

# The MBA Dover Newsletter



Issue 36 Winter 2011

Welcome to the winter 2011 edition.

As I start to compile this edition of the KK newsletter, the summer is just about still with me, however when you actually read this it will again be just about winter, time to reflect on another busy and eventful year.

The club has had it's low moments as well as some encouraging ones during the past year, In April we lost our Club Chairman Maurice Job, a big shock to all of us, he was a well respected chairman and we wondered if any replacement would be able to match his attributes.

Luckily, Peter Cook took over and has proved to be a very worthy successor. Peter's enthusiastic approach has kept the club on course with his easy but determined attitude to all matters that concern the club. Peter has supported the clubs decision made earlier in the year regarding the club regatta scene, this has reverted back to a low key competition driven event. It has proved popular and is gaining momentum slowly, as it was never our intention to make the competition anything more than a fun event and by not enforcing too many rules, we think the balance is about right. The regattas are still attracting a good number of members but more would of course be very welcome, all those who do come along enjoy the events, many just sit and chat to other like minded modellers or to interested members of the public, others like to have a go at what has been planned for the day.

Our yacht section has been operating all through the year with their own series of races that not only support the club regattas but also run right through the winter periods with the aptly named, Icicle and Frostbite races.

Outside events have also proved to be well supported by the club. We had our own "outside event", the very prestigious Dover Regatta which was held down at the seafront where we set up our portable ponds to entertain and display to the thousands of visitors. We went along to the Maidstone Boats on the Mote show at Mote Park, The Ramsgate Ships Rally and the Southern Model Air show, all these venues were very well supported by the Dover Model Boat Association.

Our membership figures are also quite healthy now, we have had an increase in membership numbers this year of nearly 25% compared to 2010, and the club maintains its reputation for being a friendly group of like minded individuals eager to help newcomers and old hands alike.

Unfortunately, we did have to increase the subscriptions by a small amount this year but as it was pointed out, we still offer good value for money so looking back we should be happy with our achievements in 2011.

Finally, I am taking the opportunity of using the front page to advertise our Christmas social which takes place at The Cricketers pub function room on December 5th. This is once again a free event that is back by popular demand. We will have food laid on and the annual prize giving will take place during the evening, there will be a raffle with the proceeds going to club funds.

Every member is entitled to bring a guest so come along and enjoy the evening , we hope to see you all there.

Happy boating Alan..

## For Sale

A Billings African Queen is being offered by **Barry Smith**.

This is very well made and is highly detailed with extra bits and pieces which make the model interesting, she is actually electrically powered though, you don't get live steam for this price! **£75.00** a bargain, contact Barry on 01304 827952

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These

items are put up for sale by Vic Neve who was a member of the club some years ago. The Hegner heavy duty fret saw is priced at £100 and the Proxxon table saw which has never been used is priced at £200.

Vic lives at Stelling Minnis and is not easy to find so if anyone is interested in these items contact George Sutcliffe on 01304 852272 and he can arrange to lead them there.

At this moment we still have several models from Maurice's estate to sell.

### **Calypso**

Made as a Radio Control kit with an ABS hull, wooden deck and superstructure with plastic and metal fittings.



Scale 1:45  
Length 94cm  
Beam 17cm  
Height: 33cm **£170 .00 ono**



Billings Nordcap **£170.00**

*Sold!*



1/96th scale liberty ship  
**£175.00**



Small fishing boat **£70.00**



Club 500 Green **£40.00**

**1/35 German Schnellboot S100 Premium Edition Model Kit "still in the box"**  
**£112.00**



Any further information can be obtained from Peter Cook Club Chairman  
01233 641599

## Regatta Reports

### **Sunday 17th July**

The July club regatta was only two weeks after the Dover Regatta, this has resulted in a major effort by some members every two weeks since May setting up the area and getting everything sorted out. Because the forecast for the day was not good and also dwindling numbers attending the regattas, we decided to scale down the amount of equipment taken down to the lake and to make it a low key event this time. A fence was erected and a few tables but no gazebos or tea tent this time. Free sailing was enjoyed by around twenty members and quite a number of spectators visited us as well.

We did have the unplanned spectacular launching of two models and a couple of rucksacks when a wheel of a trolley slipped into the water when entering the compound. The rescue boat was launched to recover the models, one of which sank but the other remained afloat and passed through the buoys without touching them closely followed by its boat stand which also scored a clear round!

Chris West had built an underwater camera pod which he tested for the first time at the event, he towed it behind his trawler and a submarine was sent down to visit it, the results were very good, clear pictures of the underwater encounter that Chris hopes to edit and show as a video later, the pictures of the submarine approaching through the weed are very impressive.

Ted Goldring had with him the Model Slipway Vosper RTTL (Rescue Target Towing Launch) She is a small model made mainly from vacuum formed styrene plastic. This is a pretty little model and fitted with a Graupner Speed 400 motor, she runs very well leaving a clean bow wave when opened up to full power. (I remember this model very well because this same Vosper RTTL was my first R/C model boat built from Model Maker plans in the 1960s Ed.) As the weather closed in, we packed up early and called it a day, it was an odd regatta that we very nearly cancelled, but it turned out to be a successful one after all.

### **Boats On The Mote July 23rd**

Our club was very well represented at the Maidstone Cygnets Boats on the Mote event which is held on the now traditional Saturday of a weekend rather than the more usual Sunday.

We had twelve members there with a variety of our models on display.

Other clubs were Grays Thurrock, Tugs r Us, Heron, Watt Tyler and of course the host club Cygnets. As the venue at Mote Park is being refurbished, the access was a little tricky this year, we had to obtain the padlock number to get in and out of the park. Once in, we put up two gazebos and enjoyed the day, it was nice to be a visitor and not have to do all the work ourselves for a change.

On the water at one stage I counted twenty plus boats being operated at the same time, the area is large so there should have been no danger but there were a few mishaps, HMS Beaver had a collision with a yacht and then a tug, losing its superstructure. Luckily this was near the pond edge and was recovered without much damage but the same did not happen to our member, Ken Frisby, who was rammed and subsequently sank only feet from the edge. The main hull section was recovered but the superstructure was lost.

Off to the west of the main operating area, Phill Knell and Alan Noble were operating the massive Type 45 destroyer HMS Daring. This model has been built in a very short time and is truly an impressive model. The basic shape is complete and now begins the detail work, the scale is 1/32 i.e. 32 times smaller than the original, this makes her 15 feet long! However when right out in the lake she still looks small.

The other large scale warship, HMS Kent was again the star attraction and was operating amongst the other boats which she also dwarfed, as happened last year, I was offered the con and happily drove her around the lake, there was a hiccup though, the range was reduced and at one time I lost her for a brief moment but by lifting the transmitter high, regained control and brought her safely home.

At 4pm, the barbecue was lit and most of us stayed and enjoyed the food, this was another good out of area cruise for the Dover MBA.

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**HMS Daring** arriving through the gloom to make her appearance at the Mote Park boat meeting  
Photo: Chris West



**Re-**

**Our stand**

**Club  
gatta  
14th  
Au-  
gust  
This**



turned out to be our last local club regatta for this year because we have decided to cancel the September event, this was not in the diary dates anyway but was kept as an option should we want to run it. As we are going to support two other clubs events in September and are holding an illuminated event in that month, it was felt to be too much work for those who do the organising. We went ahead and set up the full compound and due to the good weather forecast, put up the gazebos and tea tent, however, a gust of wind late in the day did manage to break one of the new gazebos ! Some winter repairs will be needed .

There were a good number of members present throughout the day, we saw some old faces and of course welcomed our newer members to the event, a few new boats made an appearance, one that had been in a loft for 30years! Chris West was on hand to record some underwater pictures of Dave's dredger working and also took some footage of other models on the water taken from the roof of his trawler, this has prompted another member to take similar pictures, Gerald Vesty put a movie camera on the bow of his landing craft and got some great shots with the ramp lowered down.

Len Ochiltree managed to get the competition events completed, the Springer tug pusher competition was ran , as was the steering competition and the club 500 races.

The rest of the day was taken up by free sailing in the beautiful sunshine that blessed us in the afternoon, all too soon it was time to pack up and get everything stowed away safely.

### **The Southern Model Air Show. 17/18th September.**

This event was once again staged at the Hop Farm Nr Tonbridge. We were allocated tickets to attend and Peter liased with the organisers Cygnets of Maidstone to obtain them, it is fair to say that some were not used. After talking to the organisers it seems likely that some big changes are on the way for next years event, we wait to see what.

The show attracted many model boat clubs from all over the southern part of England, there were some new names to be seen from as far a field as Norfolk and Buckinghamshire and a first for the Hop farm was the Portsmouth model boat display team.

Our member Kim Belcher will be writing a report for Marine Modelling International so for a more comprehensive listing check out that publication.

Your scribe only attended for the one day, Sunday but I gather that that was a good move, the weather on Saturday was bad, heavy rain and strong winds tried to spoil things but Sunday was perfect. We had a good spot chosen by Peter near to the display pool and in the central part of the arena, this allowed the public to view our stand from all sides.

The models on the display tables were as usual numerous and different, I will not attempt to describe them all but the large Type 45 and 23 frigates were impressive, their sheer size makes them attractive to those who view them, Portsmouth display team had their manned models on their stand, you could look inside them and see how complicated they are, cameras and controls combined with live charges for the guns made them so.

Being a 'grey 'man, I was attracted to a large 1/96th scale HMS Hermes being displayed by Rex Hunt, I knew all about this model from warship forums on the internet and was given a personal demonstration of the many working features on her.

The large pool was in constant use , early in the morning was the best time to sail the smaller models because it was as calm as could be, however, as other models came onto the water it all became a bit hairy, I believe that at one time the record was broken for having the most models operating at the same time, I'm not sure how many that was but you had to be brave to commit your pride

(Continued on page 5)

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and joy to the water in those conditions.

There was only two operational submarines at the show who were willing to demonstrate, these were given a half hour slot in the deep water where they took the opportunity to play around until the batteries gave out.

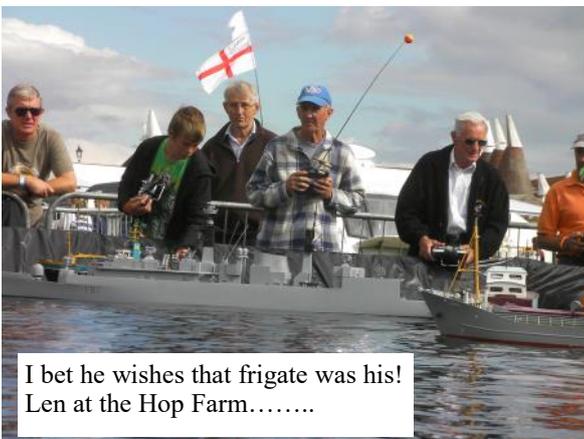
The boat trade stands were all in our area but if you needed any radio control equipment or building materials, there was a whole “village” of stands near to us catering for the aircraft boys. A great show and we look forward to 2012.



Portsmouth’s Display Team in action  
(Photo courtesy Kim Belcher)



Our Stand



I bet he wishes that frigate was his!  
Len at the Hop Farm.....

Above can be seen a small selection of pictures to give



Crowded water

you some flavour of what we did at the Hop Farm in September.

### Dover Illuminated Event September 23rd.

The evening of Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> was calm and warm, a good choice for our late Illuminated event. I counted at least 40 people down at the lakeside, a figure that we rarely see.

There were 12 boats attending and 10 of these made it onto the water, one did not have any lights fitted and the other just did not run. Those that did were as impressive as always, as it became darker they really looked good, many photos were taken by ourselves and interested onlookers. It is hard to pick out any particular model to describe, we have seen and spoken about many of them before but some of the newer models deserve a mention. Bernard Le Ny, a new member had brought along a very unusual model that has been built on a hull that is of an American design, the superstructure/cabin was simple but attractive, I would actually describe it as ‘cute’

*(continued overleaf)*

The model called Deben is a harbour work boat, it had all the correct lights showing and was complete with a pilot. Megan Chibnall, our youngest member had her boat aptly named Megan running and suitably lit up, no doubt granddad Reg had something to do with it and again, it looked nice on the water.

Graham and Bob White brought along two Springer tugs, the illumination of the wheelhouse interior made these models interesting to me.

Clifford Hope arrived as darkness was descending, I nearly missed him in the crowd but he got his tug Tinker Bell going and put on a nice display, she was dressed overall and had lights in the deckhouses showing, I did get worried when smoke was seen billowing from the funnel until I realised that Clifford had started up his smoke generator, it looked very effective as the smoke was accentuated by the many lights on deck.

George, Barbara, Derrick and Dave had their old favourites running which is always a pleasure to see illuminated.

In the end, we needed a winner and this time with the help of a certain lady and gentleman who had arrived to watch the spectacle, Dave Cowlin was awarded the trophy. Mainly because not only is this a fabulous model but that he actually managed to keep it running this year!

Well done everyone....



*Bernard's Deben*

*Right*

*"Come on you lot, It'll be dark soon, get those boats on the water!"*



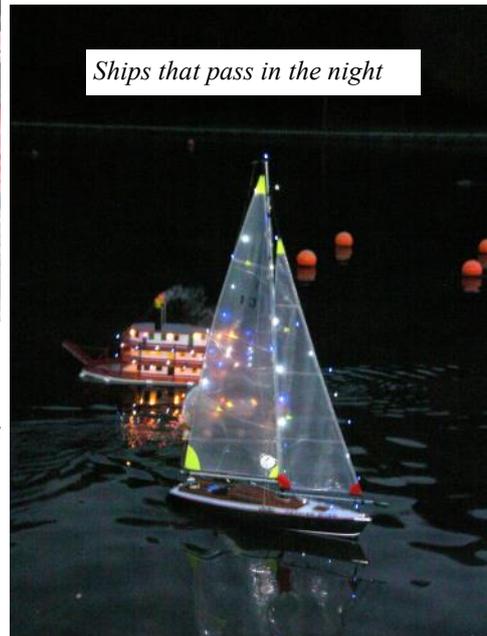
*A selection of the boats*

*that took part in the Illuminated event..*



*Megan's Megan !*

*My apologies to Clifford Bob and Reg for not getting a good enough picture of their models!*



*Ships that pass in the night*



*Graham's Pusher tug*



*George's Ramsgate Lifeboat*

*Dave the Dredger!*



**Winner!!!**

## Members Models

We have seen quite a few new models appearing in the club recently, one reason is that, although some of our newer members have only just joined us, they have been modelling for several years and have more than one model ready to bring down and sail .

Gordon and Don Fullbrook have just completed their latest model and have successfully ran it at Kearsney. It is the Fleet Tender Loyal Moderator from the Model Slipway kit. This kit builds into a very nice model that is a good size (40 inches long) and handles well. It is fitted with a single 545 sized motor and a single balanced rudder. There is a load of room in the spacious hull for all the radio control and batteries to be fitted with ease, a large superstructure unit removes with all its rigging allowing easy access to the workings . The only drawback is the all up weight, they are rather heavy for their size but this also make them very stable.



The Loyals were operated by the RNXS (Royal Naval Auxiliary Service), they were specifically designed for the RNXS and were slightly different from the numerous fleet tenders operated by the RMAS and RN. When the service was disbanded in 1994, the vessels were transferred to the RN University Units and later when no longer required, were sold to private owners and used mainly as dive boats.

The next model featured is a freelance pilot boat made by Robert Keen. Bob tells me that the hull was a fibre glass moulding that he obtained several years ago, the superstructure is his own design and was based on pictures and ideas

found in various books and from his memory of period pilot boats. He seems to have got it right as the boat has very pleasing lines and looks right.

It is 48ins long and has a beam of 10ins. Power is provided by a single electric motor driving a single shaft and propeller on a 12 volt system. The wheelhouse is fully detailed but cannot be viewed easily at the moment, the intention is to make the bridge doors open which will allow the interior to be seen better. Also planned is to fit working lights all over the model, Bob is hoping to have these working shortly.

The picture (*right*) shows his model at Kearsney.

I took several shots of this boat but it was only when I was editing them did I discover another detail that was not pointed out to me at the time, on the stern is an old gentleman reading his Sun newspaper, below left is a close up of this feature which I found fascinating.

After chatting to Bob, I discovered that he has been modelling since his childhood and has only recently got back into the hobby now that he has more time. I think this is true for many of us, I have met many modellers who say the



same thing, they started modelling as youngsters and rediscovered the hobby again in later life, and, when they had more spare time.

Once bitten, it is difficult to ignore the pleasure gained by making and operating models.

Anyway, Bob has a liking for the older classic models and is in the process of restoring a couple of older models that were found again in his loft, one of these is a Wavemaster cabin cruiser, some members might remember them from the 50/60's. They were very popular at that time and would have almost certainly been I/C powered back then. We look forward to seeing it on the water.



**Club Secretary's Telephone Number Change .... New Number 01304 853242**

**Club Chairman's Telephone Number Change .....New Number 01233 641599**

In last edition of KK, we made a request for all members send in their latest email details to our membership secretary Ted...He has received only a handful. This information is vital to enable us to email you. Although we can, and do, send out Newsletters and other information by hard copy, having the facility to notify those who have emails is faster and indeed cheaper.

All those who elect to have the newsletter by email save the club postage costs, a mail shot to all members costs the club around £ 30.00. A good percentage of members now do have an email, it is quite normal these days for people to change email providers to get better deals and therefore their addresses also may change so please keep us up to date with your latest address. Many Thanks



The obvious caption has been avoided here to save embarrassing our younger members!

Re- named ...Barbara attempts to climb the safety fence at the Hop Farm!

Our club stand with its proud banner flying is in the background. Peter has done a great job getting this organised. (photo ..Kim Belcher)

### **Some important messages !**

*Please note that as from **January next year, 2012**, the club monthly meetings will change from Monday evenings to Wednesday evenings.*

***The Club Christmas Social and prize giving meeting will be held at the Cricketers  
On Monday 5th December 2011 @ 7.30pm.  
Bring a guest, food will be provided.***

## **MBAD Club information**

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

**Chairperson : Mr Peter Cook** - ☎ 01233 641599

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

**Treasurer : Mr Douglas Turton** ☎01227 752244

**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 :**  
**Mr Alan Hounsell:** ☎ 01303 242540

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)**