



Driftwood

Newsletter of the Shepton Mallet Drifters MBC April 2007



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Pugwash (Barrie Stevens)

It appears that spring has certainly sprung. With the clocks now put forward an hour it does give extra daylight in the evening! Last year we did had an attempt of trying to squeeze a sailing in at Collett Park Lake on a Wednesday evening with limited success as the problem was carrying models to the lakeside from the road as we cannot gain vehicular access other than the first Sunday of the month. Another thought would be using Charlton Brewery Lake for an evening sail please give me any views at the next club meeting.

As mentioned in the minutes re the Weymouth IMMF we are utilising the area on the forecourt that was used for R/C cars for other land based models and I know we have a few land yachts in the club and a few are being built. We were wondering if anyone could organise a couple of say half hour sessions each day for land yachts sharing with the model tanks and hovercraft, dare I say if anyone could oversee organising these sessions please let me know.

From the stunning presentation given by Ted at the last club meeting on his Naval exploits in the Pacific Ocean during nuclear testing (which had many members speechless!!) we are short of a speaker for the next club night if anyone has any suggestions please let me or Danny know.

Editorial

With news of more national model boating events being cancelled, the year is starting off on a quiet note, for some. Looking at the number of events in previous years i.e. Bude, Portsmouth IFOS and Swansea, I wonder where we found the time. Of course new events are starting albeit not so large, but fortunately we still have Weymouth, in July. Have you made you solar powered boat yet (or waiting for more sunshine?), it's all in the April MMI magazine. Please see the end of this newsletter for forthcoming dates and the ones, which "so far" have been cancelled. Back to Weymouth, if you have not booked yet contact Mike Knight as soon as possible. This month I have included some extracts from the latest SWAMBC Newsletter, don't forget you can also receive this on the SWAMBC Webb site or by ordering your hard copy from Graham Castle, the SWAMBC editor.

Club Membership.

YOUR LAST CHANCE. This month (April) is the start of the new financial year for the club, when all members should have paid their dues. If you do not pay **within the next 2 weeks** unfortunately you will have to pay the additional rejoining fee. Please contact Verd Redwood, the clubs treasurer, as soon as possible Tel: 01749 343832. One of the advantages of becoming and remaining a member is that you are covered for Public Liability Insurance, which is a requirement when taking part in any SWAMBC and most national model boating events. Oh! And don't forget the "free" SWAMBC "What's on Guide", with every paid -up membership fee.

Skittles report - Sedgemoor -v- Drifters

Well they said, they would not play again unless they won, so as the Sedgemoor MBC social calendar is rather thin we thought, just this once we would let them win! It could be said that it was 'team orders' to let them win and our chairman upheld this point by scoring the resounding lowest score of

the evening. Again a very enjoyable evening we (The Drifters) only just managed to form a full team with Sedgemoor having a full team plus 6 hence they subtracted the 3 highest and 3 lowest scores from the final list! At least we have a few secret professional players to help and with Russell believing that Maurice was playing for the first time since last year Maurice muttered out of earshot to Russell that it was the first time he had played since last Wednesday ie he was one of our secret professional players!! As usual the food was excellent and to show how few times the Drifters get together for a good social natter all the Sedgemoor team had long gone home before the Drifters thought it was time to call it a night.

SWAMBC Newsletter extracts

Fairly up-to-date news this month as the issue came out in February, no doubt some of you saw the hard copy at the last club meeting. This publication is getting quite smart; the quality is very good which now includes a number of coloured photographs. The next issue of Ponderings is the fiftieth issue and extra special as Graham (the editor) hopes to include photographs of a number of SWAMBC clubs.

There are of course questions being asked about the costs and production of the very popular SWAMBC "What's on Guide". *(Ed: perhaps one of the solutions is to produce it once every 2 years with a 2 sheet A4 update every other year year, events changes of club officers etc.)*. The SWAMBC committee will be reviewing the situation during the coming year.

The planning for Weymouth International Maritime Modelling Festival is well under way thanks to the back ground work being carried out by members of the committee of SWAMBC, (Barrie S) As well as the normal boating activities and the dioramas, there will be the new non radio controlled "Solar-powered model boating challenge, with prizes for the winners! How to build one will be in the April issue of MMI.

Camborne Pond Hoppers MBC for 2007 have a newly improved pond to sail on "Coronation Lake". The lake also has a café, play area and skateboard park nearby, so if you get fed up with boating you could always bring your skate board. **Chedder Steam Club** have released some dates for 2007 (yes they are still going), spring open weekend 14/15th April and the summer open weekend 9/10th June. **Exeter and District Model Boat Club** have apparently had a very muddy time, making the grass areas very treacherous, rain followed rain. Let's hope it clears up for the summer. **Falmouth MBC**, they seem a great lot of fun here is a quote from one of the members "A hull is being tested for speed on the water using a six volt battery supply, kindly members suggested using twelve volts - the hull flies across the water, then emits a cloud of smoke and stops. Onlookers highly delighted". They are a busy lot at Falmouth, with new models appearing all the time.

City of Plymouth MBC, had an excellent sailing year in 2006, with their members travelling around a fair bit, the most prolific model in their club is the "Kyosho Fairwind yacht", the next most popular are "straight runners which they use on their Civic Centre pool. **Poole Radio Yacht Club's** John Trimmer was trying to drum up support for the "Bob Capon Memorial Trophy" and could only find one entry, then after much arm-twisting ended up with over eleven!

Solent Radio Control Model Yacht Club started their season at Setley Pond, apparently the pond is really full as they just take their boats out of the boot, turn, and the pond is lapping the back wheels. The clubs Christmas Raffle raised £120 for the local lifeboat and Lymington Hospital. They have a very full year in 2007 with over 7 major events not counting Weymouth or SWAMBC competitions, one of their unusual exhibitions is at Marwell Zoo on June 9/10th. **Wessex MBC** unfortunately only have about three or four active members some have drifted over to join Poole Model Yacht Club, so have not been lost to model boating or SWAMBC. **Yeovil Model Warship Association**, apparently they

have more warships than the Royal Navy, "watch out Danny they may requisition some". A reminder that they are hosting an Open Day on April 15th and a Warship Day on July 22nd, everyone is welcome at these events, please contact Rob Walter 01935 421028.

Another area covered by the February issue of SWAMBC news was a comprehensive "competition" feature by Samantha Knight spotlighting the why's and where fore's of Scale Steering and Tug Towing within the SWAMBC area, this was followed by a report from Danny Harris outlining the yachting championships for 2007, and Russell Chilcott on fast electrics for the 2007 season.

I will end this report by saying that the SWAMBC newsletter is an excellent way of keeping up-to-date with the latest information regarding model boating in the south and south west, reporting on model boating news that does not appear in and commercial model boating magazine.

One door closes, another one opens!

Saint Peter was checking in the new arrivals at the Heavenly Gate, when an admiral and his lady appeared together, "Good gracious", said Saint Peter "what ever makes you think I'm going to let you in here?". The couple looked rather discomfited, "You", said Saint Peter to the admiral, "have allowed your self to be dominated by drink, "even your wife is called Ginny. "No, go away and find somewhere else. Hard on their heels came another pair - this time a captain and his wife, "your whole life has been dominated by money, even your wife is called, Penny". Saint Peter said, "Go away and find somewhere else". They too turned sadly away. The next couple in-line was a commander and his wife, they had heard the previous two conversations, and before they faced Saint Peter, the commander turned to his wife and said "come on Fanny, I'm not staying here to be insulted".

For Sale.

"Smit Rotterdam" Billings Boat: part built. All other parts to complete the model £80

Contact Colin Button 01761 414067

(editor: If any member has any thing for sale of a model boating or maritime nature, please contact the editor before the next deadline)

Cancelled Model Boating Events (so far)

Sandown Model Festival

Bude (Cornwall) Model Boat Festival

Bristol Harbour Festival

Yeovil Festival of Transport

Some Future Events (Put them in your diary now!)

Model Boat Show, Beal Park, Pangbourne 5/6/7th May

Sherborne Castle Festival Day (including model boats) 28th May - Contact Danny Harris 01747 822686

Annual Charity Model Boat Show, Springbok Estate, Surrey 2/3rd June - Contact Alan Colson 01403 260018

Collett Day Shepton Mallet 9th June ***** (all hands to the pumps please!) *****

Model Boating Day "Fathers Day" Crealy Park, Exeter MBC - 17th June

Weymouth International Festival 7/8th July 2007 - Contact Mike Knight ASAP

Burlston Brickworks "Hamble Valley", near Southampton. Crafts and Model Show 15th July contact: Jackie or Phil Warren.

Warship Day, Yeovil Lake, 22nd July - Contact Rob Walter 01935 421028

Don't forget to use the SWAMBC "What's on Guide" for many more events and dates of competitions.

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MINUTES OF THE SHEPTON MALLET DRIFTERS M.B.C

Held at the Thatched Cottage Monday March 12th 2007 at 7:30 pm

Members Present

B.Stevens.(Chairman), V.Redwood.(Treasurer), D.Harris.(Secretary), T. Wood, D.Semper, M.Edwards, P.Rodda, I.Rodda, S.Jackson, C.Sadd, P.Sadd, G.Bowkett, C.Tunnicliffe, R.Trott, E.Porter, C.Button, N.Harvey, G.Libby, J.Stevens,(plus baby Stevens!)

Apologies

F.Biggs, C.Jackson, D.Porter, R.Stevens.

Matters Arising

Barrie has had communication with the Council ref straw bales. A discussion took place regarding the weed problem.

Chairman's Report

Barrie stated that Yeovil Festival for this year has been cancelled. Anyone going to Bridgend, names to Jackie Stevens. It was decided that with small numbers attending from the Drifters, there would be a static display only, plus solar powered boats, but no tabletop pond. For Weymouth 2007 there would be no cars for the front of the Pavilion. To take their place there would be displays of tanks and hovercraft running, and possibly land yachts.

Treasurer's Report

Verd's accounts show that the Club is in a sound financial state. As SWAMBC rep Verd also mentioned Graham Castle's request for a Club photo to put in the 50th Edition of Ponderings.

Secretary's Report.

An invitation to attend Southwater Dabblers Charity Show on 2nd&3rd June has been received. Barrie and Jackie will be attending with the solar powered boats, plus Phil and Carol. Names and numbers of people and boats to Danny for the Sherborne Castle Country Fair on 28th May as soon as possible please. Yeovil Warships winter yachting series, last meeting will be held at Halfway House on 25th March. Yeovil Warships Open Day will be held on Sunday, 15th April, also at Halfway House, all Drifters' members welcome. Collett Park Day this year will be held on Saturday, 9th June. Members attendance and assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Newsletter Editor's Report

"Driftwood" is now being published "in house" thus saving the Club money. All items for inclusion in the April issue to Ted please.

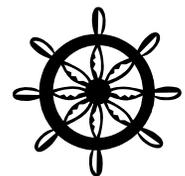
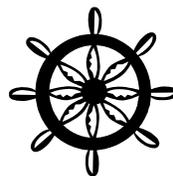
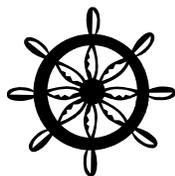
Any Other Business

Carl stated that he has ordered tickets for the Beale Park Show, several members showed interest.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2010. After a short break, Ted Porter gave a very good presentation of his early years in the Royal Navy, including photos and diagrams of his time in Christmas Island Tests in 1956/7.

NEXT CLUB NIGHT MEETING

7.30pm May 14th 2007 at the Thatched Cottage!
DEADLINE for DRIFTWOOD Sunday May 27th 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!*

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