OGA
EASTCOAST GAFFERS
BERWICK-ON-TWEED TO RAMSGATE

Area Committee: 2026 - 2027

Area President: Paul Masters



Paul Masters

I have been an East Coast OGA member since 1993 with my wife Jo. We sail 'Clytie' a gaff cutter built in Woodbridge in 1922, where we live, for Jo's Great Grandfather. Our three children have grown up sailing 'Clytie', and with other East Coast young gaffers now skipper and race with the East Coast Gaffers. Last year we ventured further afield, crossing the Atlantic in our boat purchased for the adventure 'Skybird'. When I am not sailing or thinking about sailing, I run an International Horticultural Sales & Consultancy business.

Area Vice President: Ed Roberts



Ed Roberts

I've been sailing with the East Coast OGA since the age of 10 when I was invited on the smack 'Quiz' with my uncle and aunt for the OGA 40th anniversary cruise.

Since then I have returned for the cruise most years, and now chair the organising committee. Over the years I have been the beneficiary of the kindness that typifies the OGA, being lent boats to skipper from the age of 16. These range from a GRP Corribee to workboats and then 'Dirty Girty' for which I am best known. I now sail with my wife on our own smack 'Daisy Bell' and take 'Girty' across country to meet and race with other areas.

Honorary Area Vice President: Francis Mogg



Francis Mogg

As a keen sailor from childhood days, Francis learned to sail in Fowey River Class, gunter rig dinghies. Since 2000 he has been the proud owner of 'Stella Marjorie', a Cornish Crabber Mk 1.

Francis is a qualified RYA Coastal Skipper and member of the Royal Northumberland YC. Francis represents Members in the north of the East Coast Area and found the OGA through his late friend, NE Area President, Des O'Meara.

Area Secretary: Jodi Warren



Jodi Warren

I first met the East Coast Old Gaffers at North Fambridge in 2003, shortly after I met John and 'William' (John's Morecombe Bay Prawner).

Having never sailed before, it was all a bit overwhelming but I've been sailing and attending East Coast events ever since. We live in Ipswich - 'William' is on the Orwell - and we love sailing the beautiful East Coast rivers. I have thoroughly enjoyed participating in OGA events and look forward to being part of the committee.

Clare Roberts



Clare Roberts

I have recently joined the EC Area Committee in a new supporting role to assist with People Development and to chair meetings as and when needed! I have been sailing with the East Coast Gaffers for quite a few years having been introduced by my brother Pete Elliston (PTK), sister-in-law Sarah Adie and sons Ed and Will Roberts. We don't have a gaff rig boat, but my husband John and I regularly benefit from OGA Members giving us the opportunity to crew for them. Mostly I sail on 'Rely' and 'Reverie', loving every minute even though much of my time has been spent in the galley!

I have introduced and organised several safari suppers into the East Coast Summer Cruise and been known to run the occasional charity auction for the OGA East Coast. I am here to help support and grow the Committee as new people join the organisation. My day job is a Consultant Facilitator and Trainer, specialising in People and Team Development working mainly in the Third Sector with conservation organisations.

Gaffling Champion: Marie-Louise Ferrigno



Marie-Louise Ferrigno

I grew up sailing dinghies in the Med with my mum, then moved on to bigger boats through the crew pool at Shotley Sailing Club. Just before lockdown I met my partner Sam, who had just launched his self-built Cape Henry 21, 'Acorn'. In 2021 we moved to the east coast to be nearer her and have been exploring the local waters ever since.

We joined the OGA in 2025 and began sailing round the UK in stages, trailering 'Acorn' home for repairs between legs. When we're not aboard her, I crew on other gaffers whenever I can. Part of the fun is the OGA members themselves, who are so welcoming and lovely.

In autumn 2026 I took over from Pete 'The Knife' Elliston as Gaffling Champion. With a wonderful group of Gaffling Guardians behind me, I have lofty plans to build on the legacy.

Eastcoaster Editor: Beverley Yates

I joined the OGA, with husband Steve, when we purchased 'Cachalot' in 2005. After our first season sailing, we spent ten years restoring her and got to know many East Coast Gaffers who provided excellent support and encouragement throughout the long project. I was the National OGA Editor (Log and Online) 2014 - 2020, with Steve doing all the 'colouring in' to make the publications look good. Until retiring, we ran our own business for print and online.

My role as Editor for Eastcoaster includes the EC Gaffers website, monthly email campaigns and a quarterly printed newsletter. I also help Nick with managing promotion and bookings for EC OGA events locally and in the national press.



Beverley Yates

Nick Phillips

My boats have been getting smaller in recent years - currently sailing dinghies including borrowing one of the excellent East Coast Gafflings from time to time. I learnt to sail on the River Medway, when there was still an oil refinery there, in a club boasting many boatbuilders and traditional boats.

I find the mud and shoals of our East Coast cruising ground to be perfect!



Nick Phillips by Brian Sadler

George Hutley

My first experience of sailing was in 2011. I attended the East Coast Summer Cruise starting at Ipswich. There were 100 people on 'Rely' singing happy birthday to a boat. As a non sailing person I found this to be most odd. However I did decide to stay and see out the week, crewing on 'Rely'. I haven't looked back.



George Hutley

Carey Stephenson

I've been an OGA member for over 15 years, joining to sail in company with fellow Vertue owners on the East Coast. I felt it was time to give back and help by being a Committee member. There is a wealth of knowledge within the organisation which is happily shared. I look forward to learning more and getting a greater understanding of the current tech. world.



Carey Stephenson

Ken Crudgington

I joined the OGA in 2007 after meeting Rob Williamson at a Vertue owner's rally. Although we only have three corners on our mainsail we feel warmly welcomed into the Association. I started sailing in dinghies and worked my way through the various levels and have now graduated to slightly bigger boats. Since retiring from teaching, we have bought a little lugsail dinghy which we can tow to some of the small boat events. I joined the committee in 2022 and look forward to helping organise future events.

Area Treasurer: Yvonne Graham

I joined the OGA with my husband after he purchased and renovated 'Firefly' in the early 1990's. More recently we (well, mainly Rik) have sailed 'Kelpie 2' before selling her last year. I have been involved with the committee for about ten years, latterly as minutes secretary. Although we no longer sail due to ill-health, we are both still very committed to the OGA which has been a source of so much friendship and assistance over the years. Having spent all my working life in finance, I hope that I can now bring my experience to the role of Treasurer.