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MANX MODEL BOAT CLUB NEWSLETTER



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## Commodore's new year greetings

Hi there - Greetings and welcome to the 2013 season.



Enigmatic poise from the Club's first Commodore, Bob Bagshaw.

Firstly I must say a few words about the sad loss of our old mate Doug Wheeler. He was a long serving, active and

staunch supporter, attending functions right up to the day he passed away. His health had not been too good recently and he had had a rough time but he seemed in his usual chirpy way to be getting better which made his passing all the more tragic. He will be missed. Our condolences and deepest sympathy go out to Ellis and the family at this unhappy time.

The Club managed quite a reasonable programme last year despite the rain and gales that seemed to make up most of the summer (the weather seems to have become steadily worse since I retired - I'm thinking of applying for my old job

back! Despite this we experimented with a few new venues and events, some of which will be included in this year's list but there is always room for new ideas, so suggestions that are printable will be welcomed.

We must keep trying to attract new and younger members and remember - it is a fun hobby!!

All the very best and fair sailing.

### The Commodore

(PS subs are due says he who gets a free ride!!!)

A membership form accompanies this newsletter as an attachment to the email (or in the envelope.)

## New editor for the Club's newsletter (and name)

We now have a new editor for the Club's newsletter, me Kim Holland. I volunteered my services at the AGM way back in November. This takes a lot of work away from our esteemed secretary, who was suggesting at one time that he might be considering standing down.

I'm not changing too many things just yet, though Jason suggested that the format was tired so I've tinkered

with it.

If you have any ideas about content or style I am always ready and willing to listen. I shall try very hard to match Jason's high standards and let me be the first to put on paper my admiration and thanks for the way Jason carried the newsletter for so long. Maybe if I make a hash of it my reign will be much shorter!

It is my intention to introduce some new ideas, a "sail loft secrets" column, a competition or two and if you are willing to supply them, the occasional article about models that you, the membership are making, together with pictures of course.

My contact information is on the last page, **Kim**.

### Special points of interest:

- SAD PASSING OF DOUG WHEELER
- LOOK WHO WAS AMONGST THE MODEL LIFEBOATS
- WHICH EVENTS WILL YOU BE AT
- WHO SAID THAT!
- COMMODORES SPECIAL AWARD

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## Obituary Doug Wheeler

It was with great sadness that I, along with several members of the Manx Model Boat Club attended Doug Wheeler's funeral on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

Doug joined the club in 1993 and was a regular member ever since, both building and sailing model boats. Doug was a softly spoken man, but was always willing to lend a hand with the running of the club, being elected Club Chairman between 2001 and 2004 and standing on the committee for many years.

Doug built and sailed a variety of models ranging from scale models, to yachts to fast electrics and always had another project "on the go". One of his first models

was a scratch built TID tug which he named after his granddaughter "Freya" which won the Scratch Built Scale competition in 1997. He has of course won numerous other competitions since that time.

In later years Doug's health was not quite so good, having to use a stick from time to time; however this never put him off his sailing and in fact he was one of the first members to turn up at Silverdale on the last Sunday of 2012, Doug's last day, to enjoy a morning's sailing with his fellow members. I am sure that this is how he would like members to remember him.

Jason Quayle



Doug standing behind the bow of "Girl Ellis" built by him and named after his wife. 2003 Mannannan Competition. (photo courtesy of Jason Quayle)

"A SOFT SPOKEN MAN,  
ALWAYS WILLING TO  
LEND A HAND"

## Sir William Hilary display—6th January 2013

Well attended by members with a display of 32 models, and notably some 10 lifeboats of varying sizes and types. This was also an opportunity to capture the soon to retire Director of RNLI Lifeboat operations, Mike Vlasto in amongst our boats. Indeed, when I spoke with him he was very pleased to be shown the display as he was meeting the Lifeboat Enthusiasts at the Boat Show the following Sunday.

Congratulations to the Club on an excellent turnout once again.

Ed.



Mike Vlasto amongst the array of model lifeboats.

Events calendar 2013

Date	event	time	venue
01/01/2013	Ice breaker sail in	10.00 - 12:00	Silverdale lake
06/01/2013	William Hilary static display for RNLI	13.00 - 16.30	Pensioner's Hall, Douglas
31/03/2013	Blind steering event	10.00 - 12.00	Silverdale Lake
14/04/2013 wet alternative 21/04/2013	Steering competition	10.00 - 13.00	Silverdale Lake
05/05/2013 wet alternative 12/05/2013	On the water scale	10.00 - 13.00	Silverdale Lake
18/05/2013	"Av - a - Go" fun morning and twin tug towing	10.00 - 13.00	Silverdale Lake
26/05/2013	IOM and Vintage Yacht racing plus static boat display "Star of India" commemorative event	14.00 - 17.30	Mooragh Park and Lake
09/06/2013	Milintown Model Boat Pageant Diamond jubilee for Coronation QEII	10.00 - 17.00	Milintown Lake, Lezayre
16/06/2013	Vintage Yacht 36R	3 day weekend	Llandudno, N Wales
22/06/2013	Mannanan 2013	10.00 - 16.00	Onchan Park boating Lake
23/06/2013	Mannanan 2013	10.00 - 17.00	Silverdale Lake
29/06/2013	Queenie Festival	2 day weekend	Port St Mary
14/07/2013	Port Erin Lifeboat Day	10.00 - 16.30	Port Erin
20/07/2013	Ramsey Lifeboat Day	10.00 - 16.00	Ramsey
27/07/2013	Southern Agricultural Show	2 day weekend	Castletown
11/08/2013 wet alternative 13/08/2013	Spithead Review and time trial model boat races	14.00 - 17.00	Onchan Park boating lake
24/08/2013	Haydock Park model boat convention	3 day weekend	Haydock Park race course
01/09/2013	IOM and Vintage Yacht racing plus displays	tba	Mooragh Park and Lake
15/09/2013 wet alternative 22/09/2013	Venetian evening, Club BBQ and Onchan Commissioner's Shield	18.00 - 20.30	Onchan Park boating lake
06/10/2013 wet alternative 13/10/2013	Tug Towing both single and twin	14.00 - 17.00	Onchan Park boating lake

Yellowed events are for Av-a-Go boats only, though modellers can bring boats for display and of course assist with operations

It's fun being afloat but the getting there is just as exciting!

## MANX MODEL BOAT CLUB NEWSLETTER

Items for the newsletter may be sent via the secretary or direct to me as written or computer documents.

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### AGM - a few jottings

Draft minutes of the last AGM are attached with this newsletter. 19 members attended with apologies from another 5 members.

The Committee remains the same as from 2012. The promise is of more fun events with less emphasis on the rigid discipline competitions. The fixture list is on page 2 of this newsletter. Included this year is an attempt to re-engage with the r/c yachters and there are two events on the calendar, one being the anniversary of the Star of India launch and one later as a Vintage yacht event, this time with organised races for r/c classes too - but still trying to get the public to "have-a-go".



The Commodore presents Jason Quayle with his special mention award for his services as secretary and for being a "jolly good chap", made at the annual prize dinner held way down South at the Pavilion Restaurant, Port St Mary Golf Club.  
(photo courtesy of Ed)

### Sail loft secrets - [the bean spillers].

It has come to the editors attention that one of our more prolific boat building members is searching for "a better class" of helmsman for his latest acquisition, the "Volux" tug, which incorporates a voith-Schneider drive unit. Apparently regular driver "Ferret Fleming" is in some disgrace so rumour has it that training sessions and a selection process for wannabe Coxswains will be taking place at Silverdale over the next few weeks, so if you want to try your hand?

And here's more news about a near catastrophe with the same submarine when it caught fire internally during testing and was dismantled in record time (someone said 7.2 seconds) in order to extinguish the burning parts and save the submarine to sink/float another day. The editor has been unable to establish whether the submarine was being worn at the time!

and

Speaking of hands, or should it be arms? Another story emanating from that same shipyard tells of a possible audition for the part of **tin-man** (or is it **sub-man**) in the Wizard of Oz - though wearing a section of submarine on one's arm (actually stuck up to the elbow) seems a bit away from the storyline, but the tin-man did want a brain.



Can you identify which model boat these life-belts are attached to? No prizes, just a bit of fun this time around. Ed.



More of the boats at the recent Sir William Hilary display earlier this month - how did BK

AND a final reminder that subscriptions are due, so refer to the draft AGM minutes for rates, but as far as Ed recalls, no change for adults (working or not) BUT junior rate is reduced to only £10.

A form should accompany this newsletter - and this will be your last newsletter if you have not paid up for 21013 by the production of the next one. Ed.

