



# Monthly News Letter July 2010

## Historic Boat Section



July has been a good month. Good weather, good work rate. Some boat survey work packages completed affecting HSL102 and D49. Finally Stop Press, despite Fred's driving we got D49 out of the dock and onto the pontoon, thanks to John, Bob, Terry and I suppose 'Left hand down a bit, back a bit, forward a bit' Fred.

**Portsmouth Naval Base  
Property Trust**

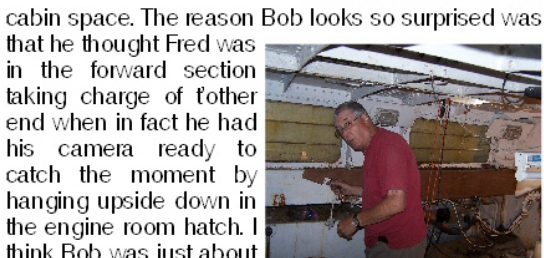


## July 2010 Update -

**Harbour Launch Refit** - Below left we can see John 'He who swims with very large marine mammals' West getting to grips with a morticed scarf joint for the Engine Room carlin replacement timber. Also, below right we have caught Robert 'I have started so I'll finish' of Nottingham helping Fred to fit the beast in place as one of the many dry fits. As you can see the beam disappears through the forward bulkhead into the

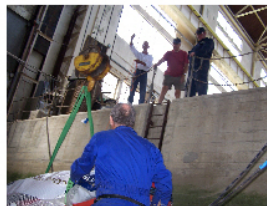


cabin space. The reason that he thought Fred was in the forward section taking charge of the other end when in fact he had his camera ready to catch the moment by hanging upside down in the engine room hatch. I think Bob was just about to get his Vuvuzula out and give it a good tune up. The photo below left shows the new carlin in place and the new deck plate ready to fit once all of the timber work has been completed. The starboard side also has some rot in it but not as bad as the port side and hopefully we can get away with fitting a small graving piece in place. Then it will be all systems go to get the boat finished and up for sea trials before the Navy Days. Getting nearer the day of 'completion' was heralded by a mass migration of guys onto D49. All of a sudden you couldn't move for bodies, washing down paintwork, sluicing off pigeon droppings, cheeing down fathoms of anchor cable and chain. The following are some of the Photos taken during the hit. Why doesn't the first one surprise me, one guy working and three watching. Never mind Danny at least you can blame them if the inflatable isn't aligned properly.



Bob looks so surprised was

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In the next photo below right we can see Dave 3 and New Terry giving the job in hand a severe thinking about. I must say Terry you do look comfortable sitting there. This is probably a bit unfair on New Terry as it was his first full day and was getting his instructions from Dave 3!!! (See Dave I did warn you not to slag me off in the Mess Room the other day, I can be quite cruel). Below left we can see Alan a' Dale and New Terry sealing off the engine room before Robert of Nottingham got splashing about with the pressure washer. Finally the day arrived that Fred,



Dave and John 'He who swims with very large marine mammals' West have been waiting for. The final fitting of the new carlin and immediately after that the fitting of the new deck plate. The photos below show some of these activities. Over right is Dave, who with Fred having glued and bolted up the scarf joints he is seen fixing the coat hooks in place for Clanky Tony's overalls (not really it is just that he hasn't cut off the long ends of the new tie-bars yet). Once the carlin was in place next was the deck plate. Dave and Fred prepared the beams with primer and gunky mastic tape ready to take the steel decking. Below left you can see Sadie who was co-opted from 'Excellent' to take John 'HWSWWLMM' West's place helping Fred, who is in the engine room doing a good impression of a contortionist putting nuts onto Sadie's bolts. Please note. It seems that John 'HWSWWLMM' West and Geoff both went AWOL at this crucial stage. They will be gutted to have missed it. You just can't get the staff. If you look carefully on the front cover you will also see a White Shirted Black Fingered New Terry after he helped Black Handed Fred finish the same job.

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## July 2010 Update -

**HSL 102** - We have completed a fair amount of work on the HSL this month. Robert 'I have started so I'll finish' of Nottingham and his 'towny' mate Alan a' Dale have been busy with Mack Brodie stripping wood



work and re-treating with teak oil and a good coat of paint Over left you can see Mack knocking himself out going full pelt to get the job finished. When I took this one Mack swore that he had only just stopped and it was his first break in 3 hours. Well I believe him if nobody else does. We have also had the services of Medusa John, a marine engineer from the Medusa

group working on the engines of HSL 102 doing the work specified during her survey. He completely cleaned out all of the bilges, fitted loads of new hose in place renewed air and oil filters got the engines running. The photo below



right shows Medusa John busy as he finalises the work the day before Sea Trials. You can see he is obviously a professional just by looking at his white overalls and that is at the end of the day in the engine room. He puts the rest of us to shame, scruffy lot. From the perished state of the hoses that were taken off it is apparent that the work was not before time. Orders were placed for the wiring kits for the newly required anchor winch. Watch this space for progress. 102 was taken out for sea trials but a problem was identified on one engine due to low oil pressure and high temperature. More work is needed here then.

**Whaler Excellent** - There has been some work this month despite the priority to clear away the Harbour Launch. Alan 1 has continued with the stern gratings and Sadie also came back in between her day job. These day jobs are a bit of a problem as they seem to get in the way of the real work. My apologies to Alan 1 for not getting any photos of him at work but I had my work cut out keeping up with multi tasking 'Clean Hands' Dave on the D49.



## July 2010 Update -

**Robert of Nottingham - Special edition.** Fred had made up a wooden chain pipe for D49 but before he could fit it Robert of Nottingham got his hands



on it and thought it was his Vuvuzela and started playing it and singing South African football songs. I think that it must be something in his genes!!!!. Sorry Robert I know I

set you up for this photo but I couldn't resist it.

**Motor Whaler Refit** - Ian and Rob have been moving on with this boat, Ian doing the stem section and Rob doing the stem post Ian's bit is now primed with the majority of the wood work completed on the Starboard side. It won't be long now before the fibreglass foredeck goes back on, whoopee!!! Rob has laminated in some timber sections on the stem post. The engine will need to be serviced before it goes back in so perhaps New Terry may like to get involved once we extract the engine from it's 'hidey hole' as Tony is up to his neck in all things Green Parrot.

**Green Parrot** - Quite a lot of the fittings have been removed from the Port engine but before we can go much further the sea cocks need to be sorted out so we can close them. Watch this space.

**Ships Crests** - Below we can see Ian busy, busy, whilst Mack looks on checking his work Ian is photographing each one and logging them onto a spreadsheet. (Shades of Britannia Spares.) I am not sure how far he has to go to complete the package but he is in his element



**D49 Rubber dinghy** - Having salvaged her she is now back on the boat and not looking too bad. The photos below show her before and after Fred's rework.



## August 2010 - To do list

**HSL 102** - Finish fitting the battery charging circuits in place and fit wire up the new anchor winch.

**MGB 81** - All work is currently held pending outcome and resolution of outstanding issues.

**Crew Training** - Both of the above need to have special crew training. Who, when and where, how?.

**Ariadne** - Figure head refit on hold until further notice.

**Osborne** - Weekly checks on state of boat and surrounding stand.

**25 Foot Motor Launch Ark Royal** - Finish the small covers and agree the display format and location.

**Admiralty Pattern 14 Ft** - Work held pending completion of current work load.

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

**Landing Craft** - Fit temporary decks aft to provide improved access.

**20 Foot Cutter** - 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.

**Spare FD6 Foden Engine** - Determine which FD4 spares can be released in exchange for the gearbox. The current owner is prepared to deliver and collect if it is all agreed.

**15 Foot Fast Motor Boat** - Currently on hold.

**1502** - Fit new ignition switches and resolve remote engine stop problem.

**Main Pontoon** - Construct a power stanchion to incorporate the twin solar panels.

**This Month's Competition** - Who lives with a hand



like this? Do you want some clues? Well he is a really nice guy, he takes lots of photos, he conned Robert of Nottingham into playing a vuvuzela, he got sucked into working with nice 'Clean Hands' Dave on

D49, he will be walking around like a member of the 'Black Hand Gang' for the next few months and he needs driving lessons on D49. If your answer isn't an anagram of 'dref' then you cannot be eligible for first prize. Thanks Dave I really appreciate working with you and your bucketful of black mastic adhesive.

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