

BASINGSTOKE MODEL BOAT CLUB

Basingstoke Model Boat & Yacht & sitting About & Chatting Club

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NEWSLETTER May 2011

News

Gordon Philpott continues to make a steady recovery after a lengthy illness that has kept him away from the pond for nearly 3 months now. Charlie Redford had been laid up for 11 weeks with a severe back problem but made his first appearance at the pond today, the 8th May, and it is hoped will make a strong recovery in the coming weeks. Both Gordon and Charlie are long standing club members who were regulars at the pond throughout the year.

Meanwhile, we are pleased to welcome new member Roger Woolnough and Colin Lowe to the club.

New members over the past year are making a regular attendance at the pond on Sunday mornings (maybe midweek too) boosting attendance dramatically, it's almost becoming crowded at the club; there's a real danger we'll run out of wall space to sit or rest the models!

Basingstoke & District Model Engineering Society Miniature Steam Rally

Club members, Jack Sharp, Robin Lock, Joe Harwood and Mike Edwards put on a 2 day BMBC exhibition on the 16th/17th April at the Viables in Basingstoke.

Though this is a model engineer show/rally it is a regular annual event and gave us the opportunity to promote the interests of the club in the area. It was good to have the support of new club members at this and the recent Midhurst Show.

BMBC featured in Model Boats International Magazine

An article I wrote many months ago, after Gordon met the editor of this popular magazine at last year's Warwick Model Boat Exhibition, has resulted in us having a full page feature in this month's issue. New member Colin Lowe saw the article and joined the club today, having left Mid Thames Model Boat Club, where he said he'd often find himself the only modeller sailing!.

Feature Model: Victorian River Gun Boat

Having regularly photographed the club's models, and listed many on our website, my attention was drawn to this new model belonging to Vic Molay at the club's pond back in late March when it made its first outing.

Named African Queen, Vic has modelled this on a traditional Victorian Gun Boat and has created a really highly detailed model without a plan or scale drawings!

The original ship featured two anchors; the regular holding anchor that dropped from the bow when the ship was at anchor and a second anchor that hung ahead of the bow and would have been lowered into a rowing boat and rowed several yards away, dropped into the water and winched in to pull the gun boat off of the sandbanks.

I thought it would be interesting to search the web to find out more about these vessels but can find nothing at all; maybe the web wasn't around in the Victorian era. Vic doesn't look old enough to have been there either so creating such detail without scale drawings is all the more remarkable.

The model is constructed on a modified tug, fibreglass hull and only uses plastics in its construction.

I believe there are a growing number of club members using plastics in construction as opposed the ply and balsa? Why not share your experience with us in using the materials and glues?

View more detailed pictures at: www.basingstokembc.co.uk /featured member



If you have any articles for future newsletters then please contact me by phone or email. 01256 467 629, mikee.edwards@btopenworld.com