

The MBA Dover Newsletter



Issue 54 Winter 2017

Welcome to the Winter 2017 Edition of Kearsney Kapers.

As this is the last issue for 2017, we are catching up on a couple of events that we have undertaken since the summer season ended.

Our main event was our trip across the channel to Calais. I have included a report on this inside this issue and a page of photographs which I hope you will enjoy.

Our second illuminated event was held on the 14th October, there is also the report on this to be found inside this issue.

The Kearsney Heritage Lottery work continues, albeit slowly. This is mainly due to contracts coming in higher than expected which has meant that some work has had to be re-scheduled and some jobs taken in house by the parks staff.

The planned building works which should have started in September has not happened yet, it was hoped to begin again in the early new year, but we have now been told that it is unlikely to start until late 2018.

At a Council meeting held in November 2017, we asked a question about our planned programme of events and if we can continue with our schedule, we were told that the Council have our diary dates for 2018 and have told us to go ahead with them. This means that we will not have to worry about the regattas and other events for next year and we can continue with them so that is good news.

The problem for us was the uncertainty, did we carry on with the 2018 diary which of course included our 25th Anniversary event planned for August 12th, or not?

As we had already provisionally invited local clubs to join us and as a backup, we did approach the Dover Transport Museum to see if we might be able to incorporate our anniversary with their model weekend. This now, does not seem to be necessary.

There is still another archaeological dig scheduled for January and this will take place in the main car park, it will be undertaken by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust.

Over in Russell Gardens, the ornamental long lake has been cleaned out by machines that took the advantage of the lack of water to get into the basin and dig all the silt out. The amount removed was incredible, it was dumped onto the old tennis courts and levelled off, this rose the height by about 12 inches overall, quite a large area, it shows how much silt there was in the lake.

A survey will now be undertaken to see if there are any cracks in the base which will need repairing before the water is reintroduced into the lake.

Also at the Council meeting we were told that there is a lack of rainfall which has kept the Bushy Ruff, Russell Gardens and the Convent lakes dry.

The bat issue is still being dealt with, the Council have commissioned a survey to be undertaken to determine how to deal with the bat colony in the roof of the toilet block.

This has also contributed to the delay in building works starting. It was mentioned that if the Council had not discovered the bats and carried on, they would have been in breach of the rules that protect these creatures and they could have been in serious trouble.

Our Christmas social and prize giving will take place at our usual venue The Cricketers Pub on Wednesday 6th December. It will be nice to be able to recognise our junior members by presenting them with a small engraved memento of their participation, we really need our juniors to carry on the hobby which has been a favourite pastime for all of us for many years.

We will see you all in the New Year, until then Happy Christmas from the MBA Dover

.....Alan

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Those of you who have HobbyKing saved as a favourite on your computers will have noticed a recent advertisement for a Graphene battery.

This new technology in battery development will have advantages for us all in the model world. Much like how the NiCad revolutionised the industry and was followed by Ni-MH/ LiPo's, this will move the boundary's again as you will realise from the article pinched from the Internet.

Graphene batteries

Graphene, a sheet of carbon atoms bound together in a honeycomb lattice pattern, is hugely recognized as a “wonder material” due to the myriad of astonishing attributes it holds. It is a potent conductor of electrical and thermal energy, extremely lightweight, chemically inert, and flexible with a large surface area. It is also considered eco-friendly and sustainable, with unlimited possibilities for numerous applications.

In the field of batteries, conventional battery electrode materials (and prospective ones) are significantly improved when enhanced with graphene. Graphene can make batteries that are light, durable and suitable for high capacity energy storage, as well as shortened charging times. It will extend the battery's life-time, which is negatively linked to the amount of carbon that is coated on the material or added to electrodes to achieve conductivity, and graphene adds conductivity without requiring the amounts of carbon that are used in conventional batteries. Graphene can improve such battery attributes as energy density and form in various ways. Li-ion batteries can be enhanced by introducing graphene to the battery's anode and capitalizing on the material's conductivity and large surface area traits to achieve morphological optimization and performance.

The battery offered by Hobby King was priced at \$18.00 and had a small capacity but this is just the start.

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The unmistakable shape of a Brede lifeboat below, it is actually a Lochin 33 that the Brede was based on, this example was seen at Ramsgate undergoing an engine change and underwater survey in September. This boat was a survey vessel working in the Thames Estuary for the MCA. (Maritime and Coastguard Agency)



The hull had large transponders below which the skipper said, slowed him down when trying to get to his operating area, having this nippy little boat was not much use to him in this situation....

The MBA went to Calais

Below is a copy of the report sent to the newspapers about our visit to Calais Model Boat Exposition. As you will see we had a wonderful time and had a fantastic reception from the French.

Our group consisted of Ted Goldring, Kelvin Castle, Bernard Le Ny, Reg Steel, Martin Pryor and his lovely lady Teresa and Alan, your scribe.

The report below covers all the salient points however over the page will be found photo's of the venue and of the many models contained therein, we did find out that there were 190 models on display.....

On the weekend of 7/8th October, 2017, The Model Boat Association Dover, took part in a large model boat show held in Calais.

The theme of the event was Lighthouses, so as well as model boats there were a number of lighthouse models from the region on display, also information on our own South Foreland lighthouse which was nice to see.

The show was organised by the Modelisme Naval du Calaisis, they are an active group affiliated to the Region Nord-Ouest Federation Francaise Modelisme Naval. "*That's a mouthful*"

The Dover Club had been invited to attend the show which was billed as an International event. Apart from model boat clubs from all over the Nord Pas De Calais area there were representatives from Belgium and of course, ourselves from the UK.

Our club had previously been to shows in Calais during the 1990's but since then we had lost contact with them, this is now re-established again.

Seven members of the Dover club set off early on Saturday morning to catch the 0420 ferry to Calais where we set up our comprehensive and varied display in the large modern hall in the Place D'Armes in the centre of the old town.

We were welcomed by their president Monsieur Daniel Cordier and his very enthusiastic team who looked after us very well, our displays on and off the water attracted many visitors, the on the water displays of ferries, submarines and a torpedo firing gunboat were so popular that it was difficult for many to get anywhere near the large indoor pool set up to demonstrate the models on in their natural environment.

Our static table displays were also overwhelmed by the public who asked so many questions, we had translated information about the models into French which helped, and our limited French was attempted, but we were lucky in having a club member, Mr Bernard Le Ny, with us who is French, to translate.

The French press were on hand to record the event and we were presented to the Mayor of Calais, Madame Boucharte, who was very interested in our displays. The town of Calais is fully behind the Calais club and support them in many ways, they own the hall and did not charge for it because the entry was free, over two thousand visitors came through the doors to look and admire the models over the two days.

At the end of the show, all the clubs were presented with a souvenir of the event which was small model of the Calais lighthouse.

We were given invitations to attend other shows in France next year, the Calais club will not be staging this event again for two years due to the amount of organisation required but we will certainly represent the town of Dover and the UK again in future events to maintain the Entente Cordial.

The Model Boat Association Dover reciprocated by inviting the Calais club to join us next year in Dover for our 25th anniversary.

This will be held at Kearsney Abbey, our local water and we hope that conditions in the park will allow us to entertain them as well as we were, in Calais.

We did discuss inviting the Calais club to the Dover Transport Museum's model weekend, this would allow us to cater for them in the museums restaurant....

(Continued on page 5)

Photo's from the Calais show



The Venue



The Group



(Continued from page 3)

This is how the French reported the show in their FFMN newsletter, this group is similar to our own Model Powerboat Association. For the first time, the Calais Model Boat Club organized an international exhibition, under the theme of the lighthouses of the Eastern Channel and the North Sea, in the new hall "Halle", Place d'Armes in Calais. 16 clubs answered their invitation, the clubs of: Dover, Ostend, Antwerp, Tétéghem, Faches-Thumesnil, Coudekerque-Branch, Gravelines, St Omer, Boulogne sur Mer, Le Portel, Orleans, the FRCPM, the Association "the Lorette ", the Land of Leds and M.BETAZ with its magnificent old rigging (particular Calaisian) and the Naval Modeling of Calaisis. An audience, more than delighted with this exhibition, visited the exhibition during these two days, in total 2100 visitors.

The year 2018 will see the club of CALAIS who left in 2011 the FFMN for lack of communication and who returned in 2012, organizing a championship of France of sailing (Class S) and announces already the organization of more than 19 exhibitions in 2018. You can of course find photo reports on these competitions and exhibitions on the website of the FFMN home page under the heading FEDERAL INFOS then PORTAGES. Gérard BEALET

Illuminated event 14th October

On arrival at the abbey for our Illuminated event on the Saturday evening, I met up with Graham White and wandered down to the waterside where we saw several models waiting to be launched into the water, at least there were some were entrants I thought. We discovered that all these models were from the Herne Bay club and then started to wonder why no one else from our Dover Club were there, it was at this point that I checked my watch and found I was an hour early, it was only 4.45!

Herne bay had come down early to support us and a little bit later, Kent Model Boat Club turned up with four members, I was thinking that we might be alone until, just after 6pm, we at last had the support from our own club.

As it turned out we had 17 boats on the water all with Illumination making for a spectacular display, unfortunately as usual, what looks so impressive as a picture is so hard to capture on film so please forgive the pictures I managed to get, some are from Tim Hannington who appears to have the same problems. Graham had brought along his springer tug towing the dinosaur in a cage, the sound system failed to work so no roaring of the beast this time. Kelvin had his new French Lifeboat on the water, very brave as it had taken him a long time to build, they soon get lost in the darkness. Just to enter, I had a very minimal lighting added to my HMS Beagle and when out only a few yards, it was almost invisible.

Tim had his newly acquired tug, young Blaise arrived with his tug which is now renamed Mr Slowcoach And Ted brought his Calypso out of retirement and spectacularly took second prize, lovely lighting and sounds swayed it for our guest judge Natalie who was asked to do the honours for us this year.

We could not influence her enough though because she chose John Boyd's tug Mr Darby as the winner, John is a member of the Tugs R Us team and also Herne Bay Herons.

The tugs from Herne Bay certainly put on an excellent illuminated show, several others were in contention to take the first place mainly because they were so bright and colourful.

The Kent Model Boat Display Team also brought many models along to add to the spectacle, they had come down from Maidstone which is quite a journey as is of course Herne Bay, Dover MBA wish to thank all our supporters for helping to make this event the success that it was.



Yacht Section News

Our yacht section continues to expand with a new series of races being introduced this year which will see the section racing through the Winter period. It was felt that some members did not want to turn out in what is usually a cold and wet time to race but the hardy members wanted to keep up the momentum so with the blessing of our Yacht rep Reg, Alan Hounsell has agreed to run this series.

This I believe is mainly because Alan has some time on his hands, Mr Hounsell has retired and "left the building".

This does of course mean that Alan will no longer be in a position to print our Newsletters and other related MBA documents which he has religiously done for us for as long as I can remember.

But don't panic!...Kath, Alan's wife, is still able to do this job for us as she is still working in the company. Thanks Kath.....

As there will be no minutes arising from our Christmas dinner meeting, I would like to mention an extra event that we have scheduled for **Sunday 31st December at Kearsney Abbey**. It is an informal sail of our boats with a Christmas theme. Your entry to this event will require a (model) Christmas tree to be visible somewhere on your model either hoisted in the rigging or secreted somewhere, it will be looked for! Kath has again kindly offered to supply mulled wine and mince pies on the day as she and Alan did the last time we held a similar event some while ago. Start time 10.00am...See you all there....

Lastly my apologies for the rather shortened version of your KK, just six pages this time.....Alan.

MBA Dover Club Information

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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

Peter our Chairman can also supply club logo shirts.

Contact Peter on 01233 641599

www.mba-dover.org.uk