



Sydney Model Shipbuilders Club Inc.

CHATTERBOX

ISSUE # 2

JUNE 2012

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

I am grateful for all the generous compliments about Issue #1, I am very happy so many of you enjoyed reading about our Club and this phenomenal hobby we pursue.

We can now settle into more of a routine, but I am still totally reliant on your contributions, and even if you don't see your article immediately after you contributed it, don't panic because I am sometimes limited by space in the "Mag", it will be there sooner or later. Please make sure that the photographs you send to me are at least 300 megapixels is size, or they come out a bit hazy.

All contributions and constructive criticism are welcome and can be sent to me to chatterbox@smsc.org.au.

happy modelling

Tom



Lively discussion among the Members during the display presentation at the January'12 meeting.



SMSC COMMITTEE (for 2011-12)

President:	Mike Barton	president@smsc.org.au
Vice-Pres:	Harry Goedings	vicepresident@smsc.org.au
Treasurer:	Mario Nolasco	treasurer@smsc.org.au
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Newsletter Ed:	Tom Wolf	chatterbox@smsc.org.au
ANMM Liaison:	Richard Keyes	



POSITIONS VACANT

At the upcoming Annual General Meeting all positions on the Executive will become vacant.

Applications will be by volunteering personally for a position, not by nomination.

Every Member should give serious consideration to joining the Executive in one of the following positions:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Committee Members



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next meeting of SMSC will be THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at 7:00pm on Tuesday, 24 July 2012 at the Peter Doyle Learning Centre, ANMM at Darling Harbour unless the Members are otherwise notified. The AGM will be followed by the bi-monthly "Show & Tell" at 7:30pm.



SMSC MAY MEETING

The 8 Members present discussed many of the issues currently relevant to the Club and we then had a "Show & Tell".

Janos Nemeth demonstrated use of Marathon N9 "micro motor hand-piece". This dental equipment rotates at 46,000 RPM and is controlled by a foot pedal. With the various bits Janos finds it an excellent tool for scribing.



Michael Bennett brought along MURRAY RIVER P.S.TYRO (paddle steamer), here Michael and Mark Dawson have a discussion in the background while Adrian Broadbent inspects the model.

CHATTERBOX CIRCULATION

It is intended that the Newsletter will be published every 2 months (the even months) and will be distributed to all financial Members and Associate Members of the Club by email, and anyone expressing an interest in joining the Club will be provided with 1 issue and if they don't join they do not get any more.



CONGRATULATIONS KEVIN HUDSON

Kevin has won First Prize at the Sydney Royal Easter Show in his category of entry with his HMS VICTORY.

On behalf of all the Members of SMSC we offer our congratulations, **WELL DONE!!**

(Ed: can we have an extensive and illustrated report for Chatterbox?)

MODEL REVIEW

"LONGBOAT - HMS SIRIUS 1786"



Gary Renshaw displayed the **Longboat - HMS Sirius 1786**.

The longboat was the largest boat aboard HMS Sirius and would have been used to transport Captain Arthur Phillip ashore in Sydney Cove to claim the eastern part of the Australian continent for Great Britain on the 26 January 1788, naming the new colony New South Wales.



The model is 1:24 scale, it is 565mm long and 410mm high, it is a kit by Modellers Shipyard.

Displayed at the January 2012 meeting.



DON DRESSEL

Our first honorary member, Don Dressel, is personally known to several of our members. He has visited Australia twice.

Don organised The Western Ship Model Conference and Exhibit in Los Angeles in 2011, which was attended by some modellers who are members of SMSC.

He is a long time resident of Los Angeles where he lives with his wife, Elizabeth. They have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Don has built more than 30 models of every sort over the decades. He has made scratch built models as well as highly modified kits of both period and modern ships.

One of his finest models, SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS, was made from a kit into a masterpiece over a period of 17 years.

He is the author of the book *“Planking Techniques for Model Shipbuilders”*, this well known book is still in print, he has also had numerous articles published.

Don was a founding member and has held

every office of the Ship Modellers Association of Southern California, one of the most successful model making clubs, which has been running continuously for over 40 years.

His travels have taken him to maritime museums across three continents and he has become a member or honorary member of many national and overseas model making associations including “The ROPE Model Ship Builders Club of Tokyo Japan” of which he is particularly proud. He is also actively involved in the Nautical Research Guild and has held the position of Director since 2000.

As a result of his many activities he has numerous friends and contacts in the international model making world and a wealth of personal expertise which he is always willing to share. In his library, vying for space with his many ship model awards, are more than 800 books on all aspects of ships and model making.

It would be difficult to find a person who has contributed more to the wonderful world of ship models.

We are lucky to have Don included in our membership.



Don and SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS

MODEL REVIEW

"ASTROLABE"



Peter Law displayed the "Astrolabe", a French exploration vessel with a link to Australia.

In 1875, Louis XVI appointed the Comte de La Perouse to lead an expedition of discovery in the Pacific, the expedition comprised two 500 ton frigates, La Perouse commanded the "Boussole" and Paul Antoine Fleuriot de Langle commanded the "Astrolabe".



Receiving instructions to investigate the settlement the British were about to establish in NSW, Australia, the La Perouse expedition arrived at Botany Bay on 24th January, 1788, only days after the arrival of the British First Fleet and just as Captain Arthur Phillip was planning to leave Botany Bay in search of fresh water.

The meeting with the British was courteous and helpful. La Perouse took the opportunity to send journals, charts and letters back to Europe with the First Fleet's HMS Sirius. He left Botany Bay on 10th March, 1788 but both ships and all crew were lost in the Solomons - a sad end to an extraordinary voyage.

The Botany Bay (Sydney) suburb of La Perouse was named after the commander of the expedition.

The model is 1:50 scale, made by Mantua. Peter found this to be a well-designed kit with plenty of challenges and a visually very pleasing end result.

Novices should be aware that the hull is single planked and that no deck planking is provided. Also there is no contents/parts list to check that the kit is complete.



Displayed at the May 2011 meeting

CLUB NEWS

WEEKEND "S & T" (show & tell)

- Report by **Robert Brown**

The April S&T was held at the home of Ralph Hannaford at Marayong. Another opportunity for the members to discuss their models and to receive constructive comments/hints about their projects, and 5 Members attended.

John Edwards brought along his scratch-built "giant scale" model of the James Craig. The James Craig is made of steel plates butted together, not "joggled" over each other. The model is around 6'0" long, and is very impressive. In the end, the consensus was that several thousand hand applied "rivets" was taking the scale reality too far. John had laid in the plate lines by gluing twine to the hull, spraying undercoat over, and then sanding back to leave the low-relief lines visible, a very clever solution.

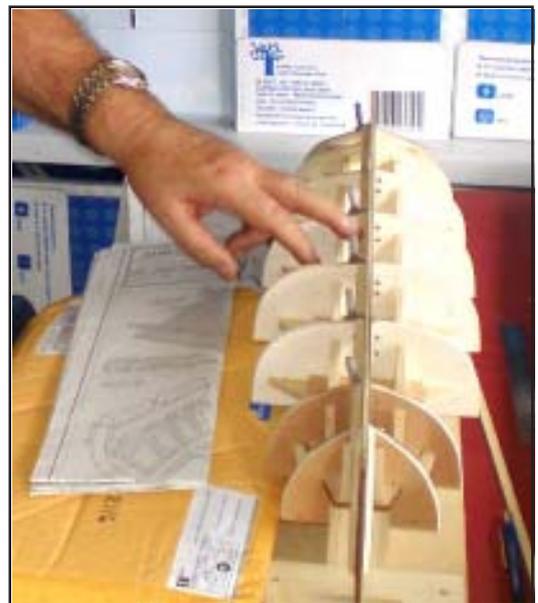


Ralph showed a plethora of models, including one that had been acquired as a kit over 30 years ago, when Ralph was serving in the Australian Navy.

Some of you may recall the recent "debate" regarding the merits of the pay-as-you-go kit of the Victory, being distributed through Newsagents. Ralph showed the group the collection of excellent publications that accompany this Kit. The publications cover far more than assembly instructions, giving historical and biographical insights into naval warfare at the time. A close look at the laser-cut parts showed that there is quality in this kit.

Robert Brown brought along his Amati kit of the Victory's 34'-0" sloop. These auxiliaries were used to lay the Victory's anchors, with 16 crewmen rowing a sloop out from the ship, with the anchor slung underneath. Robert discussed the difficulty of making the mould (frames/ keel/false deck) structure rigid. As the frames are not glued to the keel, and must be able to be removed from the planked hull, then a substantial amount of bracing was required.

Robert also brought along some miniature bronze screws, down to #2gx10mm, that would be useful for jigs and temporary holding. The screws have miniature square drive sockets, and the custom screwdrivers come with matching tapered square bits. For any members interested, the website for the Melbourne suppliers of this screw is <http://www.sachys-robertson.com.au/index.html>





Robert asked advice from those attending regarding the cutting of rebates in keels. His attempts in scrap ply were less than successful, so he is now thinking of fabricating a two-piece keel (4mm inner ply as supplied, and outer cut from 6mm walnut board).

Robert showed some detailed (scaled) plans for the Bluenose that he acquired from Winston Scoville in Nova Scotia. Mike Barton showed the group his progress on the hull of the Beagle, and discussed the progress on the new web site. Members are encouraged to send in materials, construction logs, photos etc. to the webmaster.

These S&T days are proving popular with the members, and the Club encourages all members to attend for a pleasant couple of hours in relaxed company.
A vote of thanks to Ralph for providing the venue.

EXHIBITIONS AND SHOWS

Port Macquarie Panthers Model Exhibition

This year's show will be on 3rd-4th-5th August.

3rd-----set up; 4th-----show; 5th-----show

Any further inquiries please contact Wayne Salter on 0419486366

Canberra Model Exhibition

This year's show will be on 18th-19th August.

The "Kanangra"

Full details are not yet to hand, but it is understood that the "Kanangra" will be open on 18th-19th August.

Members will be advised if models can be exhibited.

SMSC encourages its Members to support all modelling Exhibitions and Shows by exhibiting or attending as a visitor, every model viewed and experience shared will improve your own modelling techniques.