



Monthly News Letter October 2011

Historic Boat Section



Clocks gone back, dark by 1630, but still the sun has shined. Just the time to pay tribute to some of our ever-greens that I seem to have missed doing their work this month. Here goes, Danny, Postman Pete, Alan 1, Alan 'a' Dale, Geoff, Mack, Allan 2 and of course our intrepid leader Brian P. Portsmouth Naval Base Property Trust



Oct. 2011 Update -

The Green Parrot Refit - The progress on the Green Parrot has been somewhat painful this month. In the main the cabin sides have been finished and are all set to prime but the lifting eyes have proved quite difficult to resolve. Below left Clanky Tony is on the receiving end of one of the old bolts as Shiner drives them out from inside the cabin. To draw all of the bolts it has been necessary to cut sections of the Rubbing strake away. Whaler John and Fred have made a start on replacing the forward sections. Below right John is getting the beast



sectioned before they cut the staggered scarphe to laminate the new pieces in place. Over left you can see the results of the 'Mad Saw Man' it just leaves the tricky bit of getting the new timber back in place. Over right is the first



stage fit of the results of two days solid hacking and hewing. In the meantime Dave has elected to do the really 'omible' job of stripping the years of coagulated varnish off the after accom-



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modation bulkheads. Eat your heart out MackCyclops **Mini Refit** - Andy has continued with his one man mission. As I said last month he had found some rotten timbers in one of the frames, well for his sins he has had a master class in replacing said timber in the month thanks to Fred and Trevor. (mainly Trevor as Fred was busy with his camera). Over night he is seen posing again trying to show people how he riveted the new section in place. He is just too clever for his own



good trying to show Fred up. Below left Andy has moved on to the 'De-rusting stage of the iron fixtures. No matter what he is doing he has always got a smile on his face, he obviously knows something that we

don't!!
ST 1502 - Although not on a planned set of jobs this month she did give cause for concern. Whilst Terry was doing some of his regular maintenance jobs he spotted a leak from the Port engine oil cooler. On closer examination it became obvious that we were only a



couple of millimetres away from disaster. Over right is Terry's pointy finger highlighting the corrosion that had nearly split the flange away from the body of the header tank. One stud had come adrift and the build up of salts was forcing the two plates apart Above left the damaged flange is seen in all of it's glory. Thank goodness for the miracle of Mazel, the wonder repair kit. On the next page Terry is seen stripping down the beast getting it ready to rebuild the damaged face and replace the stud.



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Over right Terry is cleaning up the surfaces before we hit it with a severe dose of Mazel, and then with fingers crossed that we could split the sections once it had cured we applied the gunk. Low and behold like all well judged gambles it paid off and within the 36 hours 1502 was back fully serviceable. Watch this space for any other little happenings.



Motor Whaler 'Danae' - Robert of Nottingham has been kept busy along with Alan 'a Dale and Mad Ian. Allan 2 our resident 'Wafoo' has been doing the engine wiring so God knows when that will run again.

(Ok I'm not serious about that, he wont have any more idea than the rest of us). Over left Bob and Ian are sorting out the



non slip tread on the fore deck and over right Ian can be seen offering some advice to Fred about what he should do with his camera. Let's just hope he doesn't press the shutter at the same time as carrying out Ian's request.



16 Foot Fast Motor Boat 'Dainty' - Trevor has progressed Dainty still further. In the month he has fitted windows in the after cuddy. He used some polycarbonate sheet that he found 'Loafing' somewhere. The only down side is he managed to fit one with the protective film arrows pointing up and the other with the protective film arrows pointing down, at least he managed to convince our 'Vincente' that it was a problem, bad person that he is. Trevor has now got the



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English Elm planks for her rubbing strokes so next thing will be a steam box to get them to bend
Harbour Launch D49 - Fisherman Pete has been away on holiday this month and only got back in the last half of the month so he was late getting started on the bilges in the engine room. That's the trouble you just can't get the staff with the right priorities.

Admiralty Pattern 14 Sailing Dinghy - Dave 4 and Tony have pushed on with the dinghy. This month they managed to get another coat of varnish on the hull and started work fitting out the Port after seats. Brian L was also in but luckily for him Richard wanted some work carried out on MGB 81 so he got out from under just as the final inspection was carried out on



the profiled slats. So sorry Tony but they have been rejected so it is all start from scratch. On the upside though Fred has pinched them to fit

onto 'Project Dominique Bottomless Boat' and so with a bit of trimming, thinning, planing, sanding and general salvage they haven't gone to waste.



Above and below are some photos of Dave 4 and Tony cursing the day they laid eyes on the dinghy.

Project Dominique and the Bottomless Boat - We had a visit in the month from Dominique Ghesqueire a French artist based in Southsea. She was looking for an old boat to which she could 'do things to'. As we didn't have any 'old boats' that weren't already



booked in for having 'things done to them' it was suggested by some bright spark that it would be fairly simple to make one from scratch. (Fred will never learn) So the photos below and on the next page show

some of the stages of 'Dominiques Bottomless Boat'.



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If all goes well Dominique hopes to use the boat as part of her exhibition and it will be on display in the



Mast Pond from November 19th. and later, if Fred's design can be taken apart into the component piece parts as required, she will also take it with her back home to France. Over left you can see the 'Bottomless Boat

following her initial test launch. We are so used to seeing boats like this Terry went straight away to get the pumps. Watch this space next month for the formal launch. Hopefully it will be good publicity for the Property Trust in the months to come.

Whaler Westerman - She has been ashore for some time now since the 'Round the Island Race' weekend, Spud Murphey is back in tow now and can be seen



over left washing off Westerman's hull ready to put her on display. He has been moaning for weeks now that he hasn't featured in the News Letter so yer tis Spud, your moment of glory. Whilst we are talk-

ing Moments of Glory Brian H also had one this month, I managed to catch him in the process of moving something other than his bum from one end of the Boathouse to the other.



New Starters - We had a couple of new volunteers kick off in the month, Rob K and Chris A, both of them have 'Clanky' backgrounds. Chris is a very strange combination though as he is also a 'Chippy'. Whatever next, perhaps Fred will pick up a broom and sweep up after himself. Watch out for photos next month.

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.