

OXFORD MODEL BOAT CLUB

Christmas 2012 Newsletter

A message from our Chairman – John Cox

Another great year for our club, from fast electrics to a car ferry via a vast array of interesting models some steam some out of control but all super examples of marine modelling. We had fun showing them off at the pond, at Watermead's Regatta & the Witney Show. Our own George Wren evening went well thanks to Iain's snacks and a good turnout. It would be good to see more of the Fiestas in the club on the water and maybe the numbers will improve in 2013.



Best wishes for Christmas and the coming year, John

Sunday 2nd November 2012

Scale, Sail & Power Day

Imagine a frosty winter morning, with ice fringing the flooded pond, just enough breeze to fill a sail and the sun slanting across the surface, and you have a picture of the December Scale & Sail day.

John provided the opening entertainment with Deputy Dawg finding the edge of the ice in his swamp buggy. I pictured him in his rest period in the shallows, reading his book of instructions. This is a great fun model which seems to need about half a dozen batteries for a mornings entertainment.



Harry Webster brought along a free sailing scale Tea Clipper 'Falcon', which along with 'Ariel', is one of the last of these Ocean sailing greyhounds.

At around 24 inches, and full of sail and rigging detail, the model sailed well if a little confined by the ice. The original clipper was built on the Clyde by Robert Steele in 1859, and was noted for its narrow beam. I liked the reflected nature of the photo, which shows up the mass of rigging between the masts to good effect.

Scale, Sail & Power Day

No need to change the batteries on Paul Izzard's latest, a huge Pond Yacht, conjured up from a hull he bought at the Watermead regatta earlier this year. As yet unnamed, Paul has built a beautiful example of the early style of yacht, all brass fittings, wooden mast and gleaming varnished deck. It sails well too, even in light wind, and with my hands on the controls.



My first simple attempt at a Gaff rigged boat was to try it on an old Star Yachts hull. This too at 16 inches is a free runner, and sailed reasonably well although still needs the inevitable mods.



Enough of this sail talk, Jason was at the pond side with his huge liner Queen Mary. Subject to constant updating, the latest being to install a lighting system. The bright sunshine only just allowed this to be seen, but I have been assured that tried at a secret location in Abingdon, at dusk the liner made a fine sight with all lights ablaze. Looks pretty good to me in the daytime too!!

Scale, Sail & Power Day

The fishing boat Chloe Louise is the latest edition to Mike Fleetwood’s models, and a handsome one at that. After showing the boat to advantage around the pond, Mike became victim to the ice fringe and had to be rescued by the combined efforts of yours truly; using my turning pole to break the ice, and Jason using the mighty liner to deliver Chloe to the shoreline.



Thus ended another morning at the Hinksey Lakes. See you soon. Dave.....

A message from our Sailing Secretary – Mike Robinson

I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and may the wind fill your sails in the New Year.

Stewart has asked me to advise all skippers that next year; both the 1-metre and Fiesta events will comprise ten races on the day.

I would also confirm that Noel Donaldson kindly offered us an open invitation to attend any of the 1M events at Watermead. Their Frostbite Series will be held every Sunday in January and the first two Sundays in February so please feel free to join them.

Dates to Remember:

- No Jordon Hill meeting in January.
- Sunday 22nd Jan. One metre Rose Bowl – Round 1
- Sunday 3rd Feb. Scale, Sail & Power morning
- Thursday 7th Feb. Meeting at Jordon Hill from 7:30pm
- Sunday 17th Feb. One metre Rose Bowl – Round 1
- Sunday 24th Feb. Fiesta – Round 1
- Thursday 1st Mar. Meeting at Jordon Hill from 7:30pm

One metre sailing at Watermead:

Sailing will be on Sunday mornings from 10am until midday. Dates for the *Frostbite Series* are:

January: 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th February: 3rd, 10th

On frosty mornings call Clive Bardel: 01296 580 607 to see if their lake is frozen!

Results of the 2012 sailing competitions:

FIESTA	ANCHOR		BOWL			
Name	Pts.	Pos.	% 2011	% 2012	% Imp	Pos
I Smith	82	1	21.16	11.33	9.83	3
J Cox	98	2	26.04	12.25	13.79	1
M Robinson	100	3	15.71	13.33	2.38	9
P Izzard	131	4	24.58	17.29	7.29	4
N Panter	167	5	35.20	23.66	11.54	2
D Smith	219	6	32.81	27.37	5.44	7
E Hoare / 3	98	7	25.62	20.44	5.21	8
D Naybour / 3	172	8	42.50	35.83	6.67	5
D Skinner / 2	93	9	35.00	29.06	5.94	6
D Payne / 1	17	10	29.68	10.62	(8 races)	

ANCHOR		
1	I Smith	82
2	J Cox	98
3	M Robinson	100

BOWL		
1	J Cox	13.79%
2	N Panter	11.54%
3	I Smith	9.83%

ONE METRE	SHIELD		ROSEBOWL			
Name	Pts.	Pos.	% 2011	% 2012	% Imp	Pos
M Robinson	73	1	26.42	14.81	11.61	3
I Smith	88	2	27.36	18.12	9.24	4
N Panter	128	3	43.80	27.11	16.69	2
D Naybour	227	4	-----	-----	-----	-----
D Skinner / 4	141	5	50.00	29.37	20.63	1
R Maddocks / 2	125	6	-----	-----	-----	-----
J Cox / 1	16	7	18.05	13.33	4.72	5
E Hoare / 1	48	8	36.11	38.33	-2.22	6

SHIELD		
1	M Robinson	73
2	I Smith	88
3	N Panter	128

ROSEBOWL		
1	D Skinner	20.63%
2	N Panter	16.69%
3	M Robinson	11.61%

Results of the George Wren Voting:

Best Boat Shapinsay Built by Roy Noble from his own Plans
 Best Sailing Boat The Brig – Supply Built by Iain Smith

A message from Paul:

It's been a good year for the newsletter with lots of events to report & contributions from our members. I hope that you will all be able to keep this up next year.

Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for 2013, *Paul*

Members Articles:

'Pilgrims' progress. By John Cox

Members may remember that earlier in the year an article in the News Letter regarding the renovation of the only remaining 19th century Brixham trawler *'Pilgrim'*. At that time she was afloat at her berth in Brixham harbour, alongside the wall and awaiting completion of her rigging and the delivery of sails.

I was able to visit her again in the middle of September 2012 and she is now fully restored and has in fact been to sea three times for test runs and to carry out all the necessary adjustments to ballasting, rigging and such like; she now has now been certificated to carry passengers with a crew of three.

When you stand alongside her and try to understand the complicity of the running rigging it is impossible to believe that just three men can sail her, let alone understand how they managed working the nets together with all the other duties that used go with that type of work. It is said that fishing is one of the most dangerous occupations and looking at *'Pilgrim'* you very soon see why.

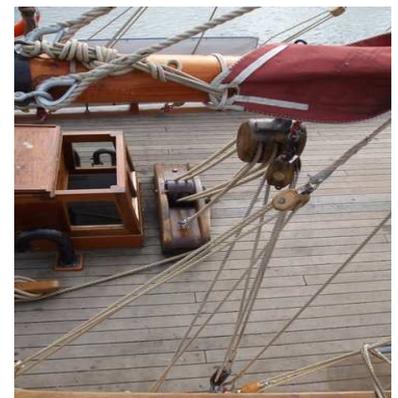
In the old days the sails were of heavy canvass and preserved with a mixture of fish oil and tar and other substances which gave the vessels that distinctive red/brown appearance. The new sails are of more modern material but still carry that red colouring.



Looking down on her from the quayside you are well aware of the low the gunnels are which in turn raises the question of safety. The low gunnels are obviously part of the original design and purposely built low to ease the net handling. I noticed there are in fact a couple of metal levers protruding from a winch arrangement and suspect these might allow drive off the auxiliary engine which would allow easier handling of some of the gear. I doubt if there was mechanical assistance when *'Pilgrim'* was built in the late eighteen hundreds although a small primitive steam engine just might have been available. As there was so much to see I got sidetracked and forgot to ask!

The same old faces were still about the vessel and it seems now that all the work is done *'Pilgrim'* is still their venue for the day and spent gossiping and brewing tea, (and answering puerile questions from the public)

I hope to be in the area again next year but before then will do a bit of research into the prospect of a sail in her. Anyone holidaying in the West Country could do worse than seeking out *'Pilgrim'*.



Oxford Model Boat Club.

Annual General Meeting 6th December 2012

Apologies:

Apologies' were received from Brian Jones, Mark Parkington and Peter Gilpin.

There were 24 members present.

Chairman's address:

Adverse weather had caused a number of events to be re-scheduled, especially the sailing events. This caused something of headache for Mike Robinson the Sailing Secretary, but with the cooperation of Paul Izzard, the Secretary, a full programme was eventually sailed allowing Stuart Wilkinson as official scorer to calculate the final results and thus the recipients of the various trophies. These three members are to be congratulated for the efficient way in which they carry out their duties on behalf of the membership.

The monthly 'Scale Sunday' events continue to receive excellent support but again weather did interfere on occasions. Dave Smith as sailing secretary continues to bring enthusiasm to the position and as such is also *ex officio* club photographer!

The club attended three events arranged by other organisations such as the Watermead Model Boat Club Regatta, the Wychwood Forrest Fund raising event and the Witney Model and Collectors club at The Kings School, Witney.

The website maintained by Greg King, continues to receive 'hits' from both interested parties in the UK and from abroad; those from abroad mainly seek advice regarding vintage models and are usually referred to the Vintage Model Yacht Association.

The monthly newsletter produced by Paul Izzard, rightfully attracts favourable comment (deservedly so) from both members and non members alike. The high quality content can only be maintained by membership input.

A vote of thanks to all officers mentioned above was received from the floor.

Secretary's report:

2012 has been a busy year; my main club activity has been the newsletter; thanks to all members that have contributed articles during the year.

I have made the club calendars from information supplied by Mike Robinson who has kindly planned the club events for 2013. I have them here and will hand them out at the end of the meeting. I will post them to those that are not here.

George Wren:

The George Wren evening went very well and I will announce the winners later this evening. I hope we can repeat the event next year. Many thanks to Iain Smith for arranging the room and refreshments.

Algae:

The Sculling club have applied the microchalk to the pond; now it's up to us to spread the 'Swarm' product once the water temperature is above 10°C. The cost to us will be about £300 for two treatments which we agreed to spend at last the 2011 AGM.

Club members:

Currently membership stands at 35 including 3 life members. I do not know if all of them will renew their membership. This year we recruited 4 new members.

Treasurer's Report:

At the April meeting in 2012 (treasurer's report) it was agreed, at the treasurer's suggestion, that future balance sheet should be presented at the AGM and not the end of the usually accepted 'end of financial year' This makes good sense and was accepted by the membership, therefore this year's balance sheet is for 9 months only and will revert to the full year next December. The treasurer explained in detail that the final figure is not true picture of club finances as there will be membership fees to be added and various outgoings such as insurance and other commitments deducted. As the year progresses, the financial position will become much clearer and a 12 month balance sheet will be produced in December 2013.

The balance as presented was accepted by the membership.

Sailing Secretary's report:

The sailing secretary elaborated on the problems of rescheduling the sailing calendar due to weather problems. The problems were well outside our control but due to the Secretary's foresight in building in 'spare days' to the year's programme all the events were accommodated.

Scale Secretary's report:

The scale secretary commented on the fact that the Scale Sunday events were not without their own weather problems but nevertheless very good support has been forthcoming for these enjoyable Sunday morning outings. It is pleasing that new models are forthcoming at various times, causing interest to both members and the public alike.

The Watermead Scale Model event was well supported by both OMBC and other surrounding clubs. That OMBC in the shape of Dave Harrison & Mike Robinson should receive awards at the show can only enhance the club image.

Competition Results and awards:

Paul Izzard as club secretary then announced the various competition results and awards and the presentations duly made.

Election of Officers:

All the current officers indicated their willingness to stand for the coming year. There were no proposals from other interested parties so the current officers were duly elected unopposed.

Any other business:

Paul Izzard proposed that Peter Gilpin and Greg King be made Honorary Members of the club. Peter because of the help, advice, information and support he has given members over the years. And Greg because of his work in maintaining the club's Web Site. The proposals were seconded by John Cox and were carried unanimously.

Iain Smith commented on the dearth of 1 metre competitors as various members move on. Any skipper interested is welcome to use his spare 1 metre for the 2013 season.

Noel Donaldson who is also a member of Watermead Club suggested that any member of OMBC would be welcome at Watermead as his personnel guest(s)

Dennis Payne drew attention to the 'J' class boats which take the pattern of 'pond yachts' and are becoming popular on the model yachting scene. A website promoting the boats is on line.

The Meeting closed at 20.30

OXFORD MODEL BOAT CLUB
Accounts for 9 Months from 19-03-2012 to 06-12-2012

Balance at 19-03-2012:

Bank Account	1,049.28
Cash	57.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>1,106.28</u>

Income for 9 months:

Membership Fees	20.00
Donations	100.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>120.00</u>

Expenditure for 9 months:

To Dusty Miller Charity	25.00
Materials for Wychwood Fair Pond	29.70
Refreshments for George Wren Night	45.00
Web Site Fees	43.00
Secretarial Expenses	75.00
Trophy Engraving	12.95
<u>Total</u>	<u>230.65</u>

Loss for the 9 month period -110.65

Balance at 06-12-2012 995.63

Bank Account	935.85
Cash	59.50

Roy Noble - Treasurer
03/12/2012