

# MARINER

## NEWSLETTER OF KIRKLEES MODEL BOAT CLUB JUNE 2023

**Important information** on change of dates, Bridlington Model Boat Club Open Days. Dates as shown in the January Newsletter 1<sup>st</sup> Open Day is the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> August this should now read the **19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>**. September an open day shown as the 3<sup>rd</sup> September this should now be **6<sup>th</sup> August**.

**Open Day 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023** - Stan is asking if any member has anything they would like to donate for the raffle. I don't know how much support I will be able to get from my usual outlets in the current financial climate. General items, not necessarily something to do with model boats. I will be at the Park on the 25<sup>th</sup> June and 2<sup>nd</sup> July to collect any donated items. Thank you for your support.

**Open Day** will need volunteers to be on site from 7.30 to 8 o'clock to help with removing items from the container, erecting tents, tables, fencing, sound systems and setting up the boiler. Also we need items to sell in the catering tent. Sandwiches, sausage rolls, pork pies, quiches, cakes, biscuits, crisps and anything else you can think of. All items need to be in either cling film or a plastic bag and clearly labelled with the contents. The ladies who run the tea tent give up their time to do this, so your support is needed.

**Island Endurance Race 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023** - Report by Bill Kelsall - A bright sunny morning greeted us for the 1 hour endurance event with 7 members taking part. The early leader was Fred Senior followed by last years winner Jerry Speirs. Fred's boat was surprisingly fast and a few people thought it could not keep up its fast pace. When Jerry dropped out on the 15<sup>th</sup> lap it left Fred half a lap clear but a late charge on the last lap by Steve Holt pipped Fred by a boat length. However it emerged that Steve had inadvertently used a lipo battery which is not allowed it should be a gell cell or NIMH battery, so the victory went to Fred senior. Jack Stanley was 2<sup>nd</sup> and Willy Crowther was 3<sup>rd</sup>. An exciting finish and a great event. Thanks to the officials Frank Kimbley and Bill Kelsall.

Stan has had to deal with a complaint to the Council reference chasing birds with Club 500s. All being well this has now been resolved by negotiations between Stan and the Council. Please be aware there will always be a member of the public who thinks we are chasing the birds. We need to be vigilant at all times. Pat Reffin came up with the ideal solution on Club 500 days we need a club member to stand on the opposite side of the lake with a bag of bird feed (not bread). Start feeding the birds just as the race is about to commence and during them.



*Fred Senior receiving Island Endurance Trophy  
from Bill Kelsall*



*Pat's solution to the bird problem for the Club  
500 races*

**Manvers MBC Bring & Buy Sale Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April** – Report by Stan Reffin. I would like to thank Steve Perkins of Manvers for the invitation. There were lots of models for sale and sundry items. Sadly I didn't manage to sell anything. Trade was brisk until around lunchtime when things eased off. Other club members who attended, David Moss, Richard Simpson and Jerry Speirs.

**Blue Ribband sail race 24<sup>th</sup> April** - Report by Bill Kelsall - A sunny but calm day with a low entry led to a decision agreed with competitors to do a shortened race of only 2 laps and as we headed to the first mark we wondered if 2 laps would be too many. However after a close first lap a breeze sprang up opening the field up with Bill Kelsall and Brian Byrne in a close fight, but on the second to last mark Bill missed a buoy so after a penalty turn of two Brian had a clear lead and took the honours - 1st Brian 2nd Bill 3rd Steve



Holt. Roy Clarkson started after everyone else but finished the course. **In future to clear up any confusion all sail races will start at 10.30 am allowing people to get there.**



It is with regret that we announce that Ian Underwood, who had been a member for 3 years, passed away at the beginning of May. I have been asked by Ian's wife in the not too distant future to arrange to collect his models and all equipment which can then be sold on in the Club and the money placed in club funds as per Linda's request.

Come in No 2 your time is up! When members arrived at the lake on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May they were greeted with a rather strange model in the lake. It turned out to be a motorised golf cart. It would appear that this was one of three that had been stolen from a Golf Club. Stan was made aware of this and he contacted the Council who were very concerned about acid being spilt from the batteries and of course children wading into the lake to climb on it. Thankfully the Golf Club concerned were already on the case and had already collected two. During the afternoon they arrived at Wilton to collect the third one. Thanks to Chris Booth for the photos.



**President's Cup Race 2<sup>nd</sup> July** - because of an event in the Park on this day the sail race will now take place on **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July**. Because of this event there will be lots of people in the Park so it may be advisable to miss going to the Park that Sunday.

**Steam Day Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May** - report by Stan Reffin - Once again the steam day was lucky enough to have good weather. We had some excellent models on display and sailing on the lake. Richard tested a dozen or so boilers. We had people from York, Manvers, Bridlington, St Helens, Potteries, Rawdon, Etherow, Sheffield and BMES. One steam model stood out, it had a skeleton crew and one of the crew members played the banjo. The military vehicle section proved to be very popular. Thank you to everyone who took part. There was no grand sail by as a lot of people had left early. The RNLI made £155 on the day. The girls in the tea tent did a marvellous job and the new boiler worked a treat. We signed up two new members on the day.



*Can you name the film and the character?  
No prizes. Well done Nigel Firth most excellent.*



*A skeleton crew!*

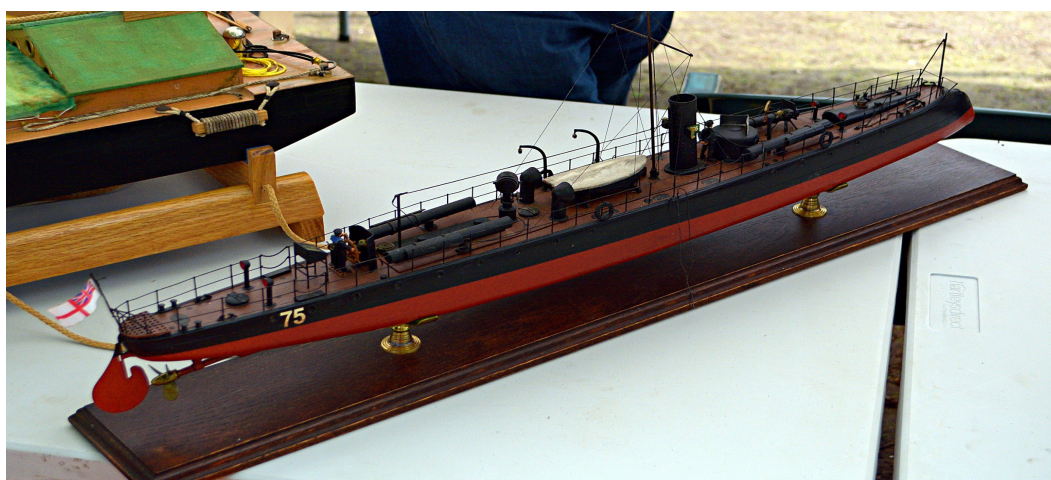




*Richard with a queue of steam models to be tested*



*A fine model by Jack Stanley*

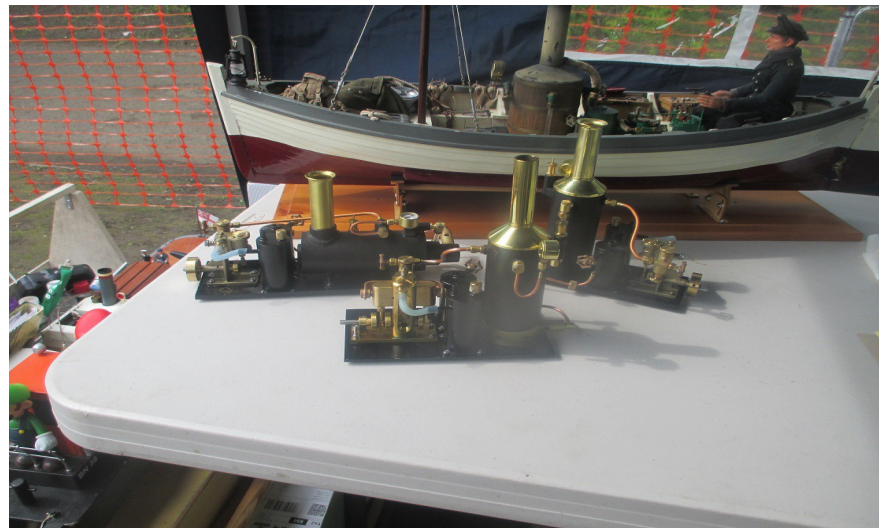


*Richard's latest acquisition*





*Tank display area*



*Richard's 3 new steam plants*

**Report on Margaret Wyatt Trophy** by Bill Kelsall Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May. There was little wind for the start of the race but after 1 lap a clear breakaway by Dave Tuckwood split the field into two groups but on the second lap the trailing group started to catch up and at the finish the battle for second place was almost a photo finish with Chris Booth almost snatching second place from Brian Byrne but a clear win by a brilliantly sailed race went to Dave Tuckwood. Officials were Fred Senior and Bill Kelsall.



Dave Tuckwood receiving the Margaret Wyatt trophy and his winning yacht

**Report on Club 500 2<sup>nd</sup> April by Stan Reffin** – 12 contestants took part with no major upsets. Only 1 missed buoy. The weather was sunny with a breeze down the lake. Stan Reffin, Pat Reffin, Mick Burtop and Bill Kelsall were the race officials.

No	Name	Heat 1	Heat 2	Total	Grand Total
3	Steve Holt	10	8	18	39
O1	Richard Simpson	9	11	20	29
5	Jerry Speirs	9	10	19	29
1	Derek Round	10	11	21	43
8	Willie Crowther	8	2	10	10
712	Brian Byrne	7	8	15	31
72	Chris Booth	9	8	17	29
101	Fred Senior	8	9	17	30
13	Danyal Brown	10	10	20	38
17	John Hinde	9	8	17	36
49	David Moss	9	9	18	33
45	Dave King	1	0	1	10

**Report on Club 500 28<sup>th</sup> May 2023 by Stan Reffin** - 10 contestants took part. A chilly and cloudy morning with a strong breeze down the lake. The starter box was moved well away from the start gate and communication between the starter box and the bottom buoys was done by radio. This allowed Bill Kelsall to be able to work freely with the starter box. Members were given a briefing on the wildlife. One incident when a small part was lost and was unrecoverable. No missed buoys, improved steering.

No	Name	1 <sup>st</sup> Race	2 <sup>nd</sup> Race	Total	Grand Total
O1	Richard Simpson	11	11	22	51
3	Steve Holt	9	11	20	59
1	Derek Round	0	12	12	55
8	Willie Crowther	11	11	22	32
5	Jerry Speirs	10	11	21	50
17	John Hinde	10	10	20	56
712	Brian Byrne	0	8	8	39
45	Dave King	11	9	20	30
13	Danyal Brown	10	8	18	56
72	Chris Booth	10	10	20	49
101	Fred Senior				30
49	David Moss				33

Stan – I have spoken to the Council and they are going to put the dye into the lake again to keep down the algae. No update on removal of the fish or the pump!



**On a more serious matter** now it would appear that the Council have received a complaint about the use of high performance fast electric boats. With this in mind they have reviewed their policy on boats using the lake. This means the policy for IC use will remain in place but alongside this now the use of high performance fast electrics will not be permitted. Before you all panic, you can still have Club 500, scale models fitted with either brushed or brushless motors but the speed must be kept to a minimum. This is to protect the wildlife on the lake which is paramount in the eyes of the Council. In our Club Rules it does state "no high performance fast electrics". This is not up for any negotiations. We are now waiting for an official letter from the Council regarding the above.

**Indoor flying 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023** - Unfortunately, this is sadly not going to happen. There is no availability at the Sports Centre on any evening, not just Wednesday, and nothing during the day. A Sports Centre in Batley has closed and all their booking have transferred to the Batley Sports Centre. Schools during the day and indoor football and other classes on an evening. We will try our best for 2024 but again no guarantees.

**AGM 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023** - this will be held at the Sports Centre in the gymnasium. Pat has tried to get other rooms in the Sports Centre but this is what's available and the cost will be

£40 for 2 hours. Some people said they couldn't hear last year. Solution don't sit at the back, we will re-arrange the seating in a semi circle so everyone is closer together.

On the next page you will find a copy of the letter we have received from Kirklees Council regarding the sailing of high performance fast electric models on the lake. We would like to reassure you that this won't impact on the running of the Club 500 events. Scale models are fine but we have to emphasize that the wildlife does and always will take priority. This is quite clearly stated in the letter over. Obviously someone from the general public has raised a concern with the Council, which they have duly acted on. Stan is always in contact with the Council and to be honest, we do have a good reputation with them.



*Tim Stevenson at Model Engineering Exhibition 2015 one from the archives*



**Kirklees Council**  
**Parks & Green Space**  
PO Box 1720  
HUDDERSFIELD  
HD1 9EL

The Secretary  
Kirklees Model Boat Club  
79 Carr Bridge Drive Leeds  
LS16 7LB



Tel: 01484 221000

Date: 26/05/2023

Dear Secretary of Kirklees Model Boat Club,

**Wilton Park Lake, Batley**

We have always been conscious of the wildlife on and around the lake and to this aim we currently do not permit internal combustion engines due to the type of fuel used and noise created.

Following feedback from members of the public, a review of the current rules has taken place. With the advances in technology since the original rules were set, meaning that boats are capable of travelling at much faster speeds, high performance fast electric powered boats are not permitted on the lake.

To the best of my knowledge, you have always complied with this policy, and we appreciate the current efforts you make to ensure the safety of the wildlife in the park. If you ever need support in making people aware of this policy, we are more than happy to write to people if you can provide us with the address.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Rebekah Parkin

Parks Services Manager (Development)

