

GAFFERS LOG

ISSUE NO. 86 MARCH 2015



In this Issue:
2015 Events
Handicapping
AGM minutes
Photo competition
winners



NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR GAFF RIG SAILING



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COVER PHOTO: OGA Photo competition 2014. 'Sailing gaffers' 3rd prize Derek Fairley: 'Eva' off Porquorrelles'
Judges' comments: 'Beautiful weather and a beautiful vessel with an opportune angle of light showing and shading the curve of the well set sails . . . that is to say apart from the tops! which appears to be fully aback! Hope you put them right, Derek.'

Foreword



By the time this issue of Gaffers Log hits members' doormats, thoughts will be turning to fitting out and planning your spring and summer sailing programme, I'm sure. Hopefully the weather will be more cheerful than in the early weeks of 2015.

While your boat's out of the water, there's a plea from Sailing Committee Chair, Pete Thomas (p.28), for photographs and measurements to help improve our boat handicap calculations.

Read a spring sailing tale from 2014 aboard 'Happy Quest' for inspiration (p.36). Browse the Area Events Calendar to help your planning, and please register interest early, to help the organisers. Thanks to the AGM approving more funds for the website, all Areas can now list their own events, so do take a look to find the latest information. If your event is not listed, just send the information to the Editor. www.oga.org.uk/events

This issue is illustrated with the winning photos from the OGA photo competition and 2014 Association trophy winners are announced (p.16). A major theme this quarter is OGA business with the AGM (p.6), Noticeboard (p.24), Calendar (p.31) and a final reminder to renew your subscription.

At the AGM in January, I was heartened to receive such positive feedback for both the Gaffers Log and website, a huge thank you to everyone who has provided contributions, feedback and comments over the past year. Please continue to let us know what you think about both the Log and website, so that we can continue to make improvements and keep the content lively, varied and interesting to all our membership.

Beverley Daley-Yates, Editor (Log and online)

OGA Photo competition 2014. 'Sailing gaffers' 2nd prize Edgar Wagemakers: 'Racing to Den Helder'
Judges' comments: 'A simple and well composed picture which draws the eye into the scene along the line of the boats and the angle of the gaffs showing the power of against the light exposure. In a perfect shot the sails would have been backlit.'



Issue no. 86 March 2015

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June issue by 24 April 2015

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From the Quarterdeck

I have just returned home from a hard-working AGM and was greatly heartened with all I saw and heard there. The minutes of the AGM are reported in this Log, p.6, and will give you a complete picture of our deliberations, future plans and Events, along with investment in online developments, and Youth Sailing.

Your Area Officers' 2014 reports showed an Association in good health, performing very well, ambitious and confident in their plans for 2015. The Officers are working hard on your behalf. All are volunteers, all are committed. We owe them a great deal. How do we repay them? That is easy to answer!

We turn up, we get stuck in when needed and we register our participation in OGA Events that attract us, as soon as they are announced. Early sign-up is hugely helpful to Event Organisers. It facilitates better planning, better budgeting, a true notion of the numbers likely to attend and early sign-up is the least we can do in return for all the hard work being done on our behalf. It is also good manners, akin to RSVP in response to an invitation.

Now is the time of year when we plan our spring and summer sailing schedule. Look up our OGA Events Calendar in the centre of this issue, decide what you are interested in, then register your interest right away. The 2015 Area Event plans are exciting and innovative including two 'Raids' and two 'Cruises in Company'; one from the Isle of Wight to St Malo and Paimpol, the other to West Cork and the Glandore Classics.

Look at p.20 in this issue of the Log and on the website for full and comprehensive details for the 'Cruises in Company', then register your interest online. It's really that simple now, thanks to our website and online development.



Photo: Conn Walsh

OGA Youth Sailing, 2015

Like all organisations, we need new blood, new ideas and new crew, so Youth Sailing is really important to us.

Your GMC will happily fund your Area 'Youth sailing project', up to a limit of £500, for projects which meet our published criteria.

Providing a 'gaff-rigged' sailing experience to a bunch of young people is a particularly enjoyable experience, good fun and very worthwhile.

Do it in your Area, and you will see what I mean. Full details of the OGA Youth Fund are on the website: www.oga.org.uk/youth-fund

Have you renewed your membership?

If not, this will be the last Gaffers Log you receive! Turn to the centre pages for Direct Debit and renewal forms.

Help us to make sure the Annual Yearbook, published in June, is as accurate as possible by checking your boat details are up-to-date as well.

You can also update your boat details by post, rather than email or online. Just turn to the centre pages of this issue of the Gaffers Log for a form to post.

Our overall Association membership is stable, a fine testament to the values we all hold dear, and to our notion of fellowship. Maintaining, and increasing, Area membership is a 'long haul' project, which requires thought and incremental improvement in all aspects of our Areas activities.

Communication is key here. Ensuring everyone is 'kept in the loop' is absolutely vital in retaining happy members. Winter and spring activities are helpful in keeping everyone involved. Enrolling new members means seizing the opportunity during all Area events. Actively promote and canvass new members with a well thought-out invitation to join, plus a handout or leaflet, then ensure that they are thoughtfully mentored, and specifically included, in all events during the year. If your new member is not a boat owner, ensure they are offered a berth at all events.

Good luck with your winterising, fit-out, and off-season improvements to your beloved vessels. I wish you all a gentle, fair-weather spring and a great sailing season in 2015.

Sean Walsh, President

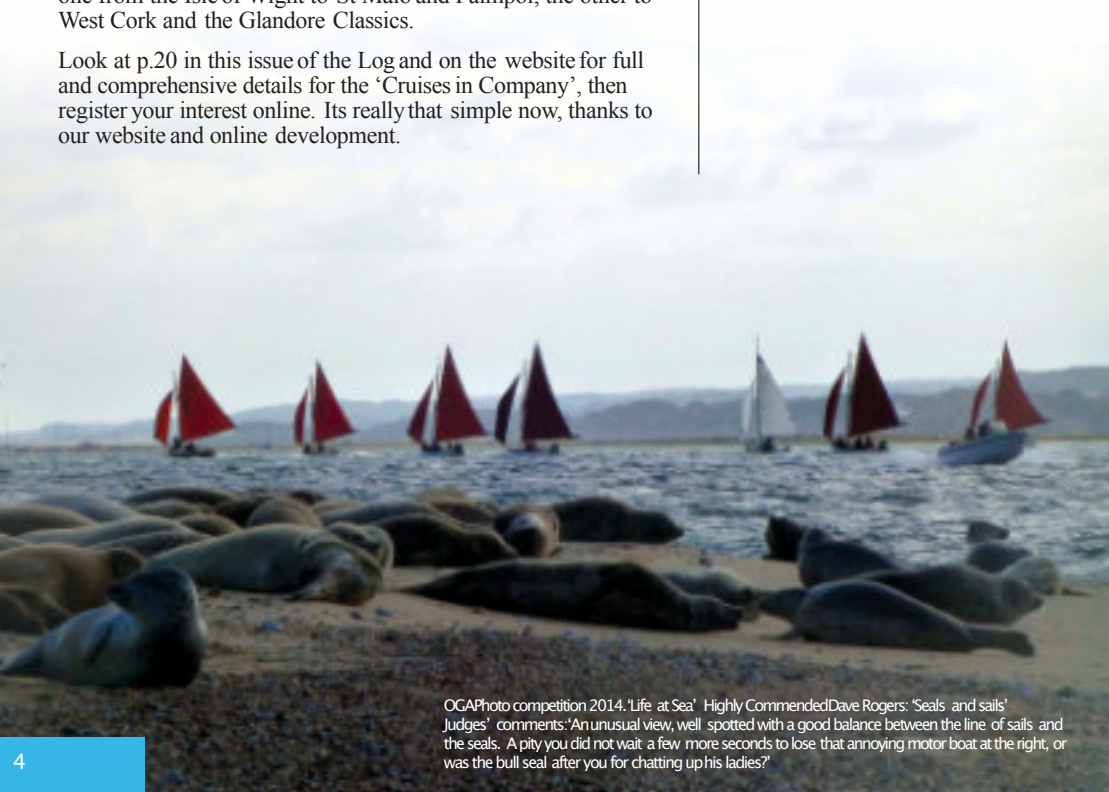
Update on Lake District events at Ullswater

The GMC took a decision last year not to grant Area status to the Lake District. Barry Healas, who organises events at Ullswater, submitted a document to the Association Committee to appeal this decision. The matter was discussed at length at the Association Committee Meeting in London on 17 January.

Sean Walsh, Association President, noted that Barry had many friends around the table and included himself among them. He praised the excellent work Barry has done at Ullswater and stressed that the intention was never to lose what is a popular and worthwhile event, nor to spoil excellent relations Barry has with Glenridding SC, nor in any way to 'disband' the group of people with whom Barry communicates, many of whom are OGA members, and who participate in the Ullswater event. The intention, he said, was always to look at ways to integrate the Ullswater event into an Area, and for the events to continue.

The meeting debated the issue for almost an hour and then took a vote which confirmed the decision of the GMC by a significant majority. There was concern that misunderstandings had arisen over this issue and regret was expressed on both sides of the debate that Barry has been upset by it.

It is hoped that events will continue at Ullswater and that we'll be able to publicise them through the North West Area and the Trailer Section.



OGA Photo competition 2014. 'Life at Sea' Highly Commended Dave Rogers: 'Seals and sails' Judges' comments: 'An unusual view, well spotted with a good balance between the line of sails and the seals. A pity you did not wait a few more seconds to lose that annoying motor boat at the right, or was the bull seal after you for chatting up his ladies?'

Minutes of the OGA AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the OGA was held at Fox's Excel, London, on Saturday 17 January 2015 at 6.30pm.

Present

Sean Walsh (President), Sue Lewis (Secretary), Gordon Garman (Treasurer), Alistair Randall (Membership Secretary), Pete Thomas (Sailing Secretary), Pat Dawson (Boat Register Editor), Beverley Daley-Yates (Editor: Log and Online) and 64 members including members of the Association Committee.

1. President's Welcome

Sean Walsh welcomed everyone to the meeting. He said that annual reports from the Area had been heartening and heart-warming in their lively accounts of a successful year and ambitions for 2015. He highlighted plans for two Cruises in Company in 2015: St Malo (organised by Solent Area) and West Cork (organised by Dublin Bay Area). Sean spoke about the importance of the 2014 financial investment in our online presence. He also noted one of the significant events of the year had been a Youth Project run by the Dublin Bay Area and supported by the OGA 50 Youth Fund. To be repeated in 2015. 'Let's have more like this', he said.

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

3. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 11 January, 2014

Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

Proposed: Mike Stevens. Seconded: Brian Hammett. Approved unanimously.

4. Matters arising

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

5. Treasurer's report: Gordon Garman

Gordon Garman presented the accounts and gave some brief explanations. He declared the Association to be in 'pretty good financial health' with reserves maintained at a level approximately equivalent to annual running costs, despite a deficit over the year of £4,577. A pie chart was shown illustrating how subscription income has been spent over the year. In response to a question, Gordon confirmed that the balances do not include funds held in individual Areas, which also form part of the assets of the Association. Accounts, balance sheet and pie chart are published with these Minutes, p.10.

6. Review of subscription charges

Sue Lewis, on behalf of GMC, made a brief presentation to propose an increase to the annual subscription of £5 for family membership, £3 for single membership and 5 euros for overseas membership. No increase proposed for junior membership.

Motion to increase the subs as above.

Proposed: Richard Giles. Seconded: Dick Dawson. Approved unanimously.

7. Secretary's report: Sue Lewis

Sue Lewis drew the attention of the meeting to the new OGA branding which featured on the printed agendas and now makes our letterhead, Gaffers Log and website all look smart, professional and consistent. She asked members to take copies of the 'Join OGA' leaflet and use them to promote the OGA

Fox's Excel, London: 17 January 2015

and help recruit new members. A new flyer will be produced in 2015 and copies sent to Area Secretaries for distribution.

Sue reported that the Association had taken a decision not to accord Area status to the Lake District. Sean praised the excellent work Barry Heales has done running events at Ullswater, and stressed that the intention was never to lose what is a popular and worthwhile event, nor to spoil excellent relations Barry has with Glenridding SC, nor in any way to 'disband' the group of people with whom Barry communicates and who participate in the Ullswater event. The intention, he said, was to look at ways to integrate the Ullswater event into an Area, and for the events to continue. It is hoped this will soon be achieved successfully.

Sue passed on greetings and brief reports from OGA North America where Colin Ming, who has had very serious health issues, gamely continues to run the website but sadly can find no successor, and OGA Western Australia where they seem to do a lot of sailing on the Swan River in Perth under bright blue skies. 'That's Photoshop!' suggested a member from the floor.

Sean Walsh made a presentation of Tom Cunliffe's book, 'Hand, reef and steer' to Cees van Spierenburg, Dutch OGA President, who was our guest. Sean thanked Cees for the excellent hospitality extended to our visiting fleet during the 10th Anniversary Cross-Country Tour of the Netherlands.

8. Membership Secretary's report: Alistair Randall

Alistair explained that we give members until the end of March to renew, so we don't know the full story until then. Total membership was 1,196 in Oct 2014 representing a slight drop in numbers year on year (3%). Most common reasons for leaving are sale of boat, ill health, advancing age or death of a member. He showed that we have gained 114 new members during the year so about 10% of our membership is new members. Alistair pointed out that members on direct debit who changed their bank in the last year may find their renewal does not run smoothly but this should be the last year we have this problem as administrative issues have at last been understood and resolved.

9. Report on investment in online communications to date: Alistair Randall

Alistair gave a follow-up to his presentation last year reminding the meeting of why the decision had been made to invest further in the online Boat Register and in a new website. We had budgeted for £2,500 for integrated design for print and web and £2,000 for the development of a web application (more than just a website) using the design. This work was done within budget and the new application launched on time. It was funded, as proposed, by unused budget previously approved and by savings on the Gaffers Log layout and print. These savings were greater than had been expected and a further £750 was spent on Phase 2 developments including the online shop, 'join online' and the online entry system for the OGA photo competition.

10. Gaffers Log and website: Beverley Daley-Yates

Beverley summarised the work done in the year: four editions of Gaffers Log (new look, similar format), Yearbook (new design, significantly updated format) and new website. She provided a tour of the website onscreen, 'showcasing' new features including the option to register interest online.

It was reported that the Association Committee has approved a budget of £1,625 to be spent on further enhancements to the website: rolling events calendar on all Area landing pages, revisions to show winners of the photo competition and slideshows of shortlisted images, incorporation of slideshows across the website etc. Ben Collins (Solent) congratulated Beverley on the 'excellent website'. The meeting agreed (loudly). Julian Cable (EC) said it was unheard of in the IT industry for a website to be delivered on time and under budget. He assured the meeting that what we have is of top quality.

Minutes of the OGAAGM (cont.)

Thanks and congratulations were offered to Steve Daley-Yates (EC) of Xited Ltd. who built the web application and who does the layout and design of the Gaffers Log. Ian MacGillivray (Solent) said the new Gaffers Logs looked 'fantastic', again to loud assent.

11. Boat Register Editor's report: Pat Dawson

Pat told the meeting that the Boat Register had changed radically over the last year. Members now have access to the online register which was shown onscreen, and many have already logged in and edited their own boat. She explained a further £1740 has been approved to be spent over the coming year specifically developing 'Generic type', Builders, Design class and Designers search filters, along with some work to enable the tagging of boats on the register in preparation for possibly going public. Pat would like all members to discuss and feed back their thoughts on making the Boat Register, or parts of it, available to the public. She also appealed for more photos of boats.

Ben Collins asked: 'Who owns the copyright? How are we protecting our asset?'

Pat, Beverley and Julian Cable answered. The copyright for photos belongs to the photographer credited. The site belongs to the OGA. Information made public is to be published under a Creative Commons 'Share-alike' License. This is thought to be the best way to operate.

A question was asked about the commercial potential of the site. Sue Lewis replied that there are no plans for commercial gain, the idea is that a public online Boat Register will help fulfil one objective of our Association: to encourage interest in traditional rig.

The President reminded everyone that Pat, as Boat Register Archivist, is guardian of a priceless repository and that countless hours have been spent by her and the rest of the team. We must be grateful for what they have done so far.

12. Covered under previous two headings: apart from online Photo Archive

We have the potential to add a full OGA photo archive to our online resource and much of the structure for this is already in place thanks to work done for the Boat Register. What is needed now are volunteers to define, build and manage the archive.

13. Report on the Youth Fund: Sean Walsh

The Youth Fund made two grants in 2014, as reported in the Gaffers Log and online. Sean said that this is not enough! Please put proposals to the GMC so that we can spend more of the Fund. Sean stressed again the



"Thank you to the GMC and ACM for awarding Elder Gaffer status to Pete and me, the highest accolade in the OGA. We both feel very honoured and look forward to continuing to support the OGAs as much as we can and encourage others to join our wonderful Association."

Sue Farrer, North Wales Area



Cees van Spierenburg, President of the OGA, Netherlands receives Tom Cunliffe's book from Sean Walsh, OGA President.

importance of getting young people involved in sailing gaffers in our Areas. Grants from the Youth Fund are available for this and there will be detailed information, including the agreed criteria for awards, available on our website. We need new blood in the OGA, he said, to breathe new life into the Association.

14. Election of Association Treasurer

One candidate: Tony Kiddle

Proposed Alistair Randall (EC) Seconded Dan Shaw (Solent)

Show of hands: carried unanimously.

Sean welcomed the new Treasurer and made a presentation to Gordon Garman, outgoing Treasurer. Gordon has regularly made the long trip for meetings from the Isle of Bute but takes back with him this time a bottle of 'good Irish whiskey' and personally engraved tumblers to drink it from.

Awards

Sean Walsh made two very special awards on behalf of the Association. Firstly to Pete and Sue Farrer who were made Elder Gaffers, the highest honour in the OGA, for their many years of service in the North Wales Area, on the GMC, as Webmaster (Pete) and Trophy Secretary (Sue).

Secondly to Mike Stevens who was made an Honorary Life Member for running the Trailer Section so successfully and for so long. Mike accepted with a moving speech paying tribute to the contribution made by his late wife Marlene.

In memory . . .

Sean proposed a one-minute silence in memory of OGA members who passed away last year. He specifically mentioned: Jean le Faucheur, France, Ken Anderson, North Wales Area & Trailer Section, Robin Patmore, Alison Cade and Ian Smith, East Coast, Mark Miller, Solent and Philip Cox DSC QC, South West.

Members' Questions

Brian Corbett (Scotland & Trailer Section) took the opportunity to praise the hard work done by Barry Healas in the Lake District, and to exhort members to try the fantastic sailing on Ullswater.

There being no further business, the meeting closed.

After dinner the results of the OGA Photography competition were announced on behalf of organiser Mike Garlick and Association trophies were awarded.

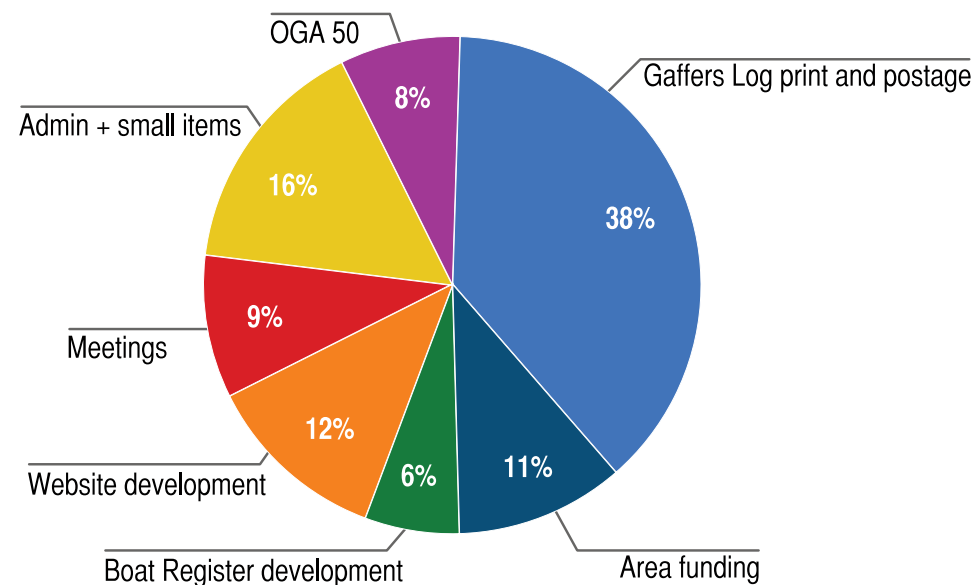
Sue Lewis, OGA Secretary

Income and expenditure: 2014

Income and Expenditure Account for Year ended 30 September 2014

Income	2014 £	2013 £
Subscriptions	31960	31789
Merchandise Sales	1673	2363
Advertising Revenue	2360	1030
Bank Interest	240	215
Donations	449	5710
OGA50 Book sales	794	6474
OGA50 Flag sales	335	1150
Youth Fund	2965	1589
Total	40776	50320
Expenditure		
Youth Fund	200	
Gaffers Log and Yearbook	15760	16424
Log Postage	1850	2464
Log Editors expenses	44	302
Mem Sec expenses	438	297
Treasurer expenses	395	124
Beale Park	358	416
Merchandise Purchase & postage (£1220 & £295)	1515	1493
Merchandise write off		
OGA50 Book purchases	538	7200
OGA50 Flag purchases	0	1576
Stationery & Postage	18	
Computer & Website	8694	554
Travel & Subsistence: GMC Meeting costs	568	
AGM/ ACM Meeting costs	3153	3595
Area Funding	4546	6470
Donations, Subscriptions & Funding Bids		185
OGA50 Costs	3421	11830
Insurance	1136	1139
Photo Competition & Prizes	1370	921
Bank Charges	734	770
Legal Exp		
Sundries	615	
Total	45353	55760
Surplus/Deficit before tax	- 4577	- 5440
Surplus/Deficit for year	- 4577	- 5440

Breakdown of expenditure for Year ended 30 September 2014



OGA in the News

It's always good to see the OGA promoted in the news.

Did you know you can 'listen again' to 'This Island Nation', a radio programme broadcast in December featuring President Sean Walsh? Visit the OGA website: www.oga.org.uk/news/listen-island-nation-featuring-oga

Keith McIlwain's Golant ketch 'Daydream' was shortlisted for the Classic Boat Awards, 2015.

Dublin Bay OGA had coverage of their Youth Project in 'Inshore Ireland' December 2014/ January 2015.

Keep us posted if there's press coverage opportunities in your Area!



‘Little Ships’ Return to Dunkirk

2015 is the 75th anniversary of ‘Operation Dynamo’, the emergency evacuation of troops from Dunkirk by a massive flotilla of mainly privately-owned ‘little ships’. We hear from the charity ‘Rescue Wooden Boats’ about their exciting Heritage Lottery funded project with restored lifeboat ‘Lucy Lavers’.

Several lifeboats took part in the evacuation, and one of these, the ‘Lucy Lavers’, will be returning to Dunkirk in 2015. The charity ‘Rescue Wooden Boats’ has been awarded a Heritage Lottery Grant to restore ‘Lucy Lavers’ to her former glory with sails, an engine and beautiful mahogany canopy. She’s due to depart Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk and call at Lowestoft, Southwold, Aldeburgh and Harwich before joining the fleet at Ramsgate to cross the Channel. The aim of the voyage is to tell her story, encouraging people, especially the young, to learn about the Dunkirk evacuation and their maritime heritage.

There’s an opportunity to share in this exciting voyage by bidding for a place on board for stages of the journey.



‘Lucy Lavers’, photos from the ‘Rescue Wooden Boats’ archive

What’s the OGA connection?

We know of two member’s boats who have taken part in the Return to Dunkirk since 1990. Are there any more? Do let the Editor know.

‘Cachalot’

‘Cachalot’ took part in 1990 and was requested to ‘trice up the mainsail’ since she was sailing too quickly for the fleet in challenging weather conditions. Currently being restored, she will not be ready to cross the Channel in 2015.



Cachalot photo by Tom Cunliffe



‘Lucy Lavers’, ‘Cachalot’ and ‘Letitia’

‘Letitia’

OGA members Sue & Michael Feather; Julia Raper; Tessa Hodgkinson and Daniel Wakeham took part in the Return to Dunkirk, 2000, on Leigh-on-Sea cockle boat ‘Letitia’. 15 years on, Michael shares some memories.



‘Letitia’ photos published with permission, Mike Feather



We rescued and rebuilt ‘Letitia’ in time for the Return to Dunkirk, 2000. It was the last official return for many veterans, and so was an important one. We were lucky to meet up with the Dench family, who originally built and sailed the boat, and named her after Letitia Dench, a beautiful lady who was the one time carnival and ‘cocklequeen’ of Leigh-on-Sea. The Dench family asked us to lay a wreath at Dunkirk for all the Leigh-on-Sea sailors who went over in 1940. We were very happy to do so during the memorial ceremony in the waters off Dunkirk, accompanied on board by two petty officers of the the naval escort vessel ‘HMS Somerset’.

We also met a veteran, Ben Kear, a stretcher bearer who was picked up off the Dunkirk beach in 1940 by a cockle boat, after he had carried to safety many of the wounded. Ben spent some time on board with us telling his story of the chaotic retreat to the beaches. I later sent Ben a photo of the wreath laying and he replied that it meant so much to him to be able to put to rest many sad memories of those tragic days.

There was a lot more that happened: an eventful crossing, dodging bad weather and the Channel shipping. It was quite tricky for our naval escort to organise and shepherd a flotilla which stretched out for easily a quarter of a mile. There was an enormous welcome at Dunkirk, with cheering crowds all along the docks and ships’ sirens hooting; several mega-parties and rather too much booze. We were boarded by a mass of bagpipe-players and we mingled with crowds of sightseers and celebrities in Dunkirk docks. It was also strange to see the very many French and English historical re-enactors dressed for the occasion, meeting, talking with and honouring the real veterans. The Dunkirk people regard the ‘Little Ships’ as their little ships and asked us to return again and again. It was a trip we will never forget.

Michael Feather, ‘Letitia’

Rescue Wooden Boats

website: www.rescuewoodenboats.com

‘Little Ships’ in the OGAonline Boat Register

Letitia: www.oga.org.uk/boat/letitia

Cachalot: www.oga.org.uk/boat/cachalot

Angele Aline: www.oga.org.uk/boat/angele-aline

Maid Marion: www.oga.org.uk/boat/maid-marion-0

Association of Dunkirk Little Ships (ADLS)

website: www.adls.org.uk

Members' special offer and an invitation:

OGA members are warmly invited to join the Kentish Sail Association for their Annual Barge Match this August. Read on to find how exciting this event is, and think about putting the 8 August 2015 in your diary. It's open to all, gaffers, Bermudan classics and even powered craft!

Swale Smack & Sailing Barge Match: 8 August, 2015

Now this, of course, is not strictly an OGA event but it is open to all OGA members and, indeed, to all those with traditional vessels. It was established back in the 1970s and was intended to focus attention on the Kentish side of the traditional sail story. There were barges based on the Kentish coast and we have our Whitstable yawls and Medway bawleys, and peterboats and Faversham oyster dredgers; and so Lawrence Tester and other enthusiasts decided it was time to encourage a race for them all. It's now been going for more than 40 years and the variety of vessel has grown with the passing summers. Classic Bermudan-rigged craft attend, gaffers of every size and shape and age, just like the East Coast Old Gaffers race, and there are Dutch barges and powered craft, the most conspicuous of which is usually VIC 96 whose trail of black smoke brings to the Swale each year a charming sense of yesteryear.

"What preserves the atmosphere of these remote places, and Hollowshore is certainly remote, is that the creeks creep inland through the saltings, water merging with mud, merging in turn with sedgegrass, so that anything in the way of houses is kept so far distant as to be invisible. The boatshed was a big cavernous place hung with oars, sails and all the paraphernalia of traditional boats. In the creek outside, the drying mud berths, next door a pub and apart from that nothing. . . And yes, one year Arthur Keeble [of Chittabob fame] was not there, which is how we fly, on special days, the coveted Swale Match Pennant. The name of the Kentish Sail Association Journal? On the Mud. And that, Georgie, is why the Swale knocks spots off Brest."

Martin O'Scannall 'For the Love of Sauntress'



Smacks and gaffers at the start of the Swale Match. Photo: Peter Lawson

Sailing Barge Venta £4 discount for UK members



UK members will have found a flier from 'Chaffcutter Books' in this issue of the Log, offering a £4 discount on the recently published book, 'Sailing Barge Venta'.

This small but amply illustrated volume introduces us to 'SB Venta' and the two key protagonists in her 1960s passage from London to Stockholm and back.

Extracts from skipper John Fairbrother's log are interspersed with historical 'snippets', reflections and narrative by Jocelyn Lukins and a fascinating collection of illustrations and photographs. Read an extract from the book on 'Sailing by' and consider treating yourself to a copy.

Those of you on the East Coast who read their autumn Eastcoaster Newsletter may have perused Mick King's enthusiastic report of his visit to the Swale Match last year, with 'Paprika', his classic Bermudan yacht. It was not just a 'good sail made lively by the wind, shallows and bloody great barges which led to some interesting tacking duels', but also the prizegiving afterwards with the bar and hog roast that appealed. Mick concluded: 'Come to one of the best weekends on the water and shore anywhere and have a great time. Oh, and bring some insect repellent as they breed the mossies big down there.'

And he's not the only Essex-based skipper to have enjoyed his racing over the Kentish mud flats. Martin O'Scannall has visited with his lovely 'Sauntress' and has put down his memories and his impressions of the place in his recently published 'For the Love of Sauntress' (ref. panel on left).

Truly, on the early morning of the Swale Match you will see perhaps the biggest fleet of traditional craft to assemble anywhere on the East Coast; you'll hear that evocative clank of the barges' anchors being raised, and see a mass of red and white sails, silhouetted against the sun in the east, making their way down the Swale and out to the open sea.

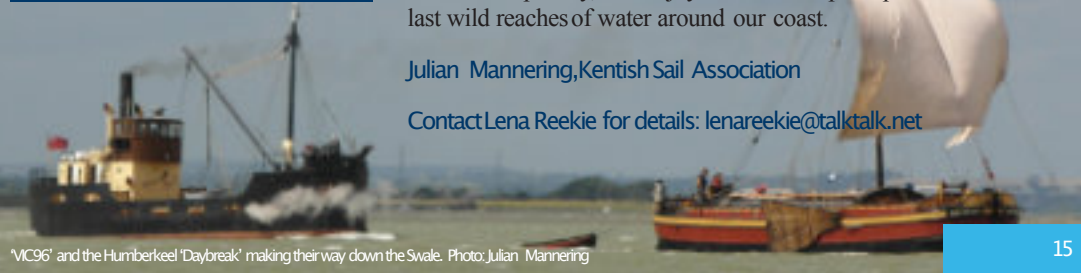
If you've never been, do come this year, on 8 August; if you've not been for a while come and experience once more our Kentish hospitality, and enjoy what is now perhaps one of the last wild reaches of water around our coast.

Julian Mannering, Kentish Sail Association

Contact Lena Reekie for details: lenareekie@talktalk.net



'Bird of Dawning' keeping an eye on Marjorie while beating back up the Swale. Photo: Tony Pickering



'VIC 96' and the Humberkeel 'Daybreak' making their way down the Swale. Photo: Julian Mannering

Association Awardwinners, 2014

The OGA has nine Association Trophies, awarded annually. Seven winners were announced at the AGM on 17 January 2015, with presentations made to those who were at the meeting. Full details are available on the OGA website.

David Grainger was awarded the Cape Horn Trophy in recognition of the example he sets to all gaffers by sailing 'Happy Quest' without an engine, showing superb seamanship. Extracts from his Spring 2014 cruising log are published in this issue of Gaffers Log (p.36).

The next two awards were presented in recognition of achievements during the 10th Anniversary 'Cross Country Tour' of the Netherlands, NL10, August 2014. Find out more about this event involving 70 boats on 'Sailing by': www.sailing-by.org.uk/tags/netherlands-tour

Rik Janssen received the Cape Horn Trophy on behalf of himself and Fred Schotman for their outstanding work as 'Liaison Officers' in the successful NL10 event.

Cape Horn Trophy: David Grainger, North Wales Area

David Cade Memorial Trophy: Rik Janssen & Fred Schotman, Netherlands OGA

Gaffers Globe: Mary Gibbs, North West Area

Gaffers Tales: John Laband & Jacqui Furneaux, Bristol Channel Area

Janty Cup: Matthew Wood, North Wales area & Trailer Section

Jolie Brise Trophy: Nigel Irens, South West Area

Seamanship Trophy: Malcolm Gorman, North Wales Area & Trailer Section



Malcolm Gorman sailing 'Mallard' in calm waters.



Rik Janssen receives the Cape Horn Trophy on behalf of himself and Fred Schotman from Sue Lewis, OGA Secretary. Photo: Steve Yates



Gil Haywood, South West Area President, presents the Jolie Brise trophy to new member, Nigel Irens. Photo: Oliver Hayes



Matthew Wood, the first recipient of the Janty Cup for five years, receives his award from Gaffers Log Editor, Beverley Daley-Yates. Photo: Steve Yates



Mary Gibbs takes the Gaffers Globe for undertaking the Dutch Tour mainly single-handed, pictured here relaxing with Dutch skipper Edgar Wagmakers (Windbreaker).

www.oga.org.uk/trophies

Female gaffer, Mary Gibbs, was awarded the Gaffers Globe for taking part in the Dutch Tour, mainly single-handed, in her 19' Mevagissey Tosher, 'Molly Cobbler'.

John Laband and Jacqui Furneaux received the Gaffers Tales Award for their gripping article, full of practical tips, in the June Log (p.24). It tells the tale of being caught in a Force 10 gale off Lundy. If you've mislaid your copy of the Log, read the article here: www.oga.org.uk/trophies/gaffers-tales

The Janty Cup has not been awarded for five years and this year goes to Matthew Wood, aged 14, for sharing his aspirations to own a 'big gaffer' when he's older. Read his article in the December Log (p.10) or online at: www.oga.org.uk/trophies/janty-cup

The OGA asks the recipient of the Jolie Brise Trophy to nominate the next recipient. Andrew Wolstenholme felt that 'significant developments in gaff rig' were not necessarily taking place within the OGA and asked to nominate a non-member. It was agreed he could do so, and to offer the winner a year's free OGA membership.

Nigel Irens was duly nominated and South West Gaffers are delighted to welcome him as the latest recruit to the Area, hoping he will wish to be involved with the OGA for many years to come. Gil Hayward, South West Area President presented the trophy at the local Dittisham SC Annual Prize Giving Dinner on 23 January. See the Area report on p.52.

Finally, Malcolm Gorman receives the Seamanship Trophy for putting seamanship before speed as he weathered a storm during the Trailer Section August Rally on Clywedog, Wales. Read a full account of this adventure on the OGA website www.oga.org.uk/trophies/seamanship

OGA photo competition: 2014

The Winners

OGA Photo competition 2014. 'Life at Sea', 1st prize David Lewin: 'Journey's End'

Judges' comments: 'This picture immediately brought on that feeling of relief, relaxation, calm and satisfaction that comes when berthing. The steely evening light is painterly and the harbour has a very comfortable feel about it, just as long as the building is not the shower block!'

OGA Photo competition 2014. 'Life at Sea', 3rd prize Rik Homan: 'Otter at Stone Point'

Judges' comments: 'A very well balanced and atmospheric shot showing how it's done by those with obviously a lot of experience. Every detail is very correct, the bucket, the legs, the king sized ensign, the anchor ball . . . but wait a minute, Rik, surely you are here a vessel aground, not at anchor, so where are the other two balls?!'

OGA Photo competition 2014. 'Sailing Gaffers', 1st prize Andrew Wolstenholme: 'Falmouth working boats racing in Carrick Roads'

Judges' comments: 'A well balanced view of classic gaff boats on their home turf with the light highlighting the sails against the dark sky. This is nicely framed in the foreground of the photographer's boat with the angle of view matching the direction of the action. Are self-tailing winches allowed in the OGA?'



'Life at Sea' category winners

This category had a lot of atmospheric photos and the deciding point was often how well the picture managed to tell the story.

1st David Lewin: 'Journey's End'

2nd Sue Lewis: 'Memories are made of this'

3rd Rik Homan: 'Otter at Stone Point'

Highly Commended Dave Rogers: 'Seals and sails' Highly Commended Mark Pollington: 'Across the Sea of Hebrides - leaving land behind'

'Sailing gaffers' category winners

This was a closely fought category with little to choose between many pictures with small points of technique or composition often making the difference.

1st Andrew Wolstenholme: 'Falmouth working boats racing in Carrick Roads'

2nd Edgar Wagemakers: 'Racing to Den Helder' (p.3)

3rd Derek Fairley: 'Eva' off Porquorrelles (front cover)

Highly Commended Viv Head: 'Bowsprit watchman on the Welsh schooner, 'Vilma', at the Holyhead Festival'

Highly commended Peter Herbert: 'Reflections at passage end' (back cover)

Left:
Rik Homan: 'Otter at Stone Point'

Opposite page:
Top

Andrew Wolstenholme: 'Falmouth working boats racing in Carrick Roads'

Bottom

David Lewin: 'Journey's End'

Browse the slideshows of shortlisted and award-winning photos from the 2014 competition on the OGA website, and see them in print here.

The winning photos are now available as part of the online photo archive following our move to online entry. The ten winning photos may be found throughout this issue of Gaffers Log, along with the judges' comments.

We are grateful to sponsors, Adlard Coles, for donating the beautiful books awarded as prizes and hope to be able to publish reviews of these titles in future issues of Gaffers Log. The first review is included on p.59.

My very best thanks to all who entered, we have enjoyed seeing and sharing your photos and would like to encourage more of



you to take part in 2015. Review the 'top tips' from the last three issues of Gaffers Log, 2014 and look out for details of the next competition in the June 2015 issue.

Mike Garlick, OGA Photography Competition organiser

www.oga.org.uk/trophies/photo-competition-2014



GLANDORE CLASSIC REGATTA 2015



July 18th– 24th

**Special Welcome this year to OGA members
taking part in the OGAWest Cork Cruise**

<http://glandoreyc.com/classic/index>



Jolie Brise rounding Fastnet during the
2013 Glandore Classic Regatta

Photo: Simon Duggan

Cruising in Company. 2015

There are two OGACruises in Company to choose between this summer.

Dublin Bay Area plans to muster at Glandore Classics (see poster opposite) followed by a cruise towards Skellig Michael, combining history, fine sailing and 'craic'.

On the south coast, the Solent cruise from Yarmouth IoW joins the French OGA in St Malo and includes a parade of sail with historic schooner 'la Recouvrance', pictured below.

Both cruises provide great opportunities for members to take their own boats into new waters or participate as crew with members in an Area further afield. The Organisers of both Cruises are pleased with enquiries to date, but urge members to register interest via the website so that they may firm up some bookings for berths etc.

www.oga.org.uk/events

Confessions of a craic addict

Once you have crept up on Bolus Head in the mist, hung off Great Skellig in a cloud of gannets, or rounded the Mizen in dolphin company with the 'Granuaile Suite' playing loudly and the sun glittering under scudding clouds, you always want that moment again. And like any addict, you are prepped to put up with no end of humiliation, disappointment, expense, and diminishing returns.

Face it, Irish weather comes raw off the Atlantic and can sometimes be many degrees beyond vile. You can spend days of westerly gales hoping to get out of some anchorage, and then the sun comes out, you are in the cockpit looking at the nearest landscape to Paradise that the Earth holds: distant blue mountains, a symphony of grass and granite, cottages and sheep all washed clean to a sparkle by the rain, the lane winds up to a pub from which floats music, erratic and live, carried on the perfumed honeysuckle breeze.

And you are the only boat in the anchorage, except perhaps an old Galway Hooker on which someone is lovingly playing 'the Queen of Connemara' on the whistle. So you're back in your opium-eater daze again. It is obviously the last day of your cruise so now you have to flog back home.

But Ireland has got its rocky claws in you, and you're doomed!

Libby Purvis



'Charles Henry Ashley':

The village of Cemaes Bay is proud to be caretaker of the 'Charles Henry Ashley', a 38ft Watson-designed lifeboat, built 1907 by the Thames Ironworks Company. Until being taken out of service in 1932, she was stationed at Porth yr Ogof Lifeboat Station by Wylfa Head, close to Cemaes Bay. We hear from Mike Thomson about the team of volunteers who keep her on the water and promote the skills of sail and oar.

Following several years in private ownership, 'Charles Henry Ashley' was re-launched in April 2009 after a total renovation. She is now a major visitor attraction at her mooring in the harbour, and at the annual OGA Holyhead Traditional Sail Festival, where some readers may have seen her and been aboard.

The boat has no engine, faithfully reproducing the authentic practice of the early 20th century when she was rowed from the harbour, hoisting her sails once she reached open water. She carries 12 oars, and is rigged with jib, dipping lug mainsail and dipping lugsail on the mizzen mast. This unusual rig can prove difficult to master.

'Charles Henry Ashley' may be old, but in a breeze she slips along at a very respectable speed and provides a rewarding sailing experience.

There's always a core crew of trained sailors, with safety being their prime consideration, and novices are always most welcome. The full crew is 15, comprising 12 rowers, coxswain, second coxswain and bowman. There's usually room for anyone, male or female, who would like to sample the unique experience of sailing and rowing an historic craft.

Summer weekends, planned according to the tides, find us taking 'Charles Henry Ashley' for regular sails 'around the Bay'. These are proving to be very popular for learning (and honing) new rowing and sailing skills. We've also undertaken two 'adventures', along with our annual return passage to and from Holyhead.

Last year's 'adventure' was from Cemaes Bay to Conwy, via Beaumaris and back.

Find out more...

Visit the website if you're interested in finding out more, joining us as crew or training to be a coxswain for 2015.

www.cemaesclassiclifeboat.co.uk

If you'd like to join, just call the Club Membership Secretary: 01407710315



Off W. Mouse & Skerries Photo: Gwyn Jenkins

This year we went 'Round the Island' [Anglesey] via Holyhead, Caernarfon and Beaumaris, stopping overnight for publicity, before returning to Cemaes. As we passed each RNLI station, lifeboats came out to greet us, which was a great treat.

During the winter we're fortunate to keep her undercover at a local farm, where we spend Saturday mornings after Christmas on maintenance, coffee, biscuits and

historic sailing and pulling lifeboat

banter! We arrange shore-based instruction during the winter to supplement practical skills gained afloat.

We're keen to recruit experienced coxswains for 2015, so that there's always someone 'on call'. Membership of the Cemaes Boat Club is open to those who wish to share the enjoyment of this historic lifeboat. On designated sailing days, visitors may take up temporary membership to join the crew for a sail or row in Cemaes Bay. She is also available for sail/rowing training and as a film and advertising set.

An interesting connection: The Thames Ironworks Company, where 'Charles Henry Ashley' was built, had a very good amateur football team, eventually turning pro., with two hammers as part of their emblem, West Ham.

Mike Thompson, North Wales Area



Photos: Malcolm Ozanne



Noticeboard

Subs increase 2016

You were given early notice of this in the December Log (p 26) and you'll see from the Minutes of our AGM in January that a proposal was approved to increase membership subs from next January, by £5 for family, £3 for single and 5 euros for overseas.

Why the increase now?

Because costs are rising (especially postage) and the OGA is investing (particularly in our online presence including our Boat Register) and because there's been no increase since 2009. The increase then was a much greater one, 39% and 33% respectively. We prefer to make a more modest increase now to avoid such a big hike again in future. It was suggested at the AGM that we might look to make more regular small increases, perhaps on an annual basis, and this will be discussed further.

How much will this raise and what will it be spent on?

Based on the current membership profile this will raise approx. £4,400. We have a year before it comes in to debate how best to make use of the funds. If you have a view, please make sure it is passed to the GMC either directly or via your Area Secretary. With our Association objectives in mind, we would like to help Areas to boost membership, help Areas to run more, or bigger, or better events. We'd like to continue to invest in our online Boat Register.

Please let us know your views.

Fancy cruising to France? to Ireland?

If you fancy sailing out of your Area this summer, with your gaffer or as crew on another, check out two Cruises in Company which may tempt you.

See page 21 to find out more and register your interest online by visiting the OGA website www.oga.org.uk/events

What are we going to spend this year?

Again members at the AGM were given the full story but in a nutshell budgets were agreed to spend £1740 to further develop the search functions of the Boat Register and £1625 on further improvements to the OGA website, in particular to make full use of as many photos as possible and to make it a really dynamic site.

We will try to make the division between capital investment and running costs clearer in next year's accounts, as well as the distinction between different elements of our online presence.

Have you paid your subscription for 2015?

If not, you have still received this issue of the Log because we give non-renewing members until the end of March before we assume you don't wish to stay a member.

RENEW NOW to make sure you get the next Log and stay informed!

If you renew by Direct Debit your renewal should have gone through automatically on or around 2 January 2015. Check with your Bank.

To check on the status of your membership, email the Membership Secretary membership@oga.org.uk



Sue Lewis, Secretary

The GMC is keen to hear your views on any OGA matters. Contact me by phone: 01255 507550 email: secretary@oga.org.uk

Going public with our online Boat Register

We need to know the views of members: Is it an asset to be reserved for members only as one of the benefits of being a member?

OR would we better fulfill our stated aim to encourage interest in gaff rig by sharing it more widely?

See a detailed appraisal from the Boat Register Editor inside the back cover.



What's that figure of £8694 for 'Computer & website' about?

Members at the AGM were given a breakdown of this expenditure as follows:

£2,500 was finally invoiced in 2014 for several years of development work on the online Boat Register.
£500 was spent from OGA50 sponsorship money from ABP to set up 'Sailing by': www.sailing-by.org.uk
Work completed in 2013 was invoiced after the 2013 accounts had closed.
£2500 for integrated design for print and web (including Gaffers Log, website and Boat Register).
£2000 for website development.

These last two sums were approved at the 2014 AGM and part-funded by a cracking £3,000 year-on-year reduction in the cost of producing the Gaffers Log! This gives us the wonderful online presence we now have: www.oga.org.uk

£500 for further development on the website including online shop, online 'join OGA' and online photo competition entries.

All of the above are capital investment for which we receive a continuing benefit. The remaining £694 was for annual fees: rent of the server, web hosting, Sage support fee etc.

Call to action: your OGA needs you!

Would you be prepared to get involved, to a greater or lesser degree, in the running of the Association? No rushing about the country for meetings, all home-based and a few extra emails in your inbox perhaps?

We need volunteers to:

- look after Association trophies;
 - form a sub-committee to oversee the OGA50 Youth Fund;
 - help gather boat images and data for our online Boat Register
- orchestrate an online photo archive.

For more information, absolutely no commitment email me secretary@oga.org.uk

Welcome aboard!

AREA NO.	BOAT NAMES	MEMBERS	POSTAL ADDRESS
BC	5915	Gp Capt Bill Keppel-Compton	The Cottage, 95 Llangwm Ferry, Haverfordwest, Powys, SA62 4JN
DB	5938	Mr Robert Finglas	Undercover Fabric, Malahide Marina, Malahide, Co Dublin
DB	5939	Mr Joe Foley	21 Fairview Green, Fairview, Dublin 3
DB	5940	Mr Negley Groom	Corn Poolbeg, 13 Hermitage Manor, Lucan, Co Dublin
DB	5941	Mr Frank Traynor	115 Harbour View, Crofton Road, Dun Laoghaire
EC	5917	Mr Leslie Aldous & Mrs Sandra Aldous	2 Chittenden Cottages, Golford Road, Benenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4AJ
EC	5922	Mr Graham Adie	74 Binghill Crescent, Milltimber, Aberdeen AB13 0HU
EC	5926	Mr Marc Fovargue-Davies	10 Charles Graven Court, Ely, Cambs. CB7 4FN
EC	5933	Penny Blue Mr John Harrin & Mrs Janice Hill	124 Little Wakering Road, Little Wakering, Essex SS3 0JH
EC	5943	Mr Barry Johnson	6 Bradrushe Fields, Cambridge CB3 0DW
NE	5918	Mr Martin Whitehead	45 Littlethorpe Hill, Hartshead, Liversedge WF15 8AZ
NI	5921	Mr Gerry Brennan	69 Kashmir Road, Belfast BT13 2SB
NW	5944	Mr Ian Fraser	c/o The Grange, Gawsorth, Cheshire SK11 9QT
NWA	5931	Mr Chris Penfold	Tyddyny llan, Derwen, Corwen LL21 9SL
NWA	5937	Mr Charles Turner	4 Famley Hey, Famley Tyas, Huddersfield HD46TY
SOL	5916	Mr Richard Fortin	Philliswood Farm House, Hooksway, Chichester PO18 9JZ
SOL	5919	Rebecca Mrs Mr David Maunder & Mrs Ann Geoghegan	35 Rowan Tree Drive, Seaview, Isle of Wight PO34 5JP
SOL	5920	Mr Michael Geoghegan & Mrs Ann Geoghegan	3 Wheatley Mews, Amison Road, East Molesey KT8 9JF
SOL	5924	Dr Stuart McGowan & Dr Susanne McGowan	6 Genoa House, Lock Approach, Port Solent PO6 4UQ
SOL	5925	Mr Jamie Evers	37 Bramshott Road, Southsea, Hants. PO4 8AN
SOL	5927	Mr Vincent Powell	Glenwood, Summersdale Rd, Chichester PO19 6PW
SOL	5928	Mr James Wheeler	Tamarisk, Love Lane, Steephill Cove, Ventnor, IOW PO38 1AF
SOL	5930	Black Goose Mr Gordon Fraser	Robins Farm, Iping, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 0PJ
SOL	5934	Mr John Cooley	Park Farm Lodge, High Street, Otford, Sevenoaks, TN14 5PQ
SOL	5942	Mr David Spensley-Corfield	16 Bedhampton Hill, Bedhampton, Havant, PO9 3JW
SW	5923	Mr Nick Graham	Higher Fonstone Wildwood, Warbstow, Launceston, Cornwall, PL15 8UW
SW	5929	Dr Robin Davies & Mrs Jane Davies	Lamellyn Vean, Probus, Truro, Cornwall TR2 4HG
SW	5932	Juniper Mrs Gabrielle Service & Mr James Service	24 Noss Mayo, Plymouth PL8 1EN
SW	5935	Mr Ron Baker	21 Shakespeare Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6RN
SW	5936	Mr Nigel Irens & Mrs Alison Irens	Tanners Yard House, St Lawrence Lane, Ashburton TQ13 7DD

A NOG note (from a new Old Gaffer)

Our NOG note this issue comes from Chris Lane, a Cornishman now living on the Solent.

His dream came true as he took delivery of 'Molly Oxford' in October 2014, and decided it was time to join the OGA!

I suppose I've harboured a secret wish to join the OGA for a long time, even before I was aware of its existence.

Raised in West Cornwall I spent many happy summers sailing and gazing at the Falmouth working boats in their summer racing rigs. I always shankered after owning some kind of traditional craft.

However with a young family came the inevitable Mirror dinghy followed by a Drascombe Lugger, three children, two spaniels, a wife and all the gear no problem at

all! Then came a Cornish Shrimper, and a number of racing dinghies. Finally there were two wonderful Westerly yachts, the last of which I reckoned would see me through my active days of boating.

Then in July 2013, whilst berthed overnight at the top end of Portsmouth Harbour. I saw 'Molly Oxford' a Heard 28' gaff cutter, lying ashore. She seemed to re-awaken a dream. Finding myself back again in 2014, there she was again, and still for sale. The result was probably inevitable. Following the most cursory inspection she became mine a couple of months later.

Now at last I felt able to sign up as a member of the OGA! Imagine my surprise when attending the Solent Area AGM, and feeling very much the new boy, that I would have qualified as a member with my Shrimper a good 30 years earlier. It was a really warm welcome, topped off with a great talk from Tom Cunliffe, a salty storyteller of the best kind.

Having logged a mere 20 miles to date sailing 'Molly Oxford' back to her new home in Chichester Harbour, I still have many mistakes to learn from and Tom's excellent book 'Hand, Reef and Steer' will soon show signs of heavy use, I'm sure. The dates of the Cruise (or some kind of invasion?) to St Malo this summer are already in the diary.

A dream come true and hopefully the photo taken during our delivery trip on a glorious October day will be repeatable too.

Chris Lane, Solent Area, 'Molly Oxford'



Some may wonder what a Cornishman is doing sailing a Cornish vessel with a name like 'Molly Oxford'. I did consider changing her name to something more West Country until I found it derives from the original East Coast owner's interest in Morris Dance tunes, try it on Google, it's quite catchy!

OGA Handicap calculations

Pete Thomas, OGA Sailing Committee Chair, shares some of the 'mysteries behind the OGA handicap system. He asks Members to help in making improvements for the future as you may have the opportunity to photograph your boat whilst she's out of the water for Spring fitting out.

The OGA Sailing Committee has been looking at our current handicap system for a couple of years. This is in response to questions raised about its suitability or fairness, considering some of the new boats we have at OGA races. The current OGA rating handicap formula does not really cater for all of the boats that race with us now.

To many of our Association members, sailing handicaps seem to be a bit of a mystery. The OGA handicap is based on the old Channel Handicap which was developed in the 1950s. Boats tended to be of generally heavy displacement. The formula used a series of measurements including length (LOD), beam, sail area or foretriangle and 'd', the depth of the boat. This formula was used up until the middle of the 1980s when it was modified to make some allowance for GRP construction, where the 'd' measurement skewed the formula. It has remained the same since then, with only minor adjustment for propeller configuration.

Rating formula currently in use

$$MR = 0.15 \left(\frac{L \times 5}{\sqrt{B \times 0.67B}} \right) + 0.2(L + S)$$

$$L = \frac{LOD + LWL}{2}$$

B = Max. Beam

S = Corrected sail area

Allowances:

Sloop 100%, Cutter 96%, Yawl 94%,
Schooner 92%, Ketch 90%.

Final Rating:

$$R = MR - (\text{Prop allowance} \times MR)$$

Prop allowances:

none 0% folding 1.5% fixed 3%

$$T(H)CF = 0.125 (3 + \sqrt{R})$$

Why do we need to change?

Last year we looked at the new RYA NHC handicapping system to see if it would be suitable for the Association's needs. Unfortunately the system is still in its infancy and many clubs using it have expressed concerns about its limitations. The NHC is a performance-based system as opposed to a purely rating system that we have now.

50 years on and we still have the heavyweight boats, many rebuilt and as good as new, but we also have a newer breed of boat that tends to be lighter weight with large efficient sail areas. It is these newer boats that do not effectively fit the formula. Examples of these boats include: Shrimper, Memory, Swallow Boat, Roxane, Romily type and Cape Cutter.

To anyone who has looked at a boat's performance, it will be no surprise that displacement works against hull speed and sail area helps it. As an example, let's compare a Deben 4 tonner, with 3.31 ton displacement and a Swallow 24 displacement 1.25 tons, both with the same sail area. The Deben 4 tonner has to give the Swallow time! SA/D ratio of 91.5 to 205 for the Swallow. It's even greater if the ballast is pumped out.

We're looking into the possibility of modifying the OGA formula to take account of the significant differences in sail area to displacement ratio of our boats and here's our plea to members.

Plea to Members

The Sailing Committee would like Members to collect new data about their boats, and now is an ideal moment if your boat is out of the water as we're reinterested in displacement. This is easy for modern production boats where figures are published, but a bit harder for one-offs, which many of our boats are. What we would like is for members to send us what they believe is their boat's displacement, in the 'usual racing trim', and to take illustrative photos to show the underwater profile of the hull shape from three key viewpoints: beam, bows on and stern to.

Please send your displacement figure and three photographs to me, remembering to include your boat's name, OGA boat no. and, of course, your own name.

Whilst thinking about this, why not check out your boat in the online Boat Register, check the handicap calculator and update the information on her.

Good fitting out,

Pete Thomas,
OGA Sailing Committee Chair
pete.m.thomas@btinternet.com
Sailing Committee



Josie and Will Thomas sailing 'Inanda', a Deben 4 tonner built in 1949

"It is these newer boats that do not effectively fit the formula. Examples include: Shrimper, Memory, Swallow Boat, Roxane, Romily type and Cape Cutter."



Nick Hillman sailing his Memory 'Letty May', built in 1978

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OGA Events around the Areas: 2015

This Calendar lists events organised by the OGA alongside other events which may be of interest to OGA members. Details were confirmed mid-February. Contact the Area organisers or visit the OGA website for up-to-date information. Please help Organisers by registering as early as possible.

	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
EC	7 Mar	EC Annual Dinner	Royal Burnham YC	Trevor Rawlinson trevorrawlinson@yahoo.co.uk
NE	21 Mar	Spring Open Meeting	Jackson's Wharf, Hartlepool	Jim Bell belljc2.elison@btinternet.com
SOL	28 Mar	J Class in the 1930s, Rosemary Joy	Redlynch Village Hall, New Forest	Marion Shirley 52marion@live.co.uk
EC	4 Apr	Fitting out supper	Wivenhoe SC	Sue Lewis smlewis@btconnect.com
SW	18 Apr	SW Fitting out lunch	Royal Western YC, Plymouth	Geoff Skinner swsec@oga.org.uk
NWA	18 Apr	Boat Shed Party with live music	Port Penrhyn	Sue Farrer sue@psfarrer.co.uk
NW	24 – 26 Apr	Social weekend	Weston-super-Mare	Tom Middlebrook nwsec@oga.org.uk
SOL	1 – 3 May	Shakedown Cruise/ Fitting out supper	Chichester YC	Simon D'Arcy simondarcy@icloud. com or daveperc@aol.com
EC	2 – 5 May	EC Gaffers vs. Tollesbury SB	Tollesbury SC	Steve Meakin steve meakin@fastmail.co.uk
SOL	8 – 10 May	St George's Day Trophy *	Royal Solent YC	sailing@royalsolent.org
FR	11 – 17 May	Semaine du Golfe, Morbihan *	Morbihan, France	Keith Mosley keith.mosley@btinternet.com
BE	14 – 17 May	Havenfeesten *	Fêtes du Port à Blankenberge	peter@agencecallier.be
BCA	15 May	Down Channel from Cardiff Bay	Cardiff	Charlie Harris charlieandsueharris@hotmail.com
SCO	22 – 24 May	Campbeltown Muster	Campbeltown	Neal Hill scotsec@oga.org.uk
DB	22 – 24 May	OGA Youth project weekend	Poolbeg Yacht & Boat Club	Sean Walsh sean@dlms.ie
EC	23 – 25 May	Crouch Rally	Rivers Crouch & Roach	Trevor Rawlinson trevorrawlinson@yahoo.co.uk
FR	23 – 25 May	Escale a Gravelines *	Bassin Vauban	vgbfgavelines@free.fr
SW	23 – 24 May	Brixham Heritage Sailing Regatta *	Brixham	www.brixhamheritagesailing. org.uk

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



	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
NL	28 May	Oosetende voor Anker *	Oostende	Mike McCarthy elfredaoga@hotmail.co.uk
SOL	28 – 31 May	Yarmouth Old Gaffers Festival *	Yarmouth IoW	Dan Shaw dan@seasomewhere.com
TS	29 – 31 May	Messing about in boats: SB	Lechlade, River Thames	Mike Stevens mike.stevens.killay@talktalk.net
DB	29 May – 1 Jun	Dublin Bay Regatta	Poolbeg Yacht & Boat Club	David Owens david_owens@health.gov.ie
NE	30 May – 6 Jun	Summer Sailfest with Tallships *	Blyth	Jim Bell belljc2.elison@btinternet.com
NW	4 – 7 Jun	Mersey River Festival *		www.liverpoolonthewaterfront.co.uk
TS	5 – 7 Jun	Beale Park Boat Show *	Pangbourne, Berkshire	Mike Stevens mike.stevens.killay@talktalk.net
EC	6 – 7 Jun	Kent Rally	Chatham Dock Yard, Kent	Yvonne Mitchell yvonne.kajan@gmail.com
SW	12 – 14 June	Falmouth Classics *		www.falmouthclassics.org.uk
NW	13 – 14 Jun	NWOGA Annual Race weekend		Tom Middlebrook nwsec@oga.org.uk
SOL	13 – 14 June	'Gaffel' race & BBQ	Harbourmaster's pontoon, Hamble	Sue Pennison sue.pennison@btinternet.com
SW	15 – 17 Jun	Helford River Rally	Port Navas YC, Helford, Cornwall	Geoff Skinner swsec@oga.org.uk
SCO	20 – 21 Jun	Midsummer Muster	Droma na Buidhe, Loch Drumbuie	Neal Hill scotsec@oga.org.uk
EC	20 – 22 Jun	Southwold Rally: SB	Southwold, Suffolk	Lorna Hill lh.rh@bamvets.myzen.co.uk
SCO	25 – 28 Jun	Tarbert Traditional Boat Festival *	Loch Fyne	malleemok@live.co.uk
SW/TS	26 – 28 Jun	Start Bay Race & Rally: SB	Dartmouth/Start Bay	Geoff Skinner swsec@oga.org.uk
BCA/TS	26 – 28 Jun	Cardiff Bay Rally: SB	Cardiff YC	Keith Mosley keith.mosley@btinternet.com
NI	26 – 28 Jun	Old Gaffers @ Portaferry	Portaferry SC	www.oga.org.uk/events/nioga-portaferry
SOL	27 Jun	Round the Island Race *	Gaffer Class	www.roundtheisland.org.uk
BCA	30 Jun	Down Channel from Cardiff Bay		Charlie Harris charlieandsueharris@hotmail.com

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

	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
NI	2 – 5 Jul	Tall Ships Festival, Belfast *	Belfast Harbour	www.oga.org.uk/events/belfast-tallships-sea-festival-2015
SCO	3 – 5 Jul	Scottish Traditional Boat Festival *	Portsoy	www.stbfportsoy.com
EC	4 – 6 Jul	Swallows & Amazons: SB	Walton & Frinton YC	Pete Elliston ptk.elliston@btinternet.com
BCA	8 Jul	Up Channel from Cardiff Bay		Charlie Harris charlieandsueharris@hotmail.com
TS	9 – 12 Jul	Norfolk Gathering: SB	Rivers Bure & Thurne	Keith Mosley keith.mosley@btinternet.com
BCA	9 – 13 Jul	Milford Haven Cruise in Company: SB	Pembrokeshire coast	Patrick Vyvyan-Robinson patrick@alltybrainfarm.co.uk
SOL	10 – 12 Jul	Poole Rally	Poole Harbour	John Chilvers john@jtec-e.co.uk
SW	11 – 12 Jul	Classic Channel Regatta/Dartmouth Classics *		www.classic-channel-regatta.eu
SCO	13 – 18 Jul	Sail Stornaway *		www.sailstornaway.co.uk
DB	17 – 24 Jul	Glandore Classic Regatta *	GHYC	John Dowling dowling.johnj@gmail.com
DB	17 – 31 Jul	OGA Cruise in Company	West Cork: muster at Kinsale	Sean Walsh sean@dms.ie
EC	18 – 19 Jul	East Coast Race & Rally: SB	Brightlingsea, River Colne	Richard Giles richard@marketingoverflow.com
SOL	20 – 24 Jul	Cowes Classics Week *	Gaffer Class	www.cowesclassicsweek.org
NL	22 – 26 Jul	Dutch Classic Yacht Regatta *	Hellevoetsluis	Brian Hammett wrenspark@aol.com
SW	24 – 27 Jul	Plymouth Classics *	Plymouth	www.plymouthclassics.org.uk
SOL	24 – 26 Jul	RSYC Taittenger Regatta *	Royal Solent YC, Gaffer Class	sailing@royalsolent.org
SW	25 Jul	Hot buffet supper at Plymouth Classics	The Ship, Barbican, Plymouth	John Gallagher: johnphil.gallagher@btinternet.com
SOL	25 Jul – 9 Aug	OGA Cruise in Company	Solent to St Malo and Brittany	Ben Collins bencollinsbmc@gmail.com
IOM	31 Jul – 2 Aug	Peel Traditional Boat weekend *	Peel, Isle of Man	www.peeltraditionalboat.org/
NE	1 – 2 Aug	Coquet YC Regatta *	Amble	Jim Bell belljc2.elison@btinternet.com

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

	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
FR	4 – 5 Aug	'la Recouvrance' Parade of sail	St Malo	Ben Collins bencollinsbmc@gmail.com
EC	8 Aug	Swale Match *	River Swale	Lena Reekie lenareekie@talktalk.net
SW/ River	8 – 9 Aug	Dart Mini-Raid & Rally: SB	Dittisham SC, Dart	Gil Hayward president@ southwestgaffers.org.uk
TS	14 – 16 Aug	Trailer Section Rally, mid Wales: SB	Clywedog SC, Llanidloes	Keith Mosley keith.mosley@btinternet.com
EC	15 – 23 Aug	EC August Cruise: SB	Rivers Stour, Orwell & Deben	Clare Thomas clare.thomas@btinternet.com
NW	15 – 23 Aug	Conwy River Festival *	Conwy River Estuary, NWales	www.conwyriverfestival.org/
SOL	22 – 23 Aug	Bursledon Regatta *	Gaffer Class	www.bursledonregatta.co.uk
SW	27 – 30 Aug	Dartmouth Regatta *		www.dartmouthweek.com
NWA	28 – 31 Aug	Holyhead Traditional Sail Festival	Holyhead	Sue Farrer sue@psfarrer.co.uk
SOL	5 – 6 Sep	OGASolent Race & Rally	Cowes YH & Haslar Marina, Portsmouth	Marion Shirley/Vicki Flashman 52marion@live.co.uk
SW	7 – 11 Sep	English Raid 2015: SB *	Plymouth	www.raidengland.org
NL	9 Sep	Dorestad Raid: SB *		Keith Mosley keith.mosley@btinternet.com
BCA	11 Sep	Down Channel from Cardiff Bay	Cardiff	Charlie Harris charlieandsueharris@hotmail.com
SOL	12 – 13 Sep	Lymington Classics *		Kirsty Timmis : lymington@ yachthavens.com
EC	19 Sep	Maldon Town Regatta *	Maldon Little Ship Club	Geraldine Courtney: geraldine. courtney@btinternet.com
SOL	19 Sep	Centenary Chase *	Royal Solent YC, Gaffer Class	sailing@royalsolent.org
TS	25 – 27 Sep	Messing about in boats: SB	Lechlade, River Thames	Keith Mosley keith.mosley@btinternet.com
SW	14 Nov	AGM, Laying up lunch & Talk	The Abbey Inn, Buckfastleigh	Geoff Skinner swsec@oga.org.uk

* OGAs is not the main organiser

SB indicates small boat activities are planned

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'Rainbow' 1897

Spring cruising undersail: 2014

David Grainger recounts his spring cruising adventures in 'Happy Quest' over three weeks joining two OGA events and covering 700 nautical miles under sail from the Bristol Channel to Dublin and Campbeltown. In 2014, he was awarded the Cape Horn Trophy in recognition of the example he sets to others by sailing a substantial boat on long voyages without an engine.

The gaff cutter 'Mignonette' was mine from 1969 - 1986, and my friend Denys Mitchell often sailed with me. We kept in touch when he moved back to his native Scotland, and three times I had sailed to the west coast of Scotland, but each time we failed to see each other. This year we made a definite date to meet at the Campbeltown Classics.

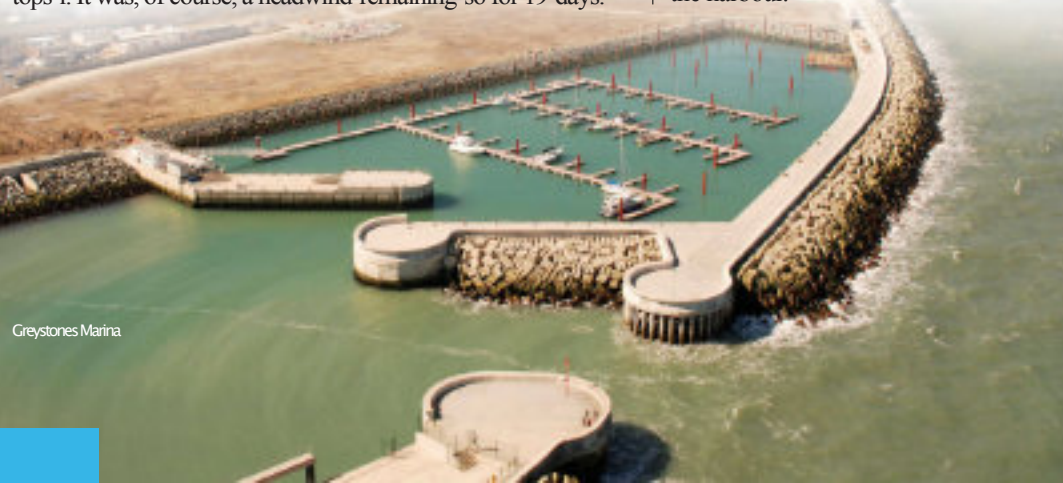
In 2010 'Happy Quest' entered the first Dublin Bay OGA Rally and we had had a great time. Now Sean Walsh was OGA President I had no excuse for missing it. On top of this, I had promised Kathleen, ex-mayor of Greystones who regularly attended 'Gaffers at Holyhead', that I would visit their newly-opened Marina just south of Dublin Bay. Thus our 2014 spring cruise plans were made.

Pembroke Dock to Greystones Marina, south of Dublin

Tuesday 27 May dawned to little wind, and when Dave Rolstone and I eventually got on board 'Happy Quest' at Pembroke Dock we set the large blue yankee jib topsail and jackyard topsail as well as the main before ghosting down Milford Haven. It took three hours to work through long calm patches to St Anne's Head, where a light northwesterly breeze enabled us to hand the kites and set all plain working sail to topsail. It was, of course, a headwind remaining so for 19 days.

During the whole three weeks we never took a reef in once.

We beat up through Jack Sound, a passage which never fails to thrill, bounded by its rugged cliffs, its tidal swirls betraying the rocks beneath the surface and Skomer's seabirds wheeling overhead. After crossing St Brides Bay and heading out into St Georges Channel, with only two aboard, it was going to be watch and watch for the whole cruise. Soon we lost sight of land and didn't pick up the Arklow windfarm until 24 hours later. After an abortive attempt to cross the Bank (there's very little rise of tide here, 3 foot at the most, even on springs, as our centreboard reminded us) we tacked around the northern end. In the very last glimmer of daylight 'Happy Quest' ghosted into the tight entrance of Greystones Marina with scarcely a zephyr between the high concrete walls. The Manager appeared next morning and was very welcoming. As we had plenty of time we lay alongside here another night, exploring the town and patronising the excellent fish and chip shop by the harbour.



Greystones Marina



Ailsa Craig



Howth 17 in Dublin



Cailleadh Dhubhroiff Kintyre

An Irish welcome at Poolbeg

On Friday we left, beating out of the NE-facing entrance of the outer harbour with very little room to spare between the walls. The Force 2 northerly raised quite a sea in the entrance but 'Happy Quest' never failed to stay. It was easy to see how any strong wind from this quarter would keep a boat storm-bound here, as the Marina Manager had warned us. Tacking up the Irish coast we passed outside the Muglins, then hove-to at Dun Laoghaire entrance to await our OGA President, Sean Walsh, who had kindly agreed to escort us up Dublin Harbour to Poolbeg. At the mouth of the Liffey he took us in tow under power. Although I was confident of sailing the 2½ miles without any problem, he thought it prudent. Half an hour later we came alongside in Poolbeg Marina to a typical Irish welcome from old friends.

Three days of jollification, racing and visits to other yachts followed. The Rally was combined with the Port of Dublin 'Riverfest' including a gathering of tallships and the magnificent Howth 17s (oldest existing one-design keelboat class in the world, with 17 boats still sailing) racing in the River Liffey. The whole weekend was wonderfully organised with great crowds of spectators. Unfortunately 'Happy Quest' didn't do too well in the OGA Annual Race, which was won in fine style by the President's 'Tir n'An Og'. In 2010 we had won the same race, coming first over the line by 40 minutes!

'we plugged on against a Force 5 from the NNW'

We chatted to a Port Authority official who was quite relaxed about our sailing in and out of the Harbour provided we did not obstruct the channel. Leaving the Liffey on Tuesday morning, we made our way north under light kites past the glorious Mountains of Mourne to beat against a failing breeze into Ardglassat 0100 next day. Here we lay under one of the town's six castles to rest for 12 hours before beating again in the afternoon to work our way up the low and featureless coast. By midnight a fix put us 5 miles off the Mew Island Light (entrance to Belfast Lough) and still we plugged on against a Force 5 from the NNW. 'Hard beat against short, steep seas', said the logbook. Snuggled down as we were now to staysail and full mainsail, the helmsman had no need to call the watch below to put about. The self-tacking staysail looked after itself and the

Spring cruising in 'HappyQuest' (cont.)

double-acting runner lever made setting up and letting go the running backstays a quick and easy task. Penelope, our Neptune windvane, looked after the helm as the watchkeeper navigated.

The next day dawned fine, warm and dry but hazy, with the Rhinns of Galloway just visible, though impossible to identify in any detail. The wind had eased and backed a little when at 0700 Ailsa Craig showed up clearly ahead, a marvellous landmark and ideal for fixing our position with a bearing and vertical sextant angle. We passed it five miles to the west and continued tight close-hauled until within spitting distance of the south shore of the Isle of Arran, hard by Pladda Island, before tacking for Campbeltown.

Comradeship at Campbeltown Classics

The Firth of Clyde, once Britain's premier yachting venue, was remarkable for its lack of sails, indeed of any vessels at all. We seemed afloat alone. The breeze fell right away until at 14:30 we were becalmed and under full light weather sail again. After half an hour a gentle breeze came in from the WNW which meant (of course) a beat again and a further two and a half hours before we entered Campbeltown Loch, hove to in the Loch and prepared to berth.

Shortly afterwards Denys appeared in his 23' Heald 'Cailleach Dhubh' and rafted up outside us. He had been anchored at Sanda Island off the Mull of Kintyre and saw a gaff cutter set her topsail away to the NE knowing she was 'Happy Quest'. Friday morning saw the departure of many plastic Bermudan boats, lured by the benign wind to round the notorious Mull, and we were both able to move alongside the pontoons. During the day and next morning three other Gaffers and one with a three-cornered mainsail arrived for the Campbeltown Classics Rally. What the Rally may have lacked in numbers, participants made up for in comradeship and quiet enthusiasm, dining together at the Ardshiel Hotel and yarning around each others' cabin tables until the 'wee hours'.

Saturday was wet. The unofficial consensus was not enthusiastic about the programmed race, so the yarning continued all day in one boat's saloon or another until it was time to walk over to Campbeltown SC for the enjoyable evening reception and the even more enjoyable whisky tasting. Next day we took Denys for a few hours' sail in 'Happy Quest' around the Loch and out into the Firth with a fresh SSE breeze before returning to our berth.



Heading south for home

We left together late Monday morning, and once outside 'Cailleach Dhubh' turned north towards Tarbert while we turned south, waving farewell to our old friend and heading for home. The wind remained southerly for the next five days, for the most part light with some calm periods. It was dry and fine except for early morning mists. Unsurprisingly no record passages were made as we shifted sail from lightweight topsail and jib-topsail to working sail and back again. We picked up one of the visitors' buoys in Peel Harbour just before 0200 on Wednesday, to spend some time ashore in this, my favourite, Isle of Man port, while 'Happy Quest' lay under the battlements of the ancient castle.



Off again next morning in heavy mist which cleared after about three hours as we beat past the Calf. We picked up the Skerries Light at 02:45 the following morning and eventually at 06:00 just weathered the Skerries Rocks on the very last of the SW-going tide, which runs hard on this corner of Anglesey. However in the gap between the Rocks and Carmel Head the tide turns earlier and in spite of piling on the canvas we were unable to make any more westing against the strengthening flow. When the yankee jib topsail tack downhaul carried away, it was obvious we were not meant to make it, so we crept into White Ladies Bay and dropped the hook right under the White Ladies themselves, surrounded by rocks in this beautiful, secluded little cove. Here we quickly repaired the gear and at noon the tide turned so 'Happy Quest' set her lowers and working topsail to beat round the Head and across Holyhead Bay into the Harbour. Alongside 'A' arm in the Marina we were given our usual warm welcome by Jeff, the marina manager, and decided to stay there all next day.

We woke to a fair wind for home, NW Force 3, on Sunday 15 June and warped up to the end of the pontoon before slipping at 10:30 to leave Holyhead. Taking advantage of the strong eddy close in to North and South Stacks, we kept so close the cliffs seemed to loom right over our masthead. Later the breeze slackened and we set the kites to make the most of the south-going spring tide before it turned. By midnight the reckoning put us 42½ miles due west of Aberystwyth with a gentle fair breeze, a beautiful moonlit night and a very slight sea. Only making three knots, but it was a magic night and wonderful to be running for a change.

After rounding South Bishop we made for Jack Sound but were becalmed close inshore on the north coast of Skomer and anyway by then the tide would have turned foul in the Sound. We worked slowly along the coast with the help of a little towing with the punt (Dave at the oars) and into North Haven. Here we waited for the ebb, and hopefully for some wind, marvelling at the rafts of puffin and guillemot deafened by the constant clamour of the seabirds. With noon came the turn of the tide in Jack Sound accompanied by a SE light breeze to set everything.

'we were becalmed close inshore on the north coast of Skomer'

'Variable light airs from all quarters' read the logbook as we sailed gently into the Haven and up to Pembroke Dock, which we reached at 18:00. Away for virtually three weeks, we'd spent seven nights at sea and 13 in six harbours, taken part in two OGA events and enjoyed two delightful anchorages. 'Happy Quest' had covered well over 700 miles through the water, while we'd had a very enjoyable time and met many friends, old and new.

David Grainger, 'Happy Quest'
Photos: Dave Rolstone



Kites aloft

Sailing 'Velsia' with Philip Cox

Sailing with Philip Cox on his beloved 'Velsia' was always a pleasure, and he inspired several of those fortunate to have sailed with him to buy and take command of their own yachts.

'Velsia' is a 35' double-ended gaff cutter, designed and built by Colin Archer in Larvik in 1890. She is fast and extremely able and still going strong, owned by Philip's son David and grandson George.

'Velsia' had been optimistically acquired in 1942 for just over £200 from the 'Custodian of Enemy Property' by Philip's great RNVF friend, Leslie Hinton, during the height of the Battle of the Atlantic. She was lying on the Hamble, thought to be owned by a Vichy collaborator. 'Velsia', Leslie and Philip all managed to survive the war and the two young men used snatched periods of leave to maintain her as far as possible. In 1945/6 Leslie and Philip obtained permits from the Admiralty and so undertook their first passages in 'Velsia' and an Itchen ferry called 'Freda' around the English Channel, still littered with minefields.

In 1950 Leslie returned to his native Canada and Philip bought 'Velsia' that year. He entered into a partnership with David Godsall in 1952, which lasted over 60 years. Under this ownership 'Velsia' was carefully maintained and brought gradually up to date, but always without disturbing her essential essence, period feel and some foibles crew learnt to love. Various cruises to Norway, Holland, Spain, Ireland and Brittany took place with a happy mixture of ages and family and friends (about 30 of us crammed on board for the 1977 Fleet Review). Newcomers and novices were always welcome and quickly given tasks to break them in gently. Responsibility was given freely once it was earned. The Visitors Book filled up fast! Old Gaffers' races were entered and the Solent le Havre Plate bears the name of 'Velsia' frequently, most recently from the 50th Anniversary Race in Cowes, 2013.

Philip was born on 28 September 1922. After attending Rugby School he was 'head-hunted' to Queens' College, Cambridge in 1941 and groomed for expertise in radar. After a year, he was given the choice of the RAF or Royal Navy and chose the latter. By 1943 he had been awarded the DSC for his part in seeing off the U-boat threat as a radar operator. He had the first of several very lucky escapes in September 1943 when he had to transfer by whaler from his destroyer 'HMS Escapade' to assist the corvette 'HMS Narcissus' whose radar

Philip Cox, DSC QC, died 14 November 2014, aged 92, having lived his Seven Ages to the full. An obituary appeared in The Times, 18 December 2014.



had broken down. While he was busy in mid-repair, 'Escapade' fired a Hedgehog anti-submarine weapon which immediately exploded causing much damage and many casualties to 'Escapade's' crew. Later, he narrowly avoided the attentions of a Luftwaffe bomb at Paddington Station and an early V1 rocket in Haslemere.

On leaving the Royal Navy Philip returned to Cambridge (at one point successfully playing Jacques in 'As You Like It') and then turned to law. Called to the Bar in 1949 he had a very successful career as a QC, Recorder and Deputy High Court Judge. He chaired the 1973 London smallpox enquiry and pharmaceutical industry code of practice panels and committees.

Philip was a happy family man, with his devoted wife Jo, and children David and Louise. When not sailing or fitting out 'Velsia', he was usually working in the garden or enjoying his music and books.

Sadly, David Godsall passed away 7 January, 2015. There will be an obituary in the June issue of Gaffers Log.

David Reynolds





A tale of two Schooners

'Spirit of Falmouth'

Turn to Starboard (T2S) exists to support people re-building their lives after life-changing experiences while serving in the armed forces. During June - July 2015 T2S will undertake a circumnavigation of Britain using the sailing vessel 'Spirit of Falmouth', a 91' wooden gaff-rigged replica of a River Mersey Pilot Schooner.

The passage will go anti-clockwise from Falmouth with our likely ports of call as Weymouth, Ipswich and Tyne area, N East Scotland, Orkney, Isle of Mull, Clyde, Liverpool and Isles of Scilly. The 14 passage crew, will have been affected by military operations at some point in their lives, whether that be a physical or psychological injury. The crew will conduct sail training during the passage but we also fully intend to enjoy ourselves and take the time to visit the sights as we sail round. This promises to be an exciting adventure and also a real test for the crew, but we are sure the stressful times will be outweighed by the fun and friendships made. We will endeavour to keep you informed during our passage via the OGA website, and it would be fantastic to see you on the water in your Areas during our trip.

www.turntostarboard.co.uk

'Rhoda Mary': early news

One doesn't often get a call, asking to be part of a project team to restore a schooner (or what's left of her in the Medway mud). But Nick Beck of 'Amelie Rose' and Luke Powell of 'Agnes' are a very persuasive pair! Last June found me in Cornwall to meet the team. The spirit of 'Rhoda Mary' was most definitely alive and well in that small Penryn sitting room!

Today, I'm in the final throes of helping to claim 'Wreckers' Rights', and preparing salvage plans. You wouldn't believe the paperwork required to gain a licence to salvage and recover a wreck. We are now Directors of a Company that own a shipwreck! It's not often one says that.

As the senior citizen of the team, I try to bring my gaffer and traditional years of boating to the table, and know that endless challenges await us.

In mid-19th century trading days Great Britain's merchant schooners were pre-eminent. Of the many hundreds built to ply

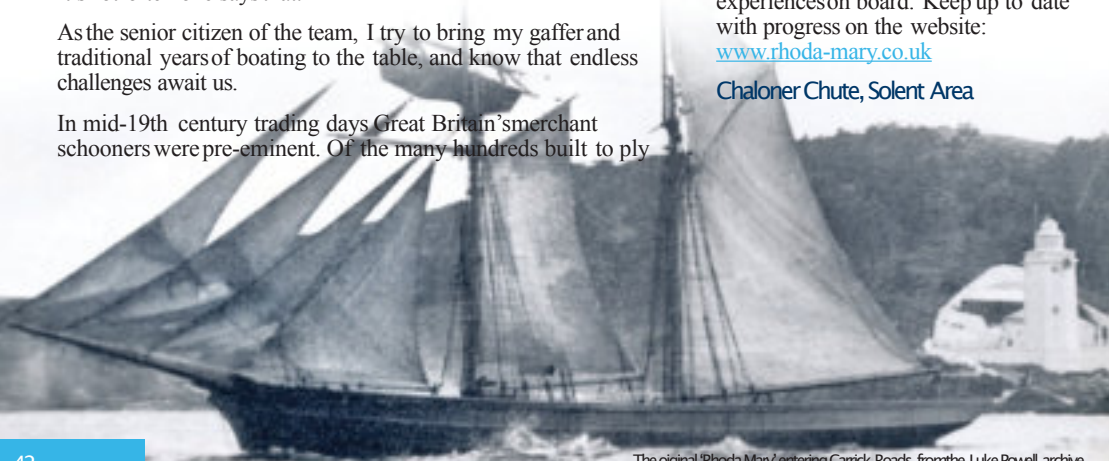


'Spirit of Falmouth', Mark Berriman

trade in the Americas and Europe, few ships were as celebrated as 'Rhoda Mary'. She's part of the collective imagination of many Cornishmen and women. There are no surviving working examples and we plan to restore her, providing practical courses for young maritime apprentices. When she unfurls her magnificent sails at sea once again, she will be welcoming young cadets to enjoy life-enhancing experiences on board. Keep up to date with progress on the website:

www.rhoda-mary.co.uk

Chaloner Chute, Solent Area



The original 'Rhoda Mary' entering Carrick Roads, from the Luke Powell archive

Bristol Channel

Acting Commodore: Charlie Harris
Secretary: David J. Owens
email: bcsec@oga.org.uk



Our AGM wasn't entirely business this year. Held at the Barry YC, closely linked to the Bristol Channel Pilot Cutters, but also closely linked to a rather different craft, the Celtic Longboats. Designed for four rowers and a cox, there are numerous events in Wales these days. We were invited to join in, so we did, as you'll see. Power might give way to sail upon occasion, but we rowers definitely kept out of the way of the tanker and the pilot launch! As one of the rowers, I can vouch it was a marvellous experience, worth repeating. We hope we can make it part of our proposed meeting for small boats held in conjunction with the Trailer Section.

There was business to transact of course. Viv Head, Commodore was returned for a further term of office, as was I in my capacities of Secretary and Membership Secretary. John Hutchinson remains as Treasurer. Viv normally spends six months in New Zealand but it's 15 months in Oz this time. So the meeting was delighted that Charlie Harris has offered to become acting Commodore in his absence. The meeting was equally delighted that Dee Halliday will be taking over the editorship of the BCA Newsletter, Severn Tidings.

The Christmas lunch was also a little more than the usual bonhomie, held in the World of Boats, a 'must-see' for any Gaffer visiting Cardiff Bay. Apart

Photos: Glynis Parsons

from the stellar hospitality restaurant owners, Jacqui and Graham, and superb food, we visited the exhibition to see BCA member, Matthew Goode, at work on 'Elena Maria Barbara'. Once restored she'll be an exact replica of an 18th century armed topsail schooner. It was a treat to see what is involved in rebuilding such a large wooden boat, and we went away impressed (and counting our blessings)! Visit the website for more information: www.worldofboatscardiff.com

Hopefully this conviviality will carry us through the next month or so, when many of us find it difficult to get much enthusiasm for things boating. However, by the time this report is published, boats will be back in the water, or nearly so, and next year's sailing season will be upon us. Whey, hey!

DJ Owens, BCA Secretary & Charlie Harris, BCA Acting Commodore



Dublin Bay

President: Tim Magennis
Secretary: David Owens
email: dbsec@oga.org.uk



East Coast

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



Our OGA President Seán Walsh, a prominent member of DBOGA, has organised a Sail in Company in the West Cork area. Seán gave some details to folks attending the ACM/AGM meetings in January and was very excited about what promises to be an amazing event. Taking in Kinsale, famed for its seafood restaurants, Glandore, Crookhaven and out west to Skellig Michael or Great Skellig, in the Atlantic, 11.6 km west of Iveragh Peninsula, County Kerry.

A Christian monastery was founded on the island around 1300 years ago, being continuously occupied until its abandonment in the late 12th century. In 1966 the remains of the monastery, along with most of the island, became a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The first definite reference to monastic activity here is a record of the death of 'Suibhíne of Skellig' dating from the 8th century, however Saint Fionán claimed to have founded the monastery in the 6th century. We'd love to see as many of you that can make it across, either with your boat or as visiting crew members. Seán guarantees it will be a truly memorable cruise.

David Owens, DBOGA Secretary



Fife one design from 1890 crossing with Tír na nÓg, Cormac O'Carroll

DBOGA Plans for 2015

22 - 24 May: Youth Project Weekend. Hopefully a repeat of last year's success story
29 May - 1 June: DBOGA Regatta
13 June: Lifeboat Race with proceeds to Howth Lifeboat
20 June: Drogheda Maritime Festival
4 July: Belfast Tall Ships Festival
17 July - 24 July: Glandore Classic Regatta and DBOGA Cruise in Company from Kinsale to West Cork.



Above:
The fastest (and pinkest) topsail on the east coast.

Below:
East Coast Burns lunch. Pete 'the knife' (PTK) applies his knife to the haggis.



60 members attended the ECOGA AGM, enjoying a meal at the Walton & Frinton YC. The superb new clubhouse made an excellent venue for business as well as celebration. 'Bona' was a worthy and popular winner of the new Teamac Concours Trophy. Wendy Wetherall got the shock of her life when awarded the 'Biggest Trophy Ever', for sales achieved in OGA merchandise. A mainstay of the East Coast Committee for many years, Wendy has decided to stand down this year. Thank you, Wendy!

A full racing programme last year saw 'Reverie' winning the Tom Felgate Gaff Points Series with 'Charm' taking second place and 'Katie' third. 'Scorpion of Wyke', a new boat to the area, romped away with the Bermudan Cup after a great performance during the August Cruise. The Roger Needham Award, for the First Gaffer over 100 years old went to 'Transcur'. Julian and Alison Cable were awarded the Francis B Cooke trophy for best log/blog. Read their adventures at <http://robinetta-log.blogspot.co.uk/>

Special awards were made to Treasurer, Clare Thomas, for work on the August Cruise, and Mike Peyton from the Dragon Crew.

December 2014 found EC members visiting James Lawrence, Sailmaker, Brightlingsea to witness the production of what must be the fastest topsail in Britain, just 100 minutes from old to new sail on the yard! Our thanks go to Mark Butler and his team for an amazing evening. Watch the video on the OGA website: www.oga.org.uk/news/fastest-topsail-east-coast

January saw the Burns Lunch hosted by Area President and Secretary at their home. Haggis and neeps (with chilli for those who don't like the Scottish national dish) were followed by home made raspberry cranachan, songs and magic tricks. A collection for the RNLI raised about £150. In February we enjoyed a fish and chip supper at the Nottage Institute on Wivenhoe Quay followed by a very informative talk by Captain Richard Woodman, LVO, on the Work of Trinity House. We then held a Supper and Film night at the Pin Mill SC, watching 'The Boat that Rocked'. Everyone is looking forward to the Annual Dinner, 7 March, held as usual at The Royal Burnham YC. We'll dust off our formal wear, and see how many people still recognise us!

With an early Easter we'll get together for a fitting out supper at Wivenhoe SC and May brings the first sailing event. After a successful launch last year, small boats are invited back to Tollesbury SC to race against the locals!

Full details of all events are in the Calendar and on the EC website.

Alison Cable, Eastcoaster Editor



The Skelligs
Photo: Steve Yates

North East

Chair: Des O'Meara
Secretary: Jim Bell
email: nesec@oga.org.uk
web: www.oga.org.uk/areas/north-east



Scotland

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



Our efforts for the coming year will be directed along three intertwining paths:

1. Organising activities for members in conjunction with other OGA areas and sections as well as other bodies outside the OGA.
2. Publicising and promoting the Association with a view to building membership numbers.
3. Promoting participation in traditional sailing and seamanship generally, especially amongst the young, the disabled and otherwise disadvantaged people.

It is my quest to include people with disabilities in our area activities especially gaff/lug rig sailing. To this end I am working with the RYA and the Coquet YC to form a 'Sailability' section within the Club to offer sailing opportunities to the disabled as members of both the OGA and Coquet YC. Phase 2 of the club extension and modernisation programme will be looking to improve accessibility in physical and organisational terms and to obtain the use of small gaff rigged vessels as part of the club small craft flotilla. The hope and intention is to provide opportunities for disabled people to participate as fully as practicable in the widest possible range of sailing activities through OGA and Club membership. In addition to enhancing opportunities and mitigating disadvantage, this scheme should lead to an increase in OGA membership in the North East and elsewhere.

We're illustrating our page with some traditional vessels from the North East, taken by Area Secretary, Jim Bell.

Des O'Meara, North East Area President



Humberloop Phyllis



Humbercables

Photos: Jim Bell



Humbercables and keels

Meeting up in Scotland

There's several non-OGA events for traditional and classic boats providing an opportunity for members to meet up:

25 - 28 June: Tarbert Traditional Boat Festival, Loch Fyne

3 - 5 July: Scottish Traditional Boat Festival at Portsoy

13 - 18 July: Sail Stornoway 2015, the 17th Hebridean Maritime Festival.



Crinan Canal, Neal Hill



Easy day on Loch Fyne, Neal Hill

The coming summer will be good in Scotland; fair breezes and sunshine. Possibly some of you from neighbouring countries will be planning a passage north. As well as the necessary pilots and charts, there are two further publications to help with your cruise planning. These are 'Sail Scotland' and 'Welcome Anchorages' which are available from chandlers and marinas as well as www.sailscotland.co.uk and www.welcome-anchorage.co.uk

If you are planning such a cruise, why not join in one of the OGA Scotland events, or contact scotsec@oga.org.uk to see if we can arrange an impromptu get-together with our boats.

The first event of the season is the Campbeltown Muster over the weekend of 22 - 24 May. The format will be the same, well tried and tested of past years. Latest reports suggest the improved berthing facilities should be ready by summer. As always we look forward to welcoming all to the event, including gaff as well as Bermudan rigged classic vessels.

An end of season muster will be organised, probably on Loch Fyne but if any members have suggestions for another venue then contact scotsec@oga.org.uk. The get together at Anstruther was poorly supported last year. If you have ideas for an event at another venue, please get in touch.

Neal Hill, Scotland Area Secretary



A fresh breeze in the Sound of Luing, Nick Easthope

North West

President: Kevin Goulding
Secretary: Tom Middlebrook
email: nwsec@oga.org.uk



North Wales

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



OGA members in the North West Area are warmly invited to join other traditional sailing events by the organisers in North Wales, the Isle of Man and Mersey River. Our Annual Race is planned for 13 - 14 June this year.

4 - 7 June: Mersey River Festival

13 - 14 June: OGA Annual Race

31 July - 2 August: Peel Traditional Boat Weekend (see p.10 June Gaffers Log for a report on the 2014 event).

15 - 22 August: Conwy River Festival

Tom Middlebrook, North West Area Secretary



'Master Frank', Isle of Man longliner Photo: Barry O'Loughlin

OGA Photo competition 2014. 'Life at Sea', Highly Commended, Mark Pollington: 'Across the Sea of Hebrides - leaving land behind'

Judges' comments: 'This very well conveys the reality of setting out in a small boat across open water with a good idea of typical Scottish weather in the background. The judges were just a little uneasy whether this could be a 'selfie''

9th Traditional Boat Festival, Holyhead: 2015

Friday, 28 to Sunday, 31 August 2015
coinciding with August Bank Holiday.



Port Penrhyn Photo: Sue Farrer

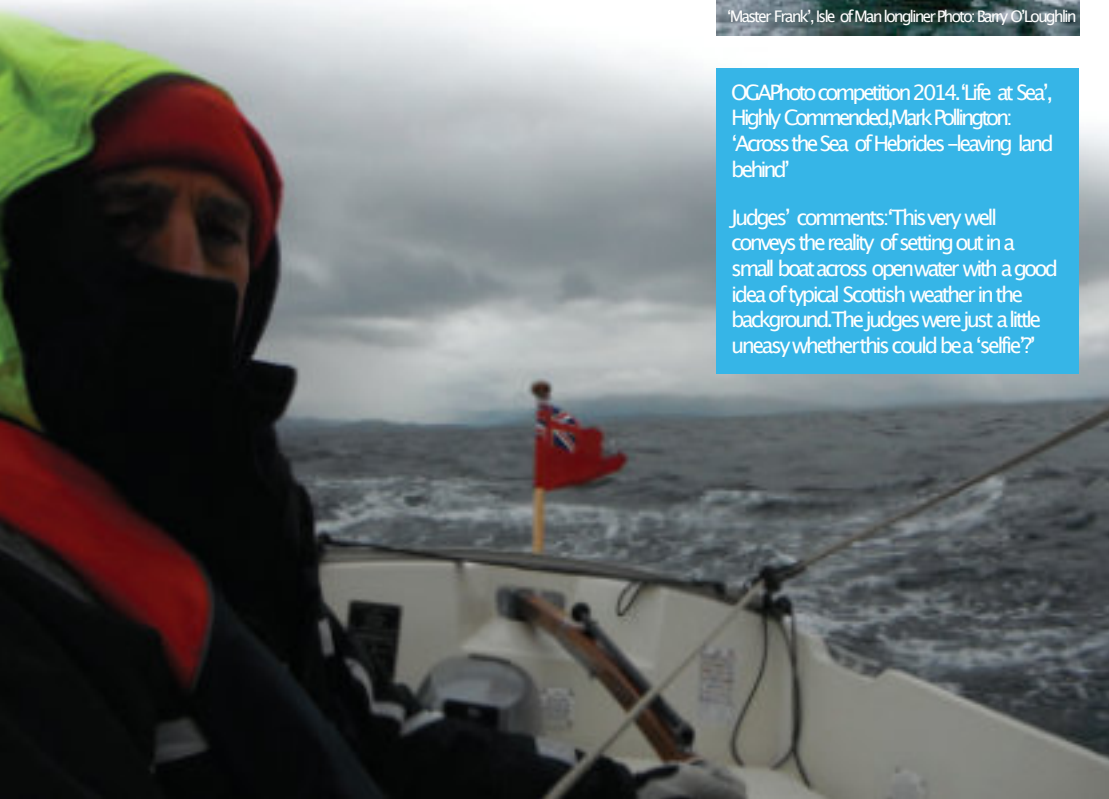
OGA Photo competition 2014. 'Sailing Gaffers' Highly Commended, Viv Head: 'Bowsprit watchman on the Welsh schooner, 'Vilma', at the Holyhead Festival'

Judges' comments: 'A well presented portrait of an interesting vessel with a lot of archival detail attached. The bowsprit man was featured in the title, a pity he was hiding at that moment!'

Sue Farrer represented the Area at the Association Committee Meeting (ACM) on 17 January 2015 in London. Peter Farrer, Mike Stevens, Graham and Matthew Wood attended the AGM later the same day, Matthew to receive his OGA Trophy (see p.17). Minutes from the Association AGM are on p.6. Our next event will be at Port Penrhyn, Saturday 18 April, when members will be entertained with live music provided by 'Reckless Elbow', and fed with plenty of hot food. This is a cosy event in the boatshed to renew acquaintances, exchange stories and generally have a great evening. Please let Sue Farrer know if you would like to attend and whether you would be able to help out. Another date to note is the Peel Traditional Boat Weekend 31 July - 2 August). Mike Clark: 07624 450146 or mclark@manx.net

The Conwy River Festival, a great sailing week packed with entertainment is planned for 15 - 22 August. Nobby Gaffers and Classics Race is Saturday 15 and North Wales OGA Annual Race, Wednesday 19. Quay Day is Saturday 22. Contact for details: sailing@conwyriverfestival.org

Sue Farrer, NWASecretary



Northern Ireland

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



Solent

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



The Annual date NIOGA has kept for the past 15 years with the Newtownards SC (NSC) once again took place on 23 January 2015. The Quiz had a good attendance with two teams from NIOGA and four from NSC. Peter Lyons had compiled the questions and acted as quizmaster, Alison Lyons was the adjudicator and scorer. The teams soon answered six rounds of six questions. At the end one NIOGA team were winners by two points. Bill Miller, Bee Thompson, Alan and Irene Aston were victorious.

The new Commodore of NSC, Paddy Lyner, presented them with the Block Trophy and a bottle of wine. There was a ballot realising £95 for the local Assisi Animal Shelter. NSC provided an excellent hot supper and the

Gaffers Boat Band made a welcome return, providing good music for half an hour. The evening ended with a memorable rendition of the 'Grey Funnel Line' by Irene Aston. NIOGA would like to thank NSC for use of their clubhouse as well as the hospitality and fellowship displayed to NIOGA members making the trip to Newtownards.

Peter Lyons, NI Area Secretary



OGA Photo competition 2014, 'Life at Sea'
2nd prize, Sue Lewis: 'Memories are made of this'

Judges' comments: 'A very tightly composed shot with the perfect title that immediately had us feeling the water trickling down our necks. If the crew had been tearing up £10 notes then this would have been a winner.'



Seadog 'Lilly' aboard 'Alice Pellow'



Tim & Liz Dodwell accept the Davey Trophy from Tom Cunliffe

It was great to see such a good turnout at the Solent Old Gaffers AGM on 29 November. The Royal Air Force YC did us proud, even providing a Christmas tree under which we put the many, generously donated, raffle prizes. Tom Cunliffe's after dinner speech, including the exploits of some Gaffers not to be named, made us all laugh. Your committee was re-elected en bloc and former secretary, Jessica Warren, nobly volunteered to learn the ropes so that we can finally get the new Solent website up and running. You can see the results at www.oga.org.uk/solent

Some Solent trophies were awarded: the Davey Trophy to Tim and Liz Dodwell, who sailed to France and Holland this summer with three generations of family on board. The new member picture went to Jeremy Retford who sailed his 18ft Shilling single handed from Poole to more than one event this summer. David and Christine Hopkins won the Friendship Trophy for opening their house and garden to members seeking breakfast at the Bursledon Regatta. Secretary, Marion, won the Seamanship trophy after single handed voyage to and from Holland.

Plans are well in hand for the 2015 season and dates appear on the website and elsewhere in this Log. Please support the first event at Chichester YC. Our shakedown cruise will culminate with a Fitting Out Supper on Saturday 2 May. Members are encouraged to attend by whatever means!

In other news, the March issue of Practical Boat Owner features Solent Lilly as their sea dog of the month and owner Dave's boat, 'Alice Pellow', features as one of the recurring images in the main introductory sequence at www.roundtheisland.org.uk

Quarterly newsletters and invitations to Solent events are now sent to members by email. It is important to tell me if you change your email address. Unfortunately, some members find that their system treats these communications as junk, so please do check your spam inbox!

Marion Shirley, Area Secretary

President: Gil Hayward
Secretary: Geoff Skinner
email: swsec@oga.org.uk



Commodore: Mike Stevens
Secretary: Keith Mosley
email: trailersec@oga.org.uk



Our winter shoreside programme proceeds apace with some seven gatherings, starting with the Area AGM in November and concluding with the Fitting-out Lunch in April. There have been successful informal get-togethers in both Plymouth and Dartmouth and by the time you read this, similar events will have been held in Falmouth and Topsham.

Now that Devon Gaffers have reverted to South West Gaffers, one of our challenges is to foster Gaffer sailing along the whole of this long stretch of coastline. We have been very fortunate in having Don Garman to organise a rally on the Helford River in 2014, an event which he is repeating this year. Don has also arranged a winter gathering at Falmouth, so we are most grateful to him for raising our profile in the far west. This means we now have organised activities running from Dartmouth to the Helford, a distance of about 75nm apart, although our coastline is considerably longer than this.

There is no shortage of Gaffers in our Area. Apart from a strong presence on the Dart there are many scattered around the Exe Estuary, Torbay, Salcombe, Plymouth, Fowey and the Fal. And there are, of course, other traditional boat groups in the Area, for example, there is a small fleet of Luggers at Beer, the impressive collection of sailing Brixham trawlers in Torbay, the Looe Luggers and the Falmouth Oyster Boats. Our members have contact with most of these groups but are also heavily involved in organising events such as the Plymouth Classics.

So how do we promote the OGA along the coast? Quite simply we could do with some more Don Garmans! Certainly in the South West any initiative will be welcomed by the Committee.

Geoff Skinner, Area Secretary

OGA Jolie Brise Award

Gil Hayward, South West Area President, was asked to present the Jolie Brise Award to Nigel Irens, which he did at the local Dittisham SC Annual Prize Giving Dinner on 23 January. South West Gaffers are delighted to welcome Nigel as the latest recruit to the Area, and hope he will wish to be involved with the OGA for many years to come. Visit the OGA website for details of the Jolie Brise Award and Nigel's nomination: www.oga.org.uk/trophies/jolie-brise



'Marie Louise', Distum Regatta, 2014

What's planned for 2015?

All Trailer Section and other 'small boat' events are published in the centre pages Calendar in this issue of Gaffers Log. Up-to-date details will be posted on the OGA website: www.oga.org.uk/areas/trailer-section



'Iona' in Cardiff Bay



English Raid, 2014

Lechdale: 29 May

The season will begin in the normal way with 'Messing About in Boats', 29 May. We'll camp at the Trout Inn, Lechdale where there are only limited facilities and no showers. We'll row, punt, quant, motor but not sail up and downstream from Lechdale for a picnic on the river bank. A very gentle start to the season. Mike Stevens will be POC, please let him know if you plan to come along.

Planning to go to Morbihan?

We believe a number of Trailer Section members plan to go to Morbihan for Le Semaine du Golfe, 11 - 16 May. We would like to have a 'bit of a do' one evening while we're there. Perhaps drink a little wine or Breton cider, eat a bit of cheese and pate with some French bread and sing a few songs? Let Keith Mosley know if you are going.

Beale Park: 5 - 7 June

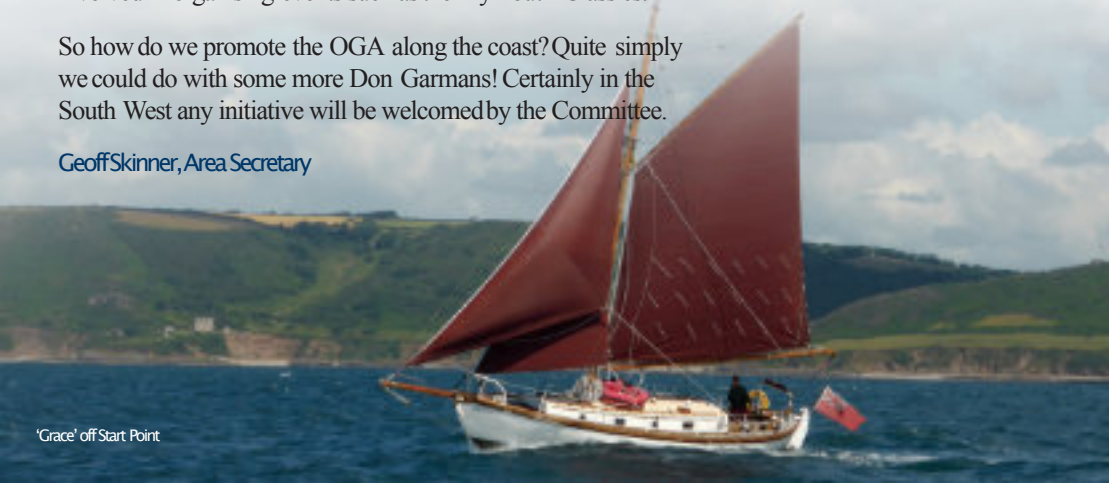
Mike Stevens will be organising OGA Trailer Section representation the Beale Park Boat Show in conjunction with Sue and Pete Farrer, North Wales Area. Beale Park is near Pangbourne, 5 - 7 June, although there is some doubt about whether it will happen this year, since one of the organisers passed away recently. The Trailer Section provides sailing demonstrations on the lake, so bring along your boat and have a bit of fun. We camp on site, there are showers etc., and lots of boats and boaty bits to see.

Cardiff Bay: 26 - 28 June

In June we'll be holding a weekend event on Cardiff Bay in conjunction with the Bristol Channel Area following the format of the event in 2013. We will be hosted by the Cardiff YC 26 - 28 June. Further details will appear on the OGA website and sent to Trailer Section members.

Keith Mosley, Trailer Section Secretary
Photos: Marion Mosley

'Grace' off Start Point



Jean le Faucheur. a memoir

We first met Jean in St Malo, 1977, after the first Bucktrout Rally in Jersey and Guernsey. French gaffers at the Rally invited us to St Malo for 'Bord à bord', four or five days racing in and out of the rocks accompanied by serious partying. The English fleet included some fine boats: 'Marguerite T', 'Moya', 'Gaivota', 'Wilful' and 'Iseult', where I was crew. Jean le Faucheur was in charge, making us all feel very much at home. His English was just better than my poor French, but there was no doubting his enthusiastic welcome as he introduced his compatriots, throwing open the clubhouse high up in a turret in the old stone walls of St Malo.

We returned the compliment in 1978 by inviting our French friends to join the Drake 400 Rally, Plymouth, celebrating the 400th anniversary of Drake's departure on his circumnavigation. Jean arrived in the diminutive, piratical 'Santez Anna'.

Gathering at the Royal Western YC, Jean insisted a gaffers' burgee should join the club's display, climbing nimbly onto the bar to put it in place. Much to the company's delight, his crew chose this moment to pull his trousers down. Their timing was perfect. RWYC committee members were filing out of a meeting looking rather serious. Their heated discussion had been about 'Dress in the public rooms after 18:30'! It is to the eternal credit of those officers that we were invited back two years later, with a special invitation for Jean and his crew.

Selecting a prizewinner for the prestigious Drakes Drum at the Rally proved easy for organiser Sam Poole, producing, without doubt, the greatest cheer of the evening when 'Santez Anna' won. Thank goodness the 'Drum' is solid glass, and Jean and his merry men could not play it!

Thus began our collaboration with the French gaffers, the Vieux Gréments. Nearly every year a small fleet of English gaffers would invade St Malo and the welcome was always sincere and led by Jean. Every so often, whilst cruising the Brittany coast, Jean would appear, face wreathed in smiles and full of enthusiasm.

Jean knew his local waters well. As leader of an Anglo-French flotilla from St Malo to the first Brest Festival in 1986, he guided them through poorly charted channels deep inside the reefs along the Brittany coast in his 27' wooden crabber 'Kermor'. Starting in calm conditions, a brisk headwind blew up and then fog clamped down. No visibility, inadequate charts and of course, no certainty of position caused consternation for locals and visitors alike. Tom and Julia Richards in 'Nerak' found their position by identifying l'Ost Pic, looming out of the fog, and much too close. Jean turned back to find each boat, shepherding them to a safe anchorage in Brehat. He returned to Binic to collect the remaining boat which had run for her home port. All achieved in thick fog, a brisk wind and no GPS.

On another occasion 'Nerak' joined a rally off St Malo, Jean first issuing

In memoriam

At the OGAAGM, held in London on 17 January 2015, there was a minute's silence for Jean le Faucheur and six other OGA members who 'crossed the bar' during 2014. The 2015 Cruise in Company from Yarmouth, IoW to St Malo is dedicated to Jean's memory. Visit the website for details of this event: www.oga.org.uk/events/yarmouth-iow-st-malo-brittany-cruise-company



strict instructions to follow very closely. Anchoring in clear water, precisely under Jean's detailed instruction, the water level fell and they found themselves in a tiny pool, with rocks reaching skyward all around as the massive tide ebbed. At low water it was possible to clamber ashore over the rocks without getting one's feet wet. Everyone collected seafood from the rock pools and, as usual, Jean provided wine for the barbecue.

Never a man to miss a party, 1998 found Jean in Dartmouth, with Sam and Sue Poole for Wender's 100th birthday party, clutching a varnished puncheon of wine. The weather was so bad that Jean had left 'Kermor' in the Channel Isles, making the difficult journey to Dartmouth by nearly every known mode of public transport, still arriving in time for the celebrations.

In 2005, well into his late 60s, Jean sailed 'Kermor' with a single crewmember from Dielette, Cotentin direct to Bursledon, River Hamble into the teeth of a cold northeasterly. After 26 hours on passage, he wasted no time getting on with Lone Wolf's 100th birthday party and as usual Kermor's bilges were the source of much good French wine and cider.

Jean was rarely in trouble, but Sam and Maggie Baylis of 'Brilleau' recall coming alongside the anchored 'Kermor', assuming Jean had not seen them as he was immersed in a mobile phone conversation. Exclaiming down the phone, 'Les anglais sont arrivées!' he rang off to explain he was trying to negotiate a tow as his engine had failed. Happy to help, 'Brilleau' provided the tow and Jean the wine.

Jean le Faucheur embodied the true spirit of our Associations in those early days; sailing traditional vessels, working or recreational, across seas in all weathers to take part in gatherings of like-minded folk in congenial company. He was the driving force behind St Malo Gaffers and his example encouraged development of other groups around the French Channel and Atlantic coasts. This led to the establishment of the 'Old Gaffers - Fédération des Vieux Gréments de France'. When attempting to retire, after several years, he was refused and elevated to the rank of Secrétaire Perpétuel. When I was OGA Secretary in the 1990s, Jean was our key French contact. I have fond memories of him as a staunch friend and true gaffer.

By profession Jean was an electrical engineer, but his major interests were boats, sailing and wine. Well-connected in the wine trade through friends, Jean seemed to have endless supplies of local cider as well as bottles of wine on board.

Jean's wife Annie died from cancer on 14 October 2014, aged 75, just ten weeks before Jean, who died 24 December 2015, aged 77. He leaves daughter Béatrice and two sons, Thierry and Yvonnick.

A memoir by Dick and Pat Dawson, 'Lone Wolf'



OGA Clothing

What about a 'fitting out' gift for skipper and crew?

Make 2015 the year you invest in some new clothing for skipper and crew. Choose from our elegant designs, either a topsail cutter with smaller lugger (logo 1) or stylised gaffer sailplan (logo 2). Both are available on high quality polo shirts and fleeces, with optional overprinting of your boat name.

When ordering make sure you specify which design you want and whether you would like your boat name or any other text added. Order online via our own website, by email or by phone.

Polos

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)**

Fleeces

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

Add your boat name and/or sail number below the OGA design in a choice of fonts and styles:

'ALL CAPITALS', 'Upper and Lower Case' or 'lower case' in a choice of 'block letters' or 'script'.

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

(Prices include VAT, but not postage & package)

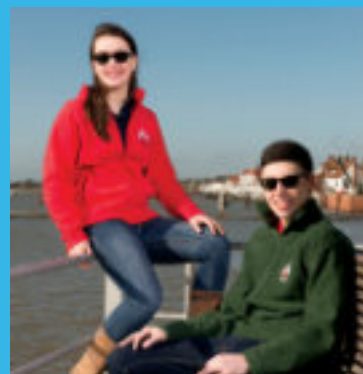
Logo 1 with two boats:
On lighter coloured shirts 'OGA' will be embroidered in navy blue (or as you specify) and on the white polo the larger boat in the logo will be embroidered in cream.

Logo 2 with single sail plan only: Embroidered in white on dark coloured shirts and navy blue on white shirts (or as you specify).

www.oga.org.uk/shop
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OGA designs!



OGA Merchandise

Order OGA merchandise listed below from Ed Allen by email, phone or the OGA website. Payment is by cheque, or PayPal via the website www.oga.org.uk/shop

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

Books

'Conserving Historic Vessels' £25.00

'Sailing Gaffers' £23.00

OGA 50 flag £5.00

Small items

OGA tie £9

OGA enamel lapel badge £6.00

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

OGA teatowel £5

CLEARANCE OFFER ON CLOTHING

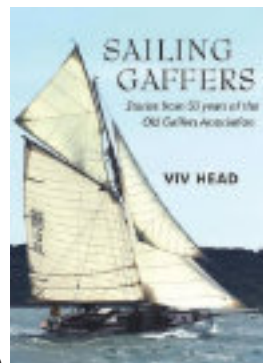
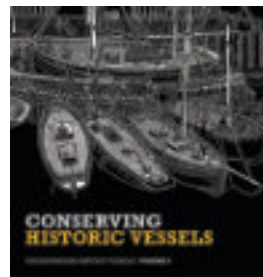
A limited range of clothing embroidered 'Old Gaffers Association' may be ordered, subject to availability, from Ed Allen, stating size and style preference, at these discounted prices.

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

£20: navy sweatshirt or navy fleece

£12: navy polo shirt

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Book review

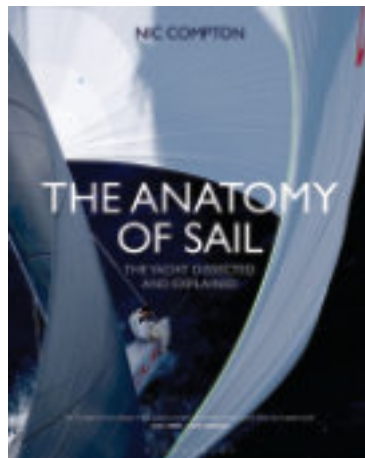
'The Anatomy of Sail', Nic Compton (2014), Adlard Coles Nautical. Hardcover: 192 pages

The 'Anatomy of Sail' by Nic Compton really is what it says on the tin. This beautiful book is sub-titled, 'the yacht dissected and explained' and Nic Compton fulfills this promise from every angle and in the greatest of detail.

Illustrated by hundreds of lovely photos, nothing is too small to be considered and explained: from the dragon motifs of a Fife to the leather covered hoops of old gaffers, and before you ask, no it's not a catalogue of perfect gleaming interiors!

Chapter 6 lingers below decks for just 12 pages out of a total of almost 200. The rest of this 'stunning treasure trove of a book' (as the publisher claims and I can't disagree) is all about the important business of sailing. A perfect gift for a sailor or a new recruit.

The icing on the cake? There are several OGA boats featured as Nic was out and about with his camera for our Jubilee Festival at Cowes in 2013.



'Vandara' of Arklow a swap not to be snuffed at (or a swap before I snuff it)

36' Jack Tyrell built motor-sailing ketch, iroko on oak, but unfortunately with a marine ply coachroof, said to be 'state of the art' when she was built around 1967. 'Vandara' has a history, having won the ICC Faulkner Cup for cruising to the Scottish Isles, 1974, and taken to the Med. about 1995. I have the log of the trip through the canals.

Tyrell built five or six of these in the 1960s, 'Eilis' is still in Arklow, in between commissions. The first is slightly bigger, built for himself. I bought 'Vandara' in 2005, or was it a rescue? She was the type of boat I spent most of my early years crewing on, if a bit more basic. This gentleman's yacht I'd bought had owner's aft cabin with en suite heads (twin or double berth depending on your inclination), separate heads in main saloon both with wash-handbasin, a galley with an oven (how we wished for that in the 70's, just to make bread), an engine room that you could walk into and an hydraulic windlass! Not to mention the teak decks that felt so lovely under ones bare feet.

I didn't work on her for a few years, starting the refurb. in the yard near Barcelona with a new transom. Then there was a new teak deck (on top of the original, the Spanish, expensive way of facelift) rebuild of original Parsons marinades Ford engine, paint job etc. But, there was some rot in the coachroof, I call it cabin rot not cabin fever. So, back to work to top up the coffers, or the blue bottomless money bucket, met a lady in the USA and the rot got worse. Now I reckon she needs a new coachroof.

She's gone (the lady in the US, she never was a boat person) and I still



have 'Vandara', but a job in London. So there's money coming in but no time to be in Spain to work on the boat, so what's to be done?

A professional job for a new coachroof needs a very big money bucket! I'm of the age I want to get some sailing in while I have two hips and can walk on board, run up the mooring lines and cook the bread. I don't want to spend whatever is left struggling with refurbishment.

So, this is the offer

If there are any younger gaffers out there who like wooden boats (we're talking iroko here and massive Irish oak frames, built by the man who built 'Gypsy Moth IV'), who want to work their passage (and refurb. her) for the Med. or have a liveaboard dream further afield, I'll take a smaller, seaworthy, sailing boat in exchange.

Money can be discussed, either way, but more likely I'll be contributing for what I am getting. Alternatively, if any handy members want to do the work for me, reasonably (and I don't mean for nothing), I'll rent a flat in Spain for a few months and gladly commission them. She's moored near Roses, NE Spain.

Chris McNally | hyskeir@gmail.com | +44(0)7855 356042

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Tel. 01206331212, 07745173908
sallyboatsails@btopenworld.com
www.briankennelboatbuilders.co.uk

Morwenna

Heard 28 Falmouth Work Boat. Gaff cutter, built Mylor 1988 GRP 28' LOD, 5' Draught, Lifting Bowsprit, Yanmar 3GM rebuilt 2011. 2 sets of sails, 4 berths, toilet, 2 gas burner hob, grill and oven. Diesel Dickinson gravity fed heater, GPS, VHF depth/speed repeater, solar panel other items. Well maintained. 2013 stripped and repainted deck/top sides, replaced cap rail. Lying Cowes, Isle of Wight. Price: £32,000

Richard Baggett: +44 (0)776 4633688

richard.baggett@uksa.org

Hannah Tylee

'Hannah Tylee', fully equipped including dinghy as been well maintained since being built 1966, Southampton. She's a 27' Fairey Fisherman Motor Sailer with Perkins engine. Bermudan rigged, she draws 2' 6" with 4 berths in two cabins. Reconditioned sails included in sale along with Satnav, depth finder, charcoal stove & gas cooker. Lying Woodbridge.

Price: £8,500 Roy Adnams: +44 (0)1403 700900

sally_marshall04@btinternet.com

Little Millie

Memory 19. Built c.1980, 'Little Millie' is the open cockpit version, with lifting hatch access to cuddy below the foredeck. She's great to sail single handed, but with room in the cockpit for the whole family. New Sanders jib, mainsail and sail cover in 2014. Wykeham-Martin furler. Tabernacle mast. All lines lead back to cockpit. 4hp Yamaha outboard. Substantial 4-wheel trailer. Anchor, fenders, warps etc. Lying ashore Beaulieu.

Price: £9,950

Richard Jacobs: +44 (0)7776 225163 | richardjacobs2@me.com

Damselfly

'Damselfly' is a gunter-rigged, simulated clinker, GRP 8' sailing dinghy complete with road trailer, Mercury 2.2hp outboard motor, daggerboard, lifting rudder, tiller with extension, oars, rowlocks, anchor with line and new full cover. She's ideal for children to learn to sail in, or as a tender. All mahogany trim and spruce spars recently varnished with five coats from bare timber presenting her 'asnew' in all respects. Unsinkable, with built in buoyancy forward and aft. Located Poole Dorset.

A bargain at £1,800 (without motor, £1,500).

John Lewis: +44 (0)1202 694608 | lewis.john23@sky.com

Diane

Gaff cutter built by Elkins in 1938. 20' LOD, 7' beam, 3' draft. Carvel mahogany on oak, lead keel, Yanmar engine, refitted to survey. British Registry Part 1. Lying Isle of Wight. Winner of YOGAFF Concourse d'Elegance, 2010. Price: £8,000

Keith Hudson: 01908 584337

Waypoint Yacht Brokers Ltd. East Cowes 01983 200785

www.waypoint-yachtbrokers.co.uk/boat_for_sale/1001218/



Photo: Tony Pickering



Photo: Tony Pickering



Elwy

Iain Oughtred designed 'Whilly Boat' based on traditional double ended Shetland workboats. Constructed of ply and epoxy. Can be rigged as standing lug or gunter (sails and spars for both included). Length 14' 6", beam 4' 7". Complete with cover, road trailer, buoyancy bags, bilge pump, rowlocks and oars. Stored ashore at Rhos-on-Sea, North Wales. Price: £950

Graham Panes: +44 (0)1492 592874 | grpanes@aol.com

Amphora

Holman 26. Built Whiststocks 1963. Good sails. Sole 10hp diesel. 4 berth, good chart table and new galley. Recent major refit with new keelbolts, windows and hatches. Amphora won the OGA East Coast Race 2013 (Bermudans). Whole boat in excellent condition. Lying at Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex

Price: £6,250 David Skinner: 01255 675358 | 07740 636158

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. 'Asnew' 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: £13,000 ono

Kevin Gibbons: +44 (0)968 766110 | k.gibbons@city.ac.uk

Janner, Heard 28, Falmouth Working Boat: photo by Tony Pickering

Hull built 1984, 28' LOD, c. 5' draught. Gaff cutter with large 'racing' rig, steevable bowsprit c. 13.5'. Originally built for racing, sail number (42) is Falmouth racing number. Cabin added later for cruising use. GRP hull, epoxy coated below waterline, copper coated, wooden decks and coach roof. Four berths in two cabins, galley with Taylor's paraffin cooker (2 hob and oven) and sink, chart table, hanging locker, heads, diesel cabin heater. Range of sails including topsail. Perkins Perama M30 Diesel engine with new gearbox 2012. Taylor's 079D diesel cabin heater, Jabsco manual toilet. Currently lying ashore, Essex.

Price: £36,000 | heard28janner@gmail.com

Wonder: photo by Tony Pickering

Itchen Ferry smack designed and built by Dan Hatcher in 1860. Known as King Dan's masterpiece, 'Wonder' is a joy to sail and is admired wherever she goes. Completely restored, with full set of racing sails. Winner of the OGA East Coast Race in 2011 and 2013. Fully equipped including Yanmar diesel engine and Garmin chart plotter. Price: £15,000

Edwin Bracken: +44 (0)7774 425047 | +44 (0)208 4079702

ck273@live.co.uk Photo gallery by Tideway Images:

www.tidewayimages.co.uk/wonder

Lily

'Lily', a demanding lady, is looking for a younger, more agile owner to satisfy her desire for further adventures. Launched 2002, classic full length keel gaff cutter, 28' long, 9' beam, 6' headroom in saloon. Lines from EC oyster smack 'Secret', modified for 28 hp Vetus diesel engine. Fibreglass hull, main structure opepe, topworks iroko. Lloyds Design Certification, licenced for six crew. Single & double berth in bow, double in saloon, pilot berth aft. Separate heads: shower, washbasin & holding tank. Comprehensive 230v/12v system (4 batteries), pumped hot and cold water, diesel heater, fridge, gas hob, 230 volt microwave. Yeoman Plotter, GPS navigation, autohelm, radio, Navtex weather unit. Laid up ashore River Blackwater, Essex under full length canopy. Full history, sailplan, detailed inventory & asking price on request from Peter Herbert: +44 (0)1708 379377

Canowie II

1933 Silvers 42ft Silver Leaf class motor yacht. Pitchpine on oak with teak wheelhouse. Lovely original oak interior. Twin 45hp diesels, serviced 2014. New batteries. Complete bottom overhaul including new keel bolts forefoot 2013. New galley 2014 and rewired 2014. Six berths. Two toilets plus bath. Two masts and davits. Lying N. Essex.
Price: £33,000
David Skinner: 01255 675358 | 07740 636158

Yachting history book collection

Over the years I have collected a large number of books relating to the history of yachting which I now wish to sell. A few are over 100 years old and may appeal to a yachting historian or other interested member of the OGA. I can supply a list of titles, just over 70 in total.

Martin White: 01726 843537 | martin@trghaus30.plus.com

Three Brothers LI247: photo by Keith Allso

Historic fishing vessel LI247 'Three Brothers' for sale due to owner's frailty. 28' LOD, 5' draft. Moored Fishermans Quay, Littlehampton. Price: £9,000 ono
Alan/David: +44 (0)785 4790531

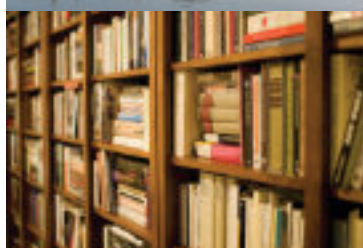
Ferryman III SSR no. 93916[NB: new price]

OGA 1895 (sail number NOT age!) 20' topsail schooner, 26' with bowsprit. Old Gaffers Dayboat eligible for The Dinghy Cruising Association, full camping inventory including camping cover. Complete refurb. 1996-1999. GRP hull, nearly everything else spruce, teak, iroko, mahogany, bronze, aluminium and a bit of galvanised iron, mainly the lifting centreplate. Yanmar YSE8 7hp inboard diesel. Seven sails including reefing squaresail on foremast. Road trailer to keep after free delivery UK mainland. Lying undercover SW Scotland. FY3 is a one-off.

Price: £4,950

Hamish Wilson: 01848 331651 | 07889 666550

wilson@blackchub.co.uk



Find the OGAonline

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Contact the Editor

log@oga.org.uk

Contact the Boat Register Editor

boatregister@oga.org.uk

Browse the online Boat Register

All members' boats are now 'published', over 750 out of a total of more than 3,000 in the register. Logged in members may browse published boats: www.oga.org.uk/register-home

On your first visit 'Request access' to get your OGA username and password Log in and open 'My account' to find links to your own boat(s). Please take some time to check the details. If you have any problems, or cannot see your own boat(s), please contact us.

Published boats display a 'default' photo until you upload one (or more) with copyright credits and captions.

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. Non-commercial 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 24 April 2015: log@oga.org.uk

OGAonline and in print

Online Boat Register

Several more developments have been implemented since December, including the OGA handicap calculator which is fully operational now. If you complete the correct fields and save the data you should see the T(C)HF handicap listed. If it doesn't work as you expect, please contact the Boat Register Editor. The edit screens have also been improved, with notes and diagrams to help you update information about your boat.

A budget was agreed at the AGM to continue developing the online Boat Register. Plans include:

Setting new search facilities to enable members to find boats by Designer, Builder, Design class (eg Cornish Crabber Mark 1) and Generic type (eg Trawler).

Uploading more information and photographs held in the extensive paper archives.

Going public: let us know what you think

At the AGM I raised the question of making all or part of the online Boat Register public, or should it remain only available to current members? Here are three key points to consider:

1. It would be advantageous for members wishing to sell their boat to 'open' the boat's record for the wider public to view online, alongside the printed advert in Gaffers Log.
2. Some boats, with the owners' permission, could be made public to show the depth and quality of our Boat Register. It could be a 'selling point' for recruiting new members.
3. We could consider making the whole of the Boat Register public, with part of the data kept just for members.

The questions of copyright and commercial potential were raised at the AGM, recorded in the minutes p.8.

Do think carefully about this and let your Area Secretary know your views, so they can be passed on the GMC.

Pat Dawson, Boat Register Editor

Plans for the website and Gaffers Log

There are plans to create a 'slideshow' feature on the website to make more of our images available to browse and several modifications have been made since the AGM in the light of feedback from members. We hope these make the website easier to navigate. Let me know what you think about Pat's suggestion above to 'open' the online Boat Register record if your boat is 'For Sale'. Several members have asked if we can do this, so here's your chance to influence decisions. We also have some ideas for the Gaffers Log in future which we'd like to share. Could we move to three issues a year to save on postage? Could we consider a larger format to better display the super photos members contribute? Any more ideas are always welcome, please let us know what you think!

Beverley Daley-Yates, Editor (Log and online)



OCAPhoto competition 2014, 'Sailing gaffers' Highly commended, Peter Herbert
'Reflections at passage end'
Judges' comments: 'An atmospheric composition with a beautiful sky backgrounding the reflection. The overexposed sky at the top of the picture does detract from the balance of the scene.'