



## Message from the Commodore for 2015

### An Address from on high

I would like you all to pin back your lug-holes for a pre-season chat from your venerable (or decrepit) Commodore. I would like to wish you all a successful season. The calendar is more or less finalized including a new challenge I have instigated to augment the earlier one - namely to design a vessel no longer than 500 mm powered by 1 rubber band - power to be applied when vessel is on the water. 2 x 1 metre rubber bands will be provided on application (free of charge - no expense spared) - one as a spare in case of breakages but it can be used for another vessel if you're a sucker for punishment.

It has been decided to re-run the straight running competition but it was not possible to replicate last year's gear entirely. However, new sets of gear are available (for a £3 donation to the Club) and are very similar. Thus there will be 2 classes - Class 1 will use last year's gear and class 2 will use this year's gear - if desired competitors can enter both classes, so back to the drawing board.

Now to more serious topics - we are going to sorely miss Roy Watterson at every event. He was such a tireless worker. In his memory it has been decided to institute a memorial trophy and this is in hand. The most likely event for which it will be awarded is the trawler race/time trial but other suggestions welcome.

Finally let us hope for decent weather and smooth sailing. All the very best *Romeo Bravo*

### El Commodore

#### Notes

First event scheduled for this year is the Blind Steering on the 29<sup>th</sup> March at Silverdale.

Club subscriptions become due as from the AGM, only paid up members are eligible to enter competitions as are not insured till you have paid.

John Williams is asking for any comments or suggestions for Mannanan 2015. His contact details are on the last page.

### Special points of interest

- Commodore's message
- Sad loss of two members
- Events 2015
- First engagements of year
- Editors comments
- Yachting rules proposal
- Challenge RULES
- PL11 Wanderer

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## Farewell to two Club members January 2015 , gone but not forgotten.

### RON HOOK

It is always a sad occasion to report on the passing of a Club member, but it is so much more difficult loosing two, both in January this year, and both on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

The first was Ron Hook. He was quite a character and took to model boating when he stopped model flying as he was "taking too many planes home in carrier bags."

I first met him on a sunny morning at Silverdale. He had made from scratch a fine

Morecombe Bay prawner model and wanted a set of sails for her. She was modelled on his sons yacht, and he had heard through Club members that I could make him sails.



He thoroughly enjoyed sailing that model when and wherever he could; Silverdale, the Mooragh on yachting days and once at Onchan. He even persuaded me to make a stay sail for it to better its performance, and many a time we watched as that yacht took to her beam ends, deck awash, but Hookie always had a smile on his face.

A great character and will be missed by us all.

Ed.

### ROY WATTERSON

The second sad loss was Roy Watterson, who had been happily sailing at Silverdale the weekend before.

As my wife Theresa said, the Club has lost not only a stalwart but one of its most robust of bulwarks. He will be sorely missed by one and all, as attested to by the large number of condolences received from off Island model boaters too.

Roy was at almost every event the Club organised, always participating keenly, and always doing well in competitions. When not on the water, he would be assisting with other's problems, or, as he did on many occasions, loaning his boats out to others so that they could also be in the competition as well.

In all my time with the Club I never heard him speak ill of any one, he was a committed clubman.



He was really keen for the Av-a-Go boats to be a success, and he was always there helping erect

and to dismantle the various setups we have.

He will always be remembered for his skill in building boats, his skill in controlling them, his kindness and loyalty, but most of all as a true friend. Many will mourn his going, and he will be remembered with an event during this year.

In memory of Roy Club members came together on Sunday 1st February at Silverdale, just a week after Roy's last sailing there, and after a few moving words from Jason Fleming flowers were offered to the water for both Roy and Ron.

When at Silverdale we'll always remember Roy (and his dip).

Ed.

## Events calendar 2015.

Date	event	time	venue
04/01/2015	Ice breaker sail in	10.00 - 12:00	Silverdale
11/01/2015	William Hilary static display for RNLI	14.00 - 16.30	Pensioner's Hall, Douglas
29/03/2015	Blind steering fun event	10.00 - 13.00	Silverdale
12/04/2015 wet alternative 19/04/2015	Steering competition	10.00 - 13.00	Silverdale
19/04/2015	IOM racing and Vintage Yacht displays	13.00 - 16.30	Mooragh Lake Ramsey [salt water]
26/04/2105	Tug towing [singles all classes]	10.00 - 13.00	Silverdale
10/05/2015 wet alternative 17/05/2015	Scale, On-the-Water and Static	10.00 - 13.00	Silverdale
24/05/2015	Time trial / Commodores challenge 1	19:30 – 21:00	Onchan Park boating pool
20/06/2015 21/06/2015	Mannanan 2015	10.00 - 16.30	Onchan Park boating pool and Silverdale
27/06/2015 28/06/2015	Queenie Festival Weekend	2 day weekend	Port St Mary
05/07/2015	Port Erin Lifeboat Day SUNDAY	12.00 - 16.30	Port Erin
12/07/2015	Sunday Fun day SUNDAY	12.00 - 16.30	Mooragh Park, Ramsey
18/07/2015	Ramsey Lifeboat Day SATURDAY	11.00 - 16.00	Ramsey
25/07/2015 26/07/2015	Southern Agricultural Show	2 day weekend	Great Meadow, Castletown
16/08/2015 wet alternative 19/08/2105	Spithead Review Evening	19.00 - 21.00	Onchan Park boating pool
06/09/2015	Twin Tug towing [Fun]/ Commodores challenge 2 / Av-a-Go	10.00 - 16.00	Silverdale
13/09/2015	IOM racing and Vintage Yacht displays	13.00 - 16.30	Mooragh Lake Ramsey [salt water]
26/09/2015 wet alternative 27/09/2015	Venetian Evening and Onchan Commissioners Shield BBQ	19:30 – 21:00	Onchan Park boating pool
06/11/2015 08/11/2015	Warwick International Model Boat Show	3 day event	Warwickshire Exhibition Centre.

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

Event dates can change - check web-site for definitive calendar

Regular Sunday sailing takes place at Silverdale every Sunday of the year.

Throughout the summer regular yachting takes place Wednesday and Sunday evenings at the Mooragh Lake, Ramsey, after 6pm. Spring and Winter yachting days are Sunday afternoons and a weekday afternoon, check with KH for day and time please.

Events confirmed 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015 committee meeting

Time shown is event start time, please allow time for your and CLUB set-up

Some events scheduled for Onchan may be moved to other venues.

## Ice Breaker 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015

At the AGM way back in November 2014 it was decided that the ice breaker would be January 1<sup>st</sup>.

For those who were not on the Island, January 1<sup>st</sup> was marked by heavy rain and severe winds – though various dips did take place about the Island, ours in Ramsey being extremely windy with dippers complaining more about the stinging wind blown sand than the cold water and strong very gusty winds.

The following Sunday (4<sup>th</sup>) brought milder weather and a large group of boaters assembled during the morning to have a first sail of 2015.

JQ BS NC (and Connie) JW (and Pat) BC KK KH CW RW SD BK KJ Jim and Josh

I am reminded to mention that although I brought with me the pusher tug and its barge, I had neglected to bring the transmitter! What a start to the

new year.

There were not very many visitors either, and it was quite a cold morning stood by the water.

Much cud was chewed and those that braved the day soon departed for warmer environs, that is, home.

Ed

## Sir William Hilary Display 11th January 2015

A good turn out of lifeboats – 7 in total with 18 models altogether. The display was just about the right number of models for the number of people present – I think the attendance was slightly down on last year, but the club received a round of applause for its efforts.

The Governor came over for a quick chat to members and recounted an amusing story of his exploits with a gondola in Venice. Unfortunately he didn't have time to finish the story before all the speeches started. Thank you to members who attended and helped put on the display.

Jason Quayle



A photograph attached of the RNLI service display. I apologise for the poor quality, but it was only taken on a phone camera.

## Editors comment

Please accept our apologies for finalising the events calendar slightly later than usual. We had cancelled our routine January committee meeting after receiving the news relating to Roy and Ron.

As usual, we have tried to free up the summer from competition, but have tried to ensure that the tuggers get a chance at the better weather, rather than always being early or way down into October.

There may be problems with events scheduled at Onchan boating Lake. We acknowledge

that the Commissioners are trying to make it a paying concern and have to accept that we may not always get on the water when we want. We do have the alternative of Silverdale, but can and will use Milntown if necessary.

For the r/c yachters, of which we have an increasing number, there are two events organised at for the Mooragh, and we will fit in some evening meets for short sharp circuit racing at Onchan, like last year.

The Commodore has his challenges ready again for this

year, and yes, we did have fun with them last year, thank you Bob for the initiative and drive. Rules are to be put on the website and are included in this Newsletter too (and are the subject of discussion any Sunday at Silverdale). Please do join in, that's what makes it work so well, we all learn from each other's exploits!

There is the usual commitment to Av-a-Go boats at summer events, and those that can are asked to help out, even if for one event. We all know we will be one man down.

Ed.

## Yachting corner

With a lot of members clearly enjoying radio controlled yachting, and several getting their own yachts to join in it is thought prudent to do some rule explanation and training. Indeed, the matter was raised at the last committee meeting by JW.

It was quite evident at the last Mooragh event when the spirited 'gung-ho' approach of bumper-car style yachting was not appreciated by those with more expensive hardware on the water. Calling for water or yelling "starboard" means nothing to a newbie on the water.

To address this the Club has discussed with the Ramsey based MS&CC (Manx Sailing and Cruising Club) a presentation of

the rules, as there is not a great deal of difference between the full size boats and our model yachts. Indeed, they have such rules presentations for their own members so would be delighted to assist us with an evening's film, slide-show and talk. We would also bring along a couple of our vessels for them to consider and I have also passed on a copy of the MYA rules as they apply to ourselves.

We do not want it to become too onerous, but feel that some knowledge for all would be a useful lesson. The evening would be free, we would have access to the MS&CC facilities and it may well lead to some more members for us to sail against.

This would be open for all MMBC members and potential new members to attend, free, with no commitments at all.

At this point I should also point out that all the waters we use insist on third party insurance, Onchan, Silverdale, Milntown and The Mooragh. As a paid up Club member you receive this cover for all your sailing, organised or private.

If you wish to attend, let me have your feedback as soon as possible please. I'll let you know the when depending on numbers etc.

Ed

## Commodore's Challenges

The original rules for straight runners are reproduced here and apply to the new kits (Class 2) this year as well as to the old kits (Class 1) of last year.

### Rough rules for Commodores straight running challenge

HULL DESIGN PARAMETERS - see below for running gear

1, maximum hull length = 500mm. +/-5mm- no limit to beam

2, Fins /rudders not to extend beyond transom perpendicular nor in front of bow perpendicular at deck level

3, Any pointed bow to reach maximum beam by 250 mm from front. Hull can then be parallel back to transom (i.e. no WEDGES/

4, Total side area of all underwater fins/rudders/skegs/dagger plates etc not to exceed 78 square CM - full - length keel counts as a fin - NO air fins

5, Maximum power = 4 x AA

### Commodore's comment

A, I have a small supply of props and shafts, battery boxes, connectors switches and small motors enough for 6 boats which I will supply to each entrant for a sub to the club funds of £3 then every one will be on the same footing **[all items must be used.]**

B My first thoughts are that this



### *Entrants straight runners 2014*

type of competition would be best at Onchan Park OR avago pool - to facilitate launching

C Target buoys = Bull, Inner and outer scoring 10 , 8 and 6-- say 2 ft apart for starters in the avago pool 3 feet at Onchan

As there will only be a few competitors this competition is likely to be run in conjunction with other sailing so the latter will be asked to avoid disturbing the course with their washes .

APROPOS of this my associated challenge could be :-

The Switched-off radio controlled straight running competition. Target and start line buoys say about 5 metres away from the pond side. This to give room to line up craft and to re-establish control once through targets - craft starts under control up to bow across start gate then TX obviously not operated by skipper until craft through the target line Gates scoring as above. No excessive speed for to begin with and one way only with return well away from course

Commodore's free sailing yachting challenge - in

conjunction with the AVAGO pool. Yacht /sailing vessel/what have you;

Hull /deck 12" long max made out of paper products only i.e. card, cardboard, cereal boxes etc; apart from any keel weights; waterproofing to taste.

ABOVE DECK any material can be used - for cheapness any sails made out of cereal packet liners

Typical course say twice up and down the pool. It also suggests the possibility of an on running fun series.

Other challenge ideas.

How about a home made pop-pop boat for the pool and/or a free running vessel made out of a 2 Litre pop bottle?

Comments and suggestions welcomed. My idea is to get folks to make something from scratch for fun at no great cost.

Difference between the two sets of gear is the size of the switch, Class 2 is smaller, and the shaft and propeller tubing is better made for Class 2 as well.

**The Elastic band challenge 2015**  
**rough rules as updated.**

UPDATED PROPOSALS FOR THE  
COMOMDORE'S RUBBER  
POWERED CHALLENGE

1, Hull to be a max of 500mm overall preferably built by entrant - any design (e.g. mono or multi hull) - only cheap materials please so no exotic mouldings or recycled kits.

NO R/C but auto steering acceptable. Entrants may nominate another member to operate the vessel and each skipper can have an assistant to help with the power-up which is most commonly done with a hand drill so that the number of turns can be counted

2, Vessel to be powered by 1 elastic strip - 2 x 1 metre

(approx..) pieces to be provided to allow for possible snapping but both can be used independently for two separate entries if desired.

(N.B. It is recommended that fitting rubber to prop etc is via an "O" ring) [*and that the band is lubricated – Ed*]

3, Obvious propulsion systems are water screw, air screw and paddle, or anything else that can be thought of such as catapults . Whichever form is used, power will be applied only when the vessel is in the water, we don't want any flying saucers! Awards will be for first in each class (nothing fancy (i.e. valuable!) is envisaged).

4, The challenges could be for distance, speed or what have you - again to be decided.

This will also define the courses to be laid out and thus possibly the most suitable venue. There will also be a concours d'elegance voted for by competitors with the O.O.D and Commodore's decision being final (both of whom this time will be open to nepotism, bribery and corruption).

PLEASE NOTE: These are the second draft rules and again any printable suggestions and/or amendments will be gratefully received - whether or not any notice is taken thereof is another matter.

Silverdale is open for debating any salient points.

***El Commodore.***

## PL11 The Wanderer

Planned for May this year is an exhibition and a day of events in Peel based around the anniversary of the torpedoing and sinking of the Lusitania in 1915 during WW1 and the rescue of many survivors by the peel fishing boat PL11 Wanderer.

This web address will take you to the web page being set-up with pictures, reports and actual film footage from that tragedy.

[www.thewanderer100.com](http://www.thewanderer100.com)



## Handy web-sites you might want to visit

Modelling, especially here on the Island has its drawbacks due to lack of well stocked model shops. To be honest, we are a minority hobby, and we all love a bargain on the internet. Glues and other liquids though are not sent through the post and battery supply depend on the retailer.

Rumour is that the Douglas Shop is closing so where or to who do you get your supplies?

Lynda at the Model Shop in Ramsey stocks Humbrol paints, some wood and tools and can get the whole range of the DeLuxe Materials goods. She does not do anything involving radio control at all. She will add large sheets of ply to her orders if asked.

So for batteries and stuff I would suggest the Component Shop [www.component-shop.co.uk](http://www.component-shop.co.uk) and they also stock the

brightest low voltage (3V) square LED I've seen.

For advice on radio gear etc then check the chatter at Silverdale. Remember, cheap sets are ok, but you get what you pay for.

Westbourne Models [www.westbourne-model.co.uk](http://www.westbourne-model.co.uk) and Cornwall Model Boats <http://www.cornwallmodelboats.co.uk> are good for almost everything.

A couple of interesting ones I use are Technobots [www.technobotsonline.com](http://www.technobotsonline.com) for gears or pulleys and electronics and Motionco [www.motionco.co.uk](http://www.motionco.co.uk) who deal in motors and such.

If its brass or plastic try Noggin End Metals [www.nogginend.com](http://www.nogginend.com) and if you want to know what others consider the best model boat sites try here

[www.modelshipbuildingsecrets.com/resources.html](http://www.modelshipbuildingsecrets.com/resources.html)

Then there are some that you find by accident using good old web search engines, like this one

[www.igshansa.de/igsdownloadeng.html](http://www.igshansa.de/igsdownloadeng.html)

On this site there are loads of free downloads of shipping containers, ok, they're on paper, but a great variety of companies covered, and they are at at least three scales, but by using your computer you can create new scales as well. I recently changed the 1/100 scale to 1/24 by expanding up the image.

And lastly, if you want to get ahead with those yacht rules, try here

<http://www.mya-uk.org.uk>

Happy boating, whatever you float, Kim.

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## Final notices and round up

Mike Dean has a collection of his boats to go to good homes please. I have a list and will soon have a catalogue and images of what is available. All he requests is a donation to COPD research should you like one of his wonderful scratch builds.

There is some radio gear as well, and the usual bits and pieces of a modellers' career to pick though.

JW is asking of Mannanan 2015. "Should there be any changes to the format and style? Has anyone got ideas for its improvement or order of events? Is everyone content with how the weekend is run?"

If you have any comments please share them, and get them to JW either via his email [vector@manx.net](mailto:vector@manx.net) or via the grape-vine, thank you.

Feedback and any comments are always welcomed, thank you.

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