

Boat Register Report 2025

	2024	2025
Boats added to the register	62	37
Boats now with pictures	83	85
Set for sale		19
Removed from sale		22
Changed		795

Summary

The Boat Register continues to be the most visited area on the OGA website and is the primary source for our social media content.

It's great for keeping a record of our wonderful boats.

It's great as a promotional tool for the Association, especially when cross promoted on Facebook and Instagram. Many of our new members join from the social media posts which use pictures and text from the boat register.

It's good for helping people to find their next boat, or to pass a boat on.

The editors have been working hard as usual, helping owners sell their boats and improving the entries.

We have also reached out to other organisations.

Outreach

We have been reaching out to other similar organisations including Lloyds Register, the NSBR and Ipswich Maritime Heritage. Not all have responded but we will keep working on it.

We attended:

1. The NHS Shipshape conference at the Scottish Maritime Museum in Irvine
2. The Maritime Heritage Forum
3. The Crossfield Conference

Development

There are many small improvements, especially to the new boat and edit forms.

It's now possible to have more than one generic type for a boat. This makes it possible to express some of the complexity of our boats, for example a boat can now be a Nobby and a Yacht. This not only makes the entry more accurate, but it means boats will come up when people are looking for Nobbies as well as when looking for yachts.

The owners tab now shows if current owners are members. This will help the Social media editor choose boats to promote and we hope to join up central social media posting with the area leadership.

The main new feature is our boat yards map which is described separately.

Problems

The boat register works very well for most purposes but it's only as good as the data in it.

Where it could work better is as the definitive source for handicap data for racing.

We've done a lot of work on handicaps. It's taken more development effort than any other part of the system.

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- The calculations are correct.
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- We've added features to show how recent the data is.
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- We've provided ways to export the data to Excel to help race officers.
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But none of that is any use unless racing boat owners keep their data up-to-date and race officers use the boat register as the place they get their data from and help fix the data when it's wrong.

Only 22 people have set the handicap checked status.

Only 19 boats have last_modified dates for their handicaps

We get complaints that a boat's handicap is wrong but usually the person who complains makes no effort to fix the data. We've also had comments that people don't have faith in the data. Well, if you think it is wrong, help fix it!

It would be great if someone else could take ownership of the racing related data, and we would provide our full support for anyone who wishes to do this.

Julian and Alison Cable