

EASTCOASTER

ISSUE 67

MAY 2006

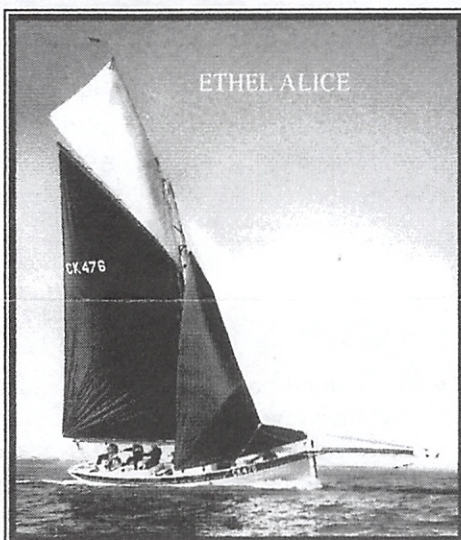
WONDERFUL EAST COAST EVENTS!

The East Coast invites you to take part in one or all of its events! There's great variety on offer, not just location, but in activity, some thing for everyone of almost every age.. Do come along even if you don't want to race, because there's lots more than just racing laid on. Do support the events if you can, because event income provides the lion share of the funds we need to keep the OGA going on the East Coast. Don't forget there is no grant money this year, so your contributions are needed even more!

The committee have again worked very hard to lay on events for you. We have had two sailing events already. Wrabness was well supported, but not so Foulness. And don't say it was the weather or the time of the year, as the weather

was worse and the time earlier for Wrabness. We don't really want to see the end of the Crouch Mafia and gaff rig on the

by the East Coast Old Gaffers Race on June 17, a great weekend in store, or a bit longer if you want it. And not just



the big race itself, there's Mario Price on the Friday night, a Colne cruise with a barbecue at Wivenhoe on the Sunday and a chance to sail the famous Pioneer on Monday night- fantastic!

On June 24, we have a lovely joint event arranged with the Royal Hospital

river, do we? It's getting like that, so get your names down for the Whitsun Rally at North Fambridge and show some support for the remaining Mafia! Otherwise it's the horse's head for you! The Whitsun Rally is followed

School at Holbrook and Wrabness, involving a tour round the famous establishment, as well as our normal activities. This is a great opportunity for good PR for the OGA, let's show the next generation what an

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Read the info on events
- Check who's been hit by the handicapper!
- Looking for love?—Marilyn WLTM suitable partner with view to long term relationship
- Support Crouch Mafia or it's the Horse's Head for you!
- New Venues in August Classic Cruise
- Get your entry forms in—now!

ANNUAL EAST COAST DINNER

Annual Dinner at the Royal Burnham Yacht Club

Nearly 70 members and guests attended the Annual Dinner this year in early March. The most impressive attendance was made by Robert Berk and Lena Reekie

(plus Matey!) in Robert's new ketch "Crow", a very rakish vessel with a rotating mizzen mast! There was also some very impressive OGA top brass as well- I think I counted at least four presidents, including a World one, just back from a Far East-

ern tour, decked out in local costume. We also welcomed David Charlton and partner from the Royal Hospital School.

Denise and Trevor Rawlinson had made a magnificent job decorating the Dining Room and the tables, the RBYC



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Wonderful Events (cont.)

active lot we are, and get them ready to take our places when we oldies swallow the anchor! And still with the next generation we have the highly successful "Swallows and Amazons" event July 15/16, open boats racing round the Walton Backwaters, fun and games ashore and a party in the yacht club.

True lovers of the East Coast should not miss the August Classics Cruise, August 19- 28, which this year has some new venues including Woodbridge and Ipswich. There's lots of good parts retained from the East Coast Classics, superb trophies, racing, cruising in company, regatta fun and social events ashore. OGA

Sailing events finish with the Maldon Town Regatta and OGA Anniversary on 23 September, but of course there are many local regattas run by clubs, should you feel there is not enough laid on! An outline calendar is shown elsewhere.

Entry forms are included with this Eastcoaster, but you can also download them from the website, where you can find latest



information on events and other goings on in the OGA. And do check out the links to other areas and organisations!

Annual Dinner (cont.)



Tony & Shirley Judd and Trev.

can be very proud of them. As the meal finished, toasts and presentations were made. David Charlton, as a token of the OGA's Association with the Royal Hospital School, was presented with OGA regalia to be flown from their fleet of Cornish Shrimpers. Joachim Van Houwenige, President of Netherlands OGA, on behalf of the VKSJ (Dutch Classic Yacht Club), presented the European Challenge Cup to winner James Palmer of Kestrel, and the third place Cup to Peter and Clare Thomas of Transcur. Tony and Shirley Judd were presented

with a framed portrait of Alice & Floray, their lovely Leigh Cockler, recently celebrating her first 100 years!

The evening was rounded off with an illustrated talk by Kees Koomen on his incredible voyage to the Azores in his tiny gaff cutter rigged converted lifeboat, Snoopy. She is less than 6 metres long. Many from the East Coast and North Kent will have seen Snoopy on our coast, and marvel at her crossing the North Sea, but to the Azores, against the prevailing elements is something beyond normal comprehension. And it is not as though the achievement is by one who does not appreciate the dangers of the sea, for Kees has had a lifetime as a professional seaman and Rotterdam Pilot. He knows what the sea can do to a massive merchantman of steel, never mind a tiny

little old clinker built boat in wood. Yet Snoopy survived undamaged, apart from some minor damage to her modern self steering, and she is still getting about to places a long way from her home port in Holland. A credit to the man and the boat.

The evening was over far too early, and suddenly the bar shut and it was over for another year.

Many thanks to Denise and Trevor for all their hard work.



Dutch President awards VKSJ Challenge Cup

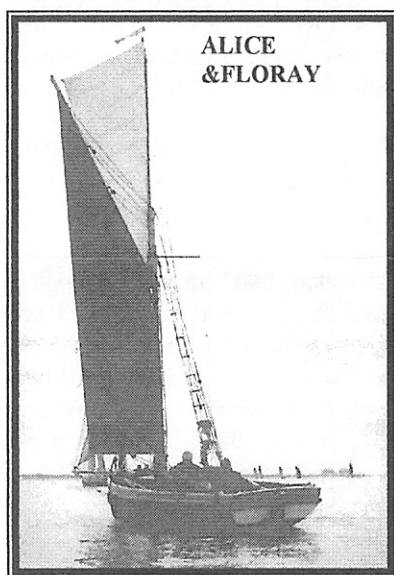


Easter Egg Rally at Wrabness

Despite the non- too brilliant weather, ten smacks and gaffers (with eleven masts), together with some open boats, made it to Wrabness for Easter. Bona (bawley), Transcur (smack), Letitia (cockler), Ayesha (real classic gaffer!), Robinetta, Plum, Margaret Jay, Ro-an-or and Reynardine (clipper), were amongst those in attendance. The Ellistons' beach residence was the HQ, where Pete the Knife conjured up a barbecue for those ashore. The

open boats did time trials for all those who wished to have a go during the day. In the evening a bonfire was lit on the beach and fire works let off, a goodly party of OGA enjoying themselves in the freezing rain like no others can. Several came by road, including some new members. (The Sunseeker Rally was cancelled) All those attended were awarded with an Easter Egg! Many thanks to Melvin and PTK for setting up this event.

BONIFY



Although it was rather disappointing for the organisers that only 4 boats took part, those who did had a fine weekend. To take us south we had winds from the north, to take us north we had winds from the south!

The Royal Burnham Yacht Club was the first venu. On the way in from the Spitway we in Reynardine saw Bonify, the ferro - Archer style cutter, sporting a lovely big topmast. However it was so cold the new topsail must have been in use elsewhere. Reynardine moored on the RB pontoon (which later dried out). Later the Leigh cockler Alice and Floray (from Arlesford on the Colne) joined us, followed by the sole locally moored boat, Mary

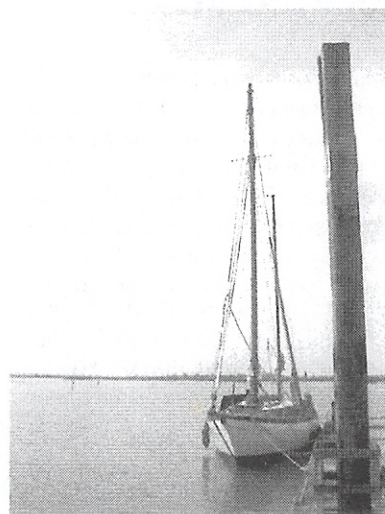
Mayday Foulness Rally

Ritchie (from N Fambridge), towing a lovely new skiff built by Ashley Butler. We later adjourned to the White Hart for a meal.

Next morning Bonify and Reynardine took the flood up the Crouch for a nostalgic visit to the former World Presidential Port of North Fambridge. Even though it is only a few months since the port lost its OGA status there have been many changes. A big new pontoon has been built for the modern yachts which are now allowed to moor there. The boatyard has several glistening gin palaces ashore, waiting to make their contribution to global warming and river bank erosion. The Ferry Boat Inn, once the venue for early OGA Crouch Rallies, is still there, as the faded pub sign showing ferryman Tony Judd rowing passengers across the river can be seen amongst the undergrowth. The OGA Presidential Bar Account for visiting gaffers has been closed for some time. But it is still a nice place, and sometimes you can hear the ghostly guffaws of gaffers past and feel the camaraderie. Because of the tide situation, Alice and Floray had to head back early, leaving only three gaffers to moor at a deserted Quay Reach. We struggled through the mud to reach Foulness Island, possibly the

last time the OGA will do this, and walked through the quiet lanes to the village, where a warm welcome awaited us at the George and Dragon. We had the pub to ourselves. It is a unique and attractive setting on this forbidden island.

It was a dreadful night at anchor with a howling south wind and rain. But by breakfast the weather was becoming more manageable and we had a nice sail home. It was a good first proper cruise of the season, well worth the effort. Just a pity a few more didn't make it. Many thanks to Trevor and Fred for organising the event..

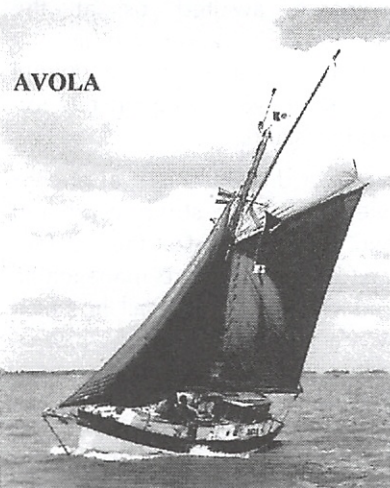


JOTTINGS FROM THE BLACKWATER –Rob Williamson

John Leather

It was with sadness that I read of the death of John Leather, that doyen of writers on matters nautical. John was a member of the OGA, a Lloyds Surveyor, and a yacht designer; indeed many of his designs grace the East Coast, of which the little Island Blossom Class is one.

His funeral was at Fingringhoe, and the OGA was represented by George Jago and me, and it was very moving to see many old shipwrights and boat builders gathering to say farewell to their co worker.



AVOLA

Fleet Review

There have had to be some changes in plans. Fleet Disposals have fallen down badly on the job, and Maryll is not sold yet. Fleet Services honoured their contract, and Reynardine was commissioned for sea trials before Easter and has ventured as far as the Crouch to date. However her specification is still well below that of the rest of the fleet. Not just the missing mirror tiles for the foreward vanity unit and the absence of a pantry. But there remains a number of deck fittings and rigging items to be installed, plus improvements to the

Heybridge Basin

As many of you know, the Chelmer and Blackwater Canal has been taken over by the Inland Waterways Association, who have set up a subsidiary company, Essex Waterways Ltd, to manage it.

Much work to bring the canal into full service is planned, and work is already started at Heybridge Basin. The very good news is that Colin and Margaret Edmund are confirmed as lock keepers at the Basin, and that facilities have been improved. A good place to visit, either by boat or road, with the two pubs now under a single owner, and wonderful bird life on the estuary.

Vertue Rally- 70 years!

The Eastcoaster is normally devoted to gaffers and rightly so. However there are OGA members who sail the "other rig", and this August a dozen or so Vertues will gather on the East Coast, to celebrate the 70th Anni-



versary of the class. The Rally starts on the Orwell, takes in the West Mersea Town Regatta, and finishes at Heybridge Basin. Should be a lot of fun!

HLR's

Jon's piece in the Gaffer's Log explains the idea of HLR's and I am glad that we have the first two at either end of the Blackwater – Mike Woodhouse at West Mersea, (01206 384 172), AND Peter Maynard at Maldon, 01621 852 808. They could be your first point of contact if you are visiting the area and need help. (ED. Note – also we have Steve Hall at Tollesbury – 01621 869367, and Richard Giles at Brightlingsea 01206 308 420)

sails themselves, before this is vessel fit for overseas work at the present time. It had been hoped that coming from overseas service in France (albeit with another navy) her general state would have been satisfactory for the Baltic Patrol. But this was not to be and the planned Baltic Cruise has had to be postponed until further notice. Reynardine's famous naval architect, her West Country builder and her sailmakers have been very disap-



MARYLL RE-LAUNCHED

pointing in their attention to detail! Furthermore the electrical installation failed completely and has required considerable re wiring. Despite the

Fleet Review cont.

disparaging comments sometimes made about certain little Morecambe Bay Prawners, they are twice the boat this one is in terms of strength, character and all round performance. But Fleet Services are still confident they can bring Reynardine at least up to the point where she is a comfortable manageable cruiser, given time.

So a decision has been made to keep Maryll in commission at Enkhuizen, and a one man team from Fleet Services was sent out earlier this month for maintenance work. The team worked fast and completed early, thanks to good weather. Maryll will continue to patrol Dutch waters for the rest of the summer, from her base at the Enkhuizen Submarine pens, keeping watch on the Netherlands OGA activities. Few

other boats would have survived so many years almost continually in commission, and credit must go to her original builders.

The World Presidential Hoy Avola arrived in Dutch Waters on passage for Riga, as Maryll was lifted out. The President was given alternative secret sailing instructions, which we can reveal provide a better passage through Friesland and a new entry via the Eider, avoiding the massed German defences guarding the normal route via the Elbe. At the time of writing she has reached Nordeney, and her crew are reported to be searching for the remnants of the Kaiser's Army.

Meanwhile, Reynardine will join the East Coast Fleet while she is worked



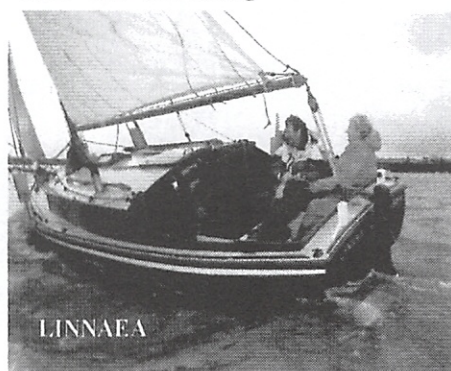
up to fleet readiness from Walton, and later this year Deva will come ashore for long awaited repairs (about 20 years?) to coach roof and hatchway.

Fleet Intelligence has reliable information that the Dutch have bought "Prawner", long based at Heybridge Basin, and that they have plans to base her at Enkhuizen too.

Performance Adjusted Handicaps for 2006

The East Coast Area will be continuing to operate its performance adjusted handicap system in 2006. This is a system which mathematically highlights those who perform far above or below their standard OGA rating, either because they are very expert racers or don't have a chance of ever doing well in racing, because the design of their boat rates so badly. The extremes at either end are adjusted by 2/3rds of their excess, the idea being to even out the racing

Boat	THCF 2005	THCF 2006		Race time	Corr diff
WIZARD	1.068	1.209		180	25.3
EILEN	1.004	1.109		180	18.9
Ethel Alice	1.081	1.168		180	15.6
Kate	1.037	1.107		180	12.6
Fanny	0.928	0.971		180	7.8
Kelpie II	0.932	0.890		180	-7.5
Gwenilli	1.025	0.924		180	-18.2
Linnaea	0.913	0.815		180	-17.7



chances of all boats. Analysis of last years results shows that the boats which have already been adjusted have performed generally in line with their revised THCF's, and will continue the same loading or easing of their handicaps for 2006., e.g. boats like Deva. Those boats like Fanny, which continued to outperform their handicaps have had further adjustment. Boats, on which we now have sufficient data, e.g. Gwenilli or Ethel Alice, because they have taken part in enough races, have had their THCF's adjusted either way from standard OGA. Those changes are shown in the above table. The fast boats will continue to do well, but not by quite so much, and the slow ones will still not win, unless they try a bit harder!

The system is not applied to the main East Coast Old Gaffers Race, where standard OGA THCF's are applied.

Editorial



"We don't know how to do wooden masts- we only do Bona's- you're in charge!" So spoke the guys with the crane, as they prepared to step Reynardine's masts. Then it struck me. I had been explaining about mast wedges and kelsons, and they did not know what the hell I was talking about. Time has moved on. Alloy masts, luff spars, backstays and all sorts of things I don't know the name of. As it turned out, Reynardine's masts took a lot less time to step than the modern boats. Step and wedge takes a lot less time than fixing half a dozen wires while the crane holds the mast up. But as I said, time has moved on.

Most people in the boating business might recognise a gaffer from pictures on the front of magazines, but to know what is involved with them is before their time. Some of the older ones might have remembered reading in their youth pundits' views on how maintenance free modern boats are- how they lied- but so much background knowledge on traditional boats has vanished from the industry. Yes I know many of us with our bare hands and sweat restore or maintain our traditional boats, but really we are loners!

That did not really bother me, until I came to want to sell Maryll. Where are the new people coming into traditional gaffers? Of course there are a few "new" people who appreciate traditional boats and want a break from the rather monotonous modern standard "product". But how do they find out about traditional boats? Yes there are interesting books by maritime historical experts, there are lots of glossy pics in *Classic Boat* or highly complex technical articles in *Wooden Boat*. But they don't tell you much about owning one, only wrongly that you have to be incredibly rich, knowledgeable and skilled to have one. The RYA don't even have any courses on sailing or maintaining them. Perhaps they see more future in jetski's!

Encouragement in sailing clubs is pretty negative. Most sensible experienced types in the club say gaffers look lovely, but my goodness all that maintenance and all that string to pull. Don't take any notice of Wainwright just because he has three of them. He's crazy anyway, look at him breaking the ice on IJsselmeer when all sensible people have laid up their sensible modern boats for the winter. The Dutch are thinking of deporting him anyway for spoiling their skating. He sails those damn boats with all that maintenance all the year round. Don't ask how can he be sailing all the year round if he is doing all that maintenance at the same time. Probably got some trees growing in the bilges.

It's no good trying to explain that the majority of gaffers' maintenance problems are the same as anybody else's. OK, there are people who have fun rebuilding or altering them, but who would want to rebuild some of today's "Products"? People with gaffers are either thought of as eccen-

tric lunatics, or occasionally as people with divine genius who somehow get wood to float on water and gaff rig to sail to windward.

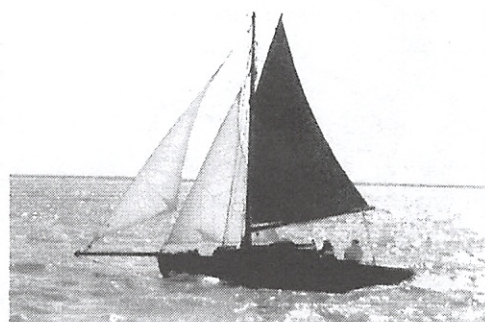
I think most OGA members will recognise the syndrome, if they think about it. More important than my problem of selling Maryll, it is a syndrome which works against the fundamental aims of the association, preserving and promoting gaff rig. One day someone will have the courage to write a best selling book about gaff rig for ordinary people, though a publisher might need greater courage. The RYA, with a new environmentally friendly management, might decide that our sort of sailing needs the same sort of support it gives to others, when pigs begin to fly. But in the meantime, the OGA and its members need to think about it. On an individual basis offering to go sailing with a chap who has bought his first gaffer, or taking someone who might be interested in getting into gaff rigged boats to look at one for sale (see elsewhere for my telephone number). Or just talking to people who are not in gaffers a bit about the fun and special pleasure we have. It is important for the long term future of the OGA and our boats (The beneficiaries of your estate may want to sell your boat, if you don't!)

Actually your committee is trying quite hard on this score. Bernard is spending a lot of time briefing the yachting and boating media (as well as *Classic Boat*), and they are starting to give us a bit of time. And we did have a couple of "New Entry Gaffers" at Wrabness.

Enjoy the New Season!

ARE YOU MAN ENOUGH FOR MARYLL?

Maryll still has not found a man good enough for her. After all the insults hurled by Politburo and others about her present chap, she thought there would be plenty of better men out there. But no. Even though she has to share him with two other boats, she still loves the way he paints her bottom and makes her topsides glisten. She loves the way he still finds time to take her out when all the modern plastic girls are laid up ashore. She loves him taking her to exotic places, while most of her gaffer friends are lucky if they get beyond Bench Head. Of course she is nice to him with the way she looks after him in her cosy cabin and thrills him with her exciting sailing. But she is worried that he is getting a bit too feeble to carry on with three boats and the OGA, and would like meet another chap for a long term monogamous relationship. She would make him very happy. 01206 393537 or JRWainwright@aol.com eastcoastclassics.co.uk



OGA Boat Register on Line?

Some you may be aware that there is a move to up-grade the way boat data is held by the OGA, with a view to making it more accessible to members, via the website. Most associations of our type have been doing this for some time, and rather than keep boat information hidden away, they like their members to be able to look at the register of craft for themselves. It is interesting to note that some of the smaller OGA areas already publish lists of boats with basic information in their newsletters. Unfortunately the size of the East Coast area makes this difficult, although I am having thoughts!

The plan is for members to be able to access the register, searching by name, type, builder etc., and be able to view details of individual boats, including pictures/photos. Currently OGA data is not held on a database programme but on spreadsheets, which are really for calculations rather than storing information. Spreadsheets are difficult to search through and can not hold visual information. It is no problem technically to move spreadsheet information on to a proper database. And it is possible to get a database to operate on the web. Unfortunately the whole business gets blighted by com-

puter jargon, working parties and heavy meetings, not the forte of the OGA! But we will succeed, for there is a genuine desire for the on line register.

One of the points of an organisation like the OGA is to bring information on our boats together so we can enjoy the wider knowledge. Perhaps one day we will be able to have a nice register book, like the Dutch Classics (VKSJ) had a few years ago, but that is very costly to do. But a web site based register might be the next best thing. And you can always press the print button!

2006 East Coast and Other People's Events

19/21 May	Enkhuizen OGA.nl
24/27 May	Waddenzee Cruise OGA.nl
27/29 May	Crouch Rally ECOGA*
20/28 May	Blankenberge
25/28 May	Ostend at Anchor
2/4 June	Yogaff
10 June	Medway & N Kent Race
16 June	Passage Race Brightlingsea (EC)
17 June	East Coast Old Gaffers Race (EC)*
18 June	Wivenhoe & Class 3 Race (EC)
19 June	Bradwell (EC)
24 June	RHS/OGA Holbrook & Wrabness (EC)*
8 July	Pin Mill Smack & Gaffers
15/16 July	Swallows & Amazons Walton (EC)
15 July	Rowhedge Regatta
27/31 July	Douarnenez
29 July	Wivenhoe Regatta
5 August	Swale Match
7/12 August	Mersea Week
19/28 August	August Classics Cruise (EC)*
2 September	Colne Match
9 September	Tollesbury
15/17 September	OGA/VKSJ/ Kotters Enkhuizen
23 September	OGA Anniv. & Maldon Regatta (EC)*
25 Sept/ April 07	Real Men Go Sailing!!!

** Races count to East Coast OGA Points Series*

There are many other events which the East Coast Area is not actively involved in, but may be of local interest or within reach when cruising. May is very busy with the Dutch OGA's Enkhuizen Race and Rally, followed by the Waddenzee cruise. In Belgium there is Ostend at Anchor and a similar event at Blankenberg. In the Solent Area at the beginning of June, there is the big Gaffers Festival at Yarmouth, the entries being managed by Solent OGA. A quick dash back up Channel will bring you to the Medway and North Kent's Annual Race and Rally. At the end of July you can sail back down Channel for Douarnenez, the largest of many French festivals for gaffers. More locally we have the new smack event at Pin Mill which displaced Southwold, and for those who find getting beyond Bench Head a bit of a struggle, there are numerous regattas at Wivenhoe, Rowhedge, West Mersea, Tollesbury etc. Perhaps we ought to have a special cruising award for the boat which can get to the most events over the furthest distance!

PIN MILL SMACKS & GAFFERS

8th JULY

(REPLACEMENT FOR SOUTHWOLD)

Email paul.webster@pmsc.org.uk or contact Pin Mill Sailing Club 01473 780271. Entry forms available shortly.

Crouch Rally at North Fambridge 27/29 May



Apart from the OGA Presidency leaving North Fambridge, there have been other changes at this delightful riverside haven. The new owners of the former Westwick Marina (now Fambridge Yacht Haven) have also rebuilt the floating jetty at North Fambridge would like the OGA to help celebrate their achievements. Free moorings either alongside or on a swinging mooring with ferry service are being provided. North Fambridge Yacht Club are also supporting the OGA Rally with the use of their premises and staging the race.

On the sailing side there is a passage race from home port to the North Fambridge Yacht Club (NFYC) line to get you to the rally. You can start on Friday May 26 or Saturday May 27. You will need to record time of start and finish, hours of tide with or against you, any engine hours and the distance made good (i.e. hard

luck if you have to tack!). Taking the handicap into account the OGA work out the average speed made good, and the boat with the best speed is the winner. So it is a real test of your cruising skills as well as racing!

On Sunday May 28 there is the



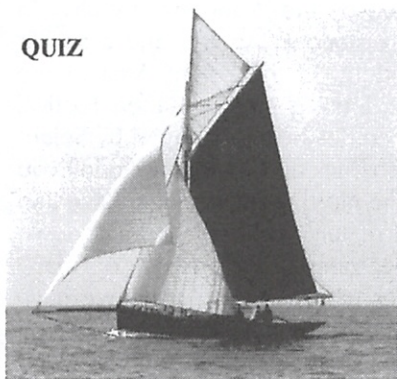
Crouch Rally Cup Race starting from the NFYC Line. The NFYC will set the course in conjunction with the OGA, to suit the conditions on the River. Fred will advise you of briefing times on Sunday morning. On Monday May 29 you may sail for home. If you don't have to return that day, there is a cruise in company up to Battles-

bridge, a real ditch crawl!

On the catering side there will be a barbecue at NFYC. The OGA will supply bread salad and pud for £5.00 a head, but you need to bring your own meat and wine. (Beer might well be supplied!) Breakfast is also on offer, bacon and egg butties at £3 each, and on Sunday evening there is fish and chips, to be washed down with any remaining beer! Alternatively you can eat at the Ferry Boat Inn. (Though we would really like you to eat our stuff as the profit helps funds!)

More details and information, ring Fred (Denise Rawlinson) 01621 783969/ 782004, mobile 07850267035. Indicate your options on the entry form and send it to Fred, rally fees £10 per member boat, £15 non -members. Entry forms can also be down loaded from the website.

QUIZ



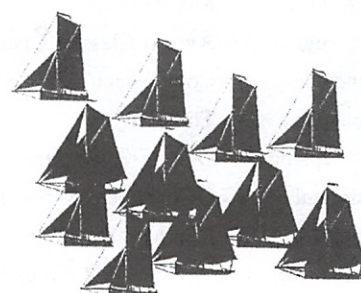
Our big event, The East Coast Race, will be run this year again from Brightlingsea. By popular request the course has been set again down the Wallet - so we are all hoping for a really good day. The Mayor of Sandwich supported by our very own Brightlingsea Deputy of the Cinque Port Liberty will start the Race - so lets give them a good show.

After last year's participation

EAST COAST OLD GAFFERS RACE 16-19 JUNE

in the anniversary celebrations for Lord Nelson we will be returning to our normal format with a Passage Race into Brightlingsea from your homeport on Thursday or Friday. Brightlingsea Harbour has agreed to offer a one-off mooring fee of £12 for the whole event, just tell the Harbourmaster you are with the OGA when you arrive. Mario Price will be here to entertain you on Friday night while you fill in all Fred's entry forms - that is, if you have not posted them to her in advance. (Make sure your handicap number is up to date for

2006..... or face the penalties from the handicap committee!) We have an early start on Saturday - 8.00 from Bate-man's Tower - now fully equipped with a bright light, visible from well out to sea - look for it if you come in after dark.



East Coast Old Gaffers Race cont.

Jon Brett will be running his ferry all weekend so you don't even have to unship your flubber to get ashore to the Colne Yacht Club.

ON Saturday night Graham the Fiddle has arranged for his band "Culich Aire" to play for you. Please bring your instruments with you, as there will be plenty of opportunity for the "OGA Band" to play.

Colne Yacht Club will be making a range of simple meals for the weekend. Please let us know if you are coming, even if you are not entering any races so we can get an idea for numbers.

ON Sunday morning dress overall and clean ship for the "Concourse D'Elegance" judged by The Deputy supported by Officers of the Colne Yacht Club and the OGA.

In the afternoon we cruise to

Wivenhoe for a Hog Roast at Wivenhoe Sailing Club. There will

bers are limited, so please if possible indicate your interest on the entry form.

EAST COAST OLD GAFFERS RACE OUTLINE PROGRAMME

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 15/16 JUNE | PASSAGE RACE FROM HOME PORT
REGISTRATION IN EVENING
MARIO PRICE ENTERTAINS |
| 17 JUNE | EAST COAST OLD GAFFERS RACE
START 0800 (EAST COAST SMACKS)
START 0810 (CLASSES 1,2 & 4)
BERMUDAN CLASSICS RACE
START 0830
PRIZE GIVING 2100
CULICH AIRE ENTERTAIN |
| 18 JUNE | CONCOURSE D'ELEGANCE 1030
CLASS 3 OPEN BOATS 1400
PARADE OF SAIL TO WIVENHOE
START 1430
HOG ROAST WIVENHOE SC |
| 19 JUNE | LUNCHTIME CRUISE TO BRADWELL
EVENING CRUISE ON PIONEER |

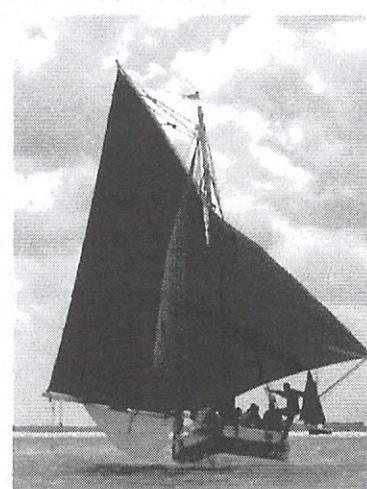
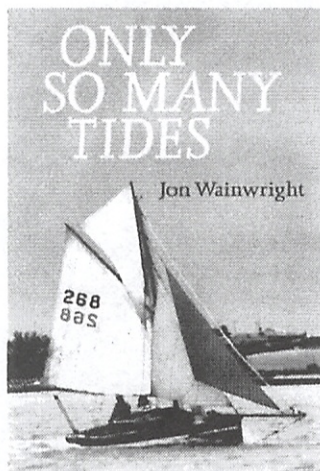
This is our big event for 2006, we are all looking forward to seeing you at Brightlingsea.

Please send in your entry forms (either as appended or print off the web site) as soon as you can. If possible we will post your sailing instructions to you in advance. Even if you have sailing instructions, you will still need to register on shore Friday night. As there is an early start there will be no time in the morning to register craft and issue with racing numbers etc. Also you must make sure you have a declaration form before you start.

also we a race for open boats finishing at Wivenhoe. The CYC will be open in the evening for socialising.

On Monday many of you will be cruising home, but for the hardened Brigaff supporters there will be a cruise to The Green Man at Bradwell for a late lunch soon after low tide. For deep draft boats this may involve some dinghy activity and some walking...And in the evening back at Brightlingsea, we have something really special- a trip on Pioneer, the big ketch rigged smack. Num-

Further updates on information eastcoastclassics.co.uk



JOINT EVENT WITH R.H.S WRABNESS & HOLBROOK 24 JUNE

After the success of last year and the formal affiliation with the Royal Hospital School, the OGA are planning to repeat the event.

For those coming by boat, meet up at Wrabness on Friday 23 June. There are normally plenty of vacant moorings to choose from. Mike Robertson, the event organizer, should be there to greet you, and advise on details of Saturday's events.

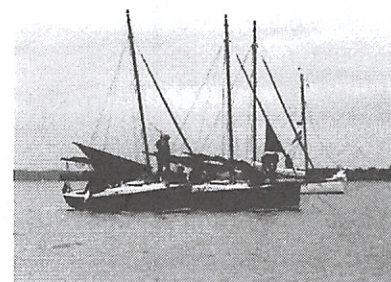
High water is at 11.30 and the plan is for boats to make their way over to Holbrook- you may be able to anchor off the entrance to the creek and the RHS rib take you ashore. There will be a walk through the grounds of the school complex, and you will be given a guided tour of the buildings and an outline of the history of the school, which goes

back to Captain Kidd's treasure! The school will lay on a breakfast buffet for you, before you return to the boats. In the afternoon there will be a race out of the river and Harwich Harbour, returning on the young flood. In the evening there will be a barbecue and party on the beach at Wrabness.

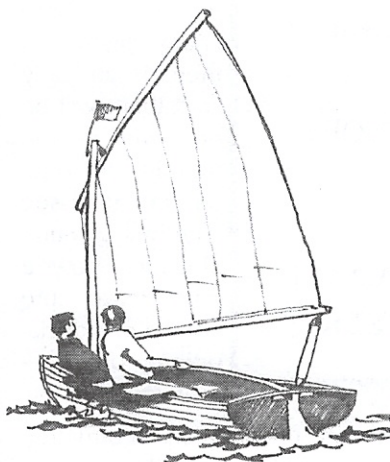
The RHS has connections with seafaring going back hundreds of years, and event today a large proportion of the pupils are from seafaring parents in the Royal and Merchant Navies. The RHS is also seconded to Thames Coastguard, and some of its pupils have had professional training. They have a responsibility for part of the estuarial waters of the Stour and Orwell, and their RIB can sometimes be seen in action attending an incident or on patrol.

This is a great opportunity for OGA Public Relations, and who knows, recruit some younger gaffers in the future.

The Entry form is appended (or can be down loaded from the website), please return ASAP. For further details contact Mike on 01473 327115



SWALLOWS AND AMAZONS 15 /16 JULY



This is the big event for little boats on the East coast. We will be racing, cruising and messing about in the Walton Backwaters, otherwise known as Arthur Ransome's Secret Waters, on the weekend of 15/16* July. We welcome all little boats - scows, smacks boats, jewels and dinghies of all kinds. There will be classes for vintage dinghies, and modern replicas, so please come and join us.

Walton & Frinton Yacht Club have again kindly invited us to host the event at their clubhouse.

I encourage you to come down Friday night and register if you can, as we can be quite busy with last minute arrivals and sorting out individual requirements. Saturday afternoon, about two hours before HW (HW 1545) we will be racing the traditional Swallows and Amazons Round the Island Race. Later in the afternoon we will be honing our skills at paper boats design and later on we will have prize giving, followed by supper laid on at the club. It is also planned to have a band. On Sunday morning there will be a car boot sale for boat equipment, so fill the dinghy with any of your surplus gear! Later on we will set off again around the Walton Backwaters for a picnic and

Treasure Hunt, aiming to be back ashore late afternoon.

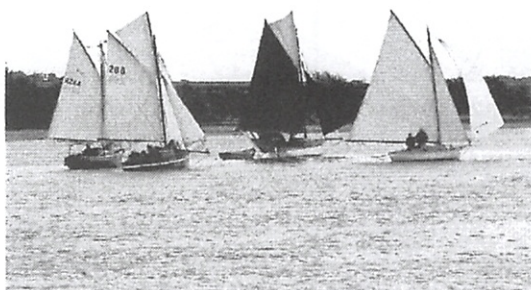
There are launching slips available from half tide onwards for those arriving by road. Those coming by sea may want to book a mooring for a mother ship at Yacht club pond or at Titchmarsh marina. Those with tents and caravans are welcome, but please let me know so that we can have space ready for you.

Full information will be sent to those who enter by post. For more info please call Tessa or on 01629 540 601 OR Julia 01284706034.



AUGUST CLASSICS CRUISE 19-28 AUGUST

A great new itinerary is planned for this year, PLUS revisiting some of our old favourites, plus a new venue for the ECOGA. This touring event is the only one of its kind on the East Coast, and you are unlikely to find anything quite like it anywhere!



Yes we have racing, yes we have cruising, yes we have open boats, yes we have fun! There is a huge number of trophies, many going back to the days of Shotley Classic Boat Festival. There is a big range of venues, and the Classics is a marvellous way of enjoying a lovely part of the East Coast of England, in company with lovely boats.

From bustling ports to secluded anchorages, there is a wide range of venues. In the interests of civilisation (yes we do wash occasionally on the East Coast) and feeding, we have pit stops arranged in comfortable marinas. But we also moor up in quiet places, well away from the holiday crowds, exploring secret waters and having barbecues on beaches.

We begin by meeting up at Ipswich Wet Dock, now an OGA World Presidential Port, on Saturday 19 August. There is a timed passage event from home ports, where skippers declare salient details of time on passage, tides fair and foul, distance run, and the OGA, like no other organisation can, will work out an average speed made good, taking into account these factors and the rating of the boat. The best speed on corrected time is the winner! The World President will welcome you from the Crows Nest of his Ipswich Residence.

Sunday is regatta day in the dock, where we have a range of watersports, including dinghy sailing and

rowing, plus some fun games, such as blindfold rowing, dinghy foot ball and salvaging plastic ducks. Prize Giving, briefing and a party will follow.

Monday is time for a bit of relaxation in quiet waters- that is after you have competed in the famous "Two Rivers Race", which takes you down the Orwell, round Shotley Spit/ Bloody Point, then up the River Stour to Wrabness for a fabulous Barbecue on the Beach. Tuesday is a lazy little cruise (or racing practice to improve sail handling) to the Walton Backwaters. You may choose to enter Titchmarsh Marina, or anchor /moor in the Twizle and go up by dinghy, either way we meet up at the Harbour Lights club-

house there, for a drink, a meal and a briefing. The hygienic can also wash!

The briefing is for Wednesday's racing. The open boats will have a race in the Backwaters, shades of Swallows and Amazons. The big boats will do a course out to sea and back, for the Pennyhole Bay Race. Or you can have a nice day pottering round the creeks, before meeting up at Stone Point for a barbecue in the evening. The OGA have been barbecuing on Stone Point in August for about 35 years, in all weathers, sometimes singing in the rain under a bin liner, sometimes gazing at the stars in the summer sky.

Thursday the fleet sets off northwards up the coast to the Deben entrance, and cruises up the winding Suffolk River to the historic town of Woodbridge, to berth in the famous Tide Mill Yacht Harbour. We will stay there over night, meeting up for a meal, there will be time to victual the ship, and wash once again. Then on Friday afternoon we drift lazily down stream to Ramsholt, where we moor for the night and go ashore to the Ramsholt Arms for a drink and briefing for the next days racing.

Saturday's race for the Scandinavian Seaways Bells starts from Woodbridge Haven Buoy, and we head south to Harwich Harbour, then up the River Orwell to finish off Levington and Suffolk Yacht Harbour. We meet up at the Haven Ports Yacht

Club (which is a converted Light Ship) for the briefing for our final day's racing on Sunday.

Sunday is the day of the "President's Race" and the Harwich Haven Trophy. After the racing we return for a meal at the Haven Ports Yacht Club and the grand prize giving. Not only will the individual race trophies be awarded, but also the "Victor Ludorum" Trophy for the best over all performance during the August Classics Cruise. There will also be awards for open boat racing. Open boats will be racing at Wrabness, Walton and Levington, and depending on weather and circumstances, we will have all sorts of fun "messaging about in boats" and perhaps a time trial or two wherever we moor up!

The entry fee for the 8 days, which includes 5 races, is only £30, but you will have to pay your mooring, bar and restaurant bills! If you can not make the whole event, you are welcome join in for any part of it at a reduced fee (£ 10 per day). Open boats entered individually are £10 for the whole cruise, free if normally in use as a tender. Every entrant will receive a special souvenir prize, and we have a huge number of prizes and awards for the races and regatta. But the main emphasis of this event is sailing together, which we can do whether we race or cruise!

AUGUST CLASSICS CRUISE

- 19 AUG PASSAGE TO IPSWICH
- 20 AUG REGATTA WET DOCK
- 21 AUG 2 RIVERS RACE & BBQ WRABNESS
- 22 AUG CRUISE TO WALTON BACKWATERS
- 23 AUG PENNYHOLE BAY RACE
- 24 AUG CRUISE TO WOOD-BRIDGE
- 25 AUG DRIFT TO RAMSHOLT
- 26 AUG PASSAGE TO LEVING-TON
- 27 AUG PRESIDENTS RACE
- 28 AUG DEPART FOR HOME

CROUCH RALLY ENTRY FORM

Boat Name			Length Overall	
Skipper			Type (smack, nobby, etc)	
Telephone /email			Rig-e.g.-gaff cutter bermuda, sloop,	
Address			Sail/ fishing no	
			Year Built	
			Hull construction	
No. people on board		<i>Info needed for S.A.R. reasons- if different on day please advise race officer</i>	Colour Hull	
adults			Col. Main	
children			Col Staysail	
			Col jib	
			Col Mizzen	
			Col Racing flag	
			THCF (if known)	
			<i>If you do not have a 2003/4/5 handicap you must complete boat register form or face a 10% penalty!</i>	

I give permission for details provided to be used as part of the OGA archive.

I understand that the Races will be sailed under current RYA and IYRU rules (except as specifically modified in the Sailing Instructions). I agree to accept the Race Committee's decision as final on all points of handicapping and conduct of the Races. I confirm that my vessel is covered by third party insurance to an adequate level,

(Signed) (Date)

PLEASE TICK EVENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART IN

- ☐ Passage Race from home Port to Fambridge
- ☐ OGA Crouch Rally Race Race on Sunday

ENTRY FEES: Passage Race & Crouch Rally Race (£10)

DONATION (Thank you)

TOTAL (Cheques made payable to Old Gaffers Association)

Other information of interest about your vessel- please continue on another sheet if necessary:-

Please send completed form with cheque to Denise Rawlinson, 24 Russet Way, Burnham on Crouch, Essex CMO 8RB

EAST COAST OLD GAFFERS RACE ENTRY FORM

REEDS NO _____

Boat Name		Length Overall	
Skipper		Type-(smack, yacht etc)	
Telephone /email		Rig-(gaff, cutter bermuda, sloop,)	
Address		Sail/ fishing no	
		Year Built	
		Hull construction	
No. people on board	Info needed for S.A.R. reasons- if different on day please advise race officer	Colour Hull	
adults		Col. Main	
children		Col Staysail	
I give permission for details provided to be used as part of the OGA archive. I understand that the Races will be sailed under current RYA and IYRU rules (except as specifically modified in the Sailing Instructions). I agree to accept the Race Committee's decision as final on all points of handicapping and conduct of the Races. I confirm that my vessel is covered by third party insurance to an adequate level, (Signed) (Date)		Col jib	
		Col Mizzen	
		Col Racing flag	
		THCF (if known)	
		<i>If you do not have a 2003/4 handicap you must complete boat register form or face a 10% penalty!</i>	

PLEASE TICK EVENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART IN

- ☐ Passage Race to Brightlingsea June 16 ☐ Mooring B'sea Harbour Required
☐ East Coast Old Gaffers Race June 17 ☐ Class 3 Old Gaffers Race to Wivenhoe June 18
☐ Parade of Sail to Wivenhoe June 18
☐ Cruise in Company to Bradwell ☐ Evening Cruise on Pioneer (no's)

£

ENTRY FEES:

EAST COAST OLD GAFFERS RACE & Rally @ £15 (£20 non member)

DONATION (Thank you)

TOTAL (Cheques made payable to Old Gaffers Association)

Other information of interest about your vessel-please continue on another sheet if necessary:-

Please send completed form with cheque to Denise Rawlinson, 24 Russet Way, Burnham on Crouch, Essex CMO 8RB

RHS RALLY ENTRY FORM

REEDS NO _____

Boat Name		Length Overall	
Skipper		Type-(smack, yacht etc)	
Telephone /email		Rig-(gaff, cutter bermuda, sloop,)	
Address		Sail/ fishing no	
		Year Built	
		Hull construction	
No. people on board	<i>Info needed for S.A.R. reasons- if different on day please advise race officer</i>	Colour Hull	
adults		Col. Main	
children		Col Staysail	
I give permission for details provided to be used as part of the OGA archive. I understand that the Races will be sailed under current RYA and IYRU rules (except as specifically modified in the Sailing Instructions). I agree to accept the Race Committee's decision as final on all points of handicapping and conduct of the Races. I confirm that my vessel is covered by third party insurance to an adequate level, (Signed) (Date)		Col jib	
		Col Mizzen	
		Col Racing flag	
		THCF (if known)	
<i>If you do not have a 2003/4 handicap you must complete boat register form or face a 10% penalty!</i>			

PLEASE TICK EVENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART IN

- ☐ Visit to Royal Hospital School- no's for buffet ____
- ☐ Old Gaffers Race
- ☐ Barbecue Wrabness No's for eating _____

ENTRY FEES:

Rally Entry Fee @ £10 (£15 non member)

DONATION (Thank you)

TOTAL (Cheques made payable to Old Gaffers Association)

£

Other information of interest about your vessel- please continue on another sheet if necessary:-

Please send completed form with cheque to Denise Rawlinson, 24 Russet Way, Burnham on Crouch, Essex CMO 8RB

SWALLOWS AND AMAZONS ENTRY FORM 15/16th July 2006

Boat Name			Length Overall	
Skipper			Type-(scow, smacks boat, jewel, tender..)	
Telephone /email			Rig - (gaff sloop, cutter, no jib etc)	
Address			Sail no.	
			Year Built	
			Hull (clinker / GRP / double diagonal)	
No. people on board		<i>Info needed for S.A.R. reasons- if different on day please advise race officer</i>	Colour Hull	
adults			Colour Mains'l	
children			Colour Jib	
			Col. Racing flag	
			THCF (if known)	
			Other information of interest about your boat:	
			<i>If you have not submitted your measurements previously, please do - forms are available from the address below or from the website</i> http://www.eastcoastclassics.co.uk	

I give permission for details provided to be used as part of the OGA archive.

I understand that the Races will be sailed under current RYA and IYRU rules (except as specifically modified in the Sailing Instructions). I agree to accept the Race Committee's decision as final on all points of handicapping and conduct of the Races. I confirm that my vessel is covered by third party insurance to an adequate level,

(Signed)..... (Date)

PLEASE TICK ANY THAT APPLY:

- ☐ Require a mooring for yacht over the weekend
- ☐ Plan to camp
- ☐ Plan to bring camper van

ENTRY FEES: £5 per dinghy for members of W&FYC or OGA

£7 per dinghy non-members

DONATION (Thank you)

TOTAL (Cheques made payable to Old Gaffers Association)

£

Please send completed form with cheque to: Tessa & Stuart Hodgkinson, Mining High, Mining Lane, Carsington, Derbyshire DE4 4DE Tel: 01629 540 601 - a full instruction pack will be sent out to you.

AUGUST CLASSICS CRUISE (19th---28th) ENTRY FORM REEDS No _____

Boat Name		Length Overall	
<u>Skipper</u>		Type-(smack, yacht etc)	
<u>Telephone /email</u>		Rig-(gaff, cutter bermuda, sloop,)	
Address		Sail/ fishing no	
		Year Built	
		Hull construction	
No. people on board	Info needed for S.A.R. reasons- if different on day please advise race officer	Colour Hull	
adults		Col. Main	
children		Col Staysail	
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		Col Mizzen	
		Col Racing flag	
		THCF (if known)	
		If you do not have a 2003/4 handicap you must complete boat register form or face a 10% penalty!	

PLEASE TICK EVENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART IN

- ☐ Saturday 19 Aug- Passage Race to Ipswich
☐ Monday 21st Aug - 2 Rivers Race ☐ **Dinghy sailing** PM. ☐ **BBQ** Wrabness (£6/head) Qty
☐ Wednesday 23rd Aug- Pennyhole Bay Race ☐ **Dinghy Sailing in Backwaters**
☐ Thursday 24th Aug- Cruise to Woodbridge ☐ Berth needed at Woodbridge
☐ Saturday 26th Aug-Scandinavian Seaways Race to Orwell. ☐ **Dinghy sailing.** Pm ☐ Berth needed at
 Levington Marina.
☐ Sunday 27th Aug- Presidents **Race.** ☐ **Meals** in The Lightship Qty ?.....
 Marina berthing fees NOT included.

ENTRY FEES: AUGUST CRUISE@ £30 includes sailing tender. £10 dinghy only. (£40 non member)

DONATION (Thank you)

TOTAL (Cheques made payable to Old Gaffers Association)

Other information of interest about your vessel - please continue on the other side of the sheet if necessary:-

Continue overleaf

Please send completed form with cheque to Denise Rawlinson, 24 Russet Way, Burnham on Crouch, Essex, CM0 8RB