



# REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2010-11

## Chairman's Introduction

This Annual Report of the Amateur Yacht Research Society, UK Educational Charity No 234081, Company No 785326, registered in England, is divided into three parts:

- This Introduction
- The Directors Report overleaf (which follows the format required by law of a small company)
- The Financial Commentary on the last page.

The postal address of the AYRS is BCM AYRS, London WC1N 3XX. This is a postbox from which mail is forwarded to the address of the current Secretary. The AYRS, which is a company limited by guarantee, is run by a Committee elected at the Annual General Meetings in accordance with the company Articles and Memorandum of Understanding (which can be found on the AYRS website [www.ayrs.org](http://www.ayrs.org), and were last revised in 2001). There are five elected officers – the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Editor, and up to 12 elected members. Their names are in the Directors' Report. None of these receive any payment although any may claim for expenses incurred on behalf of the Society. The Committee also have the power to co-opt advisers, but have not done so in the year of this Report..

The Committee confirm that, in exercising their powers, they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

This last year was much like the one before, but I think we can say the Society is holding its own despite the recession. We have of course eaten into our reserve funds (the reason why they are there) but membership has not declined as much as it might have, although subscriptions are down as people transfer from receiving paper copies of *Catalyst* to getting it by Internet. Printing costs have gone up in total but not significantly per print run; we simply have more print runs in this year's account.

The NW England Group is going strong; they applied for and have received a grant from the Howard Fund for development of an experimental tethered kitesail. Progress reports are to be in *Catalyst*. This kind of project is what the Howard Fund is for, but we have had very few that the Committee felt were of sufficient merit to support. This is disappointing and we are looking for more.

A similar disappointment was the invitation for people to apply or nominate for the John Hogg Prize. No entries were received by the October deadline and the Prize will be held over for another year. Those who have entered before are welcome to enter again, but need to show significant improvement since their last entry to merit consideration.

On the plus side, AYRS was honoured to be invited to take part in the celebration of our President's 90th birthday. We were represented by the Hon Secretary and Editor who joined a select gathering of marine notables in Trinity House. We congratulate him and wish him well.

Graeme Ward  
AYRS Chairman

## PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF THE AMATEUR YACHT RESEARCH SOCIETY

Taken from AYRS' Memorandum of Association dated 9th December 1963

- To promote and develop learning and knowledge of nautical science and for that purpose to encourage, foster and maintain research and investigation into the design and construction of all kinds of nautical craft however propelled and to improve and promote the invention of all such craft their equipment and accessories.
- To encourage, extend, increase, disseminate and promote knowledge and the exchange of information and ideas in regard to all questions relating to or connected with nautical science.
- To hold meetings of the Society for reading and discussing communications bearing upon nautical science or subjects relating thereto and to provide facilities for the delivery of lectures thereon.
- To compile, print, publish, lend or distribute the proceedings and reports of the Society or any papers, communications, works, text books or treatises on nautical science or subjects connected therewith and to form a library of works relating to nautical science.
- To make, subsidise and pay for research and invention into nautical science and to make loans or grants of money, books, manuscripts, works charts maps, plans, drawings or apparatus or other things for the promotion of invention and research into nautical science or subjects connected therewith.

## Amateur Yacht Research Society Ltd

BCM AYRS, London WC1N 3XX, UK

Registered Office: 9 Lynton Road, Thorpe Bay, Essex SS1 3BE. Company No 785326. Educational Charity No 234081

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE AMATEUR YACHT RESEARCH SOCIETY LIMITED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2011

Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2011			
2009-10		2010-11	
	FIXED ASSETS		
	Tangible Assets		
-	Plant and machinery (Note 1)	-	
	CURRENT ASSETS		
1,013	Stocks (Note 3)	1,013.00	
1,774	Payments in advance	-	
<u>74,745</u>	Cash at bank and in hand	<u>69,088</u>	
77,532		70,101	
	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year		
1,695	Subscriptions in advance	1,610	
<u>3,207</u>	Sundry creditors	<u>1,214</u>	
4,902		<u>2,824</u>	
<u>£72,630</u>	NET CURRENT AND TOTAL ASSETS	<u>£67,278</u>	
	ACCUMULATED FUND		
32,375	Balance as at 1st October 2010	31,156	
(1,219)	Surplus/(Deficit) of Income for year	(2,353)	
-	Transfer to Restricted Funds	-	
<u>£31,156</u>		<u>£28,804</u>	
	RESTRICTED FUND (Note 6)		
42,152	Balance as at 1st October 2009	41,474	
(678)	Change in year	(3,000)	
<u>41,474</u>		<u>38,474</u>	
<u>£72,630</u>		<u>£67,278</u>	

The notes on page 4 are part of the financial statements.

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 30th September 2011			
2009-10		2010-11	
	INCOME (Note 5)		
5,906	Subscriptions	£5,216	
573	Donations	278	
-	Boat Show Receipts	810	
4	Interest received	33	
41	Exchange rate income/(loss)	23	
<u>327</u>	Sale of publications & stock	<u>204</u>	
6,851		6,564	
	LESS:		
	DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE		
2,370	Cost of publications	4084	
1,801	Postage on publications	608	
227	Meeting, room hire and travelling expenses	370	
386	Speedweek costs	404	
<u>35</u>	J. Hogg Prize	-	
(4,819)		(5,467)	
	OTHER EXPENDITURE		
210	Administrative and office expenses	166	
1,829	Boat show costs	2,095	
-	Accountancy Charges	-	
858	Insurance	1084	
350	Bad debts	-	
<u>4</u>	Miscellaneous	<u>105</u>	
(3,251)		(3,450)	
<u>£(1,219)</u>	SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) OF INCOME	<u>£(2,353)</u>	

The AYRS is incorporated as a Company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. Company Registered Number **785326**, Educational Charity Registered Number 234081, Registered Office: 9 Lynton Road, Thorpe Bay, Essex SS1 3BE, UK.

The Committee present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2011.

- The principal activity of the Society, a registered educational charity, is to promote the improvement of yachts and equipment by the use of research and development.
- The Committee who served during the year were: F.C. Ball, D. Culp, R. Downhill, R.M. Ellison, Mrs. S.M. Fishwick, S.N. Fishwick, T. Glover, S. Penoyre, J. Perry, M.R. Tingley and G.G.W. Ward.

### Committee's Responsibilities for preparing Financial Statements

(The Committee are Directors of the Company)

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the exemptions available to small companies regime within part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, was presented to the board on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2011, and signed on their behalf.

Sheila Fishwick  
Director & Company Secretary

### Directors Statements on Unaudited Accounts

The Accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

For the year ended 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006 and no notice has been deposited under section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:

- Ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386; and
- Preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year, and of its profit or loss for the financial year, in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as is applicable to the company.

These accounts are proposed to be approved by the Board of Directors on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2012 and signed on their behalf by:

Sheila Fishwick  
Director & Company Secretary

## Notes and Schedules to the Accounts for the Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011

### 1. Accounting policies

a) These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008)

b) Depreciation was provided on Fixed Assets until 1994 when the residual value was written off. The original cost was £403.

### 2. The Society is limited by guarantee and has no Share Capital.

### 3. Stocks comprise publications and goods for resale as follows:

Books and Publications	£1,000
Ties	13
	<u>£1,013</u>

Due to the subject matter and nature of the Society's publications, it has been considered that the value attributable shall be a nominal £1,000. In the event of the total cost falling below £1,000, then that lower figure will be substituted for the £1,000 nominal value.

### 4. The Committee received no remuneration other than expenses during the year and the Society has no paid employees.

5. Income in U.S.\$ and Euros. Income in US Dollars was \$307 (£196). The rate of exchange used at the year end was US\$1.56231 = £1.00. Cash at bank includes \$9,211 (£5,896) held on 30th September 2011 in the USA. Income in Euros was €36 (net of €72 in bank charges). The exchange rate applied was €1.16218 = £1.00. Misc Income includes gains (losses) on any currency transfers and revaluations.

6. Boat Show. Receipts amounting to £810 were banked from subscriptions, donations, and sales of publications at the January 2011 London Boat Show, and have not been subdivided in the accounts. Boat Show expenditure amounted to £1617. The Beale Park Boat Show cost £171 and brought in £165.

7. Restricted Funds - £38,474. These funds are restricted in their use under the terms of the bequest to finance grants for members projects and are not available for the general running of the Society. The Committee have also designated £1000 of the general funds for future awards of the John Hogg Prize.

## Financial Commentary (not part of the formal Director's Report)

The Balance Sheet shows that the AYRS, as a company, is still in a healthy position having general assets worth £28,803, and a restricted fund, the Howard Fund, worth £38,474. This latter, which was a legacy left to AYRS by the late Donald Howard, is restricted to providing grants for members' projects and is not available for the general expenditure of the AYRS. It is held in a separate bank account. The "Sundry creditors" amount shown includes the expenses of the Secretary & Editor (£1,993), due, but not paid, at the end of the financial year.

The reserves policy of the Society is that we should maintain reserves sufficient to cover one year's operation without income (around £10000). It will be seen that the general funds are well in excess of this, and the incoming Committee will again need to consider what, if anything, is to be done about that.

Turning to the Income and Expenditure account, it will be seen that Income is down again by some 10%, Direct Expenditure is up (more publications paid for), and other costs are up also, due largely to an increase in public liability insurance premium.

Income is dominated by subscriptions; and at the end of the year we had about 465 members, which is almost the same as the previous year. It seems though that more members are opting for the cheaper subscription rates, and fewer are wanting their copies of *Catalyst* printed and sent by post. We think this trend will continue, but since it also reduces printing and postage costs (if not the work of the Editor!) we see no cause for concern.

Direct expenditure on the aims of the Society includes the printing and posting of the journal, *Catalyst*, the hire of meeting rooms, and support to Speedweek. The first two are self-explanatory, the cost against the last is the cost of prizes, and the cost of one (of four) rescue craft.

Other expenditure includes insurance and administrative costs, amounting to about £1250, and the cost of displays at Boat Shows. These serve an educational function as well as to recruit new members of the Society, although they are included as an indirect expenditure. The London Boat Show lost us £1285, but provides a valuable public appearance; the Beale Park Show more or less broke even.

Looking to the future, the Editor is catching up with the journal, and hopes once again to maintain issue dates in future. The small loss is sustainable for a number of years, and there is clearly no justification to increase the rates of subscription income. On balance we regard this as a not-unsatisfactory set of accounts and commend them to you.

Prepared on behalf of the Committee by the Treasurer (S Penoyre) & S Fishwick