



# Monthly News Letter Sept. 2010

## Historic Boat Section



Summer has gone albeit September was pretty good weather wise. A lot of good work achieved in the month on several of the boats and a productive ten days spent at the Southampton Boat Show with HSL 102 and MGB 81 with loads of visitors on board.

**Portsmouth Naval Base  
Property Trust**



## Sept. 2010 Update -

**Harbour Launch Refit** - Dave, John, Alan and Fred pushed on with the bilges in the month. Dave painted all of the scaled ballast blocks so that they were all a

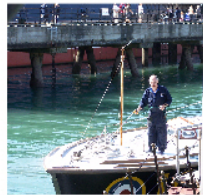


pristine white. Over left we can see Dave, Alan a' Dale and John getting to grips with replacing the damaged secondary ribs in the bilges. This proved to be an interesting little job as the rot extended up the sides and under

the main lockers as you can see in the photo below right. The damage to the secondary rib spreads both ways either side of the lamp. It wouldn't have been as bad as all that if Whaler John (HWSWLMM) had managed to control his urge to swing off the timber and prove it was duff. Just goes to prove the saying 'What the eye doesn't see the heart doesn't worry about' but that just about sums up the whole ethos of historic boat restoration.



**HSL 102** - As we said last month she was off the the Boat Show for a few days and some of the last stage jobs were captured as they progressed. Left we have



got Danny sorting out the anchor chain and bottom right we have got Terry praying that Fred has finally got the bilge alarms and radio working. Please note for all future 'lecky' work on this

boat she is 12 volt only and no matter how hard you try you won't find 24 volts, Fred please note. Dave 3 was caught again lying down on the job, this time he tried to tell me he was giving the bottom of the boat a coat of anti-foul.



Well Dave that's your story so who am I to suggest anything other. I only capture what the camera sees



## Sept. 2010 Update -

**ST 1502** - We progressed with this programme. Dave 3 and Terry had a look at the engines and sorted out some of the niggly problems, such as the remote stops. Below right I managed to catch them in mid flow by sneaking up and getting a quick shot. Dave 3 had a moan at me for always catching him lying down on the job. Dave, I don't plan it, it just seems to be the position that you adopt most for some reason. Alan 'a' Dale and his mate



Robert 'I have started so I'll finish' of Nottingham spent a fair bit of their time working on the sticky up bits on the deck. They painted the superstructure and cabin tops. There were several guys had a go at stripping back all of the teak. Terry did a fair bit of the rub-



bers and below you can see Alan and Bob hard at work, above left the two of them doing their balancing act whilst over right Alan is stripping off the paint from the spurn-waters to bring them back to bare oiled teak. Terry removed the toilet pan from the



heads and by the look of it we won't have to worry about air fresheners in future judging from it's new position. If it stays there, whoever uses it at sea will need to have a pretty good aim otherwise they will zap the batteries. Tony 2 and

David 4 were working on the stem to fit a rubber to match the side rubbing strips and help protect the stem from random attacks by frisky boats as they sneak up behind her.



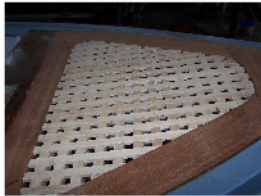


## Sept. 2010 Update -

**Whaler Excellent** - The refit goes on, in the month we had Spud doing great work painting the inside of the hull. I know this, not only because I took photos of him doing it but also because he 'e'mailed me whilst I was on holiday and told me and complained that I had missed it. Oh well I suppose we will have to wait



another three years before he works on a boat again. Brian, I am not sure who your mate is looking over your shoulder but he looks a bit 'salty' to me so you had better do a good job otherwise he may haunt you. Alan progressed with the stem gratings and from the photo right you can see that we now have another budding 1st class apprentice amongst us. It is better than the original and once Mack has been let loose with his varnish brushes it will be a cracker. Only another four left to do now Alan!!



**Motor Whaler Refit** - Both Ian and Rob have been away on holiday for part of the month so the motor whaler breathed a sigh of relief with no new rot found. We shall have to see what they come up with when they return. Terry has got hold of a battery and hopefully he will be able to turn over the boat's engine ready for it to be refitted, that is if we can extract it from its own personal hell hole where we stored it for the last festival. Below Ian has finally got back from the States and has started giving the poor



old Motor Whaler what for. Here we can see him getting a good thick primer onto the hull. This however was not before he found time to scabble around the rubbish skip to see what was worth salvaging as you can see over right.



## Sept. 2010 Update -

**102 and 81 at Southampton Boat Show** - The following photos show the two boats during their visit to the Boat Show earlier in the month. The photos were provided by Richard who looked after the boats for the duration. Over left we



have some veterans of the who had previously served on the boats. Over right



ground. The photo above left shows MGB 81 along side whilst the following



this photo that she is running on her two outboard engines only until such time as her midline engine is repaired. However it doesn't detract from her



HSL102 can be seen alongside with one of the Daring class boats in the back-



two photos show both HSL 102 and MGB 81 en route. Below right MGB 81 can be seen as she gets underway. You can just make out from



over impressive presence. The bottom left shot shows HSL 102 in Southampton waters. Over the period the two boats attracted many hundreds of visitors along with a vast amount of interest



## Oct. 2010 - To do list

**Quarterly work sheets** - The full update on the work to sheets will be made in the month extending the programme of work out to cover September, October and November. We will produce some achievement stats at the end of October against the first quarter of the sheets being in use.

**HSL 102** - Finish fitting the battery charging circuits in place and agree the new anchor winch. Build a grating / walkway in the forward section of engine room midline. Complete all of the outstanding 'Coding' tasks.

**MGB 81** - All major work is currently being done by outside contractors. Other work needed, Battery charging circuits to be fitted. Fit bilge alarms, assess the bilge pumps and wiring, fit radar reflector.

**Crew Training** - Hopefully to be set up in the coming weeks / months.

**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 some low volume pumps with batteries and solar panel similar to Cyclops. Improve access with a temporary deck enhancement.

**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.

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

**ST 1502** - Fit new ignition switches, finish current programme and service the engines. Re-stitch the main cover centre line seams.

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

**This Month's Competition** - Can you guess who really wanted to be in the Royal Air Force rather than HMS Ganges in the Royal Navy? If you want to have a clue when he goes swimming you can see the oil slick on the water from all of the 'Billcream' that he uses. If your answer isn't Brian Hoskins then you have got it wrong. He is such a slick old 'b'.

**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.