



# Driftwood

Newsletter of the Shepton Mallet Drifters MBC December 2006



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***HAPPY CHRISTMAS***

**FROM THE COMMITTEE  
AND EDITORIAL TEAM OF THE  
SHEPTON MALLET DRIFTERS**

## **Pugwash (Barrie Stevens)**

Another very active year for the Drifters, and success from the competition point of view, the dreaded weed problem in Collett lake again this year appears to have subsided since we had the floods at the end of October. We have captured a few images on the Drifters web site of Collett in flood, when these were taken the water level had fallen considerably! We have been picking up a few new members recently so can I mention that this newsletter is available via e-mail if you have access to the internet and wish to receive an e-version of Driftwood please drop me an e-mail. [barrie.stevens@btinternet.com](mailto:barrie.stevens@btinternet.com). Just to remind members that if you are interested in attending the Weymouth International Maritime Modelling Festival on July 7 & 8 2007 the applications forms will be posted to everyone who attended this year. The e-version of the form will appear on the SWAMBC web site approximately 2 weeks after the posted copies have been sent.

Finally can I extend season's greetings to all members and a Healthy and Prosperous new year!

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## **SAD NEWS**

It is with great regret that we have to announce the untimely death of club member Steve Webb on 29<sup>th</sup> November. Steve had been a member of the Drifters for many years and supported many of the events in the South West despite living in Slough. He was renowned for his display and operation of model submarines and his popular submersible Chariot. Our thoughts are with Diane and family.

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## **Editorial**

Welcome to the Christmas issue of Driftwood. First may I wish you all a Very Happy Christmas, no doubt that term will be well and truly used over the coming months (now roll on the summer!) We have extracts this month from the latest "Ponderings" no doubt some of you would have already seen the hard copy at the past meeting, also on the SWAMBC web site. We have also included the date and time of the forth-coming AGM and Festive lunch at the Thatched Cottage. This again is on a Sunday with the AGM in the morning, followed by the lunch at about 1pm. This is a rather quite time boating wise after the various pre-Christmas night sails taking place in the Southwest. We are not alone this year, as other clubs are presenting some form of Christmas/winter activity. It also appears that we shall not be mucking out the pond at Collett Park this year. I looked forward to the hot sausage rolls prepared by Daisy, and the mud slinging between members. Still it was back breaking work which is now probably best left to some form of mechanical digger/lifter/shifter.

Another good speaker at the last meeting, Christine Button presented some excellent photographs of her trip to Africa and through the excellent generosity of the members and the club over £100 was raised for the charity, which is sponsoring a school in Africa. It opens your eyes when a child has to have some form of writing aid (i.e. biro etc.) before they can attend class, and to think you can get 10 for £1 in the "pound shop". It certainly puts the cost of a new 40mhz transmitter into perspective!

**New Members** *Yes, new members are still joining the Drifters.* Our numbers have slowly increased during the year and we now have **over 70** fully paid up members! On that note we would like to welcome Leonard and Caroline Russell from Wells, Stephen Brabant from Southampton and John & Jean Kerr from Tunbridge Wells. May you have an enjoyable time and your boats remain on the surface (unless they are submarines!). Our next club meeting is the "Christmas Night Sail" on **December 9<sup>th</sup> at 4pm and the AGM and festive lunch on January 7<sup>th</sup>** we hope to see you there!

**Bath Bugle Call Model Show** For the last time this year the "Table Top" diorama was exhibited at the Bath Model Show, again the backdrop being Weymouth. Yes, and for all the effort put in by the builders the "Weymouth Table Top" won third prize, "fantastic" well done!!!!

**AGM and Drifters Club Lunch Sunday January 7<sup>th</sup> 2007 Put it in your new diary NOW !**

The AGM will again take place at the Thatched Cottage, Shepton Mallet **starting at 10:30am** so that we can complete the agenda by noon. The Club lunch (menu below) will start at approximately 1:00pm (1300).

If any member wishes to be **nominated for any place on the committee** please forward your name to the Chairman **Barrie Stevens 01749 343017 by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006.**

Members who wish to raise **any point(s)**, no matter how small, at the AGM regarding the business of the Drifters MBC please contact the club secretary **Colin Button 01761 414067 as soon as possible** so that it may be included on the agenda.

**Book your lunch now to avoid disappointment !**

**Drifters Seasonal Club Lunch 2007**

Orders for the lunch to be sent to Chris Jackson **by December 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**\* \* \* \* \* e-mail [steve\\_chrisjackson@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:steve_chrisjackson@tiscali.co.uk) or Tel: 01749 343661 \* \* \* \* \***

**Cost £11.95 Please pay on the day!**

**STARTERS**

SOUP OF THE DAY  
PRAWNS COCKTAIL SALAD  
FETA OLIVE AND TOMATO SALAD

**MAIN COURSES**

PAN FRIED SALMON SERVED WITH BOILED NEW POTATOES, VEGETABLES AND LEMON BUTTER SAUCE  
MEXICAN TORTILLA FILLED WITH CUMIN, TOMATOES AND SALAD  
ROAST CHICKEN BREAST, MASHED POTATOES AND SEASONAL VEGETABLES WITH MUSHROOM SUPREME SAUCE  
BEEF MADRAS WITH BOILED RICE

**DESSERTS**

CHOCOLATE MOUSSE  
APPLE CRUMBLE  
2 SCOOPS OF ICE CREAM  
FRUIT SALAD

**SWAMBC Newsletter "Ponderings" by Ted**

Model Boat Clubs and organisation in the SWAMBC News Letter "Ponderings", starts of by wishing all members a **"Very Happy Christmas"**. Yes this month we have extracts from the November issue of Ponderings, issue 48. The SWAMBC News Letter now run to 16 A4 size pages with colour photographs. There are three ways of seeing Ponderings, **1** you can see it on the SWAMBC web site [www.swambc.webeden.co.uk](http://www.swambc.webeden.co.uk) or **2** buy your own yearly subscription or **3** contact your SWAMBC Rep. (Verd Redwood) to **borrow** a copy. Of course the **4<sup>th</sup>** way is to read these extracts (but this is just the tip of the iceberg) The Chairman reported that the "Themed" events during 2006 was not a great success. Although clubs may hold them again next year (2007), they will not be under the SWAMBC banner, but the responsibility of the various clubs/organisers. Incidentally Yeovil Model Warship Association will be hosting another "grey funnel day" on in 2007 on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The What's on Guide was also discussed due to the increase in cost and time (lots and lots of effort and time!) but for 2007 will remain as in previous years, in 2008 there may be changes (watch this space)

**Clevedon and District MBC** have their very own Christmas Night Sail on December 16<sup>th</sup> followed by all going to the local pub next to their lake (sounds about right) their membership is now 36, (lets hope they can all swim?)

**Exeter and District MBC** whose lake is at the well known Crealy Park, they have had a very busy month with competitions, scale navigating, sailing and scale steering, but they still have an excellent turn out every Sunday and Wednesdays. **Falmouth MBC** would like to thank every one who turned up for their "Fun Day", apparently they suffer from a lot of wind (not the members!) but the weather and the SWAN pool was useless, at least there were no weeds! **Guernsey Model Yacht Pond Club** seems to be in with "deep Vs" and different size of glow engines, something we don't see at Collett Park. Apparently a number of members went to Weymouth's Int. Model Boat Festival and emptied the cash machines, during the journey back they had to dismantle their servo's and radios as the X-ray machines kept going off!

**Penzance MBC** has had a busy year helping to make paper boats for the local children during their Mazy Day Sunday in July and the Golowan Festival which is unique to Cornwall. Most clubs have an open or fun sail day now, and the **Looe MBC** held theirs on September 2<sup>nd</sup> with visits from Plymouth, Truro, Falmouth Kenwith and Appledore (quite a collection). A modeller even came down from Nottingham and made it part of his summer holidays (that's what I call dedication).

**Poole Radio Yacht Club** had the Gods shinning on them as their Open Scale Day brought forth sunshine, warmth and a gentle breeze for the yacht's, so it made up for their August Scale Day which apparently was a washout! They now have over 100 members a third of which are "Scale", the rest being yacht owners. **Solent Radio Control Model Yacht Club** like a lot of clubs, have had their fare share of outings. Calshot for the Lifeboat Day, Hyth Marina, Romsey Model World sharing the modelling arena with Cars, Trains, Planes and Dolls Houses. They are also getting quite a reputation for building excellent model boats as recently mentioned in the magazine "Model Boats". **Torbay and District MBC** has had problems with a territorial swan with a few boats sustaining damage a PT boat even lost a gun in action, the Scale Steering had to be called off and our very own Collett Park stood in. One area they are getting into is fast electric's 5 members running 13 boats !! (so watch out Russell).

**Weymouth and Portland MBC** have their fare share of Swan problems, as it appears every time modellers launch their boats, the locals start feeding the Swans. The club's also keeping an eye open for the development at the Pavilion at Weymouth, as plans are afoot to re-develop the area. The site is shortly going to public consultation (*what we want is a nice large permanent boating pool with launching facilities, a nice wind resistant shelter, comfy seats and light back-ground music, oh! and a purpose made peg board with lots and lots of pegs*). **Yeovil and District MBC Ltd.** has a new chairman Gordon Keeley, they have also been a busy club organising their annual regatta (*open day to you and me*) also hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> round of the fast electric's. **Yeovil Model Warship Association** are hosting once again a model warship day in 2007 (*time to start building, WWII Liberty ships only took 6 weeks*) having just had their night sail on November 25<sup>th</sup> they now wind down? for the Christmas period.

**SWAMBC Final 2006 Competition Results.** Due to limited space in Driftwood a full run down can be found on the SWAMBC web site also in the hard copy of Ponderings. **Congratulations** to **Iain Holland, Samantha Knight, Mike Knight and Tom Holton** who all took **FIRST PLACE!** in the 2006 Scale Steering Championships, the Drifters, **Steve Cox, Mike Knight, Richard Bowden** took prizes in the Tug Towing and **Dave Semper and Danny Harris** took prizes in the Yachting Champions of 2006.

**BANG .... BANG** Finally, a SWAMBC member tried to dry some old (very old) wood out that had been in the river for 50+ years, using his micro wave oven at home (*speed it up a bit, sort of thing*). There followed many spits and loud bangs, and a terrible smell of mud. On opening the door the whole inside was splattered with black spots (TAR or PITCH). Apparently he is still on the run from his wife!

**For Sale "this is quite a bargain!"** Colour television set, 21inch screen, excellent condition (as new) Contact Gus 01761 418007 (*this would make an ideal set for the workshop*) **ONLY £15**

**Mobility scooter**, good condition! 4 speed, easy maintenance £400 ono Tel: 01749 830015

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

**Don't forget deadline 28<sup>th</sup> January for "Driftwood items" to Ted ASAP** [gemini01@btinternet.com](mailto:gemini01@btinternet.com)

Club sailing at Collett Park

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. **Please keep off the GRASS**

Christmas Night Sail Collett Park

Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Eve

Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup> (hang up stocking)

Christmas Day

Monday December 25<sup>th</sup> (all day)

AGM & Festive lunch

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2007 start of AGM 10:30am**

Driftwood Deadline!

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2007

Yeovilton Model Show

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2007 – see Jackie ASAP space is at a premium!

## MINUTES OF THE SHEPTON MALLET DRIFTERS M.B.C

Held at the Thatched Cottage Monday November 13<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm

**Members Present:** B.Stevens.(Chairman), C. Button(Secretary),V. Redwood(treasurer), G. Haberfield. I. Rodda. P.Rodda. J. Stevens. M. Edwards. F. Biggs .F. Merson. E. Porter. G. Bowkett. D. Semper. C. Jackson. N. Harvey. D. Harris. T. Wood.

**Apologies:** R. Trott. V. & V. Coventry. A. Martin. S. Jackson. B. Leakey. M. Stevens. D. Porter.

The secretary read minutes of the meeting held on September 11th, accepted by members, and signed by the Chairman.

Christine Jackson was present, regarding the Christmas meal to be held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

It was unanimously agreed to go ahead with the meal at The Thatched Cottage. The A.G.M. would take place. at 10.30am, the meal at 1pm.. The Chairman thanked Christine for attending and her help in organising the event.

**Matters arising:** Entrance to Collett Park is still the football entrance although the Chairman had not spoken to the Port Folio Holder. He suggested that the entrance continues to be used and if there were any changes it would be in the "Driftwood" News Letter. Parking should be across with driving wheel near to the path not to have any skid marks.

**Chairman's Report:** Not a lot to report from the Chairman, but will be included in events programme later in the meeting.

**Treasurers Report.** Two new members, which will now make the membership 75. The Chairman pointed out that there is a joining fee? A new account book to be purchased. New membership cards needed.

**News Editor Report:** Ted Porter reported that the Driftwood would include extract from Ponderings The meal and AGM would be included and possibly an Agenda for the AGM. The Chairman reminded members that postage costs had changed according to size of envelope. This would be addressed at a later date.

**Secretary's Report:** Colin welcomed Jackie back after her recent hospital stay. Roy and Daisy Stevens had a good Celebration day on their Diamond Wedding. There was a good sail at the Park on Sunday. The Chairman reminded members to look out at the Drifters website.

### Events

The chairman reported on the following events. **The Bristol Bugle Call** to be held at The Pavilion in Bath. Table Top Pond...Anyone able to help let Jackie know. **The Christmas night sail** will be held at Collett Park on the 9<sup>th</sup> December. The Chairman will try to insert an advert in the local press. Assistance is required. Nibbles and any food will be much appreciated. It was agreed not to hold a raffle this year. Arrive at 3pm and the night sail usually starts at 4pm. Arrangements for generator and tea urn were discussed. Fred Biggs agreed to arrange lights. The Yeovil club are having a night sail the same night.

Danny Harris invited members on the 25<sup>th</sup> November to Yeovil for a practice run. Danny also agreed to run a further mini winter yachting series at Yeovil.

**Yeovil ton Arrangements February 10<sup>th</sup>.** More tables are required, it was agreed to have 2 tables for Drifters and 2 for SWAMBC @ £5 per table, although no new members were attracted. It will be at the Swordfish Centre only. After much discussion it was agreed to have 2 tables only and Fred Biggs would be able to supply Easel and Trestles.

**SWAMBC AGM:** Verd reported that "Themed" events were not very well supported. What's on Guide Reports were not getting through in time and there are only 3-4 to the editing The Guide will continue the same for next year but will be looked at very closely. Weymouth will continue despite the alterations being carried out in the area. The Diorama will feature disasters.

### A.O.B.

Pond clearing is off for next year. Barrie will inform the Council it will then be down to the Contractors Quadron. Danny Harris is next year's secretary for SWAMBC yachting.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

**NEXT CLUB NIGHT MEETING AGM**  
**10.30 Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2007 Thatched Cottage!**  
**DEADLINE for DRIFTWOOD Sunday January 28<sup>th</sup> 2007**

