

Established 1985

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MANX MODEL BOAT CLUB Newsletter

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Chairman's Chat

Welcome everyone to another sailing season.

Is it just me or are the winters getting shorter, September; you promise yourself that you will make a determined effort to build something new, now here we are getting ready for the first proper event of the year.

How many new models will we see this year, I have heard there are some interesting vessels about to be launched.

A Membership application form has been included with this newsletter, I appreciate a number of people paid at the A.G.M. if you are one of these ignore the form or if you know someone interested in joining us please hand it to them.

Ok. I will stop waffling and let you get on with reading the reports and coming events.

May your seas be calm and your prizes bountiful.

Howard Quayle

The pictures on the left are of the 2006 Scale Competition Winners - Doug Wheelers German E boat in the Semi-Kit class (top) and Les Quayles Douglas Head Ferry 'Thistle' in the Scratch class (bottom).

Visit the Manx Model Boat Club Web site to find out more information about the club and to see a selection of photographs of events as they happen. www.manxmodelboatclub.org

EVENTS CALENDAR 2007

Sunday 25th March	Scale Steering Competition	Onchan Park	2.30pm
Sunday 8th April	Easter Egg Yacht Race	Ramsey Mooragh	2.30pm
Sunday 22nd April	<i>Alternative Date for Scale Steering Competition</i>		
Sunday 6th May	Scale Competition	Silverdale	10.00am
Sunday 13th May	<i>Alternative Date for Scale Competition</i>		
Sat/Sun 16/17th June	Model Lifeboat Rally Southport	Southport	
Saturday 23rd June	Mannanan Steering Competition	Onchan Park	10.00am
Sunday 24th June	Mannanan Scale Competition	Ramsey Mooragh	10.00am
Monday 25th June	Mannanan Tug Towing / On the Water	Silverdale	10.00am
Thursday 5th July	Tynwald Fair Display	St Johns	9.00am
Saturday 7th July	Static Display	Onchan Park	TBA
Sunday 5th August	Fun Competition	Silverdale	7.00pm
Sunday 12th August	Spithead Review	Silverdale	6.30pm
Sunday 12th August	Port Erin R.N.L.I Display	Port Erin	1.00pm
Sat/sun 25/26 August	Ellesmere Port Exhibition	Ellesmere Port Epic Centre	
Saturday 8th September	Onchan Commissioners Cup and BBQ	Onchan Park	7.00pm
Sunday 9th September	<i>Alternative Date for Onchan Commissioners Cup and BBQ</i>		
Sunday 23rd September	Tug Towing Competition	Onchan Park	2.00pm
Sunday 30th September	<i>Alternative Date for Tug Towing Competition</i>		
Sunday 7th October	Round the Island Yacht Race	Ramsey Mooragh	2.30pm
Sunday 14th October	<i>Alternative Date for Round the Island Yacht Race</i>		

Don't forget that club sailing nights are Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons (early season) or evenings (summer season) after the motor boats have finished at Onchan Park. There is also water available at Silverdale and Onchan park for free sailing for those who want to venture out in the unseasonably mild winter weather for a spot of pre-season sailing. Why not ring around or e-mail a few members to let them know that you are going for a sail and make up a small flotilla.

Club Meetings

Members who were not at the AGM, may not be aware that we have changed the venue for the monthly club committee meetings. They are still held on the last Thursday of the month starting at 8pm, but we have moved to the meeting room at the Archibald Knox. The AGM was held very successfully at this venue and it was felt that the meeting room offered a little more privacy without the noisy distractions going on in the background at the pub.

The change of venue also offers the opportunity to look at other club activities - particularly during the winter months. If you would be interested in Kim Hollands presentation on making rope fenders please let me know and we will arrange a date for him to come along to one of the meetings.

Mannanan 2007

Hello to all.

This year sees the tenth anniversary of the Mannanan Model Boat Festival; we have through the hard work of the various committees over the years built a very popular three-day Event.

We will continue very much in the same format as in previous years, Onchan on Saturday, Ramsey on the Sunday and Silverdale on the Monday, with the dinner and prize presentation on Monday evening.

Each year it becomes more difficult to find somewhere suitable for the evening meal, so we have pre booked the Douglas Bay Yacht Club on Douglas Quay, with a good buffet at a very reasonable price, with the bonus of good parking

You will find enclosed your entry form for the 2007 event, I understand it is not always possible to decide which model to enter on each day, but I would appreciate it if you would return your completed forms as early as possible, all entries have to be written up on computer, early returns are a great help to me.

We have obtained the services of two Judges from the UK for this year's Scale Competition

on Sunday, something we are very lucky to do, as qualified Judges are becoming quite a rarity.

Once again we have the support of the Tourist Special Events Committee, and various sponsors this gives us the help we need to run the Event. Interest and entries are already coming from the U.K; all we need is three good days of weather.

On a final note I have at the January meeting of the Club given to undertake this years Event through to it's conclusion but would be handing the reins over to someone for the future Mannanans, if someone feels they would like to take up the position will they please let the Committee know at the next meeting, this way they can shadow the present committee and it will not be such a steep learning curve.

Any further information can be obtained from the Club website including extra entry forms or give me a ring on 01624 626737,

Email howard_quayle@lineone.net it is not seen but the howard _quayle is written as this.

See you all bright and early on Saturday 23rd June.

Howard

New Year Sail at Silverdale

This years new year sail in was held on the 1st January at Silverdale in what can only be described as exceptionally mild conditions for January, although you did need some gloves and a hat to keep the extremities from getting too cold.

There was a good turn out of members with some new vessels taking to the water, although most members sailed with their regular favourites - always reliable and easy to just charge the batteries and throw them in the back of the car at this time of year. There must have been a dozen or so boats on the water at one stage, which attracted numerous spectators at various times throughout the afternoon. This event has now become an established favourite to start the year off.

One or two of the fast electric boats took to the water at one stage for a quick blast around, and with several members now sailing these types of boats it is to be hoped that we can organise one or two specific events for this type of boat during the season to display a slightly different aspect of our hobby.

This turned out to be an enjoyable afternoon and an excellent start to the 2007 season. Lets hope that the mild weather continues into the spring sailing season.

Ship's rope fenders – how to make your own.

Kim Holland

Some time ago, interest was shown in some miniature rope fenders I had for the Thames Barge. The scale was 1/24 and others wanted to know whether I would pass on the source of them. When told I had made them, I was asked would I show others. Yes I will and this is the start.

The types that can be made are not limited to side fenders, but can be all shapes and all sizes, including the bow type large fender for tugs.

The fenders types covered include side and bow fenders in particular, with full details how to make them full size for canal boats etc. I simply scaled the whole down and then used miniature rope I make and came up with fenders of various sizes. The size depends upon the starting rope diameter, and packing ropes.

The book I used to teach myself was the fender book by Colin R Jones and the numbers for it are below.

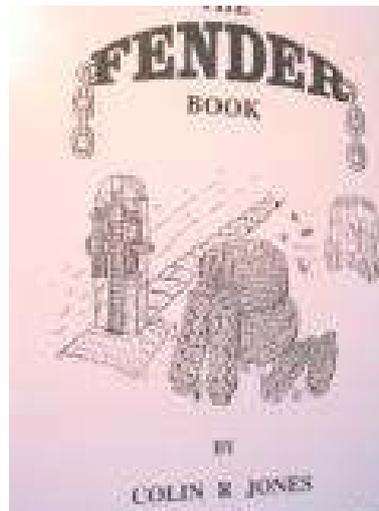
I obtained it through the International Guild of Knot tyers, a body to which I am a member/

I now propose to show interested modellers how to make a side fender at the monthly meetings following the committee meetings, and hope this is to be at the Archibald Know meeting room.

I have prepared a picture board of a side fender construction and will use that to demonstrate the art. At such a small scale it is not unusual to require tweezers, and magnifying spectacles to see what goes on. Don't worry. I'll use larger scale rope for the demonstration.

As a note of interest, Island Fixings and Fittings now sell a selection of "ropes" which are three core, rope made cotton line, 1.5 to 2.5 mm sizes. These are very amenable to dyeing to natural rope colours. There is also a variety of coloured braided lines up to 8mm.

If you are interested, I'll see you at the Archibald.



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