

# The MBA Dover Newsletter



Issue 32 Summer 2010

Welcome to the Summer Edition of the KK.

At this time of the year, we are in a position to report on the events that we have been holding so far, we had the first illuminated event of this year on March 25th, just before the clocks changed. This was a good turnout which makes organising this type of event very satisfying. The winner this year was Barbara Rudge with her “dressed overall” yacht *Passing Wind*. Judging this event is always controversial, technically the lights were not correct but the overall effect was considered to be the worthy winner this time. Reports on all the other regattas can be found inside.

One major thing that has happened in 2010, is our AGM, in the last KK, I mentioned that it was important to get as many of us together at this meeting so that all views are heard.

We now have to elect new officers into the club. Peter Cook has been forced to give up the Secretary’s job for health reasons. Christine Wellard is standing down as Membership Secretary and also as our fundraiser.

Douglas Turton has also indicated that he will be standing down as our Treasurer.

At this point, we must thank those members for all their hard work, I do know that an awful lot of time and effort goes into being an officer of a club such as ours.

Peter Cook has done a wonderful job as club Secretary, many thanks Peter, Chris Wellard has looked after the Membership as well as being our fundraiser and of course, organising the coach trips . Many thanks Chris.

And Douglas has kept the accounts up to date, many thanks Douglas.

It is very difficult to recruit others to fill these positions which are of course voluntary, at the meeting however, we did get two members who have kindly agreed to take on the jobs of Membership Secretary and Website organiser.

Our new Membership Secretary will now be Mr Ted Goldring, welcome Ted, and our new Webmaster will now be Mr Phil Ribton, welcome Phil.

Maurice Job, our Chairman has agreed to take over the Treasurers position until a new dedicated Treasurer can be found, he now wears two hats.

The Secretaries position is still vacant, Peter Cook has agreed to accept mail and pass on any information for a while but we desperately need someone to take over this important club job. I am sure Maurice would be very relieved if any member would like to volunteer for this position, the money is poor, actually non-existent, the hours might be long or maybe short, it’s up to you, but your club needs YOU.

Notebook and pen will be supplied!

It is not very often that we have cause to go into our old store but recently we needed a piece of equipment and it was then that we discovered the roof was leaking. The company who supplied the building is still trading in the Ashford area and they have given us a quote to replace the roof, this amounts to a tidy sum but as it is a most urgent repair and we do have the funds set aside for emergencies such as this, a decision was taken and the job has been done. We now have a fully watertight storage facility again which should last for many years.

Those of you who visit the Abbey regularly will have noticed that the Council have repaired the far bank of our lake in recent months, this is another piece of good news and a fuller report can also be found inside this issue.

May your boats remain watertight.....Alan

KK  
Barbara Rudge  
KK  
Barbara Rudge  
KK  
Barbara Rudge

THE DOVER Model Boat association

AGM

We held the club AGM after the normal May meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May.

This date, which had to be changed from the published date, resulted in many members not being able to attend. The reasons behind this were due to a mix up with the function room bookings by the Cricketers landlord. Because it was the AGM, a mail shot was put out to all members informing them of the date change.

Our Chairman, Maurice began by outlining the situation.

He told the floor that due to health reasons, Our Secretary Peter Cook and our Treasurer Douglas Turton would be standing down. He also explained that Mrs Christine Wellard would be standing down this year as our Membership Secretary.

Another change was that Colin Goldsmith would be standing down as the yacht representative.

A vote of thanks was give for all the hard work undertaken by these members, this leaves the club with a void that will be difficult to replace especially as initially there were no volunteers to fill these very important positions.

Maurice then indicated that he would be willing to take on the Treasurers job as well as the Chairman's position.

One of our newer members Mr Ted Goldring, offered his services as the Membership Secretary, he explained that he had the necessary computer skills and with some tutoring from Chris, he would be happy to do the job.

Colin Goldsmith explained that although he was standing down, Alan Hounsell had agreed to take this position. Alan was not present at the meeting but he was welcomed aboard again having been a prominent member before.

The Club Secretary's position was not filled, Peter stated that he would still accept correspondence at his address until the position was filled but he is officially retired.

There were four amendments posted for change, Douglas Turton our outgoing treasurer explained why they should be considered by the membership.

The proposals were.

An increase in annual club subscriptions to £13.00 per year.

Junior membership to raise to £5.00 per year.

To cease having the Christmas Social as a free event.

To charge members and their guests whatever it costs the club ( currently £5.00 per person)

All the above proposals were voted on and accepted by all those present.

**For sale**

We have an original Dover Tug hull offered for sale by **Ken Greenland**.. This was one of four original hulls that were produced from the master plug made from original Damen drawings..

This hull has not been started and is a plain untouched moulding.50inches long and 18inches wide.

It is for a Damen 3110 Tug as used by the Dover Harbour Board. The scale is 1/25th

These hulls cost the original owners over £100.00 each to produce due to the size and weight of materials, Ken is willing to sell his for a very reasonable **£50.00**, this includes drawings and a photo montage set.

**John Slee**

It is with regret that I have to inform the membership that John passed away on July the 8th. He was an active and supportive member of Dover MBA until very recently when illness forced him to cease attending our club events. John built models to a very high standard and was a very knowledgeable and interesting man. He will be missed by the membership.

## Tug to assist please!

A leg of a Sunday morning yacht race had to be forfeited by one of our most experienced yachtsmen recently when his model just clipped the trees and became hooked up near the weir by the backstay string or whatever it's called! No matter what was tried, the yacht refused to budge,

adjusting the sail winch allowed a certain amount of movement but still the yacht was trapped. Jeremy Maudling came to the rescue with his tug Tom, after manoeuvring in restricted water for some while, he managed to nudge the yacht clear. This was accompanied by cheers from all those watching, I did hear some light-hearted comments about power boats having their uses! The yachtsman in question will no doubt receive a nomination for the Nut of the Month award



for his mishap, the yacht which is painted RED and named MOON-WIND received no damage.



## 60 years of Model Boats Magazine

It must have been a coincidence that I wrote a small piece about the Model Boats magazine in the last issue of KK

because hot on its heels has come a special edition outlining the history of the magazine from the publishers.

Of special interest to us at Dover is the inclusion of a section dealing with clubs, and to illustrate this side of our hobby they have used a photograph that shows most of the Dover members operating our models at the Bluewater complex. This is in full colour and on the front page as well as a larger picture inside the publication.

The show featured, was organised by the Chantry model boat club in 2006, I believe that the photographer must have been standing with your editor because I have an almost identical picture in my files.

It is very nice to have this record of our club that will be seen nationwide

News that the contractors have returned to repair the far side of our lake is very good and very much welcomed. This has been a big concern because the bank had eroded away from the



stonework that holds the water. This erosion has been up to 12 inches deep in places and meant that if this stonework was to give way, the lake level would drop by a



## 1<sup>st</sup> Illuminated Event March 26<sup>th</sup> 2010

The first Illuminated event held on March 26<sup>th</sup> can only be described as a great success. The weather was kind and the rain kept off until we were just about to drive home. A total of eight boats were on the water with all their lights on making a very impressive display. Also, there were a good number of spectators enjoying the evening, the reflections in the calm water doubling the illuminated effect.

It is always a difficult job trying to pick out a winner to receive the trophy at these types of events, if it is based on accuracy the lights shown would be minimal and, to most people, it might appear somewhat boring to look at. This time the award was given to **Barbara Rudge** for her illuminated yacht 'Passing Wind'. Barbara had dressed the boat overall with alternating blue and white lights, the shape of the yacht could be made out from quite a distance.

Everyone who made the effort deserves praise, **Dave Cowlin** had at last got his dredger working satisfactorily and displayed a very comprehensive selection of lights including very bright floodlights robbed from a torch. **George Sutcliffe** had all the correct lights working on his puffer Highlander, as an ex seaman, he knows what lights should be shown. **Jeremy Maudling** brought along his converted Wyforce tug, again this looked right on the water with wheelhouse lighting adding to the effect. **Reg Archer** had another tug, Old Jack on the water, again with the correct lighting showing. **Adrian Knight** brought along his latest tug Brackengarth which is now fully lit, of note on this one was the illumination of the rear winch area. **John Keeble** was running his old faithful My Gail, John has won this event before, the subtle oil lights glowing and accommodation lighting showing were again a delight to be seen on this model. And finally **Derrick Rudge** had another tug model, the Ursus dressed overall like Barbara's boat, This model was a mass of lights, again predominantly blue and white which again looked good on the water.

The illuminated event seems to be more popular that it has been in the past, we did wonder if it was worth continuing but judging on recent numbers and spectators attending, we will certainly be keeping this event in our calendar.



Always difficult photographing at night, but I hope the boats can be recognised in the gloom.



## Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April, Club Regatta

This was our first regatta for this year and with beautiful weather on our side, it was a really successful one. We had a good number of members who arrived early and helped to set up the compound, this helps to makes the event so much more pleasurable. The tables were soon filled with a nice display of models and it was not long before some were on the water demonstrating in their natural environment.



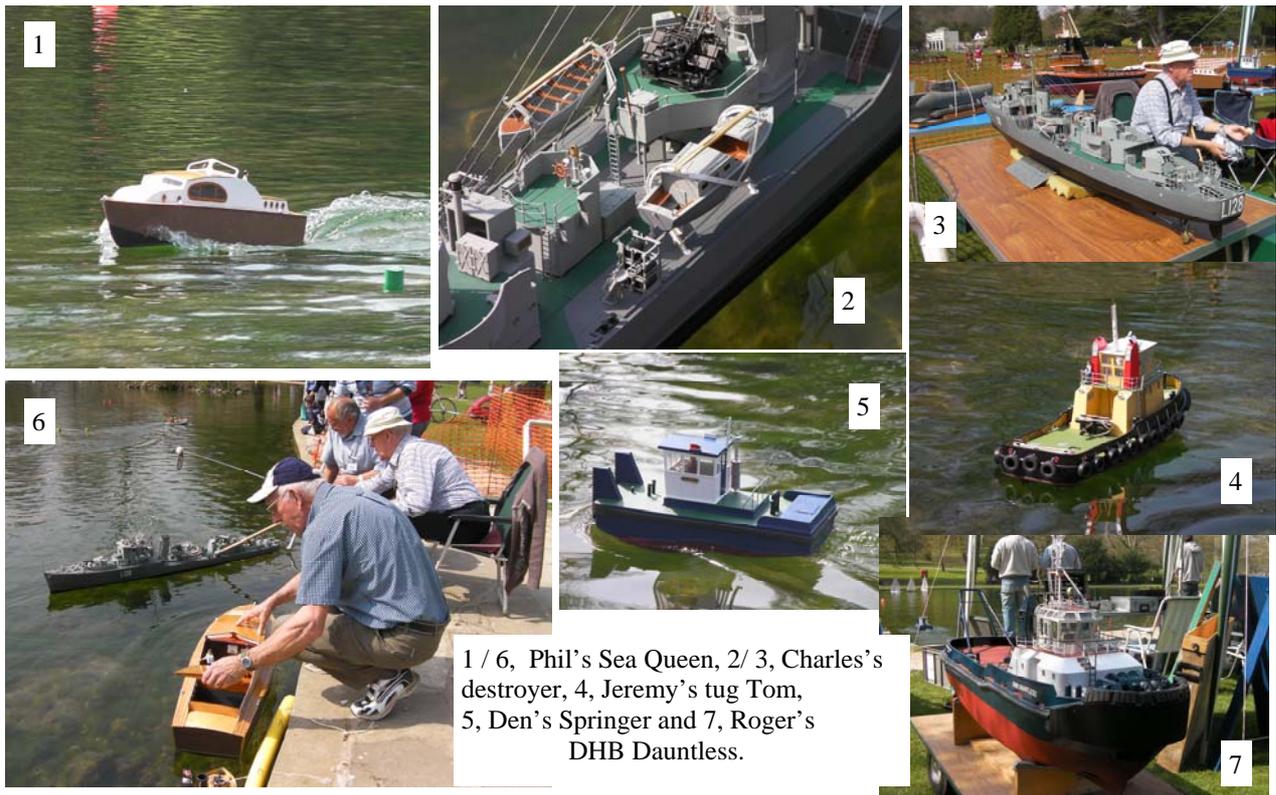
The yacht section made a welcome return to our monthly regattas putting on three races during the day, some also took part in the snooker course that was set out for everyone who wanted to have a go at it. This must be one of the best things that we have at regattas because almost all members seem to like it and enjoy the fun side of this “competition”. We managed two rounds during the day and a prize was given to the winners of each round.

Free sailing took up the rest of the day, I spotted Phil Ribtons Sea Queen on the tables, Phil has been building a brand new model from original Aerokits drawings and this was to be its maiden voyage, trials were successful but Phil will reduce the power slightly to make her more sedate and improve the running time. Over the winter, Denis Wellard has built a new springer tug, this one is 1/3<sup>rd</sup> bigger than normal and plans are in had to make an even bigger one. Charles Male brought a long his destroyer HMS Wilton, we have not seen this model for some time so the extra detail added since then was interesting and impressive, this was the first time that I have seen it in the new colour scheme as well and with pennant numbers added she looks almost complete. I know that this is not the case though, there is always something that needs adding when constructing a model of this scale and complexity.

Being a nice day there were plenty of spectators around and I did see a number of ex members in the crowds watching, perhaps they can get their interest aroused once more and maybe join us again in the future.

We did have three club 500 models with us and these were used firstly on the snooker course where trying to keep score was fast and furious, and then at the end of the day for a short race, a good end to a nice first regatta.

*Below can be found a selection of pictures taken at this event.*



1 / 6, Phil's Sea Queen, 2/ 3, Charles's destroyer, 4, Jeremy's tug Tom, 5, Den's Springer and 7, Roger's DHB Dauntless.

## Club Regatta 16<sup>th</sup> May.

This regatta was initially blessed with lovely early sunshine, this unfortunately did not last because it clouded over by midday and then gave us some light rain. Luckily the nice start allowed us to get set up quickly and sailing started early.

We had a suggestion put forward recently by a member about setting up the small kiddies pond, instead of assembling all the woodwork, then lining it and filling it from the lake, why don't we simply cordon off a small part of the lake and use that instead.

This proved to be a good idea, we made up a rope barrier supported by pipe lagging that floated, then pinned it down to the bed of the lake, job done! The control panel was set up on the path and the area fenced round to provide security.

By doing this, we save half the time in setting up, and free up the area that would normally be within our compound. We are also doing our little bit for the environment by not running the generator to pump the water. The member who suggested this did not want me to mention his name so I won't, but he does have a rather nice landing craft that needs a refit, its gone rusty!

Considering the nice start to the day, there were not very many people in the park and as some members were away on holiday, we did not have as many models on display, despite this a good show was put on as usual, several members of the public showed considerable interest in some of the models and this, I believe led to some membership packs being handed out.

We ran a round of the boat snooker, this time to slightly different rules, the scoring was changed to take away the chance element of using a dice, due to the weather closing in we did not run a second round in which would have reverted back to the dice system, this might have given us some indication of how the trial game was received but nobody seemed to be worried either way. Another nice regatta.

## Kearsney Kapers June 6th 2010

Our open event was a very low key affair, despite being advertised and the dates passed on to other clubs, we did not get many attending. There were also a significant amount of our own members who missed this event, I seem to recall a similar situation last year so perhaps we need to see if the date that we choose, which is usually around the same time of the year, needs to be altered.

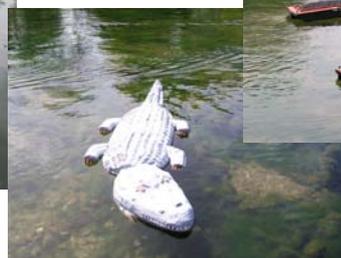
Traditionally, the event takes the form of a free sailing event, no rules, just take a peg and sail and this is exactly what happened. I am told that all those who were there had a good day, I say 'am told' because, unfortunately I was one of those who did not attend but I did help with the setting up!

The meeting was supported by the 'Tugs R Us' boys and a lone Cygnet, Richard Gardiner, The tugs were as usual to a very high standard and displayed well. There was a round of the boat snooker ran during the afternoon, by this time the morning's misty weather had cleared and the sun shone, this however is not good news because the warm water brought the weed up from the bed of the lake and started to foul the propellers.

This weed had been particularly bad this year and it led to an early end to the sailing because it is almost impossible to operate in these conditions.

Thanks as always to all who worked hard to make KK 2010 a success.

Photos courtesy of Len Ochiltree



## Club Regatta 18th July

This will be the last regatta report in this edition of KK as the cut off point of late July fast approaches. This regatta was another excellent summer Sunday with unbroken sunshine, we really have been very fortunate with the weather this year, I even managed to stay in my shorts and sandals all day which is not a pretty sight.

The set up was quick and easy due to a good number of willing helpers and because of the possible weed problems, we got in a round of the boat snooker early. The yachts also managed three races in favourable conditions, as, although it was sunny we did have quite a breeze, this same breeze made steering a bit difficult for the small boats which was run by Len and Maurice in a cordoned off area of the lake.

It was very nice to see some of our newer members taking part demonstrating their models in front of the many visitors in the park and also taking part in the boat snooker. I'm sure that they enjoyed the little bit of adrenalin that comes with performing in front of the public for the first time, even experienced modellers feel nervous sometimes in these situations.

### French Connection

Many years ago, our club attended several shows in France as guests of the "Modelisme Naval Du Calais", the Calais model boat club. We lost contact and have tried several times to re-establish this friendship, alas, with no success until now.

Whilst going through some old paperwork I found a sticker with the above French words on it and simply put it into Google on my computer...voila! A website popped up with all the clubs details and contact numbers. A quick letter explaining the situation and a request that perhaps we could communicate again with a view to possible visits, was sent off by e-mail.

I received a reply which said that my letter had been passed to their president (No not that one, their club president) who would reply shortly.

Up until now, I have had no reply but this might be an interesting link for our club to pursue and possibly become involved with again in the future.

Your thoughts would be welcome on this one.



Continuing with this thread, look what was caught sailing across the Channel or is it Kearsney Abbey ? It is a French privateer called "Le Spectre"

This model, owned, built and sailed by Derrick Rudge, brought a touch of colour to Kearsney Abbey recently when it flew it's large French Tricolour. This one should go down well with the Calais club !

Getting in with the big boys is this little Footie yacht which was allowed to join in with the Fairwinds one Sunday morning.

The owner was a guest sailor from the Birmingham Model Yacht Club who has developed these little models and is producing them as a kit on a limited run.

I failed to get the gentleman's details but his club is well known in the model yachting world.

The little boat with its special single sail rig went very well especially when beating down the back leg with the wind in its favour. (*that's sailor speak I believe! Ed.*)



## Our Park Warden

This newsletter is not the place to judge or to criticise the actions of contractors or anyone else concerned with the upkeep of the park in which we operate, but I am sure that all our members will welcome the fact that our hard working park warden Dick Blythe, is to stay as our warden.

When his job was threatened, a petition was started and several letters of support was sent to his employers outlining the good work that he does on behalf of everyone who use this park. I am happy to report that these qualities have been recognised.

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Look closely and you will notice the life boatman legging it To the back of the boat, could this boat be heading for the bank at high speed and the crewman needs to get away fast !

Ted Goldring's little Billings Waveney Lifeboat at speed.

Mr Lonely? No actually it's our Scale Secretary **Len Ochiltree** playing on his own, this is the set up for the small boat area that has been suggested to save time and effort. It works well...



If you are ever tempted to buy undercoat spray aerosols from the £1.00 shops? don't do it.

With the cost of decent undercoat and topcoat spray paints reaching £7.00 for a 500 ml can at Halfords, it is very tempting to try a cheaper alternative from the pound shops. I bought a couple of these cans and used them in ideal conditions but they just would not harden and remained tacky for days. The whole job was ruined and it had to be stripped back and redone with a better product. Luckily the model was a metal casting so not a major problem but if it had been a model hull or superstructure that had taken months to build, the results would have been catastrophic.

## MBAD Club information

### **Model Boat Association Dover Club Committee Members July 2010**

**Chairperson : Mr Maurice Job** ☎ 01304 611403

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**Treasurer : Mr Maurice Job** ☎ 01304 611403

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Model Boat Association Dover



### MBA Merchandise

|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Caps             | £5.00  |
| Sweat Shirts     | £14.00 |
| T Shirts         | £8.00  |
| Polo Shirts      | £12.00 |
| Enamel Pin Badge | £2.50  |



**Website - [WWW.mba-dover.org.uk](http://WWW.mba-dover.org.uk)**