



Monthly News Letter
November 2011

Historic Small Craft Section



An excellent Christmas Clean up by Terry, Andy, Mack, Brian H, Ian, Danny, Shipwright Trevor, Rob K., Dave S, Whaler John, Vincent, Spud, Fisherman Peter, Foto Fred, Sadie, Ropey Tony, Alan 1, Allan 2, Shiner, Robert of Nottingham, Alan 'a' Dale, Dave R and Tony H, Maintenance Steve, Trevor and Andy plus apologies to anyone I have missed!!!!

**Portsmouth Naval Base
Property Trust**



Nov. 2011 Update -

The Green Parrot Refit - Whaler John was let loose early on in the Month and has stripped off the whole of the Rubbing strake on the Starboard quarter luckily he cut it all into small bits so we now have 'carte blanche' on how we put it back and we can just use our imagination as to how it looked. 'Chippy' Chris, one of last month's new starters has also gone mad with the after deck section. What started off as a couple of bits of 'dodgey' planking soon escalated into a major rebuild once we saw the extent of the wet rot that he uncovered. Over right shows the Tiller Flat deck main beam once he had cleared



away the covering plank along with the sub plywood deck with additional holes. Over left Chris is seen getting stuck

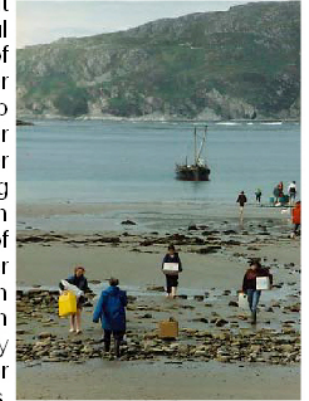
into the tiller flat bulkhead. He is a crafty old 'What'sisname', 'cos having taken it to bits, he is off on a 4 month holiday and has handed the job over to 'Old we will get it back in the water by May 2016 Sadie'. Meanwhile Dave has been pushing on with the varnish removal job he opted for. He has done an ace job of cleaning off the old stuff but it has been a veritable pig of a job. Having finished that he took a break and took off the stern rubber but unlike his mate Whaler John

he did his bit in one piece so at least we have got a pattern for the new bit when we get around to fitting it back in place. above right he looks like a successful whaler of yesteryear holding up his trophy Jaw bone. Geoff has also pushed on with the hull and has now nearly completed stripping off two half sides, over left he has started on the bow.



Nov. 2011 Update -

Cyclops Refit - Andy has been able to make only slow progress on Cyclops this month as the weather has been mainly against him. We did hear from Mike Murray her previous owner. Mike had hoped to be able to come in and see Cyclops when he visited Pompey last month but he has a pretty eventful sail down and ran out of time. Mike did however send us another photo of Cyclops in her earlier life. In the photo over right she is seen in 'Pig Bay' (Bagh Gleann nam Mhic) at the North end of Jura with the white water of the Coryreckan in the background and an army of kids and family setting about a camp for a couple of nights.



Looks like a good time was had by all. Many thanks to Mike for another insight into her past

Whaler Excellent - A mile stone passed, She has been under repair for the past few years following her loan to H.M.S Gloucester and the ensuing mishap. Well this month, push came to shove and due to the big Christmas clear up she was committed to the deep. Before Excellent could go in however she needed to have her keel



caulked and some anti-foul and a quick coat of undercoat. In the photos here we can see Trevor, Sadie and Andy giving her the business. Please note the photo on the left here is pretty unique as against all odds it shows Trevor with a paint brush in his hand and I can confirm that he was using it to put that white stuff on the hull, something that he swears would never happen.





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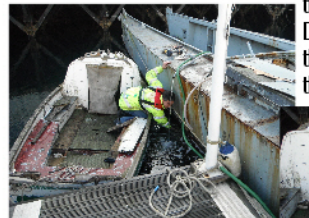
And finally, as can be seen below left, she is afloat albeit making a fair bit of water in the process. Now at this point I only feel that it is right and proper to mention the contribution also made by our master painter Vincent (Well Masta something). He and Andy did the anti fouling but unfortunately for Vince it was on one of my days off and so I missed the event on camera. Tough luck Vince I shall have to do better next time you have a paintbrush to hand.



Well, that is not strictly true as Trevor was inside the boat, Brian was on the pontoon, Fred was on the camera, it was Vincent who was below water, or at least his arms were. In the photos below left and right our intrepid 'Diver' can be seen holding the spanner on the bolt on the outside patch whilst Dry Trevor tightens up the nut inside to bring the two patches together

to stem the flow. He also seems to be using his head as a fender. If you look carefully at the photo on the right you will see one of the pump outflows just to the left of Vincent's neck. It was lucky that Fred finally managed to put his foot on it and to allow Vince a nice cooling spray to stop him getting overheated. Instead of being submerged for ten minutes, he would have only had to hold his hands and arms under water for a two minutes if Trevor hadn't bothered to roll himself a 'ciggey' mid operation without telling him, still it only took three hours for Vince to get the feeling back into his hands, he reckoned the water was cold.

L.C.A F8 - The ongoing Saga - I may have missed out on Vincent's contribution to Excellent but I was to hand when he came to the rescue of the L.C.A F8. Yet again she is proving to be very tender and has sprung another 2 inch leak in her side. This time it was spotted by Terry and Brian H before she could go down and we had plenty of pump power in place. Trevor, Fred and Vincent ably assisted by Brian H put a patch in place below the waterline. Well, that is not strictly true as Trevor was inside the boat, Brian was on the pontoon, Fred was on the camera, it was Vincent who was below water, or at least his arms were. In the photos below left and right our intrepid 'Diver' can be seen holding the spanner on the bolt on the outside patch whilst Dry Trevor tightens up the nut inside to bring the two patches together



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Paint Store Gates - We finally got round to making the gates for the new paint store. Below Trevor is seen busy on the floor putting it together. And in the next photo is intrepid Vincent with paintbrush in hand getting into the pictures again. (I hope you realise Vincent, that this is



the last time you are going to get mentioned in three articles in one month).

Project Dominique - Little Victory - She was finished in the month by Fred and Trevor with rope and wire work courtesy of Knotty Tony. 'Little Victory' was launched with the help of Fisherman Pete, Trevor, Knotty Tony, Fred, Dominique and many helpful words from a host of bystanders and hecklers. Over left shows Trevor and Fisherman Pete sorting out her lines ready for the off with Fred and Dominique afloat in the work boat Nimbus ready to take the tow. Below right 'Little Victory' is moored across the pond for all to



look at in amazement and wonderment whilst thinking strange thoughts to themselves !!!!!. She forms part of a wider exhibition covering the AspeX Gallery in Gunwharf and Gallery Art Space Portsmouth 27 Brougham Road Southsea.

Motor Whaler - Danae - Wonders will never cease, Danae went into the water this month again as part of the 'Christmas Festival Clear out'. She did cause us a bit of a panic first time in when one of the drain plug hull fittings leaked like a sieve and despite heroic attempts by Fred and Trevor she had to be lifted out PDO but not before the two intrepids managed to foul



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up Robert of Nottingham's nice new paintwork with their muddy foot prints off the slimy ladders. Trevor managed to get Fred's hands covered in the dreaded black mastic adhesive for the third time in a month. Anyway the long and short of it is that she is in the water for the first time since we have had her and she looks pretty good. Even the 'Clankies' went aboard and started her engine. Brmm, Brmm. They did have fun.

Whaler Westerman - Yet another boat launched so for the first time ever in the history of the Boat Section

we have managed to put three boats into the water at one time. (Four including Little Victory) The photo over left shows three of our four whalers afloat together. Wonders will never cease. Talking of which Brian H was caught doing something 'Seaman like' again this month. This time he was 'untangling' a coil of rope, (but only because he had tangled it up in the first place). Then he managed to convince Fisherman Pete, him with his back to the camera, to sort out the mess.

Mack's Place - No it's not a wine bar, it's the new vamish booth which was opened for business. The photos here tell their own story. So there you have it. Alan 'a' Dale posing with the lights letting us think he is working, when in fact he had finished that job

weeks ago. (Who said the camera never lies). Vincent with yet another paint brush, (That is 4 times this edition Vincent, 5 if you include the front sheet, make the most of it sunshine, never again.) and finally Mack relaxing in all his glory.

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.



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