

Established 1985

Editor: Jason Quayle

MANX MODEL BOAT CLUB Newsletter

Edition: October, November, December 2007

Chairmans Chat

The sailing season for Events has drawn to a close, but for those intrepid souls Silverdale should be available throughout the winter months. We are fortunate in that water, and good water is available all the year round.

By the time you are reading this Newsletter we will be getting very close to the Annual Dinner and Prize giving, this year we are at the Douglas Bay Yacht Club on the Tongue, if you haven't replied to the invitation now will be a good time, the Venue is superb and the food is excellent, even if you aren't picking up a prize the evening is a very pleasant night out.

Following on from the Dinner, later in the month is the A.G.M. this will be held in the meeting room at the Archie Knox in Onchan. Although this is a time for elections, a press gang will not operate, anyone *not* wishing to stand for office their wishes will be respected, the present committee and officials are always happy to hear opinions, suggestions, ideas that will help with the future running of **our Club**.

As I do not know whom the future Chairman will be may I take the opportunity to thank everyone who, during the past three years helped me with my duties? Also I would like to put on record my sincere thanks to all who helped me during the running of the Mannanan Festivals, as Brian has now picked up the mantle for Mannanan, I would like to wish him good speed and a safe passage, the task is not an easy one.

Howard Quayle

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Ellesmere Port 2007

During the past 4 years, I have because of work commitments been unable to visit the Model Boat Convention at Ellesmere Port, the last show I managed to visit was at the Canal Museum.

Since that time a number of changes have been made, not least to the venue now used. The Canal Museum lent itself to a Model Boat Convention admirably, unfortunately because of politics the Model Clubs and some Traders are now set up between two venues a distance apart but on the same days.

The show most popular seems to be the one set up at the Epic Centre in Ellesmere Port, so having the opportunity this year I hitched a lift with Bill Callow and went for a "skeet."

The venue is convenient for access; anyone with large models will appreciate this, we all remember the iron bridge at the Museum carrying a model across to have a sail or just scrambling through the crowd, Clubs and Traders both use the main hall; so this gives ample opportunity to peruse the various stands.

Quite a number of visiting Clubs were displaying some excellent models, our own Club did us proud with a first class display, I was surprised and delighted that one of my models won a first place, with John Williams Steam Launch collecting a creditable second place, not bad for just half a dozen members.

The usual visiting Traders were in attendance along with some I hadn't seen before, this is always a good time to top up the stock box, so the contents of the wallet got an airing. (Nobody told me white fivers were no longer legal tender.)

Last year I believe the heat and chlorine in the swimming pool was cause for concern, this year for people wishing to sail their models the pool had been emptied and refilled with clean water also the heating was turned off so as to make it more comfortable, not a cheap exercise and one that has to be commended, unfortunately about a fortnight before the show, prob-

lems occurred in the roof, rendering the area unsafe for use.

The committee organising the event hastily acquired a portable pool and although only shallow it did give an opportunity for small to medium size models to be sailed over the two days. Les Quayle had with him his model of the Douglas Head Steam Ferry "Thistle", and was able to give a sailing display on the water; a picture of the model has been used on the front cover of the November issue of Marine Modelling International, well done Les, I think this is a first for our Club. Jason also sailed his model of Dornoch.

A great deal of work had gone into the setting up, and Clubs from various parts of the U.K. were present, but it did leave me with a feeling of sadness that the Museum could no longer be used; maybe I'm just having a senile moment but the show had unfortunately outgrown the venue.

Just like our own Mannanan Festival the show revolves around the people attending; in this the Ellesmere Port Show has lost none of the friendliness of the previous Conventions and should, given time, evolve into a show that will attract Clubs and Traders for many years to come, I will certainly try my best to be there next year and many more in the future.

Howard Quayle.

P.S Thanks for the lift Bill. (But that's another story)

Return of Trophies

Could all of last years competition winners please return their trophies to Brian King at 5 Seafield Crescent, Onchan as soon as possible so that they can be engraved and polished in time for presenting to this years prize winners.



Plans Available

Bob Bagshaw has been doing some research for the Manx Aviation and Military Museum on a 54 Air Sea MCU which operated on the Island during WW2, and has acquired the following 1/24th scale drawings which members might be interested in:

- 1) Early 60 Ft A/SR pinnacle
- 2) A later 67 Ft Thornycroft H.S.L.- optional turrets.
- 3) A 1/12 scale for the 41'6" Seaplane Tender including the inside details - it's quite big!!

At this size and with several sheets to a plan they can be quite expensive so if anyone is interested they can either borrow the plans or have them copied. Contact Bob Bagshaw via e-mail robagshaw@manx.net or telephone 822774.

Onchan Commissioners Scale and Venetian Evening

Conditions were fairly good for this Saturday evening's event. There was a good turnout of models and quite a few spectators.

Tim Norton, Chairman of Onchan Commissioners was the guest and judge, along with his wife. With a lot of boats on the water it looked very busy. Graham Bayliss's new large destroyer took to the water for the first time—and nearly its last! Heading for the moored motor boats at speed, Graham managed to slow it down before the collision occurred. Luckily only resulting in very minor damage. At least he did take on something smaller next time—Jason's new tug! However, again only very minor damage resulted.

John William's Roysterer took the Onchan Commissioners Shield after a very impressive fire jet display.

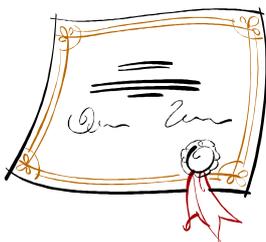
As it got darker, on came the lights, some of them very bright, especially those on Graham's destroyer. At least he could be seen coming! The proliferation of brightly lit tugs and fishing boats continues, and Brian Swindon's tug looked especially realistic. Bernie's aircraft carrier outshone them all however and he carried off the Racehorse Trophy.

Altogether another successful evening that was well supported and Mike Buss's BBQ stand did its usual excellent service.

Annual Dinner and Prize Presentation - Saturday 17th November

This is a further reminder for those members who haven't returned their reply slips for the Annual Dinner & Prize Presentation.

This year the Annual Dinner and Prize Presentation at the Douglas Bay Yacht Club in Douglas starting at 8pm. The meal will be a buffet style, similar to what we had for the Mannanan dinner in the middle of June. The cost of the meal will be £12 per head, and you are requested to complete the attached form and return it to Mike Buss as soon as possible along, with your payment, so that we can determine numbers. The dinner will be followed by the presentation of prizes and trophies to all this years competition winners.



Winter Events

Now that the sailing season has finished and the nights are drawing in, there isn't much for a model boater to do unless there is something new on the slipway. Well not for long, because we have been looking at introducing two or three modelling related events during the winter months which ordinary members might be interested in. You might also be glad to hear that these events will take place in the warmth and comfort of a pub and not the cold frost-bitten lake side!

November 29th, Annual General Meeting at the Archibald Knox - Surplus Bring & Buy Sale / Give Away Event.

This is to be held after the completion of the formal AGM meeting and will be a general bring and buy sale of any modelling related items, old stock, tools, fittings, modelling materials right through to complete kits and ready built models. Just bring along anything which you want to get rid of, put a price on it and lets see what happens. Anything that is left over at the end of the evening might even be put into an auction. Even if you don't have anything to sell, why not come along and see if there is anything which you might want to buy or barter for.

January 31st, Committee Meeting at the Archibald Knox - Fender Making.

Following the committee meeting Kim Holland has agreed to run through and show members how he makes up his rope fenders for his models. This may take up a couple of evenings depending on how we get on. (Get your knitting needles out!)

February 28th, Committee Meeting at the Archibald Knox- Scale Competition Judging.

Following the committee meeting we will get two or three different models around the table and run through how the judges would score these models in a scale competition. This will give you the opportunity to see how the scoring system works and hopefully give you some pointers on the criteria which is used for judging and how you can improve your models chances in a scale competition.

As you can see, these events will be held on the same evening as our normal committee meetings at the Archibald Knox and will follow the normal meeting business. Committee meetings are held on the last Thursday of each month starting at 8:00pm.

Annual General Meeting - Thursday 29th November, 7:30pm.

The Annual General Meeting of the Manx Model Boat Club will be held in the Meeting Room at the Archibald Knox Public House in Onchan on 29th November 2007 starting at 7:30pm.

Agenda

- 1) Apologies for Absence.
- 2) Minutes of last years Annual General Meeting.
- 3) Matters Arising from the Minutes.
- 4) Chairman's Report.
- 5) Treasurer's Report.
- 6) Election of Club Officials for 2008 (Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, + 5 Committee).
- 7) Proposed Fixture List for 2008.
- 8) Mannanan 2008.
- 9) Any Other Business.

Please note the change of start time from that previously advertised which is now 7:30pm.

Annual Dinner & Prize Presentation Saturday 17th November at 8pm.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Number Attending _____ Amount enclosed at £12 per head _____

Please return this completed form, along with your payment to the Club Treasurer, Mike Buss,
Fairmount, Somerset Road, Douglas, IM2 5AE. Please make cheques payable to Manx Model Boat Club.

