

Summary of the President's Report

Although it was a privilege and honour to be asked to be President it was in exceptional circumstances and it has been a very steep learning curve for me, who has had no previous experience as an Officer of the Association.

I will continue to seek the views and support of the membership to help me address the more difficult issues we face, some of which will be discussed later in the meeting.

Fortunately much of the business of the Association is run by experienced individuals and sub committees without whom I would not have been able to cope and I would particularly like to thank the Championship Committee, Technical & Rules Committee, Mainsail and Exhibitions team, Cruising/Vintage Groups, Training team, Area Reps (ARs) and Fleet Captains (FCs).

Recognising that positive action is required to stem the decline in income I have set-up a group led by Ann Penny to tackle the problem and work with our main recruiters the ARs and FCs. I would like to encourage you all go back to your clubs, energise your FCs and if necessary take on the job yourselves. We all need to start working to keep your Association viable.

Andy Bury had to resign as Secretary mid-year due to family commitments and I would like to send Andy my best wishes and thank both him for his sterling efforts and Peter Guest for stepping into the role.

After 10 years of loyal and committed service as our Administrator Sue Sinclair has decided to Retire. I know we all send Sue and Ian our best wishes for a long and happy retirement!

We are currently seeking a replacement for Sue and an announcement informing you of the successful candidate will be made shortly.

I would like to close by thanking both current officers and committee members and those volunteering to take on new posts.

Duncan Greenhalgh
12 August 2013

Summary of the Honorary Secretary's Report

I would like to start by thanking Andy Bury who has completed a long spell as secretary and doing superb work and say it has been a pleasure to help Duncan who has remained Calm throughout his difficulties.

Dinghy Show

We exhibited at the Dinghy Show again this year. It was an excellent performance by all involved. Well done to all involve particularly Liz Hall who led the team.

Mainsail

Still goes from strength to strength. Thanks again to Liz Hall the Editor. However, Liz has stated that a new Editor of Mainsail is required as she wishes to hand over to a successor as soon as possible.

Membership

Membership is still in decline but, as stated by Duncan, plans are in place to address this and support from all members is required to reenergise the FCs and make sure that as many GP14 sailors are members of our Association.

Championships

The 2012 Worlds were outstandingly well run and totally successful. I am sure that this championship committee led by the very industrious and competent Gill Beddow have created a great UK National Championship here at Largs.

We have confirmation that we can hold a World Championship at East Down next year, which I am sure will also be superb.

The UK Nationals next year will be a 3 day event at Weymouth and the Gill is already in discussion with clubs for 2015 and 2016 ensuring our place in the waiting list for the premier locations.

Technical and Rules

The T&R Committee continue to work tirelessly on our behalf.

Trustee Meeting

We held a formal meeting with the Trustees of the Association in July, the first meeting for 30 years, particularly to discuss the investment and use of the Association's reserves.

Office

Sue is still doing a wonderful job continuing to be efficient and always having her finger on the pulse – Thank you Sue!!!

She will be difficult to replace, but the process is underway and it is typical of Sue that she had given us enough notice to ensure a managed handover.

The Future

It has been a pleasure to work with Duncan and see him grow into his job. He has gathered a very fine committee around him.

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT, THE FUTURE IS GREEN(halgh).
LONG LIVE THE GP14

Peter Guest
12 August 2013