



VOL. III

NO. VIII

NEWSLETTER

Ensign's Report 1st August 2010

We haven't seen many "show and tell" works in progress recently on club nights. Projects haven't stopped for the winter though, as this round-up of recent boatagrapths will show.

Steam launch - Peter - 1

Not a new model, but Peter's live steam launch has emerged from a recent refit with a far more eager performance, the result I suspect of some expert attention to its tiny engine.



2

Motor yacht - Bert - 2

Bert has gone up-market with his latest model, trading in his fishing boat for this twin-shaft motor yacht built from the MMI plan and finished in "Bert's Blue".



3

Scout - Allen - 3

Allen's version of the MMI free plan "Scout" is shown stirring up the water at Cairnlea, powered by a big block Rolls-Royce Merlin engine (big wooden block, that is).



Versatile tug - Alan - 4

Alan's large 1:12 scale tug hull was launched recently to confirm performance and ballast requirements. In a BMBG first, real-time visual telemetry was used to ascertain instantaneous motor current consumption (just read the multi-meter as the model sails past).



4

RAAF and RAF Seaplane Tenders



Alan has been following up the suggestion I made in the August 2008 newsletter that the RAAF boats of the WW2 era might be worth study as a modelling subject. Preliminary research suggests that the most numerous of these was the Halvorsen 38 air-sea rescue boat (pictured above by Alan) of which 178 were built by Lars Halvorsen Sons Pty Ltd.

Considerable anomalies exist between published drawings and this model in the showcase of the RAAF Point Cook museum, particularly in the design of the rear of the superstructure, and these would need to be sorted out before design of a working RC model could commence.

At 38 foot long, the Halvorsen would make a fine companion model to my BPBC RAF Seaplane Tender, being only some 13mm shorter at 1:12 scale but with a greater beam and similar performance.

The boat that my own model is based on, ST206, has been very much in the news recently. It has been acquired by the RAF Museum and recently made its "final voyage" to London to become a permanent exhibit, sadly ending its days as a working boat.

Coverage of the trip will appear in a future issue of *Model Boats* and a news report may be seen here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pYAQPrrlvQ>

The craft has also starred in the documentary "Britain's Greatest Machines", in the episode devoted to the 1930s, as a lead-in to the HSL.

As a result I'm sure you will understand that in future I will need to demand an appearance fee for my model on sailing days.