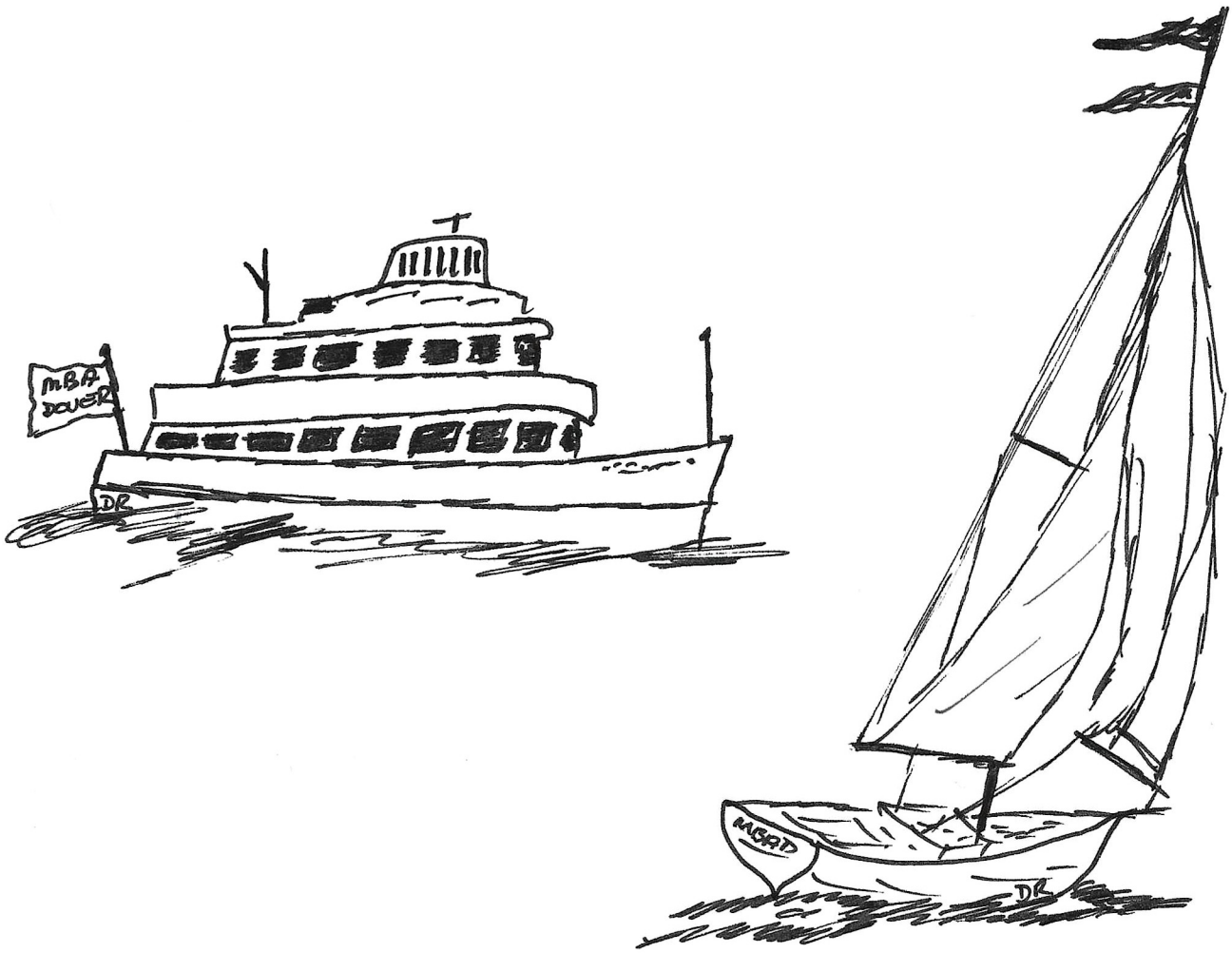
Model Boat Association Dover

News Letter

4-97



Committe Members

Chairman:- David Ralphson, 9 The Strand, Walmer, Deal, Kent. CT14 7DY - 01304-361911

Secretary:- Alan Hounsell, 134 New Dover Road, Capel-le-Ferne, Folkestone, Kent. CT18 7JZ - 01303-242540

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From Your Chairman

As a new member of our clubs' committee I would like to say that I believe the committee should be directed by the members, not the other way round. We need each member to speak up for what they want.
If you have an idea, if you have seen something at another club or at a show, which you think may be good for our club, mention it at one of the club nights or let everybody know via the club News Letter.

If you are new to model boats, or an 'old hand', and you are not quite sure how to do something, from the simplest to the most intricate problem, someone in the club may have the answer. You can always ask members at the club night, or at the pond, or even write to the News Letter.

Some of the members visit other clubs and shows, and they would like some company. Everybody has said,'mine wont be good enough'. This is not true, Dover has many boats far better than those you see at shows, and you usually get a FREE TICKET if you take a boat. - Give it a try -

Please attend the club regattas, its only 6 or 7 days out of the year, and all local at Kearsney Abbey Dover.

Well thats my lot said, now lets hear from you.

Keep building and happy sailing !

David Ralphson

HINTS AND TIPS each News Letter one of our members, Alan Pool, will be writing a regular artical, if you have any let us all know !

HINTS and TIPS

Nol. Scale Fittings
- Question - How do you get the ropes down the sides of model lifeboats to hang in a realistic manner? without all those twists and knots that are normally seen.

- Answer - (get Alan to do it for you), sorry didnt mean that Alan.
- Real Answer - Pop yourself down to Sharp and Enrights, ships chandlers in Dover, and buy some 'MARLOW', this is waxed whipping twine. It comes in various sizes, it can be moulded, glued, varnished and also cuts easily.

Form a loop in the twine around a cocktail stick, and tie a piece of cotton around the neck of the loop, (sounds painful), then whip a couple of turns and apply a spot of cyano. Slice down the twine to form a taper, then continue whipping down over the bare end, (definitely painful), this will produce a neat whipped eye. Measure the length of the rope loops and make another small loop as before, this time you do not slice the twine because it is a normal eye. Continue until enough loops have been formed, make another end eye and that is the job done.

Alan Pool

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

At the time of going to press the club has had 7 new members.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new club members and wish them many hours of happy sailing with us at Kearsney Abbey.

DAVID CRONK
JANICE LAWTON
NATHEN LANGLEY
KIRSTEN LANGLEY
DANIEL WELLS
GARY NEEVE
MARTYN BAX
SAMANTHE CONEY
M R FARRIS

FOR SALE

WANTED

Each News Letter will have space reserved for members FREE advertisements. If you want to buy or sell anything please drop a line to the EDITOR with the details for inclusion in the next issue

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Annual Overall Points Series for 1997

After much discussion at club meetings it was decided by the majority to re-instate the ' Annual Trophies ' and to run an overall points series during the 1997 regatta season.

It was also decided to have a new 'Juniors Annual Trophy' as the club does not have one. Mrs A Reeves kindly offered to donate one to the club. - THANK YOU -

Power boats events - these will start at 10.00hrs. with Towing Competitions followed by Steering and then Novelty Events. For both competitions points will be awarded to each boat according to its final placing on the day. If time allows an additional run will be held and the best of the two runs will be counted.

A boats best four (any 4 out of 7 regattas) will count towards the overall annual placing.

Contestants may enter more than one boat in each competition.

Yacht Races - there will be three races at each regatta, they will start at 11.00hrs. - 12.30hrs. - 14.00hrs. there will be a maximum of five laps per race. A boats best two races will count for the final placing on the day.

A boats best four (any 4 out of 7 regattas) will count towards the overall annual placing

For Yacht races there will be two classes Large and Small Yachts (large yachts = larger than a Fairwind)

Teddy Bears Picnic

SUNDAY
25th. MAY

The theme for this year

WILD WEST

It may seem that there is plenty of time before the event, but time passes very quickly, so, get started on those cowboy and indian teddies - and dont forget the cowboy hats and feathered head-dresses for yourself.

There are still a few left

The club has available at very reasonable price baseball caps and sweatshirts with the clubs emblem printed on

Sweatshirts (*Lg.-Med.-Sm.*) . £13.50
Baseball Caps £3.50
also
Enamelled Club Badges £2.50

Have a word with JIM GRAY (membership secretary)

Model Boat Association Dover

and

Calais Model Boat Club

Late last summer a few of the club members attended the Maritime International Model Boat Show held at Wellington Dock, Dover. As I am sure the majority of you are aware, this was not the most successful of events from either a modellers, or a traders point of view. However, all was not lost as we made contact with the Calais Model Boat Club.

We met their President, a gentleman named Emile, and two other club members. Bearing in mind that none of us spoke the others language, we still managed to communicate.

(Now I know why the French are so prone to using their hands when they talk, ... it's to try and get us English to understand them).

Eventually, we understood that Emile was inviting our club members to their annual show the, MODELISME NAVAL DU CALAISIS, being held at the Calais Town Hall, on 7/8th. December 1996.

After due deliberation, the Sub Committee agreed to attend. (guess who drew the short straw to attempt the French Connection !!!) I knew that this was not going to be easy because of the language problem. I telephoned Emile and started the conversation with the little french I knew, but, he forgot to bear this in mind and when his conversation increased at a rate of knots we were in trouble,(you mean you were in trouble, 'D') Eventually I had no alternative but to hand over to my wife who has a fair command of the French language. Following this call some considerable correspondence transversed the Channel. It transpired that Emile wanted us to attend on both days. Due to the fact that two of our party had prior commitments, we could only attend on the Sunday. (poor excuse they were partying!!)

Not being aware of this, Emile even offered us hotel accommodation at their expense on the Saturday night. Unfortunately, we had to decline. I then requested a map of Calais showing the location of the Town Hall. This was duly received together with notification that arrangements had been made for a police car to meet us at the dock and escort us to the venue.

On the day, Roger Shields, David Ralphson (now Chief), Alan Pool and myself met at Dover dock at 5.30am. Roger and David set off in one car and Alan and myself in the second car. We boarded and set sail with P&O at 6.00am. English time, breakfast on board, and arrived at Calais at approximately 8.30am. French time.

We then drove half a mile to Calais Town Hall where Emile and his wife were there to greet us. This building is magnificent and is well worth a visit in its own right.

Emile's wife explaine that the Germans during World War II used the tower of the Town Hall as an observation post, as Dover was easily visible. Their big guns could be directed to specific targets in Dover. Fortunately the observers were not 100% accurate.

Once inside, we were offered coffee and a bun. Whilst only four of us attended, we put on a display of ten boats. The room in which we were placed was twice the size of the room we use at the Cricketers Public House. The main hall upstairs must have been six times as big and was full of model ships.

The range of models was quite varied, but the majority were either fishing boats or ferries. Believe it or not we saw a model of a fishing boat with dimensions of 1.5m length x 0.5m beam. This was remote controlled and the owner uses it in Calais harbour to fish. It has trawl nets and a powerful winch. I am not sure of the size of the fish he can catch before he says goodbye to his model !!

I could go on incessantly about what we saw

at this exhibition, but I know that David will have LOTS of material to print, won't he !!!!! (thank you - but will always welcome more 'D'), So perhaps I will continue another day.

I know that all of us will definitely be returning this year if we are fortunate enough to be invited. On second thoughts, (oh yes 'D'), perhaps not Alan Pool as he was a little disappointed in as much as, in the exhibition title was the word "NAVAL" (Grey Funnel Line) and there wasn't a war ship in sight.

We would all recommend that you, as members of our Club should also make an effort to attend and display. The maximum mileage anyone living in Dover would have to travel would be 23 miles, and 21 of these would be sitting in luxury on board the ferry.
(If nothing else just think of the DUTY FREE). Everyone was so friendly and I know I speak for the others when I say To Calais Model Boat Club, Emile, ...

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR KINDNESS
-
JE VOUS REMERCIE BEAUCOUP
DE VOTRE AMABILITE

Note . . .
All members have been invited to attend the Calais Model Boat Club waters on any Saturday or Sunday to sail with and meet your European counterparts.

Details from any of the members mentioned above, a map is available if required.

Ken Greenland

International Model Show

Olympia

The MBA Dover was again represented at the show by five members which took boats to display and sail. On the day we went we were hampered by the weather, it did snow a little, (well ok a lot !!), but the effort of getting there was well worth it.Although they did know we were coming and were expected they had not allocated us any time slots, Roger soon put that right and we had two slots of half twenty minutes each, although we did end up with about 1 1/2 hours.
Once the boats were set up it was time to search round the trade stalls for some crystals of the numbers allocated to us. That sorted out and checked that everything was working ok it was time to visit the refreshments area for breakfast.
A good look around the exhibits and the trade stands and it was soon time to get the boats on the water.
Food and drink time again and another look around, and it was again time to sail the boats.
Time to pack our boats and everything else away, and in the rush, somebody, not quite sure who, forgot to recover the clubs banner which had been proudly displayed on the fencing round the pond.

Anyway I think I speak for all those there that we had a great day. If you are planning to visit the exhibition this year, get a FREE TICKET (why pay £7.50 to get in) all you need to do is take a boat along with you. When it comes the time have a word with Jennifer Hounsell, appointments secretary.

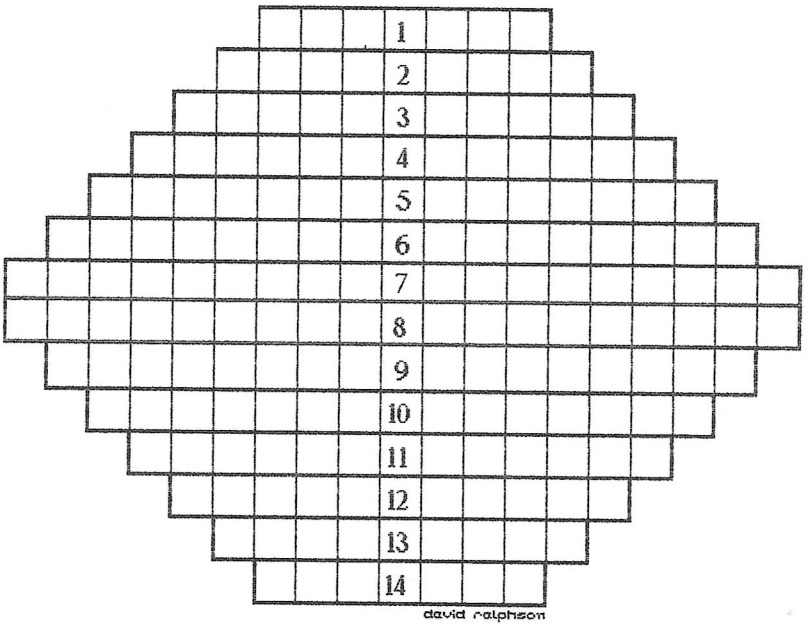
One of our fellow members, Alan Pool, entered a boat in the working scale class, a much modified Model Slipway Loyal Class Fleet Tender. His reward was a - SILVER MEDAL -

Well done Alan, time to see it on the water at Kersney now.

David Ralphson

See You Next Time Editor

Just a simple quize to pass the time



Nautical Quiz

Left side

1 - Ships triangular stay sail
2 - Tall pole for support
3 - Only by wind away
4 - Small compartment for storage
5 - The rearmost surface of a vessel
6 - Wall-like partition
7 - The opposite of-Right 2-
8 - Safe to be sailed through
9 - Ships compass
10 - Transversely side to side
11 - Small open boat
12 - Circular to turn
13 - Floating mark
14 - Not an ocean

Right side

1 - The front end
2 - To the larboard
3 - Means of access
4 - Raised platform on a ship
5 - Strong post
6 - Means of rescue
7 - Revolving part at rear
8 - Instument to see with
9 - Against the current
10 - Ratcheted drum
11 - To chain a ship to the bottom
12 - Instrument to detect position
13 - Wheel for ships rudder
14 - You pull or push with this

Answers with the next News Letter