

# Driftwood

Newsletter of the Shepton Mallet Drifters MBC February 2007



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**The Sedgemoor Challenge !**  
**List of dates/venues for 2007**  
**Subscription for 2007 due**  
**AGM Minutes**

## Pugwash (Barrie Stevens)

With only a few weeks into the New Year,

very sadly we have to report on the untimely death of a very popular local modeller Chris West on 30<sup>th</sup> January. As many Drifters are aware Chris was the main instigator of the model boating section



during the Bristol Harbour side Regatta, also Chris was a member of the Drifters for a number of years and was respected as an outstanding modeller with his steam powered models and scale sail models. Our thoughts are with his immediate family, Brenda, Glyn and Claire.

The funeral for Chris will be on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 1pm, at the South Bristol Crematorium, Family flowers only but donations for cancer research can be given to or be sent to Mrs Brenda West, 151 Stockwood

Lane, Stockwood, Bristol. BS14 8SZ.

As a little plug, a few modellers showed an interest in the solar powered model boats which I brought to the lake in December. As I mentioned they will feature in a national competition with full details in the April Edition of MMI. If you are keen to get started the dimensions are given on the SWAMBC web site [www.swamc.webeden.co.uk/solar](http://www.swamc.webeden.co.uk/solar) and the high output solar cells and solar motors can be obtained from me or Maplins.

## Editorial

**Welcome to the first issue of 2007**, that year has just shot past; hope my new solar powered boat is as quick! Have you built yours yet? Details should be in the April 2007 Issue of Marine Modelling International. This month we have 2 sets of minutes the AGM and the ordinary bi-monthly meeting. Will we still be champions again in 2007? The Sedgemoor group has thrown down the gauntlet for another game of skittles, they must be "gluttons for punishment!" Another area we have incorporated is the dates of our monthly meetings at Collett Park and the Thatched Cottage, *so this issue of Driftwood is one which you should keep handy for reference throughout 2007*, and on that note my I wish all fellow members a Very Happy New Year and Good Sailing !

This month we are running printing more pages, thanks to Barrie and his new printer. So we have spread our wings a little, to bring you the most up to date news. **But keep up to date you will need to pay Verd your annual subscription**, don't forget it also includes Public Liability Insurance **and..... yes once again! FREE** the best guide to model boating in the southwest "The **SWAMBC What's on Guide**" to model boating. All incorporated in the price of your subscription.

## Thank you Christine!

A big thank you to Christine Jackson for organising this years Festive (after the AGM) lunch. It was well attended, and although there were no crackers to pull, a good time was had by all. From attending two meetings, the AGM followed by the bi-monthly general meeting then the lunch, it made for a full day out.

## Drifters Secretary.

At the AGM it was voted that Danny Harris would stand as secretary. Danny has asked to place the following statement in this month's news letter: "As many of you know, I am SWAMBC rep for Yeovil Warships, and have taken over as SWAMBC yachting secretary. However, at the Club's AGM there was no one prepared to take on the job. I therefore said I would be prepared to take on the post *on a temporary basis* (maximum 1 year) to help the club.

Editor..... With over 70 members in the club, there are just a few die-hards running the show (like most clubs I know!) *New blood is always wanted.* You **DO NOT** have to have a computer or even access to one, for the position of secretary, and the meetings are bi-monthly (yes, that's just 6 a year) and even if you can't make a specific meeting then a stand-in is easy to find. So if you would like to help Danny, who has, quite frankly, a lot on his plate where model boating is concerned, please contact Barrie (Chairman) on 01749 343017 ASAP. **Male or Female**, over 18, top age limit 105. You don't even have to own a model boat or swim, just an interest in the club and model boating.

## Tribute to Steve Webb by Mike Knight

It is with great sadness to inform you of the passing away of Steve Webb on the 29<sup>th</sup> November. Steve (Mr Submarine Man) who was a Shepton Mallet Drifter and member of AMS (Association Of Model Submariners) was well known and liked amongst the model boating fraternity. He never tired of explaining to the public and other modellers the black art of how a submarine works. Steve never worried about where he sailed his subs and watching him launch like the OMRA guys by almost chucking the sub in the water was something else. I wonder how many among you remember him sailing a yacht at Plymouth a few years ago, a very rare sight.

Steve built quality models and was an award winner at many National/Major shows; he also appeared on TV including Blue Peter and got a badge! His 2 man submarine was one of his last major projects and he spent ages acquiring all sorts of rubber gloves so as to make the diving suits on the men as realistic as possible. He claimed it was not a perfect scale example however he noticed a difference in the stern and built a complete replacement end. He was a perfectionist, an engineer and always ready to help, he once made me a mast in various pieces and by the time I got it home I had lost part of it. Sheepishly I went back and told him and he built me another of course I was reminded of it on several occasions he had a good sense of humour and enjoyed jokes. I shall miss him he was a good friend and our condolences go to Diana and his sons Nigel and Graham and their families.

## Christmas Night Sail 2006

Again another very successful event well supported by the Drifters and local clubs, the weather was very kind but after a few hours the feet were feeling a little numb! The number of public appeared a little low this year but the local press photographer stayed to judge the models and he said quote *'this event is the best Christmas event in Shepton Mallet!'* (he gets fed up with Christmas



Fayers and nativity plays!!). Another very good quote of the evening came from two visiting community police ladies who were interested in our activities. After describing to them, that this event was our Christmas night sail one of the police ladies asked 'how many times a year do you hold this!!!!' ..... after a very pregnant pause with everyone looking at one another the penny dropped and the lady realised what she had said! The winners of the best festively decorated boat was :- 1<sup>st</sup> Maurice Edwards 2<sup>nd</sup> Alan Rice



(Yeovil MW), 3<sup>rd</sup> George Bowkett.

Thanks to everyone who helped and to 'Scaples and Blades' for donating the prizes.

**Subscriptions are NOW DUE !!!** All members are reminded that subscriptions are now due. Don't forget the yearly subscription includes Public Liability Insurance, which is a "MUST HAVE" insurance if you want to participate in any SWAMBC or national event. It is also required when you sail your model boat at most recreational parks and lakes in the UK.

**If you have not rejoined by 1st April the one off rejoining fee will be added.**

There is no change to the subscriptions - £14 for individual membership, £17 for family membership

### **Skittles Match 2007 Drifters (the Champions) - V - Sedgemoor MBC**

Despite the fact your club has been very, very lucky in winning for the last couple of years - Sedgemoor MBC would once again like to invite members of the Shepton Mallet "Drifters" MBC to game of Skittles on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March at the Red Cow, Brent Knoll from 7.30pm.

There will be a buffet at £7.50 per head which includes chicken portions, chips, quiche, sausages, goujons of plaice, garlic mushrooms, vol au vents, salad, etc. Club members plus your family or friends are welcome along.

Please contact Jackie 01749 343017 before 17<sup>th</sup> March so we know how many for the buffet.

Russ Chilcott. *P.S. If we do lose again this year - we're not playing with you anymore!*

**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)**

**Yeovilton Model Show Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2007 - see Jackie ASAP space is at a premium!**

**Sedgemoor Skittles Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March - Contact Jackie**

**South Wales Model & Craft Show, Bridgend Recreation Centre, 31<sup>st</sup> March - 1<sup>st</sup> April, Contact Jackie.** Camping is available from 5pm on Friday in the car park opposite the Recreation Centre until 8am on the Monday. NB there are no facilities on this car park, but if full facilities are required a commercial camp site is available nearby at South Cornelly, Porthcawl contact Mr Thomas on 01656 740510.

**Burlston Brickworks "Hamble Valley" Crafts and Model Show (towards Southampton) 15<sup>th</sup> July - Contact Jackie or Phil Warren.**

**Weymouth International Festival - Contact Mike Knight Tel: 07747 600748 ASAP**

The following events are cancelled for 2007

Bude (Cornwall) Model Boat Festival

Sandown Model Show

Bristol Harbour Festival

### **Back - a - bit**

Tenby's inflatable lifeboat was called to the rescue of a young lady being blown out to sea in an inflatable dinghy. On arrival the crew asked her why she was so far out without any paddles or a life jacket. The lady, who was on her honeymoon, informed the crew that she was sitting in the dinghy on the water's edge so that her husband could take her photograph. He had said, "You are a bit too close", and pushed the dinghy out with his foot. The wind and tide did the rest!

### **MINI Photo Review of 2006 (more photos on the web site)**



*Sherborne Castle May 2006*



*Weymouth IMMF July 2006*



*Scale Steering Winners September 2006*

## Club dates and meetings for 2007

*(due to weather and events beyond our control all dates are subject to change)*

*Enter them in your diary or calendar NOW!*

**Please note: Until further notice entrance to Collett Park will be the Collett Avenue entrance !**

Sun. Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance) Distribute Driftwood
Sun. Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 - 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery Lake
Sun. Mar. 4 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance)
Mon. Mar. 12 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Club Meeting at the Thatched Cottage
Sun. Mar. 18 <sup>th</sup>	10: 00 – 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery lake
Sun. Mar. 25 <sup>th</sup>		Last date for inclusions for April DRIFTWOOD
Sun. Apr. 1 <sup>st</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance) Distribute Driftwood
Sun. Apr. 15 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery Lake
Sun. May. 6 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance)
Mon. May 14 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Club Meeting at the Thatched Cottage
Sun. May 20 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery Lake
Sun. May 27 <sup>th</sup>		Last date for inclusions for June DRIFTWOOD
Sun. June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance) Distribute Driftwood
<b>Sat. June 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.00 to set up</b>	<b>Collett Day “Drifters” run the lake events all help requested * * * * *</b>
Sun. June 17 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery lake
Sun. July 1 <sup>st</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance)
Sun. July 15 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery Lake
Mon. July 16 <sup>th</sup>	1930	Club meeting at the Thatched Cottage ( <b>Note: change of date!</b> )
Sun. July 29 <sup>th</sup>		Last date for inclusions in August DRIFTWOOD
Sun. Aug. 5 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance) Distribute Driftwood
Sun. Aug. 19 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 - 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery Lake
Sun. Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance)
Mon. Sept. 10 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Club Meeting at the Thatched Cottage
Sun. Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery Lake
Sun. Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>		Last date for inclusions in October DRIFTWOOD
Sun. Oct. 7 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance) Distribute Driftwood
Sun. Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery Lake
Sun. Nov. 4 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance)
Mon. Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	Club Meeting at the Thatched Cottage
Sun. Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 – 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery Lake
Sun. Nov. 25 <sup>th</sup>		Last date for inclusions in December DRIFTWOOD
Sun. Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00 - 12:00	Sailing Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance) Distribute Driftwood
Sat. Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>16:00 - 18:00</b>	<b>Christmas Night</b> sail at Collett Park Lake (Collett Avenue entrance)
Sun. Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 - 12:00	Sailing at Charlton Brewery Lake
Sun. Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	23:59	Listen out for the footsteps of Father Christmas and his fast electric!
Mon. Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	06:00 – 12:00	Construct indoor model boating pond. Flood carpet.
	pm:	Try to contact plumber or divorce solicitor?
Tues. Dec. 26 <sup>th</sup>		Look for hotel room
Wed. Dec. 27 <sup>th</sup>	am:	Take up running!

**Entrance to Collett Park:** If due to inclement weather i.e. waterlogged grass or a football match being played, the entrance may be changed. If the grass is waterlogged please park only on the hard standing.

***DO NOT DRIVE OVER THE GRASS AS ENTRANCE BY OUR VEHICLES MAY BE STOPPED***

Copy for Driftwood can be sent to E W Porter, 46 Westbrook Road, Evercreech, Somerset BA4 6LR

Telephone 01749 830015, mobile 07803 128028 or e-mail: gemini01@btinternet.com

**Please note DEADLINE for DRIFTWOOD: March 25<sup>th</sup>, May 27<sup>th</sup>, July 29<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>.**

***For more dates and events in the Model Boating calendar please refer to the SWAMBC “2007 What’s On Guide”  
FREE to members of the Shepton Mallet Drifters Model Boat Club***

# Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> AGM of the SHEPTON MALLET DRIFTERS M.B.C.

Held at the Thatched Cottage 10.30am 7<sup>th</sup> January 2007

## Members Present:

B.Stevens Chairman, C. Button Secretary, V.Redwood Treasurer, S & S Bell, P. Warren, G. Haberfield,B. Leakey, P. Sadd, C.A.Sadd, F.Merson,M.Edwards,B. Hickman, J.Hickman,K.Hickman,E.PorterD.Porter,I.Holland,M.Holland,D.Semper D. Harris,,N.Harvey, J.Stevens,S.Jackson,C.Jackson,R.Trott,

The Chairman paid tribute to club member Stephen Webb who passed away and a minute's silence took place in his memory. The Chairman welcomed all members present and thanked them for their support at the meeting

**Apologies:** M.Knight, P & I Rodda, R. Stevens. A card was read from Pam Rodda with apologies as Ivan has been in hospital but was now recovering at home.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the last AGM were read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

**Matters Arising:** Chairman reported that a card had been sent to Ivan on behalf of Club Members.

Child Protection Act. A meeting had been held at Mendip District Council Offices with an in depth presentation by Alan Chinn, known to many modellers who works for the Avon and Somerset Constabulary.. The presentation had been set up in Somerset on **Child Safe**. This was attended by the Chairman and Secretary. The law states that a policy needs to be in place in the club for the protection of children and vulnerable adults.

After much discussion, it was agreed that the Club needs a policy in place with regards to Child protection including family members. In reality the club has a very low percentage of children. Danny Harris asked how it would affect children at the lakeside. for example to 'Have a Go'

The Chairman said that two adults are needed at all times when dealing with children. Ted Porter asked how it would affect junior membership and suggested that we keep membership as it is for the time until the policy is in place.i.e. not having an individual junior membership. A vote followed that membership should be kept as it is until the policy is in place, which will be approved by Somerset County Council. Once the policy is in place junior membership may begin. Junior membership ends at age 18. Proposed. Rob Trott Seconded Stuart Bell. A vote followed, there were 19 for, 5 against with 2 abstentions. Motion was carried. There will not be a full CRB check.

**Chairman's report:** There were good results on competitions. Good reports on Table top display which was built and rebuilt. There was on going problems with weed at Collett Park. Chairman thanked Verd for looking after finances. Colin for secretarial work. Ted for the Newsletter. Maggie for dealing with photographs on the web site. Thanks for everyone who supported events.

**Treasure's report:** Membership included family membership is now at 76. There are still 10 left of the original 93 members. Very successful financial year with almost £300 up on last year. Main cost £280 Insurance, Postage £51. There will be no increase in membership fees..

Thanks were extended to all members who paid promptly. Balance sheets were distributed. Danny Harris proposed that accounts were accepted Nigel Harvey seconded unanimous approval by members.

**Secretary's Report:** Colin wished everyone a Happy New year and thanked everyone for support. He invited anyone else to take over the role as secretary. Chairman thanked Colin for his work.

**NewsLetter report:** Driftwood has been successfully published for another year. There have been extracts from SWAMBC. Minutes of club meetings as well as future events. Driftwood is free to all members and is easily accessed on the internet. Please let the editor or Chairman know a.s.a.p. any future events. If members change e mail address please let Barrie know. This is more cost effective way to produce and distribute. Thanks to members for support with any articals. Chairman asked that members should check that the Newsletter is received. It was unanimously agreed that the Newsletter be continued.

**Please let Barrie know if you have change your home address or e-mail so that you do not miss out on the newsletter or any club correspondence**

## **Election of Officers**

**Chairman:** Barrie willing to continue this year. Will Hickman proposed Jenny Hickman seconded. Unanimous vote by members Barrie Stevens duly elected.

**Treasurer:** Verd willing to continue Danny Harris proposed Dave Semper seconded Unanimous vote in favour. Verd Redwood duly elected

**Secretary:** Danny Harris prepared to stand Ted Porter prepared to take minutes in Danny's absence. Dave Semper proposed Rob Trott seconded. Unanimous vote in favour. Danny Harris duly elected.

No other business

Meeting closed 11.33am

# MINUTES OF THE General meeting of SHEPTON MALLET DRIFTERS M.B.C

Held at the Thatched Cottage Sunday January 7<sup>th</sup> at 11.45am

## Members Present:

B.Stevens Chairman, D.Harris Secretary, V.Redwood Treasurer, S & S Bell, P. Warren, G. Haberfield, B. Leakey, P. Sadd, C.A.Sadd, F.Merson, M.Edwards, B.Hickman, J.Hickman, K.Hickman, E.Porter, D.Porter, I.Holland, M.Holland, D.Semper, C.Button, N.Harvey, J.Stevens, S.Jackson, C.Jackson, R.Trott,

## Apologies:

M.Knight, P & I Rodda, R. Stevens.

## Chairman

The Chairman introduced the first meeting of the New Year. He introduced Danny in his new role as secretary.

## Secretary

A letter was read from the secretary of Norton Down Africa Fund following An African presentation made at the last club evening by Christine Button. A receipt for the amount donated was referred to. The Chairman then read an email received from Russell Chilcott from Sedgemoor group inviting the Drifters to join them for a skittles evening. This would be £7.50 per head including buffet. It was agreed to take on the challenge and Jackie will liaise. It will be late March early April. This will be included in the newsletter.

Chairman contacted Council regarding Lake Clearout. During the last clearout it was pointed out that only 12 members turned up and of those, 10 people were over 60. Chairman suggested that members will still be involved in clearing the island only. The council held a meeting, and the Chairman received a response to say that Quadron the park contractors would be responsible for clearing out lake but they request that the Drifters be responsible for clearing out the top weed and algae. The Chairman will respond to the Council pointing out that the Drifters had been already doing this over a number of years and this was the issue in question. A request for a bale or two of Barley Straw to be added into the lake at an appropriate place, will be submitted to the Council.

## Events

Yeovilton 10<sup>th</sup> February, table top is booked in the Swordfish Centre.

Bridgend 31 March/1<sup>st</sup> April: recreation Centre Bridgend. This is an all model Show. Parking is a problem but there will be a table for the Drifters. Jackie will organise.

Hamble Valley Model Show July 15<sup>th</sup>.. Contact Ken Crossley if anyone is interested. Phillip will be there and he explained that there would be a mixture of steam and craft..

Weymouth Members should have received registration forms or they can be downloaded from SWAMBC Web site. Registrations are already over 100 so far.

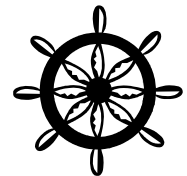
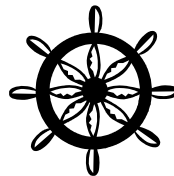
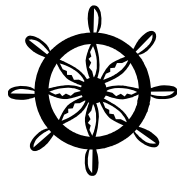
## A.O.B

Next meeting dates are on the next newsletter. March 12<sup>th</sup>, May 14<sup>th</sup>, July 16<sup>th</sup>, Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>

Stu Bell told members that with deep regret, Bude has been cancelled this year, due to events and conditions beyond their control. The latest news on events will be in the new 2007 "What's on Guide" which will be published shortly.

Meeting closed at 12.30

**NEXT CLUB NIGHT MEETING**  
**7.30pm March 12<sup>th</sup> 2007 at the Thatched Cottage!**  
**DEADLINE for DRIFTWOOD Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup> 2007**



*Don't forget, until further notice entrance to Collett Park Lake is from the Collett Avenue Entrance, off the main Charlton Road nearly opposite Whitstone College.  
Please try to stay on the path whilst driving in the park and **NOT** over the grass  
Thank you for your co-operation!*