

OGA Association Committee

Meeting of January 31, 2026 at Harwich & Zoom starting at 14:30

Agreements and Assignments

Attendees at Harwich (19) : - Alasdair Simpson, Alison Cable, Andrew Kelland, Barbara Runnalls, Clare Thomas, Colin Stroud, David Bewick, David Patuck, Georgia Tall, Gerry Murtagh, Grant Morris, Mike Beckett, Mike Dixon, Negley Groom, Paul Masters, Pete Elliston, Pete Thomas, Richard Jacobs, Susanne Newbold

Attendees on Zoom (2) : - Jeremy Cresswell, Tony Kiddle

<u>Open assignments</u>		
1	<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 ACMs.	All
2	<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.	AS JC PM
3	<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.	AS
4	<u>January 2026 AC Assignment:</u> - Alison to ask Julian (who was not at the meeting) to produce a new page in the logged-in Members Area of the website where Gaffers Logs published within two years can be viewed.	AC JC
5	<u>January 2026 AC Assignment:</u> - Jay to ensure all the PDF files of the Gaffers Log not already in the website archive are with Tony for uploading. Only Gaffers Logs of more than two years after publication to be publicly viewable in the online archive.	Jay TK
6	<u>January 2026 AC Assignment:</u> - All Areas to seek local schools or organizations interested in building Gafflings and report back to Pete.	ALL
7	<u>January 2026 AC Assignment:</u> - The Risk Reduction Sub-group to provide their risk assessment and contract templates, with supporting guidance, for Colin to incorporate into the Handbook for OGA Officers, and to offer workshops to Area, before the 2026 sailing season.	GM CS
8	<u>January 2026 AC Assignment:</u> - Mike to offer OGA support to Hannah Cunliffe regarding the 'Living Heritage' submission with the National Historic Ships.	MB
9	<u>January 2026 AC Assignment:</u> - Clare to explore the possibility of incorporating a "non member" category in GOLD, and Mailchimp, to allow easier communication with prospective members.	CT

10	<u>January 2026 AC Assignment:</u> - Julian to continue to develop a webpage that enables Areas to list selected WhatsApp groups and who to contact to join them.	JC
11	<u>January 2026 AC Assignment:</u> - South West Area to consider hosting the 2028 AGM social weekend. -----	DP
	<u>Assignments on hold pending later implementation: -</u>	
12	<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.	GMC
13	<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.	GMC
14	<u>January 2026 AC Assignment:</u> - The EC Area has offered to organise the OGA65 event. -----	PM
	<u>Completed Assignments:-</u>	
15	<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..... Completed, during and after January 2026 ACM/AGM weekend event the GMC agreed to accept Mary Gibbs' offer to volunteer for the role.	
16	<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..... Completed, it was agreed at the January 31, 2026, ACM to close this assignment.	
17	<u>October 2025 AC Assignment:</u> - All to spread the word among your Areas that we need to find a Small Boat Secretary to succeed David..... Completed, it was announced at the January 31, 2026, ACM by David Bewick that Mike Dixon will take on the role.	
18	<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.....Completed, after the January 2026 ACM/AGM weekend event Roger Hardman agreed to work with Tony on a handover process in readiness to stand for election at the January 2027 AGM.	
19	<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. Completed, Alasdair presented plans and costs at the January 31, 2026, ACM.	
20	<u>November 2025 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. Completed, Grant presented the report to the January 31, 2026, ACM and a new assignment was given.

The next AC Meeting will be on April 21, 2026, on Zoom.

Colin Stroud
Association Secretary
March 3, 2026