



### Mannanan 2015 Best in Show



#### Special points of interest

- Best in Show
- Mannanan results in full
- Av-a-Goes and new gear
- Postponed events
- Venetian Evening
- Warwick Trip
- Item for sale

Here I am, just back from holidays on the canals around Birmingham and down the Severn to Tewkesbury and via the Avon back to base. Is it already the end of September? How the year has flown by.

Within are the full results from Mannanan plus a round up of what has been going on through the summer and up till now.

We should have finished all the events when you read this and then it'll be time for the AGM and annual dinner. BUT Warwick comes before all that and those attending are putting together a themed display using as many model boats representative of Manx maritime history as they can. Please do contribute with ideas and boats to John Williams. *Ed.*

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This year the whole two day event was held at Silverdale as Onchan was not available to us. It actually worked out very well and Jason Fleming worked his structural magic on the various gazebos and put together a very large covered area for display of boats etc. It is not a suitable venue to leave the items erected over night but Jim of Jimbos' Ice Cream allowed us to store much of the heavier gear and indeed some of the models in his building overnight, so many thanks go to him.

The weather held, I remember a slight rain on the Saturday morning, but most of the event was in sunshine. Entry numbers were slightly down but there were several from the adjacent Island, Graham Povey and his wife and Kevin Fleming all making their debut here and our regulars of Paul and Mary Brassington, Peter Kendrick and Peter Iddon.

The various competition events had satisfactory numbers, the steering with 25 boats in four classes, tug

towing with 16 boats in two classes, the on the water scale had 22 boats in two classes and the scale approximately 25 boats in the three classes.

Not many entrants for the fun event, though we are promised some more next year. And we also ran finals of the Commodore's event to much amusement of the watching crowds.

So, to the results.

**The top prize, BEST IN SHOW**, voted on by all the participants went to visiting first timer Kevin Fleming with his splendid scratch built *Mona's Queen*, the IOM Steam Packet vessel of the 1980's. AND just to rub in the salt, he also, with this model took first in the over one meter 'Steering', first in the over one meter 'On The Water Scale' and second in the scratch 'Scale' competitions. Not a bad haul for his first build and first visit to the Isle of Man. He said he might come back...



*Ben My Chree* by Scott Booth alongside *Mona's Queen* by Kevin Fleming

**STEERING COMPETITION** *Saturday*

<b>Under 400 mm</b>	Manx Lass	Cameron Watterson	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Amy	Kim Holland	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Under 610 mm</b>	Our Lads	Cameron Watterson	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Dornoch	Jason Quayle	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Nudger	Kim Holland	3 <sup>rd</sup>
	Coastguard	Josh Hannay	1 <sup>st</sup> (junior)
<b>Under 1 meter</b>	Vervine	Cameron Watterson	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Taroo Ushtey	Brian king	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Parat	Jason Quayle	3 <sup>rd</sup> =
	Paula 3	Jason Fleming	3 <sup>rd</sup> =
<b>Over 1 meter</b>	Mona's Queen	Kevin Fleming	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Blazer	Jason Fleming	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Loyal Watcher	Jason Quayle	3 <sup>rd</sup>

**TUG TOWING COMPETITION** *Saturday*

<b>Under 700 mm</b>	Ramborator	Jason Fleming	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Amy	Kim Holland	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Torben	Cameron Watterson	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Over 700 mm</b>	Parat	Jason Quayle	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Nudger	Kim Holland	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Tito Nero	Jason Fleming	3 <sup>rd</sup>

**ON THE WATER SCALE COMPETITION** *Sunday*

<b>Under 1 meter</b>	Salto	Cameron Watterson	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Parat	Jason Quayle	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Osman Gabriel	Brian King	3 <sup>rd</sup>
	Coastguard	Josh Hannay	1 <sup>st</sup> (junior)
<b>Over 1 meter</b>	Mona's Queen	Kevin Fleming	1 <sup>st</sup>
	E10 Submarine	Paul Brassington	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Parallax	John Williams	3 <sup>rd</sup>

**SCALE COMPETITION** *Sunday*

<b>Scratch built</b>	Lady of Man	Peter Iddon	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Mona's Queen	Kevin Fleming	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Tb Amy	John Hancox	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Semi kit</b>	Andromeda	Cameron Waterson	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Maid of Erin	Cameron Watterson	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Theresa Mary	Kim Holland	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Kit class</b>	HM Bark Endeavour	Geoff Gell	1 <sup>st</sup>
	S.S. Sirius	Kim Holland	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Consul Pust	Kim Holland	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>FUN COMPETITION</b>	First float	Paul Brassington	
	Last Float	Paul Brassington	
	Most floats	Paul Brassington	
	Most points	Paul Brassington	
<b>BEST IN SHOW</b>	<i>Mona's Queen</i>	Kevin Fleming	

With the Best in Show going to Kevin Fleming, and he leaving on the Monday morning boat, all his prizes were presented to him by the Commodore shortly after the fun event (photograph on front page.)

Speaking of the fun event, there are going to be some interesting new boats next year to combat Master Brassington's clean sweep this year. Much thought will go into thwarting that occurring again!

At the Monday evening presentation dinner held at the Embassy [British] two of our long term off shore visitors were given small tokens of the Clubs appreciation for their continued support at Mannanan events – Paul and Mary Brassington and to Peter Iddon and Kathleen.

The Commodore also presented his many egg-cup trophies for the various challenges and challengers this year.

A very well supported raffle

enable the Club to break even on expenses for the weekend event.

Many thanks to John Williams for his organizing and mastering of the event and to the two hard worked scale judges, Jason F and Jason Q who also endeavoured to participate in the Challenges at the same time.

Once again Mike Buss was persuaded to handle all the entries and man the control seat over the weekend ensuring a steady progression through each event.



Particular and sincere thanks also to Captain Mike Brew, who once again judged the On the Water scale event (accompanied by his wife Mary, who was amazed at the presentation and variety of model boats on display.) He agreed to do next year too.

Me, all I did was OOD.....

Ed



Mary and Paul Brassington



Peter Iddon and Kathleen

## Av-a-Go season

July and the Av-a-Go season was upon us. Ever since we started these there was always the idea to automate the timing system such that electronics controlled the timing and switching of power to the transmitters. Well, I volunteered to make some units and JW handed over 12 timer kits he'd already in stock just for the job. I started making these up in May, so by the first Av-a-Go date, Port Erin lifeboat day on the 5<sup>th</sup> July we were ready to experiment with the first 6 units.

Jason Fleming as usual had prepared and erected marquee and pool on the days prior so travelling down in the pouring rain from Ramsey we wondered whether it was worth it. Turned out that although it was misty and rainy in Port Erin, out on the headland grass area it was a sunny day without too much wind. Business was slow but steady, and the new units put to the test.

Six units were supplied via a simple wire harness from a single 12V battery

connected with jack-plugs and sockets. The units did not function fully as desired in that they did not power off after the elapsed time period, just beep annoyingly till swiped to re-set. The switches used are magnetic reed switches, so a quick swipe across one end turns the unit on, across the other end re-sets the unit. Still it was usable and it saved having to have each transmitter fitted with 8 batteries each.

Next Av-a-Go day followed a week later on Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> July. This was the

Sunday Fun Day facilitated by Ramsey Rotary Club and held in the Mooragh Park, Ramsey. We had already selected a flat good location and found a water tap within 15 feet of the pool. Set-up was on the day before with Jason F and Co staying over night as guards to the gear.

It was a brilliant sunny day and we were quite busy in bursts. The charity for this day was the 'Friends of Chernobyl Children' and all profits went to them. Indeed I had the pleasure of handing over £150 to Norman Rivers two weeks later whilst he had the children at Maughold Venture Centre.

We had what we thought was our first failure with the new 6 units, but the failure was traced to a failed 12V battery, which under load was only giving 10.8V so earmarked to go.

There is a video on the website of us emptying the pool here, a time lapse which is quite interesting to watch.

The control units were still not switching the power off, so after discussion with

the experts (JW and JQ) I decided to achieve the switching via a transistor. Boy was I learning some electronics along the way, now how on earth do you wire a transistor to act as a switch and what type/number to use?

The Av-a-Go trailer and gear stayed in Ramsey for the week as the next use of the fleet was for Ramsey Life Boat day on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> July. For this we set up on the day as we are on a public road and only get a closure notice for the day. The pool is back to ladders and tarpaulin but still looks great for the kids.

Still using 6 control units only, now with transistor switching and wow, they worked all day long. A swipe of the magnet turns the timer and power on, after 5 minutes the beeper beeps and the power shuts off. The re-set can be used as required.

Fairly busy, but the forecasters got it totally correct with the rain arriving at 4pm, we'd already started to pack away at 3.30 so not too wet.

Now to get all the other

control units running as the sample six ready for the big test, 12 units for two days solid. Could that be done or would we have more problems to contend with? The weekend of 25/26<sup>th</sup> July was the Southern Agricultural Show, a new venue for us and one we had to pay a pitch fee for.

Jason F had negotiated a nice flat location and it turned out to be very handily placed being about 50m in from the main gate and almost at the main field crossway.

Jason's team spent two evenings putting up the big marquee and pool etc. incorporating a rear covered area for rest, food and tea plus access to pets etc.

The records show that the Saturday had a record attendance at the Show, and it was our busiest day so far with the fleet – but all did not start so well. Theresa and myself journeyed down Saturday morning prior to opening to find that the new second harness I'd made that week for the second set of six control units was blowing fuses. It had to be a harness

fault confirmed using the multi-meter, but what? We stripped back each section of its heat shrink insulation and testing as we went. The last but one splice was the problem. A sharp solder spur had penetrated two layers of the heat shrink causing a short. This was re-tapped and all was well. In fact the twelve units worked perfectly all day and all the second day too.

Our location near the entrance worked in our favour at Show closing time. With such numbers attending there were serious delays in the crowds leaving, so they stopped off at us to play with the boats to while away time. Good pickings as they say.

The second day at the Show had been well forecast for wind and rain so we did not expect any great attendance. Indeed we did better from fellow exhibitors seeking shelter in a large marque than from the public. A lot of stands closed by dinner time and we followed at about 3pm.

Jason's crew did a final take down on the following evening even though it was raining but less windy.

It had been a long hard July so a weekend off was welcomed. Then back at it erecting marque and pool on the quayside at Port St Mary for the Queenie Festival 15/16<sup>th</sup> August.

Good steady crowds and mostly foreign visitors on holidays kept us busy. The units never missed a beat though it became obvious that the jack plug connectors need to be replaced with a better system, but the electronics and magnet switches worked a dream – we had created a system the users have yet to defeat (the kids always managed to change manual timers or reset them or loose them in the past.) The only person to actually cheat the system did so at the Charity Fun Day at Ramsey, and that was because we had still in use a set of six transmitters with kitchen timers, which use a magnetic base. Les Quayle picked one up and swiped a control unit, turned to me with a large grin and said “there, that’s how to do it!”

We packed everything away on the Sunday evening of the Queenie Festival,

relieved that we had completed the Av-a-Go season once more. It does take a lot of time and it does require people on the ground to operate.

Oh, and we introduced a new paying system for the fleet. Pay at one point and in exchange the client receives a token, the token is surrendered in order to Av-a-Go. This saves all operatives rushing about with money for change etc and makes the money side a bit more secure and controlled – no token no boat!!!

I'd like to thank Jason F for all his extremely hard work for the Av-a-Go set-up. Yes it is a separate entity within the Club but it does generate a lot of interest. Theresa and myself managed all fleet days and most set-up days. To those that did them all – fantastic effort, and to those who did some, again fantastic effort, it cannot operate without volunteers. Long may we run them.

The fleet are to undergo major overhaul this winter, do not be surprised to be given a boat and told to re-fit it.. Ed



## Transmitter Timer Units

The transmitter control units incorporate the Kitronics educational timer kit based on the 556 chip, which is two 555 chips in one chip!

I modified the supplied circuit board to isolate the re-set so that it could be used manually.

The board is powered via a regulated 6V supply from the 12V source. The on/off switch was changed to a slide switch on the casing and a magnetic reed switch is used for both the 'run' and 're-set'.

The kit uses a red LED to show the timer is running, which I kept and at the end of the adjustable time period a buzzer sounds, the duration of which is also adjustable.

To get the timer to switch the 12V supply to the transmitter on and off the trigger pin (which also lights the red LED) was used to switch a NPN transistor on which in turn activates a 5A relay switch. The choice of which type etc I'll not go into here, but the unusual thing I found was that the transistor goes at the end of the circuit, like the plug hole down which the power flows, rather than at the front end to acting like a tap. I learnt a lot of electronics along the way.

I also incorporated another LED, green this time, to show that the unit was switched on and powered up ready to use. Finally jack plugs and sockets were used to connect each unit to the wiring harness and to its associated transmitter. This meant that if a unit failed, the plugs can be swapped to supply 12V direct

to the transmitter and a manual timer used for timing as of old.

Initially 12 units were made, then when these actually worked

as planned another 4 were made as spares. The missing unit referred to in the Av-a-Go narrative was found in our airing cupboard, where I'd put it for the decals to dry off and forgotten about it...

After this seasons run with them we have decided to change the jack-plug and socket connections, they sometimes were loose fitting and a firmer connecter will be used instead.

I also discovered during the making that it is possible to upset the 556 chip switching such that the flip/flop action becomes flip/flip or flop/flop and only half the unit functions as expected. By shorting



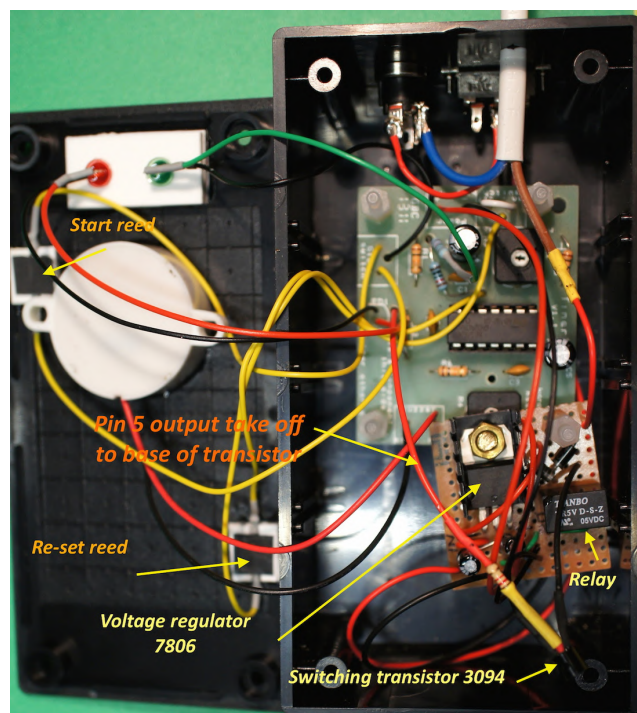
across the trigger and reset this condition can be reversed back to the designed function – weird but true.

These units cost in total about £13 each. They save the requirement to have two charged sets of 8 batteries for each transmitter for the day and also the need for an array of chargers. A set of 4 re-chargeable batteries can cost £8 so a big saving in the long run.

Not sure how reliable each unit will be, but up till now none have failed.

Top image shows the control timer unit connected to a transmitter, the lower image shows the internals – a bit messy I know but it all works.

Ed



Look see what I managed to squeeze inside the box – actually it's not that bad and JW has promised to create a new PCB for me to solder it all to!



## Postponed events

The weather caused two events to be postponed twice, and then we were into the Av-a-Go season so they have now been scheduled for the following dates. The sailing date was also changed to coincide with a better, bigger high tide to fill the lake.

Radio controlled sailing and vintage yacht displays      Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October Ramsey Mooragh

Spithead Review

Steering competition

Both events

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October

Silverdale

## Tug Towing – Silverdale 6<sup>th</sup> September

Only three members showed for this event which was scheduled for the Av-a-Go fleet on Silverdale as well.

Indeed, not a lot was achieved, no competition and the two Jasons, Quayle and Fleming, practised twin tug towing for a while anticipating more public coming for the Av-a-Go boats.

It follows the trend this year in poorly attended events.

Ed.

## Venetian Evening – Onchan 26<sup>th</sup> Sept - *by Jason Quayle\*\**

The Venetian evening and club Barbecue was held on Saturday evening 26 September at Onchan Park in perfect conditions – relatively warm and not a breath of wind on the lake. Members started setting up relatively early; eager to have a full evenings sailing in the good conditions, although numbers were slightly down on previous years with a few regular members away on holiday or otherwise occupied. Peter Iddon and his daughter had travelled from the UK for the event

and it is always nice to see them visiting us again. Peter had brought his Lady of Mann with him to put on static display, although not sailing this time due to the motors having been removed. Peter had also brought an RC model bus with him which he has painted in up with a ‘local’ livery complete with working lights and sound effects.

Amongst the other ‘unusual’ craft on display was Bob Bagshaws prototype for next year’s

Commodore’s challenge. Bob explained that next years challenge would involve old pop bottles and compressed air – full rules to follow after Bob has got his prototype working.

Unfortunately Mike Buss, was not available to run the barbecue this year due to a prior engagement, so Jason Fleming very kindly volunteered to do the cooking serving up a delicious selection of burgers and “dragon” sausages (hot & spicy). Quintin Robinson from the

World Ship Society was our judge for the evening and the first competition to be decided was for the Onchan Commissioners shield. Due to the fine sunny evening, Quintin had plenty of time to admire the models both on the side and on the water before making his decision. After it eventually started getting dusk, members were invited to 'light up' their models for the illuminated sailing part of the competition. Amongst the more unusual illuminated models were Norman Cadwallader's paddle tug boat with its 'Christmas illuminations' and John William's HMS Chatham (ex HMS roll over)\*\* with its impressive display of LED lights.

[Sorry, no images of Commodore's new ideas were sent through – thankfully! Ed]

After much deliberation and discussion about how green navigation lights don't look quite as effective on a model compared to a red navigation light, Quintin announced the results of the two competitions as follows (see next page) :-



**Venetian Evening – winners**

**above left 1<sup>st</sup> Seasider – Brian King**

**above right 3<sup>rd</sup> HMS Chatham – John Williams**

**below 2<sup>nd</sup> Glasgow – Jason Quayle**



**Onchan Commissioner's**

**above 2<sup>nd</sup> Trein Maersk – Mike Kelly**



**VENETIAN EVENING** *Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September*

<b>Onchan Commissioners</b>	Lady of Mann	Peter Iddon	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Trein Maersk	Mike Kelly	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	HMS Chatham	John Williams	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Venetian Evening</b>	Seasider	Brain King	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Glasgow	Jason Quayle	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	HMS Chatham	John Williams	3 <sup>rd</sup>



*Onchan Commissioner's Shield  
1st Lady of Mann – Peter Iddon [right]  
and  
Venetian Winner Brian King [left]  
with  
Judge : Quintin Robinson (World Ship Society)*

**Warwick IMBS plans and progress**

Plans are well underway for the Club's attempt for three in a row wins of Best in Show at the Warwick International Boat Show this year, dates November 6, 7 and 8<sup>th</sup>. A mock up of the intended display will be set-up at Jimbo's Ice Cream parlour, Silverdale over the weekend of 10 and 11<sup>th</sup> October and could be there all week

following. If you have been requested for boats then you will know what is expected from you. The theme for this year is Manx Maritime heritage and centres around many model boats with a direct distinct Manx connection. Lots of IOMSPCo boats are included and they are once again

sponsoring the trip quite generously. Many others boats, lifeboats, fishing and commercial have been gathered to adorn what is hoped to be another winning show for the Club. Pop along Sunday morning for a quick look and maybe throw in your penny's worth.

Good luck guys.....Ed



For sale



Club member Keith Jewell has a Futaba 6EX for sale. This is an unused item and is a complete set still in its original box and it includes

- 1 x Transmitter
  - 1 x Receiver
  - 1 x Charger
  - 1 x Servo mounting board kit
  - 1 x Charging leads and switch
  - 1 x pack assorted servo arms
  - 4 x 3003 Futaba servos
  - 1 x Battery pack for receiver
  - Battery in transmitter
- All guarantee forms and instructions included.

Keith will accept £150 for the whole.

His contact number is

610139

Please deal with Keith direct.

This unit features digital trim, 6 model memory, servo reversing, exponential, end point adjustment, throttle cut off.

I have two of these myself, they are good...

## Final notices and round up

We managed to get the r/c sailing and Vintage yachts out last Sunday, report in next newsletter together with the last events of this season plus full report about Warwick and how it went.

Also, it'll be AGM time and then annual dinner. Wow!

Anything you want to be added for the next issue please send in as soon as possible. As usual the next Newsletter will also carry a notice of the AGM, so will be out and about by the 20<sup>th</sup> November, AGM date is 26<sup>th</sup> November, secretary will send formal notice 14 days prior as required.

Feedback and any comments are always welcomed, thank you.

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