



MANX MODEL BOAT CLUB NEWSLETTER

July 2023

Well hello again, and isn't the year flying past. July issue already with tales of Big 'Uns out for a sail, Mannanan 2023 another success, some more yachting and a bit of Tug Towing too (but that got postponed).

From memory I think this was the first time that TT came and went without a drop of rain, and almost stayed dry through the following week too... I bet you can guess when the weather decided to break – more later.

Big Night Out, Onchan, Sunday evening 11th June

Clear skies, warm sunshine and little breeze welcomed those that turned up for the Big Night Out, a chance to sail the bigger models, with a few smaller ones to keep company.

There is good parking at Onchan and not too far to carry models to the waterside. Here, at Onchan the raised sides make lifting the bigger boats in much easier, though it's still a bit difficult having to stretch over the tyre barrier on the inside of the concrete sides, a two person job for most, with a pause on the top edge before dropping into the water.

After the hectic pace and noise of TT fortnight it was quite enchanting just watching the fleet sail up and down. Jason Quayle had Mannin dredger out, I bought along the Thames barge Theresa Mary, Nigel Latham had Bismark, Dave Kettlewell a smaller puffer, Les Quayle his fishing boat "Commodore", Lewis and Sam with the HMS Hood pinnace, Brian Swinden with Ben Ain, Brian King a Manx based trawler DO51, Brian Marsh with the Sanganista who sadly managed to lose a propeller as well? And a few more besides my apologies if not mentioned. Also present, and most welcome too, early bird for Mannanan, Paul Brassington with his renowned submarine (and Mary naturally).

A good crowd also came along just to watch, with some old time Club members amongst them. Many mentioning that the radio had listed the event on the what's on guide, so some of the advertising seems to work.

I also bought along a 30" free sailing yacht, which I'd restored and wanted to sail on safe waters for a trial outing. It was adapted to r/c control on the rudder using the Rx/servo/battery mounted under the hatch cover and guys crossed to operate the Braine plate as if sheets from the main. Worked well, must copy right the method (actually copied from Brian King's design to be honest.)

A very pleasant and jolly evening all round, thank you to all who came along, sorry I was too busy to take any pictures.

Mannanan 2023 w/e 17/18 June



When I first joined the Club, many years back, I had just completed my second model build. I found out about the Club from the owner of the Model Shop in Ramsey, when it was on the corner of Bourne Place [now Just Bathrooms]. The event was Island wide then, Onchan Park on the Saturday, steering and tugs, Ramsey on the Sunday, all scale with little or no afloat (salt water you know) and the Monday at Silverdale with On the Water and more tugging (pairs?) and steering. I say this because a lady asked on Sunday of this year's event how long had we been about. I think she was quite surprised when Brian Swinden showed his Club badge "established 1985" and I also informed her that the Club had at one time displayed at Summerland too.

So to this year's event. It began on the Thursday prior, to assist set-up, Jason Fleming loaded a trailer with equipment for the weekend and parked it eventually on site during the evening, delayed a while as a lady wished to walk her dog and stop for a chat.

Early birds arriving on Saturday, just after 8am, set three gazebos and erected tables inside and quickly established the site ready for boaters to occupy the environs of the lakeside.

Back to that weather, well it broke the Friday evening/night and threatened wetness for Saturday morning too. Adopting our usual stance, we waited for the slight rain to stop, issued a start time and the rain started again, only to clear away completely after another 5 minutes.

Saturday morning and **On the Water**

Entrants to this can sail any boat, it does not have to have been made by them, indeed they can borrow one if needs be. It is the boat that wins (with a little help from the skipper). All the boats go afloat together, once a boat is judged it can be lifted out and another sailed by the entrant. It certainly is not advisable to sail two at the same time I tell myself!

We were able to get going after a quick skipper's briefing, yours truly. Two judges this year, Bill Bumpus (a founding Boat Club member) and David Ramsbottom were invited to adjudicate, between them they decided which boat in each class, under and over one meter was to be the winner. There were 17 boats entered split 5/12 over/under. CHECK Concurrent in this event, is the Manx Heritage trophy awarded by the judges to their favourite entry with a Manx connection, declared at registration.

Results **On the Water**

Under one meter

PL 43 Manx Beauty Brian King



Over one meter

Tug Independent John Hancox



Manx National Heritage Trophy

Manx connection

Douglas harbour Ferry Thistle

Les Quayle



Once the competition completed, the judges were fed and watered and after dinner there was continuous free sailing and lots of interested, keen younger fans all wanting to have a go. As we have come to expect our regular visitor from over the water, Paul Brassington, was very quick to supply eager youngsters with a choice of 'diving duck' 'crocodile head' or 'submarine' and our own Robert lent a couple of his smaller fast boats collection as well.

By about half three we'd had enough so quickly stowed away boats, downed the tables to store in the trailer and ensure the gazeboes were secured with tie downs and weights for the night.

Sunday arrived with a changed forecast. Yes we had overnight rain and thunder but those in the know [at the Met Office] predicted improving conditions, sunshine and warm temperatures. Rain was not due till late afternoon/evening. How right they were.

Sunday is scale competition day. Entries are the work of the entrant and their build skills and interpretations are judged according to some well laid out rules and guidance. Unlike some competitions these guidelines ensure that builds are judged in the same way, individual preference is thus cancelled out.

The actual entry was quite low this year, there being only 11 boats entered spread over three classes, no entrants in the diorama class.

Judges for the scratch were Jason Quayle and yours truly, Kim Holland with a learner judge, Brian Marsh tagging along. As I had entries in the kit class, Brian Swinden assisted assessing that class as well.

It takes about 10 minutes for a boat to be scored, so starting just after 10 we were completed just before 12:30 in time for a well-earned break, cuppa and a bite to eat. Whilst the scratch is being judged competitors were also enjoying free sailing, and one, John Hancox on completion with his boats in the scale, went off to partake in a tennis tournament...

Results **Scale competition**

Scratch John Hancox FD38Cameo



Semi scratch Peter Iddon Mona's Queen



Kit Kim Holland Tb Will



Best in Show, Mannanan 2023

as voted by Club members and associates at Silverdale.

During the two days Club members and partners can vote for their Best in Show. Each is supplied with a ticket on which they can write their selection based purely on presentation. These are collected and passed unseen to Brian King, who announces the winner at the Monday dinner. This year we kept all the results of competitions till the dinner except for the last event, the Float game.



Jason Quayle for his Rowing Boat, Man and dog

The Float competition.

We had quite a large flow of visitors during Sunday, busier than the Saturday, and some come just for the madness of the float game. The event has seen specialist boat builds just for this, JQ quietly produced last years winner derived from a small simple delta shaped hull equipped for endurance rather than speed, the option that Scott Booth went for with an out and out brushless speed boat. Paul Brassington some years back produced Blue Peter back when the rule was No Rules, till he produced the cow catcher device, now banned by the only rule – no cow catchers. Paul's boat was entered by duet, Mary, Paul's wife and Janet, Peter Iddon's daughter. Robert Molesworth entered with his large Watson Douglas lifeboat, a feared behemoth amongst the others. Finally, Brian King entered with a Huntsman (/).

With Jason Fleming i/c Brian Swinden and Peter Iddon cast in the first floats. Then away they went, with more than 30 onlookers wondering what was going on. Brian Marsh was witnessing his first Float event and was amazed at the goings on viewing from the float end. There is a video of the start in the gallery (hopefully).

Sneakily, as is usual in the float game, Brian King managed to collect the first float home whilst others were milling about on the far side. Old hand at the game JQ was not far behind, and soon he was stacking numerous floats alongside himself whilst the others were chasing each other about.

The last float was found drifting away with the wind up to the river by Scott who at last managed to break his duck with the last float home.

I've some video of the start, but I made the mistake of tilting my phone sideways part way through. I'll endeavour to correct and post it on the website soon, probably as two bits, the start and what follows.

Results Float competition

First float home Brian King
Most Floats Jason Quayle

Last Float Scott Booth (eventually)

I had reports back that the Monday prize dinner went well. After searching around for a venue and a reasonable price the Club went to the Palace Hotel on Douglas promenade, and enjoyed themselves there. Its always a problem finding a suitable venue, we live all over the Island so someone always has to travel what is seen locally as 'a long way'.

So ended an enjoyable weekend of boating, be warned, it will probably be an early date again next year to avoid clashing with the Parish Walk. We'll let all know as soon as we can confirm dates.

Vintage yachts 9th July 2023

So lucky with the weather for this event. The previous days saw our first summer gale pass through with winds from the SE and rain. The Sunday, however, was bright and sunny with a moderate SE breeze with the risk of rain, which held off.

Just three of us to start with, Dave Kettlewell with his 75, (rear) and Brian King (middle) and myself (front) with 36R's with r/c assist. Though looking too windy the yachts all sailed well in lumpy conditions.

We were joined later by David Faulkner from Peel with a Marblehead rigged with r/c assist as well, though its first launch had the push rod slip free and poor Dave had the long trek to the far side to retrieve his boat. Danny Kneale and his wife also called by for a chat and he promised to join us with yacht for the August 6th Vintage sail day.

My day ended early, the deck started from the hull causing a lot of water to invade, luckily avoided it sinking! Then received a call to say our foul water manhole for the terrace was blocked, say no more.

I left Brian and the two Dave's sorting out the Marblehead, I hope it managed a sail. As for the blockage, T and me sorted that, and the 36 has been repaired, re-sealed and ready for action once more.

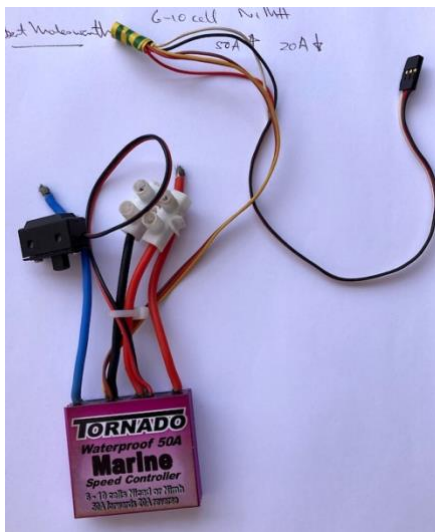


Tug Towing competition Silverdale 23rd July 2023.

Unfortunately the weather actually turned against us for this Sunday, possibly the wettest day of the year so far.

The event will be arranged for another convenient day soon, we'll keep you informed.

For sale.



I have been asked to advertise an item for sale offered by Robert Molesworth. It's a speed controller as illustrated, a Tornado Marine device, used but has not been tested for operation. Asking price is £10. For 6 – 10 cells Nicad or NiMh 50A forward / 20A reverse

I have been unable to locate any instructions or details other than what's on the item. Ed.

Free yacht to any takers.

I have been given a KYOSHA Fairwind II, a Japanese model yacht, the 900 series, early version in colour. It has not been used, but a start has been made in assembling the component parts.

ALL the parts have been located, servo for rudder, servo for sail control and a brand new unused Futaba ATTACK 27am 2 channel radio system. Apart from a couple of screws and a sealing strip for the canopy, this is complete and free to any Club member.

If not taken up it will go to Blackpool and be sold at their boat sale, proceeds to Club and charity.

