



BASINGSTOKE MODEL BOAT CLUB

Newsletter

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March 2022

Car Parking charges at Eastrop Park.

A second public consultation, with a closing date for submissions of the 30th January has been held on this subject. On behalf of the club I sent objections to the revised parking charges detailed in the last newsletter and as shown below.

Duration of Stay	Charges (08:00 -19:00 Monday to Sunday)
Up to 2 hours	£1.00
2 to 4 hours	£2.00
4 to 6 hours	£4.00
6 to 8 hours	£7.00
Over 8 hours	£8.00
Duration of Stay	Charges (19:00-08:00 Monday to Sunday)
Evening/Overnight Stay	£2.00

The objections sent on behalf of the club were:-

1. Whilst the substantial reduction in charges is a major step forward, the issue of the fairness of charging park users still hasn't been addressed and these charges effectively discriminate against regular park users
2. No other public park in Basingstoke and Dean is subject to parking charges even in those parks where considerable expense has been recently expended in updating or providing new facilities. For example refurbished tennis courts at Stratton Park and a new skate board park in the War Memorial Park. The original stated reason for introducing charges in EIA 8 dated 14.10.20. Updated 22.12.20 and 08.02.21, that funds raised will go towards the maintenance of the park, is not consistent with spending at other parks within Basingstoke and Dean.
3. The revised order no longer mentions spending any money raised on improving facilities within the park instead the money will be used **"to support the management, maintenance and improvement of the car park and better manage use of the car parks."** Any money raised will not be spent on improving park facilities as originally stated but only on better car park management. Car park management should come out of Council Tax
4. If the aim of introducing charges is to stop commuters from using the park's car parks then a simple expedient would be to lock the gates at dusk and re-open at 10:00 during week days as stated on the car park gates. This would deter non park users from parking. The Council have not been following their own procedure and have thereby created a potential situation which they now seek to redress by introducing charges to the detriment of all park users.
5. With the Institute of Fiscal studies reporting that Council's overall cash reserves actually increasing during the recent Covid crisis, introducing yet a "stealth tax" on park users is immoral. See report Daily Telegraph 11/1/22

At the time of writing there has been no further communication from the Council on the result of the second public consultation. I will of course keep members informed when news is forthcoming.

Memorial Bench

A number of years ago Jim Molay, who died last autumn, kindly donated a considerable sum of money to the club for the purchase of seating for use by club members and the general public. Unfortunately, until fairly recently, the Council would not agree to the provision of addition seating within the park and the money was ring fenced within the club's accounts in the hope that Jim's wishes could be realised.

Following a discussion with the Grounds Maintenance Manager a way forward has now been found and a new bench has been funded to the tune of £1200.00 from the money donated by Jim and is on order by the Council with their supplier. The balance of the donated money, £300.00, has now been added to the club's operational account.

The bench will be located at "C" on map the north side of the lake opposite to the low wall which is generally used by members. This location was the only one which

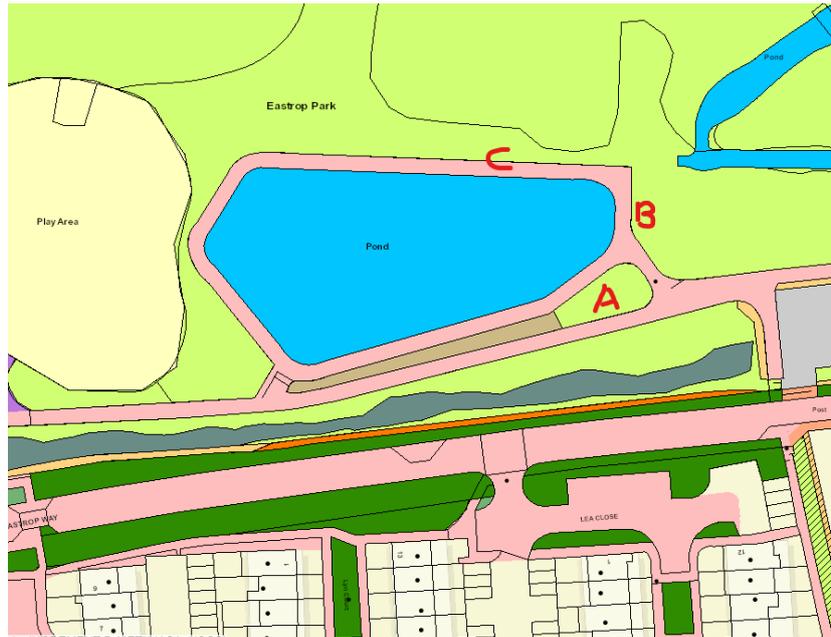
could be agreed upon and can be seen marked on the map below. Locations A and B on the map were unfortunately rejected.

The bench will have a memorial plaque with this dedication.

“In memory of Jim Molay

A generous friend to the

Basingstoke Model Boat Club”



Membership News

Since the last newsletter I am sorry to inform members of the passing of **Bob Joy** and **Keith Russell**. Bob was a long standing member, but had not been to the lake for a number of years and reached the milestone of 100 years of age last June. Keith had been a member since early last year and his unexpected sudden death was a shock. Condolences cards on behalf of the club were set their respective families.

Please join me in welcoming 3 new members to the club, **Brian Warwick**, **John Foster** who has re-joined after a long absence, and **Ray Renowden**. We look forward to meeting and seeing you all at the lake when you are able to attend.

John Foster has written the following on re-joining the club.

Firstly I would like to thank all the members of the club I've met for making me feel so welcome. It's as though I hadn't been away from the club for the last years, how many I can't remember but it's been a lot.

I re-joined the BMBC because another club of which I am a member needed someone to pass on some small pieces of wood offcuts to any person or club that could use them to make anything. As I was an ex modeller it fell to me, but once I met up with members I was reminded of the fun I used to have with my son when he was a lad.

On reading the last edition of the newsletter I noticed an article on building a boat from a ginger beer bottle which reminded me of a young boy who came to the club when I first joined. I can't remember his name of much about him except he must have come from a very poor family as he had his own homemade boat.

The boat was made from two large pop bottles fixed end to end via a tin can with both necks at the outer ends. A bamboo cane was pushed through a hole in the can to make a mast and two pieces of rag for sails were tied to the top and bottom of mast. The other points of the sails were tied to the necks of the bottles to catch the wind.

To add ballast a house brick was tied under the mast. The whole thing would take about ½ hour to make but the lad had loads of fun either pulling his boat around the pond or letting it go as free as the wind.

That's all for now, may have some more in the future but no promises.

Thanks John for you kind words and reminiscences of earlier days in the club.

Membership Fees

The club year runs from 1st April to 31st March. This means that annual membership fees for the 2022/23 year are now due. The level of fees has stayed the same at £8.00 for Seniors, (those aged over 14) and £3.00 for Juniors (those aged 8 to 14) so please can I have your membership money at the earliest opportunity.

You can pay your membership (**£8.00Seniors/£3.00Juniors**) in the following ways:-

- By using online bank transfer to the club's account. Sort Code, **23-05-80**, Account number, **42978396**, Account Name, **Basingstoke Model Boat Club**. Please use your initial and surname as the reference so I am aware who has paid. Where possible I urge members to use this facility in preference to cash or cheque.

Note that the bank details have changed from last year as the club now banks with **Metro Bank**. When paying by BACS be aware that Metro Bank has not yet signed up to the account name checking service and you may receive a warning from your bank that they cannot verify the account name. **Be assured that as long as you have entered the details above then your money will find its way to the club's account.**

- By cheque made payable to **Basingstoke Model Boat Club**, or cash either handed to me or sent to the following address:-

Andy Clark
25 Coniston Road
Kempshott
Basingstoke
Hants
RG22 5HT

- Hand your fees to our Chairman, Chris Cole at the lake side by putting it in an envelope with your name on the outside and he will pass it to me.

New members are always most welcome – if you have a friend that may be interested in model boating or joining the club then please let them know all about us, or tell them to have a look at our website to see for themselves - www.basingstokembc.co.uk

2021 / 2022 Accounts

As it is near the end of the Club's financial year, I have to make you all aware of our financial position and how your money is spent. Below you will find a simplified version of the Club Account for this past year 2021/2022. If anyone wants to see the actual accounts, receipts, etc. please let me know and I will bring them to the pond for you to view and inspect.

Item	Income	Expenditure
Monies at Bank carried forward	£2,072.44	
Total Income from annual fees	£846.00	
Website Fee (One Com)		£23.51
Printer cartridge for correspondence		£36.00
5x2nd class large for new members correspondence		£4.80
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June Newsletter Printing Cost (90 Copies @ A4)		£72.00
100 2nd Class Stamps @65p		£66.00
Sept Newsletter Printing Cost (90 Copies)		£72.00
95 2nd class stamps @65p		£62.70
Dec Newsletter Printing Cost (97 Copies)		£64.99
Memorial bench from donated money		£1,200.00
Printer cartridge for correspondence		£35.99
Address labels		£22.93
Membership card lamination pouches		inc above
March Newsletter Printing Cost (100 Copies)		£77.00
100 2nd Class Stamps @66p March newsletter		£66.00
100 2nd Class Stamps @66p forward buying for June		£66.00

PI Insurance		£68.80
		£1,948.32
Cheques to be presented to Bank	£0.00	
Cash paid/to be paid into Bank	£0.00	
Current Monies at Bank 8th March 2022	£2,072.44	
debit card payments made	£277.80	
Final Balance	£1,794.64	

Midhurst Show Report

The 39th Annual Modellers Show at Midhurst was held on the 13th February at which the club had a wide variety of boats on display. The event was well supported by both keen modellers and members of the public. Thanks go to Alan Spooner, Alan Fuller, Carl Clements, Chris Phillips, Keith Ebsworth and Reg Riess who helped man the display and brought along boats to display.

Carl's 3D printed outboard motor models attracted considerable attention and as normal people were astounded by the mirror finish that Reg manages to achieve on his models.

The following pictures give an overview of the club's stand.

After the event the following was received from the organisers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the exhibitors and club members who attended The Grange Modellers Exhibition this year. As the first Modellers Exhibition held since the pandemic began, we had no idea what to expect from the day, and I am pleased to say the event was just as successful as previous years, and it could not have been so without the support and attendance of you all. It was great to have the event back up and running after such a challenging couple of years, a sentiment I know you all share, and for us as staff it was the first time things have felt 'business as usual' for a very long time!

The 40th show will be taking place on 12th February 2023 and the club will once again be attending with another table top display. I already have a number of volunteers who wish to display boats but more are always welcome.





It was also good to see a number of club members who attended the show in their own right having an enjoyable time.

Events Coordinator

There are a number of shows which the club has been invited to attend and **Phil Hall** has kindly volunteered to act as the club's coordinator for events. Please give Phil your support if you are able.

Viabes Show

The Basingstoke and District Model Engineering Society 10th Steam Gala is being held on the 9th and 10th of April and the club has been asked if we wish to attend. The Portsmouth Model Boat Club will be attending and bringing their portable pond which we could use. The gala will feature a variety of steam powered models and specialist suppliers. Entrance is free, with donations appreciated and there is plenty of car parking in Jays Close RG22 4BS.

I am looking for volunteers to help with the club display and also with providing suitable gazebos, tables and seats. As the show is over 2 days the display would have to be taken down at the end of the first day and reinstated for the second.

If you are willing to volunteer and/or have a gazebo etc. that could be used then please let Phil Hall, myself or our Chairman Chris know.

The Popham Airfield Show

This show is being held on Saturday 20th August and whilst primarily an aviation show, the club has been asked if we would like to attend. As with the Viabes show the Portsmouth Model Boat Club will be attending and bringing their portable lake.

I am looking for volunteers to help produce a static display for the club with the opportunity to use the portable pond. In this case the club's display would be inside a marquee provided by the airfield but we may need to bring tables and seating.

If you can help please let Phil Hall, myself, or our Chairman Chris know.

International Model Boat Show

This event is returning to the Warwickshire Event Centre on the 5th and 6th November. Whilst as a club we are not attending a number of members are thinking of going and are considering whether to hire a minibus/coach. If you are interested in going to the show and travelling with a group then this could be a suitable opportunity. Depending on interest this may or may not go forward and at this time costs are unknown. Please let Phil Hall, myself, or our Chairman know if interested in this proposition.

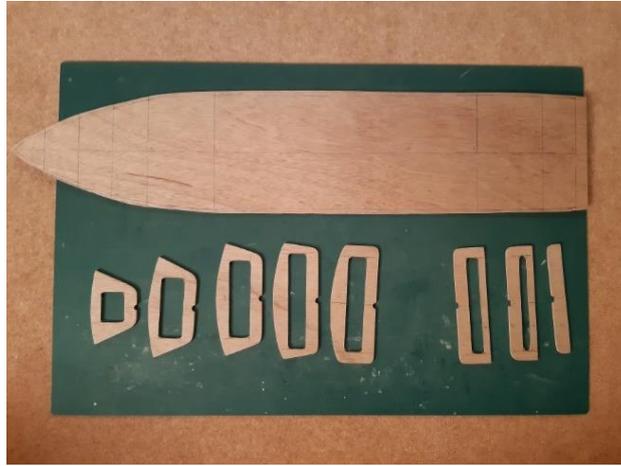
Keith Ebsworth has provided a continuation of his build of a stern wheeler.

Stern Wheeler Build, Part 2

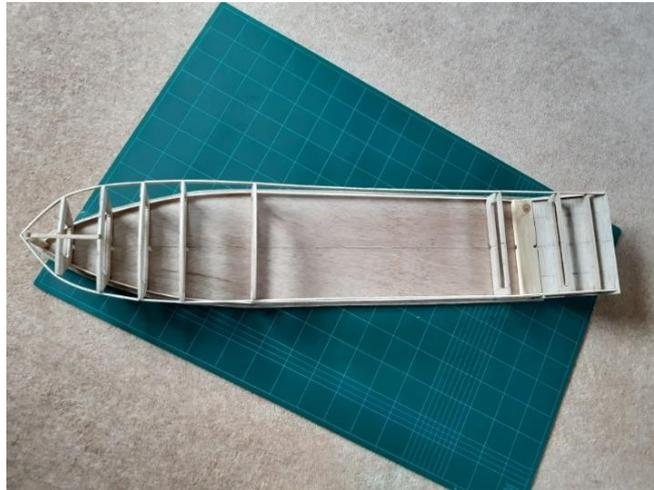
Christmas morning 2020 and there are a lot of small packages under the tree with my name on. Christmas day is one of the few days a year when I do not cook but I am still on vegetable duty so present unwrapping doesn't occur until 10:00. Margaret has been through my considerable list of things I need for the boat and purchased

most of the electrics. Now I can build the hull, planning positioning as I go, which is so much easier than trying to fit bits in later.

Christmas day is the usual round of festive activities, food, drink and TV but come Boxing Day the family are back to doing their own thing so I adjourn to the garage and start cutting wood.



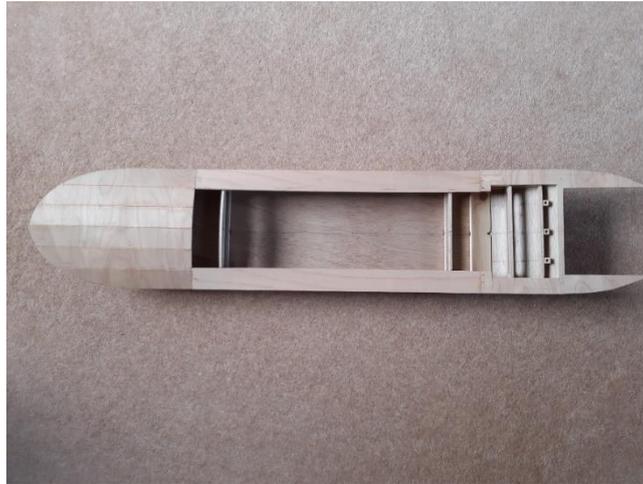
New Year's celebrations and my birthday on the 2nd January halt play for a while but by the 4th I am gluing parts together.



For the sides and stern of the hull I can use plywood sheet but the shape of the bow means I have to plank on frame, although, progress is good and by late January I have completed most of the hull and started planning layout of electrics.

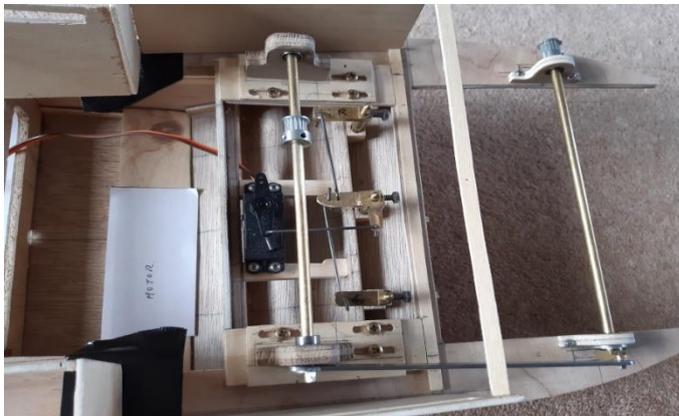
During February I managed to add most of the side walls of the engine room plus rudder servo and drive arms for the paddle wheel. Observant members who have seen the boat since will say "where did the drive arms go?"

After spending several days trying to get them to rotate correctly reliably I gave up and decided to switch to a belt drive with dummy arms to be added later.



Over the next couple of months I continued adding structure to the hull, fitting the electrics, building the smoke unit and even starting planking the lower deck. Taking advantage of a sudden warm spell in April I sprayed the hull in Rover Brooklands Green followed by several coats of clear lacquer, ready for those inevitable scrapes at the pond.

During the build so far I had been contemplating how I was going to do all the detailing such as window shutters, doors, railings etc. As I needed so many identical



parts I had considered using a small cnc machine but when I had looked for one previously covid had caused a UK wide shortage. Looking again in April I found that the smaller machines had become available so grabbed one while I could.

For those of you not familiar with a cnc machine, picture right. It works by lowering and raising a cutter spinning at high speed while the table moves left/right and forwards/backwards. Designs are created in a drawing package which exports the code for the machine to cut the shape.

Fuller article to follow if anyone is interested.

Having got the machine I went cnc mad and set it running every day. The big advantage is that while it is cutting one set of parts you can be gluing the previous set together. In a very short space of time it had cut 40 shutters, 12 doors, several sets of parts for staircases plus parts for the two paddle wheels. On some days it was cutting items quicker than I could paint, varnish or glue them together so I soon had a pile of parts to deal with.

By the end of July it was beginning to look like a boat with some of the detachable superstructure started and had even been to the pond for a quick buoyancy test. As my wife said "Just to make sure it would float".



The rest of the summer and autumn were spent building up the superstructure, spraying and adding details as I went. I finished laying out the electrics including adding connectors for the wiring to make it easy to change at a later date if needed. I modified some of the staircase designs as I went to match the space available to fit them.



I could plank the lower deck of the superstructure (Saloon cabin) before I fitted the roof supports from the main deck as they would be covered when the superstructure was fitted. For the Saloon cabin roof supports I had to fit them first so that the planking on the Promenade deck would hide them. There was a lot of eyeballing to get them vaguely vertical when hand drilling as they sit in recessed holes in the planking at the bottom. I made the wheelhouse detachable as I intend to fit a wheel and pilot plus I wanted access in case lighting needs changing at a later date. Two split pins hold it in place to the Texas deck.

The cabins are painted in Rover Arum White and most of the wood detail is 2mm walnut. The shutters were painted with a craft acrylic called Baby Blue. Some of you may notice the subtle shading on the paddle wheels. I originally painted them raspberry acrylic but hated it so airbrushed some Christmas red over the top, not entirely successfully. They may be coming off again for further coats.

Well, we have arrived at Christmas 2021, one year into my two year project. I am now revising my estimate as the cnc saved me so much time. I now think I can finish by summer 2022. Although, Carl and Chris have just got me side tracked by discussing Arduino controllers for additional features, It looks like another hobby coming up and a few more diversions.



Hopefully part 3 will see a “finished” boat.
Keith took the part built boat to the Midhurst Show where it attracted considerable interest.

For Sale

I have been contacted by Mrs Margaret Ebbage who is looking to sell her late husband's (Peter) model boats in order to raise funds for St Michaels Hospice.

There are 4 boats for sale.

The first is a 4ft long hull which is part built with plans and a complete set of brand new 2.4GHz RC set, speed controller, batteries, plus other accessories, spray paint

and various pieces of ply and other wood. This could be a good project for someone.



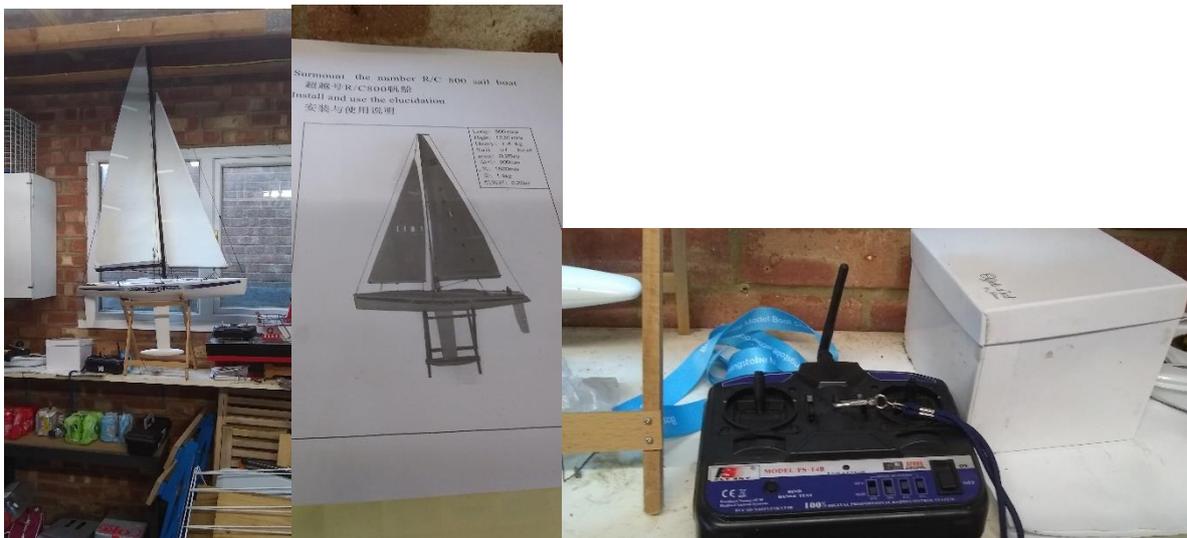
The second boat is an Aquacraft Rescue Fire boat that features the following:-

- Painted, joined fiberglass hull, deck and cabin with factory-installed details, including: wire rope deck railing, ladders and companionways, standpipes, searchlights & more.
- Water cannon that rotates 120° and shoots a jet of water up to 10 feet
- 10-piece LED lighting system with mast, navigation and deck lights, dual searchlights & cabin lights, plus independent interior and exterior light switches
- Tactic TTX490 4-channel 2.4GHz SLT radio with TR400 receiver, TSX102 rudder servo & water cannon servo.
- Factory-installed power system including; 600-size motor, multi-motor controller and drive system

- Battery Charger and instruction manual



The third boat is a Surmount sailing yacht 800mm in length again with 2.4GHz control set and instruction booklet. This would make an ideal starter yacht for someone.



The fourth boat is a small electric with 27MHz controller ideal as a simple run around



If members are interested in any of the boats, then please contact me either by email or my mobile and I will put you in contact with Mrs Ebbage. Hopefully some funds can be raised for St Michaels Hospice in memory of Peter.

The information above plus additional photos will be placed by on the website in due course.

Close

This has been a very full edition of the newsletter with lots of information to impart to members. Due to lack of space, various items, including Chris Phillips's article on the build, so far, of his Bristol Pilot's Cutter have been held over to the June's edition. I assure you the wait will be worth it.

Thanks to Keith for his article on his sternwheeler we hope to see the finished model take to the lake soon.

Well that's about it for this issue according to word count there are 3697 words in this edition plus an abundance of pictures and I hope you found at least some of them worthwhile.

Just a quick reminder that annual fees are now due. If due to circumstances you do not wish to renew your membership please let me know so I will not chase you.

Cheers
Andy

To save costs the Newsletter is printed in black and white so you miss some of the detail of the photos in colour, etc. – if you would like to see it in full colour I will as usual have a copy added to our BMBC website.