



Voice<<<<<<>>>>>>>>pipe

The Newsletter of
The Mid-Thames Model Boat Club



July 2020

Issue 167

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- Yachting 2020

Dates For Your Diary

- From 23rd June to the end of July. Ad hoc operations fitted in around the published weekly schedule.
- A new calendar of events will be published to run from the end of July until the end of the year in March 2021.



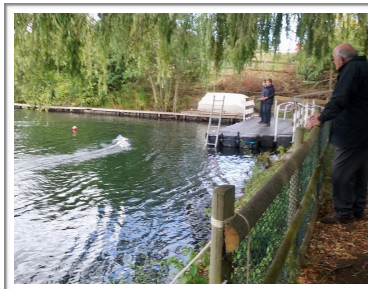
Well done Richard. First model boat on the water at Hi5 Bay Lake - Monday 22nd June 2020

Chairman's Corner by Tony Simons

As you will be aware by now, we at last can sail our boats on the water again. It was a long path anyway to get to this point without the interruption of COVID 19.

NB. We are sharing the pontoon and water with other users, if you are not happy about anything please **DO NOT** have ago at any person on site, **ALWAYS** contact a committee member to resolve issues.

The first Sunday meeting at Hi5! Bay Lake 28th June 2020.
Old un's & Young un's try out some Fast Electrics & Scale





New member John Bristow tries out the new pontoon

As you are aware finding anywhere that would accept our club has been very difficult, we are still developing a relationship with Hi5 and associated clubs sharing their facilities.

It is difficult for me to request time slots for use of the water if I don't know if anyone will take part in any of our organised events, so thank you for the replies to our Poll regarding attendance to organised events. See elsewhere after Sunday July 5th we have the water from 10.15am every Sunday to the end of the year.

We currently pay Hi5 monthly, from both sides this is a good arrangement because if things don't work out we won't be out of pocket by a year's rent, so far we have a very friendly relationship. The area we use is seeing more use by others than normal because of the "Lockdown" but to make up for lost revenue Hi5 need to exploit their resources.

I have offered the use of the pontoon for swimmers and paddle boarding, this has been well received by all, it also helps make us part of the team.



The MTMBC Store houses, oars, rowlocks, buoyancy aids, tables, chairs and much more



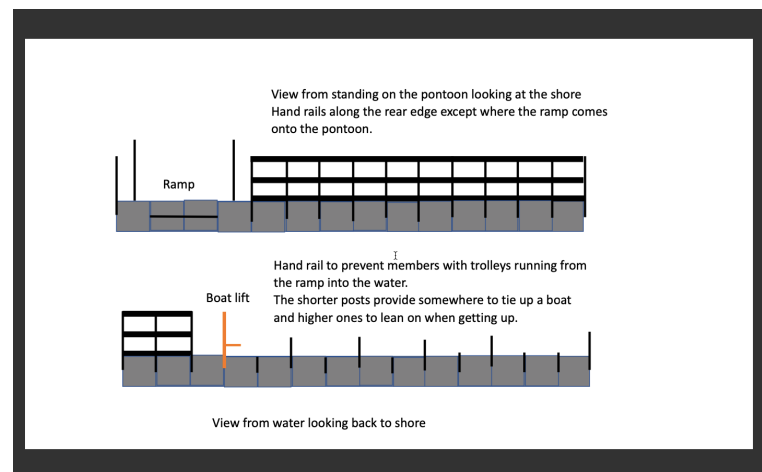
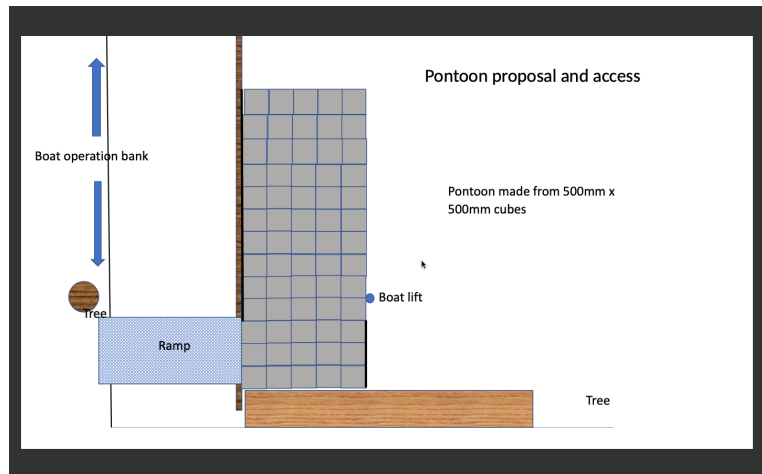
Because of shared use of the water and pontoon we must stay in our allocated slots, we hope to send you regular updates of Hi5 calendar as you will see there are often spare time gaps you might like to use. BUT please phone Hi5 to check the time slot is still vacant ahead of travelling to the lake.

Trading Post

Trading Post is an area of Voice Pipe where members can advertise their model paraphernalia. So if you have any you would like to sell, swap, buy or just want something send contact details, brief description and a picture if possible to:- parker42@btinternet.com

Particularly if swimmers are in the water no powered models must be used, and even yachts on a windy day can cause damage.

Because of the steep banks in our operating area at Hi5 a means of safely getting to the water was needed, thus the pontoon. The alternative was a rebuild of the existing wooden jetty and making it bigger, part of the jetty is to be rebuilt when time permits, for now please stay away from the corner section that has totally collapsed.



To avoid spending approx. £700 to purchase additional pins, nuts and bolts for the pontoon I took it on myself to manufacture components that substituted for as many of these items as possible.

Having cut, machined and drilled approx. 50 plus aluminium washers, cut 18 pieces of aluminium tube and welded them to the larger washers to make the hand rail bases, cut in preparation for welding assembly assorted 5mm plates to mount the boat lift and fitted all but the boat lift at time of writing, it has been work of many hours spread over the last two months to provide the means to assemble the pontoon.

I have, to thank all who have been involved with bramble clearing on a large scale, this has involved chain saw, brush cutter, loppers and a variety of other tools including Alans 4x4 to pull out roots. Without their efforts to initially clear the area we would still be admiring the water from a distance.

Hi5 continued with this at the start of the "Lockdown" relaxing, I had expected the area we had cleared to be taken over by nature, but they had cut new growth back and further tidied up.



PARAPROSDOKIANS... (Winston Churchill loved them) are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected - frequently humorous

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right - only who is left.
7. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
8. They begin the evening news with 'Good Evening,' then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
9. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
10. Buses stop in bus stations. Trains stop in train stations. On my desk is a work station.
11. I thought I wanted a career. Turns out I just wanted paychecks.

continued

Once we could travel again, I thank all who have helped get the pontoon assembled and launched, again Alan's 4x4 was very, useful and also the volunteers who helped remove the last of our equipment from Beale Park.

When collecting the two rescue boats from the outer lake, we found only one, someone had opened the combination lock, removed the boat, scattered its contents but thoughtfully chained up and relocked the remaining boat.

I can't emphasize enough if you are not happy walking on the pontoon, please ask another member to launch/recover your boat, be aware of waves from speed boats turning.

Also, because our area is out of site of Hi5 main activities I am insisting there should always be two persons present, the second to remain ashore to summon help if there is a mishap.

A site map and contact numbers for the Hi5 managers Andrew and David is located inside the door of our store unit, in the first instance contact them for assistance. They have just taken delivery of a Defibrillator in the unfortunate case one is needed.

Fast Electrics by Dave Parker

Apologies to those of you who may have already seen some of this content on the Facebook page.

2020 Race meetings

Because of the late start to the racing season this year there is only enough time left to run 3 race meetings. The first meeting will be devoted to familiarisation with the new venue and establishing the race course. Testing, setting up, advice, free practice and racing if those attending want. There will also be the opportunity for members to try out a HAG (Have a Go) race boat.

This leaves 2 more scheduled race meetings before the end of the boating year in October. I doubt that will be enough to constitute a proper championship but we can run a competition to the end of the year anyway.

Unfortunately it looks inevitable that we will have to move all our race meetings from Saturdays to Sundays to fit in with Hi5 schedules. I am sorry this has been necessary and I know it won't suit everyone but for the moment it is unavoidable.

There are several ways that we could organise race days. Previously the day was naturally broken into two parts because of the need to move to the outside lake for the faster boats. This provided a well timed lunch break but it did mean that finding Race Controllers, Lap Counters and Buoy Judges for the faster races was a problem because those not competing in the faster classes tended to leave at lunch time. So we have the opportunity to restructure the day to try and overcome this problem. Assuming there are sufficient entries and we run all race classes

With a 10am start the proposed order of play is:-

Race 1 - Club500, F600, Wacky Races, Mono 1

Race 2 - Club500, F600, Wacky Races, Mono 1

Lunch & free running

Race 3 - Club500, F600, Wacky Races, Mono 1

Run What Ya Brung until the close of the day at 4pm or later

It will be for you the participants to decide how we end up running the day so I suggest it is discussed at the first meeting and a decision made on how you want to go forward.

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Starting Gate

We have a new starting gate for the new venue. It is similar in design to the old damaged one used on the inside lake at Beale Park but it is constructed differently and is slightly larger to cope with the bigger boats we will be racing at Hi5. It has two parts that need to be joined before deployment.



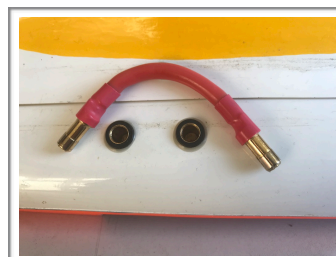
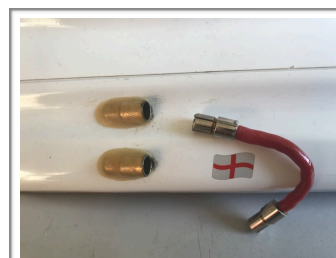
Please be careful with deployment and recovering because the area around the joint can be subject to high stresses if it is not lifted evenly. Deployment and recovery is a two man job. Hopefully it won't leak, but should water get in, there is a drain hole in each half sealed with a plastic screw.

Safety loops

Some info for those who may be considering the new Mono 1 race class which requires a 'Safety Loop' to be fitted. This article offers some guidance on installing one. The only company I know of who manufacture a Safety Loop is Tenshock and they call it an 'Urgency Switch'.

<http://www.tenshock.com/urgency-switch.html>

So the best way is to make one yourself from high current connectors & high current wire. The pictures are some examples. First is a Tenshock urgency switch fitted to a Mini mono. The other two are home made and fitted to Mono 1 boats. One has double sockets glued securely into the deck at an angle and the other has double sockets mounted vertically and insulated from the Carbon Fibre deck. (A word of caution if you have a carbon fibre hull. Carbon Fibre conducts electricity so you need to insulate the sockets from the Carbon Fibre).



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F/E Racing jargon buster

As there has been no 'on the water action' since the last edition I decided to include some explanations of fast electric racing terms that you may not be familiar with.

Please note that these are my interpretations and by no means official definitions.

C of G - Not strictly the Centre of Gravity but the balance point between bow & stern.

Chine walking - Mono hull handling issue - repeated side to side rocking motion.

Club class - Boats raced at a club with the same specification. e.g. Club500 & F600B

Deep V - Mono hull with a dead rise angle greater than 20 degrees.

Dog drive - A method of transmitting rotary motion from the prop shaft to the propeller. A pin or dog fixed to the shaft engages with a slot in the propellor boss.

Drive line - The assembled components of the drive from motor shaft to propeller.

Fail safe - Most modern radio gear can be set to fail to safe settings of throttle & rudder in the event of loss of signal to the Rx.

Flexi drive - A flexible drive shaft of stranded & coiled hardened steel that usually runs in a Teflon or PTFE liner.

Flood chamber - A section or duct along the left hand side of a hull designed to fill with water on capsize and automatically right the boat.

Free running speed - The no load revs per minute of a motor.

Hook - A hull defect in the form of (usually a shallow) hollow that can cause difficulties getting a boat to plane.

In runner - A conventional brushless motor with the magnets fixed to the rotor running inside the fixed stator & coils.

KV - A commonly used abbreviation for the number of revolutions per minute per Volt provided by an electric motor. e.g. a 500KV motor runs unloaded at 500RPM for every Volt applied.

Loll - A mono hull handling defect characterised by the hull being flopped over on one side and then flopping over to the other with a change of direction.

Mill time - A defined period of time for race boats, from setting off, before they can cross the start line. Typically 10 seconds.

Out runner - Brushless motor commonly used in drones & planes. The stator coils are fixed centrally and the magnets are attached to the inside of the motor case and rotate with the casing round the stator & coils.

Planing - Skimming over the water's surface displacing very little volume of water.

Prop walking - The action caused by the rotation of the propeller which tends to drag the stern of a boat to the left turning the boat to the right.

Race time - From the start to the end of the designated time. This may include mill time. e.g. A race time of 6 minutes + 10 seconds mill time.

Safety loop a.k.a. Kill switch - An electrical device located outside the hull designed to quickly disconnect the drive batteries. Usually in the form of a red wire loop and two connectors but can be a single connector withdrawn from two

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connecting sockets.

Self righting - The ability of a race boat to right itself in the event of a capsize.

Spray rails - Usually triangular shaped longitudinal strips under a hull to provide hydrodynamic lift.

Starting gate - A floating structure designed to hold boats in position prior to the start of a race.

Step - A structural feature of some surface drive hulls designed to reduce drag.

Surface drive - A drive line that places only the lower half of the propeller in the water when a boat is planing.

Torque steer - The tendency of the torque reaction in the motor to turn the hull to the right.

Torque wedge - A wedge shaped addition to the underside of a hull designed to counter the effects of torque.

Trim Tab - An extension to the planing surface of the hull. Usually fixed to the transom and flush with the planing surface. The angle of these devices can be altered to 'trim' the way the boat runs.

Turn fin - A fin submerged in the water when a boat turns to provide a fulcrum for the rudder to act against. It helps the boat turn and reduces slide slipping.

Wire drive - A thin steel drive shaft often used where a shallow curve in the shaft is required. Normally made from piano wire.

[See you lakeside soon Dave](#)

Tug Towing by Tony Simons

I put out a proposed course in the last VP, in the absence of any replies it must have been exactly right?

However, the parallels when we recovered them from the inner lake at Beale Park were in a poor state, so they have been scrapped. If we wish to have another set, I would appreciate a volunteer or two to fabricate them.

At the moment unless the majority wish to hold tugs on a Saturday afternoon after 4pm I suggest we go for a Sunday late lunchtime start?

I have a lot of work on so I won't be making a storage box for Challenger this season but we have plenty of other tows.

I look forward to seeing you at a suitable distance soon.

Tony

Yachting by John Price

Well it does appear that at last we can gradually get back to a little gentle sailing , albeit in small numbers.

I decided that it was about time to give my yachts the once over prior to their first dunking for about 8 months. I went into the study where 4 of them are kept but couldn't actually get to them because of all the bills and paper work I had dropped on the floor. So naturally I gave up and went out to the garage to check on the Fiesta. I plugged in the battery and nothing happened, then I remembered the switch but still nothing happened. Eventually I remembered that it is a 3 position switch; the first 2 are off so an extra click brought it back to life. The boat seemed fine.

The next thing was to sort out the study. Two hours later I was able to get at the Dragon Flite 95. That was all working OK, as



12. In filling out an application, where it says, 'In case of emergency, notify:' I put 'DOCTOR.'

13. I didn't say it was your fault... I said I was blaming you.

14. Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.

15. Behind every successful man is his woman. Behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.

16. A clear conscience is the sign of a fuzzy memory.

17. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

18. Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

19. There's a fine line between cuddling and holding someone down so they can't get away.

20. I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.

21. You're never too old to learn something stupid.

22. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.

23. Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

24. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

were the two One Metres. My Typhoon (IOM) had a clunking noise when the jib swivelled so I put my hand into the hull to see if the fitting was loose. I couldn't reach it but then realised my hand was stuck. I imagined going to A and E wearing a yacht on my arm! After a couple of minutes I managed to wriggle it out. All the clunking needed was a drop of oil.

There are several things I like to check on all the yachts:-

Make sure the rigging is all securely fastened to the boat and is not frayed.

The radio gear is not loose in the hull.

Make sure the rudder is secure and straight.....they're a bit vulnerable to the odd accidental kick while in storage.

Bow bumpers need to be properly stuck on. (Use insulation tape if necessary)

Charge the batteries in the transmitter and boat and cycle them to make sure they will hold a charge.

This is all to ensure that everything works when we get to the lake. All this fiddling has made me keen to get a boat on the water.

See you soon.