we delivered the boat to Girvan in September 2009.

I have been a bit handicapped with a stenosis of the sciatic nerve in my right leg last Summer and Autumn so I did not try to do too much to the Dove. She has been looked after well over her lifetime. Built by Tom Andrews in 1959, she campaigned all over the West of Scotland. A friend of mine Frank Sadler owned the Dove for quite some time, sailing her around Ireland 3 times and all over the West of Scotland.

Frank sold her to Roger and now she belongs to me. Over the last two years Ocean Dove has not been in the water for any length of time. Her construction is carvel-built with splines, instead of caulking. She had been completely re-fastened below the waterline with silicone bronze screws by a local shipwright, Frank Harper.

Gaffers Log

Some of the splines are loose, so before I try to launch Ocean Dove, a bit of remedial work has to be done so that she will float. I have talked to many "experts" about the best way forward, including a West System man at the recent Boat Show. I talked it over with Gary, my son, who has recently done something similar with Kirmew, a Yachting World 5 Tonner, and the way forward is to power-hose the hull, to find the loose splines, fix them, then work a mixture of putty and paint into the hull below the waterline, antifoul and launch.



That work will start sometime in February 2010, so watch this space, I will report back later.

Peter Lyons
NIOGA

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Gaffers Log

As easy as falling off a (ship's) log.....

When Perry and I decided to design a ship's log book that would be fun as well as useful, we wanted to find out what legal obligations a yachtsman has to keep a log – if any. It was a subject we were hazy on, and asking around we found that other sailors were often just as vague. Some thought a ship's log was a legal requirement; others thought it was just useful. There were mutterings about SOLAS V and Merchant Shipping Acts. Some kept a formal log – on the hour every hour with all the columns neatly filled in. Others scribbled occasionally into a plain notebook and doodled dolphins in the margins.

I decided to go for the source; here are a few key sentences from the RYA's leaflet about how SOLAS V (Safety of Life at Sea) regulations apply to yachtsmen:

It is good practice to keep a log..... especially when out of sight of land or cruising abroad. Information in the log can then be used to establish the vessel's position in the event of an electronics failure or for investigations following an incident.

There are no specific requirements for pleasure vessels of less than 150 metres, although the RYA encourages all pleasure vessels, whatever their size, to maintain a detailed log book as a matter of good practice.

All vessels that proceed to sea (including pleasure vessels) must have in place an adequate passage plan – the level of detail necessary will depend on the size of the vessel, its crew and the length of the voyage.

So there you go; you don't have to keep a log, but it's a good idea. The last sentence is the key – basically common sense prevails. I was curious to know the definition of 'proceed to sea' and got hold of a copy of the MCA Categorisation of Waters document. This tells you exactly, at any point on the UK coast, when you are 'at sea' and when you are not; given the variety and complexity of the British coastline, it's a lengthy and detailed document. Of course, as those of us sailing on tricky tidal rivers know full well, the sailing often gets easier once you're at sea and clear of hazards!

It is reassuring to know that good sea sense and a healthy respect for the elements generally ensures that we're all doing exactly what we need to be doing, whether it's scribbled tide times on the back of an envelope or every column filled in with exact detail. But it's about more than just good seamanship – when the sailing is over, a log book is also a valuable cruising record for the immediate family and possibly generations to come.

So go easy on those coffee stains and dolphin doodles!

Claudia Myatt BC OGA
(with thanks to Carol Paddison at the RYA)

See page 13 for details of where to obtain a copy of Claudia's latest book 'The big log book for little ships'

Welcome Aboard

Area	OGA Mem No.	Boat	Member	Address
DB	5280	Coral	Mr Michael O'Rourke	'Coolcreeve', Drumsna, Co. Leitrim, Ireland,
SCO	5281	Feedanach	Mr Mike Tatham	Old Leslie House, Old Leslie, Inver, Aberdeenshire, AB52 6NS
MCP	5301	Five Farthings	Mr William Tidnam	37 Flaxman Road, London, SE5 9DL
LD	5302	Almie	Mr Andrew Greeves	5 Hazelwood, Silverdale, Carnforth, Lancashire, LA5 0TQ
EC	5304	Marie of Itchenor	Mr John Francis	5 Station Road, Wrabness, Mannintree, Essex, CO11 2TJ
NWA	5305	Aileen of Islay	Mr James Rouse	20 Church Lane, Garsworth, Macclesfield, SK11 9QY
OS	5306	Feather Crown	Mr Richard Lang	3318 North 26th Street, Tacoma, WA98407, USA
EC	5321		Mr Simon Cornwell	6 Mell Road, Tollebury, Essex, CM9 8SP
SOL	5322		Mr Nicholas Harrison	7 Ferndale Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 6EU
SCO	5324	Florence	Mr Derek & Mrs Valerie Smith	Greystanes, 3 Silvercraigs Road, Kirkcudbright, DG6 4BH
LD	5325		Mr Jonathon Brain	Windynook, Wentworth Road, Kilmhurst, Mexborough S64 5TN

Signs of fish

We lowered the foresail, double-reefed the mainsail, and went steadily to work. Directed by the movement of the birds, we followed the mackerel, tacking or wearing the boat occasionally, when we found that we had overrun the shoal. There is not, on sea or river, always excepting angling for salmon, any sport comparable to this delightful amusement. He who has experienced the glorious sensations of sailing on the Western Ocean, a bright Autumnal sky above, a deep green lucid swell around, a steady breeze, and as much of it as the Hocker can stand up to, will estimate the exquisite enjoyment our mornings' mackerel fishing afforded.

Source: 'Wild Sports of the West' by W H Maxwell published 1832.
Thanks to Terry Needham NIOGA for sending this in.

OGA and related traditional boat events 2010

Date	Event	Contact
February		
26	NIOGA Poems & Pints, Groomsport Inn, 8.00pm	Alan Aston 07921 060400
26	EC OGA Nottage Institute Tour & Talk	Mike McCarthy 01277 623833 07711 970728
27	Solent OGA AGM and Photo Competition Warsash Sailing Club 7.30pm. Talk by Sam Poole on this trip to the Antarctic	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 jays47@hotmail.com
March		
6	EC OGA Dinner, Royal Burnham YC	Trevor Rawlinson 01621 783969
10	EC OGA Sail Clinic, 22-28 Tower St, Brightlingsea	Mike Robertson 01473 327115
19	NIOGA St Patrick's Night (ish) 8.00pm, The Lightship, Ballydorm, Down Cruising Club	Alan Aston 07921 060400
20	OGA Netherlands AGM	Joachim van Houweringe voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl
20	Devon OGA Fitting Out Supper at Royal Western Yacht Club, Plymouth	Elspeth Macfarlane 01548 857559 devongaffers@yahoo.co.uk
20	OGA NWA Boat Shed Party, Port Penrhyn, North Wales	Sue Farrer 01270 874174 sue@peterfarrer.co.uk nwasec@oldgaffersassociation.org
26	NIOGA "Sailing the Dream" – illustrated talk by Roger Bell on his 49,000 mile journey around the world. £5.00 each. In conjunction with RNIYC	Alan Aston 07921 060400
April		
2 nd – 5 th	EC OGA Easter Egg Rally, Shotley Marina	Melvyn Fox 01473 681229
17 th – 18 th	New Event - British Columbia Canada – Silva Bay Shipyard School Launch Festival – OGA participation	Silva Bay Shipyard School 250 247 8809 Colin Ming 604 696 7852 colin.a.ming@gmail.com
18 th	Northern Ireland – Irish Boat Jumble, Carrickfergus SC 10.00am	Alan Aston 07921 060400
23 rd	NIOGA Wood Turning demonstration by Peter Lyons, RNIYC, 8.00pm	Alan Aston 07921 060400
23 rd – 25 th	NW OGA trip to Beaulieu Boat Jumble & Social Weekend	Tom Middlebrook 0151 652 9744 john@tommiddlebrook.co.uk
30 th – 3 rd May	Bristol Channel Area OGA May Day Cruise in company, taking in Ilfracombe & Swansea.	John Maxwell 07710 527502
May		
1 st - 3 rd	EC OGA Farnbridge Rally, Farnbridge – Battlesbridge	Trevor Rawlinson 01621 783969

OGA and related traditional boat events 2010

7 th , 8 th & 9 th	OGA Trailer Section regular and popular event at Clywedog, near Llanidloes – a large Mid Wales reservoir.	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 mike.stevens.kilay@talktalk.net
13 th – 16 th	OGA Netherlands – North – Cruising & Boat Manoeuvring	Joachim van Houweninge voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl
15 th & 16 th	Solent Area OGA – 3 Creeks Rally – casual weekend “race” from Ashlett Creek to Newtown Creek Sat., then Newtown Creek to Wootton Creek Sun.	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 jays47@hotmail.com
21 st – 24 th	OGA Netherlands – North – Opening Weekend OGA Netherlands – South – Harbour Festivities at Blankenberge	Joachim van Houweninge voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl
21 st , 22 nd & 23 rd	Trailer Section – Lechlade. Traditional Boating on the Thames, includes canoes and coracles. A small boat gathering with OGA involvement. Smaller boats only – low bridges and much rowing involved.	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 mike.stevens.kilay@talktalk.net
21 st , 22 nd & 23 rd	Scotland OGA, Campbeltown Classics	Gordon Garman 01700 506617 yotscribe@aol.com
22 nd – 23 rd	France – Les Vieux Grèments des Bords de Flandre, supported by the town of Gravelines – Gravelines Rally in the Vauban Basin, on the way to Ostend at Anchor.	vgb@gravelines@free.fr
22 nd – 23 rd	Canada – Maple Bay (Duncan) Wooden Boat Show – OGA participation	250 746 8482 866 746 8482
27 th – 31 st	OGA Netherlands – South – Ostend at Anchor or EC OGA:	Joachim van Houweninge voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl Mike McCarthy 01277 623833 07711 970728
27 th – 30 th	Devon Area – Brixham Heritage Regatta, Brixham Yacht Club, open to all boats over 30 yrs old www.brixhamheritagesailing.co.uk info@brixhamheritagesailing.co.uk	Richard Spreckley 01803 855992 Robin Meads 01803 855401
28 th	The Royal Escape Race – OGA participation	Steve Vyse 07786 275378 Steve.vyse@seekforde.co.uk www.royalescaperace.co.uk
28 th – 30 th	Dublin Bay Area – Traditional Boat Rally at Poolbeg YBC, Dublin	Tim Magennis 0035312856385
28 th – 30 th	Canada – Montague Harbour Small Boat Rendez-vous, Galeno Island, British Columbia – OGA participation	small_boat_rendezvous@yahoo.com Colin Ming 604 595 7852 colin.a.ming@gmail.com
29 th – 31 st	EC OGA Crouch Rally Farnbridge / River Crouch	Trevor Rawlinson 01621 783969

OGA and related traditional boat events 2010

30 th	BC Round Lundy Race – organised by the Ilfracombe Yacht Club with OGA participation.	Mike Elmer 01271 863069 lundy-registration@tiscali.co.uk See www.ilfracombeyc.org.uk
TBA	New Event – OGA British Columbia Canada – sail on the Viking ship "Munin", Vancouver	Colin Ming 604 696 7862 colin.a.ming@gmail.com
June		
4 th , 5 th & 6 th	Beale Park Traditional Boat Show – much OGA involvement, an OGA tent for photos and OGA Merchandise, on average 10 OGA boats on the lake. Free camping for those prepared to help with the OGA tent or, more importantly, to bring your boat!	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 mike.stevens.killay@talktalk.net
4 th , 5 th & 6 th	Solent Area – Yoggaff Weekend – Yarmouth IOW Old Gaffers Festival – live music, craft market, social events – a popular fun "must" on the OGA calendar. OGA "race" on the Saturday.	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 jaye47@hotmail.com
4 th , 5 th & 6 th	Northern Ireland – Classic Sail Carrickfergus	Alan Aston 07921 060400 ocr@oldgaffers.com
5 th	EC Blackwater Smack Race	
12 th – 13 th	EC OGA Swallows & Amazons, Walton & Frinton Yacht Club – Trailer Sailors welcome	Pete Elliston 01206 391870
11 th , 12 th & 13 th	Ullswater OGA Trailer Section Rally, regular and popular event, Glenridding Sailing Centre, Lake District, Cumbria	Barry Heales 01524 276258 barryheales@tiscali.co.uk
18 th – 20 th	OGA Netherlands – North – Midsummersnight Cruise	Joachim van Houweninge voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl
18 th – 20 th	BC South Wales Boat Show, Swansea – OGA Participation	Claudia Myatt 01437 541201
18 th – 20 th	EC OGA East Coast Race & Brightlinea Rally	Richard Giles 01206 308514 01206 308420
19 th	IOW Round the Island Race	www.roundtheisland.org.uk
19 th	EC Southwold Sea Festival, Southwold	
25 th – 28 th	New Event – OGA Trailer Section Rally at Loch Long, Scotland. Bring your boats and make this a success!	Dave Hart 01369 840849 dhart503@btinternet.com
26 th	EC RHS Rally, Holbrook – Wreabness	Mike Robertson 01473 327115
Late TBA	NI Portaferry Traditional Sail	Alan Aston 07921 060400
July		
2 nd – 4 th	OGA Netherlands – North – "Race" from IJmuiden to the North Sea	Joachim van Houweninge voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl
3 rd	EC Rowhedge Regatta, Rowhedge – River Colne	

OGA and related traditional boat events 2010

3 rd – 4 th	Lord Birkett Cup, Lake District – OGA participation	Barry Heales 01524 276258 bartheales@tiscali.co.uk
3 rd – 10 th	SeaFair Haven, Milford Haven www.seafairhaven.org.uk Closing date – 31 st March 2010	John Arcus 01646 696374 seafairhaven@mhpa.co.uk
9 th , 10 th & 11 th	Bristol Channel Yachting Association Rally, Cardiff Bay – ties in with Cardiff Food & Wine Festival – OGA participation	Susanne Newbold 01633 842347
9 th , 10 th & 11 th	Devon OGA Start Bay Rally & Race, Social Dartmouth Yacht Club Friday pm, "Race" Saturday. Prize-giving & Supper Saturday evening at Royal Dart Yacht Club, BBQ Sunday lunch at Dittisham.	Elspeth Macfarlane 01548 857559 devongaffers@yahoo.co.uk
9 th – 13 th	Canada – Sucia Island Small Boat Rendezvous, Sucia Island, Washington – OGA participation	email_boat_rendezvous@yahoo.com Colin Ming 604 595 7852 colin.a.ming@gmail.com
11 th	NW OGA Annual Race on the River Mersey	Tom Middlebrook 0151 652 9744 john@jtmiddlebrook.co.uk
17 th & 18 th	Solent OGA Marchwood Rally & Race – informal weekend at Marchwood Yacht Club, Southampton Water. "Race" on Saturday, + social evening. Trailer Sailors welcome.	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 jayis47@hotmail.com
17 th & 18 th	EC OGA Southwold Rally, Sailing Club & harbour	Lorna Hill 01473 730661 Richard Symes 01986 784225
16 th – 18 th	New Event – Clovelly Maritime Festival – see Bristol Channel Area report – a first for OGA members	Claudia Myatt 01437 541201
17 th & 18 th	OGA Netherlands – South – Van Loon Race Days	Joachim van Houweninge voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl
17 th	EC Wivenhoe Town Regatta	
17 th	EC Harwich Festival of the Sea	
21 st	New Event – Trailer Section – Cardigan Quays Festival, Teifi Estuary, mainly suitable for small boats	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 mike.stevens.kilay@talktalk.net
24 th	BC OGA – Hidden Challenge "Race" – starting off Berry Island	John Maxwell 07710 527502
30 th	Canada – Sunshine Coast Wooden Boat festival, Madeira Park, British Columbia – OGA participation	604 883 0677 Colin Ming 604 595 7852 colin.a.ming@gmail.com
30 th – 1 st August	Peel Traditional Boat Weekend – all Irish Sea Gaffers and beyond welcome!	Mike Clark 07624450146 mclark@manx.net www.peeltraditionalboat.org
31 st – 1 st August	BC OGA New Event – Milford Haven Cruise. Join Perry in his boat Torhilda for a cruise up the Haven and BBQ in the Cleddau reaches	Perry Crickmore 01437 541201

OGA and related traditional boat events 2010

August		
6 th – 8 th	NIOGA Ardglass at Anchor	Alan Aston 07921 060400
7 th	MCP OGA Swale Match	Lena Reekie 01795 530309
7 th – 15 th	NWA & NW Conwy River Festival – OGA participation	Tony Mead 01492 596253
8 th – 14 th	EC Mersea Week, West Mersea Yacht Club	
13 th , 14 th & 15 th	OGA Trailer Section regular and popular event at Clywedog, near Llanidloes – a large Mid Wales reservoir	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 mike.stevens.kilay@talktalk.net
13 th , 14 th & 15 th	OGA Netherlands – South – Cruising on the Oosterschelde	Joachim van Houweninge voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl
21 st	Trailer Section – Cardigan Quays Festival – OGA Small boat participation	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 mike.stevens.kilay@talktalk.net Nick Newland – Swallow Boats 01239 615482
21 st & 22 nd	Solent Area Annual Race & Rally, from Cowes to Lymington, evening at Lymington Town Yacht Club. Last year 35 boats participated and others accompanied.	Jessica Warren 01952 712529 jays47@hotmail.com
21 st – 30 th	EC OGA August Classics Cruise, Rivers Stour, Orwell & Deben	Peter Thomas 01473 832806
26 th – 29 th	Canada – Vancouver Wooden Boat Festival – OGA Participation	604 688 9622 Colin Ming 604 696 7852 colin.a.ming@gmail.com
28 th & 29 th	Solent Area OGA – Bursledon Regatta – Saturday evening social & fireworks, "race" on Sunday. This year's theme TBA.	Jessica Warren 01952 712529 jays47@hotmail.com
28 th – 30 th	Cardiff Harbour Festival – OGA Participation	Susanne Newbold 01633 842347
TBA	New Event – OGA – British Columbia, Canada, Rendezvous Vancouver Area	Colin Ming 604 696 7852 colin.a.ming@gmail.com
September		
Early TBA	Solent Area Chichester Rally, casual meet & BBQ at Boshans. Trailer Sailors welcome	Jessica Warren 01952 712529 jays47@hotmail.com
3 rd – 5 th	NWA OGA Holyhead Traditional Boat Festival – "Gaffers at Holyhead" – the 4 th year of this very popular OGA event. Shore-side events and displays plus "Race" and Parade of Sail (with cannons??) Trailer Sailors to Tall Ships – all welcome.	Sue Farrer 01270 874174 sue@pefarrer.co.uk nwasec@oldgaffersassociation.org
3 rd – 5 th	Canada Victoria Boat Festival – OGA participation	www.classicboatfestival.ca Colin Ming 604 696 7852 colin.a.ming@gmail.com

OGA and related traditional boat events 2010

4 th	EC Pin Mill Regatta	
4 th	EC Colne Smack race	
10 th – 12 th	OGA Netherlands – North – End of Season at Enkhuizen	Joachim van Houweninge voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl
10 th – 12 th	Canada – 34 th Port Townsend Annual Wooden Boat festival, port Townsend, Washington – OGA Participation	www.woodenboat.org Colin Ming 604 696 7852 colin.a.ming@gmail.com
11 th	EC Maldon Town Regatta	Peter Maynard 01621 852808
11 th – 12 th	EC Woodbridge Maritime Festival	
11 th – 20 th	Southampton Boat Show	
12 th – 19 th	Scotland OGA Scottish Closing Muster, Loch Fyne	Gordon Garmen 01700 505617 yotscribe@aol.com
18 th	USA Gaff Riggers Race, Martha's Vineyard "The Old Gaffers here would heartily welcome any European "cousins"	Ginny Jones ginnyj@vineyard.net or Gannon&Benjamin Inc Tel: 508 693 4658 gandb@gannon&benjamin.com
17 th , 18 th & 19 th	Ullswater OGA Trailer Section Rally, regular and popular event, Glenridding Sailing Centre, Lake District, Cumbria	Barry Heelas 01524 276268 bartheelas@tiscali.co.uk
25 th & 26 th	Solent Area – Centenary Chase – organised by the Royal Solent Yacht Club with large OGA participation. "Race" Saturday pm then supper in the Club.	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 jayis47@hotmail.com
October		
1 st – 3 rd	OGA Netherlands – North – Race from IJmuiden to the North Sea	Joachim van Houweninge voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl
23 rd	OGA NWA AGM, Holyhead Sailing Club	Sue Farrer 01270 874174 sue@psfarrer.co.uk nwasec@oldgaffersassociation.org
November		
5 th – 7 th	Netherlands – Classic Boat Show at Enkhuizen – OGA participation	Joachim van Houweninge voorzitter@oldgaffer.nl
7 th	Devon OGA Laying Up Dinner (Sunday Lunch) & AGM, Royal Oak, South Brent	Elspeth Macfarlane 01548 857559 devongaffers@yahoo.co.uk
TBA	EC OGA AGM & Social	Pete Elliston 01206 391870
TBA	NW OGA End of Season Social Weekend	Tom Middlebrook 0161 652 9744 john@jtmiddlebrook.co.uk
December		
TBA	New Event – Canada OGA British Columbia, Canada Christmas Dinner	Colin Ming 604 696 7852 colin.a.ming@gmail.com

Association Secretary's Report

Your GMC (General Management Committee) working for you. A secretarial review.

I am pleased to start by saying that once again our AGM was well attended. In fact they are always well attended and enthusiastic, which is a wonderful reflection on the health of our Association. As usual it was preceded by the Officers of the Association meeting which is the one occasion in the year when all Area Secretaries and Area Presidents can come together to discuss the way forward and to give guidance to the GMC who works on their, and the membership's behalf. The members elected to the GMC, run it on a day to day basis and a huge amount of work, largely unseen, is done by these officers without which we could not function.

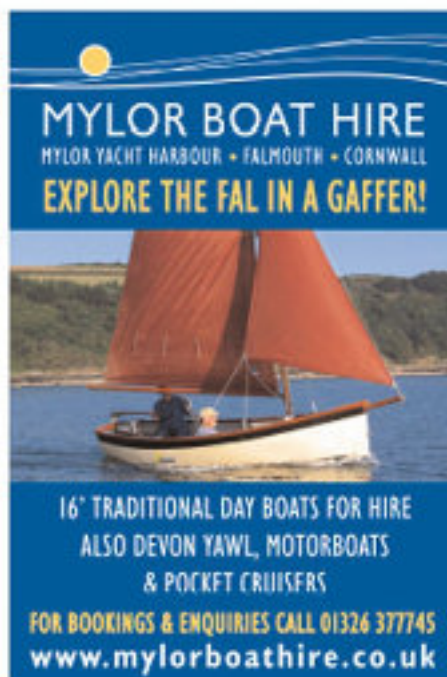
On the agenda of both meetings were the changes of various Officers that you will have read about in the December Gaffers Log. Mike Shaw replaces Brian Hammett as OGA President while Pat Dawson replaces Nick Miller with the Boat Register. Brian kindly carried on for an additional year making it a total of four years in Presidential office. Nick has had responsibility for the boat register, I think, for over eight years. Thanks must therefore also go to both Brian and Nick for their work. On behalf of us all.

Peter Lyons has been replaced by Peter Crook in the role of Membership Secretary. We really must thank Peter Lyons for the effort that he has put in, in this role, and with the added responsibility of developing the OGA Data Base. The Data Base being a core tool badly needed for the central running of the OGA as it expands and grows. In this electronic age we could not manage without it.

As to the future, the GMC has been tasked to review overall management of the Association which they will have already started upon by the time you receive this edition of the Log. Some final work is needed on the membership and financial side of the data base and development of the Association boat register on line. We have our 50th birthday in 2013 for which we have 'all encompassing' plans under discussion, the theme being suggested is that of a UK / Eire and near continent Relay Event. Early days as yet but as the planning progresses we will be discussing it with all areas on a local level as to its feasibility.

We also have Olympic Year in 2012. OK, so we are not involved, but that should not stop areas having fun. Any ideas for this?

Robert Holden
Association Hon Sec.



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Minutes of the Annual General meeting

Minutes of the Annual General meeting January 2010

Held at the Cruising Association H.Q. at 18.35 on Saturday 16th January

1a Present

President – Brian Hammett, and the following officers, members and associates of the OGA:

Robert Holden, Chris Brown, Peter & Sue Farrer, Maxine Lomas, Pat & Dick Dawson, Trevor Rawlinson, Pete Elliston, Mick Bentham, Sean Walsh, Nick Miller, Hannah, Joanne and Malcolm Goram, Gordon Garman, David Grainger, Robert & Jennie Angell, Steve Yates, Beverley Parker, John Cann, Bob Berk, Lena Reekie, Lili and Barry Edward, Tom Middlebrook, Yvonne Mitchell, Mike Stevens, Claudia Myatt, Laurie & John Lowrie, Keith Watson, Martin Goodrich, Barry Healas, Jessica & Michael Warren, Alistair Randall, Elspeth Macfarlane, Peter Crook, Richard Giles, Clare & Pete Thomas, Mike Shaw, Peter Lyons, Alan Aston.

1b Apologies

Jan Holden, Viv Head, Andrew & Joanna Wolstenholm, George & Brenda Jago, Tom Cunliffe, Christine Knight, John Maxwell, Phil & Lynn Slade, Daniel Gall, Rob Williamson, Scott Metcalf, David Lovelock, Rick & Yvonne Graham, Anne & Graham Mason, Ken Sykes, Fred & Gladys Anderson, Edward Allen and Colin Ming.

2 President's Welcome Address

Brian welcomed everyone to the 2010 AGM. He continued – Our Association has had a very good year. There has been a tremendous amount of area activity, the life blood of our Association, and this has generated considerable press and media coverage. Many areas now have their own Newsletter, often in full colour and available online via the area's own website. They have websites with Members' only pages. They have developed sophisticated Boat Register databases for boats in their areas. Some areas communicate entirely via email showing considerable cost saving. Others include all varieties of Classic Boats in their events. Let us applaud and encourage the work of our areas. We are after all a membership organisation working for good of our members and thereby promoting the cause of Gaff Rig to the world.

We are about to lose our Membership Secretary and our Boat Register Editor after many years of dedicated hard work. I am delighted however that we have volunteers of a very high calibre to take over from them and I wish them every success. Our Newsletter Editor had had to give up his post due to changed personal circumstances and I thank him for his efforts during the year. Again we have a volunteer to take up the reins, thank goodness for that!

I will also be retiring as President this year and will be succeeded by a very worthy successor. I have thoroughly enjoyed my term as President and have considered it an honour to front such a well-respected organisation. I will continue to support and promote the Association that has given me so much pleasure over the last thirty or so years.

3. Approval of the Minutes of AGM. January 2009

Proposed: Peter Lyons.

Seconded: Mike Stevens

Agreed unanimously

Minutes of the Annual General meeting

4. Matters Arising There were no matters arising

5. Hon Treasurer's Report / Presentation of accounts – Chris Brown.

6. Hon Secretary's Report – Robert Holden

In the time I have been your Hon. Secretary I am pleased to say that, with everyone pulling together, we have steadily increased our profile in the boating world and beyond. It is my vision that in the coming years that profile will further increase, and most notably, in 2013 the Relay Event will attract (all being well) much publicity way beyond the yachting and boating media. Such an event as that will need active PR management, hence the need for someone to undertake this specialist role. So far no-one has come forward to undertake the important job of PR.

However Edward Allen has come forward in response to our request for someone to help with the OGA Archive. Viv Head has also expressed an interest and I have spoken to both Viv and Edward and they plan to work together on this project.

Your General Management Committee continues to work well for the benefit of the OGA. The Online Data Base is now up and running and supporting the important business of the Association. The E-Borders debate continues - and I will keep Members informed as the situation develops.

I am pleased to say that we now have a second representative on Heritage Afloat to support Hannah Cunliffe. This is Michael Warren, of the Solent Area.

OGA Insurance. John Denner has stood down from running this critical aspect of our Association. Tom Middlebrook has kindly offered to take over this Insurance Portfolio role, and all paperwork has been passed to Tom. A letter of thanks has been sent to John.

The ideas for the 50th Anniversary year of the OGA in 2013 are at a very early stage. Viv Head is working towards compilation of a book in celebration of those 50 years of Old Gaffing. Members will also be aware of plans for an on-water relay event for that year. To that end I have been in written consultation with the RNL, who have agreed to be associated with the event.

Following Robert's Report – Brian spoke on the E-Borders situation – and this provoked a brief discussion.

Members will continue to be updated, via the Log, as this debate unfolds.

7. Proposed Rule Changes – [as printed in the December 2009 Issue of Gaffers Log]
The Meeting considered the proposed Rule Changes – two amendments were proposed:

Rule 7 – Organisation (ii) b shall read:

An Area President representative of each area which is fully constituted

Rule 12 - Changes to the Rules second paragraph shall read:-

Proposals to the Rules may be made by any Member in writing, seconded by another member and posted to the Honorary Secretary to be received at least 10 weeks prior to the date of a General Meeting.

Minutes of the Annual General meeting

The amendments were
Proposed by: Jessica Warren
Seconded by: Robert Holden
Agreed unanimously.

The proposed Rule Changes were then agreed subject to the two amendments.
Proposed by: Robert Holden
Seconded by: Peter Lyons
Agreed unanimously

8. Elder Gaffer

Brian said that he had brought this item forward on the Agenda in order that he might make the presentation. He informed the meeting that the Association Committee recommends that Peter Lyons be appointed to the rank of Elder Gaffer. Brian invited Alan Aston to read the citation.

Peter was a founder member of the Northern Ireland OGA. He has served on the Committee since the formation of the Area – serving three terms as Area President. Peter was one of the main movers in setting up both the Bangor Traditional Sail, and the Carrickfergus Classic Sail. Together with Alan Aston, Peter was instrumental in forming the Dublin Bay Area. For the last five years Peter has been National Membership Secretary, and has been involved in setting up the Gaffers On-Line Data Base (G.O.D.) Peter also set up the OGA. Photographic Competition, which he ran for many years.

Peter's appointment was warmly welcomed by the meeting. Brian presented Peter with his Elder Gaffer Pennant. Peter thanked everyone for the honour and said he had always tried his best for the OGA.

9 Election of Officers

Brian pointed out the positions should read Association President and Association Secretary.

Association President – Mike Shaw

Proposed: Brian Hammett

Seconded: Nick Miller

Agreed unanimously

[Brian handed over to Mike who chaired the rest of the meeting]

Association Secretary – Robert Holden

Proposed: Sue Farrer

Seconded: Mike Shaw

Agreed unanimously

Membership Secretary – Peter Crook

Proposed: Peter Lyons

Seconded: Alan Aston

Agreed unanimously

Boat Register Editor – Pat Dawson

Proposed: Mike Shaw

Seconded: Mike Robertson

Agreed unanimously

Minutes of the Annual General meeting

Gaffers Log Editor

Mike Shaw informed the meeting that as Keith Watson has had to stand down as Log Editor, Phil Slade has agreed to resume Editorship of the Log – until such time as a permanent Editor can be found. Mike thanked Keith for all the work he has done during his time as Editor.

Phil Slade was

Proposed by Peter Lyons

Seconded by Peter Farrer

Agreed unanimously.

9 OGA Trophy Awards - Sue Farrer

Sue's full report of the trophies awarded this year appears later in this edition of the Log.

10 Photographic Competition 2009 – Viv Head

In Viv's absence (in New Zealand) Pete Farrer presented the slide show of the winning photographs. However his full report of the competition follows later in this edition of the Log.

11 Close of Meeting

Mike Shaw thanked Brian for his efforts during his four years as President. Mike said he had learnt a lot during the time spent on the GMC and knows that the OGA is in fine fettle. He feels it both a pleasure and a privilege to be elected as President of the Association.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

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OGA Annual Accounts

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

<u>INCOME</u>	2009 (£)	2008 (£)
Subscriptions & Donations	32,013	28,805
Bank Interest	1,311	1,664
Merchandise (profit)	501	568
Advertising Revenue - Gaffers Logs	1,756	2,990
Total Income	35,581	34,027
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Gaffers Log Printing	8,952	10,227
Yearbook Printing	1,783	1,678
Stationery & Postage	6,528	6,707
Telephone	0	394
Website	0	558
Travel & Subsistence	5,483	4,318
Area Funding	4,320	5,856
Donations & Subscriptions	156	174
Insurance	932	905
Photo Competition Prizes	410	300
Bank Charges	613	478
Sundries	0	189
Total Expenditure	29,177	31,582
Surplus before Tax	6,404	2,445
Corporation Tax	-349	-300
Surplus/Deficit for the year	6,055	2,145

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>	2009 (£)	2008 (£)
Business Base Rate Tracker Account (Barclays)	7,169	2,180
Current Account (Barclays)	922	691
Paypal Account	52	0
Standard Life 60-Day Account & Bonds	27,510	26,208
Nat West Publications Account	3307	474

OGA Annual Accounts

Euro Account (Barclays)	775	780
Cash In Hand (Credifon)	1,000	1,000
Merchandise Stocks	2,501	2,331
Debtors	810	0
Creditors	<u>-4,056</u>	<u>-309</u>
Total Income	<u>39,410</u>	<u>33,355</u>

GENERAL FUND

Balance from Previous Year	33,355	31,210
Surplus / Deficit for Year	<u>6,055</u>	<u>2,145</u>
	<u>39,410</u>	<u>33,355</u>

ADDITIONAL ASSETS - HELD BY OGA AREAS AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

These balances have been reported to the Hon. Treasurer by the Area Treasurers and do not form part of the annual accounts or examination for this financial year. Not all areas hold OGA funds.

In most areas the balances have been submitted to Area AGM's and ratified by the Local Area Members.

Despite the rules of the Association, this is not the case with all balances below.

These balances form part of the Associations general assets.

	£
Bristol Channel	502
North Wales	1668
Devon	1486
Dublin Bay	2118
East Coast	3266
Medway & Cinque Ports	314
Northern Ireland	2690
Scotland	74
Solent	3972
Trailer Section	<u>190</u>
	<u>16260</u>

Around The Areas

Canada – British Columbia and Pacific North West

The Old Gaffers Association – British Columbia Canada, held its Inaugural meeting the evening of January 30, 2010 in Surrey, British Columbia (a few miles south of Vancouver).



'The inaugural meeting of the OGA Canada – British Columbia and Pacific Northwest Area gets underway'

The meeting opened to *Cock o' the North* echoing hauntingly throughout the room. Piper, Jamie Orr led the acting Chairman, Colin Ming, and acting Recording Secretary, Marian Hammond to the Head table. This was met with cheers and applause by all members. The Chairman proclaimed the Inaugural Meeting of the OGA – BC Canada officially open. This was met with further applause followed by applause for the Piper.

The Chairman gave a brief history of the OGA, since its formation almost fifty years ago and an update of the OGA locally. Nominations from the floor, followed by the election of Officers, resulted in the following two year terms:

Skipper - Colin Ming;

Mate - Marian Hammond;

Boatswain - John Hammond;

At the Skipper's, suggestion, the members voted unanimously to appoint Piper, Jamie Orr as the newly formed OGA area's Official Honorary Piper. If this appointment is a first, in the history of the OGA, then well done Canada!

The remainder of the meeting was taken up with friendly discussions regarding events for the year, followed by refreshments and socialising.

Around The Areas

Interest in the OGA in British Columbia, and the Pacific Northwest has been overwhelming throughout the last two months with members joining almost daily. The Skipper stated that cooperation among all OGA areas and other like minded groups, both locally and internationally, is of the utmost importance in furthering the interest in traditional sail.



'Jamie Orr surely the first officially appointed piper to the OGA?'

It was agreed by all members; the Inaugural meeting was a complete success. Our next meeting will be held March 06, 2010. We invite OGA members visiting the Vancouver area to contact us.

Colin Ming - Skipper

North Wales Area

The recent AGM in London was well attended by North Wales Area members including Sue and Pete Farrer, Mike Stevens, Bob Angell, Joanne and Malcolm Gorum, Hannah Gorum and Barry Healas.

Our first event will be an informal one at Port Penrhyn on the 20th March 2010. There will be live music to entertain you and food and drink will be available of course. There will be a small charge yet to be decided. Notifications have been sent to all area members. Space is restricted at Port Penrhyn so if anyone is interested in attending please contact Sue Farrer Tel. 01270-874174 as soon as possible. A report of the event will be published in the June Log.

Space does not allow me to list all our events here but take a look at the main OGA events pages within this edition for full details.

Around The Areas

Please continue to send articles for our area newsletter 'Baggywrinkles' to our area editor Howard Morgan.

I wish everyone a good sailing season although as I write this report I am looking at lying snow and a very grey sky.

Sue Farrer – Area Secretary North Wales Area

East Coast

It's been a fairly quiet time on the East Coast since the last Gaffers Log; no sailing events – the weather was not kind for the New Year's Eve meet – but there was a well attended area AGM and supper in November, where area funds were boosted by a lively raffle and auction. The premium auction item was a new chart plotter, kindly donated by Sue Lewis and Howard Wheelton.



'Master auctioneer Brian Hammett showing his talents'

The next major event is our annual dinner at the Royal Burnham YC on March 6th and promises to be a splendid occasion; a four course dinner, waitress service and after-dinner speaker, so hunt out your jacket and tie or posh frock and book now. On March 10th we have another visit to Jimmy Lawrence's sail loft in Brightlingsea for a sail clinic, to sort out your wardrobe before the first sailing event of the year, the Easter Egg rally at Shotley Marina, April 2nd-5th. This will include a 'raid' across to Harwich and a fitting-out supper on Saturday evening in the Shotley Marina bar, as well as a weekend-long shanty festival. If your boat is still ashore, you can come by car and still enjoy the fun.

In May we have two rallies on the river Crouch; the first, on May 1st-3rd should be a laid-back affair, with the highlight being a barbecue at Roy Hart's Battlesbridge Hall. The first race of the season, the Crouch rally, is on the last weekend in May, starting at Fambridge. This unfortunately coincides with the popular Ostend at Anchor event which an increasing number of EC gaffers like to attend.

Our premier event for open boats is the Swallows and Amazons rally for trailer sailers on June 12th and 13th. This takes place as usual on the Walton Backwaters, the setting of several of Arthur Ransome's novels.

Around The Areas

Later in the month, on June 18th-20th, is our main race of the season, the East Coast Race from Brightlingsea. Even if you're not a racer, you can come and watch the local smacks and bawleys competing against classic gaffers, old and new – and there's also a class for classic bermudans.

The first half of our season ends on the Stour with the Royal Hospital School rally, which must be unique in including dinner in a prestigious public school.



'Bona by Tony Pickering. Third place Sailing Gaffers category OGA photocomp 2009'

The East coast area welcomes visitors at all our events; for details of the year's programme visit our website www.eastcoast.classics.co.uk.

Bernard Patrick
EC Newsletter Editor

Around The Areas

Northern Ireland

NIOGA finished up the year on grand form, with our Craft Fair going off with a bang. From wood turning to model engines, silver work to patchwork and literature to oil paintings, there was something for everyone, with many items for sale, at advantageous prices.



'NIOGA Craft Fair'

We celebrated that success with our Annual Dinner on the 27th Nov. Brian Law, of the beautiful Macaria, was our guest speaker – as well as a recipient of two well earned prizes – the Needham Salver and the Vice President's Cup, for his first class racing at Carrickfergus earlier in the year. During the prize giving, Peter Lyons was awarded the Hidden Trophy, for all the work he does for the NIOGA and Stephen Clarkson received the North Down Cup for furthest travelled boat during the season. Amongst other prizes given were the Agnew Salver, for best presented boat (Gary Lyons/Kimew), The Leading Light Trophy (Carol Laird), The Welsh Slate Trophy (awarded to a member who has done the most to build the relationship between the North Wales and NI areas (Dennis Wright) and a new prize, the Going for Broke trophy, awarded to Irene Aston, as the "Most Damaged Gaffer". (It consisted of a small model skeleton, with matching broken collarbone.) At the end of the prizes, Danielle Hicks-Gallagher was presented with her Commodore's Swallowtail – quite possibly capable of acting as a new sail for Ceol-Mara.

Our thanks go out to Alan and Irene, for organising the event, the caterers at Royal North, for one of the best meals we have ever had, and the general hospitality of the Royal North Club.

Patrick Stewart may now be 'Sir', but we have had more important New Year Honours, as far as we're concerned. Peter Lyons, on stepping down as Membership Secretary of the OGA has been awarded Elder Gaffer status (stick and pipe optional), and Duncan MacInnes, not to be outdone, was elected to the post of Admiral of Cockle Island Boat Club. Meanwhile, both Peter and Stephen Clarkson also received prizes at the AGM. Peter received the David

Around The Areas

Cade Trophy, in appreciation of his work done towards "G.O.D", and Stephen, along with young crew Matthew Wylie, received the Grumpy II cups for the outstanding achievement of winning the Small Ships race at Greenock, prior to taking second place in the feeder race to Belfast.

Lastly, we recently held our popular event, the "Block Trophy" quiz, at Newtownards Sailing Club. With a turnout of 35 NIOGA members, we looked set to beat the home team on quantity alone – and then appeared the genius team of "Williams Cubed", staring, amongst others, Terry Needham and Brian Williams, who fathomed the worst that quiz master Peter Lyons could throw at them, arriving at a top notch score. So I am glad to report, the Block Trophy is back in Gaffer hands for a year. Let's try and repeat that success next year! Our thanks to Peter for his mind bending questions, NSC for the use of their lovely club, and their kind hospitality, and to everyone who turned up – it is your attendance that makes these events a night to remember!

Soon to come, St Patrick's Night at The Lightship – it's a fair few years since the Gaffers have been at this beautiful club; come along and enjoy the craic – bring a musician, a poet, a comedian – or just yourself!

Danielle Gallagher
Area Secretary

Scotland

Winter in Scotland came a little later than in some other parts of the country, but when it did come, the cold arrived with enough snow to make most sensible gaffers think of nothing more than a warm fire, a dram or two and dreams of next summer's blue skies and fair winds.

However at the time of writing we are blessed with bright sunshine and beautiful blue skies, so it is no surprise that some brave owners have been appearing at the local boatyard, although enthusiasm seems to be centred more on chatting than working. Maybe the next month will see a difference, as thoughts turn to the summer's fixtures. The first one in Scotland is the now traditional Campbeltown Classics held over the third weekend in May. This year it is intended to change the race format if numbers allow. There will be two classes, one for the "diehard" racers and another based more on a cruising theme. Other developments relate to the social side, and will hopefully prove popular. The other Scottish event of previous years has been the Closing Muster in Loch Fyne. This year plans include an extension of the weekend to include a whole week with several different venues in Loch Fyne being included in the gathering before a grand finale on the Saturday evening. Let us hope the weather is as kind to us as last year.

And finally a plea. There has not been an East coast meeting of Gaffers in Scotland for quite some time so if any members would like to consider a meeting whether afloat or ashore, please get in touch at the usual address. In the meantime please put the above dates in your diary and make sure that the fitting out is finished in plenty of time.

Gordon Garman Area Secretary



Around The Areas

Bristol Channel

Gaffers in far flung places.....

Winter gales whistling up the Bristol Channel leave most of us west coasters holed up safely in front of the fire, playing at virtual gaffing on facebook instead, but a few BC members have escaped to play in warmer climes....

Alexander Hall sent us a message from 'Orlando', leaving Southern Spain en route for Puerto Rico or possibly even helping out in Haiti. He did emphasise that they'd had rotten weather all the way from Malta, but sympathy from those of us in frosty Blighty was in short supply.



Alexander Hall's Orlando en route from Southern Spain to the Puerto Rico

Viv Head, like a migrating bird, has gone south for the winter and sends us occasional reports of crewing New Zealand gaffers across a dolphin-sparking sea. Ho hum.

And then there are the Slades, sensibly tending their gaff rigged chicken shed in France, so it's a wonder there are any of us left in the region to fly the flag at all!

Meanwhile, closer to home....

There are a few new events appearing on the BC timetable this year.

Clovelly Maritime in July is one of them; another is a new initiative by Nick Newland of Swallow Boats to encourage small gaffers to gather on the river Telfi during the Cardigan Quays festival in August. By the time you've added Clywedog small boat events and Cardiff Harbour festival, you'd be forgiven for wondering if every harbour in the Bristol Channel begins with the letter C! All we need now is the weather to go with it....

Claudia Myatt Area Secretary

Around The Areas

Solent Area

Things have been a bit quiet in the Solent during the festive season, but I daresay there have been plans hatched for the coming season. The frost and ice we hope has not done too much damage to the paint and varnish of last year, as come March we shall be getting itchy fingers to get going again and look forward to our sailing season as set out in this edition of the Log, but first in early February we have organised a Braid on Braid splicing workshop day at Ian Macgillivray's boatyard and I am pleased to say that we are fully booked up for this day of dealing with ropes under expert tuition.

Then our AGM is at the end of February with a supper and a speaker it should be an interesting evening, and it's a good time to catch up with friends.

We now have dates for nearly all of our rallies for 2010 which are listed on the main events pages of this edition of Gaffers Log and, weather permitting, all should provide excellent opportunities to rally together and race in the Solent Area and we are hoping that this year more smaller boats and trailer sailors will join in.

Jessica Warren Area Secretary

Devon

Since our last entry we have held our Laying-up Dinner and AGM at lunch-time on 15th November at The Royal Oak, South Brent; meeting at lunch-time seemed to meet with people's approval, we were given a very pleasant room and the food was good. The main business of the AGM was to accept the resignation as President of Mike Lucas who had held the post for many years and had been a major force in Devon Gaffers before that. We expressed our gratitude for all he had done in developing the Devon Area and in keeping it going when it could so easily have gone the way of Cornwall. Elspeth, on behalf of Marjorie Keller, the widow of our Elder Gaffer Dave, presented Mike with the Oysterman Trophy. Unfortunately Marjorie was unable to make the presentation herself because of a family bereavement. The Trophy had, some years ago, been presented to Dave in perpetuity in recognition of his work on behalf of the Area.



Elspeth presenting Mike Lucas with the Oysterman trophy in recognition of his many years of service to Devon Area OGA*

Around The Areas

Peter Crook was elected President in place of Mike, and Gil Hayward took over from Peter as Area Hon.Treasurer. There was no change in our other Officers but we did set up a small committee to help run the Area. However we should like an Events or Social Secretary to take over the organisation of our meetings as everyone has plenty of other duties to perform!

At the first committee meeting we managed to agree on dates for our main events. We also created the post of Vice-Commodore to which we appointed Mike Lucas in recognition of his contribution to the Area.

We have re-started our winter monthly get-togethers (the first Friday of the month at the Royal Seven Stars in Totnes) with mixed results – there were five of us at the first, in December (one new member came too early and left before anyone else arrived). Bob Strawson suggested the January meeting should be on board *Chloe May* but we decided to cancel it because of the weather. The postponed visit on 5th February looks more likely to go ahead.

Elspeth Macfarlane Area Secretary

Trailer Section

As I sit here writing this, it is snowing hard, the thermometer is falling and the short winter day is turning to night. So here is a photograph of my trailer dinghy waiting for better days to come.



'Snowy dinghy'

It seems that this Winter, making the rounds of various sailing club dinners and our own national AGM, everybody has given up hope of a decent Summer because we have become so used to the wet, windy Summers of recent years. Now I could write some sort of breezy article about the latest miracle wet weather gear that keeps you warm in sub arctic conditions, but ever hopeful, I look forward to a warm mild Summer. After all, I still have two pairs of brand new unworn shorts that I bought last year and never needed. Let's hope they are needed this Summer and perhaps this change to a more severe winter as of old will also bring a change in Summer's fortunes.

Around The Areas

So, to cheer up the gloom, here is a photograph of Malcolm Goram's ketch "Plugger" at last year's Morbihan. Don't ask what kind of boat she is. She seems to date from the 1930's and has certain Royal Navy features, but is the wrong length for any known classes of naval dinghy.



'Malcolm Goram's Plugger at the Morbihan 2009'

When Malcolm bought her she needed a lot of restoration, but Malcolm and Ken Anderson have done a fine job in bringing this old boat back to life and shown what a bit of enthusiasm together with wood working skills can do.

The Gulf of Morbihan is a great sea festival well worth visiting even if only for the sight of so many well restored traditional boats. It is said that the French are so keen that it appears that on Ascension Thursday, a French National holiday, everybody for miles around flocks to the Gulf to get afloat, even in a waterproof cardboard box if necessary.

I was standing on the slip at Lamor Baden, one of the Morbihan ports when a lorry arrived making a great clanking noise. The noise was caused by about twenty Optimist like boats made of aluminium. The French proceeded to unload these and rig them. The crews were not youngsters but geriatrics, all over 60 at least. They then started to race. They took this very seriously. They had a commentator on a loud speaker and the most fancy starting gun I have ever seen. It was three lorry air horns fitted to a cannibalised revolver and connected to a large compressed air bottle. It was loud enough to fit to an ocean liner.

After the race, they had a ceremony in which the local Mayor presented the cups, they then loaded the boats on their lorry and off they went. Such is the level of enthusiasm there and I would dearly like to see something similar in the UK.

So, whatever the summer brings, look at the list of events on the events page, and make a note to come to some of them.

Mike Stevens Area Secretary

Medway Cinque Ports

Isle of Sheppey Fireworks display

Sadly, the planned raft up on 5th November to watch the fireworks off the coast of Sheppey didn't materialise due to the appalling weather which washed out the whole event. Never mind, we will try again next year!

Winter voyage to the OGA AGM at Limehouse, London

Sailing was never meant to be like this. In a wild rush of blind enthusiasm four of our membership rashly decided to travel up to London for the annual AGM of the OGA by BOAT! Of course, this was arranged when we were sitting in a comfortable centrally heated house drinking a rather nice bottle of red. However, having made the decision to go we couldn't back out without losing face, so at 5 o'clock one very chilly morning I boarded Bob and Lena's boat 'Crow' at Faversham and we departed for Queenborough to meet up with Yvonne on her boat 'Kajan'.

On arrival we could see 'Kajan' sitting next to the all tide landing all ready to go. As I left 'Crow' to board 'Kajan' I was delighted to see a curl of smoke drifting up from the coal stove below indicating that at least we had somewhere we could go to warm up when the icicles got too thick on my moustache. Looking like Michelin men, we all had so many layers of clothing on that walking and bending proved a little problematical. However, nothing daunted, we took our places in the cockpits and cast off.

We had tried to book our berths at Limehouse dock two days before but been informed that we would not be able to get in because the dock had frozen over. Fortunately the day before our departure the lock keeper using his work boat had managed to break up an area sufficient for our needs.

The passage proceeded well going from the wider Thames Estuary up the river as it gradually narrowed towards the City of London. Leisurely conversations though chattering teeth and frequent hot drinks were had as we passed the ever-changing riverscape. Open fields and small towns gave way to heavy industry and shipping interspersed with London rubbish Quays, power stations, avant gard apartment blocks, the Thames Barrier and finally the banking tower blocks of the city.

Six hours later we arrived at Limehouse Dock, locked in and tied up to the wall below the Cruising Club. Normally yachts are not allowed to moor along the wall but on this occasion our booked berths had frozen in again, so we enjoyed this unusual concession. Feeling chilled to the bone the crew of 'Kajan' decided to get some physical exercise by setting off to visit the Boat Show for the afternoon where we could at least garner some warmth. On our return from the show we set to and made an evening meal. The crew of 'Crow' joined us and together worked up a lovely fug in 'Kajan's' cosy saloon under the gentle light of the paraffin lamps.

The next day was given over to the business of the OGA AGM in the warmth and comfort of the Cruising Club. Finally on Sunday we made our return passage, still in the freezing cold, but by now almost immune to the prevailing conditions. I don't think that my fingers will ever be the same again!

Around The Areas



A cold day on the Thames

Winter pub meets

These are a great way to keep in contact with sailing friends while the boats are laid up. Our first meet on January 22nd at the The Tuns, Lower Halstow was a great success. A good turn out, some new members, lively conversations and very nice food all served to make it a memorable evening. Our next pub meet is on Friday the 19th of March at The Anchor, Littlebourne, all members are very welcome, especially those who are new members or those that haven't been before.

John Cann
MCP Area President

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Price: £30,000

Full photos available but unfortunately we were unable to re-produce in this issue of GL (Editor's note)

Contact David J Cox on 01886 880345 or 01684 575949 or

email davedicox@tiscali.co.uk

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