

# THE POTTERIES MODEL BOAT CLUB COMPASS

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2016

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Welcome to this Spring addition of our clubs newsletter. I have much to report as to the activities of the club as well as key changes to the remaining diary dates for 2016, these will be found at the end of this letter so please update your own diaries.

It is with profound sadness that on the 15th of February this year we lost Tony Mosley a club member since 2012 and an avid yacht sailor. Tony was a good friend and solid club member to all that knew him and his loss will be keenly felt. The club attended the funeral and I can report that it was well attended by well wishers and relatives alike.



Tony Mosley R.I.P

Other member news - Ian Smith being hospitalised on the 27th April for a lung cancer operation. After an 8 hour operation the result was successful much to the relief of all at the jetty, and I have passed the clubs best wishes for a speedy recovery onto Ian and Michelle.



**February 5th and 6th** found the club attending the Ellesmere model boat show. This is as you all know the first show of the year and the organisers made great improvements this year to the format. We found ourselves in the museum part which in previous years was cold and poorly occupied but

this year we were with traders and better conditions which made the event a pleasure to attend.



Weather conditions played their part in restricting attendance but overall the organisers thanked us for our support and the presentation of our stand did the club proud. We had twelve boats to start with but after some shopping on the bring and buy stand this grew to some sixteen boats. My thanks go to the members who loaned their boats for the show and to, Ray Lasnier, Richard Brock, Kevin Rowley, Les Dutton and Mark Wilkes for their time and support manning the stand over the two days. Mark was tasked with photographing the show but unfortunately dropped his camera into the lock some 30ft deep so if any club member has a wet suit and aqua lung please contact Mark for rescue instructions!!!

**April 3rd** saw the clubs annual Tug Towing day with nine competitors all competing for the coveted trophy. The tug skipper of the year, competition was fierce with Ian Smith turning up with his posse determined to show defending champion John Bossons the way to go home. Unfortunately John was unable to attend, allegations of him being a chicken were rife but it appears he had to go away (or so he says ) with his wife. In the finish 1st was Sam Heeks, 2nd was Peter Spooner, 3rd was Kevin Rowley.

Ian Smith did a great impression of a pin ball machine hitting all the buoys as he went around the course scoring a record minus result and when I can get my calculator to work I can confirm the



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total penalty faults he incurred, (oh how the mighty are fallen). One noteworthy member, Steve Fisher, having been press ganged into competing, looked on the final run to be winning the competition only to have an unfortunate tactical moment at the last turn but a fantastic effort none the less and well done Steve for giving it a go.

**April** also saw the commencement of club yacht racing. This as you know is conducted on specific dates throughout the year and for more information please contact Neville Bishop, number in club directory. A full and comprehensive report of these initial races can be found on our web page [www.potteriesmbc.co.uk](http://www.potteriesmbc.co.uk) courtesy of Roger Gilmour.

**April the 19th** saw myself and Ray Lasnier go on what is now becoming our annual pilgrimage to the Dortmund model show which if you read our report of 2015 is a massive combination show for Boats, airplanes, Trains, Trucks, Military vehicles and Earth moving vehicles, all modelled to scale and with full operating effects, all set in scale towns, fields and battle fields. If you go nowhere else treat yourself to this event, we went from Luton with Easy jet to Dortmund with a four day three night stay in a good hotel for £265 each including, show tickets, car transport to Luton, car park, flight, and hotel, great value. If you want to know more please contact myself or Ray Lasnier. Highlights for



us was the grey war fleet demo on the indoor lake and the excellent demo of yacht sailing using giant wind machines as well as the excellent flying demonstrations by the indoor world champions. At last years show we could have bought a truck full of parts and models but Easy Jet don't take kindly to excess baggage nor did the security screening at the airport when a certain member decided not to show his bag of micro switches and wire which were concealed in his bag with two torches. Three guesses what the Germans thought these were!!! anyway they let him go much to my surprise and against my wishes.



**May the 7th** saw the council ladies at the lake with the children for their Saturdays event. Our club put up two gazebos and the club flags and the event went off really well with the ladies providing snacks and materials for the kids to make little boats all to the backdrop of fine sunny weather.



As you will see from the photos, the Chairman and Health and Safety officer both took the role of supervisors, issuing their



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commands to one and all! (where's a bucket of cold Westport water when you need one). A good morning was had by children and members alike and the council thanked the P.M.B.C. for its efforts in supporting this worth while cause.



My thanks go to Ray Lasnier, Russ Condliffe, Richard Brock for their support in building the gazebos and to other club members who came to support the children.

Please make sure you check the diary below for changes and events for the rest of the year.

## **Diary**

**May 15th** 10-11-30am Lifeboat day, all welcome with prize for the best boat on the day.

**Diary change \*\*Stoke canal festival at Etruria canal museum Etruria, 4th and 5th June\*\***

**July 3rd** 10-11am steering competition for small and large powered boats.

**August 7th** , 10-00 -15-00 Navy day for all types of warships and auxiliary navel craft.

**August 27th and 28th**, Haydock Park model boat show, The club will be exhibiting again in 2016 and again any club member wishing to attend (free admission for exhibitors) please contact myself for details.

Yacht racing will again take place at Westport Lake on selected Sunday mornings. For details on how to enter please contact the Yacht supervisor Neville Bishop on **01782 630301**

**Endon Night Sailing \*\*8th October 2016\*\*  
- Boats with navigation lights, one hour sail followed by a social, pie and peas evening, bar on site - Tickets from myself.**

Regards  
**Paul Noden**