



MANX MODEL BOAT CLUB

NEWSLETTER

August 2022

Hello again, what a summer so far!

A little bit late but here is a roundup of what we've been up to during the summer, including a full report on Mannanan 2022, and other events. There's news of a new book authored by a Club member, a couple of boats for sale, a Club members own display at Port Erin and a request for information about a model period ship.

We seem to have been spared the worst of the summer's heat and have managed to be able to keep sailing on the Silverdale despite water shortages and currently a hose pipe ban.

Obviously sailing on the Mooragh Lake is unaffected by the drought, it being seawater filled, but there have only been gentle breezes of late to fill the sails.

Most will have received news about our Blackpool Boat Show trip and arrangements are in hand for who, what and how to get it there. Check your in-box for attendance and information requests from the Secretary.

Blackpool Model Boat Show information wanted soonest please.

I'm sure you've had information about this via email, check your in-boxes please. The Club would like to reiterate its request for information regarding who wants to go and what they wish/plan to take by way of boats.

The Club have once again secured an end of section display zone, which gives us a good square shaped block to create our usual pyramid of boats. This enables more boats to fit the space and more importantly that they can be seen and photographed by interested visitors.

In order to facilitate transport arrangements and decide on the display we have to know what are your intentions please and as soon as possible, email or contact Club secretary, Jason Quayle, or contact me, details on footer of every page.



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Mannanan 2022 June 25 and 26.

A great big thank you to all those that attended especially those from over the water, some making a first return since the emergence of Covid and it's associated lockdowns, border closures and restrictions. We also have to recognise the falling numbers of Club members, and those who can actively participate in events, and sadly our diminishing membership.

The forecast for the weekend was not the best, strong winds and rain, but with our usual luck and ability to juggle the timetable we achieved a full couple of days, nicely finished off with the presentation dinner on the Monday evening at the Creg-na-Baa hotel.

On The Water

Judge: David Ramsbottom

Assisted by: Peter Iddon



The On the Water competition enables any entrant to sail any boat regardless of who the builder etc. In such a way boats passed down or taken over by new owners have a chance at competition as they are compared to all other vessels on the day in their respective class, either under (U) or over (O) one metre.

The judge(s) make a personal choice, and for this event there were a pleasing amount of entries, some 17 boats in all, so it was not easy, and to make it harder the two classes mixed on the water as well. Indeed several skippers had more than one boat entered.



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Results – listed as entered

Name	Boat	Class	Marks	pos
Brian King	Sir William Hilary – Tyne LB	O	6	
Brian King	FV PL43	U	9	
Kim Holland	LCT 6	U	8	
Kim Holland	Black Pearl	U	6	
Scott Booth	RAF tender	U	6	
Scott Booth	Launch EVLA	U	6	
Jason Quayle	Tug ENVOY	O	8	
Jason Quayle	Fairy Huntsman	U	7	
Kevin Fleming	IOMSPC Ben-My-Chree	O	9	
Kevin Fleming	IOMSPC Mona's Queen	O	8	
Kevin Fleming	RSS Kyle Rhea	O	7	
Paul Brassington	Bob's Challenge	U	8	
Paul Brassington	E 10 submarine	O	7	
Dave Costain	Narrow Boat	O	8	
Brian Swinden	RSS Ben Ain	O	9½	1
Jason Fleming	Wacht Am Rhein	U	6	
Les Quayle	Thistle	U	9½	1

BEN AIN – Brian Swinden



BEN AIN – Brian Swinden was also awarded the Heritage Award for best boat with a Manx connection.

THISTLE – Les Quayle





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Radio controlled vehicles.

Judged by Kim Holland and Brian King.

A first for this year, the committee decided to acknowledge the prevalence of radio controlled vehicles of all types now owned and displayed by club members and to introduce a competition on very similar grounds to the On the Water, this could be named "***On the Ground.***" This enabled all the various types to be seen together and the judges were given the task of selecting from amongst them their personal choice as winner. It was decided on the day to have this competition brought forward due to the Sunday forecast of rain.

The judges who volunteered for this were Brian King and Kim Holland, albeit neither have any vehicles to display. They were also the judges for the scale competition on the Sunday, so had an awareness of things to look for other than the wow/shine/glamour of the entries. It is obvious that in real r/c vehicle world there are classifications for vehicles, indeed, the MMBC at one time used a large classification range for the boats and eventually reduced that to simpler classes, so there was precedent for our actions.

The judges assessed each vehicle in turn and were suitably impressed by the construction and engineering displayed. All entries were kits with some modifications, and all were expected to perform to show their mechanical abilities. Indeed, the ALVIS (JQ) is a much modified chassis and has outstanding performance in that it is amphibious as well. Their size and weight are quite astounding and their driving abilities across rough ground has to be seen, in particular the Black Russian large wheeled conveyance is quite spectacular. Operator skill is essential and we were both very impressed by the manoeuvrability of the wheeled excavator (JW) with driver JF at the controls.

ALVIS – Jason Quayle – winning vehicle



Wheeled excavator – John Williams





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Impressive array, Black Russian is top right – John Williams



Our scoring system was based on 'x', the unknown quality, so the more 'x' the greater the score. We would like to express our thanks to those who entered, having had to really take a closer look at each model we could appreciate the skill and workmanship that went into making these models work, we were and are much impressed.

Entry list as received

Name	Vehicle	score
Jason Quayle	Alvis Stewart	xxxx x
Brian Swinden	HEMTT military truck and trailer	xxx
Brian Swinden	MRAP military truck	xxx
John Williams	Black Russian	xxx
John Williams	Wheeled excavator	xxxx
John Williams	Tracked excavator	xx
John Williams	Fork lift truck	x
John Williams	Volvo truck	x
John Williams	Wheeled loader	x
John Williams	Scania truck	x*

* This entry was not drivable on the day.

After intense deliberations we selected the ALVIS Stewart of Jason Quayle, with its very well documented conversion and build record. He wanted to enter it into the scale boat competition as well – after all it is amphibious – food for thought!
Special mention too for the Black Russian and to the HEMTT and MRAP units which were quite stunning in their desert livery.



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HEMTT military truck and trailer with MRAP – Brian Swinden



Whilst the vehicles were being judged, some members were thrilling the crowds and themselves using the small display pool for the memorial runs of Bob's Challenges, pop-pop boats and furious assemblages of milk cartons etc whooshing around the little pool.





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Sunday - Scale competition

The Sunday was, as usual, the scale competition day. The gazebos had survived the night and boats were laid out ready for judging. Due to the expected weather, raining but brightening latter, there were not that many on display, but still enough to give the judges a good job to do. In all there were eight boats in competition.

After due deliberations and application of the Club's scoring system the following winners were decided.

Kit class winner Jason Quayle
Tug ENVOY



Semi kit class winner Kevin Fleming
KYLE RHEA





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Scratch Class winner Peter Iddon
LADY of MAN



The Float competition

Fickle weather again, rain first thing but it improved nicely into the afternoon enabling good conditions for the float competition.

Several competitors lined up for this annual derby, forgive me if I missed any one out, Jason Quayle, Scott Booth, Janet Wignall, Paul Brassington, Kim Holland... It's possible Janet was driving Paul's boat?

Fast and furious as ever, a very diverse set of boats, pusher tugs, fast electric racers, wooden speed boat, an adapted Bob boat and Paul's ever present BluePeter.

All was going so well, then a rush of enthusiasm to Scott's control systems resulted in him performing a half tuck twist and jump into a conveniently moored pedallo whilst attempting a float retrieval, a partial wetting and near drowning event – but not one competitor moved to assist him as he floundered back onto dry land complete with a damaged boat meaning his withdrawal. The float – Kim landed it for himself! Meanwhile, JQ using the refurbished little Bob boat was sneaking in float after float and was the eventual winner with most floats. Jason Fleming, always a strong eventer managed the last float as batteries expired and boats failed. The first float home is not recorded, so it might have been me!

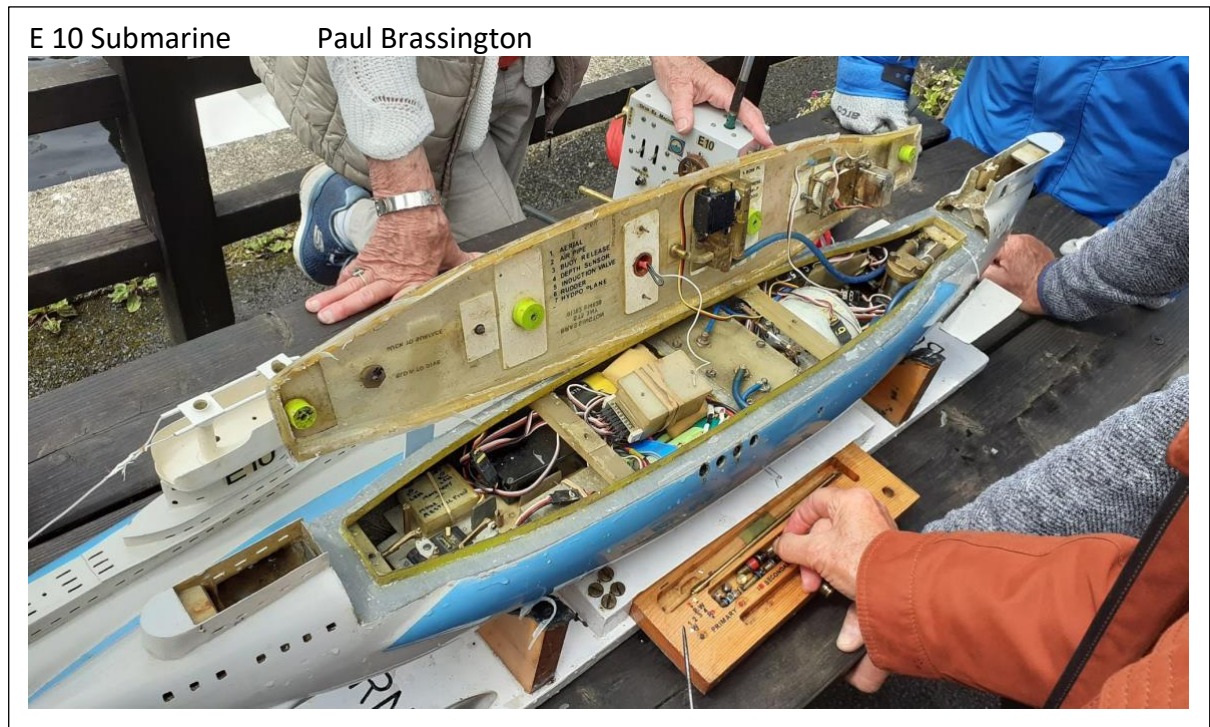


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During the weekend Paul Brassington opened up his E10 Submarine for a complete examination of the internals, demonstrating how it all works/functions and after so many years even the batteries are the originals.

Here he is with the lid off showing any and all interested parties just what makes a home built submarine work.



BEST IN SHOW

During the weekend all entrants and Club members have the opportunity to vote for the Best in Show boat on display. After much prompting members finally surrendered their tally slips, the result announced at the dinner was:-

Peter Iddon LADY of MAN

Congratulations Peter, well deserved.

See image in the scale competition section or on the website Gallery section.



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Tug towing - Sunday 24th July 2022

The event went ahead despite the poor forecast and the road closures caused by the cycle racing. Thankfully the predictions were wrong and it turned into a lovely morning, ideal for our event. It was quite well supported both by MMBC members and the general public, many of whom were so pleasantly pleased that they stayed to watch.

With five competitors in the Under one Metre [but over 60cms] and using the small casualty, all the entrants made it round with the exception of Dave Costain whose tug was struggling to 'get a grip' on the water and was overcome by small gusts and had to abort. The 'off the cuff' course proved to be a good test with only Brian King's Tarroo Ushtey managing a clear round although closely followed by Jason Quayle's 'Yessir'.

There were only two entrants in Over One metre, with 'class' using the largest casualty being around 8ft long and carrying over 20lbs of ballast! Jason Fleming's 'Blazer' managed to get round with a loss of 2 points while Brian King lost 3 points.

Again with only two entrants in the Under 60cm, both Kim Holland and Jason Fleming who were both sailing variations of the 'Ramburator', managed clear first rounds. After the subsequent 'run-off' with a similar result, Kim got the result with a faster time.

Over one metre

Name	Boat	Penalties	position
Jason Fleming	Blazer	2	1
Brian King	Wendy Ann	3	2

Under one metre

Name	Boat	Penalties	position
Brian King	Tarroo Ushtey	clear	1
Jason Quayle	Yessir	1	2
John Hancox	Independent	3	3
Brian Swinden	Wyreforce	4	4
Dave Costain	?	dnf	

Under 60cms

Name	Boat	Penalties	Pens and Timed	position
Jason Fleming	Ramburator	0	0 slower	2
Kim Holland	Nudger	0	0 faster	1

The actual elapsed time was not recorded
Altogether a good day was had by all!

My thanks to Brian King for this full report.



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On the day we also had two of our Av-a-Go fleet boats available, Bridie and Hunter for final testing of the Tx systems on the water, using the DR adaption to the speed of each boat. Stick restrictors were also used on the throttle stick to also limit maximum stick and speed. Both worked very well, Hunter especially as it has also a servo slower on the rudder.

Ramsey RNLI mechanic Tom Edwards was amongst the watchers, and he and my great grandson (7 and first time r/c user) teamed up to use both the boats to pull/push/steer the large casualty about the lake and through one or two of the gates. There was a lot of interest in this, it certainly looked to be a way to engage more boaters. With a fleet of 7 pollux boats built, and with another 6 still in kit form we could start a new genre in boating. Comments please!

Request for help.

I or the secretary have the contact details.

Way back in May this year the following email arrived via the Club's website. I've included it here as I do not know if anyone was able to help. These newsletters get read on the website, so this might get a wider audience.

“Hi,

I am writing on the off chance that you may be able to help me track down the builder and/or details of a model boat that I have.

It was given to my late husband and myself in the Isle of Man in 1983/4. The builder may have worked at the Freedom Yacht factory in Jurby where my husband fitted out a Freedom 40 which we eventually sailed to the Caribbean. I now live in Australia.

The builder of the model was going to give us a model of our boat in a bottle but was unable to as Freedom 40's had unstayed masts.

He gave us the most incredible model which has been admired for many years. Unfortunately, my husband died in 1997 and i am unable to find out (or remember) any details of the model. I do remember that it was built to scale from plans.

I have enclose a photo, in case someone in your club knows anything about the boat or builder.

Many thanks

Kind regards

Anna Lloyd (my late husband was Rod Lloyd”





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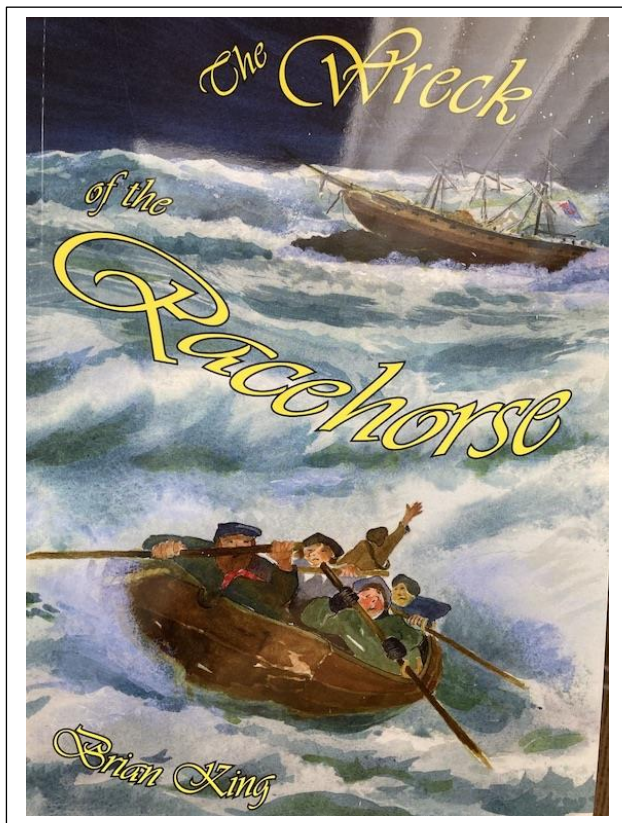
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The Wreck of the Racehorse Book

I wonder how many Club members know of our Brian King's diving exploits, his involvement with the raising of the remains of the Mary Rose and his discovery of the location of the wreck site of HMS Racehorse in Castletown Bay and recovery of numerous artifacts from it.

Well, if you visit Portsmouth Maritime museum you can see his name amongst the listings of divers who worked on the Mary Rose project. It doesn't get you any discount by mentioning that you know him though, I tried and failed.

Well, recently, Brian has co-authored a book which is very soon to be available titled "The Wreck of the Racehorse". It is published by Loaghtan Books of Maughold and a thoroughly good read. It includes details of how the wreck came about, the dramatic rescue attempts by the men of Castletown, and the Court Martial that followed. Brian gives details of the long search plus anecdotes of happenings over the years and eventual finding of and confirmation of the wreck identity.



Loaghtan Books

www.loaghtanbooks.com

ISBN 978-1-908060-37-2

Published August 2022

Got to say it's a jolly good read with lots of facts that explain exactly how the loss occurred, and this book release coincides with the bicentenary of the event.



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MODEL YACHT MANIA

Brian King

This was the title used for my display of vintage model yachts at the Rushen Heritage Centre in Port Erin. The display of photos from years ago illustrated the boom in model yachting from the thirties here on the Island, following a similar boom in England.

While space was fairly limited in the Centre, I managed to fit in half a dozen yachts of varying types plus lots of photos and the minutes of Port St Mary Model Yacht Club from its inception through to its demise and then resurrection on its 50th anniversary until the pool was finally demolished at the turn of the century.

The display ran for six weeks all told, being manned continually by volunteers and limited attendance by myself. Interestingly, out of the many local visitors, I turned up another six models, a couple of which I knew about but three I didn't. Two turned up at the centre! I now have projects for next winter!

Again thank you Brian for this report for the Newsletter.

Remember, anyone can send along material for inclusion in your Club's Newsletter, pictures, stories, boat build projects etc. Just let me have facts and details and I can work up a quick story for you.

To contact me, you can either email or phone, or via the website contact email which will go through the secretary and be routed to me that way. All the addresses and numbers are in the footer of each page.

Thanks, happy reading – any errors are mine, for which I apologise now, just quietly tell me what I got wrong so as I can correct the records.

Last page – boats for sale



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Boats for sale

Gareth Jones from over the water has a couple of nice looking boats for sale. I have no details of price but if interested contact me and I'll pass along Gareth's contact details to you so you can request details. I am assuming each can be radio controlled, but no radio gear will be with the boats unless specified by the seller.

1:24 scale TID tug



Gaff rigged ketch 'Jenny Edwards'

