

## **Richard Rowan receives the 2014 MYA Syan Award.**

At the 2014 MYA AGM, Richard Rowan received the Syan Award from the MYA President Derek Priestley. This prestigious award, in memory of Peter Maskell, was created to recognise an individual (or group) who has made an outstanding contribution to model yachting.

For many years, Richard tirelessly worked behind the scenes on MYA Council as the MYA IT Officer. Most, if not all of the IT databases that underlie the administration of the MYA and support the website, Members Area and Knowledge Base were designed, developed and maintained by Richard.

An excellent example of innovative facilities introduced by Richard for MYA members is the convenience of the on-line registration for competitors to enter race events. The stability of these systems lies testament to Richard's attention to detail, diligence and the hours of his own time that this required.

In addition, Richard has provided sterling service to members of the MYA Scottish District by designing and maintaining the Scottish District website. Initially he ran the website himself but latterly he provides a service to the Scottish District Committee and Clubs by promptly loading the material with which he is provided. A rough estimate would be ~150 updates a year (reports, pictures, scoresheets, etc.)

In 2014 Richard stood down from his role of IT Officer on MYA Council but continues to be involved through his recent nomination as Scottish District Councillor.

Richard is a regular competitor on the Scottish Radio Sailing scene. It should not be forgotten that he has a high level radio sailing career having represented Ireland at World Championship level. Thus, it is not surprising that he has a reputation as a tough skipper to beat on the water. However, he has never lost sight of his roots and recently ran a fleet of Micro-Magic boats to demonstrate the allure of the sport and encourage others into our sport with a hands-on experience.

In conclusion, Richard Rowan is a fitting recipient of the 2014 MYA Syan Award.



### **The Syan Trophy**

Derek was happy to award the Syan Trophy to Richard Rowan in thanks for his excellent work over many years in the role of IT Officer. Much of what Richard achieved was innovative - the ability to register for race meetings on line, for example - and he was warmly congratulated on the award of the trophy by everyone present.