



Monthly News Letter January 2011

Historic Boat Section



Well Spring is upon us barring any last minute snow and ice. The evenings are already lighter and it won't be long before the people will be wanting to take out the boats again. Hey ho here we go.

**Portsmouth Naval Base
Property Trust**



Jan. 2011 Update -

Harbour Launch - The bilges have been completed in the forward accommodation. In the month she was given some work to get her ready for a planned loan to HMS Daring, unfortunately bad weather precluded this as Daring could not be brought out of 3 Basin, however the 'urge' gave the boat a nice boost. The engine servicing was completed by Terry with cooling system drained and oil changed. Harbour trials were very good with no evidence of the previously reported



over heating. Alan 'a' Dale has been very busy working on the boat electrics solving the riddle of the various Junction boxes and the like. The boat now boasts full lighting in all spaces (except for the cable locker where he chickened out), a working floodlight and all Nav lights are all tickety boo. Not bad for a 'Greeny'. He has also been busy painting the forward accommodation as can be seen above left. He looks quite relaxed as he reclines casually on the seating. Below right we can see Dave getting to grips taking out the cracked windows in the engine room, (there are plenty



of others as well in the other cabins waiting for next month). He has been ably assisted in this job by Whaler John, who, as you can see from the photo over left is a very trusting soul. The last words I heard him say were 'The only rivets I can see Dave are those copper ones there are definitely none made of gold. Dave has also been making some new polycarbonate windows from our 'salvage' store. (Stuff we pulled out of the skip five years ago that we new would 'come in handy' one day). In the photo at the top of the next page he is busy polishing out some of the scratches', that is the down side of 'come in handy' kit, it's not always perfect.



Jan. 2011 Update -

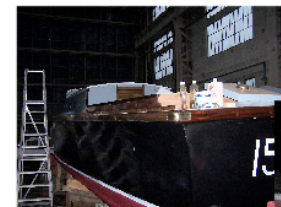


It's not too bad Dave, only another five windows to go and you will be expert, ready to write your own guidelines for



the Internet. As I said earlier Alan has been sorting out the electrics. One of the follow on jobs for him is to clean up all of the contacts in one of the junction boxes. He has brought it into the workshop to make his job easier, as you can see in the photo over right he may have bitten off more than he can chew but he is committed so we will wait and see.

ST 1502 - Bob and Vince got on with the paintwork finishing off the cabin top and the new coaming. Fred and Trevor finally fitted the stern rubber and



this was oiled and fitted with some nice tiddly brass corner protectors. She looks almost professional. In the photo over right Terry is getting on with rubbing down the boot topping ready to scribe in the new waterline. Bob also had a go when Terry got fed up with it.



Vince and Danny have been painting the engine bay after Tony gave the whole a good rubbing down with wet and dry. In the photo below left Vince is seen painting the new coaming section. This is the first time his sparkly coat hasn't dazzled the camera making him look like a shining angel.



Jan. 2011 Update -

Motor whaler Danae - Ian, Rob and Brian L have been back to work on Danae. Ian has been eager to get her off her trailer so that he can get started on her hull below the water line. She needs to have a new Bilge keel made and fitted as well as her under water fittings checked and renewed as necessary. In the photo over left lan is seen making a set of bilge chocks ready for



the big lift, all we need now is a crane that works and we can get him off my back. While waiting for the crane he has been fairing off the rubbing strips that he and Fred roughed out earlier. Below right he is busy with plane ready to hand making lots of wood chippings in the workshop. Clanky Tony has also been working on the Lister Engine in anticipation of getting the starter motor ring back to fit.



Whaler 'Westerman' - Trevor and Vince carried on with the refit with Vince rubbing down a few small mountains of filler left by Trevor. In the meantime Trevor raised the masts and carried out a quick survey of the fittings so she can be made ready for the 'Round



the Island Race later in the year. Above left partially rigged for checking, over right the powers that be having an in depth discussion about what they all did the previous night down the pub or perhaps some of the finer details of Montagu Whaler fittings.



Jan. 2011 Update -

Whaler 'Excellent' - David 2, Tony and Jim did some rubbing down of her hull in preparation for some final filling and priming before the top coat of paint is applied. Like the Motor Whaler she is now held for a working crane so that we can lift her off the cradle to get to her underside. So that we had plenty of keel blocks Trevor borrowed maintenance Steve's chain saw and chopped up some of our long term stored bulks of timber. Below left Whaler John can be seen having a short supervisory spell in between humping timber with Ian. Below right Trevor is in full flow under the watchful gaze of Ian who only wanted one block to move



his boat onto. Shortly after this the chain came off and we all had a self taught lesson in Chain saw blade fitting/ tensioning. We also did a bit of blade sharpening to help pay for the rental charges for the machine to Steve. Mack



has been busy on all of the brightwork for each of the boats. Whenever he can get his hands on a chunk of brass or bronze he gets set polishing it. Below I caught him on the buffer wheel rubbing a Whaler tiller arm bearing boss away so that it shone like a jewel in the crown. Once he has finished with it it will end up back on Westerman or Excellent.



Feb 2011 Wish list

Quarterly work sheets - These are now up and running for the current priority boats therefore any of the boats covered by these will not be covered in detail below.

HSL 102 - See current Work to list.

HLD D49 - See current Work to list.

ST 1502 - See current Work to list.

Montagu whaler 'Excellent' - See current Work to list.

Monatgu whaler 'Westerman' - See current Work to list.

Motor Whaler 'Danae' - See current Work to list.

Green Parrot - Update current Work to list.

MGB 81 - Raise a detailed Work to List. All major work is currently being held. Other work needed, Battery charging circuits to be fitted. Fit bilge alarms, assess the bilge pumps and wiring, fit radar reflector.

25 Foot FMB 'Ark Royal' - Raise a detailed 'Work to List' Finish the small covers and agree the display format and location. Replace the radio that had been removed for security purposes.

Crew Training - Hopefully to be set up in the coming weeks / months to be completed before next season.

Ariadne - Figure head refit on hold until further notice.

Osborne - Continue the weekly checks on state of boat and surrounding stand.

Three in one Whaler - Work held pending completion of other programs.

Admiralty Pattern 14 Ft. - Bring her out of storage and complete a survey and get her ready for display.

32 Foot Rowing Cutter - Keep a watching brief on her now she is held in the tunnel.

Landing Craft - Fit some low volume pumps with batteries and solar panel similar to Cyclops. Improve access with a temporary deck enhancement.

20 Foot Clinker Sea-boat - The engine needs to be serviced and restored before it can be fitted back into the hull. Work held pending completion of current work load.

15 Foot Fast Motor Boat - . Currently on hold.

Main Pontoon - Construct a power stanchion to incorporate the twin solar panels - Currently low priority due to other planned work.

This Month's Competition - No competition again this month as I have run out of space, sorry.

Any Suggestions for next month - If you have got any stories, facts, fiction, lies, scandal or suggestions for this ditty just let me know my 'e' mail address is : - boatbitsisus@ntlworld.com. Fred is the name.