



# The Model Steamer Club

Sailing every Saturday at Rouken Glen Pond

Ian McGhie - President   Tom Ewing - Secretary   Gerald Leviin Treasurer

Newsletter

May 2012

**Tartan Day   Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April.**

## Club Mathematics

[ Sunny – (rain + hail) + calm – gusty ] X Enthusiasm = A Good Show !

Yes, despite the weather sent on the day we gave a good presentation for a Club that has no premises and little sailing due to pond weed for the last year. We had a Gazebo for the rainy times.

There were 15 boats on display with at least four on the water for most of the afternoon.

The Council had been able to start the weed removal earlier this year and we had a good area of water with only some floating strands to give some minor weeding up but no one got stuck. The Council have continued to bring out weed, but there are still large areas of long established weed to be dealt with. A continuing problem for us is that the Council boat cannot work right in at the edge, leaving some pockets of heavy growth in the cleared areas.



**Falkirk Wheel   Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July**

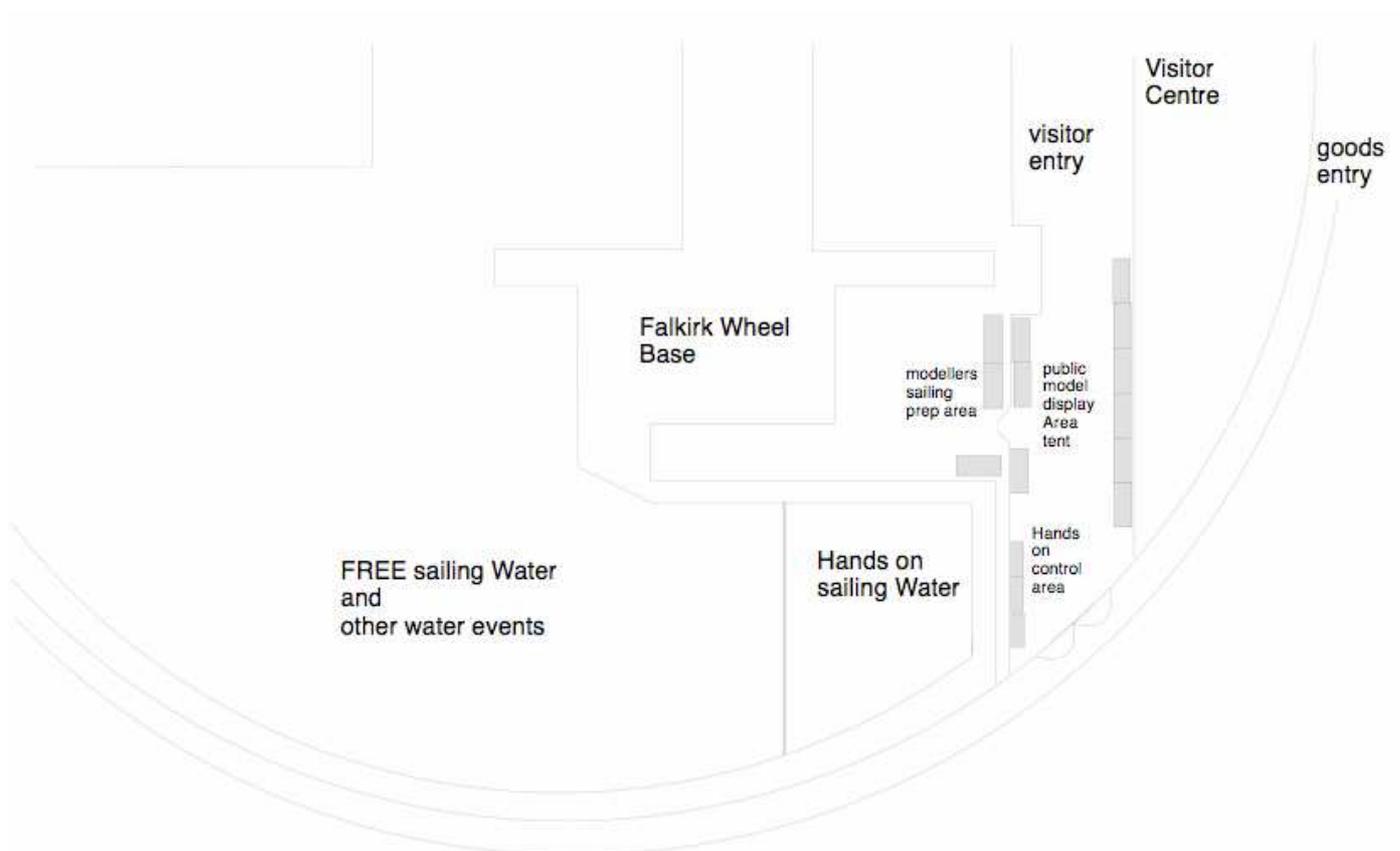
We are invited to participate on the main public day of this event to celebrate 10 years of the Wheel. It coincides with the National Warship meeting at Richmond, but that should only give a few members a conflict of interests.

The model boaters will have a marquee for static display and a waterside enclosure for preparations for sailing in the basin.

Models can be delivered to the Marquee until 10.00, and picked up after 17.00 and there is a reserved carpark for exhibitors. Obviously you can also carry your models if required. There is also a discount in The Wheel facilities for exhibitors.

It could be a long day so it would be better to take a couple of boats or spare batteries. The more boats, the better our static display. We will be taking a few of our small piers to ensure our berthing entertains the public.

So far we have had no indication of possible attendance from members, so again, please contact the Committee so that we can advise the organisers of our probable numbers.



## **Layout at the Falkirk Wheel Accommodation**

We received Planning Permission for our units on 24<sup>th</sup> April, and we have sent off the additional detailed information required by the conditions set.

The first unit is now stored in the ERC Depot ready for transporting to site.

The Parks Dept. have agreed to remove any shrubs, to lay a path and to provide a gateway and a padlock, and will be incorporating these items in their Park operations.

**There is now only one last hurdle before we can get started.**

When we were offered the opportunity to erect accommodation, one of the conditions was an annual ground rental of £200. We have pointed out to the Council from the beginning that this is an unrealistic sum for us, and Ken Mackintosh MSP has written to the Council agreeing with us and suggesting that a peppercorn rent would be appropriate. During our negotiations we have always raised this issue and it was agreed that the Council would consider a reduced rental or require us to provide some Shows in lieu of rent.

**We have still not had any response on this matter.**

Once we are able to erect the first unit we will need a working party to prepare the foundations, carry in the parts and then bolt them all together.

This must all be done in a day to ensure the security and safety of the unit.

This must necessarily be a week day, preferably a Monday, as the unit is being transferred by the Council.

If you can help at all please contact Ian or Tom who will try to organise the best possible date.

## Late Subscriptions

As usual there are still some members who have not yet paid their annual subscription. A further reminder is being sent to the culprits, but remember, sending reminders costs the Club badly needed funds, so please pay as soon as possible. On the issue of subscriptions, what are members' views on the possibility of having to increase the subscription to meet the cost of the high ground rent?

## Park Picnic Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July

Ex Cllr Douglas Yates has asked if we could do some sailing for this event. In light of his support for the Club, the Committee have agreed to do some Club sailing on the Sunday.

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