

The MBA Dover Newsletter



Issue 29, Summer 2009

Welcome to the Summer edition of KK.

With the Summer season getting underway, the club is progressing well with the planned events that are taking place at Kearsneye.

We have been told that work on making the lake safe and secure again is due to be started shortly, we anticipated that this might have got underway by now but still nothing has happened. Two of our members were told by engineers that they would possibly create a dam with sandbags, and pump out the water to allow them to get to the lake wall and repair it! Sounds like a big job. We probably won't be able to sail there whilst the work is in progress. Subsequently, we have investigated the possibility that we use Bushy Ruff or the other lake across the road, this would be only a temporary solution of course.

We have a new person who is willing to be the co-ordinator for the Springer Tugs and work alongside Len Ochiltree. Dennis Wellard has kindly agreed to oversee the competition and construction side of these models and will now be the man to approach if you have any questions concerning these models. They have both been

monitoring how these 'one class' models are being built and run all over the country. There are regular contributions in the modelling press and on the internet about these popular little boats, we as a club wish to support this side of our hobby and hope that it will encourage younger members to get into model boating and join us.

In May we held our AGM. It was a low key meeting with only 25 members present out of the 84 who are currently in the club. As all the Committee were willing to stand for another year, a vote was taken and these members were re-elected en mass. Those members thanked the membership for their continued confidence and support and pledged to serve the club through the next year.

As a result of damage to the club gazebo's caused by high winds, the club has decided to gradually replace them with more substantial units. At a monthly club meeting, it was agreed that we purchase one new unit and trial it. Your secretary Peter located a supplier and we now have a new gazebo capable of withstanding windy weather, it was given its maiden outing during the



July regatta and performed very well.

Also, again thanks to Peter, we now have a custom made draw bar that can be fitted quickly to the loaded trolleys and hitched up to a suitable towing vehicle. This method has been trailed and is a great success. It will save a lot of hard work for those who help to recover the gear after a regatta. This has always been a problem but now, perhaps life will be much easier, thanks Peter.

And finally, I am looking for a new editor for this magazine. I am sure that there are many of you out there who could do a very good job and perhaps change things by livening up our K.K. with new ideas etc.

The next issue will mark Ten years of the KK with myself as editor, I have enjoyed those years immensely but feel its possibly time for a change. Alan....

For Sale

To start off I have two models for sale from **Derek Tippett**. The first one is a Model Slipway kit built model of the Customs cutter **Sentinal**. This model is complete ready to run with all radio, batteries and everything else necessary to just put on the water and operate.

The Sentinel is a modern H M Customs cutter that patrols our coastline and occasionally visits Dover. This very attractive vessel looks like a warship and is indeed painted in warship grey paint, it is however unarmed (or so they say). The model is built to a scale of 1/40th, this makes the hull length 37ins overall.

The picture right is not Derek's model but it does illustrate what is on offer (Ed.)



Picture courtesy of Model Slipway

The second is a cabin cruiser complete ready to run with all radio batteries and crystals included, just charge up and go.

The model was built by Derek from plans and is in excellent condition.

The price for both models is a modest £200 each, a bargain.

Contact Derek Tippet on Dover 01304 821469

Danny Cullen is offering a Futaba 4 channel radio complete with Two receivers and Four servo's, for the unbelievable price of **£50.00 !**

Danny's number is 01304 372709.

We don't often get machinery for sale in KK, so this something different!

An Axminster SIEG C2A 300mm Mini Lathe. Currently priced new at £397.86.

Details: Constructed almost entirely of cast iron with ground, hardened bed ways, a fully featured saddle and carriage assembly, a tail stock with spindle taper turning capability.

A 2x speed gear box giving speeds ranging from 100-2500 rpm. with a 3 jaw self centering chuck, electrically interlocked chuck guard and change of wheel set. Digital readouts to the tool post X & Y travel. 8mm shank tooling (some included). Hardly used Price £175.00

Contact **Douglas Turton** on 01227 752244 or 07980 241473



Revell 1/72nd scale kit **Hermann Marwede**

This is a new untouched complete kit of this German search and rescue craft. The model is intended for static display but because it is so large, it has been successfully converted to radio control operation by using miniature components readily available.

There have been special articles in model boats magazine on how this is done and a copy of this can be supplied.

This model is offered for £30.00 o.n.o.

Contact Alan on 01304 852917 for details.

Please Note

During events where the small boats are being used, the frequencies **40-665**, **40-675**, **40-685**, and **40,695** will NOT be allocated to any member for general use. If you only have these frequencies, please obtain some replacements.

March 27th Illuminated event.

We had a very good evening for the first illuminated event of 2009, the weather was kind to us with no rain and just a light breeze. Seven models were on the water for the 6.30 start, Dave Cowlin's dredger was going well but the gremlins crept in and he had to retire early, the complicated electronics were the cause of this retirement, when it was working though, it certainly looked impressive. Derrick Rudge had his sternwheeler paddle boat with a vast amount of lighting showing and Barbara ran her Springer tug with the wheelhouse lights showing. Peter Cook had done a nice job of illuminating his small tug boat after discovering his large tug was overweight with the extra batteries fitted for the lighting. Adrian Knight brought along his new Cervia steam tug and your scribe ran the Danish patrol boat Flyvefisker. Top honours this time went to John Keeble and his venerable wooden model trawler/yacht, the judges were impressed with the wheelhouse lighting and other features and awarded John the trophy.



Dave's Dredger is seen on the bank with all the lights on.

Below is Peter Cooks tug.....Jor vec? Left ... John Keeble.

Winner of this event with his model 'My Gail.'



First Club Regatta 19th April 2009.

This was the first regatta of this season, and, as normal, the compound was set out in the usual way. Because the weather was not that good, the small pond was not put out and anyway, there were not many members of the public in the park. The free sailing format of our regattas was adhered to with no competition course set out and no yacht races taking place.

Just for a bit of fun, the snooker course was laid but as it turned out, not used. Also as a new venture, we did set up and run a game of water football for the Springer tugs.

There were ten Springers on the water and these naturally were split into two teams. The wind was a nuisance and caused the ball to be blown out of the course several times, at one point it ended up down near the weir! A modified heavier ball supplied by Derrick and Barbara Rudge was then tried and this was much better. The team numbers was also found to be too many and a limit of three might be necessary in future games, lessons were learned and changes will be made in the future.

It must be emphasised that these little events that are run on "regatta dates" are purely fun events, the rules that exist for Springer Tug models that are used and enter into competition, will not be strictly adhered to at these fun events although, obviously some sort of control might be needed as it is a team game.

All in all, this was a good first regatta, we look forward to the next gathering.

Club Regatta 17th May 2009

This club regatta was slightly spoilt by gusty winds which claimed three of our gazebos. The gusty conditions bent several legs on the aluminium framed versions even though they were securely anchored down. I can report however, that due to some clever thinking, the members managed to salvage two out of the three gazebos by swapping some good parts over from the damaged ones. This has saved the club quite a sum of money for the moment but we may have to purchase replacements in the near future. The regatta itself was enjoyable with quite a number of new models to be seen operating on the water. For this report I have compiled a series of pictures that were taken on the day.



Sunday 7th June Kearsney Kapers

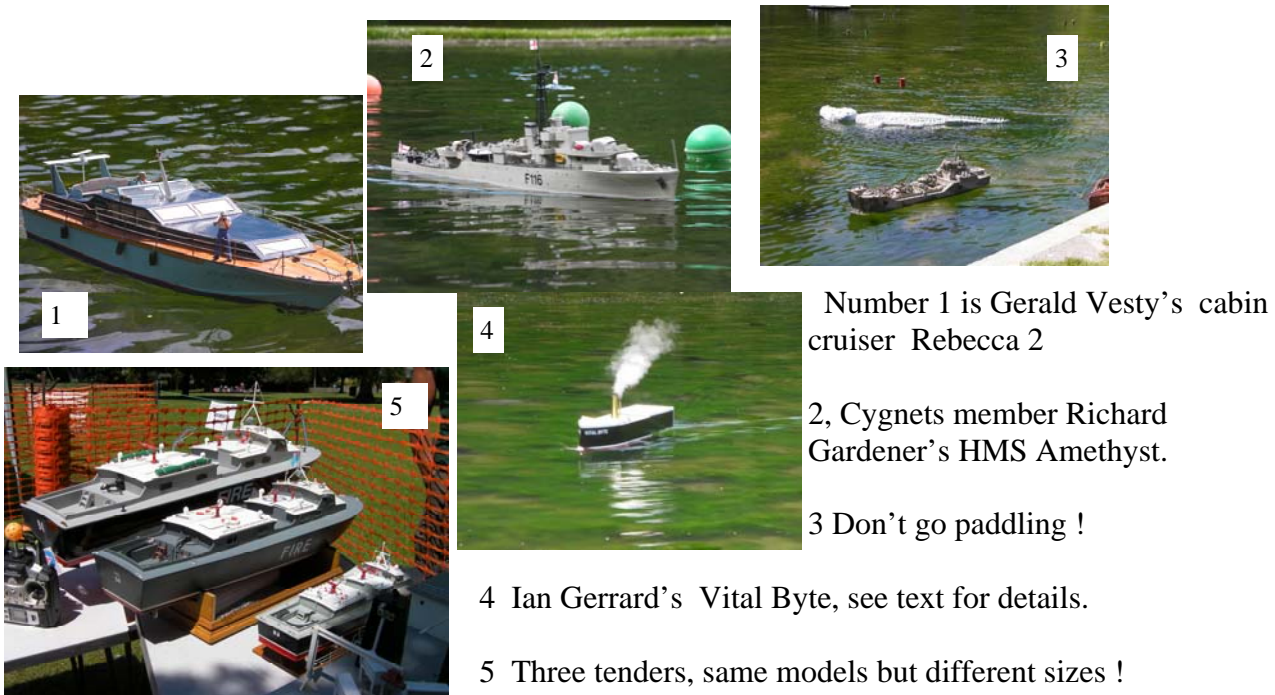
Our open event was very nearly postponed due to early heavy rain and winds but, as the forecast was for it to clear up around 10am, the equipment was taken down to the lake and everything set up including the have a go children's small pond. As predicted, the weather broke and we were blessed with warm sunshine throughout the day.

It was a little disappointing to find that only Maidstone Cygnets supported our open event this year, we had expected other clubs to come down but other commitments meant that this did not happen.

Ian Gerrard and Richard Gardiner joined us from Cygnets club with two interesting models, Richard had with him his HMS Amethyst, a nice 1/96th scale model of this famous ship built from the Deans kit and Ian, a freelance boat but with a difference, it was powered by a flash steam engine. Flash steam is not new to model boats, several clubs use this form of power in straight running or tethered competitions but it is not very controllable, just get it going and let it run. The secret of Ian's boat was that it is fully controllable because it has an onboard computer that monitors and adjusts the water flow and gas (fuel) valves. Ian, a very talented model engineer, built the entire system including the computer, Stuart D10 steam engine and all the associated valve systems.

Our own club had brought along many exceptional models to display to the visitors in the park, I heard several people commenting on the quality of our boats both on and off the water. As everyone seemed to be happy just free sailing, we did not have any snooker or football games although the courses were set out ready if required.

As usual at these events, we must thank the members who manned the small boat pond, the tea tent, the access gate and all the other areas that made KK 2009 a success.



Club Regatta Sunday 12th July

Due to work commitments, I could not attend the July regatta, however I had my spies out and I can report that the day went well.

The weather could have been kinder but this did not stop a good number of members attending and having a good time.

The new club gazebo was erected and this exercise was carried out without too much trouble, it is considerably higher than the older gazebos and it is of much tougher tubular pole construction, the cover is held on by elastic straps and was a better design all round. The wind increasing in the afternoon proved the point as it remained steady where others caused a problem. The Springer tugs had a game on their football course which I understand was a success.

Members Models

A rather unusual model was on the water during a Sunday morning in April, **John Patterson** is the owner of this model that he calls 'Fiona.' John bought the boat second hand and does not know much about its origins. The hull is fibreglass and is of round bilge design, The superstructure has been built up as a motor cruiser and is a little top heavy at the moment, this will be corrected soon which will make her much more stable. A Torpedo 850 motor is fitted with Electronize speed controller and Futaba radio.



We are seeing more model lifeboats in the club lately but this must be one of the smallest. It is a converted static Billings kit of the 44ft Waveney lifeboat. The model is under a foot long so I estimate the scale to be about 1/48th. **Ted Golding** is the builder and owner of this very neat little vessel, he tells me that he wanted something quick to get on the water and as he had bought this kit a while ago, decided to built it. The electronics and radio control have been squeezed into the small area of the hull and works very well. I particularly liked the level of detail on this little model, should make a superb little boat but suited more to the calmer days on the lake.

From this picture it is difficult to believe this model is only just 12ins long !

Ted with his diminutive model lifeboat



Lego Hood

The model on the right was spotted at the Brighton Modelworld exhibition in February.

It is of course HMS Hood, it's all built from Lego blocks and is about 17ft long, I did'nt find out how many blocks were used, all I do know that it was a lot! Won't float very well either....Ed



Wind Turbines

A model yachtsman from Ramsgate recently attended a presentation at Port Ramsgate given by the company involved in constructing the wind farm off the Thanet coast. At that meeting he mentioned the problem that happens occasionally when there is insufficient wind to sail their models. An assurance was given that if there is a lack of wind they will, if notified, power up their turbines from the national grid to act as fans to give enough wind to sail the yachts.

But obviously, there may be problems due to the ambient temperature of the sea and the state of the tide, i.e. the height of the sea level relative to the blades. If there are any clouds in the vicinity it could help the situation by concentrating the breeze under them to a lower level that would increase it's velocity, in which case this may result in a reduction of the number of turbines put into operation. What we do not need, is too much breeze that could cause the sand to be blown about to the annoyance of the vast number of holiday visitors.

Good news indeed, it was felt that they would not do that for any other form of recreational activity! !

(This tongue in cheek contribution was given to me by Reg Archer. Ed)

Letter from the Editor

I must apologise to member Fred (Styles) for not using an article that he sent to me recently, as editor I do have to take responsibility for what I put into the Kearsney Kapers, The decision was taken a long time ago that only articles that are model related should be accepted for our newsletter. There are odd occasions when a few little ditties are used to make up a page that would otherwise remain blank but these are not major long articles.

I have been questioned in the past about the inclusion of some technical engineering type articles, I feel that these are acceptable because they directly relate to the building or operation of our models, these I will continue to use.

So, if you wish to send me an article for publication, and I am always looking for material, please make sure that it is in the first instance Model Related, secondly your own work or add the name of the person who I can give the credit to, and lastly if possible send it in Word format that is unprotected. I do need to do my job and edit! There are times when I need to put my diplomatic head on.

I always try to be fair and non-confrontational in my editing by not causing any offence in my writings, perhaps if I were like the journalists on the Daily Telegraph you might see a different K.K.

Thanks

Alan..(Ed)

General Chat

I am sure that all club members know of Dave Cowlins Dredger model Admiral Day. The real Admiral Day went from Dover Harbour board to Great Yarmouth in Norfolk but recently has been employed back at Ramsgate dredging the harbour. Dave spotted her and took his model to Ramsgate to show it to the crew but she was working outside of the harbour at the time so no chance of making a visit. Luckily the harbour master managed to get Dave a lift on a launch and Dave got aboard to take some photos of the bridge. This will enable him to fully fit out the bridge interior as previously no information was available to finish off this area of the model.

It is very interesting to be able to talk to the crew of any full sized vessel that has been the subject of many hours work by a modeller. The crew are always happy to see a scale model replica of their ship!

At this moment we still do not have any member with the new upgraded Fairwind yacht in the club yet. Colin Goldsmith has mentioned that the hull is slightly longer and that it is now being made from GRP (Glass Reinforced Plastic). This fact alone should be of benefit to Colin as he is repeatedly repairing holes in his old Fairwind hull which is of course made from ABS plastic! These boats are now getting quite old and it is probably due to the plastic degrading and becoming brittle that is causing them to be holed easily. I am told that the new boats are also fitted with the radio control installed.

I did mention that maybe these new boats might not be allowed to race alongside the older boats, but this was thought not to be the case, I guess that until they race against each other, we won't be able to compare them and find out.

A member mentioned that Elite Models at Ashford have had one in stock recently.

Several member went over to Ramsgate Vikings on Saturday 11th July to an evening Bring and Buy / barbecue meet. A few stalls were set up selling model related bits and bobs and other nautical things. This idea could be expanded and used to generate funds in the future.

Quite a number of the Club supported Maidstone Cygnets for their 'Boats on the Mote' Celebration on July 26th. I am told that the weather was very good and the model of HMS Kent that they have been building was spectacular, at 1/36th scale, this is a big model and we should see it operating with us at Dover next year.

I noticed in the Modelling Magazines recently that we have lost a very talented modeller from the Maidstone Cygnets Club. Ken Edmeads who's main interest was model submarines passed away recently. He attended most of the local shows in the area and has been down here with us at Kearsney in the past. One of his more famous models was the Nautilus Submarine from 20,000 leagues under sea fame, his version complete with rivets and rusty paint job was always an eye catcher.

Due to increased costs, it has been decided to make a small charge to non-members and guests at our Christmas social event this year. The insurance costs and the social, account for a major chunk of our income from the members fees during a year and as times are hard, it was felt that any savings could be put to better use elsewhere. The proposed charge would be £3.00 for guests and non-members, for current members it will still be free.

Just a reminder that our visit to The International Model boat Show takes place on Saturday 7th November 2009
Please make sure that all monies owed are paid to Christine by September 1st, this is the date that the firm booking needs to be made.