

GAFFERS LOG

MARCH 2014



NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR GAFF RIG SAILING



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Foreword

As I write, it's still only January. With the AGM over, I'm elected as your Editor and busy getting the copy ready for the printer's deadline next month. As usual for March, this edition carries the 2014 AGM Minutes and published Accounts. Please take time to peruse them, particularly if you weren't able to get to Greenwich. The Log is illustrated with some excellent photographs from the OGA competition and there are reports on the eight trophies awarded in 2013. There's a chance to reflect on our anniversary year, read reports of winter activities and plan for another great sailing season in 2014.

There's plenty going on around our own coasts as well as the invitation from the Dutch OGA to join their 10th anniversary 'Cross Country tour' of the Netherlands, and passages across the English Channel to join the French in some of their wonderful festivals. There's a full listing of Area events on p.30, and information on the Dutch OGA10 NL on p.34.

Phil Slade sent his last Gaffers Log to press in December 2013, and Peter Farrer announced his intention to retire as Webmaster at the turn of the year. I sought election to combine these two roles and would like to thank the AGM for electing me to the new role of Editor (Log and online). What's the connection? Turn to p.50 where I outline our plans for the future. I'd like to thank both Peter and Phil for their support as I start to get my first Gaffers Log ready for the press, and we re-design the website in preparation for launching the online Boat Register. I look forward to hearing from members about what they'd like to see, online and in print, and what they think of the new OGA style.

Beverley Daley-Yates
Editor (Log and online)

Highly Commended (General sailing) Josh Masters:
'Stormy passage, taking refuge in Brighton Marina, Autumn 2013'
Judges' comment: 'The power of the storm is well conveyed in monochrome and the line of the breakwater leads nicely to the single seagull.'



Photo: Keith Allso

March 2014

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Please submit material for the June
edition by 30 April 2014

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From the Quarterdeck

One summer Saturday morning in 2003, my boat partner Gerry Murtagh and I were sailing our Heard 28, 'Tir na n'Og of Howth' into her home berth, Howth YC Marina. We were barely tied up when a very large chap came running down the pontoon towards us saying, 'You must come and join us at the East Pier head anchorage, we're the Old Gaffers Association and we're having our annual get-together in Howth this weekend.'

Mick Bentham, for that was his name, was then the DBOGA President. He was persuasive and insistent that we would much better enjoy ourselves with the other Gaffers on the Pier Head. Gerry and I exchanged glances, and without a word, untied our docklines and chugged across the harbour towards the Pier Head.

The Pier Head was crowded with Gaffers, with a lot of people partying on the Pier, crowded around a makeshift 50 gallon drum barbecue producing quite a lot of well-cooked meat. We slotted into the crowd of moored boats somehow, and just as we got our longest shorelines ashore to willing hands, another Heard 28, motored slowly into the harbour mouth, dropping her sails, and heading towards the Marina.

Mick Bentham took off again, calling loudly and waving his arms, 'Over here, over here.' The Heard 28 slowed, then hesitantly turned towards us, backing into a space which miraculously opened up for her. It was 'Susan J', a beautifully maintained Heard 28, with Mike Shaw and son Dan aboard. Once she was tied up, the party recommenced and the crews of both Heards, together with all the other Gaffers, began to enjoy the warmth and fellowship of a DBOGA welcome.

We were fed with 'Dublin coddle'. Lots of sausages and hamburgers in buns, plus ale and beer, dispensed from a shed I knew housed the venerable and much-loved Howth 17 Gaffers during their winter layup. Among their empty cradles a busy, unlicensed bar was plying a roaring trade in Guinness, ale and lager. It was all most enjoyable.



Sean Walsh, elected OGA President
January 2013

a message from our President

'Tir na n'Og of Howth' sails in her homewaters,
Dublin Bay

Photos: WM Nixon, Dublin Bay OGA

While enjoying the good food and slaking our thirsts, Gerry and I took in the scene and decided we'd better phone home. 'We'll be very late,' I heard myself say, 'we've just met a load of Old Gaffers and there's a great party starting here, will ye come and join us?'

The craic (fun) was indeed mighty, the welcome was warm and hospitable, the welcoming and companionable Old Gaffers enthralled us with their saltiness. Gerry and I stumped up the very modest subscription to become OGA members that very day. Mike Shaw & Co. were already long-standing OGA members, having no idea the DBOGA were rallying that weekend, they were just cruising around Ireland and had luckily sailed into Howth.

That weekend, the quality and warmth of the DBOGA welcome, the great conversations with like-minded gaffrig sailors, and the hard-fought Event Race is still fresh in my mind, and a vivid reminder of why being a member of the OGA Fellowship is so very rewarding. That DBOGA welcome is as genuine, and just as warm today, as anyone joining us in Dublin will attest.

But it's not confined to Dublin Bay, it's a feature of each and every OGA Area, and a credit to our membership. It's our signature 'moment of truth', and what truly defines us, bringing us together in Fellowship. It's an incredibly important element of what we are.



We all enjoyed that Fellowship and welcome during the RBC last year, when OGA Areas invested countless hours and effort in planning and preparation, to ensure the RBC Fleet was warmly welcomed, provided with safe berthing and fully catered for. It was a huge success, a fine demonstration of what we can achieve when we make the effort. It's been well-recounted elsewhere, but still important to say 'well done, everyone', you did a superb job, you were all incredibly generous and did it in true OGA style.

The RBC Fleet boats and crews were amazing, one and all. Each vessel has its own story, each sailed its own personal circumnavigation around our coasts in challenging weather ranging from flat calm to savage force 10. The RBC Fleet demonstrated what we all know, the inherent sea kindness of our Old Gaffers (some new ones also), the ability of our vessels to sail safely in all weathers, and the fine seamanship of their skippers and crews, some even solo. Well done!

So to the future. You heard at the AGM and will read in this issue of Gaffers Log, we have a new hand on the OGA tiller and some new crew within our Association Committee.

I'm grateful to Mike Shaw and his hard-working GMC crew, for steering our dear old OGA thus far, safely, and in considerable style, through its incredibly successful 50th Anniversary Jubilee Year. It's thanks to his leadership and the hard-working GMC that the OGA has such a high profile today. I wish to thank him and them for their achievements.

You will see from the AGM minutes what was agreed at our meeting, and what plans we will implement this year. I'm pretty sure that most Areas are already well into their own plans for their annual Area Sailing Event, and I wish you all good weather, a large turnout and a most successful Event.

I wish one and all of you 'Fair winds and safe havens', 2014.

Sean Walsh, President



Photo: Steve Daley-Yates

'Je suis un Malouin!'

As noted in the AGM Minutes, a group of British Gaffers joined their counterparts in St. Malo for a busy weekend in January 2014, reported and illustrated by Solent member, Ben Collins.

The last time St. Malo suffered British invasion on this scale was probably years ago. Poised on a small promontory, St. Malo's imposing walled citadel looks north to the English Channel (la Manche) and south to mainland France. For centuries the proud seafaring 'Malouins' held fiercely to their independence. Neither the French nor the British would be allowed in, except when invited. All the more reason why 30 British Gaffers were happy to get the warmest of receptions on arrival, and from no less than the President of the French OGA and Federation des vieux Gréments de France: Mme Yannie Cariguel and her secretary Marie-Anique. Two days of eating, singing, talking and walking resulted in making new friends in this beautiful and bustling French seaport.

Even before Brittany Ferry 'Pont Aven' passed the leading lights of Portsmouth, Gaffers from all corners of the nation had embarked and found the bar on Deck 7, which quickly became the centre of life aboard! First light found them slipping down the gangplank, with their black canvas zip-up cases filled with beer for their French comrades. Following Marie-Anique in single file, muffled wheelie cases could be heard gliding quietly along the cobbled streets in the morning half light. The Gaffers were on their way to their home for the weekend, the Grande Place, Hotel de l'Univers, small, friendly, with the smell of fresh croissants and sounds of a crashing sea echoing off the battlements, towering above.



'Je suis un Malouin!'

The French OGA had a plan. Bags in rooms, Yannie led a brisk morning walk, along the dockside, Scandinavian wood piled high, and into the famous 'Chantier Naval Mayday' owned and run by the charismatic Bob Escoffier, restorer, builder and sailor of many of France's great classic boats. Modern ocean-going catamarans sit alongside as he works on the famous three-masted 'Cancalaïse', a replica bisquine, so much part of the history of this coast.

Lunchtime finds them in St. Malo's narrow bustling streets. Gaffers mingling with St. Malo (Malouins) families on their big day out. Midday meals, harried waiters, parents bidding for the best café tables and a good glass of wine, children into their second basket of bread, waiting for the cooks to catch up! 'Aahoui, monsieur, aujourd'hui c'est le samedi!'

Our special guide, Rolland Mazurie de Garennes, arrived at the Hotel for our afternoon tour. Upstanding and proud, he told of his ancestry, distinguished past leaders and sailors who fought for St. Malo's independence from all invaders. Resistance, he proclaimed, was in the Malouins blood, the town had once been an independent state in its own right.

Not wanting to miss a prime opportunity, Rolland regaled visiting Gaffers with tales of local and famous Malouin 18th century corsairs. The privateers plied the English Channel, making a good living from extortion and looting British East Indiamen bringing spices home from the colonies.

Rolland's charms were put to good use when, come six o'clock, still holding his audience, he was commandeered as an additional beer case carrier, back down his beloved cobbled street and up the old stone staircase to the French OGA HQ in the St. Malo fortifications. An ancient garrison room, floors repaired and fitted out with gaff rigged boat as a bar, 40 French delegates and 30 British Gaffers pressed against each other.

With the St. Malo mayor thrown in for good measure, it didn't take long to warm up! Plying the French with our beer, they plied as back with their potent winter punch.



Read another report from St. Malo on the OGA website, by new member, Alan Hocking: www.oga.org.uk/news
Illustration on previous page: Ben Collins
Photos on this page: Sarah Adie



Sung to the popular French tune
'Frère Jacques', with an OGA twist

Frère gaffer, Frère gaffer

Dormezvous? Dormezvous?

Les Anglais sont arrivés, Anglais sont arrivés

Enchanté, enchanté!

Frère gaffer, Frère gaffer

Vous verrez, vous verrez

On fait mieux la voile que, on fait mieux la voile que

Parler français, parler français

Frère gaffer, Frère gaffer

Buvez vous? Buvez vous?

We'll share with you a Broadside, share with you a Broadside

A vot' santé, a vot' santé!

Over the songs bouncing back and forth, the promise of a 'Pot à la Bretonne', if you could still stand up and navigate up the road to the Café de l'Ouest. Rusty school French demolished the language barrier, as fast as it took to muster 'encore, une carafe, s'il vous plait.'

Sunday morning saw the sun bright and the air warm as Gaffers boarded the magnificent replica 18th century square rigger 'Etoile du Roi', greeted by new friend, Capitaine Jean-Yvon Combet (of Cowes OGA50 fame). The ship, a reproduction of a 17th century warship, was previously named Grand Turk. We could only imagine her underway, and what it must have been like looking out on a sea through those ornate panelled windows. A tour of the decks and engines, then up for hot morning coffee and croissants in the polished interior of the captain's mess, provisions served, we imagined, by a hidden cabin boy.

Sunday afternoon brought a spring in the air, over the beaches and rocky islands lying out from the coast. Some walked the sands to the Maritime Museum, struck by the huge tidal range that leaves the marina pontoons down below their anchoring poles.

Monday found the visitors waiting in the sun for the ferry home. Through the Channel Islands and up the Alderney Race was remarkably tame from atop a big ship. This was a weekend to remember. The history of our links to the French Gaffers goes back some 40 years. Despite a loss of regular contact in recent times, the name Old Gaffer seems to have stuck. If the aim of the trip was to further cement our cross-Channel bonds, it certainly succeeded. St. Malo is a delight, and really not that far off, once you have got to Cherbourg or the Channel Islands. Anyone up for a St. Malo Rally? Watch this space!

One thing to be sure about however, the French OGA, centred inside the old walls of St. Malo, cherishes its independence. But then again, perhaps we could all become Malouins!

Ben Collins, Solent Area OGA

Minutes of the AGM of the OGA

The Annual General Meeting of the Old Gaffers Association was held at Greenwich Yacht Club on Saturday 11 January 2014 at 6.30pm.

Present

Mike Shaw (President), Sue Lewis (Secretary), Alistair Randall (Membership Secretary), Pete Thomas (Sailing Secretary), Phil Slade (Log Editor), Pete Farrer (Webmaster), Gordon Garman (Treasurer), Pat Dawson (Boat Register Editor) and 62 members including members of the Association Committee.

1. President's Welcome

Mike Shaw welcomed everyone to the meeting. He paid tribute to all the hard work done with such enthusiasm in all the Areas over the past year to make 2013 a very special Golden Jubilee Year. A presentation was made to Barry Healas for his work on the RBC, Relay and OGA50 website. A presentation was made to Phil Slade for yet again returning from retirement to edit the Gaffers Log in this most important of years.

2. Apologies for members unable to attend were recorded by the Secretary

3. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 19 January 2013

Minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved and signed by the President.

4. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

5. Treasurer's report

Gordon Garman presented the accounts and gave some brief explanations (see p. xx). OGA50 year came in under budget thanks to sponsorship of £5,000 from ABP. Our assets were reduced by £5,500 against a budgeted reduction of £10,000 although some OGA50 costs have come in late and will show up next year. True figure for reduction in assets for OGA50 is approx. £8,000.

The Cowes Jubilee Festival made a small surplus. This will go to the Youth Fund at the request of the Cowes organising committee, endorsed by the East Coast Area committee and GMC. No money was spent on GMC meetings in this financial year.

Whilst reserves stand at £40,000 Gordon explained that up to £10,000 will be spent over the next year on such things as late costs of OGA50, the new website etc. No increase in subs is proposed for 2015. The Solent Area Treasurer explained that the Area does not have quite the level of funds shown in the Area breakdown as the Cowes surplus of £2,600 has since been paid into to Central funds. There being no further questions it was proposed to adopt the accounts.

Proposed: Marion Shirley Seconded: Gil Hayward Resolution carried unanimously.

The Membership Secretary, Alistair Randall, gave a brief report about the effect the Jubilee Year had on membership numbers.

In 2012 the OGA welcomed 87 new members, in 2013 it was 175, an increase of 100%! Alistair gave his personal thanks to a friend who had taken on certain elements of the Membership Secretary role while he and 'Witch' completed the RBC.

6. Secretary's report

Sue Lewis invited members to take away copies of the 'Join the OGA' leaflet to promote the OGA. She reported that the press coverage of OGA50 had been extensive, in the yachting press at least, both in the UK and abroad and in particular of the Cowes Jubilee Festival. A folder of press cuttings was on show and some of these will be uploaded to the new website.

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Sue announced sponsorship totals for OGA50. ABP sponsored the Round Britain Challenge from Head Office funds to the tune of £5,000. Private sponsors for Cowes: £2,500. Commercial sponsors: £14,310 including a further £5,000 from ABP, Southampton Port, £5,000 from Teamac Paints and £2,000 from James Lawrence Sailmakers. Total for Cowes: £16,810, overall sponsorship for national events: £21,810. All this despite lots of rumblings a year ago that we were trying to 'box above our weight'!

Dutch OGA members participated in the RBC with particular gusto, adding their own special touches, notably the Clog Racing at Cowes. They have invited us to a return match in celebration of their own 10th Anniversary this year. Members were invited to look out for details of the OGA NL Cross-country tour this summer online and in the Gaffers Log.

French Gaffers were welcomed with open arms at the Cowes Festival. They attended in some numbers thanks mainly to the tireless efforts of the OGA's French Ambassador, Solent member, Ben Collins. A party of UK gaffers was due to travel to St. Malo to meet more of our French counterparts the weekend following the AGM.

New merchandise will soon be available and publicised in the Gaffers Log and online. The OGA50 book 'Sailing Gaffers' has had excellent reviews in the press and over 300 copies have been sold. It is close to break-even point already and we have plenty of stock still available to sell. A very big 'thank you' to Viv Head for months if not years of hard work bringing this project to fruition.

At the London Boat Show we had a free stand again, this time on the Adventurous Cruising Feature where some kind members gave talks to the visiting public. Special thanks to John Goode who made this possible for us and to Sue and Pete Farrer who gave up nine whole days to run the stand.

We had help from many volunteer members who are to be thanked too, but we couldn't do it at all without the good-humoured input and organisation skills of Sue and Pete Farrer (or for that matter Pete's acrobatics up a ladder and his trusty staple gun). Three new members signed up, which in itself does not justify the work of those involved, but it is considered a very valuable PR exercise.

7. Reports on 50th Anniversary events

Round Britain Challenge and Relay

The RBC was a triumph for the 20 participating boats and also for the Areas who welcomed them with such warmth and enthusiasm. Members followed events online and travelled to meet the fleet. Barry Healas showed the meeting a hardbound book of signatures of Lifeboat crews collected during OGA50, which is to be presented to the RNLI for their Museum at Poole. He thanked Alan Aston for his work on this project.

The total funds raised for the RNLI are not yet finally known but should be in the region of £2,000. Barry said he survived 6,500 emails to organise the RBC and thanked David Owens and Gordon Garman for their contributions to the organisation of the event.

Cowes Jubilee Festival

Over 195 boats and over 700 people attended this event including visitors from Holland, Belgium and France. Dan Shaw, Solent Area President who oversaw the organisation reported that it had been a delight to welcome them all.

The weather was not kind to the racing programme but even so 95 boats started the big race on the Saturday and despite challenging conditions, 60 finished. The shore events and the evenings' entertainments were very well attended and a great hit. In the post event survey the number saying they would like to do it again was a resounding 92%!

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8. Report on plans for investing in Gaffers Log and website

Alistair Randall reported that the Boat Register will soon be online. It already holds data on approx. 3,600 boats. The Association Committee saw it demonstrated earlier in the day, but it is not yet available for public (or member) access. Images have yet to be scanned and uploaded, the security system which will limit access has yet to be put in place. When we officially 'open' the Register, members of the public will only be able to see limited information about each boat. Members will see all the information (though there will be a link to the Members Database GOLD so that only paid-up members will be allowed access). Only the owner of the boat (where the record is linked to them on the GOLD database) and the Boat Register Editor will be able to edit boat data.

The President thanked Alistair Randall and Boat Register Editor Pat Dawson for all the hard work which had brought the Register to this point. Mike spoke about the importance of communications and in particular online communications and announced that the Association Committee had, in their long day-time meeting, approved plans to develop a new website and online presence which should go live in the coming months.

9. Report on the Association Committee debate about the future of the OGA

Sue Lewis, Secretary, summarised the discussion which had taken place in the morning session regarding seven key questions put to the membership in the last few months.

Q1 Should we focus on development as well as preservation of gaff rig?

Feedback from members indicated development is important and one of the Rule changes to be voted on regarding the Objects of the Association would make this objective clearer.

Q2 Could we do more to include modern gaffers? Should handicapping be reviewed?

Feedback from members indicated more could be done in this area. The Sailing Secretary reported to the Association Committee proposals of a sub-committee to look at the question of handicapping for lighter modern gaffers. The proposal which the AC accepted is to trial the RYA (NHC) system alongside our existing system for the 2014 season. This is a performance-based system which will not involve members having to re-measure, just to supply displacement data. The Sailing Secretary will give as much help as possible to Race Officers in Area to trial and report back to the next Association Committee meeting.

Q3 How does Bermudan rig fit into the objectives of the OGA?

Feedback from the Areas indicated overwhelmingly that it doesn't fit, but that members with Bermudans are very welcome to join the Association and to join in Area activities, as are members with no boat at all. The Association Committee debated this question earlier in the day, agreeing that members with Bermudan rig boats should be included in events, even with a class in any racing if so desired. However our core rig is gaff. The mood of the AC meeting was in agreement with this. There was no movement to set up a Classic Bermudan Section. Focus will remain on gaff.

Q4 Should the 'honours system' in the OGA be revised?

This question had not been very well explained, reflected in feedback from members. It had been prompted by overtures from a few members unhappy with the current system, but no-one spoke

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against the current system at the AC meeting earlier in the day, so proposals to change the Rules on honours had been dropped. The GMC was asked to set up a working party to review the structure of the Association. Changes to the Rules on this question will be considered at the appropriate time.

Q5 How can we encourage younger members?

There was very strong feedback that we should be trying to do this, and a raft of suggestions. It was felt that Areas would each take their own approach locally.

Mike Shaw, President, took the opportunity to update the meeting about the Youth Fund.

This currently stands at just under £1,600 but with more money promised once the criteria for allocating/spending the money have been agreed. A small working party met the previous week and proposed criteria and method of working. The AC agreed for GMC to manage this and move things forward during 2014.

Q6 Is it time for a name change?

Feedback from members indicated that there was considerable support for the idea of losing the word 'old' but retaining OGA and 'gaffers'. There was some resistance to officially changing our name, especially after we had promoted it so hard during 2013, and some Areas were definitely against a name change. The AC had debated this in the morning and decided on no official name change but a change of emphasis: the Association will refer to itself as the OGA and the 'gaffers', playing down the word 'old'.

Q7 Is there a better structure, less expensive to run, for managing the OGA?

The AC had approved proposals for a streamlined GMC (General Management Committee) for reasons of efficiency and to save costs. An idea had been floated at the AC Meeting to investigate the possibility of having fewer Areas, and having sub-divisions or Sections within Areas. The GMC was asked to set up a working party to review the structure of the Association.

10. Vote on Rule changes proposed

Full explanations of proposed rule changes were published in the December issue of Gaffers Log.

Proposed change to Rule 2a concerning Objects of the Association

Proposed new wording of Rule 2a: 'The Objects of the Association shall be to encourage interest in gaff rig and its development; to encourage seamanship and comradeship; to offer help and advice to members; to organise races and rallies for members.'

Proposed: Gil Hayward Seconded: Andrew Wolstenholme

An amendment to this proposal had been put forward at the Association Committee meeting. The amendment had to be voted first. Proposal to be amended to include mention of lug and spritsail rig. The new rule would read: 'The Objects of the Association shall be to encourage interest in gaff, lug and spritsail rigs and their development; to encourage seamanship etc. (remainder unchanged).'

Proposer for the amendment: Mike Stevens Seconded: Peter Thomas

Show of hands: amendment carried.

Amended proposal: Show of hands: proposal carried unanimously.

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Proposed change to Rule 5 concerning Expulsion

Proposal: to amend Rule 5 to include these words: 'Any members expelled from the OGA shall not attend any OGA organised event unless they have received permission from the Secretary or the President of the Area responsible for the event.'

Proposed: Pete Thomas Seconded: Mike Shaw

An amendment to this proposal had been put forward at the Association Committee meeting that instead of the Secretary or President of the Area, as proposed, the expelled member should have to seek permission from the Committee of the Area. The amendment had to be voted first:

Proposer for the amendment: Robert Hill Seconded: Lorna Hill

Show of hands: amendment carried.

Amended proposal: Show of hands: proposal carried unanimously.

For the record: on the advice of two experienced Association Committee members the GMC was asked to look at advice given to Areas for organising events to be sure that we adhere to 'best practice' and comply with RYA recommendations and those of our insurers. GMC will report back.

Proposed change to Rule 7(ii) concerning election of Officers

A rule change is proposed to add the following wording 'Nominations must be received by the Secretary ten weeks before the Annual General Meeting'.

Proposed: Pete Farrer Seconded: Phil Slade

Show of hands: proposal carried unanimously.

Proposed change to Rule 7(v) concerning Honours

Proposal to revise Rule 7(v) Elder Gaffer to read: 'This position is awarded to those who have rendered exceptional service to the Association as a national body, usually having held one or more Association offices. An Elder Gaffer shall have the right to fly a special rectangular flag with a gold pitchfork on a blue ground, the whole edged by a gold border. There shall be no more than 16 Elder Gaffers at one time.'

Proposed: Sue Lewis Seconded: Rob Williamson

This proposal was withdrawn. GMC will make an overall review of structure and Rules. Mike Shaw apologised to Elder Gaffers for distress caused by this proposal.

Proposed change to Rule 10(i) concerning the Annual General Meeting

Proposal to add to Rule 10(i) the following wording: 'This business must include details of candidates for the election of Officers of the Association and details of any proposals put forward for discussion.'

Proposed: Pete Farrer Seconded: Phil Slade

Show of hands: proposal carried unanimously.

Revised Rules will be posted on the OGA website and published in the next Yearbook.

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11. Election of Officers

The following nominations for Officers of the Association had been received:

President: Sean Walsh

Proposed: John Wedick Seconded: Tim Magennis

Show of hands: carried unanimously.

A presentation was made by the Secretary to Mike Shaw, outgoing President of the Association, who stayed on for an extra year beyond his initial three year term to steer the OGA through its 50th Anniversary year, and did so with a huge amount of very thorough hard work and great diplomacy. Mike Shaw handed the Chair of the meeting over to Sean Walsh, newly elected President.

Gaffers Log Editor: Beverley Daley-Yates

Proposed: Richard Giles Seconded: Peter Thomas

Show of hands: carried unanimously

Webmaster: Beverley Daley-Yates

Proposed: Richard Giles Seconded: Peter Thomas

Show of hands: carried unanimously

12. Members Questions

A question was answered regarding RYA tickets and Dublin Bay Area invited all OGA members to a 2104 repeat of their 2013 extravaganza. They promise to drink vast amounts of Guinness and swim the Liffey, or perhaps they mean for visitors to be conned into doing this. There being no further business, the meeting closed.

After dinner the results of the photographic competition were announced by organiser Mike Garlick and national OGA trophies were awarded by Sue Farrer.

Sue Lewis (EC), Secretary



Photo: Steve Daley-Yates (EO)

Income and expenditure: 2013

Income and Expenditure Account for Year ended 30 September 2013

Income	2013	2012
	£	£
Subscriptions	31789	28513
Merchandise Sales	2363	2483
Advertising Revenue	1030	820
Bank Interest	215	230
Donations	5710	0
OGA50 Book sales	6474	0
OGA50 Flag sales	1150	0
Youth Fund	1589	
Total	50320	32046

Expenditure

Gaffers Log & Yearbook	16424	12002
Log Postage	2464	
Log Editor expenses	302	
Membership Secretary expenses	297	
Treasurer expenses	124	
Beale Park	416	
Merchandise purchase & postage	1493	1282
Merchandise write off		1292
OGA50 Book purchases	7200	0
OGA50 Flag purchases	1576	0
Stationery & Postage	316	
Computer & Website	554	533
T&S: GMC Meeting costs	3173	
AGM/ACM Meeting costs	3595	4038
Area Funding	6470	1643
Donations, Subscriptions & Funding Bids	185	1407
OGA50 Costs	11830	2864
Insurance	1139	1139
Photo Competition & Prizes	921	0
Bank Charges	770	353
Legal Exp		1380
Sundries		239
Total	55760	31661

Surplus/Deficit before tax	- 5440	385
Corporation Tax	0	101
Surplus/Deficit for year	-5440	284

Balance sheet 2013

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2013

Current assets	2013	2012
	£	£
Business Base Rate Tracker Account	207	11206
Current Account	9353	2861
Paypal Account	251	789
Barclays Business 10 Day Account	23675	23487
Barclays Bond Maturity Account	5168	5142
Youth Fund Account	1590	0
Euro Account	2	2137
Postage Float	67	131
Total	40313	45753

NOTES

OGA50 costs

Paid after year end: £1000 to East Coast and £500 to N Ireland

Merchandise stocks

Sailing Gaffers (11)	220
Burgees (23 various sizes)	943
OGA50 flags (12)	78) Old stock so written
Other stocks at retail prices	2705) down value £1000

A statement from designated OGA clothing supplier is awaited in respect of current arrangements that should show rebates due to OGA.

GMC meeting costs

There were no GMC meeting costs incurred throughout the year.

One meeting held October 2013 cost	401
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Sundry items

Postage costs incurred after year end by Quartet Books for Sailing Gaffers	538
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Gordon Garman, Treasurer

OGA50 legacy. Youthsailing

Developing opportunities for youth sailing on gaff-rig boats is a project exercising lots of Gaffer minds in almost every OGA Area. Our common aim is to enable young sailors to enjoy some gaff-rig sailing on our boats, can that be very difficult?

Well no, it isn't that difficult. In 2003 I met Mike Shaw in Howth Harbour. His most prized crew then was his son, Dan, and I'm quite sure he still is. We would all wish to emulate Mike with our son(s), daughter(s), nephews or nieces sailing with us regularly, but it doesn't always work out. When it does, it's clearly the best solution.



Young gaffers on the East Coast
Photo: Sue Lewis

Sue and Pete Farrer have been doing a super job enabling youth sailing at the Holyhead Traditional Sail Festival for as long as I've been sailing there. It's simple, costs almost nothing and works a treat. They adopted the local Sea Cadets who sail on gaffers during the annual event. I'm quite sure many of these lads and lassies will gravitate to sailing more permanently on gaffers at some stage in the future, and that's what we're aiming for.

Not every Area has a convenient Sea Cadet in their harbour, but every harbour has at least one school. Perhaps we could adopt a school? The DBOGA have done just this for 2014, providing a gaff-rig sailing weekend for a dozen teenagers during this season. We'll see how that works, and review the project at season end.

Two of the three examples I've outlined are long-term, and work really well. I hope the DBOGA approach will turn out to be a success too. Of course there are difficulties to overcome, but nothing worthwhile comes easy. I believe youth sailing is worth promoting. We must ensure our beloved vessels will be looked after by future generations of gaffers, so we need to get them hooked on gaff-rig sailing at an early age.

Thanks to Mike's GMC and members' donations, we have a Youth Sailing Fund. Your current GMC is considering how best to disburse it fairly and effectively. When we've agreed how best to do that, we'll advise Area Secretaries and get the ball rolling as soon as possible. The East Coast Area has a sub-committee examining possible risks attached to Youth Sailing. Hopefully we'll have some guidelines from their review.

If you have views and suggestions on how we can best make Youth Sailing on Gaffers happen, do let us know by contacting your Area Secretary, Gaffers Log Editor or GMC.

Sean Walsh, President

Noticeboard

Membership renewals and PayPal

Membership subscriptions were due on 1 January 2014. If you have not paid, please ensure you do so before the end of March, otherwise your name will be removed from the membership database.

The PayPal account was suspended, pending review, and following discussion by the GMC, a new one will be set up in the near future. In the meantime please consider paying by Direct Debit. This costs the OGA less and saves you money.

Direct Debit forms are available on the new OGA website or from the Membership Secretary. If you wish to continue paying by cheque, and have not renewed your subscription, please send it now to:
Membership Secretary, 36 High St, Waterbeach, Cambs., CB25 9JU.

Highly commended (General sailing) Sue Pennison: 'September morning'

Judges' comment: 'Against the light, silhouetted scene with a lot of atmosphere and a good flow through the davits and figure to the wheel.'





Photography competition: 2013

Winners and slideshows

More winning photos illustrate this edition of Gaffers Log.

Browse the slideshows of all shortlisted photos at www.sailing-by.org.uk/content/oga-photography-competition

Mike Garlick (SW) provided an interesting presentation at the AGM. Starting with 'hints and tips' for getting onto the shortlist for the OGA photography competition, he presented a slideshow of all shortlisted photos from 2013, with a 'crit' for each from the judges.

'Wow!' The stunning photo opposite wins the 'General sailing' category, taken by Edgar Wagemakers from the bowsprit of Dutch RBC participant 'Windbreker'. Just look at the reflections of the boat's name in the water!

Our cover this month is Steve Daley-Yates' winning picture in the 'Sailing gaffers' category, taken during the Jubilee Race at Cowes whilst crewing on Dutch smack 'Brandaen'. The judges commented: 'An excellent composition with a wide angle increasing the perspective of the flow of lines and action from the tiller forwards. The skipper's posture tells all, and monochrome has removed any distracting colour.'

There were no entries in the under-18 category last year, so we're recalling on all 'younger gaffers' to keep their cameras at the ready this year. Watch the website for some photography 'mini-challenges' in the summer months!

'Sailing gaffers' category winners

1st Steve Daley-Yates: 'Skipper and crew on 'Brandaen'
 2nd Alex Lewin: 'Mersea smacks'
 3rd Erik Frenks: 'The morning after'
 Highly Commended
 Sarah Adie: 'Safe hands'
 Edgar Wagemakers: 'Swale before the Match'

'General sailing' category winners

1st Edgar Wagemakers: 'Dolphin mirror image'
 2nd Rik Homan: 'Reflexion'
 3rd Claudia Myatt:
 'Fraserburgh lifeboat to the rescue'
 Highly Commended
 Josh Masters: 'Storm St. Jude, Brighton Marina'
 Sarah Adie: 'Trailer sailing, Dutch style'
 Sue Pennison: 'September morning'

First prize (General sailing) Edgar Wagemakers: 'Dolphin mirror image'

Judges' comment: 'A striking action image with a considerable 'wow' factor from the dolphin and the reflected boat's name in the water.'

OGA Trophy winners: 2013



Clockwise from top left:

Andrew Wolstenholme receives the Jolie Brise Trophy.

Roy Hart accepts the Trailer Section Seamanship Award.

The Gaffers Tales Award

The Alan Hidden Trophy

Barbara Runnalls shows off the Gaffers Globe, awarded at the Boat Show by Tom Cunliffe.

Mary Gibbs receives the Alan Hidden Trophy on behalf of Jolyan Lumai, currently sailing in the Caribbean.



Photos:
Peter Farrer and Steve Daley-Yates

Find out more about the OGA trophies and 2013 winners on the OGA website:
www.oga.org.uk/trophies

Sue Farrer, Trophy Secretary, presented awards and trophies for the 2013 sailing season at the AGM. Eight of the nine Association trophies were awarded, three to people who could not collect them in person. Sue reminded members to keep a look out for nominations during 2014.

Many 2013 recipients were awarded trophies in recognition of their achievements during the Round Britain Challenge (RBC). Find out more about the OGA trophies and 2013 winners at www.oga.org.uk/trophies and let's make sure we can award all nine trophies at next year's AGM. Would you like to take on the role of Trophy Secretary, as Sue steps down this year?

The Alan Hidden Trophy was awarded to Jolyan Lumai from the South West Area, aged just 20, for sailing as crew-member on the RBC vessel 'Minstrel' from Caernarfon to Cowes. He could not collect his award in person, as he's currently crewing in the Caribbean.

Kees Kooman (Dutch member of the East Coast Area) was awarded the Cape Horn Trophy, in his absence, for his counter-clockwise circumnavigation of the RBC in 18' converted ship's lifeboat 'Snoopy'.

The David Cade Memorial Trophy was awarded to Dan Shaw, Solent President and pictured right, for his work on the 'National Birthday Party'. Fellow Solent member, Barbara Runnalls' solo circumnavigation of the RBC in 'Moon River' won her the Gaffers Globe.

The Gaffers Tales Trophy was awarded in his absence to South West member Royston Raymond. Read his Gaffers Log article on the 'Sailing by' website. We have another article from Royston for June 2014. Aimee and Alice Erb write overleaf about the Grumpy II cups.

Andrew Wolstenholme from the East Coast is the first recipient of the new Jolie Brise Trophy for his latest creation 'Kite' and finally, the Trailer Section Seamanship Trophy goes to Roy Hart, another solo circumnavigator of the RBC, from the East Coast.

Sue Farrer steps down

I became custodian of the Association trophies in 2002. After 11 years, I feel it is time to step down to allow another member to continue in my footsteps. I have thoroughly enjoyed the post, and having custody of our wonderful OGA trophies acquired over the years.

The Association has nine trophies. It is mainly up to members to nominate who they think deserves one annually. Each trophy has its own criteria for being awarded.

Believe me, this is not a difficult job, but does require you to attend the AGM of the Association in January. If any member would like to consider the role, please contact me for a chat and more information.

Sue Farrer, Trophy Secretary
phone: 01270 874174
email: nwasec@oga.org.uk



Family sailing on gaffer 'Aurora'

Aimee and Alice Erb were thrilled to win the Grumpy II Cups for sailing with Mum and Dad on 'Aurora' in 2013. We read here what they like best about sailing. It's a shame, but we haven't awarded the Janty Cup trophy (for best Gaffers Log article from a 'young person') for a while. I hope to hear from more 'young gaffers' this year, following Aimee and Alice's lead!

Our boat is called 'Aurora', it's a 19' Cape Cutter and we often sail in it and sleep on it. It may be small and cramped, but us four all fit in it – snugly.

Before we had a gaffer, we had a dinghy and I went to a dinghy sailing club where friends and memories were made and doors opened. I remember sailing with friends from school, and next day we'd pretend to be world-class sailors.

We've taken 'Aurora' on many trips all over Britain, since we got her in July 2012. Last year was a very eventful one, Dad adding all sorts of gadgets and gismos to our little boat, and going out on many adventures all over the place.

My three favorite things about sailing are:

1. I enjoy meeting people.

For example, when we went to the Holyhead Traditional Boat Festival, I enjoyed seeing all sorts of boats, including pirates with cannon. I even got to go up a mast in a bosun's chair and could see for miles! There was racing at the festival and I helmed 'Aurora'. Our little boat may not be the fastest, but it was fun and I felt as if I could sail around the world!

2. Going on adventures and getting soaked.

On many occasions, my sister Alice and I jump off 'Aurora' at anchor and swim ashore. One of the most enjoyable times was when friends and family went to Falmouth. We explored the seas along with 'Zephyr' (another Cape Cutter) and, yes, we did get wet. We trekked beaches and swam in the chilly sea, had breakfast on the boat with a lovely view of the shore and I even got to crew on a catamaran. I leaned back so far my head went into the water!



Clockwise from above:

Aimee 'leans' on the Skerries Lighthouse during a trip ashore on one of our voyages (photo: Charles Erb)

Aimee helming 'Aurora' in the Solent (photo: Charles Erb)

'Aurora' under sail at the Traditional Boat Festival, Holyhead, 2013 (photo: Richard Burnell)

Alice climbs back aboard after a swim, whilst at anchor in the Fal (photo: Charles Erb)



2013 winners: Grumpy cups

3. The OGA Grumpy II Cups

The most exciting highlight of last season was when my sister and I were awarded the Grumpy II Cups. I don't know why it's called 'grumpy' but it's a very good description for my sister (just kidding!).

I was very taken aback when our names got called out at the AGM. When my mum told me there were going to be awards given out, I said there was no point in going, as we never get awards. At first, I was annoyed mum didn't tell us she knew about the prize, but I was glad it was a surprise. I felt proud, happy and a bit embarrassed all at the same time.

My sister Alice said, 'I felt very happy about getting my first trophy. I took it into school and the headteacher gave it out again in assembly. My favourite thing sailing last year was the regatta in Holyhead. I loved sailing around in the parade throwing buckets of water to splash people on other boats. I got really wet. Our friends on pilot cutter 'Mary' let me go up their mast in a harness. I wanted to stay up there all day!'

Those were my favorite things of last year. So that's why I enjoy sailing so much. All that adventure, all those memories and all that fun!

Aimee Erb (aged 12) & Alice Erb (aged 8)
North Wales Area and Trailer Section

Aimee and Alice accept their award at the AGM:
www.oga.org.uk/trophies/grumpy-cups

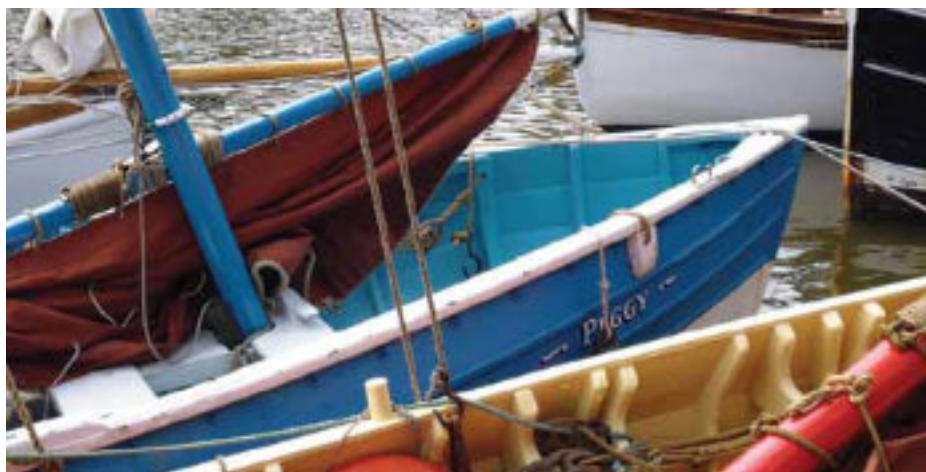
Follow the family blog at:
www.travellingaurora.wordpress.com



Welcome aboard!

We extend a warm welcome to new members around the Areas.

AREA	NO.	BOAT	MEMBERS' NAMES	POSTAL ADDRESS
BCA	5833		Mr Nik Kemp & Nikki Linfield	Oaklea, Wolvershill Road, Banwell, Somerset BS29 6LA
DB	5827		Mr Ivan Godley	Ballylongane, Ballyheigue, Tralee, Co Kerry, Ireland
EC	5826	Guillemot	Mr Steve Griffiths	The Nook, 134 Middle Deal Road, Deal, Kent CT14 9RJ
EC	5830		Mr Robert Westling	8 Corringham, 13-16 Craven Hill Gardens, London W2 3EH
EC	5835	Vivid	Ms Rebecca Polden	70 Walton Road, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex CO13 0DE
EC	5836	Orion	Mr Nigel Field	Basement Flat, 55 Kensington Gardens Sq., London W2 4BA
EC	5838	Wild Rose	Mr Roger Falconer & Mrs Eileen Falconer	116 Havelock Road, Dartford, Kent DA13 3JB
EC	5839	Alice	Mr Alan Dreezer	
NE	5832		Mr Thomas Holtby	Horse Pasture Cottage, Dowthorpe, Skirlaugh, Hull HU11 5AE
N	5829		Mr Hugh O'Neill	38 Deramore Park, Belfast BT9 5JU
NW	5842		Mr Iain Asher	Duxbury Fold Farm, Pickup Bank, Darwen, Lancs. BB3 3QD
SCO	5834	Reaper	Mr John Firm & Mr Neil Bone	Scottish Fisheries Museum, Stayles, Anstruther KY10 3AB
SOL	5822		Mr Richard Haines	37 Stratton Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks. HP9 1HR
SOL	5823		Mr Andrew Newport	3 Sycamore Road, Hordle, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 0YF
SOL	5824		Mr Paul Brooks	Aspley, New Lane, Sutton Green, Guildford, Surrey GU4 7QF
SOL	5828		Mr Alastair Harrison	Frith Manor, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 2JW
SOL	5837	Raven	Mr Raymond Norris	86 Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield EN1 2HT
SOL	5840	Venture	Mrs Kim Foster	Flat 1, 18 Shadyhanger House, Godalming, Surrey GU7 2HS
SOL	5841	Psyche	Dr Kevin McBride	George's Barn, Brixton Deverill, Warminster, Wilts. BA12 7EL
SW	5825		Mr David Hayden	11 Ashleigh Road, Yatton, North Somerset BS49 4DE



'Cobles in Newcastle'
Photo: Claudia Myatt

A NOG note

As a New Old Gaffer (NOG), what are my impressions of the OGA? Obviously that depends on my reasons for joining, and expectations.

The decision to join was a logical follow-on from buying my first gaff-rigged boat, and having no previous experience with the rig, so the OGA is a learning resource for me.

My boat was already listed on the OGA Boat Register, so continuity on behalf of her also seemed the right thing to do, which leads to the affinity thing with gaff-rig boats.

Gaffers do create a different 'feel' to ownership, and the type of sailing community that goes with it. This is the very thing the OGA is all about and has already delivered for me. The regional and international mix is an unexpected bonus in this respect.

I have also noticed the members' knowledge of individual boats of whatever size and appreciation for the efforts of owners in maintaining and using them.

I'd like to mention a further social point. I was aware that the gaffers had a reputation as a lot of 'artists' and I have to say this has been borne out, although with a much greater variation in the type of 'artist' than I was expecting, there has been no shortage of performing!

So why did I buy a gaffer? To regain the 'something' that was missing from my sailing activities in terms of attitude, interest and community. This seems to be a common theme in the OGA. It's also perhaps a connection with my roots, hence the photo below, my father in the 1930s.

Alan Hocking, Solent Area OGA



We hear from Alan Hocking, new member in the Solent Area, who has just purchased his first gaffer, 'Hyrst of Eremue', a Yarmouth 23. Her name means 'Jewel of Yarmouth' in Old English. Are there any more NOGs out there who'd like to share their first impressions of the OGA through the Gaffers Log?

London Boat Show. 2014

We hear from Sue Farrer who, with husband Peter, provided an excellent service to the Association by organising the OGA presence at the London Boat Show and managing the stand, with assistance from other members, for the whole week.

The OGA were given space within the 'Adventurous Cruising Zone' at the London ExCel Boat Show, 4 - 12 January, 2014. Not only did we have stand space, but also Barbara Runnalls, one of the RBC participants, displayed her Yarmouth 23ft gaffer 'Moon River'. This was all made possible by our very good friend, John Goode, who has for many years been involved with organising features at the London Boat Show.



Both Peter and myself were at the Show every day apart from Saturday, when we attended the Association AGM. I organised a rota for members to 'man' the stand and I would like to thank the following who helped (in no particular order). Thanks also go to those members who offered their help and were placed on my reserve list to call on if necessary:

Sue Lewis	Howard Wheelton	Alistair Randall
Simon D'Arcy	Mike Shaw	Ben Collins
Keith & Marion Mosley	Peter Willis	Brian Corbett
Mick King	Patrick Vyvyan-Robinson	Moray MacPhail
Gill & Carolyn Hayward	David Owens	Carol Laird
Phil & Lynn Slade	Pat & Dick Dawson	Bob Rayner
Julian & Alison Cable	Jayne Tracey	



Thanks also go to Moray MacPhail for lending his model rig, creating a good talking point on the stand.

Several OGA members gave talks, and thanks are extended to Tom Cunliffe, Anthony Smith, Ian MacGillivray, Robert Holden, Liz Dowell and Sam Llewelyn.

The Boat Show is a very effective tool for introducing non-members to the OGA, and for allowing existing members from various Areas to meet one another. We signed up fewer new members this year than last, however this may be as a result of OGA50, where it is reported we



signed up an exceptional number of new members in 2013. We handed out membership forms at the Boat Show, and let's hope this results in signing up more members in the next few months.

Sue Farrer, North Wales Area Secretary

Clockwise from left:
Pete and Sue Farrer with Mike Shaw at the OGA stand and 'Red Admiral' a Ballyholme Insect, displayed by Greenwich YC (photos: Carol Laird)
'Massey Shaw' London fireboat pumping display at Heritage Pier and Emirates Airline at sunset (photos: Steve Daley-Yates), Tom Cunliffe talks on the 'Adventurous Cruising' stand and model gaff-rig loaned by Moray MacPhail of Classic Marine (photos: Peter Farrer)



Many OGA members combine a visit to the London Boat Show with attendance at the national AGM in Greenwich.

This year, rather than tramping through several inches of fresh snow, they enjoyed a wonderful sunset, flying high above the Thames, on the Emirates Airline cable cars.



OGA Events around the Areas

The OGA organises events throughout the sailing season, often in partnership with local sailing clubs, marinas, port and harbour authorities or other like-minded organisations. This list provides a summary of events confirmed as we go to press. Please contact the organisers for further information, or visit the OGA website for updates and reports.

AREA	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
EC	18 – 20 April	Easter Egg Rally: SB	Tollesbury, Essex	Steve Meakin cormorantsails@mail.com
SOL	25 – 27 April W	St. Georges Day Cup*	Yarmouth, Isle of Wight	Marion Shirley 52marion@live.co.uk
SW	23 – 24 May	Brixham Heritage Sailing Regatta*	Brixham	www.brixhamheritagesailing.org.uk
EC	24 – 26 May	Crouch Rally	Rivers Crouch/Roach	Trevor Rawlinson trevorrawlinson@yahoo.co.uk
SOL	29 May – 1 June	YOGAFF*	Yarmouth, Isle of Wight	info@yarmoutholdgaffersfestival.co.uk
TS	31 May – 1 June	Rowing Rally: SB	Lechlade, River Thames	Mike Stevens mike.stevens.killay@talktalk.net
DB	30 May – 2 June	Dublin Bay Festival	Poolbeg Yacht and Boat Club, Dublin	Gerry Murtagh dbsec@oldgaffersassociation.org
BCA	Thursday 5 June	Up Channel from Cardiff Bay: SB	Cardiff Bay, Bristol Channel	Charlie Harris charlieandsueharris@hotmail.com
LD	6 – 8 June	Lake District Rally: SB	Glenridding SC, Ullswater	Barry Healas bhealas@yahoo.com
TS	6 – 8 June	Beale Park Show*: SB	Beale Park, Oxfordshire	Mike Stevens mike.stevens.killay@talktalk.net
SCO	6 – 8 June	Campbeltown Classics	Campbeltown	Neal Hill neal.hill@naiad.demon.co.uk
BCA	Thursday 12 June	Down Channel from Cardiff Bay: SB	Round Flatholm & Steepholm or to Barry	Charlie Harris charlieandsueharris@hotmail.com
BCA	7 – 14 June	Seafair Haven Festival*: SB	Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire	Mike Stevens mike.stevens.killay@talktalk.net
SW	13 – 15 June	Falmouth Classics 2014*	Falmouth	www.falmouthclassics.org.uk
EC	14 – 15 June	Chatham Rally	Chatham Dock Yard, Kent	Yvonne Mitchell yvonne.kajan@gmail.com
SW	16 – 18 June	Helford River Rally	Port Navas YC, Helford, Cornwall	Gil Hayward secretary@ southwestgaffers.org.uk
NI	20 – 22 June	Traditional Boat Weekend	Portaferry, County Down	Peter Lyons gaffer.lyons@btinternet.com
SOL	Saturday 21 June	Round the Island Race*	Cowes, Isle of Wight	www.roundtheisland.org.uk

* OGA is not the main organiser

SB indicates small boat activities are planned

AREA	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
EC	28 – 29 June	Mistley Rally: SB	River Stour	Pete Elliston ptk.elliston@btinternet.com
EC	4 – 6 July	Annual Race & Rally: SB	Brightlingsea, River Colne	Richard Giles richard@marketingoverflow.com
SW	4 – 6 July	Start Bay Race & Rally	Dartmouth	Gil Hayward secretary@ southwestgaffers.org.uk
SOL	Saturday 5 July	Bembridge Rally	Bembridge, Isle of Wight	Marion Shirley 52marion@live.co.uk
EC	Saturday 12 July	Pin Mill Smack and Working Boat Race*	Pin Mill Sailing Club, Suffolk	www.pmsc.org.uk
BCA	Saturday 12 July	Down Channel from Cardiff Bay: SB	Round Flatholm & Steepholm or to Barry	Charlie Harris charlieandsueharris@hotmail.com
EC	12 – 13 July	Swallows & Amazons: SB	Walton & Frinton YC	Pete Elliston ptk.elliston@btinternet.com
NE	19 – 20 July	Scotch Queen 70*	Grimsby & Cleethorpes YC	Jim Bell belljc2.elison@btinternet.com
EC	19 – 20 July	Southwold Rally: SB	Southwold, Suffolk	Lorna Hill lh.rh@barnvets.myzen.co.uk
SOL	20 – 25 July	Cowes Classic Week*	Cowes, Isle of Wight	www.cowesclassicweek.org
NL	25 July – 10 Aug	NL10 Cross Country Tour: SB	Zeeland Delta, Holland	Rik Janssen inst@xs4all.nl
SW	25 – 28 July	Plymouth Classics*	Plymouth	www.plymouthclassics.org.uk
Irish Sea	25 – 27 July	Peel Traditional Boat weekend*	Peel, Isle of Man	Mike Clark mclark@manx.net
SOL	25 – 27 July	Taittinger Regatta*	Yarmouth, Isle of Wight	www.royalsolent.org
EC	Saturday 2 Aug	Swale Smack & Sailing Barge Match*	Harty Ferry, River Swale, Kent	Lena Reekie lenareekie@talktalk.net
TS	7 – 11 Aug	Trailer Section Rally: SB	Clywedog SC, Llanidloes, mid Wales	Mike Stevens mike.stevens.killay@talktalk.net
NWA	9 – 17 Aug	Conwy River Festival*	Conwy	sailing@conwyriverfestival.org
EC	16 – 25 Aug	August Classics Cruise: SB	Rivers Stour, Orwell & Deben	Clare Thomas clare.thomas@btinternet.com
SW	16 – 17 Aug	River Dart Rally: SB	Dittisham SC, River Dart	Gil Hayward secretary@ southwestgaffers.org.uk
BCA	Sunday 17 Aug	Up Channel from Cardiff Bay: SB	Cardiff Bay, Bristol Channel	Charlie Harris charlieandsueharris@hotmail.com
SW	28 – 31 Aug	Dartmouth Regatta*	Dartmouth	dartmouthweek.com

* OGA is not the main organiser

SB indicates small boat activities are planned

AREA	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
NWA	29 – 31 Aug	Traditional Sail Festival: SB	Holyhead	Sue Farrer sue@psfarrer.co.uk
SOL	30 – 31 Aug	Bursledon Regatta*	River Hamble	Marion Shirley 52marion@live.co.uk
SOL	Saturday 6 Sept	Annual Race & Rally: SB	Solent	Marion Shirley 52marion@live.co.uk
SCO	12 – 14 Sept	Autumn Muster, Scotland	Loch Fyne	Neal Hill neal.hill@naiad.demon.co.uk
LD	12 – 14 Sept	Lake District Rally: SB	GlenriddingSC, Ullswater	Barry Healas bhealas@yahoo.com
EC	Saturday 13 Sept	Colne Smack and Barge Match	River Colne, Brightlingsea, Essex	www.colnesmack.co.uk
SOL	Sunday 21 Sept	Centenary Chase*	Royal Solent Yacht Club	www.royalsolent.org
TS	26 – 29 Sept	Mucking about in boats: SB	Lechlade, River Thames	Mike Stevens mike.stevens.killay@talktalk.net
EC	Saturday 27 Sept	Maldon Town Regatta*	Maldon Little Ship Club	www.maldonregatta.co.uk

*OGA is not the main organiser
SB indicates small boat activities are planned

Never mind the rowlocks . . .

Classic Marine

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Highly Commended (General sailing)
Sarah Adie:
'Trailer sailing, Dutch style'

Judges' comment: 'A gentle picture telling two interlocking stories with complimentary angles.'



2nd prize (General sailing) Rik Homar:
'Reflexion', taken at the Reeuwijk Raid, October 2013

Judges' comment: 'An imaginative composition centered on the reflected sails which, with the surface ripples, create an almost abstract image.'



NL
OLD GAFFERS
ASSOCIATION
2004
2014



OGA^{NL} Cross Country tour

25/07-10/08

Do you have a small boat?

There are lift and trailer facilities throughout the tour for those travelling with trailerboat and car. For those who wish to cut corners, there are several opportunities to launch your boat in one of the marinas we have.

Registration and contacts

We have to work out some details (being Dutch most of them are related to costs) before we can hand out entry forms.

If you're already on our mailing list, expect to receive them soon. Please be patient and convinced that you will hear from us.

It's not too late to sign up for the Tour, so send me an email:

Rik Janssen
OGA10 Cross Country Holland
oga10@oldgaffers.nl

Here we are again with an update on matters concerning the Cross Country Holland tour 2014. We have good news. We have the consent of the honourable Admiral Michiel Adriaansz de Ruyter. From the other side he let us know that we can trust the British Armada sieging our coast and inshore waters.

Although, and I quote: 'I still see them as a dangerous crowd that need to be treated with care, I do believe that our Dutch fleet will be strong enough, even when outnumbered, to hold in our home waters.'

Well we trust to have a more peaceful and enjoyable rendezvous with you all, so I will present the latest developments of plans we have in mind.

We will start in Wemeldingen, but not after having saluted our honourable Admiral M A de Ruyter in the town of Vlissingen (Flushing), where he is standing tall and mighty looking over the seas keeping an eye on you dangerous lot!

In the weekend starting 27 July we will assemble in the harbour of Wemeldingen to race on Saturday and party there till Sunday evening. Here we have trailer and lifting facilities for trailer boats.

Monday we will all be heading north with a tour through the canals and inner lakes of Holland. You will visit the old town of Gouda but can enjoy some (hopefully) quiet and peaceful places on the way to Haarlem, where you should arrive on Friday 1 August. Don't expect much sailing on this

OGA10 NL Cross Country tour

track since there are confined waters to pass and a lot of bridges too (all swinging, by the way). This trip is obviously too much for boats without an engine, and rowing is out of the question here. Of course, in a fleet like this, a fellow skipper might be found to give these boats a tug. Especially the first (long) day will be motoring in busy canals with a lot of commercial traffic. An alternative route is via the North Sea, and there are possibilities for leaving at several ports. But of course, by going that way, you will miss the atmosphere of the typical Dutch inland waterways.

For the weekend 2 August we assemble in Amsterdam where you can party down town as you like (as long as you behave!). On Sunday we assemble outside Amsterdam in a old fishing village Durgerdam (try to pronounce this properly, and you might win a prize). The idea is to get the fleet at anchor (soft mud) and improvise what to do (you might feel like an early turn in after the hectic visit of the town before and/or to prepare for the race next day).

Monday we will race (don't expect an Olympic course, we intend some sort of passage race) on the IJsselmeer towards Edam. Next day sailing to Hoorn to be guided by an historian/boatman through the new Visitor Centre of the 'Botters' (famous old fishing boats of the Zuiderzee). We hope to arrange for everyone to experience a short sailing trip on one of these vessels. Then we sail in some sort of race to Enkhuizen, where a visit is planned to the Zeevaartschool, with the official dinner and party.

Next day we continue to Workum with a visit to an historic wooden boatyard that is still in use. Then finally we sail to Den Helder to finish the trip in our naval harbour with all sorts of pleasure and fighting (??) events, under the protection of our own ancient and present Admirals of the Dutch Navy.

I hope this raises the enthusiasm of you all, even more than we have experienced so far.



Photo: Steve Daley-Yates (EC)

Bristol Channel

Commodore: Viv Head
Secretary: David J. Owens
email: bcsec@oga.org.uk



Dublin Bay

President: Tim Magennis
Secretary: Gerry Murtagh
email: dbsec@oga.org.uk



Reflections on 2103 have given a very positive outlook for 2014. Coupled with the various developments at OGA central, including a new President and the combining of the Gaffers Log, the website and the Boat Register, there is scope for a renewed impetus. Having said that, we are deeply indebted to the outgoing President, Mike Shaw, the previous editors of Gaffers Log (our own BCA members Phil and Lynne Slade) and Webmaster, Pete Farrer.

Activity over the winter has been low key, although the Christmas dinner at the World of Boats on Cardiff Bay was a lively and thoroughly enjoyable affair for the large number of attendees. However, until sailing begins again in April, activity focuses on the Gaffers Nights in the Cardiff area and other local activities in such as Instow.

Our sailing programme will be largely comprised of these local activities. We are one of the smaller Areas and organising large national events within our own resources, is

a big ask. Therefore, we will seek to liaise with other organisations in the area, such as Lydney Yacht Club and their Forest of Dean festivals; Barry Yacht Club and their links with the Bristol Channel Pilot Cutter events; and Portishead with its 'Round the Holms' race. We are also in close communication with Seafair Haven, to be held as always in Milford Haven.

We have recently resurrected the BCA Committee, with regional representatives/co-ordinators from throughout the Area. In this way, we hope to integrate better this geographically widespread and disparate Area.

With the inspiring memories of 2013 still fresh in our minds, and a clutch of new members, we are looking forward to 2014.



'Nutmeg' and 'Arwen'
29 July 2012 Bristol Channel near Penarth
Photographer: David J. Owens
'Nutmeg' skippered and owned by Viv Head
'Arwen' skippered and owned by Roger Wallington both BCA members

As these notes are prepared towards the end of January, DBOGA has not yet held a formal meeting to welcome home and celebrate the elevation of our esteemed former Hon. Sec., Sean Walsh to the highest office in the OGA. He was hailed and recognised at the first of our winter talks in aid of the RNLI with HIMSELF in attendance. Summer cruisers in Scotland this year should look out for his racey 'Tir na n'Og of Howth', as he sets a course for the Hebrides.

Meantime, planning continues for our summer season, the highlight of which is a repeat of last year's racing and good craic extravaganza in the River Liffey and Dublin Bay, in association with our number one sponsor, the Dublin Port Company. Over the June Bank Holiday weekend, 30 May to 2 June the ever welcoming Poolbeg Yacht and Boat Club, so close to the city centre, once again will do the honours.

President Sean, prior to his elevation, had successfully negotiated for the world-rated Howth 17 class of gaffers, to repeat their colourful racing display in the river, one of the major attractions of last year's OGA50 celebrations.

The Dublin Port Company, according to recent Press reports,

are planning big time for this one. Visiting craft will be warmly welcomed and the Port Authorities have plans for a big extension of pontoons to provide free accommodation over the period of the holiday. There is even talk of their placing a huge floating platform in the river, close to the beating heart of Dublin, to accommodate no less than the classic Cossack Russian Ballet, that is according to those advance Press reports.

So our message to all gaffers, and their Bermudan mates, who just might be including the Irish Sea in their summer plans, is to make a note of these dates and let us in DBOGA know in advance so that Poolbeg can ensure a warm Irish welcome for you all.

Howth 17s on the River Liffey, Dublin
Photo: Steve Daley-Yates



President: Robert Hill
Secretary: Lorna Hill
email: ecsec@oga.org.uk
web: www.eastcoastgaffers.org.uk



2014 sees a change of President and Secretary for the East Coast Area. Many thanks are due to Pete Thomas and Pete 'the knife' Elliston for their hard work over the years. 2013 was especially demanding, due to the Golden Jubilee celebrations. At the AGM in November, they both stood down to enjoy a well earned rest, whilst remaining on the Area Committee.

We welcome Robert Hill as our new Area President. If you are on a quiet mooring somewhere on the East Coast, and hear the distinctive sound of Scottish bagpipes, have a good look round. You may well see the beautiful white yawl 'Charm', with the President and his wife Lorna on board. Lorna is the new Area Secretary, making communications between the President and Secretary swift and easy!

2013 was another good year on the East Coast, with many events well attended. We look forward to more of the same for the 2014 sailing season.

East Coast members have been getting together over the winter months, with the AGM and social at West Mersea Yacht Club in November, a Christmas party, hosted this year by Cormorant Sails at Harkstead and a wonderful Burns Lunch as guests of our new Area President and Secretary in Copdock, Ipswich. East Coast members also joined the excellent trip to St. Malo in January, reported on p.7.

Visit the East Coast website to find out more about events in our Area. We're always keen to welcome members from other Areas, and for Trailer Section members many of our events are suitable for smaller boats.



Highly Commended (Sailing gaffers) Edgar Wagemakers:
'Swale before the Match'
Judges' comment: 'The tight composition of the forepart of the vessel tells a story and is well balanced by the parallel bowsprit and foreshore.'

2nd prize (Sailing gaffers) Alex Lewin:
'Mersea smacks'
Judges' comment: 'A simple and effective story-telling picture with a shimmering sea, well-presented as a panoramic scene.'





I came away from the ACM and AGM reassured by the commitment to an Area-based structure for the Association.

Once again I received many compliments for the success of the OGA50 Round Britain events in the North East; compliments I gladly pass on to all members and others who were associated with making Eyemouth, Newcastle and Grimsby so enjoyable and successful.

If we are to continue in being an active and growing Area, we do need, as a matter of some urgency, to formalise an Area management structure. This to conform to Association rules and ensure the validity and probity of our actions. I shall be contacting all existing, and a few potential members to organise a meeting in mid to late March 2014.

Confirmed events in the North East are listed in the centre-page spread, but here's a few to look out for. In June or July the Coquet YC will celebrate their 50th anniversary with Regatta Amble, and once dates are confirmed, we hope to arrange an OGA muster and race there.

19 - 20th July Grimsby & Cleethorpes YC, Alexandra Dock, Grimsby sees the 'Scotch Queen 70' event involving a WW2 wooden warship, 100 year old Humber sloop, Dunkirk Little Ships etc. at the home of 'Harry Tate's Navy'.

We know that many UK Areas will be joining in the Dutch celebrations this summer. Plans are afoot for 'Camay' (Amble) and 'Emma & Kate' (Blyth) to take part in the 10th Anniversary event across the North Sea.

Watch out also for news of the Marstal 500 celebrations (Denmark) and the usual summer festivals (Lifeboat, harbour, fisheries etc.) along the North East coast.



'Gaffers in Newcastle, 2013'
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'Rainbow' 1897

Northern Ireland

President: Peter Chambers
Secretary: Peter Lyons
email: nisec@oga.org.uk



We held our AGM in October, with 20 attending. After the usual reports, giving only good news, especially about the OGA50 party in Belfast, we had our elections. No surprises. President: Peter Chambers, Secretary: Peter Lyons, Treasurer: Ian Wylie, Commodore: John Cleary and Richard Tomalin was elected to the Committee.

Our Annual Dinner was the usual excellent affair held once more in Royal North of Ireland YC. 65 attended. Following an excellent meal provided by the Club's caterers 'after dinner' words were given by Trevor Anderson, Operations Director of Belfast Harbour. Trevor gave us an insight into what's going to happen in Belfast for leisure craft, developing the Abercorn Basin berthing that filled so well in June when the OGA50 fleet visited. He was upbeat and thanked the Gaffers for such an excellent event. Trevor reminded us the Tall Ships will visit Belfast in 2015 and hoped NIOGA would make a meaningful input to the event. After the speeches, we presented our prizes, followed by a ballot raising about £500 to supplement funds after sponsoring OGA50 Belfast. A great evening was had by all. Peter Chambers finished by wishing everyone well for 2014.

On 24 January about 20 NIOGA members arrived at Newtownards SC for the annual quiz that has been going for 12 years. We outnumbered the locals, but members of NSC made us very welcome. With about 50 in total, including non quizzers, it was the biggest crowd yet. The Gaffers had five teams, NSC three and there was one team composed of members of both persuasions. This year the quiz was set by NSC and quizmaster Anne did a great job of puzzling everyone. We had eight rounds of questions, including a picture round of aerial shots over Strangford Lough, which was quite good.



Photo: Peter Lyons

When the results were announced, it appeared the mixed team had performed best. For the Block Trophy, that result did not count, the next best were two of the Gaffers teams, the three B's; Bee Thompson, Bill and Bob Miller and the Guys 'n Dolls; Carol Laird, Ian Wylie and Alan and Irene Aston. NIOGA were duly awarded the Block Trophy for the third year in succession. Another great result.

NSC produced some eats, pizzas, sausage rolls and chicken bites, very generous of them. All in all, a good evening at NSC.

Our thanks must go to them for letting us partake of their wonderful clubhouse, and providing the questions.

North Wales

President: Scott Metcalfe
Secretary: Sue Farrer
email: nwasec@oga.org.uk
web: www.northwalesoga.org



The year did not start off well for the North Wales Area as sadly, on 2 January 2014, we lost a very dear and active member, Ken Anderson. Ken and Gladys attended many events organised by the Trailer Section and North Wales Area. Ken was very handy with his woodworking skills, often making items to raise money for the OGA, including personalised 'back scratchers'. The funeral took place in Darlington, and it was wonderful to see eight members of the OGA, Iain and Joan McBride, Lil Jackson, Gordon Bourne, Malcolm and Jo Goram, Pete and Sue Farrer, make the long journey to pay their last respects to Ken.

By the time the March Gaffers Log

goes to print we will have had a get together in the form of a comedy evening at Holyhead Sailing Club. Conwy River Festival incorporates the OGA Gaffers Race and the Nobby, Gaffers and Classics Race. The dates for 2014 are 9 - 17 August. For more information visit www.conwyriverfestival.org

The 8th Holyhead Traditional Sail Festival takes place over the weekend 29 - 31 August when there will be plenty of on and off the water activities. Those who have attended the festival in previous years will know it is a weekend not to be missed. We will also incorporate the Holyhead Lifeboat Open Day, whom we welcome with open arms.



'Pirates at Holyhead, 2013' by Charles Erb

An advertisement for 'Water Craft' magazine. It features a cover image of a small boat on water. The text on the ad says: 'Discover the New Gaffers in WATER CRAFT'. Below this, it says: '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 fill in slip from: WATER CRAFT, BRIDGE SHOP, QUERRI, CORNWALL TR12 8UU. For further information, call 01326 221424 or visit www.watercraft-magazine.com'.

President: Gordon Garman
Secretary: Neal Hill
email: scotsec@oga.org.uk



President: Dan Shaw
Secretary: Marion Shirley
email: solsec@oga.org.uk



After starting our RBC at Campbeltown, as reported in the September Gaffers Log, 'Naiad' and 'Tantina II' made passage north to Gigha, Loch Tarbert, Tobermory on the Isle of Mull, out to the Hebrides and across to Orkney before making passage to the most northerly point of the RBC on Shetland and then returning to Wick where the locals opened the fascinating 'Isabella Fortuna' for us to examine. Thank goodness for modern diesel engines in our boats, the rather older one on 'Isabella Fortuna' is apparently started one cylinder at a time.

Too soon it was time to depart and course was set for Inverness Firth as both boats had decided to forego the rest of the RBC. An eventful night in Cromarty harbour was followed by a short hop to the Caledonian Canal, and for 'Tantina II' a three day passage back to the west coast's deep water more suited to her two metre draft.

An end of season jaunt to Tarbert replaced the scheduled meeting at Otter Ferry, as a result of some rather inclement weather. Despite this, the few crews that did make it to Tarbert, enjoyed a cracking good time.

A new innovation in the Scottish calendar was a late season trip, by road, to Anstruther to meet aboard 'Reaper', the

beautifully restored sail fishing vessel dating back to the early 1900s. We were entertained in her snug saloon to superb homemade fish pies and refreshments that were definitely more suited to the non-drivers amongst us. This was followed by a complimentary tour of the fascinating Scottish Fisheries Museum where we all agreed an afternoon was insufficient to enjoy the numerous displays. In view of the success of this first visit, we hope to make it a regular feature of the Scottish OGA year.

The only question remaining is how do we celebrate the next fifty years of the OGA, watch this space!

Below left to right:
'Quiet evening in Loch Torridon' and
'Naiad enjoying the sunshine' by Gordon Garman



Above: Outgoing secretary, Jessica Warren, with husband Mike, in their boat 'Roma', preparing to moor at Bembridge, Isle of Wight, after a wet sail to our rally, September 2013

Below: 'Gaffers sailing at YOGAFF, 2013', by Keith Allso

Perhaps because of our exertions in 2013, the winter season, until the time of writing, has been quiet for the Solent Gaffers. Things are about to change as our member, Ben Collins, has organised a get together with French Gaffers on the day of their AGM in St. Malo. Members will voyage by Brittany Ferry rather than gaff sail on this occasion. See p. 7 for Ben's lively report.

Our Solent AGM takes place in February, followed closely by an evening outing on the Real Ale Train. Forewarned that Pompey will be playing away, a visit to the new Mary Rose Museum, followed by lunch in Portsmouth, is planned for 29 March 2014.

Our Committee has been communicating behind the scenes, and some of us met shortly after New Year on a flooded Lymington Quay to discuss a new approach to YOGAFF, from 29 May to 1 June 2014.

2014 will be a year of change. Our Secretary, Jessica Warren, has chosen to step down. Jessica has been in office for eight years and was Treasurer before that. She has earned the right to have an extra drink or two at future events without, having to deal with meal refunds, ticket exchanges, stall takings and all the rest. We are very grateful to Jessica and extend our thanks also to her long suffering (from the Gaffers, not Jessica) husband Mike.

YOGAFF 2014

This year, Yogaff registration will be done via an online system which will accept credit card payments, like the Jubilee Festival at Cowes.

Take advantage of the 'early bird' registration deal which offers some great discounts.

There's limited space so it's first come first served. Get yourself on the priority list by visiting: www.oga.org.uk/solent/yogaff-2014



President: Mike Lucas
Secretary: Gil Hayward
email: swsec@oga.org.uk



We've noticed our Laying-up Lunch attracts more members than any other shore-based activities. We're not sure if it's the attraction of the AGM, immediately after lunch, the very good value offered by the Abbey Inn, Buckfastleigh, or that our widespread membership prefer to travel for lunch rather than have a late night travelling home after dinner.

At our AGM the Committee and officers agreed to continue for another year. I'm pleased to report that Geoff Skinner has been co-opted onto the Committee. It's always good to have new blood and, though he didn't tell us, we find he's a very experienced OGA man. Geoff was Solent Area Secretary for a number of years. A lively discussion



'Annie Kay' formerly 'Mary Hay' on the foreshore at Dittisham, River Dart
Photo: Gil Hayward

took place on the seven questions 'Future of the OGA' posed by the GMC as it enters its second half century. Following the ACM/AGM at Greenwich YC we are confident that the OGA will introduce a number of changes to meet the challenges facing it.

Our 2014 programme is included in the centre-page spread. I'd like to draw your attention to several new initiatives. Now the Area is formally responsible for Cornwall, two events are planned for the Falmouth Area. We've held a lunchtime winter get-together at Port Navas YC. By popular demand, on Saturday 8 March, we're holding another Knot Seminar led by Mike Lucas and trying a new venue, The Henlake Suite, Watermark Centre, Ivybridge. £10 per head for a light lunch at 1230 followed by the seminar.

Our Fitting Out event will be another lunchtime session on Saturday 12 April, held in a private room at the China House, Plymouth. A converted warehouse overlooking Sutton Harbour and the Barbican, it's not a Chinese restaurant! Guest Speaker is Sean Blight, a boatbuilder working for the National Trust at Cothele Quay and skipper of 'Shamrock', last surviving Tamar Sailing Barge.

13 - 15 June is Falmouth Classics and OGA Rally on the Helford River. Contact: Don Garman dj.garman@btinternet.com

The South West Area has some of the most beautiful estuaries in the country, ideal for smaller gaffers and luggers. Over 16 - 17 August the River Dart Rally will be held at Dittisham-on-the-Dart. Traditionally there has been a gaffer race at 'Ditsum Regatta' but this year we want to welcome members from the Trailer Section as well. Dittisham is situated three miles upstream from Dartmouth and six miles downstream from Totnes. Dittisham SC will host the gaffer race and make their clubhouse available to OGA members over the weekend. The Parish Council have given consent to pitch tents on the Ham, adjacent to the river and Sailing Club and to park campervans in the Ham Car Park. This is a very rare privilege, so do come along and take advantage.

The weekend will include a leisurely cruise in company upriver, Club supper on Saturday night and BBQ on Sunday. On Saturday afternoon you can enjoy the fun and games of a traditional village regatta. You might even find time to visit Agatha Christie's Greenway Estate just across the river. Numbers are limited, so please book early. Further information from me (email in panel above left). South West Gaffers look forward to welcoming you to one of our events in 2014.



'Proper Job' on the foreshore at Dittisham, River Dart
Photo: Gil Hayward

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The Trailer Section had a fabulous year in 2013. Not only was the weather kind to us but we were able to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the OGA in great style with a National Rally at Cardiff Bay.

The Bristol Channel Area kindly hosted us, and we formed part of their grand 'Traditional Sail Cardiff' rally, which drew boats large and small from all over the Bristol Channel and, in the case of the trailers, from other parts of the UK.

We also held our usual rallies and thanks go to those organisers whose tremendous help at a local level ensures their success.

16 - 17 August finds a new rally at Dittisham-on-the-Dart, Devon. See the South West Area report on the preceding pages. The River Dart offers sheltered but interesting sailing, with many delightful views. Highly recommended!



Trailer Section at Cardiff Bay, 2013
Photo: Mike Stevens



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OGA50 legacy: Boat Register

Pat and husband Dick Dawson's interest in the boat register goes back many years. Dick developed the first computer database for the OGA Boat Register over 20 years ago. With several interim versions, and a pilot on the East Coast, that vision has now come to fruition as we prepare to 'soft launch' the OGA's national online Boat Register.

Along with the change in 'look and feel' for Gaffers Log and the website, outlined on p.51, we're hoping the online Boat Register will also be ready by the time this Log reaches your doormat. This major project has been in development for a number of years, and was run as a pilot in the East Coast Area. Alistair Randall and Steve Daley-Yates worked tirelessly over the Christmas and New Year period, burning many hours of midnight oil, to get it ready to announce at the ACM/AGM on 11 January 2014 in Greenwich. Since then, they've been working closely with Pat Dawson to ensure the online system does exactly what she wants it to do in terms of showcasing our valuable archive.

Pat Dawson has done a tremendous amount of work to collate, check and input over 3,000 boat records to the system in preparation for putting it online. These basic collections of digital data represent only a small start for this exciting project, which will grow into a valuable online archive.

The online Boat Register is capable of holding a wide range of data for every boat and will be fully searchable by visitors. OGA members will have access to the full records and will be able to update the record(s) for their own boat(s). Keeping such a valuable and large resource accurate, and as complete as possible, is much more than any individual can achieve. Over time, we hope that every active OGA member who owns a boat will ensure that A. it is in the online Boat Register, B. that the data are as complete and accurate as possible and C. that the online Boat Register holds at least one good photograph of the boat, and maybe more . . . this will obviously take time, and there will be guidance for members in updating their records.

Launching the Boat Register represents the start of the online phase of this ambitious legacy project from the OGA50 celebrations. We do hope that members will start by logging in to check out their own boat, and updating the details whenever necessary. We're also keen to find members who are interested in helping to extend the archive, by completing the records on boats that are either no longer owned by OGA members, or have missing data still buried in the paper archives.

Pat Dawson
Boat Register Editor

Communication: changing times

Mike Shaw, Past President, reflects on changes implemented over the past ten years by OGA Webmaster Peter Farrer (NWA).

Peter Farrer retired as OGA Webmaster at the AGM on 11 January 2014. Peter has been our Webmaster since taking over from Peter Lyons. During this time he transformed the website, building the online shop, Members' area and forum, adding a PayPal facility and links to Facebook, OGA50 and local Area sites. He has been responsible for developing our online image to the sailing and wider world. He has moved us forward. Together with wife Sue, and Maxine Lomas, he does excellent work for the OGA on the Awards, Beale Park Show and London Boat Show.

He has given unstintingly of his time and energy and has always responded quickly to new developments, doing his best to keep the website up-to-date. He has done this with humour and with a twinkle in his eye, knowing and understanding, I suspect, that there were some Gaffers who were not that much interested in websites and online activities.

Thanks to the the online facilities available last year, Gaffers are no longer innocents in the 'web' department, having been known to go online in the early hours of the morning to register for OGA events, such as the Cowes Festival last year. They have also become addicted to 'Sailing by'.

We are very grateful to Peter, and thank him for his valuable work. He hands the baton to Beverley Daley-Yates who, at the same AGM, was elected to the joint roles of Gaffers Log Editor and Webmaster. She will move us forward yet again. We wish her fair winds.

Mike Shaw, Past President

Peter's successor; newly elected Editor (Log and online) Beverley Daley-Yates, looks to the future.

It is with both trepidation and excitement that I take on the 'baton', as Mike says, and I'm most grateful for the support received from GMC in preparing proposals for the future of OGA communications, which will continue to include print alongside the new website, launched last month. It seems appropriate in this first edition of the 'new look' Gaffers Log to say a few words about the future of OGA communications. Despite rising postage costs, rest assured that print will continue to be an important part of the OGA strategy, with a full-colour printed Gaffers Log, mailed to members, alongside our other ideas.

Many people are sceptical about online communications, and they're right to be so. I still prefer to put a note out for the milkman, instead of sending an email, or messaging him on Facebook. However, there are ways we can use the Internet to our advantage, especially in an association like the OGA, scattered across the UK and Ireland, with associates around the world, and frequently 'on the move'.

The reason I proposed integrating the Gaffers Log and website roles is to ensure we do just that in the OGA. Modern communication is a very collaborative affair. We need to be able to capitalise on this collaboration through Gaffers Log, the website, the Facebook presence, blogs, email, TV and radio, newsletters and other media we haven't even discovered yet.

As members will see in the minutes on p.12, the AGM endorsed the GMC decision to develop a new 'look and feel' across all OGA communications, in print and online. The new style has been applied here in the March Gaffers Log, and on the new website which went live on 5 February 2014, incorporating 'Sailing by'. The online Boat Register, due to launch at the end of March 2014, is an exciting legacy from the first 50 years of the OGA. Read more about the online Boat Register on p.52 and 'Sailing by' on p.59.

Area Secretaries have received copies of the new logo and style guidance for use in their local communications. There's more about the new website, www.oga.org.uk and email addresses, inside the back cover. I hope you all feel we are moving forward.

Beverley Daley-Yates,
Editor (Log and online)

Highly Commended (Sailing gaffers) Sarah Adie:
'Safe hands'
Judges' comment: 'A very well composed and active image with an underlying story.'



OGA in the News

New Year Honours for OGA member and member's spouse

Two East Coast OGA members have been honoured by the Queen in the 2014 New Year Honours. Captain Richard Woodman becomes a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order (LVO) for his services to Trinity House, where he served for 37 years after joining the Merchant Navy, aged 16, in 1960. Kathleen Peyton was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to children's literature. She writes as K. M Peyton, the M representing her husband Mike, a founder member of the OGA.

OGA50 raise funds for RNLI

During the Anniversary Year, 2013, the OGA raised £3,500 for the RNLI. Thank you to everyone who has contributed and helped to organise fundraising events.

On 28 February Past President, Mike Shaw and OGA50 Co-ordinator, Barry Heelas will present the OGA/RNLI Anniversary Book in Poole. The beautifully bound book has signatures of RNLI crew from around the coasts, collected by skippers of the RBC fleet. The presentation will be reported on the new OGA website: www.oga.org.uk



3rd prize (General sailing) Claudia Myatt:
'Fraserburgh Lifeboat to the rescue', taken from 'Witch' whilst crewing during the RBC
Judges' comment: 'A tightly composed picture which draws one in trying to work out the enigmatic story.'

Obituary: Ken Anderson

Ken Anderson, who passed away in January 2014, was a long time member of the North Wales Area and a stalwart supporter and founder member of the OGA Trailer Section. Born in 1931 at Darlington, the young Ken was found to be a fine singer and when he grew up, he took singing lessons and was soon part of the semi pro circuit around Northern clubs.

Ken trained as a cabinet maker, and the very fine furniture he made, together with his trademark hand carvings upon it, stand the test of time as a tribute to his skills with wood. Ken built a number of small boats over the years, but favoured Wolstenholme designs, building both the Mallard and Swallows sailing dinghies, together with an electric river launch. If it was wood, Ken could make anything. Last year, after the Holyhead Rally which featured a re-enactment society with cannon, Ken made a copy of one of the 'HMS Victory' cannon, complete with 12 bore apparatus to fire it, even though the barrel was of wood.

At the usual OGA parties, Ken, although never a show off, could be prevailed upon to give us all a song. The experience of hearing him sing was electrifying. You could tell that he had been professional in the way that a basically quiet, modest man could get to his feet in a noisy sailing club and with the first opening bars, silence the whole room as they listened to him.

Ken gave a lot of himself to the OGA. Fine or fair, he would be there. He was a regular at Beale Park, bringing both a boat for the display and also taking his turn meeting the public in our display tent. He leaves a widow Gladys (who is a keen OGA member herself), a daughter, grandson and great-grandson.



Thank you, Claudia, winning photographer and crew-member on 'Witch', for sending this snippet from her log, 29 June 2013, telling some of the 'story' noted in the judges' comment.

I stood on the foredeck watching the reassuring shape of the Fraserburgh lifeboat heading for us; two days into my summercruise and life was getting interesting in ways I hadn't bargained for when I joined East Coast gaffer 'Witch' for a leg of the OGARBC.

We were tethered by the stern to a crab pot line which ran bar taut from the prop shaft to the pot buoy several metres away. We considered going over the side to cut ourselves free, but would have then been in a worse position, engineless in a strong tide and light winds close to a rocky shore. The coastguard decided to send out the lifeboat who were keen for some crew training on a shout so close to home.

New clothing for 2014!

Introducing a new range and a new design to which you can, as before, add your boat name. Order via a dedicated page linked from the new website, by email or phone:

www.oga.org.uk/shop

for a link to online ordering

email

sales@blackjackdesign.com

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Suzanne: 01621 786686

Men's, ladies' and children's pique polo (poly cotton 65/35), 'Fruit of the Loom' in five colours navy, red, sky (light blue), white and heather (grey).

On the white polo, the larger boat in the design will be embroidered in cream.

Men's, ladies' and children's zip-through fleece (100% polyester) 'Fruit of the Loom' in three colours navy, red and bottle green.

Sizes available as follows:

Men's (3XL available in polos only, not fleeces)

Size:	S	M	L	XL	XXL	3XL
Chest:	35/37"	38/40"	41/43"	44/46"	47/49"	50/52"

Ladies' (XXL available in polos only, not fleeces)

Size:	S	M	L	XL	XXL
	10	12	14	16	18
Chest:	32"	34"	36"	38"	40"

Children's

Size:	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-11	12-13
Height (cm):	104	116	128	140	152
Chest (in)	22/24"	26/28"	30"	32"	34"

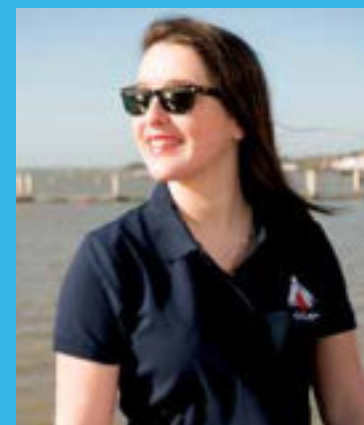
Costs

	Polo	Fleece
Men's	£16	£28
Ladies'	£15	£28
Children's	£12	£19

Boat names can be added in a choice of three type-faces which will be illustrated on the website.

(Prices include VAT, but not postage & package)

New for 2014!



Order the OGA merchandise below (and not the new clothing) from Ed Allen by email, or via the new OGA website, stating clearly what item(s) you require:

merchandise@oga.org.uk

Payment is by cheque, payable to 'Old Gaffers Association', until the new PayPal account is set up.

All prices include postage and packing to UK addresses.

OGA burgee (triangular)

12"	£18.50
15"	£20.00
18"	£23.00
24"	£26.00
30"	£33.00

OGA flag (rectangular)

12"	£22.50
15"	£25.00
18"	£28.00
24"	£55.00
30"	£70.00

OGA50 flag £8.00

Small items

OGA tie £11

OGA enamel lapel badge £6.00

OGA plaque (engraved with boat name & number) £21.00

OGA teatowel £5.50

CLEARANCE OFFER ON CLOTHING

We have a limited range of clothing items embroidered 'Old Gaffers Association'. Order clearance clothing below only from Ed Allen, stating your size and style preference, at these discounted prices.

£20: navy crew-neck smock, tan lace-neck smock or navy fleece

£12: navy sweatshirt or navy polo shirt

Fahyda

Bermudan sloop/cutter 26' 7" LOA built in Scarborough by John Ley, 1950. Carvel construction of larch on oak frames. Draft 4' 6" long keel. Illustrious published history. Full renovation by Coombs Boatyard, Bosham, completed 12 years ago. Three berths and standing headroom under doghouse. Separate heads in fo'c'stle. Small galley. Huge inventory, new mainsail, electronics etc. Yanmar 20 diesel. True classic, excellent condition. Laying at Birdham Pool, Chichester. Price: £9,950 or offers. John Allen: 01903 782413 www.flickr.com/photos/xtaljo1

Maggie P. Lugger

Rebuilt from bare GRP hull 2007. LOD 5m80 Beam 2m40 Draft 90cm. Two masts, forelug and mizzen, tan duradon. Perfect for traditional festivals, exploring rivers and canals (easily de-masted). Well-equipped, easy upkeep, professionally maintained. Inboard motor Volvo MD2001 9hp. Sleeps four (one double, two quarter-berths). Galley with two-burner stove and sink. New Portapotti. Satellite 2-axle road trailer, top range, less than 700 km. View in S Morbihan (Brittany). Shore storage. Price: 24,000 euro (with trailer) Nik de Valero: +33 (0)6 04 13 79 55 maggietsy2004-fichetek@yahoo.fr

Elfreda

Designed by Robert Clark, 1945, built by Camell Bros, Maylandsea 1949. Carvel teak hull, fibreglassed ply deck (no leaks). Aframosa cabin sides. 6ft headroom with two berths and pilot berth. Mainsail three years old, jib and genoa on Sailspar roller reefing system. Sprayhood and autohelm 4000. S/L electric windlass. Furmo GPS. Force 10 gas heater, Taylor cooker. All in good working order. Dolphin 16hp petrol engine, new late 90's with gearbox, 2-3 gallons p/h. Price: £12,000 Mike McCarthy: 07710 970728 or 01277 623833 elfredaoga@hotmail.co.uk

Ro an Mor, 26' GRP Falmouth workboat

Built 1978. Traditional layout with GRP hull. Well ballasted with lead keel. Very stable, comfortable for passagemaking. New 28hp Beta engine. Deep cabin with two good berths and galley, folding table, small multi-fuel stove. Fore-cabin has room for double bunk with sea toilet under. Electrics include GPS, marine radio and depth sounder. Ashore at Mistletoe boatyard, Essex. Price £18,500 Michael Feather: 01284 830634 michaelfeather@gmail.com www.michaelfeather.co.uk



Betsy

Walter Eaton designed Bermudan yawl built by Cooks Yard Maldon 1930. LOA 30' 3" beam 8' 3" draft 4' 6" draft. Pitch pine on oak carvel built with canoe stern. Laid up ashore Paglesham, in need of energetic new owner. Much work achieved on underwater hull (fully recaulked) and topsides but general rebuild down below only partially complete. Good sails. Beta 28hp with only 280 hrs. Price £7,500 Ian Kemp: 01702 474077 ian.g.kemp@btopenworld.com

Ellen, Tamarisk 24 gaff cutter

Built 1983, GRP hull, teak laid decks, cabin and spars. Four berths in two cabins, Davy coal/wood burning bulkhead mounted stove. Gas cooker: two burners, grill and oven. Standing headroom in main cabin. Good set of sails: roller jib, staysail, main and topsail. Easily rigged and handled. VHF, chart plotter, log/echo sounder, GPS. Inboard Beta 16hp diesel. LOD 24' Draft 3'. Laid up ashore, Suffolk. Decks need some attention (caulking). Price: £8,500 ono | Claudia Myatt: claudia@claudiamyatt.co.uk

11ft Coot sailing dinghy

Popular Andrew Wolstenholme design. Glued clinker ply. Gunter rigged. Home-built to the highest standards. Won 'Best completed kit built boat' award from Watercraft Magazine at the Beale Park Boat Show, 2012. Road trailer, launch trolley, cover and oars. Currently lying undercover, Sutton Coldfield. Price: £3,000 | Sylvia Mann: 0121 3082498

Mary Ellen

Relocation forces sale of 'Mary Ellen', 30' gaff cutter built 1934 by Kidby & Sons, Brightlingsea. Robustly built, pitch pine planking on double sawn oak frames. Teak deck, she draws 4' 6". Heavy iron keel, weighs approx. 7 tons including internal lead ballast. James Lawrence sails, Vetus M310 diesel engine. Four berths, spacious saloon, with original solid mahogany interior and period features. Powerful rig completely rebuilt 12 years ago. Detailed history of sympathetic owners available. Lying Southampton. Offers around: £10,000 Tim Nicholls: 07970 415840 timmynich_67@yahoo.co.uk

Windsong

Gaff-rigged cutter in a 'Friendship' (American) sloop style. LOA 37' and LOD 28' with 9' beam and 4' 6" draft. Built 1978 in Haslars (Jersey) of kahaya carvel strip planking on steam bent oak frames with iroko/lead long keel and teak laid decks. 'As new' Volvo D120 diesel engine, four berths, varnished timber spars and stainless steel rigging, with gold leaf cutter bow decoration and counter-stern. Much of the running rigging is led back to her cockpit. A very seaworthy and stable boat, 'Windsong' is a beautiful traditional yacht, rarely available in the UK. Lying ashore Gillingham, Kent. Price: £18,500 | Kevin Gibbons: 07968 766110 k.gibbons@city.ac.uk

Grace

Norske 35 Gaff Cutter designed by John Perryman on the lines of a Colin Archer sailing lifeboat. Built circa 1977 by Windboats of Wroxham with Seacrete hull and GRP decks and coachroof. 6 berths. LOD: 10.6m, LOA: 12.8m (including retractable bowsprit), beam: 3.6m, draft: 1.6m. Yanmar 3GM diesel engine. Very well equipped with instrumentation. 45lb CQR with chain. Simpson Lawrence windlass. 6-man Plastimo liferaft, Avon Redcrest dinghy. Lying Exmouth. Price: £24,950
Geoff Skinner: 01395 267786 or 07813 855396
gc.skinner@virgin.net

Morwenna

Heard 28 in good condition, four berths.
David Baggett: 01983 292889 toadhall8@icloud.com

Mainsail and topsail

Contact Dick Boele: 07930152933
dick.boele@yahoo.com if you're interested in a tan mainsail and topsail, in fair condition, for a Heard 28.

Boaty book collection for sale

Arthur Keble's widow, Mary, is looking for a buyer for his books. It's quite a large collection, though some book dealers have cherry-picked from it. Mary isn't interested in selling individual books, but if you'd like to find out more with a view to buying the collection then give Mary a call:
01621 788249 or 07802 384725.



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log@oga.org.uk

Contribute your 'tales of sail'

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Change your bookmarks

www.oldgaffersassociation.org will continue to take you to the OGA website, but please change your bookmarks/favorites and start to use the new address from now on.

OGAemail addresses

These are changing too, as shown throughout the Gaffers Log. The old addresses will continue to reach your OGA representatives, but please update your contacts/address books with the new ones.

Advertising in Gaffers Log

Adverts are placed in good faith. Neither the Gaffers Log Editor, nor OGA, shall be held responsible for content or accuracy.

Advertising in Gaffers Log is free to OGA Members. Other adverts may be placed, for a fee, at the Editor's discretion.

Deadline for next edition

Send advertising copy, photos and other articles for consideration to the Gaffers Log Editor by 30 April 2014:
log@oga.org.uk

During the Round Britain Challenge (RBC) in 2013, nearly 5,000 'unique visitors' in web statistics terms took a look around the OGA's new website 'Sailingby', launched in March 2013 as the fleet departed the Netherlands and East Coast of England on the RBC. Many website visitors returned again and again, as more fascinating tales were published, from days gone by, to the antics of the RBC fleet.

Based on an original idea by Frank Zomerdijk, a Dutch OGA member, the small project flourished as the fleet undertook their circumnavigation. 'Sailingby' is now seen as a valuable legacy from the OGA50 anniversary in terms of online publishing for our maritime history and promoting gaffrig sailing to a wider audience around the world.

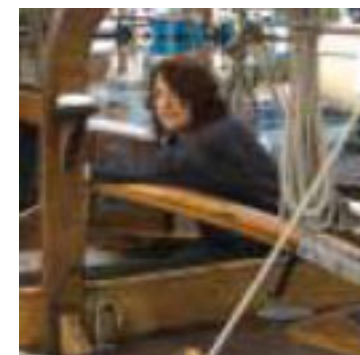
We will continue to maintain the site, publishing new articles with a focus on the four themes: historic events, working sail, sailing for pleasure, hazards and challenges.

With the Dutch 10th anniversary in July, we hope to expand on the content from across the North Sea, and perhaps to follow the 'Cross Country tour' in the same way as the 'Around Britain' section followed the RBC fleet, providing an archive of the circumnavigation. We're also hopeful of support from the French OGA, in gathering more stories relating to their rich sailing heritage, and have been contacted by the OGA of Western Australia who are keen to share content online.

Building on the popularity of 'Sailingby', 2014 sees the launch of a new OGA website, re-design of the Gaffers Log and launch of the online Boat Register.

We look forward to hearing from members what they think of these developments.

Beverley Daley-Yates
Editor (Log and online)



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Steve Daley-Yates: Skipper and crew on 'Brandaen', Cowes, 2013