

Scottish Area report for 2025

Our spring meeting at Rosneath saw a slight drop in attendees over last year, but was still a good event for catching up with the plans and problems of the members who attended. We are looking at holding the next spring event elsewhere to see if we can engage with more members.

The Portsoy Traditional Boat Festival in June had very poor attendance by boats, although the Festival on land was as successful as ever. Television footage included the arrival of *Robinetta* flying her OGA burgee, and the Area President and Secretary were interviewed on the main stage. Hopefully this will raise the profile of the OGA in Scotland. The old harbour was badly damaged in December, but the local council have moved quickly to repair it, and the event should not be affected next year.

Despite advertising a Scottish Area meetup during the Tall Ships event in Aberdeen only 2 people expressed interest and visited together, but we did meet up with an East Coast member on *Excelsior* and had a useful exchange of information.

We returned to Kerrera marina at the end of August for a weekend on the water event. This started very well on Friday night with a meal at the marina restaurant. However the weather forecast and time constraints meant that the rest of the rally was cancelled, with the five attending boats dispersing on Saturday morning. We did manage a sail in company on Saturday morning, as *Robinetta*, *Sequoia*, and *Sender II* headed down the Sound of Kerrera, before *Sequoia* turned north towards the Caledonian Canal while *Robinetta* and *Sender II* headed for Crinan. We hope to run the event again in 2027, possibly earlier in the season.

An attempt to hold our AGM in November to avoid clashes with Christmas did not show an increase in numbers attending, but we did manage to recruit a new Treasurer, so the Area committee is now

President: Julian Cable

Secretary: Alison Cable

Treasurer: Jon Reed

Membership is holding steady at 44

Finding a venue for a small boat event failed, but we intend to look again in 2026, and aim to hold a “big boat” event in the Clyde area.

Most of the ports on the Clyde are owned and operated by Peel Ports. Peel have been trying to introduce a fee of around £100 pa for leisure craft to be in the Clyde. We are pleased to report that Peel have announced that they are not proceeding with any version of this plan.

Alison Cable, Scottish Area Secretary