



# Driftwood

Newsletter of the Shepton Mallet Drifters MBC August 2007



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**Cranmore is ON !**  
**Mid Somerset Show is ON !**

## Pugwash (Barrie Stevens)

At the last club meeting at the Thatched Cottage it was nice to welcome a new club member Trevor Smith . Trevor is a long standing modeller and has recently moved to Bruton, he is the main instigator in organising the Toy Boat Regatta, in London which unfortunately clashed with the Weymouth event but speaking to Trevor I think this may change next year! His specialities are small tin plate model vessels and he showed some interesting photographs of old model boating lakes. At the next club meeting in September the guest speaker is Bernard Holder (from OMRA fame) who will be giving a talk on using Fibre Glass for building model boat hulls should be interesting (Carl and Mike take note!)

Don't forget to keep sending your photographs of Drifters events for Maggie to put on the web site.

If anyone knows of a good book on how to manage your free time when you retire please let me know!!!

## Editorial

**Welcome to the August issue of 2007.** Yes it is a little early that is because we have news of new events and shows lined up so that you can show your boats to the public. **PLEASE let the organisers know (usually Jackie or Barrie) as soon as possible if you are going to attend these events as entrance passes and tickets may be required ! It will be too late on the day !**

In a previous issue I mentioned that a number of major events have been cancelled, well it seems that suddenly there is no end to local festivals taking their place. Many organisers wish to see the Shepton Mallet Drifters showing off their models, so if you can attend, and as usual, put on a great display then it is all to the good for one-and-all. This month we have reports from Mike and the results of the steering competitions. Glad to say that the 2006 dreaded weed has mostly disappeared, and water levels are high (sadly too high for some people). Weymouth again was again another success, even the weather suddenly changed (our maker must have been a modeller, well his son was a carpenter, so perhaps we have a special call on the weather system at Weymouth). *Thanks once again to Barrie, Jackie and Mike for their efforts, and the Drifters who erected and dismantled the pool, tables, barriers and other background (unseen) work.*

## [Weymouth Maritime Modelling Festival 2007](#) by Ted

As I mentioned in my editorial, another successful festival with new traders and clubs visiting this years events. Surprise, surprise (or not) the weather was on our side, the outer pool stood up to the rigours of the events with solar boats being the highlight of the 2007 festival. It was amazing the inventions and different types that completed in the challenge for the fastest lap on the solar circuit. What was equally an eye-opener was one of the members building a solar boat in an hour and racing it! Other inventions, wires attached to the front to help their boat around the bends, bits sticking out the side, again to increase speed. Alan (from Yeovil) with his (well engineered) metal riveted craft with 3 solar panels, not fast, but unsinkable! Many other modellers were impressed by the simplicity of these solar boats and the ingenuity of the models from pirate ships to tankers, from high speed airboats to warships, all driven by solar power. I have it from the highest authority, that next year the solar challenge will be on again, with possibly different classes. **You have now been**

**forewarned**, so no excuse, plenty of time to experiment and build something special. One thing we know, they can't (as yet) be bought off the shelf, so your true modelling skills will be put to the test. And finally, the big question on everyone's lips, will Weymouth be on again next year? (rumours abound that the pavilion is going to be partly demolished) The answer is **YES**, not sure where or how, but it is now one of those annual events that is more than welcomed by the tourist at Weymouth, and well supported both by SWAMBC, OUR CLUB! and Weymouth Borough Council, and that was from the mouth of the Weymouth Tourism and Corporate Services Director.

### **Cranmore Festival FULL STEAM AHEAD!**

Yes it is the return to one of our favourite venues with plenty of Huff and Puff! This popular event is to be held at the East Somerset Railway in Cranmore from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> August, camping will be available up on the sidings from the Friday afternoon. On the Saturday evening there will be a steam train ride with food at £5 a head (last year was excellent) please contact Jackie 01749 343017 by August 8th no later if you intend to exhibit and if you require feeding on the Saturday evening train ride. This is a very relaxing weekend and last year there were over 2000 people through the gates!!

### **Mid Somerset Show NEW ONE ON THE LIST!**

This event has been held for many years in the showground close to the town centre of Shepton Mallet but this is the first year the club has had an official invite to attend!

Arrive by 9am to set up, four tables and some chairs are being supplied there also may be water to sail on so go prepared. Christine Jackson is the contact for this event so please give her a ring (01749 343661) if you can attend and she will give you further details.

### **Scale Steering 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Taunton** by Mike Knight

It was a bright sunny day for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Scale Steering at the Tone Valley Club's new water in Taunton. A lovely location in a park with refreshments/toilets and access to the town very close. The course was already set out when we arrived and at first inspection appeared a little tight for the Medium and Large classes and this proved to be the case. There were 19 competitors split as follows: 3 Large, 3 Medium, 6 Small and 7 Pilot.

Large class was soon reduced to 2 as after 2 obstacles my tug stopped after recovery it was found that a large piece of wood had wedged through the prop in the kort nozzle and there was smoke coming out as I lifted the superstructure off. A burnt out motor and speed controller meant I was out. The class was fought out between Pete Thatcher of Newquay and Ian Dingle of Tone Valley and Pete won by 13 points.

Medium Class was contested by skippers from 3 different clubs and although Jamie Poulter of Newquay won quite easily there were only 2 points between Mike Knight in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Gordon Tiley (Yate) in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Small Class was Tone Valley versus Drifters and the course was ideal for small boats so very competitive, it was also a touch of déjà vu as the first 4 finished in exactly the same positions as in the 1<sup>st</sup> round at Shepton. So it was another win for John Kerr with Samantha Knight in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Roger Durbin in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Pilot Class is a lovely mixture of children and adults and this time the honours went to an adult, Chris Bowyer of Tone Valley in his first attempt, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> were Tom & Ben Holton from the Drifters.

It was a lovely day, thank you to Tone Valley for organising the day and we look forward to returning for Tug Towing later in the year and scale steering again next year.

### **Scale Steering 3<sup>rd</sup> Round - Eastleigh** by Mike Knight

It was probably a big mistake to have started my reviews of the last 2 rounds by saying how great the weather was. This was not good it rained on and off all day, as a result the numbers were down only 12 competitors which was a great shame. The location is good and the course was challenging with a very interesting new obstacle. This obstacle represented a dead boat in the water and you had to move it out of the way to continue, first thoughts were it was more suitable and secondly the smaller boats would not be powerful enough to move. Both thoughts proved unfounded and it proved to be a

very popular test. The Medium Class had only 1 entry and therefore I won it by completing the three rounds.

The Small class had 5 competitors and proved to be a very tight competition, John Kerr looked to be moving towards another good set of scores but could not move the dead boat on his final round and consequently finished 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2<sup>nd</sup> went to local man Alan Grafton of Eastleigh and the class was won by Samantha Knight with her Ark. After 3 rounds only 1 point separates John and Samantha in the overall standings. The Large Class had 2 competitors and it was good to see Steve Brabant the Single Tug Pulling champion taking part he was awarded with the SWAMBC shield for that achievement in the presentations. On the day it was a tight competition but I won it from Steve. Pilot Class had 4 competitors it was nice to see Tony Brooks of the Drifters making his debut with a lovely large tug, he finished 4<sup>th</sup> with Jean Kerr (Drifters) 3<sup>rd</sup>. The win was fought out by the Holton brothers with Ben coming out on top from Tom.

So we look forward to better weather at our next meeting in Newquay. I would like to thank Malcolm Wilson and his colleagues from the Eastleigh club for the event and also Carol Cox for assisting with the frequency/scoring duties.

**Some Future Events (Put them in your diary NOW!) *More in the "What's on Guide"***  
**Don't forget deadline August for "Driftwood items" to Ted ASAP [gemini01@btinternet.com](mailto:gemini01@btinternet.com)**

|                           |                                    |                                   |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mid Somerset Show         | Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> August     | Contact Christine 01749 343661    |
| Cranmore Festival Weekend | 25/ 26/ 27 <sup>th</sup> August    | Contact Jackie 01749 343017       |
| Evercreech Village Show   | Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> September | Contact Ted 01749 840015          |
| Cwmbran Modelling Society | Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> September   | Contact Colin Mackie 01633 894781 |

## **Club dates and meetings Summer/Autumn 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. 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 solar panels!                             |
| Mon. Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>  | 06:00 – 12:00        | Construct indoor solar 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**

***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 SHEPTON MALLET DRIFTERS M.B.C

Held at the Thatched Cottage Monday July 16th at 7.32pm

**Members Present** B. Stevens(Chairman) V. Redwood(Treasurer) D. Harris(Secretary) T. Smith, K & J Hickman, I & P Rodda, M. Edwards, G. Habberfield, T. Wood, D. Semper, N. Harvey, B. Leakey, C. Button, R. Trott, S & C Jackson, J. Stevens.

**Apologies** T & D Porter, B. Hickman.

**Minutes of the last Meeting,** These were read and approved.

**Matters arising** Collett Park Day was held on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> June. There was a good attendance by Club Members, with a varied display of models. The balloon popping and mini-marathon did not take place, due to floating weed around the lake.

**Chairman's Report** Barrie gave his thanks to Drifters and Sedgemoor Club members for their attendance and work to make the Weymouth Festival a successful event. A discussion then took place, resulting in a general opinion that the Festival had been very good.

**Treasurer's Report** Verd gave a quick resume of the figures on the accounts sheet. The Have-a-go boats made £57 for the Club on Collett Park Day, after Payments were deducted, Club Funds now stand at just over £900.00

**Secretary's Report.** Danny reported that no mail had been received, and then gave a summary of SWAMBC and general events occurring in the next two months.

**Newsletter Editor's Report** Barrie read out a letter from Ted, including mention of the Evercreech Show on Saturday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 12 noon to 4.30pm. The Club will put on a static display, anyone wishing to attend, please contact Ted.

**Any Other Business** The Shepton Mallet Community Hospital Fete, to be held on Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, was discussed. Enough members said they would attend with static display and solar boat track, from 2pm to 4.30pm, 12 noon to set up. The Club has also been invited to display at the Mid-Somerset Show, on Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. Again, there were sufficient members interested to agree to our attendance, Christine Jackson to liaise with the organisers. Another event to which we have been invited is the East Somerset Railway Show over the late August Bank Holiday weekend, set-up Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>, through to Monday, 27 August, contact Jackie if you wish to attend, all or part of the weekend.

Trevor Smith was welcomed to the Club, having recently moved to Bruton. Trevor then gave a brief introduction, he is a Toy Boat specialist, with many models.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm

## NEXT CLUB NIGHT MEETING

7.30pm September 10th 2007 at the Thatched Cottage!

Guest Speaker, Bernard Holder on the use of Fibre Glass for Model Boat building!

**DEADLINE for DRIFTWOOD Sunday September 30th 2007**



