



# MANX MODEL BOAT CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

October 2019

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Hi All,

Welcome to your October 2019 issue of the Boat Club newsletter. The summer seems to have flown past and we have been able to hold a number of very successful events since the last newsletter I put out back in June.

Mannanan went very well and attracted both local and visiting modellers to take part. We also had our second "Big Night Out" event at Onchan Park which was well attended and the Onchan Commissioners Shield / Venetian event which wasn't quite as well attended but still enjoyed by everybody who was there. Saturday the Southern Agricultural Show was very good but unfortunately Sunday was wet & windy with only a fraction of the previous days takings. Finally we had the vintage yachts at Ramsey Mooragh which was a beautiful afternoon for those who were there. Please see photos from these events later in this newsletter. I also need to thank Martin & Robert Molesworth for taking quite a lot of video of these events throughout the summer. Video clips are available on our You Tube channel which can be accessed through the club web site.

We only have a few events left on the calendar this year. The main sailing & display event is the Blackpool Show on 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> October. There is still time to arrange tickets – please let me know if you want to go. The last two events are the Annual Dinner & Prize Presentation at Port St Mary Golf Club on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November and the AGM which is on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November at the Archibald Knox in Onchan starting at 7:30pm. I will be sending out formal notice of the AGM nearer the time.

Finally I would like to say how nice it is to see John Williams out and about at events again. John now has a 'deluxe model' mobility scooter and is enjoying his new found freedom to meeting up with members at Silverdale on Sunday mornings again.

You can always find information about the boat club on the website which also includes photographs & videos of club events. [www.manxmodelboatclub.org](http://www.manxmodelboatclub.org).

Happy Sailing,

Jason Quayle

## 2019 Fixture List

Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	Club attendance at the Blackpool Model Boat Show.	Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool.
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	Club attendance at the Blackpool Model Boat Show.	Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool.
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2019	Annual Dinner & Prize Presentation	To be held at Port St Mary Golf Club starting at 7:00pm.
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	Annual General Meeting.	To be held at the Archibald Knox in Onchan at 7:30pm.
Sailing will continue throughout the winter season at Silverdale Glen Lake on Sunday mornings starting at 10am through until midday.		

## Blackpool Model Boat Show



The club has now confirmed its attendance at the Blackpool Model Boat Show on 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at the Norbreck Castle Hotel in Blackpool. We propose to hire a van to transport models to the show and put on a display similar to what we did last year.

I have already compiled a list of members and models that are confirmed as travelling, but if you still intend on visiting the show and need tickets please contact me as soon as possible. We are looking for a general cross section of members models, and any which have an Isle of Man connection would be great. Please e-mail me at [mmbc@manx.net](mailto:mmbc@manx.net) so that I can collect details.

Most members are looking to travel to Heysham on the Steam Packet either on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October or Friday morning 18<sup>th</sup> October. Setting up at the venue will be on the Friday afternoon with the show open to the public on the Saturday and Sunday. This year members have had to split their accommodation between several hotels although its hoped we can all meet up for a meal on one of the evenings.

## **Annual Dinner & Prize Presentation 2019**



Following a successful Mannanan dinner at the Port St Mary Gold Club, we have decided to use the same venue for the Annual Dinner & Prize presentation on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. The format will be along similar lines with a choice of starters followed by a Carvery main meal and then choice of deserts. I have included a separate menu and reply form, which needs to be returned to Jason Fleming along with your payment by 11<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Return of Trophies**

In advance of the prize presentation we need trophies to be returned to Brian King so that he can arrange engraving with names for this years winners. We only need trophies for the main club events – those who received trophies for club events at Mannanan don't need to return them. Please contact Brian on 628156 if you have got any questions.

## **Venetian Evening**

This annual event included the Heritage Trophy carried over from this year's Mannanan.

The evening was threatened early on by a heavy shower but actually remained dry albeit with a strong wind which eased as the evening went on. The weather was originally so inclement that 'Sherby' Leece who was down to judge, rang to check before setting off from Ramsey.

There was a shortfall of entries this year with a dearth of models. Two or three regular members were unable to attend but there were enough to make it worthwhile although Peter Iddon made it over on the evening's boat arriving at 6:00pm! We thought parking would be a problem due to the new yellow lines but the proper parking area was empty so we moved over to the park side which turned out better for wind protection.

Brian had brought his Wendy Ann tug, complete with barge which sailed round in a slow but scale speed on and off through-out the evening. He also brought the Rother lifeboat 'Osman Gabriel' which was complete with full working lights including 'red' inside cabin lighting.

Kevin Kinnin was there promptly with his large e-boat and was dashing about most realistically. The 'zebra' camouflage worked really well as the darkness fell and but for its impressive lights would have disappeared in the night!

The first boat on the water was Jason [Quayle] with his miniature Fairey Huntsman. Unfortunately he lost his prop drive after a few minutes so he put his larger version on the water instead, complete with working lights. He then followed on with his Envoy class tug which was 'steaming' about as the darkness fell, complete with lights and engine 'thumping' away.

Peter had his Manx Steam packet boat on display but not on the water. Hopefully it will be at Silverdale tomorrow, weather permitting. Dave Costain also had his partially completed dredger Mannin on display but not on the water. Another arrival was Mike Corkill's Onchan Park 'motor-boat' complete with Barbie doll occupants. The surprise was the fabulous lighting display which was authentic as it was used on special occasions during the long period of the motor boats reign at Onchan Park. One of the originals is on the island in the middle of the lake but full of flowers, there is also one complete as original in the bus museum at Jurby. There were several nostalgic comments around the poolside!

The presentation of the Onchan Commissioners Shield was made when 'Sherby' [Norman] announced the results. This was for the overall best model on the evening. The winner this year was Jason's Envoy class tug. The other two awards were the Racehorse award for the best lit up model and the Heritage award and these were won by Mike Corkill with his motor-boat and Brian King with Port Erin Rother lifeboat.

## **Travel Report from Gareth & Elizabeth Jones**

Hi everyone,

Just a short note to give you some news on our latest travels. Elizabeth and I visited Gosport to sail at the Vintage Model Yacht Group sailing day last Monday. The weather was very hot and there was not much wind, or many opponents to vane sail against so it was a bit of a non event. However our A class Serica won the Concours d'elegance so it was not all bad (except we thought our 10 Rater Lily was better but we drank the bottle of champagne anyway). Wednesday afternoon was much better sailing conditions, cooler and windier and we had the pond to ourselves to get some more vane sailing practice.

Portsmouth Historic Dockyard was also a bit of a disappointment. There was nothing new since our last visit 2 years ago, Mary Rose is now a separate fee paying attraction, the Jutland exhibition has closed and there were far fewer models in the Royal Navy Museum, which was very dimly lit. However on the bright side we did visit the Explosion Museum in Gosport which we did not get the chance to look at last time and it was excellent, well worth another look.

On our way back home on Thursday we called in at Beale Park to see the big old barn full of model boats, all of which are now for sale. There were hundreds of them, of every shape and size raging from Star yachts to 10 ft long Titanics, SS Great Britains and the odd full sized

dinghy. None of them seemed to have been in the water for years, some never, and there were lots which still had the auction house labels attached. The only thing we were slightly interested in was acquiring a 10 rater for restoration. There were lots of them, probably more than 20 but the prices being asked by Max Buttimer were outside our league, typically £400+ so we did not bother.

There were a couple of boats with Manx connections that I thought you might be interested in, not necessarily to buy, just curiosity. Max was trying to encourage us to take on a very early Marblehead originally registered as No 38 in the mid 1930's. We found it, but it was a Daniels Pocahontas (of which we already have two) and very scruffy although restorable. The notable point about it was it has a Douglas Model Boat Club and the three legs emblem on the deck hatch. The other interesting Manx model was a Denny steam gunboat named Grey Seal. It was pretty big around 6 feet long, possibly built from the Fleetscale semi kit or maybe scratch built. It was in a large aluminium box with Manx Model Boat Club painted on the side. We wondered if any of you could remember it or who built it?



I don't know what will happen to all the models. Apparently the trustees of the collection have decided they will now all be disposed of and none kept for exhibition in Beale Park but I cant see them selling that many at the prices they were asking. There were quite a few people looking on Thursday and a few models going out of the door but there did not seem to be any bargains unless there was something there that you really wanted. We will keep our eyes and ears open to see what happens next.

Regards

Gareth

## Vintage Yacht Sailing

Having had to cancel last months arranged event, the weather was being watched very carefully this Sunday. However, the forecast was spot on after it changed from storm conditions in the morning to a very pleasant sunny afternoon. Over a dozen boats turned up with 4 classic Braine steered Marbleheads, two 36r's and a variety of smaller yachts including a Seagull and 2 small 'Bowdens'.

The big change this time was the fitting of R/C to the Marbleheads, albeit to rudder only. But what a difference it made! In fact so much pleasure was had that only one or two of the smaller boats got wet. All the R/C adapted boats have instant capability to revert to their proper form. Many passers-by stopped and admired the classic shapes gliding through the water.

All were sailing under top-suits and one modern One metre boat was present and when he switched off the winch the classic boats gradually left him behind! It will be interesting to see how many other boats are so adapted, but everybody wishes to maintain the originality of their boats while having the ease of sailing them. We look forward to an increase in interest next year and even the possibility of informal racing was discussed. However we will not neglect the 'free-sailing' as there is already interest in bringing another couple of boats to Fleetwood next year.



Brian King

# Commodores Challenge

This year Bob Bagshaw is setting us 3 x separate commodores challenges.

## 1) Time Trial

On the main lake at Silverdale, Bob is proposing a time trial event where the skipper of each boat nominates a time to sail around a course. Each run will be timed and the skipper who completes the course closest to their nominated time will be declared the winner.



## 2) Tethered Paddle Boats

On the small pool Bob is proposing that we build and sail paddle boats. The only restriction is the hull must be made from the inside cardboard tube from a paper towel roll. You can use the cardboard tube as it is to make a hull, or you can unfold it to make a flat sheet which can then be folded into the shape of a hull.



## 3) Sailing Boats

Bob has sourced a number of Bamboo Sundae Trays which can be used to form a hull. You will need to attach a mast, skag & sails. The boats will be sailed on the small pool and wind will be provided by a hand held fan. Hulls are now available from Bob Bagshaw if you want to have a go.



We hope to be able to publish full rules for each event in the near future, but don't let that stop you from gathering some materials and starting to build. Please contact Bob Bagshaw if you want a Bamboo tray.

The Commodores Challenge will be held as part of our Mannanan event on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020 although we are likely to run some practice days prior to that – probably around April or May.



A selection of images from the 'Big Night Out' held at Onchan Park



A selection of images from Mannan 2019