

GAFFERS LOG

March 2011



The Official Newsletter of the Old Gaffers Association

Welcome to the March edition of Gaffers Log

Including 6 pages of OGA and related traditional boat events taking place in 2011. Further details of the plans for our 50th anniversary in 2013. 2010 OGA Photocompetition results. 2010 OGA Trophy awards and much much more.

I wish you all good sailing and a reminder not to forget to send in reports, logs, articles and photos to me for inclusion in your Gaffers Log, to your Trophy Secretary (Sue Farrer) for nominations for the OGA Trophies in 2011 and of course to Viv Head for the 2011 OGA Photographic Competition.

Phil Slade
Editor

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Front cover photo: 'Harriet Blanche off Harwich' by Tony Pickering

Membership Subscription Rates

	Payment by Cheque or Direct Credit	Payment by Direct Debit
Single	£27.00	£25.00
Family	£30.00	£28.00
Junior	£5.00	£5.00
Euro	€40.00	
Dollars (US)	\$55.00	

(NB. Payment by Standing Order is no longer accepted.)

The closing date for the next edition, June, is the 1st May 2011



'Smack Maria running' by Tony Pickering ECOGA. First prize Sailing Gaffers section OGA Photographic Competition 2010

Welcome Aboard

<u>Area</u>	<u>M/ship Number</u>	<u>Boats</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Address</u>
BC	5427	Chloe	Prof Charles Harris	24 Knowbury Avenue, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 5RX
CAN	5428		Mr Barry P. Troia	860 Buttercup Road, Gabriola, BC, Canada, V0R 1X5
CAN	5429		Mr Gerry N. Stensgaard	7771 Sparbrook Crescent, BC, Canada, V5S 3K3
DEV	5426		The Stirling Family	58 Plymouth Road, Tavistock, Devon, PL19 8BU
DEV	5430		Mr William Taylor	Mill Farm Barn, Cheriton Fitzpaine, Crediton, Devon, EX17 4BD
NED	5432		Ms Margritta Leenders	Landstraat 6a, Bredevoort, Nederland, 7126 AT
NED	5433		Ms Sabine Elisabeth Marain	Nederstraat 1, Rumpelmonde, Belgium, 9150
NED	5434		Mr Peter Uytterhoeven	Adolf Mortelmansstraat 21, Wommelgem, Belgium, 2160
NED	5435		Mr Jack den Boer	Lede 85, Rotterdam, Netherlands, 3075
NED	5436		Mr Arnold Jan de Vries	Turfpootstraat 28, Naarden, Netherlands, 1411
NED	5437		Mr Ton van Dijken	Zilvermidshoeve 109, Apeldoorn, Netherlands, 7326RJ
NED	5438		Mr Karel en Renee de Leeuw	Nijverheidslaan 30b, Weesp, Netherlands, 1382 LJ
NED	5440		Mr Mark W Andringa	Amsterdam, Netherlands
OS	5439		Mr James Rothrock	5751 Ventura Cyn Ave, Van Nuys, CA 91401, United States



A soldiers Breeze by David Hutton SOLOGA. OGA photocomp 2010 finalist

President's Welcome Address

The President, Mike Shaw, opened the meeting by welcoming everybody, especially the President of the French OGA, Yannie Cariguel and Jean Le Faucheur. It had been a busy year. The GMC had set up working parties to deal with specific issues, like for instance the data base, GOLD. Officers had worked extremely hard and thanks were particularly due to Alistair Randall who had done sterling work on GOLD. In addition he had taken on the work of Acting Membership Secretary after Peter Crook had resigned earlier in the year. Also to Pat Dawson for the work she is doing on the Boat Register, to Phil Slade for holding the fort as Acting Log Editor and now for agreeing to take back the editorial chair, and finally but not least to Robert and Jan Holden, whose secretarial roles have eaten up more and more of their time as the Association's work has expanded with preparations for 2013. We are glad that we now have a full complement of officers with the appointment of a new Membership Secretary and a Public Relations Officer.

With the management of the Association in good hands, we can now turn our attention to planning how to celebrate our first fifty years. A half century during which the Gaff rig has gone from an endangered species to prolific, with new-builds in evidence and Gaffers winning the hearts of race and rally organisers and the wider public – and to redefining our aims and objectives for the next fifty years.

How we celebrate our 50th Anniversary and what we should aim to achieve from now on will be the subject of this meeting and crucial discussions over the coming months.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Cruising Association on Saturday 15th January 2011

Present:

President Mike Shaw, and the following officers, members and associates of the OGA, Pat & Dick Dawson, Phil & Lynn Slade, Robert & Jan Holden, Barry Healas, Alistair Randall, Sue & Pete Farrer, Hamish Wilson, Ken Caddington, Garry Stephenson, Rob Williamson, Irene & Alan Aston, John Wedick, Peter Redmond, Paul Keogh, Dave Owens, Mike Stevens, Yvonne Mitchell, Lena Reekie, Robert Berk, Tom Middlebrook, Hayley, Jon, & Patricia Howarth, Marian Shaw, Nick Beck, Laurie & John Lowrie, Jessica & Mike Warren, Clare & Pete Thomas, Pete T.K. Elliston, Howard Wheelton, Sue Lewis, Trevor Rawlinson, Alison & Julian Cable, Hugo Lane, Toby Bennett, Gordon Garman. John Cann, Martin Goodrich, Maureen Winfield, Mike Evans, David Aisher, Richard Giles, Charles Greenslade, Brian Hammett, Maxine Lomas.

Together with Yannie Cariguel, President French OGA, Jean le Faucheur, Honorary Life Member French OGA, Jean-Yvon Combout, Area Secretary Primel/Le Conquet region, Philippe Delorme, Area Secretary Cote D'Emeraude region and Will Sutherland French OGA.

Apologies

Chris Brown (Treasurer), Tom Cunliffe, Viv Head, Gil Hayward, Danielle Gallagher, Claudia Myatt, Peter Lyons, Daniel Shaw.

Approval of Minutes of the AGM held on 16th January 2010

Proposed: Mike Stevens

Seconded: Alan Aston

Agreed unanimously

Matters Arising

No matters arising

Hon Treasurer's Report (Chris Brown)

Although unable to be present at the AGM the Treasurer's written report and Accounts were presented at the meeting. There were no queries raised at the meeting and it was agreed to adopt the accounts as correct.

Proposed by: Dick Dawson

Seconded by: Lynn Slade

Agreed unanimously.

Hon Secretary's Report (Robert Holden)

It is very pleasing to report that barely a day goes by without something requiring your Hon. Sec's attention with the name of the OGA becoming more widely known and appreciated. E-mails and the Internet have a lot to do with that, whilst real letters through the post have diminished accordingly.

It is pleasing also to report the development of our planned 50th birthday celebrations in 2013. Out of a casual discussion over a beer or three – two years ago – this proposed celebration has developed a momentum all of its own. From the original idea of having a coastal Relay Event, we can add to that a Round Britain Event and a closing Party Event centred on Cowes. Doubtless things will become modified – or indeed changed – as the Working Group set up to oversee the celebrations encounter obstacles and opportunities, but the end product intent to **have fun** will remain paramount.

Election of Officers

Membership Secretary - Mike Robertson

Proposed: Pete Thomas

Seconded: Jessica Warren

Agreed unanimously

Gaffers Log Editor – Phil Slade

Proposed: John Cann

Seconded: Maxine Lomas

Agreed unanimously

Webmaster – Pete Farrer

Proposed: Robert Holden

Seconded: Mike Shaw

Agreed unanimously

The Association Committee recommended to Members that the following new appointments be made:

Public Relations Co-ordinator - Chaloner Chute

Merchandise Co-ordinator - Ed Allen

These appointments were approved unanimously.

OGA Trophy Awards – Sue Farrer

Sue's full report of the trophies awarded appears elsewhere in the Log.

[written report filed with the Minutes]

Honorary Life Membership

The Association Committee recommended to the AGM that Honorary Life Memberships be awarded to:

Tom Cunliffe - proposed by the Solent Area Committee

John Denner - proposed by Alison Cade

After listening to the proposals this was agreed unanimously.

Photographic Competition 2010 – Viv Head

In Viv's absence Pete Farrer presented the slide show of the winning entries. The full report of the competition appears elsewhere in the Log.

OGA 50th Anniversary in 2013

This had been discussed in depth at the preceding Association Committee Meeting. Will Sutherland addressed the meeting giving a resume of the afternoon's discussion - this involved the Relay Event, Round Britain and a large scale event at Cowes. A small OGA 50 Working Committee had been formed :

Chaloner Chute (Chair), Dick Dawson, Barry Healas, Nick Beck, Will Sutherland.

This Committee will

- ✓ Gather ideas both from Areas and individual Members
- ✓ Co-ordinate plans for all aspects of the 2013 celebrations
- ✓ Present their initial findings to the GMC Meeting on February 12th
- ✓ Keep Members fully informed of plans as they progress
- ✓ The first report to be printed in the March Log 2011.

This provoked discussion and the following points were raised:

- ✓ Opportunity to promote the OGA
- ✓ Discussion of ideas suggested
- ✓ Need to encourage young people to be involved in the OGA
- ✓ Charity Fund Raising and Sponsorship
- ✓ Discussion on the separate events
- ✓ Concern about the short time frame for members to submit ideas
- ✓ In the December Log, and in many past issues, Phil has asked for ideas for the OGA at 50
- ✓ Ideas can be sent by e-mail direct to the Working Committee, Log Editor or Hon. Secretary
- ✓ The make up of the Working Committee
- ✓ Many members keen to help, but important to keep the working group small and effective.

The meeting agreed to Dick Dawson's point to let the OGA 50 Committee have a chance to consolidate ideas. They will report back in the Log and via Association News. Area Secretaries are asked to keep their members informed.

Any Other Business

There being no other business the meeting closed at 19.45

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2010

<u>INCOME</u>	2010 (£)	2009 (3)
Subscriptions & Donations	30,770	32,013
Merchandise Sales	2,821	2,755
Advertising Revenue - Gaffers Logs	1,415	1,756
Bank Interest	425	1,311
Total Income	35,431	37,835
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Gaffers Log Printing	9,816	8,952
Yearbook Printing	1,719	1,783
Merchandise Purchases	2,226	2,254
Stationery & Postage	5,459	6,528
Website	3,257	0
Travel & Subsistence	5,347	5,483
Area Funding	4,684	4,320
Donations & Subscriptions	156	156
Insurance	1,129	932
Photo Competition & Prizes	478	410
Bank Charges	809	613
Total Expenditure	35,078	31,431
Surplus before Tax	353	6,404
Corporation Tax	(275)	(349)
Surplus/Deficit for the year	77	6,055

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2010

<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>	2010 (£)	2009 (£)
Business Base Rate Tracker Account (Barclays)	9,693	7,189
Current Account (Barclays)	874	922
Paypal account	100	52
Standard Life 60-Day Account & Bonds	27,932	27,510
Nat West Publications Account	0	3307
Euro Account (Barclays)	248	775
Postage Float	425	1,000
Merchandise Stocks	3,313	2,501
Debtors	1,017	810
Creditors	<u>(4,114)</u>	<u>(4,656)</u>
Total Income	<u>39,487</u>	<u>39,410</u>

GENERAL FUND

Balance from Previous Year	39,410	33,355
Surplus / Deficit for Year	<u>77</u>	<u>6,055</u>
	<u>39,487</u>	<u>39,410</u>

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	658
North Wales	3,974
Devon	1,533
Dublin Bay	1,494
East Coast	5,382
Medway & Cinque Ports	295
Northern Ireland	2,453
Solent	5,547
Trailer Section	<u>100</u>

21,436

OGA 50th Anniversary preparations

The OGA50 Steering Group was formed at the AGM in January to consider all the proposals put forward to date. We had a tight deadline in order to produce a report for the GMC by the 12th February.

We were overwhelmed and delighted by the response and encouragement from members. The report and presentation were duly delivered on the 12th and keenly debated by the GMC. All documents pertaining to this process are available through either Robert Holden or myself for interested parties.

We believe that the aims of our 50th anniversary should be:

- ☐ to build on the excellent achievements of the past 50 years
- ☐ to mark the 50th anniversary with something memorable – a Big Splash.
- ☐ to provide an ‘adventure’ for members – to enable us to do something that we haven’t done before, in company with other members.
- ☐ to continue promoting traditional sailing rig, especially, but not exclusively the Gaff Rig,
- ☐ to encourage and promote seamanship & boatmanship,
- ☐ to foster stewardship of the sea & coastal protection,
- ☐ to increase membership,
- ☐ to attract younger members.
- ☐ to provide opportunities to vulnerable groups.
- ☐ to raise our profile.
- ☐ to foster fun and enjoyment whether boat-owning or not.
- ☐ to develop new initiatives with new partners

Our agreed four main Themes for 2013:

- ☐ maritime heritage
- ☐ the young – fresh blood, new membership
- ☐ traditional good seamanship – boatmanship, skills, boatbuilding
- ☐ coastal protection, stewardship of the sea / coast

We considered the size and scale of other events and business models, and building on the excellent examples we have at Holyhead & Yarmouth, Paimpol and others, we came to a sensible compromise and plumped on the suggestion that we stage an event at Cowes IOW, similar and larger than YOGAFF, yet not in the league of Paimpol or Brest. i.e. a classic and memorable classic boat event / festival with strong international, cultural and musical ties with bags of sailing, parades, racing, boatmanship and seamanship skills, stalls, food and much more...

A full programme for 2013 of sailing, events and projects is to be developed around the Areas, details of which will be circulated to everyone, once finalised.

Suggestions for a Round Britain Relay and a Round Britain Challenge should in our opinion be combined into ONE more manageable big sailing event; thus maintaining all of the key features of both concepts, whilst minimising risks and increasing the effectiveness of the publicity generated. The sailing route would be round Britain clockwise with the option of going “over the top” or through the Caledonian canal. Our “gaffer” friends from neighbouring countries will be invited to join us.

Members' boats, large and small, will be able to join or leave the Round Britain Challenge Relay at any point. Tokens & cargoes will be passed from one boat for delivery to the Cowes finale event. We also liked the idea of involving the Inland Waterways on various legs, reflecting their historic trading links with ourselves with their working boats.

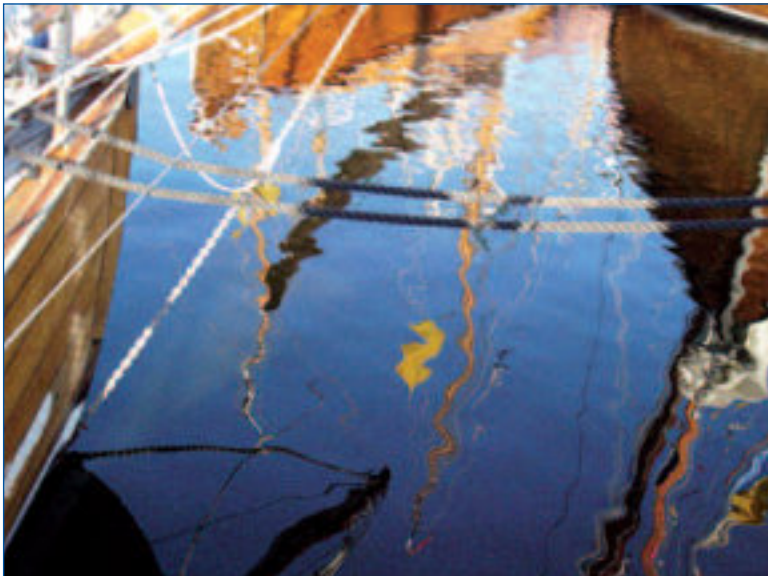
Whilst there were some members' with doubts about involving the large charter boats, most felt that the two can exist side by side, and there were many benefits of including them in our celebrations. The proviso being that they should aim for being self-financing. It is the larger beautiful traditionally-rigged boats, with historic backgrounds that attract people to events. They also attract sponsors, and turn small events into big ones. Our view is that we need the big classic boats to showcase our project, promote our aims and themes, attract sponsors and meaningful PR, as well as providing a legal / coded platform for youngster & adults.

One project to investigate further is the idea of setting up an apprenticeship / scholarship scheme for boatbuilding / seamanship etc in co-operation with one of the boatbuilding centres.

We considered various funding packages but one European stream looks promising - entitled "2 SEAS" and early discussion with EU officers has been encouraging. We agreed the likely need for professional part-time staff to assist in matters of sponsorship & funding.

We believe we now have the beginnings of a Programme for 2013 that befits the 50th Anniversary celebrations while proving to be practical, feasible, financially viable, in line with the wishes and aspirations of the members – above all it has to be FUN!

Chaloner Chute
Chairman OGA50 Steering Group



Ripples by Nick van Raaij Netherlands OGA. Finalist Sailing Shots OGA photocomp 2010

Playmate's last cruise by Viv Head

Playmate has graced the Bristol Channel for a number of years now, often to be seen nosing out of Bristol or more latterly Portishead, early in the season. A gaff cutter of a little over thirty feet, perhaps 'graced' may be the wrong word, but her unmistakable lines gave her a special charm that was all her own. Built in Poole Harbour around 1898, she was originally an open fishing boat but was commissioned as a yacht in 1908 when she acquired the name *Playmate*. In 1924 she was decked and a cabin added and later still, in 1965, she had a doghouse fitted. Her skipper, John Maxwell, has owned her for twenty-four years, nearly a quarter of her life, initially sailing out of Gravesend. Then in 1989 *Playmate* arrived in Bristol from where she twice sailed to Brittany. In 2001 John moved her to Portishead when the new marina opened.

Playmate was built every inch as a working boat and she retained that character for the rest of her days; there was never anything bright and shiny about her decks or down below! But then perhaps the same could be said of her skipper's philosophy - if something still works, even if it does need a little coaxing, why does it need replacing? In many ways the boat and her skipper were made for each other - both have long, traditional sailing backgrounds.

2010 turned out to be a seminal year for *Playmate*. In May there came a splendid early season cruise in company, the story of which will be related in the June edition of Gaffers Log. The next month *Playmate* made passage to Cardiff Bay for an OGA gathering. On the way, with an inexperienced helmsman, she came rather too close to a starboard mark and gave the stern a bit of a clout but temporary repairs saw her safely home. Then in late summer came the Holms Race, starting at Portishead, sailing down channel to pass between Flat Holm and Steep Holm and back with the tide. On the outward leg, the lee decks were under and she started taking in water faster than it could be pumped out. The water in the cabin became so deep that it got into the electrics and the crew were unable to start the engine. A call for assistance went out and *Playmate* was towed back into Portishead by the lifeboat where she was immediately craned onto the hard. It was her last outing. Removal of soft planks revealed rotten frames and ribs. Some of the remaining planks started to drop because the screws simply pulled out of the frames. The deck beams were no longer securely attached to the hull - obviously a major factor in why she was leaking and explained why she was permanently damp down below. The surveyor declared her unseaworthy and advised a minimum of £20,000 of repair work to make her safe - more than twice her value even as a seaworthy vessel.



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Playmate leaving Cardiff

Few wooden boats of her size last over a hundred years without a lot of money being spent. For many years repairs had been carried out by her skipper at little cost - sadly her time had come, despite all the joy she had brought, there was little option but for her to be broken up. A sad end indeed for what may have been the oldest boat still sailing the Bristol Channel.

Viv Head
BCOGA

Conserving Historic Vessels: a new publication from National Historic Ships

In October 2010, the Government-funded organization, National Historic Ships, brought out a landmark publication for all those with an interest in ship conservation. *Conserving Historic Vessels* sets out the principles behind maritime conservation, looking at the various processes of: preservation, restoration, adaptation and reconstruction, and analyzing what they mean and in what circumstance each should be used. The book asks some fundamental questions which should be considered before taking on a major project, such as how significant the vessel is and what the intended final use will be. For those who are new to historic ships, the book will offer a basic introduction to vessel conservation and set some parameters for the world you are entering. For the old timers, *Conserving Historic Vessels* does not seek to re-teach known techniques, or skills that can only be achieved through hands-on practical experience. Instead, it offers a way to assess the vessel's importance and an understanding of how best to achieve a sustainable future in conservation terms.

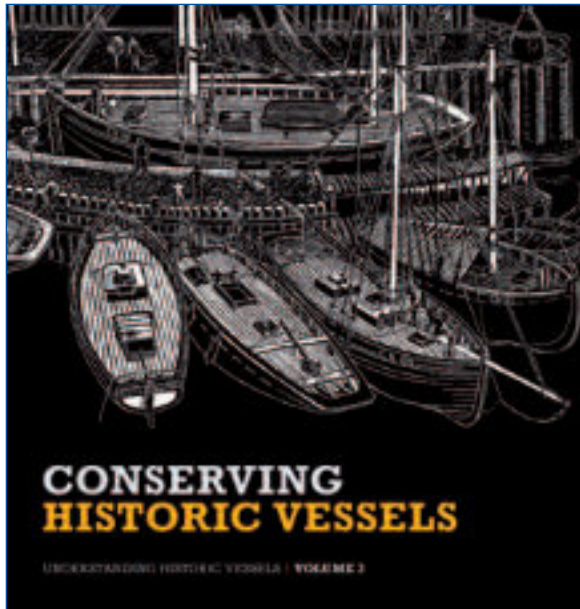
National Historic Ships was set up in 2006 and funded by the Department of Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS). Having recently secured further funding for the next four years, National Historic Ships will continue to act as a focus for ship conservation projects in the UK, giving advice to the Secretary of State, the Heritage Lottery Fund and other funding bodies, as well as providing guidance publications for vessel owners and all those with an interest in the sector. National Historic Ships holds, maintains and develops the National Register of Historic Vessels (NRHV) and recently introduced the National Archive of Historic Vessels – NAHV, (for vessels previously on the NRHV, but which have been destroyed) and the Overseas Watch List – OWL, (to track vessels of outstanding UK significance outside the UK). National Historic Ships also runs a small grants scheme to help owners of registered vessels. Once a vessel has been on the NRHV for six months or more, it becomes eligible to apply for one of these grants which are divided into three categories, covering training, conference attendance or sustainability works to the vessel. Some £300,000 has been awarded to date through this scheme, which has proved very popular, particularly with private owners who have difficulty obtaining funding from other sources.

National Historic Ships also works to highlight the decline in traditional skills relating to historic vessel conservation and maintenance as a key area for concern. In 2007, National Historic Ships carried out an Infrastructure Audit, surveying the facilities, maritime projects and traditional techniques still surviving in the UK and the need for support work in this area. A primary outcome of this research was the development of the national Directory of Skills & Services. This is a database of contacts for all vessel owners, linking them to craftsmen, practitioners and facilities across the UK. The Directory is now available online at: www.shipshapenetwork.org.uk The Shipshape Network is a new initiative launched by National Historic Ships in June 2010. It offers a UK-wide network for ship conservation, with the dedicated website offering a communications portal for all those with an interest in maritime heritage, allowing users to activate the Directory, learn more about current ship conservation projects, potential funding opportunities and skills training. Both the Directory of Skills & Services and the NRHV continue to grow on a regular basis, with an average of some 4-6 new vessel registrations each month.

Whilst the Shipshape Network now provides a skills contact base for the sector, many private owners still prefer to undertake work on their vessel personally or take a hands-on approach to what needs to be done, before employing any external help. *Conserving*

Historic Vessels will help these owners develop a long-term conservation strategy for their vessel and includes case studies for each conservation process, giving a general overview of what each option entails. However, the book does not seek to become a 'how to do it' manual, with detailed explanation of the day-to-day skills involved in ship conservation. Instead, it acts as a core text which embodies the key principles, whilst National Historic Ships has developed an online resource section on its website: www.nationalhistoricships.org.uk to offer more practical support. These dedicated online pages include an extended bibliography for the book, links to information on other websites and a readily searchable list of downloadable technical papers covering subjects such as riveting, marine coatings, timber sources and large ship conservation. The latter are taken from unpublished works, conference papers and out-of-print material which can no longer be found elsewhere.

The online technical resource section can be accessed by all visitors to the National Historic Ships website. It is currently in its infancy, but we hope it will continue to grow and we welcome new additions, so please send us any documents which you think might be relevant or helpful to others and we will be happy to upload them. Copies of *Conserving Historic Vessels* can be obtained through the OGA Shop at: www.ogashop.comuf.com and National Historic Ships is offering a 30% discount to owners of vessels on the NRHV, members of the OGA and members of the Society for Nautical Research. This can be redeemed on provision of your membership or vessel ID number.



Hannah Cunliffe
Policy & Project Manager
National Historic Ships

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We only awarded five out of the eight OGA trophies for 2010 as unfortunately no nominations were received for the Alan Hidden Trophy, Janty Cup or the Grumpy II Cups.

The awards made were as follows:

Cape Horn Trophy

This is awarded for an unusual one-off piece of seamanship undertaken in the normal course of “gaffering”. Nominations for this award are judged by Tom Cunliffe and Sam Poole.

This award goes to Peter Thomas ECOGA, owner of ‘Transcur’.

Whilst crossing back from ‘Ostend at Anchor’ in his yacht ‘Witch’ in almost windless conditions, Alistair Randall reported that he was unlucky enough to have his propeller fouled by a huge mass of rope, fishing net and tree branch in the Eastbound Shipping Lane. Without enough wind for steerage way, ‘Witch’ was adrift and helpless. Peter Thomas in ‘Transcur’ came alongside to render assistance. He floated a heaving line down to us on a fender, attached to a towing line. He then took us in tow all the way across the rest of the Eastbound and then the Westbound Shipping Lanes to a place where we could safely clear the propeller.



Pete Thomas receiving the Cape Horn Trophy from Sue Farrer

Readers of the Association’s excellent Gaffer Log in December 2010 will have read along with the other amusing, interesting and essential information, a log entry concerning a timely rescue and we are sure most would applaud this intervention to help a fellow sailor in a spot of trouble a worthy winner of the Cape Horn Trophy.

A timely offer of assistance when all on board actions cannot prevent an impending danger will always be appreciated and when that assistance is given in a thoroughly seamanlike fashion that assistance is even more appreciated.

We have no hesitation and great pleasure in nominating Peter Thomas to receive the Cape Horn Trophy 2010.”

NB: This was reported on more fully in Alistair’s story in the Dec. Log entitled ‘Ostend and Back – Just’

Gaffers Globe

This is awarded to a member who has undertaken a major voyage relative to their boat and experience and was nominated by Viv Head and judged by Mike Shaw, OGA President.

This award goes to Mike Evans NWOGA.

In Viv's words this person 'travelled from New Quay in Cardigan around St David's Head, across St Brides Bay and through Jack Sound. A passage he himself described as his own personal Cape Horn.' A detailed report was sent in by Mike of his first voyage from his home port to Milford Haven to attend the Seafair Haven Traditional Boat Rally. The voyage was undertaken in his 7.2 metre Cape Cutter 'Suzy Fay', leaving New Quay on Fri. 25th June and returning back to his mooring on Tues. 13th July. Mike has sailed all his life but in his words 'never actually gone anywhere'. He had dreamed that one day he might sail around the world including Cape Horn but this never happened. This trip was Mike's Cape Horn!!



Mike Evans receiving the Gaffers Globe Trophy from Sue Farrer

Trailer Section Seamanship

Presented to a nominated member of the trailer section for an act of outstanding seamanship, commensurate with their experience and boat.

Proposed by Lil Jackson and seconded by Mike Stevens the award goes to Ken Anderson.

This trophy is difficult to award being an act of outstanding seamanship for a small vessel. However, as you know Mike Stevens attends as many small trailer events as he can along with Lil Jackson and Gordon Bourne. Lil recalls when Ken Anderson (80 years young) broke his rudder on his 14.5ft Andrew Wolstenholme designed 'Swallow' called 'Cloud 9' whilst attending an event on Ullswater in the Lake District. Ken managed to return to base across the lake with the use of one of his oars as a make shift rudder.

Gaffers Tales Trophy

Awarded for the best article entered in Gaffers Log during the year and judged by the Editor of Gaffers Log . The award goes to Jon Howorth ECOGA.

There were a number of good articles published in Gaffers Log this year and it is always very difficult to pick any particular one out. However, in the 2010 June Log and entitled 'Dick Dadson – Kent Boatbuilder' Jon wrote an article on the ancestry of his 16ft. clinker built gunter rigged cabin cruiser built by Dick Dadson in 1977 named 'Sirius'.



John Howorth receiving the Gaffers Tales Trophy from Sue Farrer

David Cade Trophy

Awarded to Joachim van Houweninge by the General Management Committee (GMC) for the most outstanding contribution made to the Association over the year and over and above the normal call of duty. *(Wording changed in agreement with Alison Cade who originally donated the trophy to the Association.)*

As well as being instrumental in setting up the Dutch OGA Area Joachim has set up, and still the YOGA - Young Old Gaffer Section in Holland. Members from the East Coast report that Joachim was the instigator in setting up YOGA a couple of years ago and still works extremely hard to encourage young people to sail gaff rigged boats.

Honorary Membership

John Denner was proposed for Honorary Life membership by Alison Cade for all the work he has done for the OGA over many years which was approved by the GMC.

Tom Cunliffe was proposed by Dick and Pat Dawson for all the work he has done over the years for the Solent Area OGA and the Association in general. Tom will be retiring this year as President of the Solent Area.

This was also approved by the GMC.

Sue Farrer

Trophy Secretary OGA

Age Allowance - Time for a Change

When the OGA formed in 1963 it was decided that some handicap system was needed. The System known as the THC(F) has now been used now for nearly 50 years with a few minor changes. In the early days when a significant number of the members boats were 'old toreouts' and really rather ripe as some would say, a factor was needed to give some advantage to the really old boats. This was called the Age Allowance. It applied to boats that were over 33 years old at that time and reached the maximum allowance when boats were over 63 years old. The date for the age allowance has never changed.

Today the gaffer fleet is a much healthier group of boats. Nearly all of the old boats that fit into the age allowance time period have been either completely rebuilt or had major works done to keep them strong and seaworthy. The question has been asked several times why do we still keep the age allowance. The Sailing Committee has spent some time looking into the effects and reasoning behind removing this allowance on our current racing fleet. As the owner of one of the boats affected, my initial thoughts were against any change. However having looked closely at race results from the past few years and then 're run' the races with the age allowance removed I was very surprised to see how little change it really made to the final race position. The change was one or two places, mostly just one place change. Not particularly significant. Interestingly it was in many cases the boats which had an age allowance that filled the top places in the race results.

Considering the reasons for its original introduction were not really valid with the boats that race today and that it appears often to give an unfair advantage to the older boats in racing fleet it was proposed at the Association Committee meeting in January to abolish the allowance from the start of the 2012 season. This was agreed by all present as being fair. For those affected make the most of this year!!!

**Pete Thomas ECOGA
OGA Sailing Committee**



'Bowsprit man' by Tony Pickering. OGA photcomp 2010 finalist

OGA Publicity Co-ordinator appointed

The GMC is pleased to report the appointment of Chaloner Chute (Solent OGA) as OGA Publicity Co-ordinator. Members will be aware that we have been trying to fill this vital role for some time. Chaloner has a great deal of experience in this field and will also be undertaking a lead role in our plans for our 50th anniversary in 2013. He has been appointed chairman of the small steering committee set up at the AGM to bring together the many suggestions put forward by OGA members on how we should celebrate this important milestone and in our Association's history.

OGA Boat Register

Many thanks to all who have sent in registration forms. OGA's register of gaff rigged craft is growing fast. Are you sure your boat is included in this unique archive? Do take a few minutes to contact me to check. Better still download and fill in the form from the OGA website so I can be sure I have your boat's details.

In sorting out the paper records and photographs I often wonder where some of the boats listed have gone. A good example is 'Eaglet' OGA number 908. The first record of her from 1964 is a letter to the then OGA Secretary, John Scarlett, discussing the merits of converting her from gaff to Bermudan rig. Her owner is complaining of her excessive weather helm and believes changing the rig will help. This however was not a success as the next record from the 1970's show she is clearly still gaff rigged. The photo is from the Solent race in 1973. The last record is in the 1979 Gaffers Log where she is for sale for £5,250. 'Eaglet' was built in 1929 by David Hillyard in Littlehampton for the Captain of HMS Eagle. She is 25ft 6ins on deck, 23ft 4ins on the waterline with 8ft 3ins beam and 4ft 6ins draft. Can anyone remember her, or knows where she is now?

Pat Dawson OGA Boat Register

Webmaster Report

In the last Gaffers Log I told you about the Google Calendar for all our events. **So far, very few events have been added.** All area secretaries have been invited to join the calendar, so that you can add your own events. The calendar can be embedded in your website, where it will be automatically updated, it can also synchronise to your iPhone or Outlook calendars. Alternatively, a simple link can be added to your website directing viewers to the calendar. It means we have only one calendar, and everyone sees the same thing, including location maps (generated automatically) and contact details.

(<http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=peterfarrer%40o2.co.uk&ctz=Europe/London>).

If there is a general feeling amongst Area Secretaries that a universal calendar is not required I will drop it. Please let me have your comments.

Peter Farrer OGA Webmaster

STOP PRESS

News has just come in from Marine Industry Events that the proposed first ever Liverpool Boat Show has been cancelled due to the prevailing poor economic climate and lack of interest from exhibitors

Congratulations to all the photographers for the high standard of photos submitted and for the wide range of subjects which never ceases to amaze me. In judging the 2010 competition difficult choices had to be made, especially when choosing the final positions for the top seven or eight photos in each category, particularly when entrants can only win one prize in each. Sometimes an excellent photo had to be excluded because the same photographer had sent in an even better one.

So commiserations to those who didn't make the leader board but thank you to all those who took the trouble to send them in. There were eighty entries in all, from England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales and Holland.

The final results are listed below,

Sailing Shots

Third Prize: *'Retired- no wind'* by David Owens

Second Prize: *'The Evening Before'* by Erik Frenks

First Prize: *'Approaching Belfast'* by Peter Lyons



'Approaching Belfast' by Peter Lyons NIOGA. First prize
Sailing Shots category 2010 OGA photocomp.

Sailing Gaffers

Third Prize: *'Racing Silently'* by Maud Kieft

Second Prize: *'Playmate to Starboard'* by John Laband

First Prize: *'Smack Maria Running'* by Tony Pickering



'Racing Silently' by Maud Kieft Dutch OGA. Third prize
Sailing Gaffers category 2010 OGA photocomp

Can I finish by reminding all members that the 2011 OGA Photographic Competition is formally open, so start sending in those photos to me as soon as possible.

Viv Head BCOGA

OGA Photographic Competition Co-ordinator

Retaining your Sailing Friends

A look at Man Overboard Recovery by Robert Holden MCPOGA

Sailing has a number of protocols that have evolved over long periods of time. Some for as long as we have gone afloat. Most will be aware of the protocol – or courtesy if you prefer – of crossing another vessel by doing so in front of the mast. By using this route invasion of the personal space of the cockpit is avoided. This protocol has perhaps been around ever since masts were invented.

Another protocol, that dates from even earlier, is that of coming back to shore with the same number of people on board as when you left. Arriving back with fewer than when you left is not considered good form at all!

Readers may therefore be reassured that aboard our own gaffer *Emanuel* we make every effort to conform, returning with the same number aboard as when we left. As always prevention is better than cure and so lifeline jackstays are rigged permanently fore and aft, for clipping on to when going forward or when seated in the cockpit. The ‘helm’ having a dedicated short transverse jackstay beneath the tiller on which to clip his / her harness. Naturally life jackets need to be worn in order to make use of the facility of clipping on – integral in lifejackets.

We always try to wear lifejackets when at sea – even in calm conditions.

After all modern lifejackets are compact and unobtrusive in use. So, should a person go over the side they are at least wearing a means of getting that person back on board, which very neatly brings us on to a method others may like to consider for converting ‘Man Overboard’ to ‘Man Back on Board’. Gaff rigged vessels are in the main blessed with good long booms, unlike some craft of more recent design where an ‘aluminium stick for a boom’ barely reaches the cockpit. We can use that cockpit – overlapping boom’s length to advantage in MOB recovery, along with the casualty’s (using RNLI / coastguard parlance) lifejacket harness ring. Aboard *Emanuel* we have a length of looped webbing around the boom at the point where that part of the boom crosses the middle of the cockpit. It sits there doing nothing – and long may it continue to do so. But should it need to do some work it is there ready to instantly receive a small three part purchase that is dedicated to the purpose of MOB recovery. Being fitted with snap shackles top and tail for rapid clipping to this boom webbing, and to the casualty once alongside, it is kept ready to hand in the cockpit locker.

As can be seen in the photo *Emanuel’s* boom is quite high, but even so it may need topping up to gain that extra height. Topping up will need to be done before lifting the casualty – now described as ‘victim’ at this point due to the likely bruising soon to follow – as ‘topping up’ will be that much harder with the ‘victims’ weight to lift as well.

At this point of recovery on any vessel – near the stern – care will need to be exercised in respect of the proximity of the propeller. With *Emanuel* the propeller is on the starboard side so the preferred side for recovery is the port side, and ideally ‘hove to’ on starboard tack, making the lee side that much lower. Every vessel will have different needs in this respect.

Cost effective and simple, using gear probably already on board, I commend this method to you – especially for short handed sailing.



The three part purchase connected to the boom webbing and to a lifejacket. It is clipped on upside down so that the hauling assists in lifting the casualty as well as pull the person hauling harder onto the deck for grip. It can of course be reversed according to need.

The webbing in close up.



Robert Holden
MCPOGA

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OGA and related traditional boat events 2011

Date	Event	Contact
2011		
March		
5 th	Solent OGA Sea Survival Course	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 solsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
12 th	NW OGA Annual Boatshed Party Waterfront Marine, Port Penrhyn	Sue Farrer 01270 874174 nwasec@oldgaffersassociation.org
13 th	MCP OGA participation at Detling Boat Jumble	Anne Mason 01795 662 143 mcpsec@oldgaffersassociation.org John Cann john@artcreativdesign.com
19 th	East Coast OGA AGM & Dinner, RBYC, Burnham	Trevor Rawlinson 01621 783969 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
25 th	NIOGA Poems & Pints The Imperial Bar, Bangor	Alan Aston 02890 426497 Alan@marinomarine.com
26 th	MCP OGA Pub Meet – the Three Tuns, Lower Halstow	Anne Mason 01795 662 143 mcpsec@oldgaffersassociation.org John Cann john@artcreativdesign.com
26 th – 27 th	FRCPM Dunkirk – Journées de l'International Guild of Knot Tyers	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
5 th	Solent OGA Sea Survival Course	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 solsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
April		
2 nd	Devon OGA Fitting-out Supper, Royal Western Yacht Club, Plymouth 19.00 for 19.30	Gil Hayward 01803 722274 wearesailing@hotmail.com
22 nd – 24 th	ECOGA Easter Egg Rally, Shotley Marina	Melvyn Fox 07763 115899 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
29 th	NIOGA RNIYC Peter Lyons Talk on Ocean Dove	Alan Aston 02890 426497 Alan@marinomarine.com
May		
29 th April – 8 th	First Liverpool Boat Show	Sue Farrer 01270 874174 cnwsec@oldgaffersassociation.org Vivienne Bushrod 020 7424 7883 http://www.liverpoolboatshow.co.uk/
30 th April – 2 nd	ECOGA Fambridge Rally, Fambridge / Battlesbridge	Trevor Rawlinson 01621 783969 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
6 th – 8 th	OGA Trailer Section at Clywedog SC, Near Llanidloes, mid-Wales	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 trailersec@pldgaffersassociation.org

OGA and related traditional boat events 2011

8th	Devon OGA – daytime visit to Stirling & Son to see progress on “Integrity”, followed by pub lunch at the Plough, Bere Ferrers	John Gallagher 01822 840193 Johnphil.gallagher@lineone.net
14th – 15th	FRCPM Dunkirk – Fête de la Mer et du Nautisme	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
21st – 22nd	Escale à Gravelines	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
20th – 22nd	Campbeltown Classics	Gordon Garman 01700 505617 scotsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
21st – 22nd	Classics & Gaffers Regatta – Lymington	www.rlymyc.org.uk Barry Dunning Barry_dunning@hotmail.com
22nd – 24th	River Hamble Combined Sailing Clubs Regatta incl. trailer sailers	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 solsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
26th – 29th	Ostend at Anchor	Mike McCarthy 01277 623833 07711 970728
27th – 29th	Brixham Heritage Regatta	Mike Lucas 07717 885435 mike@mikelucas.info
27th – 29th	OGA British Columbia, Canada Montague Harbour Small Boat Rendezvous, Galiano Island	Jamie Orr Small_boat_rendezvous@yahoo.com
27th – 30th	OGA Dublin Bay Rally & Regatta, Poolbeg YC	John Wedick ossobucco@hotmail.com
28th – 30th	Lechlade Traditional Boating on the Thames, incl. canoes & coracles	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 trailersec@pldgaffersassociation.org
28th – 30th	ECOGA Crouch Rally, Farnbridge	Trevor Rawlinson 01621 783969 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
June		
30th May – 5th	Semaine du Golfe du Morbihan With free mooring 2 weeks before and 2 weeks after for foreign boats	Anne Morice 0033 2 97 62 20 09 annemorice@semainedugolfe.com http://www.semainedugolfe.com Anne Burlat 0033 6 81 33 09 86 burlat@grand-large.fr
2nd – 4th	Solent OGA Yogaff	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 solsec@oldgaffersassociation.org

OGA and related traditional boat events 2011

2 nd – 5 th	Fêtes du Port, Havenfeesten, Blankenberge, Belgium	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
3 rd – 5 th	NIOGA - Classic Sail Carrickfergus	Alan Aston 02890 426497 Alan@marinomarine.com
4 th – 5 th	ECOGA Swallows and Amazons, Walton & Frinton YC	Pete Elliston 01206 391870 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
10 th -12 th	Beale Park Tradional Boat Show, OGA stand, OGA boat display	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 trailersec@pldgaffersassociation.org
10 th – 12 th	Ullswater OGA Trailer Rally, Glenridding Sailing Centre, Lake District	B arry Healas 01524 276258 bazhealas@tiscali.co.uk
11 th	MCP OGA Medway Barge Match, follow fleet, then BBQ at Queenborough	Anne Mason 01795 662 143 mcpsec@oldgaffersassociation.org John Cann john@artcreativedesign.com
18 th	Solent OGA Three Creeks Race	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 solsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
18 th	ECOGA RHS Rally, Holbrook, Wrabness	Mike Robertson 01473 327115 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
18 th	Rowhedge Regatta, River Colne	Nick Baker 01206 728693
23 rd – 26 th	Golowan Maritime Festival – Penzance	Roger Lowry 01736 360214 www.golowanmaritimefestival.co.uk
24 th – 26 th	Devon OGA Start Bay Rally & Race In conjunction with Classic Channel regatta	Gil Hayward 01803 722274 wearesailing@hotmail.com
25 th	Pin Mill Smack & Barge Match, Pin Mill, River Orwell	
July		
30 th June – 3 rd	Tall Ships at Waterford Perry Crickmere is organising a cruise in company from Milfordhaven	www.waterfordtallshipsrace.ie Perry Crickmere 01437 541201 perry@starfishbooks.co.uk
1 st – 4 th	ECOGA East Coast Race, Colne Yacht Club, & Brightlingsea Rally	Richard Giles 07710 319995 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
8 th – 11 th	OGA British Columbia, Canada, Sucia Island Small Boat Rendezvous	Jamie Orr Small_boat_rendezvous@yahoo.com
9 th	Blackwater Smack Race	
16 th	ECOGA Southwold Rally, Southwold Sailing Club	Lorna Hill 01473 730661 Richard Symes 01986 784225 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk

OGA and related traditional boat events 2011

14th – 17th	5th Côte d'Opale Maritime Heritage Meeting et Fête de la Mer Boulogne sur Mer	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
14th – 17th	FRCPM Dunkirk – Rally of Yawls from Bantry	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
16th – 17th	Bristol Channel Area Clovelly Maritime Festival An opportunity for OGA members to add their traditional boats to this well-established harbour festival	Perry Crickmere 01437 541201 perry@starfishbooks.co.uk
16th – 17th	Solent OGA Marchwood Rally	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 solsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
22nd – 24th	OGA Small Boats on the Haven, Pembrokeshire Adventure Centre, Cruisers also welcome	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 trailersec@pldgaffersassociation.org Claudia Myatt 01437 541201 claudia@claudiamyatt.co.uk
23rd	MCP OGA Pizza Party on River Stour at Sandwich	Anne Mason 01795 662 143 mcpsec@oldgaffersassociation.org John Cann john@artcreativedesign.com
23rd	Wivenhoe Town Regatta	Richard Barnard
23rd	ECOGA North Sea Race, Harwich – Hook of Holland	Brian Hammett 01473 231066 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
24th – 26th	NIOGA, Portaferry	Alan Aston 02890 426497 Alan@marinomarine.com
27th – 31st	Hellevoetsluis 12th Dutch Classic Yacht Regatta	Coerd de Heer coerd@opkoers.nl Brian Hammett 01473 231066 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
29th – 31st	Peel, Isle of Man	Alan Aston 02890 426497 Alan@marinomarine.com
29th - 1st August	Plymouth Classics Boat Rally	John Gallagher 01822 840193 Johnphil.gallagher@lineone.net
August		
	Whitstable Match	Whitstable Harbour Office 01227 274086
5th – 7th	NIOGA Ardglass	Alan Aston 02890 426497 Alan@marinomarine.com

OGA and related traditional boat events 2011

6 th	MCP OGA participation in Swale Match	Lena Reekie 01795 530309
6 th	Dittisham Regatta – Devon Gaffers race at 11.00 (HW 11.37 4.3m). Trophy for 1 st OGA member on handicap (and not winning the DSC John Wynn Trophy)	Gil Hayward 01803 722274 wearesailing@hotmail.com
12 th – 14 th	OGA Trailer Section at Clywedog SC, Near Llanidloes, mid-Wales	Mike Stevens 01792 297445 trailersec@pldgaffersassociation.org
12 th – 14 th	Fête du chant de marin, Paimpol	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
13 th – 21 st	Conwy River Festival, North Wales	Tony Mead, Conwy Harbourmaster 01492 596253
15 th	Fête du Courgain Maritime, Calais	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
15 th – 19 th	Mersea Week, West Mersea, EC	
20 th – 21 st	OGA British Columbia, Canada Port of Toledo Annual Wooden Boat Show	http://www.portoftoledo.org/pot_wbs_main.html
20 th – 28 th	ECOGA Rivers Stour, Orwell & Deben	Peter Thomas 0143 832808 01473 231066 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
25 th – 28 th	Vlissingen – NL	
26 th – 28 th	Solent OGA 53 rd Annual Race	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 solsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
27 th	Southend Smack & Barge Match	
27 th	Pin Mill Regatta, River Orwell	
27 th – 28 th	Fête du Flobart, Wissant	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
26 th – 29 th	North Wales OGA Holyhead 5 th Traditional Sail Festival	Sue Farrer 01270 874174 cnwsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
28 th	Dartmouth Regatta – RNLI Regatta Race – 3 Devon trophies.	Gil Hayward 01803 722274 wearesailing@hotmail.com
September		
2 nd – 4 th	OGA British Columbia, Canada Victoria Classic Boat Festival, Victoria BC	http://www.classicboatfestival.ca
3 rd – 4 th	Solent OGA Bursledon Regatta	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 solsec@oldgaffersassociation.org

OGA and related traditional boat events 2011

3rd	Colne Smack & Barge Match, Brightlingsea	Cone Smack Preservation Society
9th – 11th	MCP OGA & EC OGA participation in the Thames Revival at St Katherine's Dock. Fancy Dress essential	Anne Mason 01795 662 143 mcpsec@oldgaffersassociation.org John Cann john@artcreativedesign.com www.thamesrevival.com
9th – 11th	OGA British Columbia, Canada Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival	http://www.woodenboat.org/default.aspx
16th – 18th	Portavadie	Gordon Garman 01700 505617 scotsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
16th – 18th	Ullswater OGA Trailer Rally, Glenridding Sailing Centre, Lake District	B arry Healas 01524 276258 bazhealas@tiscali.co.uk
16th – 25th	Southampton Boat Show	
17th	Solent OGA Centenary Chase	Jessica Warren 01962 712529 solsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
17th	Maldon Town Regatta, Little Ship Club, Maldon	Peter Maynard 01621 852808
17th – 18th	FRCPM, Fête de la Beurière, Boulogne sur Mer	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
21st – 25th	Festival de la Loire, Orléans	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
24th – 25th	Waterkant – chants marins, Antwerp, Belgium	Marcel Charpentier or Laureline Vallat 0033 3 20 52 46 98 frcpm@orange.fr http://www.patrimoine-maritime.com
November		
4th – 6th	Enkhuizen, NL Classic Boats	
5th	MCP OGA Fireworks Cruise to the Medway Yacht Club	Anne Mason 01795 662 143 mcpsec@oldgaffersassociation.org John Cann john@artcreativedesign.com
6th	Devon OGA Laying-Up Lunch and AGM – venue TBA	Gil Hayward 01803 722274 wearesailing@hotmail.com
12th	ECOGA AGM & Social, Royal Harwich YC	Pete Elliston 01206 391870 www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk
2012	A Date for your diaries:	
July		
13th – 19th	Brest 20th Anniversary	

Chris Chipchase (MCP OGA)

Chris Chipchase who passed away in November 2010 joined the OGA in 1974 and was a member of the Medway Cinque Ports Area and the Trailer Section. Chris was born in 1943 and always had a love of the sea.

He became a Master Mariner and had sailed all over the world. Even so his favourite hobby was sailing. An ideal holiday for Chris, ideal after being at sea, was to get his mirror dinghy out and go sailing and camping along the Thames. At one time he owned 11 boats ranging from a smack, through various sizes of dinghies to both a kayak and an open Canadian style canoe. If it floated, Chris just had to try it out, regardless of its size. Such enthusiasm meant that Chris was a regular attendee at most Trailer section rallies, in the later years bringing a 9 foot dinghy, popularly dubbed 'Son of Mirror'.

Chris was a keen photographer and he used this small boat as a mobile platform because of its simple rig. During a race, you would be sure to see Chris avidly snapping everything to produce a wonderful memory of the event. Not only did he use a still camera, he also made quite a number of videos and made them available to members, thus creating a permanent record of some of the OGA events.

When he was first taken ill, Chris took up the melodeon. Apparently he had not had any previous musical training and yet within a year became an accomplished player, not through any particular innate skill but by sheer hard work.



Chris was a widower, his wife Elizabeth having passed away 16 years ago. He is survived by his son Matthew and daughter Helen.

It was really nice to arrive at a rally and find Chris there. Always the gentleman, always welcoming, he will be sadly missed.

Mike Stevens
Area Secretary The Trailer Section

Gert Sigvardsen (British Columbia and Pacific North West)

Gert Sigvardsen passed away in January after battling a very aggressive form of cancer for the last six months. We first met Gert and his wife Barb when they came to our OGA Inaugural meeting on January 30th 2010. They quickly became active members of the Association attending nearly every meeting until he became ill later in the year.

He loved to sail and was a common sight on English Bay. I had heard about his craftsmanship from a number of people in the Wooden Boat Forums but *seeing is believing*. From the house he built, a boat under construction and his own fine furniture, displays of his unmatched skills as a craftsman were everywhere.

Gert will be missed by all of us that had the privilege of knowing him.

Colin Ming

Skipper British Columbia and Pacific North West



The Evening Before by Erik Frenks, Dutch OGA, second prize Sailing Shots OGA photocomp 2010

Practical Dinghy Cruiser by Paul Constantine

ISBN 978-1-907938-01-6

Published by Moonshine Publications

www.moonshinepublications.co.uk

Price £9.99



Perhaps you are a dinghy sailor, tired of always trailing at the back of the club race, or maybe you are a day sailor who would like to try something a bit more ambitious, or even a cruiser sailor fed up with never being able to get a crew.

Surely, you demand, there must be something more than this?

It has been said that 'The smaller the boat, the more sailing you will do' and in this book, Paul Constantine sets out to show that there is a lot of fun and good sailing to be had in small boats if only you know the secrets.

Being a member of the Dinghy Cruising Association, Paul naturally tends to mention them quite a bit, but the fact is that if you are not really interested in racing and would prefer to potter about, appreciating nature, poking your boat into places inaccessible by land and above all, *enjoying* your boat, then this book is for you.

Once I started to read this book, I found it hard to put down. It is a captivating blend of descriptions of various people's voyages in dinghies coupled with solid facts as to how to modify your dinghy to make it more suitable for day cruises and even overnight camping. There are plenty of photographs and clear line drawings to not only whet your appetite, but also to help you get started on making your boat a more comfortable and more satisfying means of transport.

Highly recommended.

Mike Stevens

Secretary OGA Trailer Section

Go Green – A young person's guide to the blue planet A watery new book by Claudia Myatt



Do you know where water goes when you pull out the plug?
Do you know what the oceans do for us?
Do you know how to go crabbing without damaging crabs?

Like the rest of Claudia's 'Go Sailing' series of children's books for the RYA, Go Green is highly illustrated, colourful and fun. It tackles the big issues of marine conservation with a light touch and avoids preaching, an approach which has been well received by wildlife and conservation organisations.

The book was commissioned by the RYA and the marine environmental lobby Green Blue. Claudia's brief was to start with the origins of the earth and take it from there.

"I decided to take the reader on an adventure from the deepest ocean to the water in your body, looking at everything from sea to stream, rockpool to river, sharks to shopping along the way. By the time I'd finished the book I thought about water in a totally different way – and I hope you will too".

'Go Green' is published by the Royal Yachting Association, A4 full colour paperback for £9.99. Available from the RYA or from Claudia's website www.starfishbooks.co.uk.

Solent

Fireworks in November – always a good evening full of bright sparks and noisy bangers, lots of gaffer gossip, washed down with plenty of beer and fantastic food. Ian Macgillivray always makes a great effort for us to join in with his local friends and neighbours at his boatyard overlooking the River Itchen and there was again an excellent crowd.

The Jim Lawrence Talk at the end November took place at Lover Village Hall. Jim brought along fantastic photos of Thames Barges sailing in the winter, locked up in icy harbours, and gave us an excellent insight as to how hard it was in those days to get the boats going in wintry conditions. Wonderful anecdotes bringing to life the great characters that sailed in the 1950's. We ended the evening with wonderful local Fish & Chips

Sea Shanty Singing In December at the Master Builders Hotel at Bucklers Hard, another chance to gather local gaffers around log fires, and joining in the chorus of sea shanties with John Lesh at the helm, and impromptu musicians with accordion and guitar accompaniment.



Solent sings sea shanties

Our Solent AGM will be held on Saturday February 26th at Warsash Sailing Club. We will start the evening with the serious meeting matters, followed by supper and then this year we are holding The Great Gaffer Auction Sale.

A chance to take a Sea Survival Day Course has been arranged on 5th March, which is proving to be popular, and places are limited.

We are hoping to arrange an Oceanography Trip on top of the Solent looking at what is below in the Spring which should be really interesting. Date for this event to be advised.

The full agenda of Solent events appear on the events pages in this issue but we also we have been invited by Warsash Sailing Club to joining in the River Hamble Combined Sailing Clubs Regatta taking place on 22nd, 23rd & 24th June, and if enough gaffers enter they will put on a special race for us. It would be a good event for the South Coast Trailer Sailors as well as there is good launching facilities at both Warsash and Hamble.

We are hoping for another couple of events for trailer boats this year, one at Fareham and the other at Bucklers Hard, Beaulieu but have yet to set the details.

In the meantime we will look forward to the Spring and all that sanding, cleaning and painting and then at last back on the water – can't wait !

Jessica Warren
Area Secretary

The Lake District

I am sure all of you have either read or heard of the book "Swallow and Amazons" and pictured here is "Swallow" that has been recently restored by the Patterson Brothers in the Lake District. Although she will be sailing on the East Coast at the beginning of June, I am hoping that she will be coming to our June Regatta the weekend after. If not I will try again another year. There is a website that relates the history of how she was found and restored on www.sailransome.org

The only other news relating to the Lake District is the fact that this year we have proper facilities which is going to make a great impact on the Centre. For those of you that will be visiting us there is now a new booking form on the website, which I hope that you will find time to fill out, and so make the weekends run more smoothly. www.sailinginthelakes.com

I hope that this year the sun will shine and the winds fair.

Barry Healas
Area Secretary



East Coast

The absence of any sailing events over the winter means that the big news has to be the expedition to Enkhuisen in November 2010 by a contingent from the East Coast. The EC and Dutch areas of the OGA have always been very cooperative, with a number of Dutch boats coming over for our August Classics week and a group of East coast boats regularly taking part in the biennial Hellevoetsluis event, but this was the first purely social occasion. It all started with a chance remark in committee that the Enkhuisen classic boat show was worth a visit and before you could say *pils*, a couple of members demonstrated a previously hidden talent as travel agents and a heavily discounted group booking was made on the ferry from Harwich to the Hook. The ever efficient Dutch railway (National Express hang your head in shame) whisked the nineteen-strong party to a comfortable hotel in Enkhuisen – it would have been very comfortable, but a four-in-a-bed situation was avoided at the last minute by hiving off some of the group to an adjacent hotel. From here-on the official report descends into a rather confused whirl of bars, nightclubs, lost tickets and underwear, but everyone got home OK. The boat show was very good too.



Robert and Lorna Hill's Albert Strange inspired yawl 'Charm'

The other major event in November was our area AGM at the Colne YC, where president Peter Thomas reported that the area was thriving, had enjoyed a full season and was in good financial health. The OGA 50 event in 2013 was outlined and generated considerable comment with several members expressing an interest in participating. Then came prize-

giving; the Felgate Trophies are awarded annually for the most points scored over the season and, in 2010, Robert and Lorna Hill in the Albert Strange-inspired yawl *Charm* collected the gaff trophy, with Barry Edwards best bermudan in *Random*, while Mike Peyton, the well known yachting cartoonist, was presented with the Bateman Trophy for his efforts in furthering the aims of the EC area.

The programme for 2011 is already firmed up and began with a quiz 'n chips night on Feb 5th, followed four weeks later by a social at the Nottage Institute in Wivenhoe. Then it's the big social event of the year, our Annual Dinner at the Royal Burnham YC on March 19th, (NOT the 5th as reported in the December Gaffers Log), with on-the-water events starting with the Easter Egg rally and fitting-out supper at Shotley.

So it goes on through the year, with nine major events being organised during the sailing season, including the ten day August Classics Cruise.

We would love to see members from other areas joining in our activities, details are on our website; www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk

Bernard Patrick

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Scotland

One of several subjects discussed at the recent AGM in London was the rapidly approaching 50th anniversary, and the intended celebrations designed to mark this milestone in the Association's history in 2013. Apart from a regatta at Cowes, possibly with a start at the Royal Yacht Squadron's famous waterside line, one of the important plans is to have as many members of the Gaffers fleet as possible sail round Britain. In view of the time likely to be involved in sailing all the way round the British Isles, a relay by boats from the different areas seems more likely to be more practical for most skippers.

In Scotland we do have some of the finest sailing waters to be found anywhere, albeit with the longest coastline of any Gaffers area, and with one of the smallest memberships. Hence the reason for raising this subject now; with members on both sides of the country we may be able to split the distances into more manageable chunks, and without demanding too much of a time commitment. Despite that, we already have one volunteer to sail all the way round Britain.

It would be nice to hear from any other skippers who would like to join the fun, whether for a complete circumnavigation, or for just a part. The RNLI are already enthusiastic about the project and with lifeboat stations located all around the country there is a superb opportunity to promote both our organisation and to help the lifeboats as well. If there is enough interest, it will be a pleasure to organise receptions at a couple of likely stopover points, so would all Scottish Gaffers start thinking about their plans for the 2013 season.



One 'gaffer' creates a fabulous scene – think how spectacular several would be!

Gordon Garman
Area Secretary

Dublin Bay

Here's hoping that the 2011 season proves to be as good and active for DBOGA as 2010. We started the season with our very successful rally and regatta on the May Bank Holiday week-end, which proved to be so well supported that we have organised the same week-end 27th - 30th for 2011. Many thanks to all the boats and crews who made it a success and we look forward to seeing you all again this year where you will receive a "Cead Mile Failte" and standby for 'Ceol Agus Craic'. Full details to follow.

We had a great cruise in company taking in Peel and Portaferry which was back on after a break of a few years and once again proved why it was always one of the best regattas and the weather was magic for that week-end. The season finished with our annual round the Island race for the RNLI, which along with proceeds from our winter series raised 1100 euros.

Following a meeting between DBOGA, NIOGA and N.WALES OGA it was agreed to meet in the autumn along with other area Reps to work on next years calendar of events for the Irish Sea area to make sure there are no overlaps and to try and make it easy for boats to attend and support other area events without having to zig-zag up and down the Irish Sea.

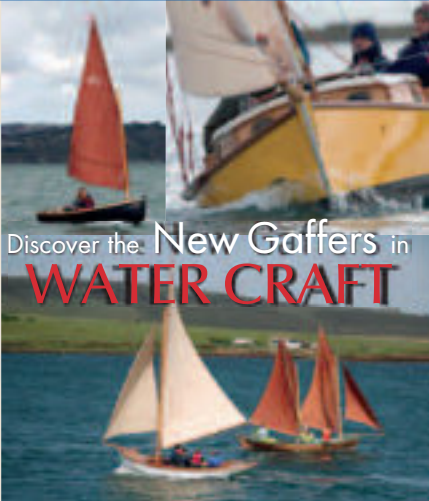
We are currently in the middle of our winter series of lectures for which many thanks to Tim Magennis. They are proving to be very popular and keep the members in touch during the off season. The season ended with the sinking of two members boats over the Christmas holidays on the Marina at Poolbeg, three boats altogether sank *Bracan Lass*, (a wooden Zulu) *Prince of Tides* (a 37 ft Fisher) and a 20ft week-end sailer. All have since been raised.

May I take this opportunity to invite you to come to the DBOGA Regatta and Rally and wish you all safe sailing for 2011.

John Wedick
Area Secretary



We all admire those immaculate restorations but if you've ever thought it would be quicker and easier to build a new one, you should read about today's affordable new gaffers in the practical bi-monthly magazine from Pete Greenfield and friends. *Water Craft* is available from good newsagents or £6 inc p&p from: WATER CRAFT, BRIDGE SHOP, GWEEK, CORNWALL TR12 6UD. For further information, call **01326 221424** or see: www.watercraft-magazine.com



Discover the New Gaffers in
WATER CRAFT

Medway Cinque Ports

The start of the New Year saw the first of this seasons pub meets, which took place at the Rose in Bloom at Whitstable. A good turn out of members was rewarded by an excellent meal. The pub meets keep us in touch out of season and are always enjoyable affairs. Our next one will be on Saturday 26th March at the Three Tunns in Lower Halstow.

Six of our members attended the OGA AGM at Limehouse. Three came by car and the other three by boat. There was not so much ice on the water as last year but driving rain made life difficult. One of our number, *Kajan*, suffered engine failure at the start of the return journey to Queenborough and had to make an emergency entry into South Dock. Once all was tied up and stowed away an inspection was made. The engine clearly had an over heating problem, so all waterways and pipes were prodded and poked to try and clear any obstruction, but all to no avail. Yvonne decided to go home by train and return in a couple of days with two friends to assist. On returning a more extensive search for the cause of the problem was undertaken. All agreed that the cylinder head had to come off for inspection of the internal water channels. Sure enough when a prodger was pushed down one channel a plug of mud shot out of another narrowly missing the peering faces. It was felt that this was the likely cause of the problem so the engine was re-assembled and tested. A look over the stern confirmed that water was freely flowing out of the exhaust and that all was well. A safe passage to Queenborough was made the following day.

On the 21st of January we had a committee meeting to plan this season's events. Great care was taken to offer a variety of events to encourage more of our membership to participate and a full list is included within the events pages in this edition of Gaffers Log.



Winter hits MCP Area

John Cann
President

North Wales

Six of our members attended the Association AGM in London on the 15th January 2011. Two of our area members were awarded trophies. Mike Evans received the Gaffers Globe for the report of his trip in *Suzy Fay* from New Quay in Cardigan to attend Seafair Haven in Milford Haven. Mike was there to receive the award. Ken Anderson received the Trailer Section Seamanship trophy for managing to return to base across Ullswater in the Lake District following sustaining a broken rudder on *Cloud 9*. Ken used one of his oars as a make-shift rudder. Mike Stevens accepted the trophy on behalf of Ken. *(Photos of the presentations can be seen elsewhere in this log.)*

We will be holding our annual boat shed party at Port Penrhyn on Saturday, 12th March 2011. If anyone would like to attend please contact Sue Farrer 01270-874174. For anyone interested Scott Metcalfe will be taking *Vilma* the Tops'I schooner and any other boats we can commandeer sailing in the Menai Straits. Numbers will be limited so if you are interested in a sail please contact Sue as soon as possible. This will be followed in the evening by a get together in the boat shed to chat to old and make new friends and talk about the coming season. Food will also be on hand.

Plans for Holyhead are racing forward as we get close to the season. With the event now taking place over the August Bank Holiday weekend, 26th – 29th August 2011 we are hoping for a large attendance of both boats and public.

We are lucky that two events in our area (Holyhead and Conwy) are partly funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) through the Ireland Wales Programme (INTERREG 4A) which aims to promote maritime identity, history and opportunity across and between Wales & Ireland. This allows these events to be considerably more attractive.



Off to a good start! Gaffers at Holyhead 2010

Sue Farrer
Area Secretary

British Columbia and Pacific North West

The OGA – BC CA area held our AGM on January 29th 2011, with twenty five in attendance. The Executive; Skipper, Colin Ming, Mate, Marian Hammond and Boatswain, John Hammond were piped into the hall by our Official Piper, Jamie Orr, playing Cock o' the North to an enthusiastic round of applause and cheering from all those present. The Skipper opened the meeting with a review of the Association's first year. Business was kept to a minimum in favour of good food, socializing and entertainment. Members enjoyed an excellent Pot Luck Supper, followed by an enthusiastic toast to Her Majesty the Queen, offered by the Skipper, and followed by a toast to Canada offered by the Boatswain. Entertainment for the evening was presented by our Guest Speaker, Lieutenant Navy, Tony Wright. Lieutenant Wright gave a media presentation *The Canadian Navy: A History*. A look at one hundred years of the Canadian Navy, from its formation in 1910 to its centennial in 2010. Colin Ming, presented Lieutenant Wright with an original artwork, by OGA Boatswain, John Hammond, a painting of the Viking ship *Munin*, as a token of our appreciation for the excellent presentation.

The rest of the meeting was spent socializing and discussion of "*Cabbages and Kings*" and all things nautical. The opinion of those present was the meeting was the best meeting to date.



Members of British Columbia and Pacific North West OGA gather for their AGM

John Moran
Officer of the Watch

Bristol Channel

The December snows passed us by in West Wales, finally landing on Cardiff and all points east, but in these temperatures we would far rather be reading about sailing than doing it. There are a few exceptions of course, hardy liveaboard types like our own John Laband, but generally winter in the Bristol Channel area is devoted to the fine art of Armchair Gaffering. An expanding section of our area newsletter is devoted to sailing literature, so recommendations of books both old and new are welcome. It's always interesting to read about sailing in an era when gaffering was a necessity rather than a lifestyle option; we're currently enjoying Ben Pester's 'Just Sea and Sky', an account of his voyage from Plymouth to New Zealand in gaff yawl Tern II in 1953.

A new publication to look out for is Marine Quarterly, a subscription only magazine dedicated to maritime heritage and culture. The brainchild of sailing novelist Sam Llewellyn it promises to be '96 pages of intelligent sea reading' and the first issue is out on 1st March. Have a look at www.themarinequarterly.com for more details. Sam is not currently a member of the OGA, but he does sail a gaffer in the Bristol Channel, so the BCOGA mafia are oiling the thumbscrews.

Clovelly Maritime Festival 16th-17th July

Last year, Clovelly invited OGA boats to attend their party, and we didn't go, thanks to a spiteful north easterly wind. So we're hoping to make up for it this year and pay a visit to this delightful north Devon harbour. Large boats and small are welcome, though the small boats do need to be booked in advance so the village can arrange access for launching down the cobbled streets. Contact Perry Crickmere for details (01437 541201 perry@starfishbooks.co.uk)

Small boats on the Haven, 22nd-24th July

A new event for trailer boats is taking place this year at the Pembrokeshire Adventure Centre, ideally placed mid way up the Milford Haven waterway and a spin off from the Seafair event last year. There is a good all-tide slipway on the edge of a sheltered creek, bunkhouse accommodation and miles of delightful river to explore. Transport links are good, just stay on the M4 and follow the setting sun. Numbers are limited and do need to be booked in advance, so contact Claudia Myatt on claudia@claudiamyatt.co.uk (01437 541201) if you would like full details and a booking form.

More events are on the way, especially in Cardiff Bay where there has been a surge in new members and boats this last year. A great city to sail to.

Let's hope the high pressure systems that froze our baggywrinkles this winter will stick around and send us perfect sailing weather come summer!

Claudia Myatt
Area Secretary

The Trailer Section

The Trailer Section, together with the Bristol Channel OGA Area, as its contribution to the 50th anniversary will be holding a rally in Milford Haven for both big and small boats. As a practice and evaluation of this, we are arranging a meeting this year at the Pembrokeshire adventure centre near Pembroke Town on 22nd, 23rd and 24th July 2011. The Adventure Centre hosted some of the small boat fleet at last year's Seafair Haven Rally and we were all impressed by their facilities for camping, launching and also the wonderful meals that they provided. At present, those arranging the programme of events are considering various cruises in company up the many interesting creeks and waterways of the upper Haven and its contributory rivers and streams. Nothing too strenuous, but the tides and shallow waters will test seamanship for small boaters.

As usual, the Trailer section will be at Beale Park from the 10th to 12th June 2011 and once again an open invitation is extended to any OGA member to bring a boat and benefit from free camping and entry to the show. If you can bring a boat, give me a call on 01792 297445

to make arrangements. If you haven't been to Beale Park, you have missed a treat. Not only are there all sorts of traditional boats of the kind that we like, but also many interesting people including OGA members. Make a note in your diary now.



Restful

Mike Stevens
Area Secretary

Northern Ireland

The 26th November saw our Annual Dinner go off as planned. A good night was had by all, with a lovely meal. Frank Smyth gave us a good after dinner talk, with a rendition of everyone's favourite poem, The Diagonal Steam-Trap. Yearly prizes were awarded as follows:-

Needham Salver for Class 1 Race – *Morna* – Stephen Clarkson
Oneida Salver for Class 2 Race – *Macaria* – Brian Law
VP Cup for overall race winner - *Macaria* – Brian Law
Morna Trophy for youngest helm – Becky Laing
Agnew Salver for best presented boat – *Watercolour*
Leading Light for most supportive/active member – Peter Chambers
Welsh Slate for furthering relationship with NWA – *Madcap* – Adrian Spence
Joe McAvoy Cup for furthering relations with Carrickfergus – Carol Laird
Hidden Trophy – Alison Lyons
North Down cup for furthest travelled – *Master Frank* – Joe Pennington

The Arts and Crafts exhibition, code named "Wind Sense" had a grand opening on Tuesday 7th Dec, with over 30 present. More than 12 Gaffers displayed work of a hugely different variety, from wood turning to ceramics to painting, with model craft, textiles and lino prints in between. This event is booked for a two week slot next December – artists get ready!

After a cold Christmas only a few Gaffers came out of hibernation for our annual Block Trophy Quiz at Newtownards Sailing Club – 11 Gaffers against at least 3 times that – but I think we did remarkably well, ranking third and joint second with our three teams. Particularly well when it's noted that the winning NSC team had about 10 members on it! And did you know the name of the Mayo man who was the founder of Argentina's navy? (William Brown, for reference.)

Next up, Frank Smyth is giving a talk at RNIYC on the 25th Feb about his favourite Scottish anchorages, and Poems and Pints will happen a month later in the Imperial Bar, Bangor (March 25th). And on April 29th our own Peter Lyons will be giving an illustrated talk and video show on his new boat, *Ocean Dove*. That's at RNIYC too.

Until next time, fair winds.

Danielle Hicks-Gallagher
Area Secretary

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Lucy Beth

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