



Monthly News Letter
March 2011

Historic Boat Section



March nearly gone, so far not too many winds have blown. HSL 102 is just about there ready for the season. ST1502 is on the last knockings and HLD D49 is all back together, we will soon be spoiled for choice and very soon all we will need is plenty of expensive fuel and we can keep the Q.H.M. busy all summer.

Portsmouth Naval Base
Property Trust



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Harbour Launch D49 - Dave and Whaler John have continued replacing the damaged windows, this has proved to be quite a major task as over the winter months several more of window glass have delaminated probably due to moisture ingress at the edges



following the rust expansion of the frames and subsequent cracking of the glass. All of the new windows are to be made from Polycarbonate sheet. Over Left Whaler John is finally putting a window back in place,

only another 8 to go. Alan 'a' Dale has finished the rewiring work and as you can see from the Photo over right he has now really finished the replacement Junction Box. He's getting too good for us, he'll be asking for a 10% pay rise soon taking him up to £6.60 a day.



Chamian - Terry, Trevor and Rob got together in the month and emptied Chamian of her collection of Pigeon droppings gathered over the years under 7 Boathouse. They all deserve a special mention as this has to be one of the sh^%^*yist of jobs undertaken in a long time and the best of it is they all volunteered. I haven't got any action photos of them doing it but the boat is seen at the top of the next page just after the first day's shovelling. I have however got a photo of what looks like Captain Birdseye as he got ready to venture into the pile of droppings.



Over left is Trevor all booted and spurred, photograph with compliments of cub reporter Mad Ian. The photograph at the top of the next page shows Terry with Chamian in the back ground after they had finished but before she got her cover on ready to go back into holding storage under Number 7 Boathouse, He looks fair chuffed. with himself but I



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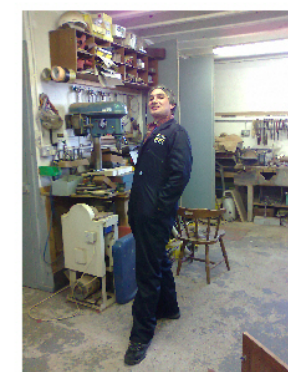
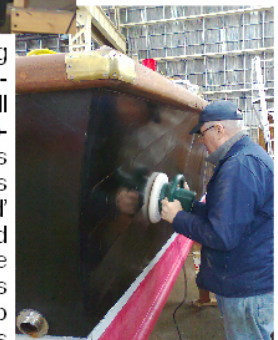
don't know who has pinched the roll of lino from under his left arm.

ST 1502 - The mini refit has been completed and she is due back afloat soon. Robert I have started so I'll



'finish' of Nottingham has done a brilliant job on the hull as you can see below. He has done the whole thing over with 'Wet 'n Dry' fol-

lowed by a severe rubbing down with TeeCut and finished off with boat wax all buffed up. The only problem is he can't turn his head as his neck has seized solid in the 'Ahead' position. It wasn't too bad at the stern as you can see but as he moved towards the bow he had to get up higher and higher. He was so high at one time we thought he was on 'wacky bacci' with his head in the clouds.



Vince has also been busy this month, he finally graduated to a full volunteer and was awarded his own set of regulation 'Ovies', he was so pleased he wanted a commemorative photo taken so he could show his mum. Over we can see our male model 'Vicente' striking an unforgettable pose. What a plonker. (Just in case anyone is in danger of forgetting



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I am going to keep putting copies up around the Trust to remind them.) We had plenty of deck paint donated to us by Ark Royal so Vince and Robert also painted to deck of 1502 a very pleasant shade of light grey. All that is left is the waterline to be cut in and the mast put back once she is afloat and out of the Boathouse on the Pontoon. Anyone for a trip round the harbour?

Motor Whaler Danae - Things got really serious this month on this boat, the 'Clankies' came out in force and started putting all things mechanical back into the boat. Just as I had forecast previously they want to put the engine back in and the boat isn't ready for them. Just what have you been doing Ian? Below left I managed to catch them in full flow, here is Clankie Tony and his new Clankie mate Shiner



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busy with Allan2 in the background working on the 'Leckie' parts of it, over right Allan2 looks really professional with the alternator going back onto the engine. This time Mr Cockup didn't join the crew and it all went back in one piece. I must say that it has been really nice



for 'Clankie' Tony to have someone to talk to who can understand Clankyese so that his monosyllabic grunts were responded to. David Attenbrough eat your heart out, you thought that you were the expert on studying wild life and it's behaviour.

HSL 102 - Having been over to Endeavour Quays for the best part of a month the work to achieve coding



was completed and she went back into the water on 16 March for sea trials which apart from some minor overheating issue with the centre engine went very well. It seems that all of our combined work on this boat has paid off in the



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end. She has had the engines serviced, new winch and anchor fitted, the deck repainted, hull polished and a lot of electrical work as well as quite a few minor but necessary jobs completed. She should be all tickety boo. God Bless her and all who worked on her, with a special mention to Richard who managed to con everyone into helping.

Whalers Westerman and Excellent - Work has progressed on Westerman to get her ready for the water in the next few weeks. Trevor has stripped out all of the dodgy caulking from her keel joints and replaced it with new. Over left he is seen lying down on the job tacking the starboard side. Whilst



in the meantime Sadie has made a comeback ready to work on Excellent. Alan 1 has made some more progress on the gratings and has now handed over the first completed one to Mack for varnishing. Above right Ian, Sadie and Mack are seen sorting out a set of sails for Westerman.

Good News and Bad News - The bad news is that the powers that be have seen fit to pay off H.M.S. Ark Royal several years early. The good news is it has



given our two resident magpies, Ian and Brian H the chance to carry out several sorties to help her crew find a home for some of their disposable consumable materials. We have received some excel-

lent donations in the month with spare cordage, cleaning materials, paints and minor tooling plus anything else that wasn't actually bolted down. Over left you can see a very small part of the paint that has



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been donated. This will give us the opportunity to get rid of some of our older stock that is out of shelf life. These are all things that will help us with our ongoing tasks with significantly reduced expenditure. A minor down side to it all is that we have to re-jig our stores to accommodate the new material. I am sure that we will be able to make use of any spare space that we can locate even if it means some cleaning up and sorting out with a new rope, paint and general store in the offing. **Other Activities carried out in the Month** - Ian, New Peter 2, Rob, and Alan 'a' Dale have been getting the lowdown on the new storage facilities getting very down and very dirty. Trevor has been taking in Sub-contract work making gun covers for Explosions Museum. Brian L, Dave 2 and Tony H have started work on the 2nd Admiralty Pattern 14 ft Dinghy and Dave E-P has been sorting out miles of rope. Finally apologies to anyone else that has been working whom I have failed to mention.

April Wish List - Quarterly work sheets - These are now up and running for the boats detail below.

HSL 102 - See current Work to list.

HLD D49 - See current Work to list.

ST 1502 - See current Work to list.

Whaler 'Excellent' - See current Work to list.

Whaler 'Westerman' - See current Work to list.

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

Green Parrot - See current Work to list.

MGB 81 - Move her to the Heritage Pontoon and raise a detailed Work to List. Check all bonding of the under water fittings and connect temporary sacrificial anodes over the transom.

25 Foot FMB 'Ark Royal' - Raise a detailed 'Work to List'

Osborne - Continue monthly checks on state of boat and surrounding stand polish all brass work.

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

Admiralty Pattern 14 Ft Number 2 - Bring her out of storage and complete a survey and work to list.

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

Cyclops - Carry out a mini survey and create a Work to List.

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.