



Driftwood

Newsletter of the Shepton Mallet Drifters MBC June 2006



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**See NEW dates for model boating
In the "Future Events" section.
(put them in your diary NOW!)**

Pugwash (Barrie Stevens)

One worry that sometimes occurs this time of the year is "will there be enough water in Collett Park Lake for Collett day"? A rather silly question this year with May a virtual downpour and rather chilly with it. Can we appeal for as much support as possible from club members to support this annual show, the format will be similar to normal ie balloon popping ,mini marathons etc etc. As some of you may have gathered this year is rather special as the town celebrates the 100th anniversary of Collett Park being donated to the town and plans are a foot to make this year special. If you are planning to attend please use the football ground end entrance as the Park Road entrance will be rather busy and try to be on site by 10:00hrs as I believe the official opening by some of the Collett family is at 10:30. Due to a last minute change of venue the 3rd round of SWAMBC scale steering will be held at Collett Park Lake on Sunday 25th June. Mike Knight will be the OOD.

Don't forget if you want anything added (or deleted) to the web site please drop an e-mail to Barrie or Ted, Maggie also awaits your photos!!!

Thanks to all the Tuesday night club who have helped to revamp the table top display .. yes a 'minor' technical problem when all our photographic back drop of Weymouth turned PINK with the damp. (Verd has also been polishing up his techniques on how to derail the locos!!)

Editorial

Welcome to the summer? issue of Driftwood, I say summer in anticipation as we have Weymouth to look forward to and another round of busy boating ahead: Yeovil, Crealy Park (fathers day), Margham Park in Wales and Cranmore (East Somerset Railway) 26 -28th August, a return visit to Verd and Ians favourite watering hole?

I have included in this Newsletter a short appraisal of "Ponderings" the SWAMBC Newsletter issue 46. One of the items mentioned by the editor of Ponderings was access to the Internet and as mentioned in April's Driftwood this is FREELY available at the library in Shepton Mallet. All you have to do is become a member of the library and "away you go". One day last week the PCs in the library were all occupied by "senior citizens" all over the age of 70, surfing the web, I mentioned our web site, so we may be getting new members soon Verd, will they get 10% reduction like B&Q? Another story heard on the "grape vine" was a sale item but apparently the person wishes to remain anonymous so all I have to say is that a left sandal is up for sale (yes just the one) please contact.....

This month in our newsletter will be the latest information regarding the Weymouth International Maritime Modelling Festival, which for 2006 will be bigger than ever. It is not to late to register (BUT get in quick as the organisers want to know the numbers attending!) A lot of preparation in completed by a few members both before and after the event, **help is always welcome!**

You can get onto the INTERNET FREE ! (NO telephone bills, NO home computer)
and see our club web site and the SWAMBC web site FREE! Visit the local library.

Ponderings (extracts taken from issue 46, May 2006) the SWAMBC Newsletter.

This time the news is a little more up-to-date as Ponderings arrived through the post just the other day. I have taken artistic licence with these extracts (i.e. missed a few bits out), but if you want to read the full Ponderings newsletter, you can also visit the **new SWAMBC web site:** www.swambc.welbeden.co.uk or make a yearly subscription, our club also has printed copies on loan to read. Photographs of local model boating events and festivals are also on our club and SWAMBC web site. **Please note that the old SWAMBC website will not be available after 1st August 2006.**

Watch out, watch out! There's a "frequency man about". Yes it is the latest thing to catch rouge transmitters, all-be-it just the 40mhz. band so far (*27mhz. may follow in the near future*). The competition secretaries of SWAMBC will be issued with the new hand held frequency scanners, and no doubt they will be used and available at SWAMBC events like Weymouth and Crealy Park. So no sneaking behind a bush for a quick test! It may also put a stop to some one screaming "who's on my ***** frequency". It seems at last the MPBA has developed a robust policy to promote the care and welfare of children and vulnerable adults. More information can be found on the MBPA website: www.mpba.org.uk

Exeter and District MBC most of us know what a great model boating lake the club has (Crealy Park, Devon) with the usual annual "fathers day" outing on 18th June an event not to be missed, with the end of day raffle (taking over 30 min.) Earlier in the year they had water problems with the heavy rain undermining the dam but Crealy Park Management came to the rescue, they seem to have a great relationship with the park authorities at Exeter. **Guernsey Model Yacht Pond Club** have a new club secretary and a new web site: www.theguernseymodelyachtpondclub.org.gg now that's a mouth full and probably one of the longest web site addresses I've seen. **Kenwith Castle MBC** held their annual "Open Day" on St George's Day April 23rd and as reported, the members support and weather was good, many clubs made a visit that day from far away Gravesend in Kent and Mid Thames MBC (no doubt visiting the west country to find good weather!)

Poole Radio Yacht Club's diary for the year includes "Open scale days" on May 7th, July 2nd, August 20th and October 8th so if you are in the area (and have a model boat in the boot of the car?) please contact the secretary, contact details in the SWAMBC "What's on Guide". **Sedgemoor MBC** (*no we won't mention the war or skittles in this issue of Driftwood*). On 21st May they will be hosting a themed event which will be called "Pete's Fun Day" to celebrate the life of Pete Fisher and his contribution to the model boating world. Ed. As this will be printed before the event it will be covered in the next issue of Driftwood. In the next issue of Driftwood. **Solent Radio Control Model Yacht Club** held their annual Exhibition in march and raised over £375 for the local branch of the RNLI, the exhibition was well attended. It seems that most clubs now have their own web site the Solent one is: www.modelboatmahem.co.uk/clubs/solent/1index.htm another rather long web address? **Weymouth and Portland MBC** I see wedding bells are ringing were ringing in Weymouth when the club's membership secretary and editor got married to Carol apparently carol is already well ahead building a model boat, well as they say, (the women I mean) "if you can't beat them, join them"! The club has a few Open days this year at Kingston Maurward, just contact Ian Shaw if you are in the area.

Yeovil Model Warship Association apparently I got most of the personal wrong and their duties within the warship group extract last month, so here goes with their possible correct titles: Danny (not Dennis!) Harris is the SWAMBC rep, webmaster and yachting co-ord, Rob Walter is Chairman and

Brian (his dad) is treasurer, I hope that stops the shots across my bows! An "Open Event" for all grey ship lovers (warships) will be held on Sunday 23rd July, so if you have not got a warship, just paint something grey, and stick a gun on the front! Looking at the modern day warships from different countries they all look the same, (*now in my day*). The final extract from the clubs roundup **Yeovil and District MBC Ltd.** With separate electronic items costing more and more Brian the chairman gave a talk on electric's and model boating building at their last meeting. He came up with units mounted separately, i.e. speed controller, horn, speakers, and other expensive items, which could easily be removed. Perhaps manufacturers would take this onboard to make life a little easier (and cheaper) by having standard plugs etc. Something like USB connectors in computers (now that's a thought Barrie?) As the competition season has just started and there has been one or two hiccups due to detrimental weather (*wind not weed this time!*), we shall be bringing you the latest results and the league table places in the next issue of Driftwood, which should be with you by the first Sunday in August!

All systems GO at Bude!

Another successful show took place at Bude in Cornwall. No sailing on the canal/river but many modellers turned up for the event including the Drifters with their "tabletop pond". The tabletop is now becoming one of the main attractions on the model boating scene and since the upgrade to the Weymouth sea front and harbour back-drop, great interest has been shown by the general public. It is surprising how many people have visited Weymouth in the past, either on holiday, on business or in the armed forces, and recognise the places in our new backdrop.

Weymouth International Maritime Modelling festival 2006

This event is one of the main (if not the main) event on the model boating calendar. This year, not only is Weymouth and Portland Borough Council putting their full support behind the festival but Condor Ferries are also sponsoring some aspects the event. Photographic and maritime related crafts will be on display in the Pavilion crow's nest plus a display of Brunel's association with Weymouth by the Wessex Water Museum at Sutton Boynze, dioramas will again be in the main hall.

Whoops!

Three sailors were spending their leave in the country, two of them got into a heated argument over what kind of animal a heifer was. "It's a sort of pig", said one. "Not on your life" replied the other, "It's a kind of sheep". Finally the third sailor was called, "hey Bill", said the first sailor, "What's a heifer - is it a pig or sheep?" Bill scratched his head. "To tell the truth, shipmates", he said, "I don't really know much about poultry."

Wednesday evening sailing.

As indicated in the A.O.B. of last months meeting it has been suggested that the Wednesday evening sailing at Collett Park start again for the summer of 2006. the start date was Wednesday 17th May. (*from the minutes it states once a month but I understand some members thought it was twice a month it can be either but please remember we do not have permission to drive in the park we have to carry the models from the road. ... Barrie*)

Some Future Events (Put them in your diary NOW!) *More in the "What's on Guide"*

Don't forget deadline for "Driftwood items" to Ted ASAP gemini01@btinternet.com

Fathers Day Crealy Park DEVON - 18th June - Contact Barrie or Jackie or Dave Aylott (Exeter MBC)

Margham Park Weekend Boating Show - 24/25th June - Contact Rick Jones Tel: 01656 650425

Open Warship event - 23rd July - Contact Danny Harris

Weymouth International MB Festival - 8/9th July - Contact Mike Knight or Barrie or Jackie **ASAP !**

Yeovil Transport Festival - 12/13th August - Contact Barrie or Jackie

Cranmore East Somerset Railway - 23 to 28th August - Contact Jackie

MINUTES OF THE SHEPTON MALLET DRIFTERS M.B.C

Held at the Thatched Cottage at 7.30pm Monday May 8th 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT. C.Button secretary. M.Edwards.G.Haberfield.G.Libbey.P.&I Rodda. S.Jackson P.&C.Sadd.G.Bowkett. D.Harris.N.Harvery.R.Trott.K.Fleet.D.Semper.V.Redwood.

APOLOGIES. B.Stevens J.Stevens. R.Stevens. T.Wood. E & D.Porter

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Due to the absence of Barrie Stevens the meeting was chaired by Dave Semper. The minutes of the meeting held on March 13th were agreed and signed on behalf of the chairman. The acting Chairman reported on a very successful skittles evening and that the club actually won by three Points. This was the first 'win' since taking part. Thanks were extended to Ivon and Pam for organising the event with Sedgemoor. Thanks were also extended to the ladies who supplied the food.

SECRETARY'S REPORT. There was not much to report but just a reminder to members of the approaching Collett day on Saturday 10th June. A video is now available on 'Model Boating' which has been purchased by the Club. This will be available for Members to loan. If anyone wishes to borrow the tape, please see the secretary, as a register will be kept of the whereabouts of the tape.

TREASURER'S REPORT The Treasurer presented the financial report to the meeting, which was accepted. He also gave dates for future events including the Model Engineers exhibition at Thornbury on August 18th. He also reported that we have lost 5 members since last year. There are at present 47 members and 64 full head count.

EDITORS REPORT. Due to the absence of the editor there was nothing to report.

A.O.B . S.W.A.M.B.C report with comments on Ponderings and the Chairman wishes to pass on a vote of Thanks to Ted for his excellent production of both Ponderings and Driftwood. We Have been approached as the club to attend the East Somerset Railway on August Bank Holiday. Anyone Interested in attending please let Barrie or Jackie know.

Members are reminded about Collett Day arrangements with awareness of the Child Protection act and other safety aspects to be remembered. Wednesday evening sailings was discussed with a suggestion of once a month, the first being on May 17th. George Bowkett commented on the Web site not being updated. Danny enquired who actually looked at the Web Site.

The next meeting was agreed to include a "Bring and Buy" which will be Monday July 17th.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm . Then followed a very interesting talk by Brian Williams

NEXT CLUB NIGHT MEETING
7.30 Monday July 17th 2006 Thatched Cottage!
DEADLINE for DRIFTWOOD Sunday July 30th 2006

