



# OXFORD MODEL BOAT CLUB

## May 2014 Newsletter

### What's On.....

#### May:

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting at Jordon Hill

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Scale & Sail

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Fiesta Round 3

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> One metre Round 4

#### June:

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Scale & Sail

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting at Jordon Hill

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Fiesta Round 4

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> One metre Round 2

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Interclub at Watermead

#### July:

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting at Jordon Hill

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Scale & Sail

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Fiesta Round 5

### Meeting Topics:

On April 3<sup>rd</sup>: Charlie Newman showed us his plastic moulding equipment & demonstrated its use. Charlie made a window for an RAF crash tender & an aircraft cockpit cover using the pressure technique and vacuum moulded an aircraft wheel.

At our next meeting on:

**May 1<sup>st</sup>: Stewart Wilkins** will talk to us about Model Yacht racing with reference to sailing the Fiesta. Even the simple rules for this class can confound us at times. Stewart will help us understand them.

### Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Scale & Sail – by Dave Smith

A leaden grey sky and gusty wind did not present ideal conditions for scale models for the April Scale & Sail day meet on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April.

My large K Class destroyer HMS Kipling was able to cope with the Choppy sea state, but at times when caught sideways on to the wind provided me with some interesting moments. Once again the sound system played up and refused to work, despite working perfectly at home in the garage. More work needed I feel.



Mike Prentice a new member recently moved to the area, brought along Lady Alice, his Windemere type steam launch, which he scratch built using his own plans. Originally steam powered, Mike decided to remove the engine leaving the original boiler in place and fit an electric motor for power, out of sight under a deck housing. A collection of Edwardian figures complete with their maid add to the picture of a long past age of boating.



Another steam launch, shown above John Shinton's launch "Kenzie", lined up with "Lady Alice" to show off the attractive lines of pleasure boating in the early 1900s.

The steam puffer, subject of the build article penned over the Winter by John Cox, made its first appearance at the pond an atmospheric model with loads of detail and rust stained paintwork. Unfortunately all did not go to plan, and after a short run, an acrid smell and smoke indicated that all was not well! The photo of its speed controller shows where part of the trouble might lie.



Last picture this month is of Stewart Wilkins electric racer now owned by Paul Izzard. Although one of the older models in the club, she still puts on an impressive display of speed and manoeuvrability.



I shall be at the Abingdon Air show next month, where last year the Portsmouth display team had some of their Nelson era warships on static display, interesting to see them up close out of the water.

Dave.....

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April - Fiesta Round 2 – by Mike Robinson

It was a bright sunny morning with albeit an off-shore breeze which meant moving the start line to the right hand bank. We sailed two triangles with a finish line between the buoys marking the second leg of the triangle (Work that out if you can!)

An excellent turnout of ten Fiestas made for a good morning of racing, the only drawback being a bit crowded on the start line which made port tack starters very unpopular. We all made some mistakes but Dick and I seemed to have a good morning with Iain always not far behind.

The full result was:

1=	Dick Skinner	(32)	6	Paul Izzard	(50)
1=	Mike Robinson	(32)	7	Dave Smith	(54)
3	Iain Smith	(34)	8	John Cox	(79)
4	Eric Hoare	(46)	9	Peter Pulford	(93)
5	Nick Panter	(49)	10	Dave Harrison	(109)

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### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April – IOM Rose Bowl Round 3 – by Mike Robinson

An overcast day with an offshore breeze greeted us at lakeside. In order to get a reasonable course away from the still water, we had to sail towards the far side of the lake. The forecast was for rain spreading from the South around mid-day so we were only able to have eight races. Sure enough it rained on my journey back to Swindon.

There was a good turnout of seven skippers. It was good to see John Cox back in the 1M fleet with Peter's 'Isis'. John had increased the battery voltage and made the winch much quicker. We also welcomed our Secretary, Paul, with an old Tony Abel designed 'Firecracker', a yacht which from memory goes well in a strong wind.

The wind today was fluky to say the least with beats and runs alternating in the same direction, maybe brought about by the tumbling effect over the trees. In order to progress it was essential to watch the sails closely and play the winch and rudder accordingly.

The full result:-

1	Mike Robinson	(15)	5	Eric Hoare	(47)
2	Iain Smith	(25)	6	Paul Izzard	(50)
3	Nick Panter	(37)	7	Dave Smith	(66)
4	John Cox	(39)			

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### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April – IOM Rose Bowl (Replacement) Round 1 – by Mike Robinson

The forecast was for strong winds and rain but in the event the wind was marginal and, as in the previous week, was offshore. There was light rain at times but not enough to stop the racing. Seven skippers joined in the event. First places were shared between Iain (4), Nick (2) and myself (4). We had to set the course towards the far side of the lake again to avoid the wind shadow on the near bank.

John Cox had a winch malfunction so missed the last few races. Peter came back with yet another boat which performed quite well. We welcomed two visitors, namely Terry and Josh King, back from their recent trip to Scotland.

Racing finished just before 12 noon when the rain fell heavily but on the way home the sun came out – typical April weather! I will miss the next Fiesta event as Norma and I are going to the Keukenhof Gardens near Amsterdam but I will be back for the next 1M event on 18th May.

The full result:-

1	Mike Robinson	(20)	5	Peter Pulford	(47)
2	Iain Smith	(27)	6=	John Cox	(64)
3	Nick Panter	(29)	6=	Paul Izzard	(64)
4	Dick Skinner	(39)			

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**Oxford Model Boat Club.**  
**Minutes of meeting held 03.04.14.**

**Apologies.** Were received from Eric Hoare.

**Members present:** There were 18 members present.

**Secretary's report.**

At the previous meeting the subject of collisions between conflicting classes of boat where speed was an issue. The secretary produced a draft proposals of self regulating rules which were hoped would reduce the dangers that had led to the matter being raised.

After a brief discussion the rules were approved and the Secretary undertook to circulate the agreed document.

Members were briefed on the events for the current month.

**Treasurer's report.**

The current balance stands at £941 with no outstanding commitments.

**Scale Secretary's report.**

The weather over the past month had interrupted some scale sailing but it is hoped that the approach of spring will make for more pleasant sailing conditions.

**Any other business.**

The treasurer who has input to the Wychwood Forrest project informed members that the new venue at Cornbury Park was unsuitable to erect a pool for the 'have a go boats' therefore the club would be unable to make input.

The organiser of the 'Binsey Fair' has visited Hinckley Park but will contact the Club later in the year with a view to the club appearing at the event.

**Meeting closed at 20.00 hours**

There was then a very interesting talk and demonstration of vacuum moulding by new member, Charlie Newman. The techniques described indicate that no specialist tooling is required and could be very useful in model boat building. A question and answer session followed.

The meeting expressed appreciation by a round of applause at the end.