



Royal Artillery Yacht Club

Annual General Meeting
13th March 2026

AGM Report Slides v5



AGM Agenda

1. Welcome / Apologies / Remembrance
2. Approval of Minutes AGM 2025
3. Committee Update / New Flag Officers
4. Commodores Report / Club Objectives
5. Treasurer's Report / Approval of Accounts
6. Membership Survey Review
7. Hull Replacement Plans
8. RA Sports Board and ASA Updates
9. Resolutions / AOB / Diary Dates
10. Awards / Prize Giving
11. Drinks / Force Atlantic / Curry Supper



1. Welcome and Apologies



Attendees x 34 and Apologies

RAYC AGM 13th March 2026 - List of Attendees					
First name	Last name	Attendance	Rank if Given	Email	Ticket Type
Andy	Healey	In person		healeyandy51@gmail.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Antony	Neylan	In person		antonyneylan@hotmail.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Arthur	Robert	Online	Lt	Robert.Arthur106@mod.gov.uk	Online
Callum	Redding	Online			Online
Carol	Dutton	In person		arnamentia@mailasail.com	AGM only Booking
Chris	Coats	In person		chrissusiecoats@aol.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Chris	Copeland	In person		chriscopeland777@btinternet.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Chris	Shuter	In person		chrishedgeshuter@gmail.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Chris	Shuter (guest TBC)	In person			RAYC AGM Dinner
Christopher	Haughton	In person		haughtonc@hotmail.co.uk	RAYC Dinner Pay on the Day
Colin	Walsh	In person		colin.walsh2@aol.co.uk	RAYC AGM Dinner
Derren	Smith	In person		derrensmith3@yahoo.co.uk	RAYC AGM Dinner
George	Brooks	Online		gbrooks501@gmail.com	Online
James	Boutle	In person	Lt Col	jamesboutle@hotmail.co.uk	RAYC AGM Dinner
Jean-Sebastien	Cormier	In person	Lt Col	cormier.jsl@gmail.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Jo	Crump	In person		jocrump1@icloud.com	RAYC Dinner Pay on the Day
Jon	McCleery	In person	Lt Col	jwmcclery@gmail.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Matt	Sargent	In person		sargesail@btinternet.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Matthew	Sleap	Online		matthew.sleap@stepbystep.org.uk	Online
Max	Wilkinson	In person	Staff Sgt	max.wilkinson912@gmail.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Michael	Brown	Online		mcb1@talktalk.net	RAYC AGM Dinner
Michael	Simpson	In person	Capt (retd)	mresimpson@gmail.com	RAYC Dinner Pay on the Day
Mike	Dicker	In person	Maj (retd)	mdicker@britisharmysport.com	RAYC Dinner Guest
Mike	Morgan	In person		morganmjc@yahoo.com	AGM only Booking
Nathan	Webber	In person	Col	natwebber16@gmail.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Nial	Wilson	In person	Col		RAYC Dinner Pay on the Day
Richard	Nugee	In person	Lt General	richard@nugee.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Robin	Bolton	Online		rbolton132@gmail.com	Online
Simon	Halliday	Online		sjrhalliday@outlook.com	Online
Simon	Howe	In person	Lt Col	Simon.Howe519@mod.gov.uk	RAYC Dinner Guest
Stuart	Gray	In person	Lt Col	sgray62@live.co.uk	RAYC AGM Dinner
Thomas	Walsh	In person	Lt	tomwalsh94@googlemail.com	RAYC AGM Dinner
Tim	Crump	In person		tcrump8@icloud.com	RAYC Dinner Pay on the Day
Tim	Wood	In person			RAYC Dinner Pay on the Day

Apologies

David Richards

Charlie Collins

Roger Sheldrake

Niall Beazley

Tony Singer

Tim Wordsworth

Nik Barnes

Ross Beeby

Dominic Whalen

Remembrance

Mike Rowlandson

Tudor Phillips

2. Minutes 17th March 2025



RAYC Annual General Meeting

Minutes of meeting held via TEAMS on Monday 17th March 2025 v1

Item 1. Welcome and Opening Remarks / List of Attendees (AGM report page 4)

The Commodore welcomed 19 attendees to the meeting, and the Admiral thanked all the committee members for their hard work over the past 12 months. The full list of attendees/apologies is on page 4 of the AGM report. The committee paid respects to Paul Nicholson and Peter Youtliten, two former members who have passed away in recent months.

Item 2. Approval of AGM Minutes Friday 24th March 2023 (AGM report page 6)

Minutes from AGM 24th March 2023 were approved (proposed by Natt Webber and seconded by Ed Middleton).

Item 3. Appointment of New Flag Officers (AGM report page 7)

Appointment of Jon McCleery and Stuart Deakin as new members of the committee as RC Offshore and RC Dinghy Sailing. All other roles are approved as per

Item 4. Honorary Treasurers Report (AGM report pages 8-16)

The annual accounts were approved by the meeting. The full report and accounts are in the AGM report, pages 8-16.

Item 5. Commodore's Report (AGM report 7-24)

The Commodore provided an overview of the past 12 months and highlighted the new one-page Club Objectives document and the revamped gunner sailing website, expressing gratitude for the work of Secretary Michael Simpson. He praised the efforts of the Rear Commodores for Board Sailing, Dinghy Sailing, and Offshore, in addition to our two bosuns. Please refer to the AGM report on pages 8-16.

Item 6. Website Update (AGM report 25-31)

The Club Secretary updated the meeting on his work, introducing a new-look website for the Club, which is now live at www.gunnersailing.com. More details are outlined in slides 25-31 of the AGM report.

Item 7. Membership Report (AGM report 32-37)

The Membership Secretary provided a positive report with Active Membership at over 400. Full details in AGM report pages 32-37, including plans to broaden membership.

Item 8. Boat Booking Update (AGM report 38-39)

The Boat Bookings for 2025 were open to members in December. See full report on slides 38-39 of the AGM Report.

Item 9. Any Other Business and Future Dates (AGM report 40)

Three items were discussed under AOB with details captured on slide 40 of the AGM report, together with future dates for the year ahead. The proposed date for the 2026 AGM is Monday, 16th March via TEAMS

AGM Follow Ups / Key Actions

1. Secretary will share meeting reports and minutes.
2. Secretary will make final changes to the new website design.
3. Commodore and Vice Commodore will confirm plans for Awards Day in July and the list of awards.
4. Continue to promote Club events for the year, including the Keel Boat Regatta on July 9-10.



3. Flag Officers and Committee

List of committee members – new members in green. New Flag Officers appointments 2,3 and 4.

NOS	APPOINTMENT	FULL NAME AND RANK	SURNAME	FIRST NAME
1	Admiral*	Lt Gen R E Nugee CVO, CBE	Nugee	Richard
2	Commodore	Col NC Webber MBE	Webber	Nat
3	Vice Commodore	Lt Col Jean Sebastien – Cormier	Sebastien-Cormier	Jean Sebastien
4	Rear Commodore (Offshore)	Lt Col AJ Layden	Layden	AJ
5	Rear Commodore (Dinghies)	Major Stu Deakin	Deakin	Stu
6	Rear Commodore (Board Sailing)	WO2 N P Barnes	Barnes	Nik
7	Hon Treasurer	Maj C N P Walsh RA	Walsh	Colin
8	Hon Secretary	Michael Simpson	Simpson	Michael
9	New Membership and Boat Booking Secretary	Captain Thomas Walsh RA	Walsh	Tom
10	RAYC Webmaster	Roger Shapland	Shapland	Roger
11	Captain of Boats	SSgt Max Wilkinson	Wilkinson	Max
12	Bosun	LBdr Jack Harrison	Harrison	Jack
13	Bosun	LBdr Andy Healey	Healey	Andy
14	Training Support	Col Paul Molyneaux	Molyneaux	Paul
15	Thorney Island	Lt Col James Boutle	Boutle	James
16	AISTC Link / Moorings	TBC	TBC	TBC
17	Training Officer	Major TDE Haskell RA	Haskell	Tim
18	Project Officer	Capt Ross Beeby RA	Beeby	Ross



4. Commodores Report



Commodores Report

Club Objectives and Goals

To promote sailing and seamanship among our membership and to promote sailing across the Royal Artillery by providing opportunities, encouragement, and funding to members of the Royal Regiment, especially younger members who wish to engage in sailing for adventurous training, competitive or for recreational benefits.

KEY GOALS - 1) Increase and maintain active membership to 400+ (including serving members of at least 200); 2) Engage over 200 members and temporary members annually in various sailing activities, including at least 100 serving members under the age of 30; 3) Achieve satisfaction levels of over 80% in the AGM membership survey. 4) Manage club finances to meet goals with the funds for long-term improvement of our boats and equipment.



Board Sailing



Dinghy Sailing



Offshore Sailing



Sail Training & Adventure Training



Boats & Equipment



Membership & Promotion

Six Strategic Action Areas

CLUB OBJECTIVE – To promote sailing and seamanship among our membership and to promote sailing across the Royal Artillery by providing opportunities, encouragement, and funding to members of the Royal Regiment, especially younger members who wish to engage in sailing for adventurous training, competitive or for recreational benefits.

CLUB GOALS - 1) Increase and maintain active membership to 400+ (including serving members of at least 200); 2) Engage over 200 members and temporary members annually in various sailing activities, including at least 100 serving members under the age of 30; 3) Achieve satisfaction levels of over 80% in the AGM membership survey. 4) Manage club finances to meet goals with the funds for long-term improvement of our boats and equipment.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS and MEASURES

1. BOARD SAILING – Use a wide range of board sailing disciplines, together with our strong links with AISTC, as a way of introducing new serving soldiers to the RAYC, as well as entering/achieving success in Army and civilian BS competitions.

MEASURES: 1) +50 new members / TMs per year from AISTC; 2) Annual Board Sailing festival involving at least 30+ people; 3) Satisfaction of BS activities at AISTC activities at +80%; 4) Results from Army / Civilian championships.

3. OFFSHORE SAILING Encourage members to develop their sailing skills through our annual offshore regatta and by maximising the use of our two offshore boats or potential new boats, subject to confirmation of our Hull Replacement Plan.

MEASURES: 1) +100 members pa inc at least 50 serving members under 30 inc YOs and Phase 2 recruits; 2) 15+ entries to annual Yarmouth regatta; 3) Annual boat utilization of at least +40% for boat 1 and +55% for boat 2; 5) Satisfaction of OS activities at +80%; 6) Entries into other OS events e.g. ASA regattas, Fastnet etc.

5. BOATS and EQUIPMENT – To ensure that we provide the right kit and support for growing participation in all Board Sailing disciplines and for inshore sailing as required. To maximise annual utilisation and revenue from existing offshore yachts while looking to upgrade both boats for more modern alternatives more suited for broader use by all RA units and our members (see options under consideration).

MEASURES: 1) High boat and equipment utilisation; 2) +80% satisfaction levels from users of current boats; 3) Positive membership feedback on equipment.

2. DINGHY SAILING – Encourage members and new members to progress their sailing skills with dinghy and day boat sailing via our strong links with AISTC, Sea View Sailing Club, plus regular entries into the Army championships.

MEASURES: 1) +50 members dinghy sailing at AISTC every year, including annual training week and regatta; 2) Annual keel boat regatta with at least 10 crews; 3) Satisfaction of DS activities at +80%. 4) Results from Army DS championships.

4. SAIL TRAINING / ADVENTURE TRAINING – To maximise our resources to offer a good range of RYA offshore training courses, together with adventure training opportunities with a focus on younger soldiers across the Royal Regiment.

MEASURES: 1) Run annual sailing training week at AISTC for at least +50; 2) Run at least +20 days for Off-Shore sail training per annum; 3) Use club boats to run at least 80+ days of adventure training per year, including option for winter sailing exercises; 4) Satisfaction of sail training activities at +80%;

6. MEMBERSHIP and PROMOTION - Use website, social media, Gunner magazine and emailing to regularly promote the Club and recruit new members. Maximise the history and facilities of the Club to drive membership. Keep fees affordable but at levels that cover principal admin costs of running the Club.

MEASURES: 1) Increase active membership from 300 to over 400 by 2028; 2) Enhance participation among younger members; 3) Track the number of articles published in Gunner Magazine each year; 4) Monitor website and social media metrics, etc.

Ex Mediterranean Ubique



Commodores Report 1 of 7

It is a pleasure to deliver my first report as Commodore of the Royal Artillery Yacht Club. Having been in post for just over six months, I have been struck by both the energy and commitment across the club. It has been a busy and positive year for the club, and I believe we are beginning to build real momentum in positioning the RAYC for the future.

Before going further, I would like to formally acknowledge and thank my predecessor, Lieutenant Colonel Tony Neylan, whose stewardship and hard work placed the club in a strong position. I am also grateful to the committee, past and present, for the considerable voluntary work they undertake to keep the RAYC running. These roles are often unseen but absolutely essential.

It would also be remiss of me not to congratulate the crew of Force Atlantic, under the leadership of Bdr Katie Devine, on their remarkable achievement in rowing the Atlantic from La Gomera to Antigua. Their effort exemplifies the very best of the Gunner spirit.

We will hear more from them later this evening, but it is worth noting that two members of the crew have already deployed on operations in the past week - a reminder of the pace and demands of service life today.

They have also raised over £10,000 for their chosen charities, including the Royal Artillery Charitable Fund. I am therefore very pleased to welcome Lieutenant Colonel Joe Howe this evening in his role as Chair of the Fund. The connection between what the Force Atlantic crew have achieved and the objectives of the RAYC is a strong one - both are ultimately about supporting the wider Gunner family and the values that bind it together.

Commodores Report 2 of 7

Club Objectives

Behind me you will see the club's objectives and key goals, which underpin everything we do.

Our core objective is simple: to promote sailing and seamanship across the Royal Artillery by providing opportunities, encouragement and support to members of the Regiment, particularly younger soldiers who want to engage in sailing for adventurous training, competition or recreation.

I know the wording is on the screen behind me, but I want to emphasise what that really means.

For us, sailing is not simply a leisure activity. It is a vehicle for adventurous training, leadership development and community within the Regiment. It brings together young soldiers taking their first steps on the water, experienced sailors pushing themselves offshore, and the wider Gunner family who continue to support the club long after leaving service.

In that sense, the work of the RAYC sits squarely within the wider Army sailing ecosystem and aligns closely with the aims of the Army Sailing Association, represented here tonight by Mike Dicker – very much a friend of the club. Both organisations are fundamentally about creating opportunities for soldiers to develop skills, resilience and confidence through sailing.

The goals on the slide reflect that ambition: growing active membership, increasing participation in sailing activity, ensuring strong involvement from younger serving soldiers, and maintaining a club that is both financially sustainable and attractive to new members.

Commodores Report 3 of 7

But most importantly, they describe the value proposition of the RAYC. We are not just a yacht club for retired sailors. We are a gateway into sailing for the Royal Regiment, providing a pathway that can start with board or dinghy sailing, progress through keelboats and regattas, and ultimately lead to offshore adventurous training.

That pathway - from first sail to offshore qualification - is what keeps the club relevant both to those already in the room tonight and to the next generation of Gunners who have yet to discover it.

That breadth of activity is reflected in the six strategic action areas shown on the slide behind me, covering everything from board sailing through to offshore sailing.

And that is why the decisions we are making now, particularly around the future of our offshore fleet, matter so much. So let me briefly illustrate how those objectives translate into activity across the club.

Board Sports

Starting with board sports, it has been another strong year. The season began with pre-season training in Rhosneigr, bringing together windsurfers, wing foilers and kitesurfers to refresh their skills after the winter.

Members then travelled to the south of France to compete in the Défi Wind event at Gruissan, one of the largest wind sport competitions in the world, with hundreds of competitors across multiple fleets.

Later in the year the Army team delivered an excellent performance at the Inter-Services Windsurfing Championships, securing overall victory, with Warrant Officer Nik Barnes crowned individual champion.

Across windsurfing, wing foiling and kitesurfing disciplines, RAYC members represented the Army strongly at both national and international level.

Board sports are particularly valuable to the club because they are often the first entry point into sailing for younger soldiers. Many of the sailors who eventually find themselves offshore with the RAYC begin their journey standing on a board rather than sitting in a cockpit.

Commodores Report 4 of 7

Dinghy Sailing

Within the dinghy community, participation is gradually rebuilding.

The Royal Artillery Dinghy Regatta combined with the Members' BBQ saw encouraging regimental participation, and RA sailors also represented the Army at both the 2000 Nationals at Hayling Island and the Inter-Services Match Racing Championships at the Royal Southern Yacht Club.

Work continues to better coordinate dinghy sailing talent across the Regiment, and plans are now in place to run a combined wind sports and dinghy festival at Thorney Island.

Dinghy sailing is often where the transition happens from trying the sport to developing real sailing skill, and it remains one of the most accessible ways for soldiers to get involved in the club.

Seaview Regatta

At the keelboat level we are also seeing some encouraging developments. I would also like to highlight the resurgence of the Seaview Keelboat Regatta. Only a few months ago the event was close to disappearing entirely - indeed I was one of those who initially voted to turn it off.

However, thanks largely to the energy and leadership of the team from 16 Regiment, it has been revived and is now on track to be incorporated into the Royal Artillery Victor Ludorum.

I will happily admit that I am now a convert. This regatta illustrates the golden thread that runs through the RAYC, from dynamic board sports, through dinghy and keelboat competition, all the way to offshore adventurous training and racing.

As such, we must keep it alive. Support from the Royal Artillery to run the Victor Ludorum and positive efforts to secure significant sponsorship for the event will enable that. To my mind this is a great example of how the different parts of the club connect together, and why events like Seaview remain an important part of the RAYC calendar. Encouraging new sailors and renewing our offshore capability are therefore two sides of exactly the same coin.

Commodores Report 5 of 7

Offshore Sailing

At the top of the pathway sits offshore sailing, which remains at the heart of the club.

In my initial letter to the club, when I took over as Commodore, I highlighted my concerns regarding the condition of the offshore fleet. Over the past 6 months considerable work has been undertaken to maintain and prepare our boats, particularly St Barbara, including significant investment to ensure she was ready for Exercise Mediterranean Ubique. I will return to that in a later in the agenda.

A great deal of credit must go to the new bosuns and support team who keep the fleet operational.

LBdr Jack Harrison arrived last summer as a Day Skipper and by the autumn had achieved Yachtmaster Offshore — a remarkable achievement.

LBdr Andy Healy joined later in the year and has thrown himself into the role with great enthusiasm, taking on much of the maintenance work on St Barbara.

We have also benefited from Sgt Danny Mason from 16 Regiment, whose MT experience has been invaluable in improving documentation and management processes for the boats.

I would also like to thank Tim Wood for his service as Captain of Boats and welcome SSgt Max Wilkinson who has taken on the role and introduced improvements to how we manage and track boat issues.

More broadly, the contribution of 16 Regiment, led by Lt Col James Bouttle, to RA sailing cannot be overstated — from their participation in regattas to the personnel they have provided to support the boats, thank you and your team. I am 100% confident any of you who charter a yacht this year will notice a remarkable change, from process to cleanliness.

Commodores Report 6 of 7

Governance

Alongside the sailing programme, the committee has also been working hard on governance and organisational improvements. Over the past year we have refreshed a number of committee roles and begun addressing structural issues that have built up over time.

This work may not be glamorous, but it is essential if the club is to remain well organised, well governed and sustainable for the future.

Membership Survey

One important step in understanding the direction of the club was the membership survey conducted last year.

I would like to thank the 114 members who took the time to respond. The results were encouraging. Around 90 percent of respondents said they enjoy being part of the club and would recommend membership to others, which is a strong endorsement of what the RAYC represents.

The survey also highlighted areas where we must improve, including yacht maintenance, communications, training opportunities and increasing participation from serving soldiers. The secretary will cover this in more detail in a minute.

Taken together, the activity across board sports, dinghy sailing and offshore sailing tells a positive story. The club is active, participation is growing and, importantly, we now have a much clearer understanding of what our members value and where they want the club to go next.

Commodores Report 7 of 7

Hull Replacement

Perhaps the most significant message from the survey was the widely held view that our flagship yacht St Barbara V is approaching the end of her useful life and that the time has come to move decisively on her replacement.

While she remains seaworthy, many members feel she is now ageing and increasingly difficult to maintain economically. Replacing her has therefore become one of the club's highest priorities.

To move this forward we have established a replacement yacht committee, bringing together serving officers, soldiers and experienced members of the club. They will report later in the meeting, but the key message is that we are now ready to move forward with the plan to replace St Barbara and secure the club's offshore adventurous training capability for the future.

So as we look ahead, the replacement of St Barbara is not simply about buying a new boat. It is about protecting and strengthening the value that the Royal Artillery Yacht Club provides to the Regiment. Our yachts are the platform through which we deliver adventurous training, develop leadership, build friendships across generations of Gunners and introduce new soldiers to the sea.

If we get this decision right, we will secure that offer for the next twenty years. In short, this is not just a fleet decision. It is an investment in the future of Gunner sailing.

Closing

Finally, I would like to thank all members, volunteers and supporters who make this club what it is. The RAYC exists because of the enthusiasm and commitment of its members.

And as your Commodore, I am pleased to report that the club is in good shape. Activity is strong, participation is growing and we are now beginning to tackle some of the structural issues that have held us back in the past.

If we continue to build on that momentum, the future of Gunner sailing looks very bright indeed.

Thank you.

5. Treasurers Report



- **Statement of Financial Activities**

• StBV Excess of Income	£28,777 (thanks to Ex CU 24/25 charter)
• Bdr III Excess of Expenditure	£3,275
• Kitesurfing and Wingfoiling new eqpt purchases	£19,510
• No welfare grants but cost offset by sale of old eqpt and rental fee	£ 5,635
• Keelboat Regatta Excess of Expenditure	£2,573
Expenditure (by exception)	
• Donation – Force Atlantic	£3,880
• Website Improvements & Annual Fee	£4,247
• Remainder similar to last year	
Income (routine)	
• Grants – RASF, BST & GH	£8,936
• Moorings (after maintenance fees subtracted)	£9,140
• Subscriptions	£7,634
• Investments	
• Dividend	£8,279
• Capital Gain	£58,768

Excess of Income over Expenditure **£53,199**

RAYC Yacht Financial Analysis 2015 - 2025



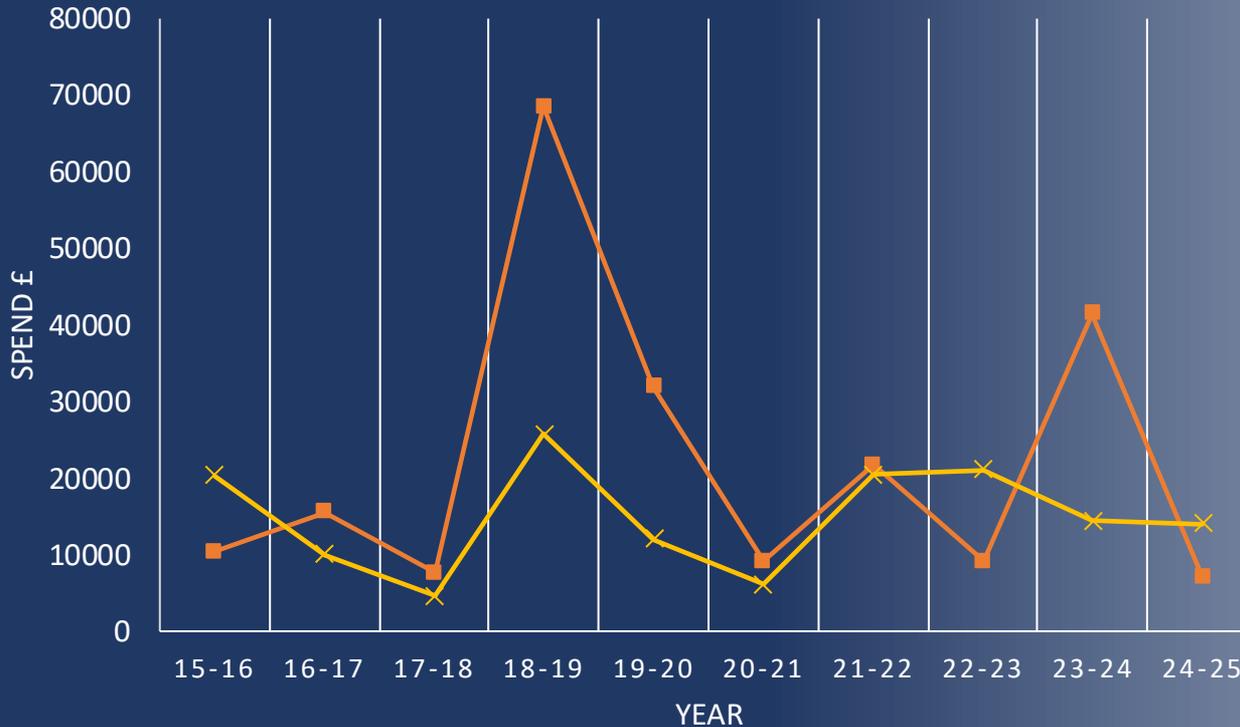
EXPENDITURE

TOTAL SPEND

■ StBV ✕ Bdr III

St Barbara V: £221,521.09
Bdr III: £147,958.05

Total: £369,479.14



RAYC Yacht Financial Analysis 2015 - 2025



St Barbara V	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	Total
Charter	3,101.52	5,537.30	2,745.00		6,145.61	1,085.00	5,640.00	4,515.00	3,577.50	7,410.00	39,756.93
AT Ex Name	ATLANITC UIBQUE		FU&MU	FU&MU	FU & MU	RBC	RBC		CU	CU	
AT Charter		4,529.72	70,485.51	13,354.37	5,878.30	15,055.99	128.48			23,424.08	132,856.45
Grants				28,422.00	5,509.00		5,400.00		15,651.04		54,982.04

Bdr III	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	Total
Charter	15,947.12	11,129.67	14,948.25	14,676.37	7,381.22	16,032.00	12,403.04	8,172.00	9,860.00	10,635.00	121,184.67
Grants			3,616.91			770.42	3,600.00	9,280.00	3,523.06		20,790.39

Total Income	£369570.48
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6. Membership Survey Results



Royal Artillery Yacht Club Annual Membership Survey 2025

Results based on a response from
114 members 1st December 2025

Michael Simpson
RAYC Honorary Secretary



Survey Overview

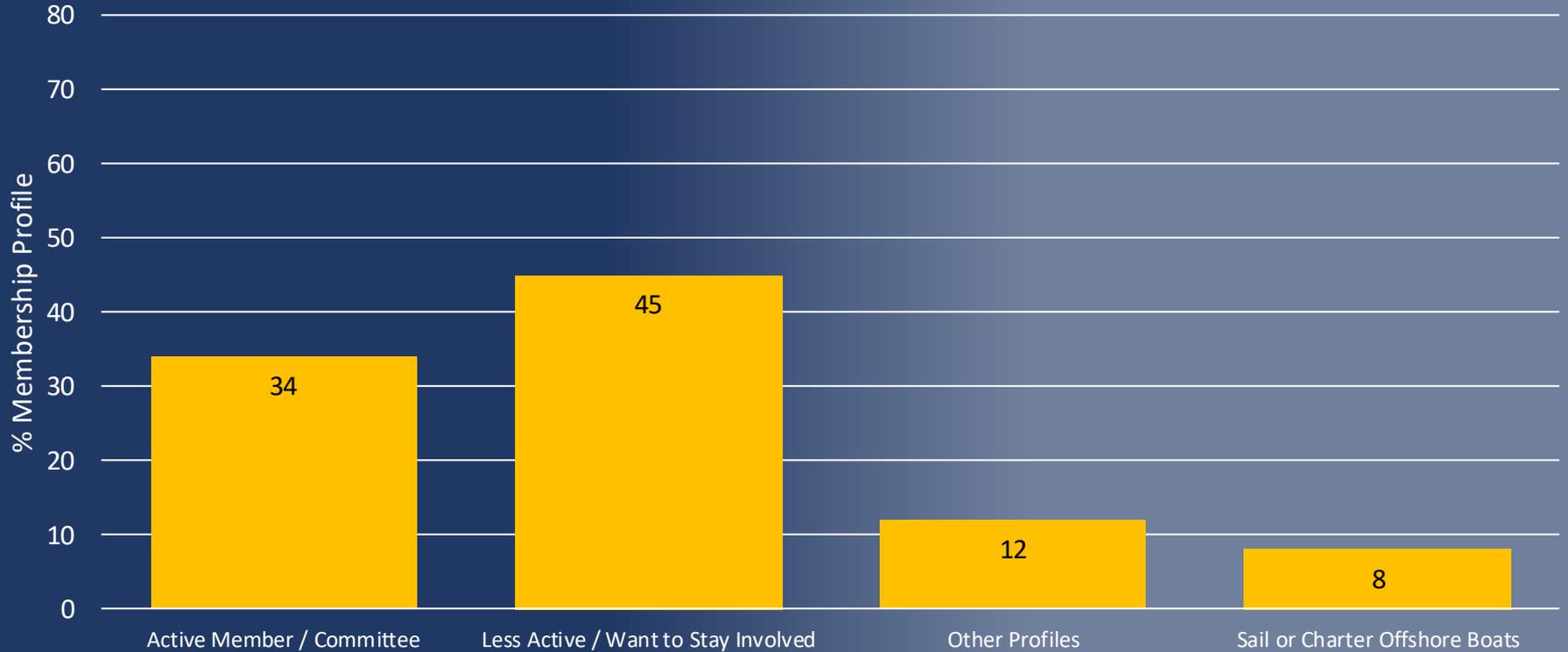
- The online survey was run with members from 14th November to the 1st December 2025.
- Members were sent three emails with details of the survey, together with postings on Face Book and the website.
- A total response from 114 members / 23% of all 493 Active Members. A "solid response" versus a 15-25% response rate for a typical sports club survey.
- 96% of respondents were male with 63% aged over 56 and 68% retired from regular or reserve service.



Survey Voting Profile



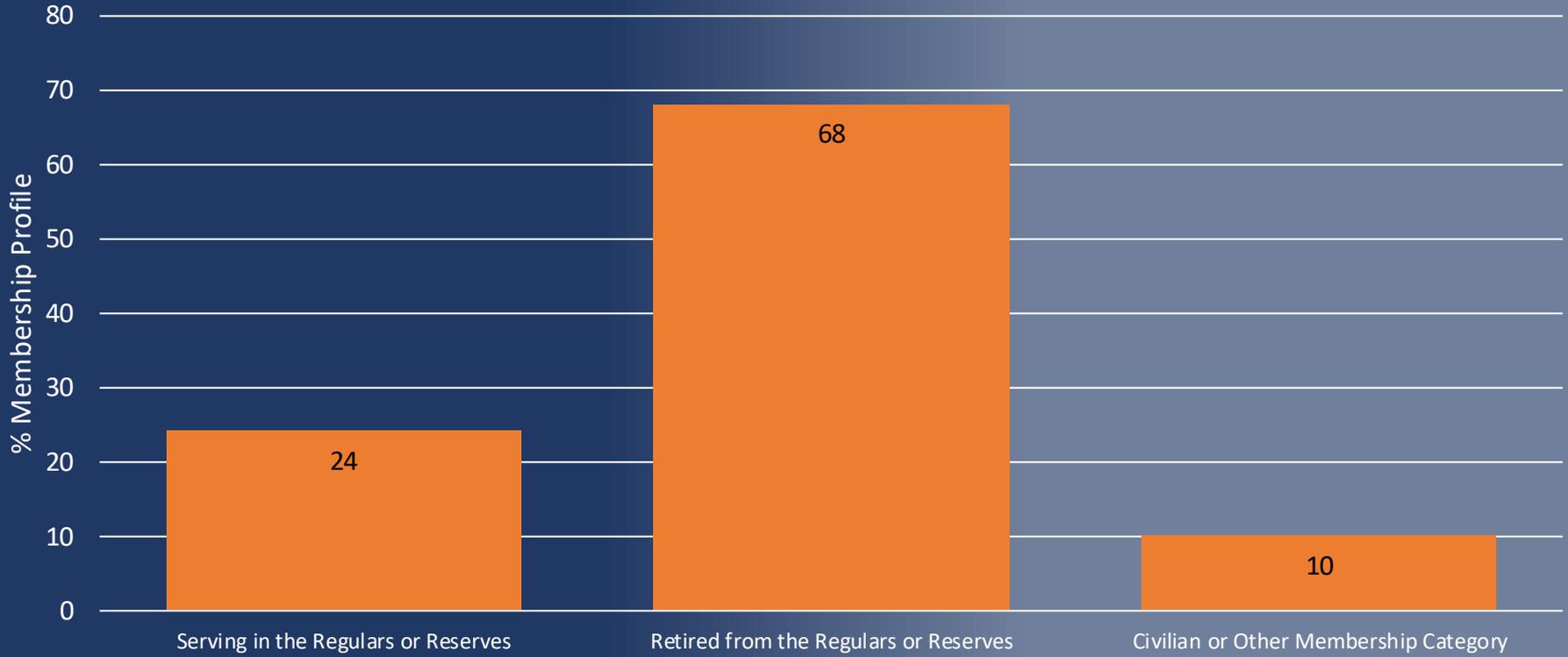
Over 40% of the respondents are 'active members' or charter our boats.



Survey Voting Profile



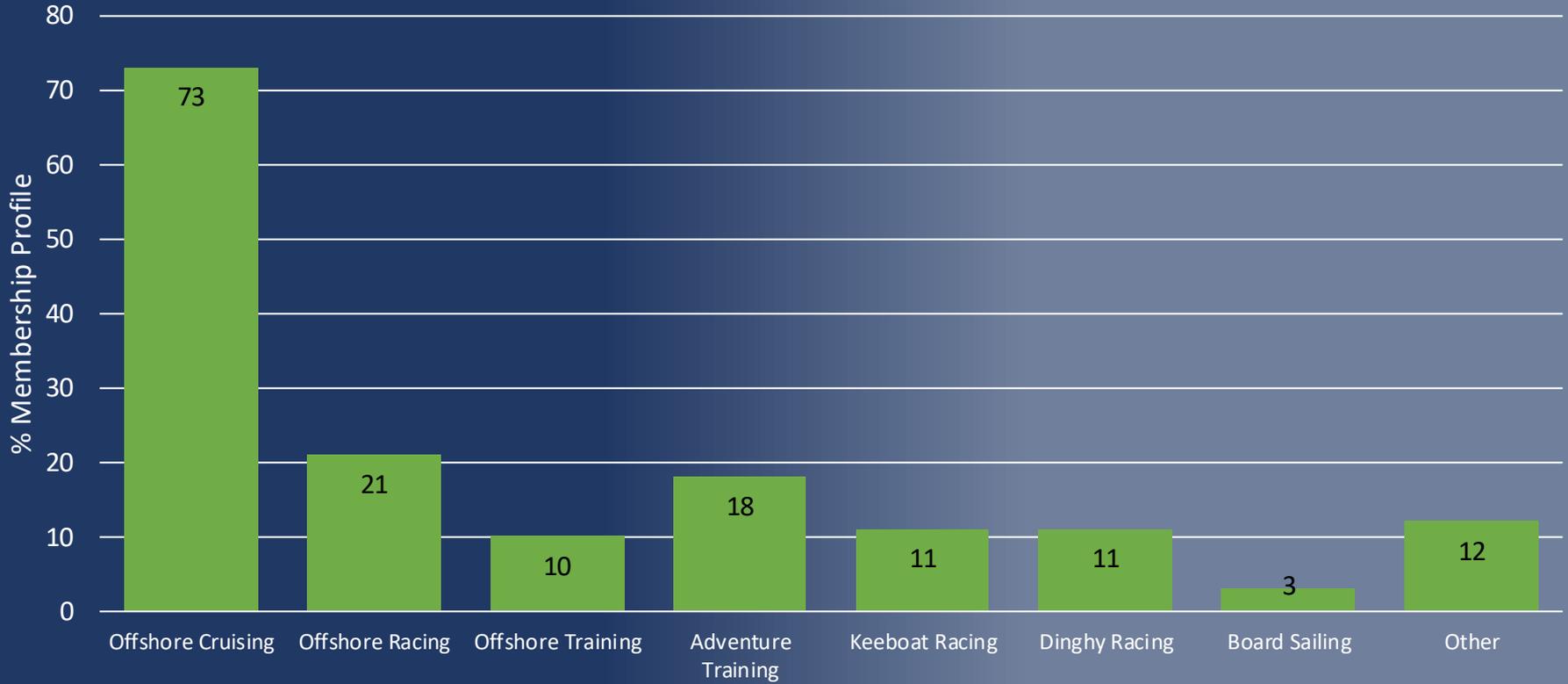
The majority of survey respondents were retired regulars or reservists.



Survey Voting Profile



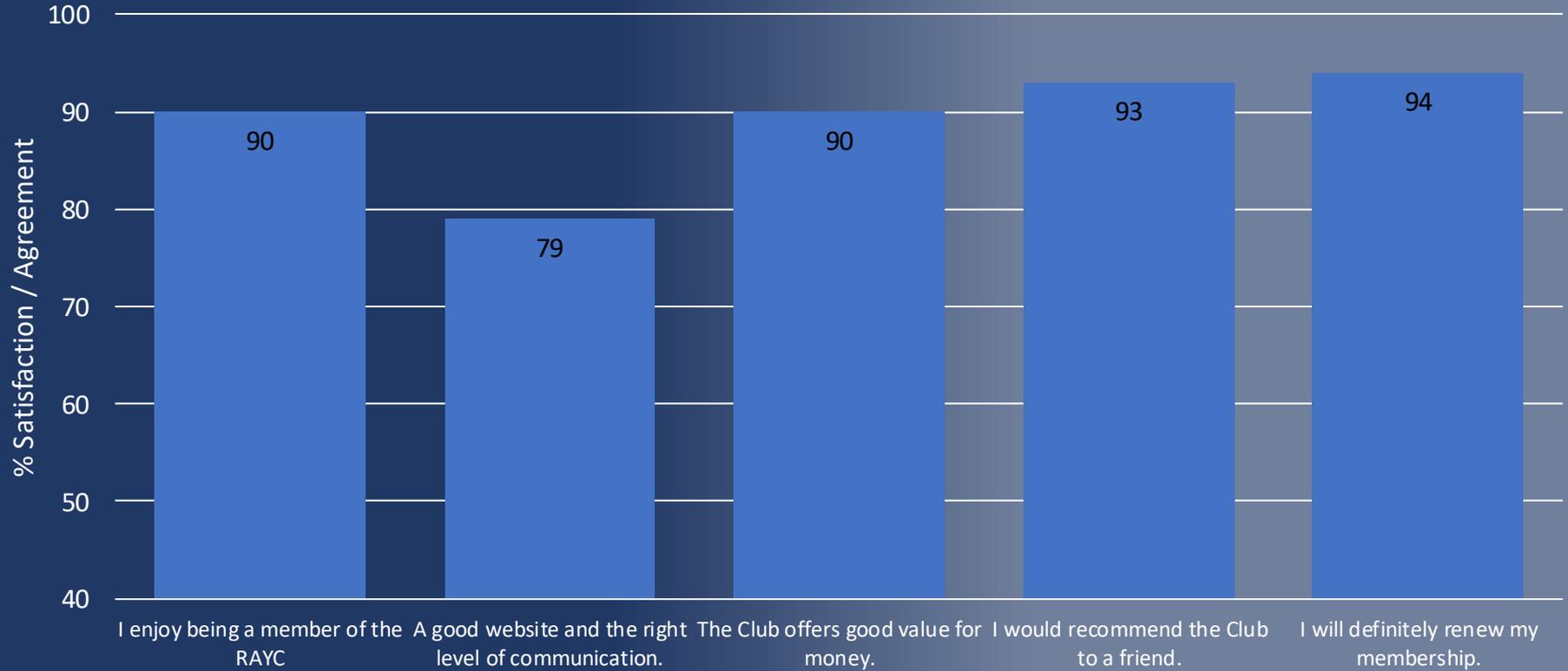
Offshore Cruising was the most popular type of sailing by the respondents.



Membership Satisfaction



Core satisfaction levels are high, with 90% enjoying being members of the Club.



Summary of Membership Likes

1. Opportunities to sail across offshore, inshore, training, racing, and AT.
2. Camaraderie, community spirit, and ties to the Gunner family.
3. Access to well-maintained boats, equipment and Thorney Island facilities.
4. Support for young soldiers developing skills, confidence, and leadership.
5. Professional, friendly, and a well-led and well-organised club.



All Summary based on detailed comments from 86 members.

Summary of Membership Likes

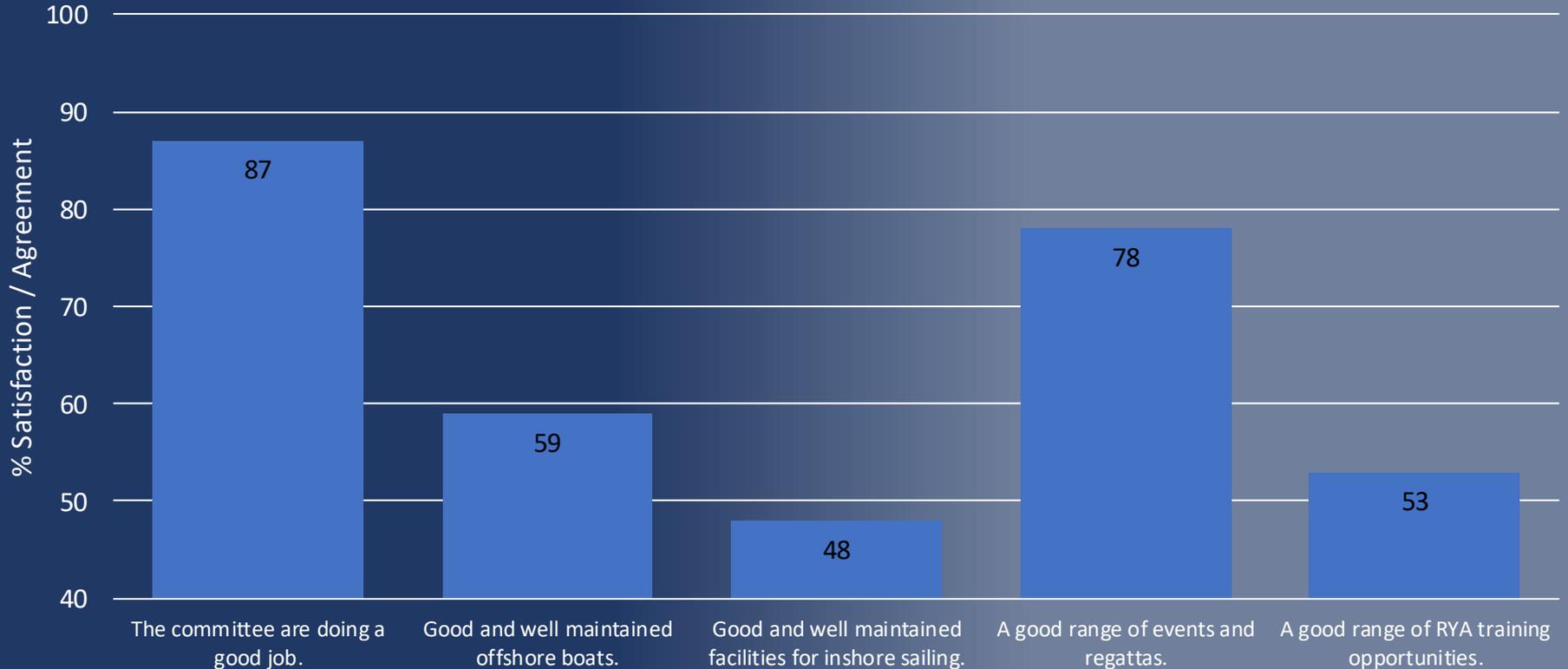
6. Proud heritage, history, and long-standing identity.
7. Good value for money versus civilian sailing clubs.
8. Popular social events and regattas (Offshore, Seaview, Yarmouth).
9. Inclusive and welcoming to all ranks, families, and veterans.
10. Charter opportunities and good yacht availability.



AI Summary based on detailed comments from 86 members.

Membership Satisfaction

Other satisfaction questions indicate some areas for improvement, although low awareness of inshore facilities at Thorney may account for the relatively low score.



Summary of Improvement Ideas

1. Improve yacht maintenance; accelerate replacement of St Barbara.
2. Strengthen communications: newsletters, website, event visibility.
3. Increase youth & junior rank involvement; rebuild grassroots sailing.
4. Improve regatta organisation; boost participation (dinghy & offshore).
5. Expand training access: RYA, qualifications, refresher courses.



All Summary based on detailed comments from 78 members.

Summary of Improvement Ideas

6. Make events more inclusive: crew-matching, socials, and onboarding.
7. Support serving regiments better; develop DS/YM pathways.
8. Upgrade booking systems; improve administrative responsiveness.
9. Grow partnerships: regimental YCs, commercial links, reciprocal clubs.
10. Modernise fleet and broaden sailing opportunities (Baltic/Med options).



All Summary based on detailed comments from 78 members.

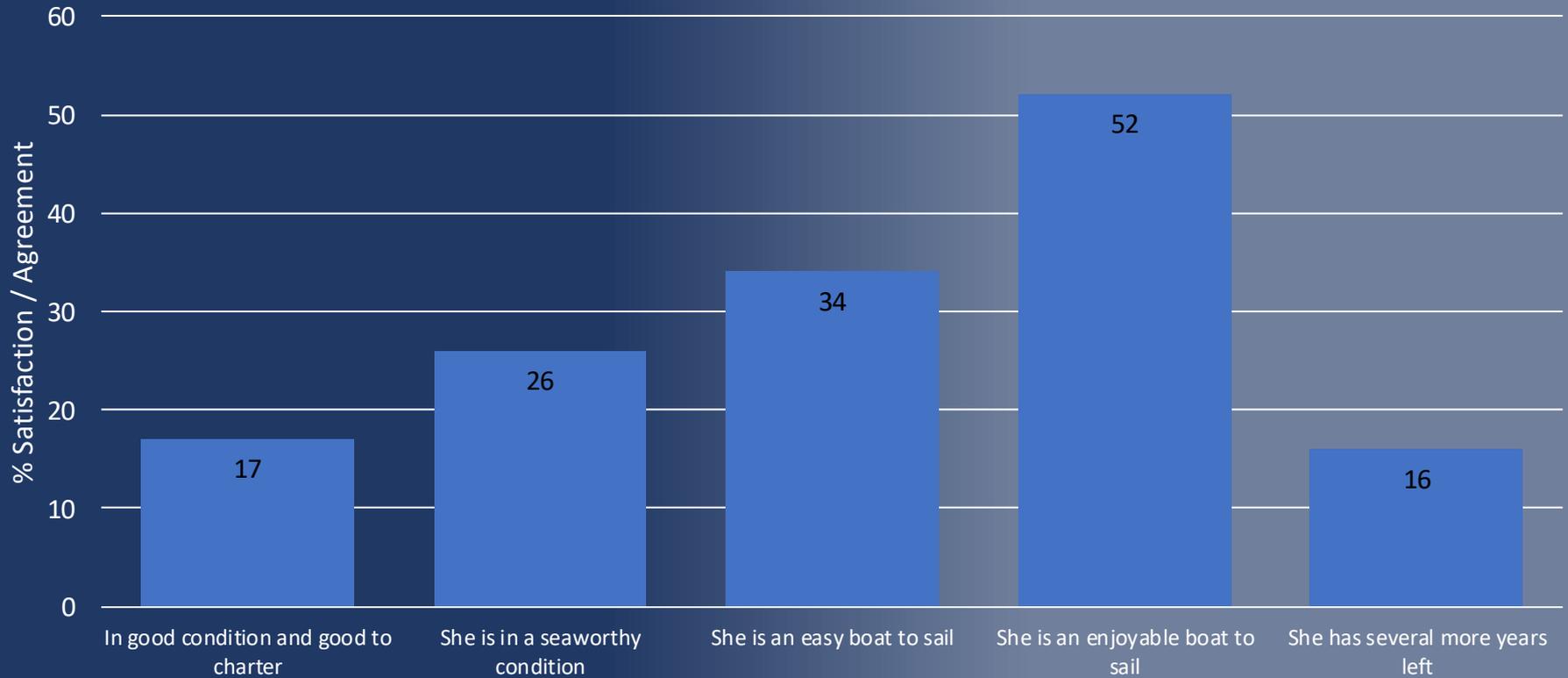
7. Hull Replacement Update



Membership Survey Feedback



Membership survey results supports our plans to replace St Barbara V



Membership Survey Feedback

Membership survey highlight key replacement criteria, although the committee recommend that it is also essential that any replacement should have an ability to be used for racing.

Criteria	Not Required	Desirable	Essential
1. Cat 0 - unrestricted service (worldwide operation).	24%	56%	20%
2. Cat 1 - up to 150 miles from a safe haven.	3%	28%	69%
3. Cat 2 - up to 60 miles from a safe haven.	6%	10%	84%
4. Suitable for RYA training, e.g. Yacht Master.	3%	26%	71%
5. Suitable for Offshore Adventure Training.	2%	13%	85%
6. Suitable for racing.	19%	68%	13%
7. A suitable and easy boat to sail for family charters.	4%	56%	39%

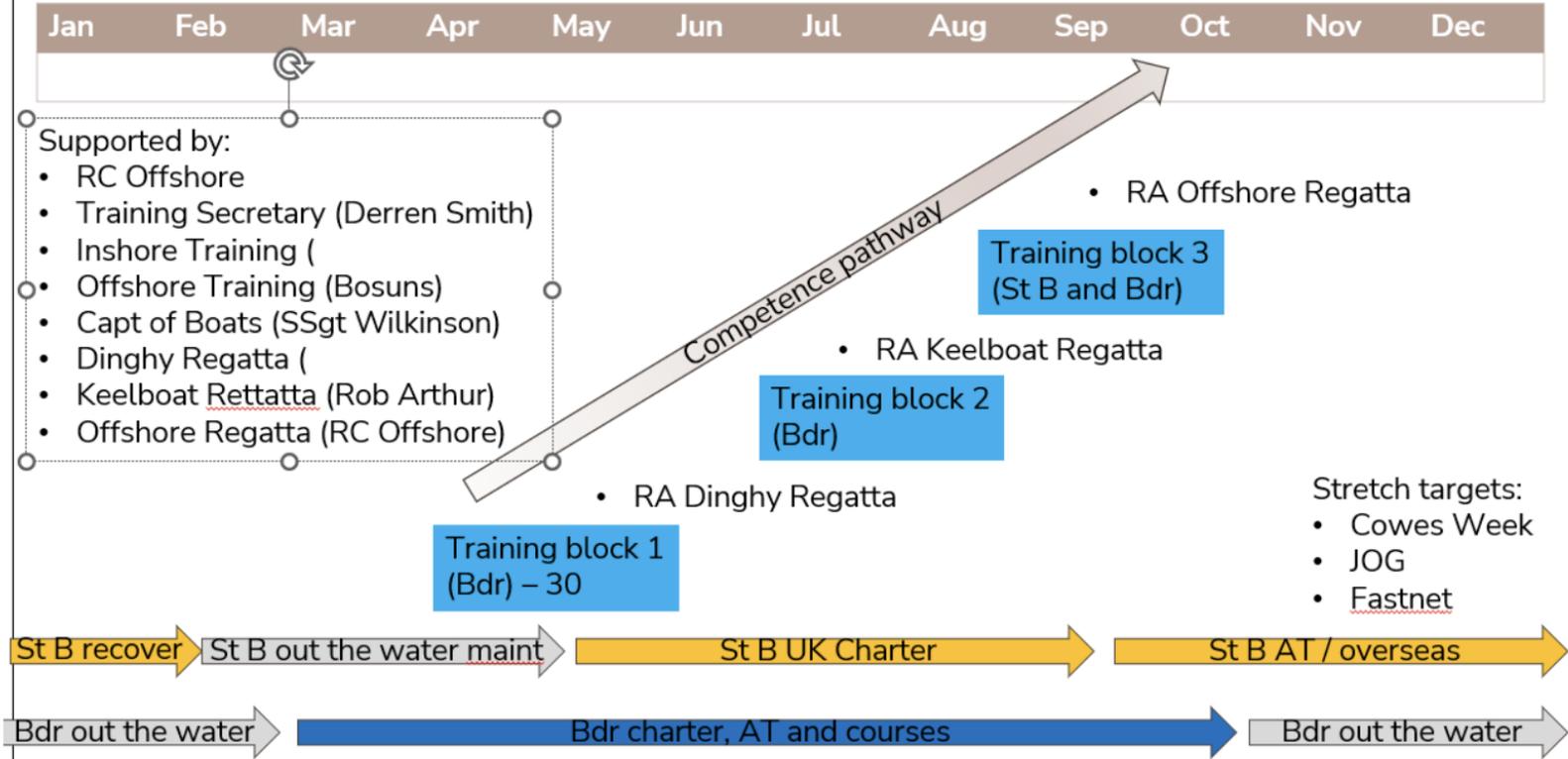
Proposed HR Criteria

1. Rated cat 1 and 2, with ability to deliver AT for a crew of 8/9 soldiers in UK and European waters (including passages to the Canary Islands).
2. A boat that would be easy to sail / charter for members e.g. weekends in the Solent.
3. Has the ability to be used for racing, although not an “out and out racer”.
4. Financially viable and will deliver a strong return on investment.



RAYC Value Proposition

RAYC VALUE PROPOSITION



Summary of Members Comments

Matt Sargent – great that the Club wants to get back into racing and the Dehler 42 has a reasonable racing pedigree.

Stuart Gray – the Dehler 42 looks a good option but are any available?

Richard Nugee, The Admiral – the AGM vote today is not a vote for the actual boat but to give support for the committee to proceed with plans to find the right replacement that met key criteria including financial viability.

Robin Bolton - We need to be content to buy another boat build by a German caravan manufacturer, before we buy another Dehler!

Mike Morgan – have we fully ruled out having a replacement with cat zero rating for blue water sailing? Response from the Commodore was “yes” as this requirement could be met for the Club by using JSASTC boats.

Chris Copeland – getting back into racing will be great but it is very expensive if you want to do it well, and critical to have the right skippers. The Commodore replied that the ability for the new boat to race in something like the Fastnet was an important criteria for the Club, but that she would not be “an out and out racer”.

Simon Haliday – the Pogo looks like it has a backstay rig – very racy but adds complexity and risk for AT or private charters.

George Brooks – don’t dismiss a Pogo for racing ability although accepted that this boat has a long draft that could impact other criteria.

Matthew Sleaf - I agree with Robin's comment. Our experience of Dehler was problematic particularly on delivery. Need to speak to Mac Macormack who took delivery of our Dehler

8. RA Sports and ASA



Joe Howe

Mike Dicker

NAVIGATION

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ARMY SAILING ASSOCIATION

Founded 1947
Registered Charity No 1152679

Welcome to the Army Sailing Association. Our primary objective is to:

'Promote, manage, develop and facilitate offshore and inshore sailing and racing for all Army personnel by conducting inspirational activities and developing world class sailing facilities in order to contribute to the operational effectiveness of the Armed Forces.'

The Association caters for all sailing disciplines, including offshore and inshore yacht racing, Offshore cruising, dinghy and keel-boat racing, windsurfing and kitesurfing racing.

With Club membership of the Royal Yachting Association the ASA is a Recognised Training Centre running RYA sail training, power-boating and shorebased courses in all our disciplines. The ASA is also affiliated to the British Kite Sports Association and British Stand Up Paddleboard (BSUPA).

We also offer yacht charter, powerboat hire and keelboat hire for our members.

RA Sports Strategy 26-28

To be announced at the Sports Conference 07 May 26.

The central objective of this strategy is to maximise involvement in competitive sport across the Royal Regiment of Artillery.

In doing so, it prioritises breadth of opportunity over narrow specialisation, regular competitive activity over sporadic elite performance, and sustainable volunteer-led delivery over unnecessary administrative burden.

The RA Sports Committee fulfils a dual role as custodian and enabler. It is responsible for the proper stewardship of public and charitable funds while enabling volunteer-led sports clubs to deliver regular and meaningful competitive activity.

Strategic Ends. By March 2028, success will be demonstrated by sustained growth in the number of soldiers actively involved in RA-recognised competitive sports, the regular delivery of Royal Regiment-wide competitive opportunities, reduced administrative friction for volunteers, and a clear and consistent link between delivery and funding outcomes.

RA Sports Fund Update

The financial baseline for this strategy is the Royal Artillery sports grant allocation for Financial Year 2026,

ASCB funding at c£45k not available in 2026,

ASCB funding available, incrementally BC based.

SB SEC – SITREP

Budget 24 for 25 - £195574

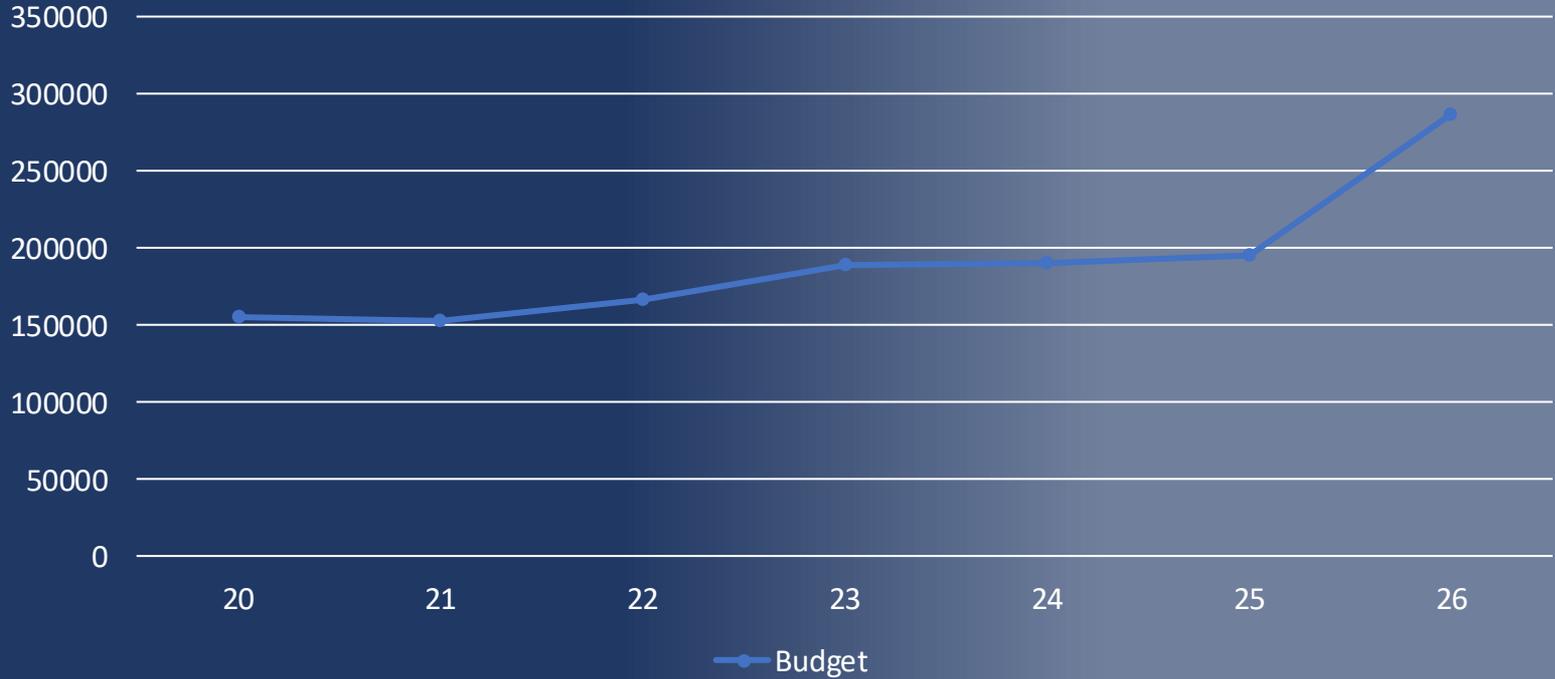
Bids 25 for 26 - £315025.80

Budget 25 for 26 - £287185

37 Sports, 34 BC,



RA Sports Fund Budget



9. AOB and Diary Dates





Join the
Royal Artillery
Yacht Club
WhatsApp
Community

News • Events • Training
Discussion

Scan to Join!



chat.whatsapp.com

The image is a promotional graphic for a WhatsApp community. It features a circular logo on the left with a sailboat and a ship's wheel, surrounded by the text 'ROYAL ARTILLERY GUNNER SAILING YACHT CLUB'. To the right of the logo, the text 'Join the Royal Artillery Yacht Club WhatsApp Community' is displayed in a bold, sans-serif font. Below this text, the words 'News • Events • Training Discussion' are listed. On the right side, there is a QR code with the text 'Scan to Join!' above it and the URL 'chat.whatsapp.com' below it. The background is a green pattern of small icons related to sailing and communication.

10. Awards and Prizes



Cups & Trophies

Bangalore Cup

Annual award at the discretion of the committee.



Year	Winners
2025	
2024	Not Presented
2023	Matthew Sleep
2022	Capt Josh Bate
2021	No Awards Due to Covid 19
2020	No Awards Due to Covid 19
2019	Bdr Ed Middleton
2018	Bdr Ed Middleton

Barden Trophy

Awarded for a noteworthy achievement in navigation.



Year	Winners
2025	
2024	Not Presented
2023	Not Presented
2022	Not Presented
2021	No Awards Due to Covid 19
2020	No Awards Due to Covid 19
2019	Lt Col Tim Wood
2018	Lt Col Dominic Pealin

Benodet Cup

Annual committee award for windsurfing.



Year	Winners
2025	
2024	Not Presented
2023	WO2 Nik Barnes
2022	Not Presented
2021	No Awards Due to Covid 19
2020	No Awards Due to Covid 19
2019	Bdr Lee Jackson
2018	Not Presented

AGM Awards 1 of 2



Award / Cup	When Awarded	Nominator	Award and Summary	2026 Awards
Bangalore Cup	AGM	Commodore	A silver cup presented by Col J C Longfield MBE, (Commodore 1996–99) in memory of his father Brig R C Longfield; to be awarded annually at the	Staff Sgt Max Wilkinson
Barden Trophy	AGM	RC (OS)	A brass ship's binnacle, on a wooden base, purchased with a bequest from the will of Lt Col J P Barden MBE to be awarded for a noteworthy achievement in navigation.	Crew of Force Atlantic
Benodet Cup	AGM	RC (BS)	A silver cup awarded annually to the member who, in the opinion of the Executive Committee has achieved the most meritorious windsurfing performances of that year.	Sgt J Kerrison 16 Regt RA (combined board sailing)
Bombay Cup	AGM	RC (DS)	A silver cup awarded annually to the member who in the opinion of the Executive Committee has achieved the most meritorious dayboat or dinghy performances of that year.	NA
Britannia Trophy	AGM	RC (OS)	A replica of the Britannia Cup won by St. Barbara at Cowes Week 1954 with Maj P W Moore as the skipper. It is awarded annually by the Executive Committee to the member who has achieved the most meritorious performance in offshore racing.	Ben Archer (RCO)
Cruising Cup	AGM	RC (OS)	A silver challenge cup presented by Maj H G Moore MC, for the best log or written account of a cruise or offshore race of the season.	TBC
Guy Hatch Tankard	AGM	Commodore	A pint tankard, to be retained by the winner, and a cheque, presented by Col Guy Hatch and awarded to the WO or NCO who in the opinion of the Committee has contributed most to the Club over the previous year.	Andy Healey

AGM Awards 2 of 2

Gallipoli Trophy	AGM	Commodore	A painting of the original St. Barbara under sail presented in memory of distinguished service in Gallipoli by Maj Charles Ball DSO MC, who was Commodore of the Club from 1951–1954. The trophy shall be awarded annually by the Executive Committee to a member deemed to have given distinguished service to Gunner sailing.	Jed Cunningham (print of painting now framed with Michael Simpson)	RA mess silver room
Peter Crump Award	AGM	RC (OS)	Blue hull trophy on wooden board plus £100 for person who excelled in the delivery or receipt of Club training.	John Johnston	RA mess silver room
Richard Clark Trophy	AGM	Commodore	To be awarded to the Royal Artillery Unit that had made the greatest contribution to Gunner sailing in the previous year.	16 Regt (RCO)	Missing
St. Barbara Trophy	AGM	RC (OS)	A half model of St. Barbara IV, awarded to the skipper who has accumulated most sea miles logged in the Club flagship during a calendar year. Presented by Lt Col K R Walpole and Maj P Crump	Ed Middleton on Ex CU	RA mess silver room
Staveley Award	AGM	Commodore	Awarded to the most inspiring junior soldier or officer who has shown application, development, and leadership in Gunner Sailing.	Jack Harrison	Colin Walsh
Club Colours Board and Kites	AGM	RC (BS)	Annual award at the discretion of the committee.	Sgt J Kerrison 16 Regt RA	
Club Colours Dinghies	AGM	RC (DS)	Annual award at the discretion of the committee.	Jack Harrison	
Club Colours Offshore	AGM	RC (OS)	Annual award at the discretion of the committee.	No Awards	
Club Colours Windsurfing	AGM	RC (BS)	Annual award at the discretion of the committee.	Gnr Lee Jackson 106 regt RA	

11. Drinks and Curry Supper

