



OXFORD MODEL BOAT CLUB

August 2014 Newsletter

What's On.....

August:

Sunday 3rd Scale & Sail

Thursday 7th Meeting at Jordon Hill

Sunday 10th Fiesta Round 6

Sunday 24th Fiesta Fun Morning

September:

Thursday 4th Meeting at Jordon Hill

Sunday 7th Watermead Regatta
A Good Day Out!

Sunday 28th One metre Round 6

October:

Thursday 2nd Meeting at Jordon Hill

Sunday 10th Fiesta Round 7

Sunday 19th One metre Round 6

Sunday 29th June - Fiesta Fun Day – by Mike Robinson

Some gaps have appeared in the racing calendar as a result of our not taking part in the Inter-Club events; so today was added to fill one of the gaps and a further Fiesta event will be held on Sunday 24th August.

Six skippers turned out to race with an off-shore breeze. We moved the start line to the right hand bank and set a course comprising two triangles with a finish line between the buoys marking the second leg of the triangle.

Iain was on good form and Dick and I shared the runner-up spot. Dave Smith had problems with his rudder servo but managed to keep going for the morning. Glad to see Keith continues to join in, it's a shame he had problems with his boat which meant he could not start the later races.

The full result which will not form part of the 2014 Series was as follows:-

1 Iain Smith	(17)	4 Paul Izzard	(33)
2=Dick Skinner	(25)	5 Dave Smith	(56)
2=Mike Robinson	(25)	6 Keith Barney	(62)

Sunday 6th July – Sail & Scale Morning – by Dave Smith

The good weather continues, throughout July we have had more or less wall to wall sunshine with the prospect of more to come. On Scale & Sail day at the beginning of the month, we had a fine day for a mornings entertainment.



Only a couple of power models came along, Terry brought his steam powered Tug and I had my Destroyer D35 HMS Diamond. Watching the Tug being made ready to sail, I was intrigued to notice a servo spinning round which operated the pump to fill the boiler, just one of the many features included into the model, which maybe go unnoticed, but add to a model that truly is a credit to the skipper.

Maybe the most outstanding thing about D35 is the racket made by the gear train employed to run two shafts from one motor, a bit Heath Robinson, but it works , and she looks the part on the water.



The J Type being developed by Dave Harrison is still undergoing sea trials with a jury rig of black plastic sails and make do rigging. Dave has had a tough time with this yacht, which is completely scratch built, but he has battled on with some help from club members, to get this far. Its not always easy, specially when your choose a design that's a bit different.



How about a Fiesta with a difference, Stewart, one of the design team for the popular racing yacht, has come up with a one off two masted version. It goes well now he has had chance to make a few adjustments to it. I managed to get a picture of Stewarts boat passing by Iain Smiths standard Fiesta 06 which shows the slightly lower mast height off the twin rig.

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Early last year Alan Struth brought Gennie down to the pond. Gennie is a charming little design of pond yacht seen in the 1930s, though perhaps slightly larger than todays model. The yacht sailed well and provided Alan with hours of fun. Then a month or two back he decided to change from one fore sail to two, and this is the result. The yacht always looked the part before, but I think it is improved with its new sail set up and it seems to handle well too.



Having built a pond yacht, using a hull bought a couple of years ago, Paul Izzard decided that he would like one which was slightly smaller and so purchased a 36 inch fibreglass hull on ebay.

Shown sailing on page 2 bottom left. Among its many features are a double planked deck, removable cabin and well deck, access points to the under deck sail control and a host of details some of which are brought out in the photos. But once again, like many others, this is a model which has to be seen to be appreciated.

Why not come down on the first Sunday in August for the next Scale and Sail.

Hope to see you there, Dave.....



Sunday 13th July - Fiesta Round 5 – by Mike Robinson

An overcast day greeted us at lakeside with once again an offshore breeze so the start line was moved to the right hand bank. A disappointing low entry as only three skippers turned out to race. I hope this was due to holidays, although I know several skippers are not too well at the present time.

The first race comprised two triangles, however with very light airs this was reduced to one triangle and a sausage leg parallel to the shore line. Discipline on the start line was very good and all three yachts came to the line on the last second of the countdown nearly every race.

Iain got off to a good start, winning the first three races, then my yacht woke up and at one stage there was only one point between us. Paul had the occasional moment of glory, once when Iain and I came together and he took full advantage!

The full result was as follows:-

1	Iain Smith	(14)	6 firsts
2	Mike Robinson	(19)	3 firsts
3	Paul Izzard	(27)	1 first

Fiesta

I am reminded that July this year marked 20 years since the launch of the first Fiesta prototype in Hinksey Pond. This almost sank but by the third version all went well. Designed and developed by David Swain & Stewart Wilkins (now both Life members of the club) with the help of many others. Once the design was established production began.

David made the hulls (the most important item) and many other parts, Stewart made the sails (up to number 600 or thereabouts) and other parts were made by the club members, I'm sure that John Cox made the masts & spars.

David packed the kits, he told me he had to buy a large number of boxes and could not move for them at home. After 250 kits David handed it on to a commercial company; so far there have been 4 makers since David et al. Now it's in the hands of Alan Woodruff & the Southwater Dabblers MBC though no orders are being taken yet.



Members Models:

David Swain recently contacted me to say that he had a number of photographs of an original Sun tug. It transpired that, long ago, David had been commissioned to build a model of this popular boat for a gentleman who worked on it as an apprentice

He acquired a complete set of builders plans to 1/48th scale, lines drawings and all, which David enlarged to 1/24th giving a craft of about 42" he also took photographs of his old tug. David has sent me 28 photos which were taken of the exterior parts of this craft and he wondered if they might be of help to anyone in the club had a mind to build a model of this tug. Reluctantly David had to return the plans to the Alexander Towing Company; but if anyone is interested in the photos please ask Paul.

As a bonus David had included two photos of the model during its construction, which are shown below:



The Beginning



Main Structure – Now For the Fiddley Bits!

OXFORD MODEL BOAT CLUB
Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd July 2014

Apologies received from John Cox & Eric Hoare

There were 12 members attending.

Chairman's Report No report this month.

Secretary's Report

Algae:

We applied a dose of SWARM to the pond on Thursday 26th. Many thanks to Iain Smith, John Shinton (the boat party) and Dave Smith who with Paul Izzard made up the shore party. We mixed & sprayed for an hour & a half, let's hope it works again. It should really have been done earlier in the year.

John Cox:

John is coming on well and will soon make a visit to the pond, he says he will tell us where we are going wrong and offer good advice.

Eric Hoare:

I spoke to Eric last night and he seems to be fairly okay but can't do much with his injured arm yet, I gave him our best wishes.

The secretary will convey the members best wishes to John & Eric.

The meeting was reminded of this months sailing events.

Treasurer's Report The account currently stands at £949.26

Scale Secretary's Report No report this month

Any Other Business:

The Meeting closed at 19:50