

Letter from Solent - Autumn 1992

Our sailing season and programme will start in November this year and run throughout the winter, finishing in June 1993, for Marbleheads and Metre boats. Please read your programme for details of trophy events which may occur much earlier than usual; starting times have also changed.

Perhaps we will be able to enjoy sailing free from weed and at a higher water level for most of the season. July and August will be for development, weed straining and fun sailing; you may even wish to go on holiday during this time.

With much appreciated help from Etta we have been able to run all of the special events this year except The Charlotte & Kate Trophy. This was postponed as there was not enough water for Marbleheads on the 28th June.

We are proposing to sail Metre boats for this event on November 1st, 1992, with an 11am start - please come.

During the winter months we have provisionally arranged three club meetings in the evening at the Watersplash Hotel, dates to be confirmed after Christmas, for January, February and March 1993. The idea is 'Experts on model yacht sailing', ie rules, rigs, etc.

While the Marblehead and Metre boats have been gathering dust, club members have been very busy building and tuning R36's. Seventeen boats on the line last Tuesday. It is nice to see different skippers up at the front of the fleet with their new boats, swing rigs, new design rudders, bendy masts, etc. What a challenge these boats are; a very small handicap helps.

Thank you Joyce for all your help in keeping us in order, scoring, etc., it is not easy.

Metre boat sailing has been just as well attended on Tuesday mornings. A number of new boats, beautifully built, have appeared and are very competitive. Let's hope for lots of rain to raise the water level and to see them all back again.

During the 'silly season', ie low water, weed, etc., some of us have been sailing at Eastleigh. You are very welcome to bring your Marblehead or Metre boat on non point days both on Wednesday and Sunday mornings, start time 10am.

Some skippers have been tuning up their Marbleheads at Poole. Thanks, Peter, for organising that.

I wish someone would help me with this Newsletter. Alistair Cooke lives too far away, so here is a theme to encourage a few boatbuilders and skippers to write in for our next post.

'Why do we sail model yachts?'

For my part I think its the enjoyment of the company around one, the competition, the work required in building and hoping for just that bit of magic to go faster, point higher than any of the other boats, you know, without really trying. Perhaps it is just the wind on the water and the charm of the lake in the autumn sunshine.

I.S.C

SCALE SECTION SEPTEMBER 92

Autumn seems to have arrived early this year, the end of July in fact, whatever happened to Summer? Despite all we have had a good season and I am pleased to welcome several new Members and their excellent and varied selection of models ranging from Andrew Davis's superb steam tug to Ken Ben's intriguing pusher tug with the elevating bridge.

Our Exhibition at Highcliffe on 14th March in conjunction with the RNLI raised a Total of £450.62 which was well up on their normal coffee mornings and David Howell asked me to pass on sincere thanks to all members on behalf of the RNLI. There was an excellent turnout by members and the large variety and high standard of models on display delighted the Public who came from as far afield as Poole and Lymington. It will definitely be repeated next year.

We also had a good stand at Modelex 92 on 26th April at Thorndon School Chandlers Ford. Unfortunately the foul weather prevented the outdoor flying events and put a damper on model boat sailing and car racing but there was plenty to see and do inside and everyone who attended had a good day out.

The Poole Park event in conjunction with Poole Club and the vintage Yacht Society was also a good day out and it actually stayed fine this year.

Meanwhile back at Setley there have been some good meetings, the record being 15 boats on the water one Sunday. There have been several launchings of new Models including Charles Somerville's Narrowboat 'Nancy' diplomatically named after his mother in Law!. David Ellis's Ketch 'Topaz', Peter Hook's Corvette HMS Bluebell, Tony Leightons German Destroyer 'Narvik', and last but far from least Arthur Lord's 'Uganda' which is still fitting out. That U Boat took another one way dive but fortunately due to the low water level was found again on the same day. The steering event never materialised mainly due to lack of support but the harbours and buoys brought by myself and Bob Mathew proved popular. Thanks also to Geoff Causebrook for donating the 40 Mhz frequency board.

We were very pleased to have a visit from our Hon Member Ernie Powell who had moved away from the area to Somerset and was visiting on holiday.

Apparently he doesn't like Somerset and is hoping to move back to the area so lets hope we will be seeing him again soon.

Two Social events are yet to come this year, as promised another Pub Supper for Scale members toward the end of October and I will contact you later to confirm the date. Also the annual Club Lunch on 21st November at which we will have our 'Scale Table' as usual, details elsewhere in this correspondence.