



VOL. II



NO. V

NEWSLETTER

Captain's Log 6th June 2009

I am struck by the thought that I am writing this on the sixty-fifth anniversary of D-Day. What models do we have within the group of the ships that took part in it? The only one I can think of is the war-weary HMS Warspite, which was used for shore bombardment, and has been modelled by Bruce.

MMACF dates set

The dates for the 2010 Model Maker and Collectors Fair at Hobart have been set for 20-21 March. Start planning now!

HMS Kent completes speed trials



I couldn't resist including another picture of Phil's cruiser HMS Kent, on the water this time. It is such a photogenic subject, with those graceful funnels.

Phil is completing a speed run. Notice how the wave generated has stretched to the point where the distance between the crests - its wavelength - is approaching the length of the hull, and there is a deep trough amidships. This sets the practical limit for the speed of any ship, model or full-size, as applying more power will mainly result in the hull digging a deeper hole for itself in the water. You can also see that the hull load condition is that of 'sagging' - supported mainly at its ends.

Model Yachts by Don Matthews

Have you ever contemplated building and sailing a model yacht? A good model is very satisfying, sailing for long periods with minimum battery drain, no noise and some challenge to get the best performance within the limits of sail power.

It takes very little wind to keep the yacht moving and in fact if you set the rudder trim to one side the boat will sail in circles and slowly drift downwind with no correction from the helmsman (you)- handy if you have to attend to a distraction-yachts will not stop or reverse like a power boat!

A yacht is more bulky to carry and larger sizes need rigging and de-rigging on the shore to facilitate transport. A removable keel and rudder make transport easier.



Don's RA class yacht at Cairnlea

To get the best sail power the rigging should be arranged to tension the trailing edge of the sails, which is the reason for some strange looking fittings and lines on model yachts. A sail winch which winds the sail sheets (lines) in with a number of turns on a drum is much better than a servo with a long arm, which works on a small boat but will stall with heavier loads.

There are a number of racing classes of yacht which range from the RA & 10 Rater which can be up to two metres in length and heavy, to the RM of 50 inches in length, to the Metre class and other classes established later. All have a following and vary in speed, cost and difficulty in construction. Before you start you need to decide if you want to race with others or just potter about. You could buy a fibreglass hull, bare or finished or build from ply or balsa depending on the design chosen.

At least one sailing boat should be in any model boat enthusiast's collection. *(below) Wee Nip racing at Jack Roper Reserve*

