

OGA - GMC Meeting Agreements and Assignments

from the Meeting of January 8, 2026

Participants: Alison Cable (co-opted Boat Register), Clare Thomas (Membership Secretary), Colin Stroud (Secretary), David Bewick (co-opted Small Boats Secretary), Julian Cable (co-opted Boat Register), Matthew Bradfield (Online Editor), Mike Beckett (President), Tony Kiddle (Treasurer)

Not Present: Georgina Tall (co-opted Younger Members Secretary), Jay Cresswell (co-opted Gaffers Log Editor)

1	<u>Gaffers Log Archive:-</u> It was agreed that only one set of hard-copy Gaffers Logs/Newsletters should be held by the OGA once the following has been completed: • Jay to check existing hard-copy archive for completeness and to compare with Alison/Julian if they have anything that is missing to ensure one set is as complete as possible. • Tony to continue to ensure the searchable digital archive is complete and then, <u>when this is finished</u>, Log Editor or Boat Register Editors to send a set of all past publications, not already stored there, to the British Library Legal Deposit so the British Library hold a full historic record. (note that although all Gaffers Logs will be stored in the OGA Digital Archive, they will not appear to users until they are three years old). The address of the British Library Legal Deposit is now in the GOLD membership database, as an "Associate", so copies of all Logs, starting with Issue 112, are automatically posted there.	JayC TK
2	<u>Photograph Library: -</u> Jay to report at the next meeting.	JayC
3	<u>January 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> In response to Richard, Jay and Peter highlighting the need to improve external communications, the GMC will continue to look for a volunteer External Communications and Sponsorship Officer.	GMC
4	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment: -</u> Regarding the possible change in legal status, a paper produced by Georgina was circulated prior to the meeting. Members discussed the possibility of changing to become either an incorporated company limited by guarantee, or a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Possible advantages and disadvantages of both options were discussed but no consensus for change was reached. It was agreed the OGA would remain an unincorporated organisation for now, and that the GMC will continue to investigate the options and gather professional views. Area Officers to seek views from their members or committees to enable a decision to be made at a subsequent AC. It was noted that the final decision would have to go to the national AGM for ratification. <u>Update: November AC Assignment: -</u> At an Extraordinary ACM on November 18, 2025, it was agreed to remain unincorporated and to take actions to reduce risks and liabilities when organising events both on and off the water. Grant to set up a sub-group of the AC to look at reducing risks. Pete Elliston and Georgina offered to be in the group with Alasdair offering input, as required, on management of safety on the water. The sub-group should not consider risks related to actions or decisions made by skippers. (eg. Rule 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing). It was agreed that the sub-group should look at policies, procedures, risk assessments, contract templates and processes for shared learning, with an initial report to the AC on January 31, 2026 and to have something that can be incorporated into the Handbook for OGA Officers before	

	the start of the 2026 sailing season. Confirmation should be sought from the RYA that policies, etc. conform with their standards of good practice. All areas should be consulted so the results are workable for both large and small events, inland and tidal. Mike to brief Members at the January 2026 AGM on the background, current position and ongoing actions.	MB
5	Merchandise: Georgina to obtain a quote for the production, and distribution to Members, of an A4 size 2026 calendar. Whether to go ahead for 2026, or even 2027, has yet to be decided.	GT
6	Subscriptions: It was agreed to pay GoCardless to have the OGA name appear on members' bank statements, rather than just GoCardless to avoid misunderstandings and membership cancelling. Clare to make the change with Tony's help.	CT TK
7	ACM & AGM agendas: Colin to update the agendas to include agreed changes, see the Officers Area. https://oga.org.uk/members_area/officers_area/acms_and_agms.html	CS
8	Website: Julian to update the boat register system to allow Matthew (and others) to see if current boat owners are OGA members and, if so, which Area they are associated with.	JC
9	Website: Julian to add a web-page for logged-in members listing main/event OGA WhatsApp groups and allowing group contacts to be added/updated. Matthew to add a notice to the website (e.g., on the rotating home page banners) directing members to the new WhatsApp group listing in the members' area.	JC MattB
10	Inclusivity: - Regarding Georgina's point about "LGBT+ and allies", it was agreed that although the OGA is already inclusive, there may still be more we could do or improve but us creating sub-groups or common interest groups are, by their very nature, divisive rather than inclusive. However, there is nothing preventing any member creating an additional interest group (e.g., using WhatsApp) and that group being listed on the webpage being created by Julian (see above).	
11	Younger Members: - Georgina to provide digital copies of the Younger Member advert leaflet and leaflet insert template to all areas before the AGM.	GT

<u>Not Assignments to the GMC but included here to keep all in one place: -</u>		
12	<u>January 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - All Areas to continue to attract new members and communicate with their local clubs, harbour authorities, etc, and share successes and lessons learnt at future ACs.	
13	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Paul to ensure the proposed flip-book viewer is usable on all screen formats, to address concerns by Mary and Alison.	
14	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Three Areas (NW, Scot. and EC), as a trial, to contact a manufacturer of new Gaffers, or Gaffer kits, with the objective of recruiting their customers as OGA members. Existing OGA leaflets and cockpit-cards to be used if required.	
15	<u>April 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Alasdair to contact all areas for more ideas to support his proposal to promote other organisations offering gaff rig sailing with a view to increasing OGA membership and then to encourage others to support through a Gaffers Log article and online.	

- | | |
|----|---|
| 16 | <u>October 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - All to spread the word among your Areas that we need to find, before the end of 2026, a Treasurer to succeed Tony and a Small Boat Secretary to succeed David. |
| 17 | <u>October 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - Alasdair to provide costs, to the next meeting, for the proposed 2027 AGM/ACM at the Windermere Jetty Museum, organised by the NW Area.

<u>Assignments on hold pending later implementation: -</u> |
| 18 | <u>January 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - The GMC will, in 2028, revisit the use of the online "Member List", instead of a printed Yearbook, to see if there is a need to go back to a printed Yearbook. |
| 19 | <u>October 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - The GMC will add additional advice into the Handbook for OGA Officers regarding food allergy risks and contracts with catering companies. on-hold pending outcome of the November 18, 2025, sub-group looking at reducing risks. |

The meeting closed at 19:55h

The next meeting is tbe.

Colin Stroud, Association Secretary
January 11, 2026