

JAN 89

The Old Gaffers' Association

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January, 1989.

MEMBERS.

Sincerely hope all goes well with you & that our association goes from strength to strength.

Our next meeting will be a East Fremantle Yacht Club, 8.00p.m. Tuesday, 7th February.

Welcome to our new member Geoff Ogden & his craft "Merlin" which is one of the famous Couta boats & these move along very smartly.

The Rart up was attended by Peter Kinlyside, Brian Axcell, Jon Armstrong, Marion & Allan Horridge, Helen & Ken Harvey with their respective yachts, quite a few other members, friends & family & crew came along, which made quite a gathering, we must do this again.

Saw John Northern reaching across Melville waters in "Odyssey" on a December Thursday moving very fast in a brisk SouWester, also noticed Jean Dee around the bays at Rottnest in January. Another fine sight was the 180ft Topsail Schooner XXXX running under full sail on the North Side of the Island.

Morning Glory broke away from her moorings in January & was extensively damaged, sorry to hear this Helen & Ken & trust repairs are well under way.

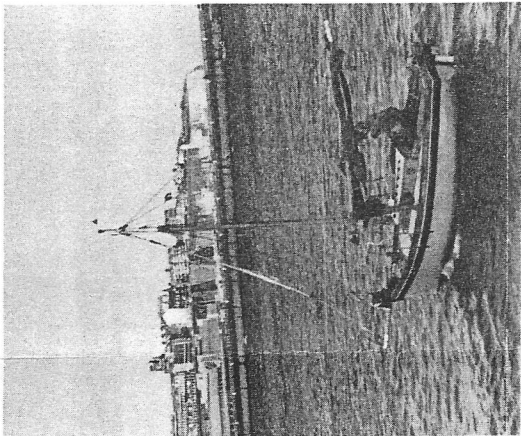
The English O.G.A. held their Silver Jubilee Rally at Ramsgate during July, a copy of the entries are attached together with results, please note the age & variety of craft which I feel is most interesting

Please Note following & advise me if you intend coming down & sailing instructions will be sent to you:-

The Cruising Yacht Club of Rockingham has already held 2 races for craft such as ours & have invited us to compete on Sunday, 5th February at 10.15 a.m. The course is from Rockingham to Garden Island rounding 2 marks on the way, the course is all broad reaching & running, no beating up wind, a BW at Garden Island with dinghy accompanied to shore & either back to the Club for the evening & prizes or a straight run back to Fremantle (your choice)

They suggest you go down on Saturday & sleep the night. This should suit our craft particularly well & I sincerely trust you can make it.

Frank Marchant.

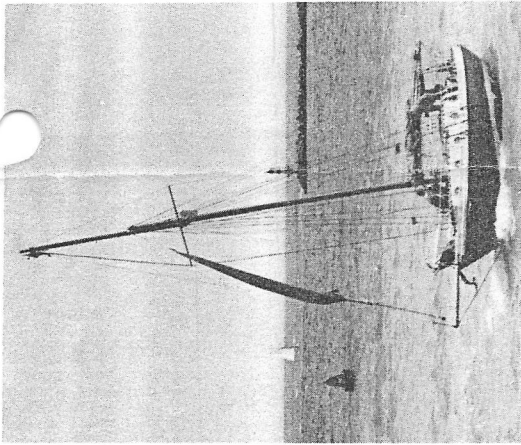


Alice

SILVER JUBILEE RALLY Ramsgate 29/31 July.

Ramsgate was chosen for the special Silver Jubilee Rally because it is situated within easy reach of the East Coast and the Medway/Swale areas yet not too far for Chichester/Solent based boats to get to. The hope was that major areas of our Association would get together, really for the first time, although a few individual boats do occasionally sail to other area events. In addition the port is close to the Continent and we could expect interest from Holland, Germany and France, and coupled with the probability of a trailerborne contingent from further flung reaches of the British Isles we set out to make it a special event.

The Royal Temple Yacht Club offered to host us and their officers, members and staff could not have been more helpful, the Harbour Manager and Port Authority and Officials were equally helpful and we succeeded in finding some very good



Sea Eagle

Photos C. Robbins

sponsorship which enabled us to purchase prizes and print a souvenir programme.

With our initial publicity the response was excellent over 120 replies from members and some further 30 enquiries from abroad. When we finally sent out entry forms the response was good and owners of 113 boats had sent in entries of which 20 were from the Continent.

Then the weather stepped in; the weekend before blew a good S.W. 8 after 5 to 6 was forecast. Indeed your intrepid Editor was taken in by this, setting out in Storm from Rye in what was the top end of a force 6 - can't get worse can it? - but surfing down mountainous waves off Dover pinned to the helm I knew the answer to that one, and an average speed for the 45 miles of 7.3 knots proves that it is not only the midday sun that attracts mad dogs and Englishmen. However it sensibly put off all but a few from the Solent who took advantage of the night time lull with several only getting to Brighton. As the



The Winning Crew of Noorderzon.
Photo R. Francis

rest of the week was similar with atrocious forecasts for the weekend we were very pleased to muster 30 boats of which 4 were trailerborne. Unfortunately but not surprisingly none from across the ditch made it but the mix otherwise (several new to OGA events) was spread from Poole in the West to Ipswich in North plus Peeric Maa, a Shetland Eeela boat trailed all the way from Cumbria.

A very social evening ensued, there were two of the originator Elder Gaffers, John Clarke and Mike Richardson, President Robert Simper, Vice Presidents Rob Williamson and Ron Francis, Association Hon. Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Register Editors and three Area Secretaries, several founder members and many new ones and many a good sailor's yarn was told.

Saturday dawned windy but bright and because we had stayed in the inner harbour overnight at the suggestion of the Harbour Master (there were over 120 boats in the outer harbour pontoons sheltering from the weather) we had only a 4 hour window to run the race. Well nothing is perfect, the gate was late opening which put us out just in time to have to wait for a Sally Line Ferry which meant the tide was on the



Second by a short bobstay
the crew of Tee Jay.

Photo R. Francis

the prizegiving was unique in the annals of OGA history with all boats entering the race receiving a prize for sundry unusual or extraordinary sailing activities during the race. All totally hilarious and not a protest flag in sight! Prizes were then given for the Concors d'Elegance, winners selected by

turn.

Much could be written about gaffers sailing fast to the Goodwins only to find on the reciprocal tack the delights of Broadstairs 5 miles back down the course. Bonita and the winkle brig Mary Agnes did succeed in reaching Pegwell Bay but only Noorderzon (East Coast board) and Tee Jay (Solent Area) managed to beat the tide and complete the course in that order.

In the evening we held a small reception for the Mayor, our sponsors and members of the Harbour Authority and Officers of the Royal Temple Y.C. after which was the prize giving and a very fine buffet supper.

After the two major prizes had been presented to the Walkers of Noorderzon and Bentons of Tee Jay, the remainder of

bulk of the fleet it turned into a leisurely sun and beer drenched amble around the perimeters of Carrick Roads, watching with cheerful resignation as the smaller boats, grasping at every fleeting zephyr slowly crept ahead into the mounting haze in mounting pursuit of prizes ...

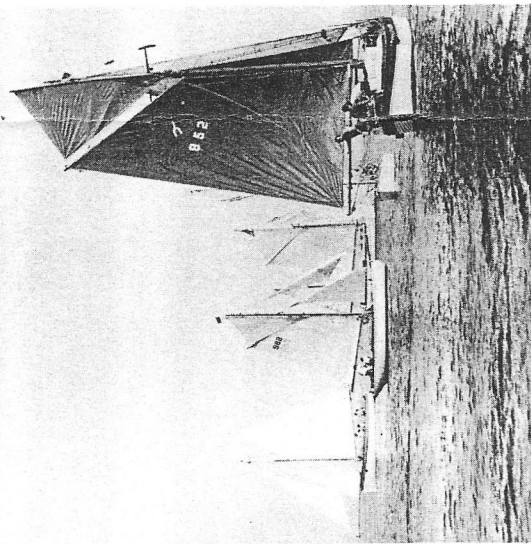
Results:

Class Winners:
Class 1 Redwing Jeremy Burnett.
Class 2 Lorean Shaun Murley.
Class 3 Iron III David Carne.
Tosher Trophy: Dorcas Anne Freddy Pullen.
Tupperware Trophy: Jay John Fearnley.

Mike Jones, overall winner of last year's race in Jade managed to pull off a double, this time in his 'new' boat Curlaw, and in accordance with local tradition earned himself the title and burgee of local Commodore for the second year running.

In addition to the major trophies all class winners were presented with delightful mementoes of the occasion, miniature brass gaff jaws made by a new local member, Martin Page, owner of Fanny, and two additional special trophies were also awarded, the Tortoise Trophy, (no prizes for guessing what for) to Kirsty, Pete and Fran Flutter, and the Peak Pin, usually awarded for 'valour and chivalry' was unanimously bestowed upon Steve Gore for coping so manfully with the hail of abuse at the start!

There was however an additional special award this year - a Mylor Yacht Club burgee was presented to Bob and Lesley Swan for travelling the furthest to compete in the race in their very pretty Herreshoff designed Taitoa - a mere 28,000 miles from New Zealand, via Japan, Tahiti and



Cornwall Area Race jockeying for the start
L to R Lyonesse, Ark Royal,
Taitoa, Miss Agnes and *Ella Speed*.
Photo Mark Fishwick

Cape Horn and the Azores.

This classic 36 foot ketch is one of L. Francis Herreshoff's Nereia designs, as featured in his 'Sensible Yacht Designs' and was built in New Zealand in 1974. Gaff rigged on the main she sports a large topsail, and is bermudan rigged on the mizzen, and with her long low profile she had proved to be a fast passage maker, logging 179 miles noon to noon on their last day into Falmouth from the Azores, running before a mounting gale. However, soon after the Swan's arrival in Falmouth there was an additional treat for them when the mighty 79 foot Herreshoff ketch Ticonderoga put into the port briefly en route to the Baltic ... she alas is not gaff rigged, but a magnificent sight none the less, often reckoned to be the designer's masterwork, launched as Tigga II in 1936, it was, for any fans of L. Francis, a rare treat to see the two boats lying side by

ENTRIES

List of entries as at 23 June. An updated list will be available at the O.G.A. office in Ramsgate at the start of the rally.

Vessel	LOA	Type	Year	Entrant
Adelle	18	Blackwater Sloop	1964	R.T. Austen
Andorra PZ288	24	Cornish Lugger	1890	E. Gifford
Annatilde	18	Itchen Ferry		C. Robins
Aussie II	19	Cornish Shrimper	1986	T. Rawlinson
Avril May	26	Polperro gaffer	1912	A. Barrett
Baldr	25	Folkboat (gaff)		Harm Ploeger
Barbella	24	Huskey Hustler Ctr		D.C. Wesley
Blue Jacket	21	Itchen Ferry	1896	T. Beckett
Blue Nymph	26	Gaff Ketch	1939	Rev. P. Taylor
Bon Esperance	21	Sloop		Dezard
Bonita	34	Yawl	1888	M. Beckett
Charlotte May	24	Cornish Crabber	1982	P. & J. Banks
Chiriya	24	Itchen Ferry	1925	T. Fitzpatrick
Chittabob IV	30	E.C. One Design	1913	A. Keeble
Chloe May	41	Cutter	1982	C.P. Bengston
Crumbs	11	Barge Dinghy	1905	P. Gunnnett
Deva	23	Rivers Class	1912	J. Wainwright
Dolly	16	Winkle Brig (g.r.p.)		E. Berquist
Eel	21	Humber Yawl	1897	M McCulloch
Elain	32	Schooner	1903	B.C. Deacon
Eliza Maud	24	J. Leather cutter	1971	C.J. Guy
Elver	17	Cutter	1972	Wg.Cdr. T. Eeles
Emanuel	30	Cutter	1928	R. Holden
Firefly	35	Yawl Albert Strange	1922	J. Clay
Greenshank	26	Falmouth Quay Punt	1914	D. Hunt
Hope of Portleven	34	B.C. Pilot Ctr	1906	M. Pont
Ishmael	17	Zulu open boat	1986	R.E. Sutton
Janty	23	Deben 4 Tonner	1939	B. & G. Jago
Jennie of Paglesham	25	Gaff Cutter	1947	M.R. Turner
Jeune Ariane	45	Cutter	1977	Dominique de Recy
Jubilee	21	Deben Cherub	1935	B. Green
Karreket	15	Drascombe Dabber		R. Aish
Kitty	26	Cornish Crabber	1982	W. Coleman
Lady Hilary	24	Cutter	1980	C. Kinghorn