

OGA - GMC Meeting Minutes
Waterbeach, Cambridge, 17th October 2018

Present: Alistair Randall (President), Sue Lewis (Secretary), Tony Kiddle (Treasurer), Mary Gibbs (Membership Secretary), Pete Thomas (Sailing Secretary), Patrick Vyvyan-Robinson (Youth Fund)
Also, as observer, Colin Stroud who is to date the sole nominee for the post of Association Secretary

1. **Apologies: None**

2. **President's introduction:** Alistair welcomed all to the meeting. OGA55 year was a big success with the event on Isle of Wight and excellent small boat rally in Cardiff. Alistair has now attended events in all Areas except for N Wales where sadly the Holyhead event was cancelled due to the destruction of the marina. He now has a much better understanding of challenges faced by Areas.

3. **Minutes of previous meeting held in March:** Minutes agreed as accurate.

4. **Matters arising from the minutes:** No matters arising not already covered by the agenda

5. **Treasurer's report:**

Tony had circulated balances as follows. Draft accounts will be circulated in advance of the annual meetings in January

Balances at 19/3/2018 –

Paypal: £4365

Barclays current account: £6511

Barclays Events Fund: £469

Barclays Euro Account: 3288

Barclays Youth Fund: £2971

Aldemore Bond: £30,710.10 (currently at 1.49% which is best available) Matures June 2019

It was agreed that Tony would top up the reserve fund in the Bond in order to keep up the reserves as this will not otherwise keep up with inflation. £500 to be added.

It was noted that Event Fund was not completely depleted and that, OGA55 Events aside, the Association has operated with a £8,500 surplus this year.

Event Fund to be built up again with OGA60 in mind.

TK

6. **Secretary's report:**

1. **AGM/ACM 2019:** Sue has booked same venue as agreed despite cancellation of the London Boat Show. No extra cost for the additional room this year. Agenda item for the ACM: choice of venue for this meeting going forward. Sue will draft and circulate an agenda for ACM. Agenda for AGM and nominations for officers to be published in the next (November) Log. Tony stands again for Treasurer, Colin Stroud nominated for Secretary, Alison and Julian Cable (jointly) for Boat Register Editor with Pat's blessing. No other nominations but the deadline is November 2nd. Beverley will hold that page of the Log open until after that date in case of eleventh hour nominations.

SL

2. **Photo Competition:** Sue had received another email from Mike Garlick indicating his wish to retire from organising this, though he will judge this year's competition as publicised in the Log. 11 entries so far. The GMC agreed to accept Mike's resignation this time. Sue to organise a thank you presentation for the AGM. Complete rethink needed as not very well supported and no obvious successor. GMC proposes not to run a competition next year and see if someone steps forward with alternative suggestion(s), perhaps simpler, along the lines of point and press/easy submission/judged by vote as was run at OGA55.

SL

3. **Areas Info Pack, also known as Handbook:** Sue has updated this with regard to flags and burgees. One amend suggested after which Sue will upload the new version to the online document store and notify AC.

SL

4. Sue to send good wishes on behalf of the GMC to Neal Hill, Scotland Area Secretary who is very ill. Campbeltown event was cancelled.

SL

	5. Legal status of a Club: Alistair researched this with RYA legal team following correspondence from his own Club (WFYC) who are changing from Members Club status to a Private Limited Company in order to provide protection to officers and members who are jointly liable should there be a claim against the Club. RYA advice indicated that whereas WFYC have a lot of assets including Clubhouse premises and have paid staff the OGA does not and that, as with 80% of sailing clubs, there is no need for us to consider this route further. We have the appropriate liability insurance in place. 6. Alistair attended the Classic Boat Awards where he met Stefan Iwanowski who is involved with a Swedish Historic Boat Association www.bhrf.se Sue to keep on file and send a copy of next Log and to invite him/them to join as overseas members to keep up with our news.	SL
7.	Membership Update Mary had circulated an update which indicates that year-on-year membership is down again slightly. Total figure 1162 in Oct 2018 as against 1178 at the same time last year. Trailer Section 136 down from 141. A reminder letter to those members not paying by Direct Debit to renew their membership will be inserted in the next (November) Log. Subscriptions increase was voted in January for 2019 and this takes effect as of October since those joining in October get the rest of the year free and their first subs payment is for the next year. Mary to liaise with Beverley to update member rates quoted on the website and the joining forms. Tony will propose to the AC in January an increase in the amount paid out to Areas by a similar 3%. Mary needs Areas Secretaries to inform her of member deaths for obvious reasons. She will include this in her report to the ACM. Car stickers with the new logo are on order - to form part of the new members welcome pack. Both these and the "right way round" ordinary stickers of which we have a surplus will be sent out (one of each) with the Gaffers Log in March for all members. Review of membership rates for Eire and overseas This matter was raised at the ACM (see ACM Minutes Jan 18 item 8). The GMC was tasked with reviewing the membership rates paid by overseas members and by members of Dublin Bay Area. The GMC studied postage rates and member numbers in some detail. It was considered that the euro rate is a fair reflection of the difference of postage costs and that there are too few "worldwide" members (5) to justify a separate rate so no change to the present situation is to be recommended.	AR MG MG TK MG
8.	New members database update: Tony reported that after some hold ups work is progressing again and that he hopes to be testing the new member database within the next 6 weeks. It is hoped to have it working in time to present it at the January ACM. The 2019 renewals will take place on the existing system and then data will be transferred across to the new one once the renewals period has settled down. Beverley Daley-Yates, Log and Website Editor, has again expressed her displeasure regarding the way that IT is being handled in the OGA. She feels that her suggestions that the IT should be professionally run have been ignored by the GMC. The GMC feels that OGA systems are run by volunteers who are professionals in the relevant fields and that employing someone external to run OGA IT would be an unnecessary expense and would impose an unnecessary workload on all concerned.	
9.	OGA55 report/matters arising Both the Isle of Wight event and on a smaller scale the Cardiff event were deemed to have been a great success overall. Positives from the Isle of Wight event included a fantastic small boat event which may serve to change the way the OGA looks at small boat events in the future. (See also item 12 below). New members joined the OGA. Something was created which can be built on and the East Coast Area has already proposed to run a large event and invite all Areas for the 60th Anniversary in 2023. Lessons were learnt regarding the organisation of the Solent Race and Saturday evening's entertainment regarding the meal and the band in particular. The Race Committee offered to address issues arising from the planning and running of the race in a statement for the Gaffers Log but has not done so. Feedback from the evening will be taken into account in planning future events. Thank you letters are to be sent to sponsors and to those locally who helped with the organisation. Tony has provided a provisional breakdown of OGA55 financing which accompanies these minutes. The intention is to rebuild the Event Fund in preparation for other all-inclusive events in the future. The GMC was delighted that the EC Area is already discussing how to run an OGA60 event in 2023	SL

	– it was suggested that this might be the time to consider a repeat of the Round Britain Challenge which really did involve all Areas and to start and finish it on the East Coast.	
10	Youth Fund Patrick reported that £321 was raised through OGA 55 Registrations. Out of the 127 registrations for this event only 21 included a donation to the Youth Fund, and excluding one generous donation for £100, this averaged out at approximately £10 per donating entrant. This again indicates a general lack of interest on the part of OGA members to support the Youth Fund which may become an issue in the future. The Auction at OGA55 raised £912 for the Youth Fund making total funds raised at the event £1,234. Patrick was congratulated on his star turn wielding the gavel and encouraging “staggering valuations, energetic bidding and unbelievable bargains” out of not much at all – short report to appear in the Log. There were only 2 applications for grant money this year: Mary Graves, aged 17 and a family member of the OGA from South West Area, applied for a contribution to the cost of sailing on “Golden Vanity” with Trinity Sailing for a week as part of gaining her Gold Duke of Edinburgh’s Expedition Award - £200 was agreed towards total costs of £895 which Mary has to raise. Mary will write up her experience and provide photos for a future edition of the Gaffers Log. North East Area – subject to the application being re-submitted on the correct form, and to Patrick, approval was provisionally given for a grant of £500. A team of members from the NE Area of the OGA (including experienced shipwright and apprentice boatbuilders) will work in conjunction with a local secondary school Blyth Academy to build one, possibly 2, OGA dinghies in 2019 to be used once built for youth sailing in the Area. Our grant represents only 5% of the total budget for this project for which the Area is raising sponsorship from many sources. A full report with photos is to be provided – perhaps also a blog for members to follow progress.	
11	OGA Class dinghy update: The first OGA class dinghy was launched and sailed at several venues over the summer. Those who sailed it declared it to be very stable, to sail well and to be an excellent family boat. The Dinghy Cruising Association are very interested – Tony will follow this up. OGA Australia want to build 7. NE Area of the OGA wish to have a team of local youngsters involved in a project to build 2. (See item 10 above). www.ogadinghy.org.uk has sections on “How to buy” and “Building Guide” with more material to be added and the photo gallery to be populated. Site to be linked from our main website.	TK AR
12	Beale Park Incident/Trailer Section Alistair had a detailed exchange with Keith Mosley (Trailer Section Secretary) and Mike Stevens regarding an incident during the Beale Park Boat Show where the tent in which OGA member Gordon Bourne and his wife were sleeping, and their vehicle, were struck by a Gator Utility vehicle driven by the organiser who was driving whilst under the influence of alcohol. Police were called but no charges made as on private land. Those involved reached agreement on compensation for damage done and Keith Mosley made a case to Alistair in July for continuing to attend the Show despite this incident. Since then it seems the agreed amount has not been paid and the organiser has suggested that instead of paying Gordon, the amount should be deducted from the cost of the OGA stand next year. All concerned feel this to be totally unacceptable and Mike Stevens has indicated that unless the amount is paid to Gordon promptly he is not prepared to continue his involvement. Sue is to liaise with Mike and Keith to check whether the payment to Gordon is forthcoming. The GMC will support the Beale Park Team whether or not they wish to continue with the Show but if the decision is to go ahead we request that they insist on a higher profile location for the stand and that the OGA dinghy is suitably prominent and promoted. The GMC discussed the issue of events forailable boats in some detail. 22 small boats of all sizes with crews of all abilities enjoyed a very successful event at OGA55. It is felt that more events like this where small sea-going boats can also join coastal events would benefit the OGA. The GMC noted that the Trailer Section did not wish to be involved and supported a different small	SL

	boat event at the same time. Keith Mosley has not attended the last 2 Association Meetings however it is hoped he will be there in January when we can discuss this further. Patrick will draft a proposal to be considered by the AC outlining possible changes to the way the Trailer Section operates in the future with a focus on closer co-ordination and co-operation between the Trailer Section, Areas and OGA at a national level to capitalise on the potential of new membership, integrated events and a better understanding throughout the OGA of Trailer Section activities.	PVR
13	Log/Yearbook/website The GMC remains very aware of the need for volunteers for the roles of Log Editor and Website Editor. Feelers are being put out for members prepared to take this on from Jan 2020. 2019 Yearbook – data protection (See ACM Minutes Jan 18 Item 7). Under new legislation, before we can produce a 2019 Yearbook we have to ask all members again for their permission to publish their data. This will be fairly straightforward at the point of payment (where new members join and existing members renew by Paypal) but more complicated where members have a direct debit in place for renewal. These members have to be asked to sign their agreement. We will email as many members as possible for an online consent to be given. Tony to organise a Google form/back end spreadsheet for this. We will include an insert in the next Log for members to sign and return to the Secretary. Depending on the level of response from publicity of this a decision will be made by the Association Committee as to whether the 2019 Yearbook goes ahead (potentially thin) or is postponed to 2020. Website We finally have progress on the issue of security certificate for the website (https) though more work is needed as there are still issues.	TK MG
14	AGM/ACM trophies etc Agenda for AGM to be circulated and submitted to Gaffers Log Deadline for trophy nominations is 30th Nov so Sue will encourage more nominations. Solent Area trophy idea (for a “flexible” trophy to be awarded for “anything suitable”) was good but the trophy they had in mind is not available. Alistair will present a “Witch Trophy” for this use.	SL
15	AOB Solent member Gary Flashman offered to produce an OGA55 calendar using photos of the event. For reasons of cost and logistics of supply this offer was declined but thanks to be sent to Gary. Pete gives one year’s notice of standing down from his co-opted post as Sailing Secretary. Alistair will not stand again as President when his term comes to an end in Jan 2020. The meeting closed.	AR

Sue Lewis - OGA Secretary
4th November 2018