



WARWICK INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW 2014

For those of you that do not already know, we went, and we displayed and we conquered yet again. A splendid effort by all those that took part, and there were a lot of us, and those that also permitted their boats to go with us too.

Planning for this show started very early. We were discussing ideas and what to take at last years AGM. We committed to going in the Spring and then tried to settle on a display layout based on the presumption that we would get a similar location as last year together with a similar floor plan.

The organisers make available several table layouts so that each Club can choose the most suitable for themselves. Most are arranged to give a central "seating zone" where Club members can hide behind their models and eat their sandwiches. We wanted to be different, we don't like hiding and we wanted to establish a demonstration area amongst our display where we could attract show visitors to us and interact with them on a selected



number of topics. The topics chosen were based on previous experience and interest shown at other events. So rope making and the programmable chips (the rowing boat electronics) were selected, and accompanied by steam boats and their plant, a look inside HMS Chatham and Parallax and the insides of submarine U203.

Through the marvellous negotiating skills of Norman Cadwallader, we received magnificent backing from the IOMSPCo with reduced fares

thus enabling the Club to send two vans stuffed with boats. My tally says we took 39 for our display, two barges for mine with AMBO, plus a swan, a duck and ducklings, a pirate boat and the set of Av-a-Go tugs which gave a grand total of 52.

So who went? Well the vans went over on the Wednesday morning boat, one driven by myself together with Brian King and my wife Theresa. Jason Fleming drove his van and had Cameron as his co-pilot and also on the boat

was Bill Callow in his van with his lifeboat and Roy as his passenger. At dinner time on the Wednesday John Williams and the Quayle family [Jason, Les and Mary] flew to Manchester and (eventually) using hire cars also made their various ways to Warwick.

We did all arrive at the same Hotel and dined well.

Set up was on the Thursday and we managed to gain access early at just after 10am. Pre-planning of the display meant we had already assembled it at Roy's premises so we knew what it should look like.

After quite an anxious afternoon and some real on the spot changes we departed satisfied with a very good display. We had a minor problem with the large digital TV taken and our display zone got a bit cramped, but all seemed ok.



On the Friday Steve Downe joined us, flying in via Birmingham, train to Leamington and then out to the show. We also had visits from Brian and Dianne Swinden and from Norman and Connie.

The Friday morning has representatives of all the Clubs and organisations displaying going round and marking other displays, the results all pooled by dinner time and a result announced and winners informed late Friday afternoon.

The actual Shield is engraved on the Saturday and an official presentation made then to the winning stand, us!

Many of the Clubs actually came up and thanked us for our turn out and display, it really makes all the effort worthwhile.

It can be a very busy show just dealing with the visitors, but we also ran the five demonstrations each day and also had the Av-a-Go fleet on the water for the kids hour, as well as managing to put on displays afloat of several vessels, Cameron and Roy with their fishing fleet with nets, and the rowing boat, and Parallax, and the Swan and the ducks.

And we also had Jason Quayle's ever popular Mannin working away on the display area.

I've put more pictures on page 3 for you to get a feel

for the Show atmosphere, many are from the official Show photographer, Becky Moyce, who has made them available to us and her collection on the website gallery in full.

The last day came quickly and as is usual this is Remembrance Sunday. The two minute silence is honoured by the whole Show and this year, like last year, we were treated to a bit of nostalgia with a 1940s sing along in two half hour slots.

The Show ends at 5pm and we started putting boats to boxes and sorting everything for stowing in the vans. It seemed quicker this year, but it was still near 7pm before we were loaded and ready for the off.

My van was heading back on the boat that night, so after a meal with the others off up the motorway we went.

Everyone got home safe and sound, and eventually all boats were returned to their owners.

I wish to thank John Williams and Jason Fleming for all their hard work organising and then building the display, and also for allowing the Club to use their vans. Thanks also to Roy for his space for design and to all the team that went for working hard and really putting the Club on the map.

I expect we'll be there again next year, so book early for those deals.

Display frontage from left and right



Left hand side



Right hand side



John Williams above and Jason Quayle and myself using the demonstration Zone!



Editors comment

A busy year all round and I think we can say we've managed to get everything done that we wanted. Obviously being "Best in Show" a second consecutive time was tremendous for all concerned. It's been done before by the Lifeboat Enthusiasts, and following that the organisers introduced a rule allowing three wins in a row, but then the Club must stand down for a year.

My highlights of the year?

Well the glorious weather for Mannanan, Paul Brassington's sneaky refinements to his "fun event" boat; the Commodore's fun boating and the not so straight runners; three burn outs by master Fleming and then a capsize and near sinking (the boat was called Blazer); and my own personal favourite of all the events, the "Onchan park boat" model shown at the Venetian evening event. That sums up all that's great about model boating, a wonderful scratch build from photographs and measurements of the real boats. Truly masterful and so apt for this year when the Onchan Commissioners are having problems with the maintenance of the motor boats.

And then here's another favourite picture sent to me by JQ, a boat in a boat (Josh playing safe?) on what looked to have been a nice



morning at Silverdale.

I couldn't let this one slip through either, Cameron almost defeated at Warwick by a small 'share size' chocolate pudding, he only had a smallish main course too.

See you all in 2015, happy sailing and check the website for next years events calendar.

Ed



Annual Dinner at the Embassy, The British pub.

Congratulations to Steve Downe. It was his suggestion that we try this establishment, he has connections so was able to obtain a good deal. The menu was wonderful, and for a set price quite outstanding to get such a wide choice too.

For those not there, the setting is upstairs in a private function room, quite capable of seating 60+ diners, together with its own bar facility and comfy sofas and chairs at one end. The other end of this large room is nicely dominated by a grand fireplace and the whole room has large windows along the side which look out over the Douglas marina. Now add to all that the ample parking right outside and along the marina side, you have to say

it has its attractions for another do.

Towards the end of the meal everyone was buying raffle tickets for a large number of prizes. Before that though, we had the Commodores witty speech (as usual) where he praised the Club for the way it had completed all the events, had a go at his "challenges" and had again come back from Warwick with the shield for "Best in Show". Two visits two wins, some Club!

As a thank you for his ever present enthusiasm throughout the year we gave him a picture taken at his Sports day for boats, showing him appraising the decorated yacht section.

Trophies galore were then handed out to all the winners of the year, I think I've

several images of that too. My sincere thanks for letting me have the Warwick Shield for a while, I promise to return it.

The "Broken Anchor" award went to Jason Fleming for his not being on fire, but sinking at the last event of the year, and the Commodores appreciation trophy this year went to Club stalwart Roy Watterson.

And then the raffle.

With all the goings on not one person remembered tea or coffee (which was included) though when I checked with Steve the Sunday after he was not hopeful of a refund!

A great night, a very nice setting and what could be a grand setting for a Mannanan dinner for 2015.



Jason presented with this box



Steve receives this wooden guinea pig spit roaster.



Josh collecting his trophies from Commodore Bob

The Annual General Meeting. 27th November 2014

The Club's AGM was held at the Archibald Knox meeting room starting at 7.30pm

Luckily sufficient members attended to form a quorum for the meeting to begin, initially there being 11 present, and two more arrived during proceedings.

The minutes will carry a full report of all that was discussed, so briefly the following to note.

Your committee is the same as last year, which now includes Steve Downe, co-opted at the end of this year.

Commodore Bob Bagshaw
Secretary Jason Quayle
Treasurer Jason Fleming
Committee

John Williams
Brian King
Norman Cadwallader
Kim Holland
Steve Downe

Club subscriptions for adult and senior members are now £25 across the board, juniors remain at just £10.

The members present decided that the Club should attend Warwick again and go for the hat-trick of wins.

An initial calendar of events was available, which still awaits confirmation of yacht event dates. A request was made for the tug towing to be brought into the warmer less windy months (currently they are in March and October).

Please note that the intention is to have the new year ice breaker on New Year's Day, but for those that cannot attend there is a Sunday not long after it.

It was also asked whether we could present at the

House of Mannanin again or something similar to enable the Club to display to the Manx public again.

The Commodore wishes his straight running challenge to continue. Additional kits will be made available for members.

He also hopes to introduce two additional challenges, one involving cardboard and yachts, the other two elastic bands and some wood.

Following the meeting there was some brisk trade in the bring, swap or buy session.

No pictures, sorry Ed

Final notices and round up

If you have any reports, stories or news that you'd like in the Newsletter just end them through.

I'm always looking for news items. Pictures as well.

Feedback and any comments are always welcomed, thank you.

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