



Forestay

Welcome to the May edition of Eastcoaster

The weather has at last cheered up after an appallingly cold spring, so hopefully the boats are beginning to be ready to go in the water for the season.

We put *Robinetta* in on 15 April, but can't say she was ready; if you saw us at Heybridge, you'll know we don't even have our sail ready to bend on yet! We wanted to be there for the start of the OGA50 celebrations, and we were; to see *Bonify*, *Witch* and *Mary Ritchie* set off on the Round Britain Challenge. What a challenge it will be! There are events planned nearly every weekend as the boats go round.

You can follow their progress on the Trackaphone system which went live on the [OGA50 website](http://www.oga50.org.uk) Saturday 20 April. Boats will be added to the system approximately four days prior to departure from their home ports. If you can't see a boat you expect to at a port, just zoom in on the map a long way, their pin might well be hiding behind other boats!

As you probably know, we'll be supporting the RNLI throughout the year, as our OGA50 charity. Donations can be made at:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/OGA50>

Unfortunately, Martin Goodrich will be missing out on the Round Britain Challenge, which he had hoped to take part in, as he's not very well at the moment. Our good wishes go out to him for a speedy recovery. He has written up the second part of Gwenili's trip to Bordeaux, and it's available to read at

www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk/reports/douarnenez-bordeaux

If you fancy something slightly different why not watch the programme on *Gusty's* restoration, which included an intriguing segment on cold stitching a wrought iron engine block. It's available on YouTube; search for 'Car SOS' and you get the choice of all the programmes in the series, including one about an Austin 12. Click on that and you're away!

Exciting as OGA50 is, there's a lot going on in our Area too, so let's start with a round up of what the Association's done so far this year.



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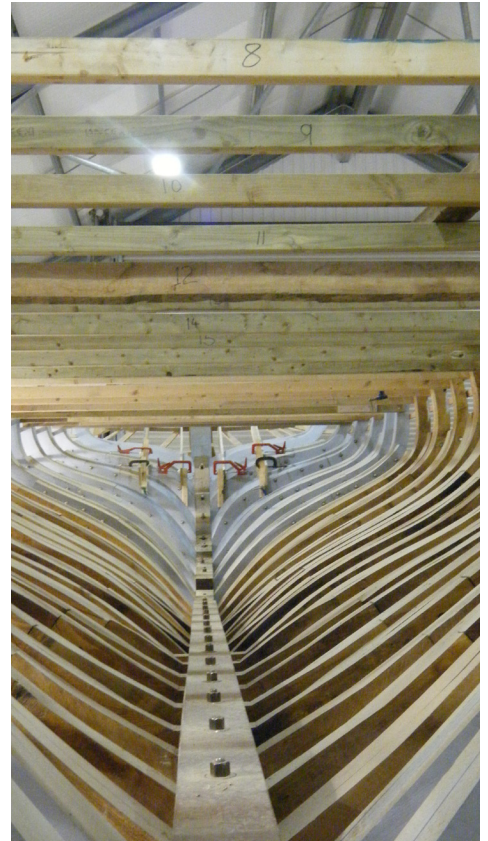
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Pioneer Trust visit

The first East Coast event of the OGA calendar went off without a hitch as over 20 stalwart gaffers gathered at the Pioneer Trust in Harker's Yard to look over the restored smack lying in her mud berth. After a short introduction given on the deck beneath her winter cover, everyone crowded below for a good look at the accommodation. Trust volunteers were on hand to answer questions. After that it was back ashore and into the Trust's headquarters to look at pictures of her restoration in the warm whilst fish and chips were collected from 'Scooby Snax', the nationally recognised award winning f&c in Brightlingsea.

29 fish suppers were enjoyed, consumed in the convivial training area of the Trust, after which we had a good look round at the boats in various stages of build and repair in the workshop. Currently they have a local yacht, *Volante*, originally built by John Harvey of Wivenhoe in 1870. She was used as a liveaboard up until the 1990's but fell into a sad state of disrepair. When asked which part of the *Volante* was original, Brian Kennell explained that many of the ribs were actually cast iron, not timber, and had been fully rusted. Only *Volante*'s lines were recoverable, but as the new ship is being built in the same spot as the original was dismantled, she will still officially be the original boat.



The Trust run a boat building apprenticeship scheme, and as well as working on restorations like *Volante* the apprentices learn skills of cold moulding strip-ply to make beautiful rowing gigs based on the design of Scilly Isles gigs. The Trust's version is smaller, but well-liked by helm and crew. The completed boats can be seen out on the River Colne in the summer, and there's a waiting list for the finished product that offers hope for local boat building in Brightlingsea.

Volante is a long way off ready to sail, but *Pioneer* hopes to be heading down to Cowes for the August party, and they will be very happy to show anyone over her who could not get to Brightlingsea. Many thanks to Brian Kennell (and Sally) and John for giving their time and input. As a token of our appreciation we have donated £100 to the Pioneer Trust.

The Annual Dinner: Burnham-on-Crouch

With a weather forecast of snow later, and frost already on the ground, the East Coast's Annual Dinner on 9 March, in the comfortable surrounding of the Royal Burnham Yacht Club, made a lovely change from the wintry conditions outside. Only one couple braved the icy conditions and the gale forecast for Monday to arrive by boat. Well done Bob Berk and Lena Reekie for arriving on *Crow*!

The evening started with a performance by the Brandy Hole Shantymen, organised by Mike Peyton, and the lyrics for his new 'East Coast Anthem', to the tune of the Manchester Rambler, were distributed to people as they arrived. After a practice session with the earliest arrivals, the whole thing was sung through before dinner with everyone. With seven verses I suspect that this 'Anthem', like the national anthem, will be shortened if it gets performed on a regular basis.

72 sat down to dine on a choice of lamb shank or smoked haddock fillet, with seasonal vegetables. Most people went for the lamb, which was perfectly cooked.



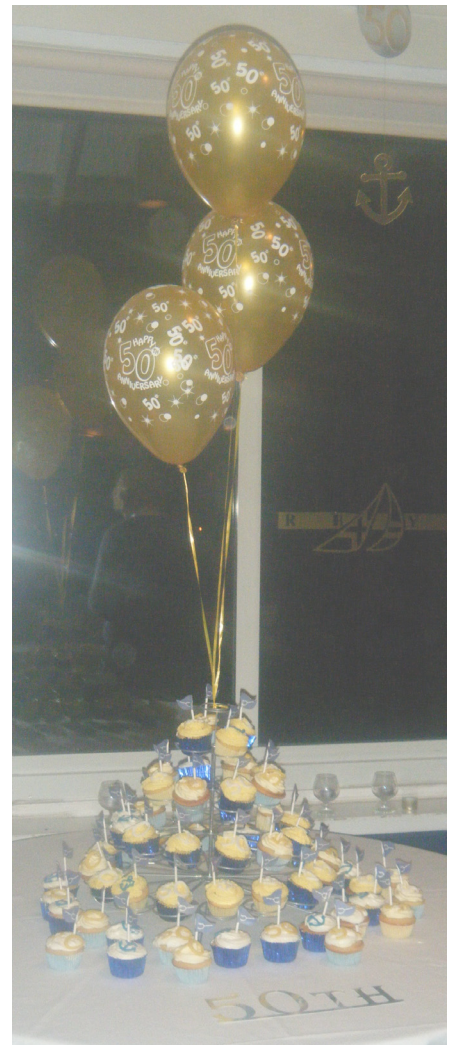
This might be the OGA's Golden Anniversary, but it is only the Silver Anniversary of the East Coast Dinner at the Royal Burnham, and they have catering for us down to a fine art.

The toasts started early, and many healths were drunk, but special thanks went out to Phil and Wendy Wetherill, who have just stood down after many, many years of service as OGA support in their rib, *Spare Rib*. Wendy made an emotional response through the applause and support from the floor.

After a sumptuous dessert of sticky toffee pudding or sugar-free apple crumb pie, Jo and Paul Masters entertained the gathering by reading extracts from the log of their boat *Clytie*, from her launch in 1922 up to the start of the Second World War. *Clytie* was launched as a gaffer, and is one now, but she flirted with Bermudan rig in the 1930s. The other change of note is that she now has an engine. Hearing about sailing on the East Coast rivers without one is very interesting. The number of times she needed digging out of the mud, having run aground at the top of the tide, makes me appreciate how useful an engine is for getting out of tight spots!

The Royal Burnham Yacht Club was decorated specially for the 50th Anniversary celebrations, with a welcome banner, and a cupcake display. The personalised place mats were also OGA50 themed, as were the menu booklets. Trevor and Elaine Rawlinson did a wonderful job decorating the Club and organising the event, which finished with cheese and biscuits with port.

If anyone still had room there were cupcakes to fortify them for the cold drive home through the falling snow, while the fortunate few retired to their cabins below.



The East Coast Old Gaffer

by Mike Peyton

*I'm a sailor, a sailor from Maldon Town way,
I get all my pleasure when I'm under way.
I may be commuting on Mondays,
but I sail my old gaffer on Sundays.*

When I board my old boat, swig up stays'l and throat, slip the mooring, then haul in the sheets,
I feel her lift to the seas, with a fair topsail breeze, my life as a gaffer's complete.
As the wake of the boat fades behind me, with only horizon ahead,
Oh, rather than pack up my sailing, I think I would rather be dead!

Chorus

I've sailed all over, from Orford to Dover, Boulogne and Breskens as well,
I've brought up in the Quarters, and Walton Backwaters, been sick as a dog with the swell.
My blankets have often been sodden, in the bunk where I rest my old head,
But rather than pack up my sailing, I think I would rather be dead!

Chorus

Well, I've run past Shore Ends, for the bars of Ostend, and sailed across the rolling North Sea.
In Flushing I've dallied, in Calais I've rallied, to pick up the odd duty free.
I've seen the loom of the Varne from the Goodwins, the Gabbard from off Longs'd Head
Oh rather than pack up my sailing, I think I would rather be dead!

Chorus

I've locked into the Basin, run aground in the Rays'n, and a few other places as well,
I've crossed tacks with barges, begrudged harbour charges, thanked GOD for the old Spitway Bell!
I've watched the grey seals on the Maplins, as I've tacked them past heaving the lead,
Oh, rather than pack up my sailing, I think I would rather be dead!

Chorus

So I sail where I please, 'cross the Estuary Seas, on course for a lonely old creek,
I've run for the Swale, to ride out a gale, then cruised with fair winds for a week.
I've heard the shrill cry of the waders, then watched them flock high overhead,
Oh, rather than pack up my sailing, I think I would rather be dead!

Chorus

I once loved a maid, a spot welder by trade; she was fair as the saltings in bloom,
The grey of her eyes matched the Estuary skies and I loved her from April to June.
On the day that we should have been married, I raced the Old Gaffers instead,
Oh, rather than pack up my sailing, I think I would rather be dead!

Chorus

Now the old days are gone, but my memories live on, when only the weather was bad.
I've sailed my last tack, I can only look back, and remember the times that we had.
With those halcyon days far behind me, and only nostalgia instead
Oh rather than pack up my sailing, I think I would rather be dead!

The shanty-writing competition is open to everyone who wants to have a go, take a look at the OGA50 website for how to enter!



Nottage Institute

Mike Peyton was to the fore again at the Nottage Institute, where he gave a very interesting illustrated talk on a freezing cold March Saturday. After an introduction by Pete Thomas, he gave a brief account of his wartime exploits with the Desert Rats before being captured and taken to prison-of-war camp in Germany. His laconic comment, 'I didn't like it, so I left. Three times.' is very evocative of his attitude!

His description of his experience in the first East Coast Race, where he came fifth (and last) and did not cross the finishing line until half past one in the morning was great fun, but for a different take on the event why not have a look at his wife's version, written at the time, and available on

www.sailing-by.org.uk/content/east-coast-old-gaffers-race-1963

Attendance was excellent despite the snowy weather, with much discussion of sailing plans for the summer while eating a tasty cold supper.

Easter Rally cancellation

Unfortunately the proposed Easter event at the Brightlingsea Sailing Club had to be called off. Having happily created an unofficial small boat event on the day following the Easter rally/fitting out supper at Shotley, moves to make it an official event were thwarted by health and safety concerns.

The Smack Boat Raid on Harwich from Shotley was to be accompanied by the motor yacht *Emma Hamilton*, with all the smacks boats ready to stand by and help. After deciding to open up the event to all-comers it was realised that we could not be certain of the level of experience and seaworthiness of attending boats. As Brightlingsea Sailing Club's safety launches were fully engaged with their own races on the day we felt it unwise to continue with the event.

In the event I'm not sure how many boats would have sailed at Easter, given the challenging weather conditions. Sailing in snow is not my idea of fun!



Maldon Fitting out Supper: 20 April

The Maldon Little Ship Club made the perfect venue for the first OGA50 event of the calendar. Mike Shaw, OGA president and Mike Peyton, founder member, were there, and after a welcome from the Commodore of the Club we heard from a new member, John Rogers, current owner of *Essex Melody*. He spoke about John Scarlett's memories of the founding of the OGA in the Little Ship Club in September 1963.

The crews of four boats setting off on the Round Britain Challenge were there, and received good luck cards. Three were expected, and there was much hurrying round getting the fourth card, when it was realised that *Cygnets of London's* skipper and crew had arrived to join in! *Mary Ritchie* was presented with the East Coast RBC Token of local Maldon produce, which she will carry round to Cowes to hand to one of the Solent boats.

This event was not only for OGA50, but was also the East Coast Gaffers Fitting out Supper, and put together by Mike McCarthy (now Bar Manager for the LSC) in his usual fashion. Members of the Committee helped with serving the food, while Mike controlled the bar. Apparently there was much consumption of whisky at the end of the evening, but your Editor had retired to bed by then, so cannot comment!

Heybridge Basin send off: 21 April

Neap tides meant that the Round Britain Challenge boats could not reach Maldon, so they gathered for the start in the Heybridge Basin. Given it was only 0900, and there had been much drinking the night before, a decent crowd gathered in bright sunshine to see the boats away.

Not just OGA, but readers of the yachting press were present.



A lot of photographs were taken as *Bonify*, *Witch* and *Marie Ritchie* locked out together. After an exciting moment, while *Marie Ritchie* was hauled off the mud by a workboat the boats set off down the Blackwater with the RNLI in attendance. I wonder how many times this year RNLI boats will fly OGA50 pennants?

After a photoshoot at Osea Island the three boats set off for Ramsgate, all of them reaching it safely by 2200 that night. *Bonify* and *Witch* are hoping to blog about their progress on a regular basis, so please remember to keep an eye on their progress at www.witch1898.blogspot.co.uk and www.classicboat.co.uk/news/sue-lewis-oga-blog/

Meanwhile those left behind at Heybridge tucked into a lovely breakfast.



The OGA50 events continue, but have moved out of our Area for the moment, and that brings us on to an article from Rob Williamson who has been a member of the OGA since 1972.

Fifty years of the OGA

At times of anniversaries it is customary to look back to see from where we have come and to where we are going. And so it is with the OGA.

I doubt if those Skippers in the 1958 Solent race ever thought that what was started as a protest at being excluded from taking part in local races, would escalate into a worldwide organisation and encompass such a wide variety of projects and events.

In the 50s and 60s most of the boats of the OGA were designed and built before the Second World War. The fleet comprised yachts and converted working boats such as fishing smacks etc. Their sails would be of canvas or cotton and all rope would be natural fibre. As the OGA got going, letters would appear in John Scarlett's quarterly newsletter giving the opinion that 'only traditional cordage and sailcloth should ever be seen on a proper gaff-rigged craft - leave the fancy stuff to the Bermudan crowd!'

There was much more in the same vein, such was the traditional view at the time. And what a mountain we have climbed since then! In the two original areas, Solent and East Coast, there was but one Event - the Annual Race.

On the East Coast it was quickly established on the River Blackwater, and it was now that the enthusiasm for traditional boat sailing took off. New venues were explored and established, new Areas were set up and flourished (and in some cases died and were reborn). Like Topsy, we grew and grew.

So, what has changed since those far off days? The most significant changes to my way of thinking, have taken place in the way the OGA is run and administered. I have before me a 'Guidance Pack', of 36 pages, covering every aspect of procedure and for all occasions. Health and Safety at all our events is a must, and a formal risk assessment must be made and recorded. Computers and onboard laptops have made the production of race results and calculating handicaps much quicker and easier. I recall working out the handicaps of many boats the night before Race Day, using the four or five sheets of the THCF curves produced by John Scarlett on the Marconi computer, each would take a good ten minutes and longer as the evening progressed, and beer consumed!

What has NOT changed however is the enthusiasm and dedication of the members who have taken the OGA through the first 50 years and continue to attest the significant force the OGA has in the sailing world. Think of the restorations, rebuilds and new designs that have happened in that time. And it is encouraging to know that those daring young men and women on the flying trapeze of Dirty Girty and their like throughout the Association will see that it continues to happen into the next 50 years!

Rob Williamson

New Members welcome

As Rob makes clear the Old Gaffers Association is not just about the past, even in an Anniversary year! We're always keen on new members, with or without boats, so would like to welcome the following new East Coast Members who have joined in 2013.

5687	Mr Steve Delarre		
5691	Dr Gotthelf Wiedermann		
5693	Mr Philip Codling & Mrs Charlotte	<i>Codling</i>	
5696	Leigh Birch	<i>Lynette</i>	Deben Cherub
5697	Mr Andrew Abraham & M/s Fiona Neale	<i>Zircon</i>	
5698	Geoffrey Willerton	<i>Ladybird</i>	
5702	Noel Probyn	<i>Hardy</i>	
5703	Mr Edward Halsall		
5707	Martin Hills		Crabber 30
5710	Dominic and Lola Belangaro	<i>Swanti</i>	Dauntless
5711	Ed and Frances Maggs	<i>Betty Alan</i>	
5712	Peter Schotker		
5713	Eugene Korkhill	<i>Samba</i>	Holman 26
5719	Peter Gosling		8m Caique
5722	Kriss and Mike Percival	<i>la Sirene</i>	Lune Pilot
5723	Stephen Heppell	<i>My Alice</i>	Oyster Smack
5725	Eloisa Rule	<i>Ellen</i>	Oyster Smack
5726	Gus and Sarah Curtis	<i>Gladys</i>	Bawley
5729	George Hutley		
5732	Wayne and Mary Brietbart	<i>Tangent</i>	Buchanan sloop
5733	Gavin Taylor (Cirdan Trust)	<i>Queen Galadriel,</i> <i>Duet and Faramir</i>	
5750	John and Diana Rogers	<i>Essex Melody</i>	JOG sloop
5753	Robert Townshend	<i>Lora</i>	
5756	Richard Crockatt	<i>Tideway</i>	

Everyone is very welcome, and I hope you will join us for our upcoming events!

Upcoming East Coast events

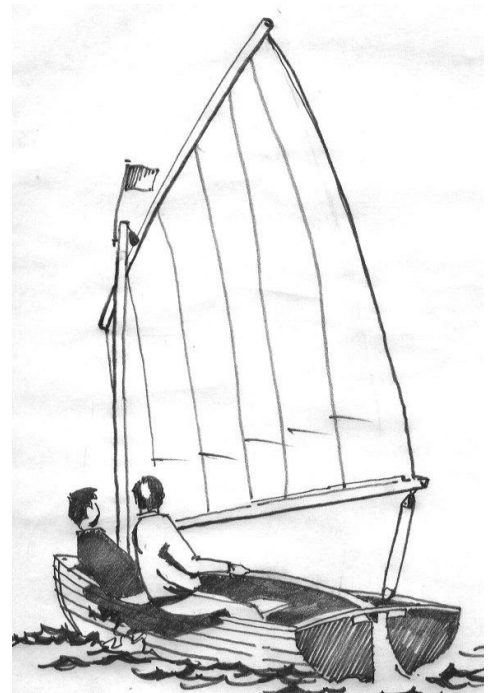
Swallows and Amazons: 25-27 May

Celebrate our 14th Year of the big event for small boats at the Walton & Frinton Yacht Club.

The tides are at 12:32 Saturday and 13:19 Sunday BST (Harwich) this year, so it may be possible to arrive on Saturday, but registration could be a bit crowded, so, if possible come on Friday evening. Please let the event organisers know your arrival time prior to the event, particularly if camping:

Jo Masters **01394 383825 or 07957 806066**
Pete Thomas **01473 832808 or 07777 664894**

While registering you should also buy your tickets for the meal on Saturday night. There will not be a bar menu this year as the alterations to the club kitchens are still on going, instead there is going to be a barbecue. Tickets may be limited so please come and buy these as early as possible.



Saturday 25 May HW Harwich 12:32 BST

This race is open to all TRADITIONAL open boats and small craft suitable for sailing in drying waters at skippers' discretion, typically these are sailing dinghies, smacks' boats, jewels, scows, W&FOD, centreplate dayboats etc. Mirrors are particularly encouraged as we have a trophy for the class. Any child helm must have adult supervision either in the dinghy or in a following dinghy.

There will be safety boats out, but these cannot follow each child and it is a long race course with strong tides. If dinghies with engines choose to follow the race, they are positively welcomed as spectators.

There's a special prize for the smallest boat, so don't forget to fill in the entry form carefully!

15:30 'Paper boats' with a difference kindly sponsored by Classic Marine of Woodbridge.

Through the afternoon we will be channelling your creative skills into naval architecture. We will provide materials (paper and tape) on a 'first come first served' basis. So come and get building.

19:00 BBQ at the Walton & Frinton Yacht Club (price to be confirmed).

This year we will have a BBQ as the superb renovations the club are having done means that the galley is out of action, so please make sure you have bought your tickets in good time. Those who 'miss the gravy boat' will of course be able to get food in the town.

Sunday 26 May HW Harwich 13:19 BST

Swallows and Amazons go . . . WEST!!! ending up at The Witch's Cottage for a picnic (as long as you remember to bring one. Food is NOT provided!)

We have cunning ideas for entertainment on the Sunday afternoon which might involve MUD!!

Monday 27 May HW Harwich 14:07 BST

10:30 Briefing for the day's event which will probably be a short race 'Dutch style' into Hamford Water and back.

Details to be confirmed over the weekend but the spirit of it is that we all start together tied in a line stern to stern, the down wind or tide boat then peels off and starts sailing with each peeling off as he comes past. Once the last boat to start has done so, a minute elapses and the lead boat then returns to the back of the fleet and so on as each boat then becomes the leader (for one minute each time). The winner is then the boat who, over either the distance or the timed duration of the race, turns back the most number of times.

Loch Melfort: Saturday 15 June from 3pm onwards

A one-off event for this year is the 'East Coast on the West Coast' beach party at Loch Melfort, Scotland. This is a beach party and barbecue for crews of any OGA boats passing through the West of Scotland either on the Round Britain Challenge, the Relay or just cruising the area in classic craft.

Enjoy food, refreshment, music, fun activities and meet the locals in this beautiful part of the West Coast. We will be providing food for all guests, but would be pleased if you would bring something to drink. If possible a few days advance notice of crew numbers on each boat would be much appreciated to help us plan the food.



Location

Look for the OGA flag as you sail into the Loch!
Kames Lodge, Kames Peninsula, Loch Melfort

056 degrees 14.892'N

005 degrees 31.593' W

In the event of bad weather, we have an alternative indoor venue nearby, to be advised if needed.
email lh.rh@barnvets.myzen.co.uk

phone 01852 200711

mobile 07881815426

Mobile signals can be 'patchy' on the West of Scotland, if necessary call 07876776332, leave a message and we will return calls as soon as possible.

Any Old Gaffers in the area with or without boats are very welcome to attend. Please contact Rob and Lorna Hill on the above numbers for details of local B&B or camping opportunities.

RHS Rally: Saturday 22 June

The East Coast Gaffers come back closer to home for the annual Royal Hospital School Rally, held together with the Holbrook Boat Owners' Association.

Boats generally gather at Wrabness on the Friday night, but the Rally itself starts with boats anchoring in Holbrook Bay on Saturday morning, with their owners then taking to their dingies for a trip into Holbrook Creek. When you arrive at Holbrook Creek all participants will be issued with an ID card with the name of your boat on it. These should be worn by everyone at all times while you are on Royal Hospital School property, so it is important to take account of all crew members when completing the Application Form. If you have not booked for the event, you will not have an ID card and will not be able to visit the school. This is necessary because the school is still in session and all strangers must be accounted for!

The school recently completed building a Heritage Centre. This centre is crammed full of photo albums, interactive displays and artefacts etc., many of which are quite valuable, not least of which is the school's Nelson memorabilia. Unfortunately the Centre can only accommodate up to about

30 people at any one time. It is therefore proposed to divide the attendees into two groups. One group will visit the Heritage Centre while the other group proceed to the Jellicoe Room for morning coffee and Danish pastries. There will also be an opportunity to take part in a nautical quiz. At 11:00 the two groups will swap over.

High water is at 11:20, so all boats should be away from Holbrook Creek by 12:30 or they risk going aground!

There are two races in the afternoon; The Trafalgar Race for class 1 and 4 boats, and a shorter course for the smaller boats/open boats. The course will vary depending on available wind as all boats need to be round the furthest mark by Low water at 17:15!

The BBQ and bonfire on Wrabness beach will start at 19:00. You need to bring along a plate and cutlery. The BBQ provided is strictly carnivore, with side salad available. Can vegetarians supply their own preferred menu, please? A small separate BBQ will be set aside for this purpose.

We should be able to hear the Sunset Ceremony from the Royal Hospital School at 19:45. This is Midsummer's Day, so the daylight will linger long after that, and the party will go on as long as people desire. By 21:30 the Holbrook boats will be able to return to the creek, although High water is not until 23:44.



East Coast Jubilee Cruise and East Coast Race: 21-29 July

Starting in Ipswich Wet Dock with the OGA Regatta on Sunday 21 July, the fleet will cruise and race down the coast to Brightlingsea. After the East Coast Race and a cruise to Wivenhoe, the fleet will make passage to Cowes.

Please register as soon as you can, if you haven't already!

Full details and registration forms are available to download from the website
www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk/events/oga-east-coast-golden-jubilee-cruise-2013

There is a full write up in the March Gaffer's Log, so I have just included a brief summary here:

19-20 July: Passage race from Home Ports

Arrive at Ipswich Dock
BBQ at the Last Anchor, Ipswich Haven Marina

21 July: OGA Regatta

Pontoon Party, Ipswich Haven Marina

22 July: Ipswich to Wrabness

Cruise/race from Ipswich to Wrabness with beers on the beach and overnight at Wrabness

23 July: Pennyhole Bay Race

To Walton Backwaters, WFYC, overnight at Stone Point or Titchmarsh Marina

24 July: Seaway Bells Passage Race

To West Mersea, late seafood lunch/tea at the Packing Shed
overnight at Mersea/Tollesbury or Bradwell

25 July: Junior Helm/Ladies Race

Up the Blackwater to Osea, coach to Maldon Little Ship Club for anniversary buffet, overnight at Heybridge or Osea

26 July: Two Rivers Race

From Osea to Brightlingsea, overnight Brightlingsea

27 July: OGA East Coast Race

Followed by dinner at CYC, overnight Brightlingsea

28 July: Parade of Sail

To Wivenhoe SC, hog roast, overnight at Brightlingsea

29 July: Depart for Swale/Ramsgate

Need I mention the Party at Cowes: 15-18 August?

This is the Big Event of the year for the whole OGA, and many East Coast Area boats are already booked to take part. Over 170 boats signed up within 24 hours of booking opening! The boats sailing down to Cowes are part of the Round Britain Relay, and should have received their Skippers' Handbooks. It is not too late to book, but don't forget to! The main marina is already full, and the secondary one is filling up fast.

Arrive in a boat without booking and you won't get in!

People planning to come and visit the spectacle on foot also need to book, which is free if you are a member. Check out the OGA50 website for details!

If you want to sail as crew check out the website too, there are still skippers looking for help on various relay legs.

The next Eastcoaster should be published before the Burnham-on-Crouch event, but make a note in your diaries, or better still, send in your entry forms.

Burnham on Crouch Rally: 23 – 26 August

This year the Crouch Rally is going to be held over the Bank Holiday 23-26 August and will be ideal for boats returning from the Cowes Festival or for boats based on the East Coast.

The Crouch/Fambridge Rally is always great fun, and moving it from the May bank holidays to the August one will hopefully encourage more boats to come along. Please sign up soon so the organisers have an idea of numbers before they leave for the big party at Cowes!

www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk/events/oga-crouch-rally-23-26th-august

Friday 23: Sail to North Fambridge

moor on the hammerhead or pick up a mooring. A fish & chip Supper will be held in the North Fambridge Yacht Club accompanied by local ale and other drinks.



Saturday 24

Breakfast in the NFYC, then the shallow draft boats can head up river to Battlesbridge on the tide in preparation for a late lunch at Roy Hart's Baronial Seat. If you haven't been to Roy's place before you'll find it well worth a visit, rain or shine! Return to NFYC.

The evening is a 'do as you please', however drinks and nibbles will be available in the NFYC.

Sunday 25

Breakfast in NFYC, then prepare for the race for The Ind Coope & Allsop Trophy to Burnham (course to be confirmed on the day dependant on the weather).

We will then take up moorings around the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club where we will have a barbecue on the clubs verandah (price to be confirmed).

There is a band in the club for those who want to boogie the night away. The club will be running a late night launch service.

Monday 26

Breakfast available at RCYC, then leave for home ports.

NB: It will be Burnham Week and so moorings in Burnham will be at a premium.

Backstay

There is such a lot to look forward to this year it is almost overwhelming.

David Cannell will skipper *Duet* for the Rolex Fastnet Race, and its qualifying events, in order to raise funds for the Cirdan Trust. *Duet* took part in three East Coast Races in the late '60s, while working for the Ocean Youth Club; she has a long history of introducing young people to the sea who might otherwise never sail, so it's good to see her still continuing that work.

Eastcoaster will be reporting on events as they happen, but it would be lovely if those reports come from as many different people as possible. If you attend an event and take some pictures you're proud of, then please send a copy to me at the address below. If you have stories about your boat you want to share, please do. I am always looking for articles!

You will have noticed some formatting changes to this edition of Eastcoaster, and I would love to know what you think. We have made the changes so that it's more readable on computer screens, which is what the majority of our readers now use. I am always open to suggestions for making it better though!

Those of you still reading in hard copy will have noticed that there are no entry forms included. Links to these are on the website, but if you have no access to the Internet, please feel free to write to me at the address below requesting specific forms and I will get them posted to you.



Eastcoaster: August 2013

Please use the same address for any comments and contributions you may have for Eastcoaster. We hope to publish an article focusing on one of the Old Gaffer boats in every issue. Reports of events attended and interesting news items are always welcome!

Publication date for next Issue is August, so all contributions to the Editor by early July please.

Eastcoaster Editor

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For sale

'MANTRA' is one off, well known, 18ft open trailer sailer, based on the 'Deben Lugger' hull.

Built by John Sheldrake and very successfully competed in many popular events, ie Great Glen Raid, East Coast Old Gaffers races, Swallows and Amazons and many Drascombe rallies around the country. She can be rowed, (1/4 of the way across Scotland) and is driven comfortably by a 3.3 hp long shaft 2 stroke o/b, (not included, but available).



She is in very good condition overall, sails are virtually new with free standing carbon mast, plus carbon spars. Single pair of oars, Danforth anchor and full cover included. The hull is black and has a long shallow sailing keel with a draft of 1ft and dagger board, draft approx 3.5 ft.

She will readily sail upwind with no board. She is very seaworthy but also an excellent creek crawler. The trailer is a modern, easy launch/recover, fully galvanised. The engine is mounted on the port quarter gunwhale (stowed on the afterdeck) but a transom mount could easily be fitted. She is quick to rig and ready to go.

LOA 18'3"

LW 16'2"

Beam 6'2"

Main 125 sq ft balanced lug

Mizzen 19 sq ft leg o'mutton.

Weight (approx) 750 kg

phone: 07724 106102

email: aldras@hotmail.co.uk

price: £3,900

OGA50 branded merchandise

We have made arrangements with Ocean World to supply their full range of high quality clothing with our OGA50 logos over-printed or embroidered, together with optional custom wording (boat name, area name, event name etc).

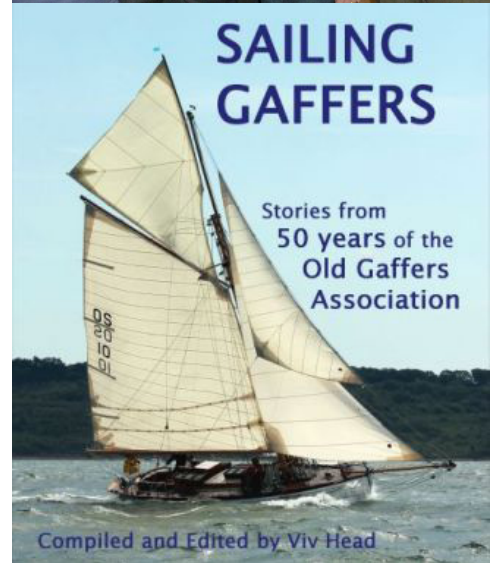
Visit www.oceanworld.co.uk/oga to see the vast range on offer with costs varying according to quantity ordered, stylishly modelled here by Sue Farrer, Sue Lewis, Mike Shaw and David Dimbleby,



Sailing Gaffers

Don't forget to order your copy of Sailing Gaffers www.oga.net.au.net/index.php?act=viewProd&productId=17

It's now too late to get your boat name printed inside, but the book itself is a valuable addition to any sailor's bookshelf!



Historic tales of sailing and the Round Britain Challenge

www.sailing-by.org.uk

'Sailing by' was launched in March and content for all the areas is growing. Since April it's been following the fleet with historic tales of sail and news from the fleet as they travel south from the East Coast. Take a look at the website, and 'Like' it on Facebook!

Share your own historic tales of sail: editor@sailing-by.org.uk

East Coast Boat Register

And don't forget! The East Cost Boat Register awaits your boat's details and pictures. You can now request a log-in to match your East Coast OGA website username and password (that's one less set of passwords to remember): www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk/boatregister

Eastcoaster production

Production

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