

# **MERSEY MOTOR BOAT CLUB LTD.**

## **(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

### **INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE BOATING MEMBERS**

#### **Introduction**

The M.M.B.C. was founded at Litherland in 1932 and is one of the oldest Inland Waterways cruising clubs in existence. The club's objective is to encourage interest in boat building, cruising, popularize inland waterways and social contact with people interested in these and allied activities. MMBC is affiliated to the Inland Waterways Association and the Association of Inland Waterways Cruising Clubs.

#### **Clubhouse**

The MMBC Clubhouse is situated on the canal side off Pilling Lane, Lydiate. During the boating season the clubhouse is open most weekends, some of which are taken up with rallies or other boating activities. The Clubhouse is equipped with lounge area, dance floor and separate bar lounge. MMBC has a licensed bar which conforms to local licencing authority regulations for the district. The club house is not open every day or evening but members can usually be seen on or around the premises on most Friday evenings and weekends.

#### **Social Calendar**

The MMBC social calendar is organised in two parts. During the summer months, the Commodore and his Sailing Committee arrange a combined cruising and social programme of boating activities which are often joined with other club's rallies and events in the North West Lancs and Merseyside areas. Also, during the summer, cruising socials with non boating clubs and societies are regularly organised. During the winter months the MMBC social committee organise a series of indoor social events in the clubhouse on Saturday nights. The recommended clubhouse capacity is 120 persons and these social events are very popular. Dancing, professional entertainment and supper is nearly always provided on these occasions.

In addition to the organised social events the clubhouse is open most Friday nights for a "natter & noggin" in the bar and organised sequence dancing in the main lounge. A small voluntary donation covers the cost of dancing instruction and light supper. Friday nights are very popular and the prospective new member is recommended to visit the club on one of these evenings for the purpose of meeting existing members or to obtain further information in a friendly and informal atmosphere.

Details of all cruising and social events are circularised to members well in advance and social information sheets are published from time to time. Club members are encouraged to join in Social and boating activities.

#### **Club Organisation**

MMBC Policy is determined at its Annual General Meeting during November each year. At all other times the club's affairs are managed by General Committee which meets monthly, excepting August.

The G.C. comprises of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Commodore and President who are all Ex Officio, and three members from each mooring also a Country members representative who are directors. Each mooring has a small sub committee of its own for the purpose of moorings organisation, working parties etc. Sub committees also exist for Social, House and Bar or may be set up specially as circumstances dictate.

## **Membership Categories**

**1. Full Boating members** – Must be a boat owner. Full voting rights. Can be appointed to positions as officers of the Club etc. Only one full member per boat is allowed.

**2. Associate Members** - Normally adult members of the family of Full members. In practise, an associate member can also be joint owner of a boat with a full member. It is desirable for full members to support associate members because this avoids the inconvenience in having to sign in family or other associates to the club premises.

**3. Country Members** - Non boat owning members with an interest in boats and/or canals and a liking for the social side of the boating activities.

**4. Junior Members** – Members of the family of other membership categories under the age of 16 years. Juniors are not automatically afforded the status of Associate membership upon attaining 16 years but can be made one at the request of the senior member.

## **Membership Notes**

### **You must be a boat owner if applying for full membership**

A membership application form is enclosed with these notes. Candidates for membership must EITHER be nominated and seconded on the form by two full members OR provide two written references. It is the applicants responsibility to obtain signatures for nominator and seconder or provide the written references direct.

The applicant must send the full membership entrance fee with the application. Thereafter, the Treasurer will call for any subscriptions or other fees as appropriate.

Country members do not pay an entrance fee.

The normal subscription year is from 1<sup>st</sup> April to the next 31<sup>st</sup> March. New members joining the club part way through the subscription year pay a proportion of the annual subscription.

MMBC cannot guarantee the availability of moorings and applications for membership do not automatically confer a right to the allocation of a mooring. It is not unusual for MMBC moorings to be full and new members are allocated spaces from a waiting list in membership seniority order.

New members to the club must serve a minimum twelve months probationary period.

## **Moorings Information**

MMBC leases canalside moorings from British Waterways which are paid for in total linear footage. The club charges members individually for moorings pro-rata to the length of the boat with due allowance for voids between boats.

Mooring fees are invoiced to members by the Treasurer in December each year for the following year. The fees must be settled by 31<sup>st</sup> January otherwise a late payment charge of £30 per month is charged and the moorings can be forfeited.

A copy of the MMBC mooring conditions is enclosed with these notes. Prospective members are strongly advised to read these conditions carefully because they contain several important rules. For the names of the relevant Berthing Managers see page 8 of the mooring conditions.

## **MMBC Mooring Sites**

**Lydiate** – A total of 1981 feet opposite the towpath on both sides of Bridge 17 adjacent to the clubhouse. Facilities include piped water, electricity points, toilet, sewage disposal, pump-out, gas oil supplies and car parking.

**Haskayne** – A total of 583 feet opposite the towpath on east side of Bridge 22. Access is along Rosemary Lane on the left immediately after Ship Inn. Facilities available are piped water and electricity points. No private car parking space is available but limited daylight roadside parking is possible along the left hand side off Rosemary Lane beyond the bridge. By arrangement with the landlord members moored permanently may use the Ship Inn car park.

**Scarisbrick** – A total of 1587 feet opposite the towpath on East side of Red Lion Bridge 27a. Access is direct from A570 Ormskirk to Southport Road. Facilities include piped water, electricity points, slipway, pump-out and sewage disposal. Parking space is provided for about 20 cars.

## **General**

All moorings are private, fenced and secured behind locked gates. Boat owners are permitted to hold a key, which fits common padlocks for all moorings, car parks, store sheds, water and electricity points etc. These keys are supplied by the Hon. Treasurer in exchange for a deposit which is refunded when the key is returned as no longer required. Keys are individually numbered and remain the property of MMBC at all times.

## **Slipway**

The slipway at Scarisbrick is available to bring boats of up to 45 foot out of the water for work to be done on them. The charges for this facility are listed on the Club Price List attached. Smaller craft ie cruisers can also be slipped in using this facility. An engine hoist is also under construction at Lydiate.

The slipway officer is Mr. Jimmy Woolfall Tel: 0151 531 8260 to arrange slipway use.

## **Lift Out**

Provided sufficient demand exists, the Club organises a lift-out by crane each Autumn at Lydiate. Costs are divided between those members requiring the service. Lift-in takes place the following year between February and April depending on demand.

**Please return your completed application form to The Membership Secretary, Ms. Joan Foster at Flat 1, 38, Duke St. Southport, Merseyside. PR8 1JA**