

The MBA Dover Newsletter



Issue 43 Spring 2014

Welcome to the Spring edition.

Well here we go again with another year of modelling with the MBA Dover.

On December 4th, our Christmas social took place at the Cricketer's public house. This was a very relaxed evening which started with the presentation of the various trophies to the winners of the powerboat and yacht competitions.

Details of the winners can be found inside this issue.

We had booked the usual curry selection with a buffet for those who preferred it, for refreshments. This has been the classic menu at the club social for several seasons now and has always been well received. As usual there was more than enough to go round which meant that most appetites were fully satisfied.

After exchanging Christmas cards and a chat, the evening was rounded off with a raffle, always popular and in traditional fashion, this lasted for quite a while due to the amount of the prizes on offer. The cry of put it back was heard many times as member who had won a prize, gave others a chance of winning.

In the December issue of MMI we were very happy to see a nice report about our open event Kearsney Kapers, published. The article was a two page spread and carried eleven photographs which showed a nicely balanced view of the event with pictures of visiting clubs as well as our own.

The report was written by our good friend and MBA club member Mr Kim Belcher who has had many articles published in that magazine, we thank Kim for submitting the report and getting it into print and spreading the clubs name to a wider audience.

As a result of sending in the article to MMI, the editor Barrie Stevens, has asked for a feature to be written about Dave Cowlin's dredger, this was one of the models featured in the report and Kim has already started producing it. We look forward to seeing this in a future issue of the magazine.

At this time of the year, there are no club competitions to take part in but this does give everybody the opportunity to visit the three major modelling events that are held over the Christmas period and New Year in our area.

The Model Engineer Exhibition, The London Model Engineer Show and Brighton Model World show. Although we do not normally organise any group visits to these shows, several members do visit them and some also display at these prestigious venues. At the 2013 Model Engineer Exhibition I was fortunate to meet up with a legend in the modelling world and a inside this issue you will find a report about the meeting which I hope you all will find interesting.

I cannot end this short editorial without mentioning the amount of rain and the flooding that we have experienced this winter down at the abbey, I cannot remember ever seeing the water so high, it flooded over the edge and onto the grass, it has now thankfully subsided but it did caused some interesting landscape changes.

We look forward to seeing you all at the lakeside Happy boating... Alan



It's been very wet this year

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Competition results for 2013

Power Boat Section

Steering

1st Phil Ribton ... **2nd** Kelvin Castle ... **3rd** .. Reg Archer

Springer Barge Push

1st Len Ochiltree **2nd** Peter Cook **3rd** ..Bernard Le Ny

Tug Towing

1st Len Ochiltree **2nd** Alan Hounsell **3rd** Kelvin Castle

Club 500

1st Alan Hounsell **2nd** Len Ochiltree **3rd** Peter Cook



Club Chairman, Peter Cook presents the Steering award to Phil Ribton



The Venue

Yacht Section

2012 Frostbite Series (7/10/12 to 30/12/12)

1st Colin Goldsmith - Foxy Lady

2nd Dick Sadler - One

2013 Icicle Series (13/01/13 to 07/04/13)

1st Andy Goldsack - P2

2nd Kieth Worsdell - Marilyn

2013 Summer Series (28/04/13 to 08/09/13)

1st Andy Goldsack - P2

2nd Len goldsack - Bakersfield

2013 Regatta Series (21/04/13 to 21/07/13)

1st Alan Hounsell - Moonwind

2nd Barbara Rudge - Crystal



Len O receiving one of three awards from Peter

Len and Andy , father and son winners of the Summer Series enjoy their success



An Experience at the Model Engineer Exhibition

At the recent Model Engineer Exhibition at Sandown, I was privileged to meet up again with the very well respected warship modeller, Mr Alex MacFadyern. Alex is famous for the extremely well detailed model of the battleship HMS Vanguard which was built over 30 years ago now and is at present housed in the Childe Beale model museum in Berkshire. He is also responsible for building the G3 projected battleship Renown, this is another magnificent model that has won Gold medals and championship cups at many shows. Add to this another brilliant model of the Battle Class destroyer HMS Barossa, a very high quality model that has won many awards and you will realise that this modeller is one of the highest quality model makers that we have in this country.

Alex builds to a constant 1/96 scale, 1/8th=1foot, this is the scale used by many warship modellers, it makes detail work very small but when done correctly, looks superb and realistic. Ron Dean of Dean's Marine, uses this scale for most of his range of warship kits.

Alex was very keen to show me his latest creation, the French Battleship Richelieu, this ship was part of the French Navy given an ultimatum by Churchill to hand over the ships to the allied forces during WWII but refused to do so, the Royal Navy launched an attack on the ships anchored in Dakar Harbour and the Richelieu was badly damaged. She was eventually taken to the USA where she was repaired and refitted; it is in this configuration that the model is based on.

I had seen parts of the model being constructed over several years, Alex regularly displays his models with the Phoenix model club which is located in the Esher area of London where the exhibition is usually now held. He actually only lives 10mins from the show and so the invitation to visit his workshop was eagerly taken up. Before entering the workshop area I was shown the many medals and awards that his models have won over the years, on the walls were medals won in the International NAVIGA World Championships, these are the highest awards that can be won in our hobby, you just cannot get any higher! Both Vanguard and Barossa have won the top awards and this year, 2013, it was held in Russia.

Into the workshop and wow! The Richelieu was on a table and took up most of the area, almost complete she looked fantastic, he showed me draw fulls of parts that were destined for the model, all complete and just waiting for the superstructure and hull to be finally painted before being fitted. There were the main armament turrets with three scale barrels that had working breeches and can be fired electronically, a black powder charge is inserted and fired by radio control, the power of the gun is impressive, he told me that one time during testing the spare charges were kept in the turret waiting to be loaded, a flash during firing ignited all the charges and blew the turret off!

The quality of all the work was beyond belief, every hatch, every small gun and all the other parts which normally would be moulded were individually constructed, he told me that a mould would reproduce any faults that would show through all of the fittings, correct but a very time consuming process I thought, but as I have pointed out, he is a world champion.

The workshop was warm and well lit; there were racks of materials neatly labelled, brass sections, strip and angle all in their own little sleeves. Aluminium sections likewise and all other materials neatly arranged and to hand. Alex rarely uses plasticard, he has an aversion to it believing that it is not stable enough and will degrade over time, it has its place and is used but only for the smallest of parts, I attempted to explain that it is much better than he thought but still insists he will not use it. Wood, 1mm 1.5mm and 2mm marine ply is the preferred material to use. Sheets of it are prepared and undercoated ready to be fabricated into superstructure blocks, litho plate is added to give a fine finish for painting and to give a crisp edge to the construction. His tools are also of the highest quality, Swiss tweezers that cost an arm and a leg are used to position the finest of fittings, he showed me miniature files and broaches which cost tens of pounds each, naturally all these tools have been bought over a lifetime and looking at in that light, the costs are probably not that great but mention 50 quid for a small file and most modellers will take a sharp intake of breath. Of interest to me was the way every miniature drill was set into its own pin vice and arranged around a wooden block holder, there must have been 100 drills ready to be used all numbered and set out in meticulous order. Another useful tool was a wire for spot placing the smallest amount of superglue, the wire used was passed through a hypodermic needle as a holder and could be fed through it as it became blocked. A PTFE block was used as a receptacle for the glue.

After nearly four hours of modelling heaven, I made my exit and drove home, my mind was full of questions that I should have asked but there will be another time. Alex Mac Fadyern is a gentleman who is of the old school, he does not do computers or anything like that, he is one of a handful of model makers who I have respected for many years and it is a privilege to call him a friend.

One last quote from him that I love was, "Anything built over 1/96th scale, is carpentry! "

Alan

For Sale

I have received this information from **Alan Argent**, a member of the Moorhen model Boat Club in Harlow.

He is offering for sale two models, as a friend I have offered to publish it in our magazine.

He has a Pegasus 3, twin screw
6 volt 10AH/20HR battery
Electronize FR30HX. £350

Sold

motor yacht, scale 1:32, 1.2m long powered by a
with two Permax 480 motors, speed controller is

Bernard Le Ny has informed me that he has a spare Club 500 for sale. It is minus the speed controller but apart from this, it is complete, install your own R/C and your ready to race.
£20.00 contact Bernard on 01304 362584

Bob Davis is offering a large fibreglass hulled motor cruiser, this model is almost finished and just needs shafts fitted and motors installed. The hull is 48ins long and has a beam of 18ins.



It has a wooden superstructure that is ready painted.

Not very much information is known about this model but it appears to be a one off model and is built to a high standard, anyone who wants a large traditional model will be very glad to own this boat.

It is offered for the reasonable price of £100.00 o.n.o.

John Keeble who is well known for his varnished wooden fishing boat *My Gail* that has won many awards within the club has been in touch and has sent this advert in for publication. It is sad when a member decides to give up modelling but John has decided to give up model boat building and would like to sell all displayed here as one lot.

Part started project (HMS Ferocity) Based on a 1/24 scale Perkasa kit History and pictures including parts listed below,

Wooden Hull sized and built for Ferocity

2 x Brass 3" Dia propellers'

2 x 10" m5 prop shafts (new)

2 x 10" m5 Prop shafts made up

2x large Rudders with servo arms and connections

4x naval MTB crew all different.

2 x 1.5 inch life rings.

1 set port starboard and running lamps with Led directional bulbs

1 compass head

A number of cabin window surrounds

1 radar scanner with adapted mini servo

4x wooden Torpedoes' with 8 small brass propellers

Lots of wooden parts from kit .

Tools and a box of modellers' bits and bobs ???

Old Dremel scroll saw (4 blades no sander)

Expo speed drill will pillar post. Drills and bits.

Sale all as one item

£100 or near offer the lot. Contact John direct at 01303 265133

Some Important Information

It has been brought to my attention that some members still believe that because the yacht races are run very frequently, almost every other weekend, that the powerboats are not permitted to be used on these days. ***This is most definitely not the case.***

Following the corruption of our diary dates on the website last year, it did appear that yacht races were the only thing that was happening on the water within the club, this has hopefully now been sorted

We have had endless discussions about this matter and now believe that most members are fully aware of the situation but just to put the point forward again and to make it very clear to everyone, ***powerboat operations are allowed and encouraged on all dates including yacht race days.***

We have a very healthy yacht section who use the water fully and obviously need to race in areas that the powerboats might use sometimes, but this does not stop powerboats from sharing the lake.

All that is asked is that when the yachts are racing on a scheduled race date, that respect is given to each others requirements.

It is no problem for powered craft to keep out of the way of the sailing boats if they are racing, but the sailors do not have the advantage of engine power to avoid the motor boats if they stray into their area.

Many thanks for everybody's cooperation

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International Model Boat Show Leamington Spa November

This picture was spotted on the Model Mayhem site by Len Ochiltree and forwarded on to me. Kim Belcher is doing the commentary on Chris Scott's display of his James Bond "Q" Boat, Chris is on the right in a black T shirt with 007 on it.

On the left of the picture is Steve Dean, well known for the commentary and acoustics at most major shows and next is Lee Westwood, the chairman of Watermead Model Boat club in Aylesbury. Next to him is Guy Bagley the famous Lego boat man. The short grey haired old gent in the middle is yours truly, am I really that short?

Kim also done the commentary for the lifeboat Enthusiasts display later in the day.

This was the first time I had displayed at the show for many years, and was very enjoyable weekend.



The Model Engineer Exhibition and London Model Engineering Exhibition

These two shows have always been on my list of visits and this year was no exception, The traditional Model Engineer Exhibition was once again held at Sandown Park and again was slightly disappointing mainly due to a lack of entries in the competition by the model boat community. The standard was good though for the 14 models that were entered.

The London MEE was again by contrast, very well supported. Although not competing for any individual prizes, there were some fine model boats to be viewed. Clubs display their models in a special area and a prize for the best stand is made, this year it was won by the Moorhen boat club from Harlow in Essex. There were of course many other types of models to be seen and many old friends to meet, another good show well worth visiting.

The Brighton Model World Show

This show was attended by Kim Belcher and yours truly who exhibited as part of the Lifeboat Enthusiasts' Society. The show lasts for three days and we attended for the whole of that period. Hand-outs to promote the show, were given to members at our February club meeting and a flyer posted on our notice board.

The Brighton show is a multi disciplined one with all types of models, but the model boating side of it has grown to be a major section and is well worth attending.

This year the show's theme was the RNLI so we fitted in well, there is also a Southern Model Lifeboat Society in operation as well as the Lifeboat Enthusiasts' Society, and these clubs were also joined by an individual member from the West Country who displayed his models independently.

Model Boat Association Dover Club Committee Members July 2012

Chairperson : Mr Peter Cook - ☎ 01233 641599

Secretary : Mr Alan Poole ☎ 01304 853242
Email: secretary@mba-dover.org.uk

Treasurer : Mr David Cowlin ☎ 01304 371283

Membership Secretary:
Mr Ted Goldring ☎ 01304 380778
Email: membership@mba-dover.org.uk

Webmaster: Mr Phil Ribton ☎ 01304 820215

Scale Secretary :
Mr Len Ochiltree ☎ 01233 627469

Newsletter Editor:
Mr Alan Poole : ☎ 01304 853242
Email: editor@mba-dover.org.uk

Yacht Coordinator :
This position is vacant

MBAD Club information



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

List of outside area model boat events that club members might like to attend

Brighton Model World Exhibition	21/22/23	February
National Model Boat Show (Coalville)	5/6	April
Dortmund (Germany) show	9/10/11/12/13	April
Alfold	30/31/1	May/June
Summers Pond	21/22	June
Wings and Wheels	28/29	June
Fun Day, Deal ATC,	17 th	Aug
Southern Model Show Headcorn	13/14	September
International Model Boat Show (Warwick)	7/8/9	November

This list is compiled from information received from literature published in 2013, It is in no way exhaustive and may be added to at a later date.

Please check nearer to the date of any show to ascertain if it is definitely on, the MBA Dover cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions.

Please inform the Secretary, Alan Poole (01304 853242) if you know of any other events that you feel needs to be added.

(Please note that the Deal ATC event has moved date and location, and the Childe Beale model show has been cancelled, at least with the organiser who originally planned it.)

This article was published some time ago but I make no apologies for reproducing it again, it is an interesting subject that often causes some confusion when modellers try to discuss model scales.

What is scale and how do you express it?

This little article may help to explain how the scale of a model can be stated, hopefully, it might help to answer some questions about the scales used on our models.

As an example, we are all used to saying, e.g. 1/24th scale, or expressed another way, 1/2 inch to the foot, or 1/2" = 1' but what does it all mean?

Well take the first example 1/24th scale, this means that the model will be 24 times smaller than the original, or, if the real boat measures 24ft, the model would measure 1ft or 12 inches. 1/2inch to the foot or 1/2" = 1' would be one foot divided by 1/2inch, answer 24.

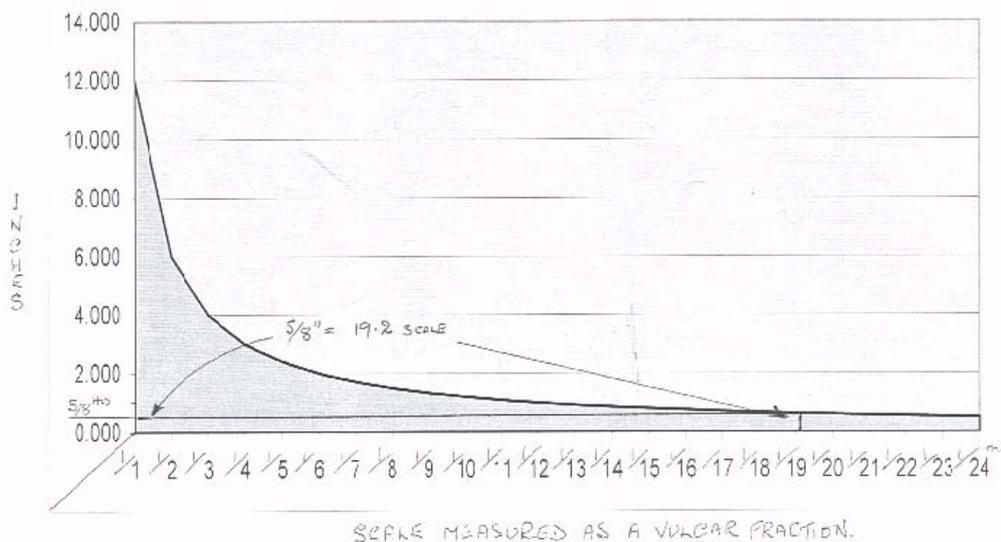
To find the scale of a model we need to know what the real vessels length is, then divide it by the length of the model or the scale chosen, sometimes this gives a really odd size that doesn't easily convert to a conventionally known scale. You do need to know the prototypes size before you can scale it. Our models are normally expressed in imperial scale but European modellers use the metric system that is easier to work out, metres, millimetres etc. Here in the UK we divide a foot by inches or fractions of an inch to get our scale.

Another reason that I have compiled this little article is because I was asked what 5/8ths scale was and how many times smaller than the original that would be.

A simple enough calculation you might think, but it gets a little complicated, the actual answer is 1/19.2 scale because there are 96 1/8ths in a foot and we have 5 of them which we divide again into the 96 making 19.2. The common model boat scale of 5/8ths, turns into a very uncommon vulgar fraction of 1/19.2th ! or expressed another way, 1:19.2th scale. I ended up producing a graph from full size 1:1 to 1/96, this was to show the results which are surprising, as the scale reduces it shows a sharp tailing off of the fractions of an inch between the scales.

It is natural to think that dividing an inch up gives us the answers, some work but others don't. 1/12th scale is one inch representing 12inches, 1/24th scale is 1/2inch representing 12inches, but half way between 1/18th scale is not 3/4inch representing 12inches, if you study the graph, you will realise why.

The graph will also show that there is very little difference between say, 1/48th and 1/50th , and even less between 1/96th and 1/100th . If you are a collector of 1/1200 or 1/1250th scale miniature ships, the difference becomes very difficult to measure, almost negligible really.



You will also see that if we extend the graph all the way down to 1/1200 from the 1/24th shown on the scale, the difference between 1/1200 and 1/1250 is almost impossible to measure.

The actual measurement for 1/1200 scale is 100 feet to the inch.

Illuminated Event March 21st 2014

Our first power boat event for 2014 took place on the evening March 21st, as is always the case at this time of year (and other times of course) the weather plays a major part in the attendance of members with their models. This year we were again extremely fortunate to have a dry clear evening to show off the boats in their element, afloat and illuminated.

I always try to estimate visitor numbers to this event which is very difficult as darkness falls but as a rough count, there were forty or so, which was excellent. The actual members attending are listed below, some of these were old faces that we had not seen for a while and it was good to catch up with them.

Clifford Hope had a new model, a 1/12th scale narrow boat, no name yet but very impressive with its lighting and dolls house furniture displayed. Ted Goldring had his Vosper RTTL and Barbara and Derrick Rudge, their old favourite Dixie stern wheeler with sound and smoke to add to the effect. Next and in no particular order was our new member Gary Roffey- Bond with two boats, a Victoria yacht and a converted Chinese warship at a small scale, both had lights, the warship was very bravely sailed in the dark conditions considering its size and the fact there was a submarine around!. Kelvin Castle had his stealth warship running and Adrian Knight had his tug Brackengarth, this was the model that was awarded the Illuminated Trophy this time, well done Adrian. Neil Terry had brought along no less than four models, he tells me that there are more to come this summer, his Pegasus luxury yacht was given the second prize, it was just an aerial protector to stick on his transmitter but with no aerial to protect (2.4 gig) he has nowhere to stick it! Any suggestions? Neil's other models were another "gin palace" Sea star, a US Coastguard Cutter and a yacht Discovery, all had lights and looked nice on the water. Den Wellard arrived with a large tug called the Jan, the realistic lighting on this model gave a subdued subtle effect that was pleasing to the eye. Bernard Le Ny had his little seaplane tender running, I saw the model and realised that Bernard had turned up in the darkness. Two more late arrivals were Len Ochiltree with his pusher tug and very impressive barge complete with flashing coloured lighting and Paul Middleton with a very pretty little motor launch that he bought at our bring and buy sale last year, he has refurbished it and it now looks lovely on the water. Your scribe had really pulled out the stops and dug out some Christmas lights to adorn his lifeboat, it was a fitting end to see it stop after only a few seconds due to a frequency clash, we had three other modellers operating their boats at the same time and although not yet members, they were encouraged to join us but were not judged in the competition, out of all the frequencies available, one of these were on the same 40 meg frequency as I was, causing the malfunction.

My embarrassing effort was quickly recovered and the Christmas lights turned off for another year!!

Well done to all who attended and brightened up a winters evening



Clifford Hope's
Canal boat



Neil Terry's
Pegasus

Below.....A very topical cartoon from the monks of Kearsney ... by Ken and Barbara Frisby

