



Driftwood

Newsletter of the Shepton Mallet Drifters MBC February 2008



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MEMBERSHIP FEES

THESE ARE NOW DUE

NO INCREASE IN FEES

**MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES INSURANCE
FOR 3RD PARTY PUBLIC LIABILITY**

Pugwash (Barrie Stevens)

The AGM held in January was very popular and very well attended. It was nice to see so many members there however it was a little sad

that the Chairman was the last to arrive! The new arrangement at the Thatched Cottage to individually arrange a meal if you wanted worked very well and was very good value for money.

It has usually been traditional that the only time you see the 'away team' at Collett Park Lake on the first Sunday of the month is during the winter! Sadly I have failed so far this year to appear on any of the first Sunday's of the month yet, due to other maritime commitments! A few years ago during the summer season we arranged club day trips on fullsize ships ie SS Waverly and the MV Balmoral when they visited the Bristol Channel. For some reason this has not been held for a few years but if there was enough interest I am sure similar club outings could be arranged. Please let me know or better still if anyone could organise a trip we could discuss at the next club meeting. Also can I make an appeal for suggestions on club speakers we are a little thin on the ground at the moment.

Editorial

No doubt it was quite a shock to see the Editor of Driftwood and his wife at the AGM, perhaps the Chairman will hold the next AGM in a more exotic place like the "Seychelles or Evercreech Village Hall"? With sponsorship from Mendip Council it may be possible?

As you will see, in the AGM minutes on the back page, we have (once again) a new secretary, who is well known on the model boating scene, and is equally well known at SWAMBC running the Scale Steering and Tug Towing competitions, not forgetting Weymouth as the registration officer. Now there is a man with a full plate!

Phil Sad said to me during the week "As I am always on holiday, (only 9 months of the year Phil!) Why didn't I apply for Foreign Secretary?" that's one of the best 'one liner's I've heard for a while. Talking about foreign parts, a timely reminder about Weymouth, if you have been before no doubt you would have received your registration forms for 2008. Please return them as soon as possible to give the organisers time to organise and plan the forthcoming international event.

The year always appear to start quietly, but already names are required for attendance at Bridgend, it could be an excellent show with crafts and other presentations taking place. For more information, please contact Carol or Phil Sad 01749 347212

Correction to Club Events and Dates

Just a small correction to the recent dates of events for the Drifters. The Christmas night sail next December should be the 13th (and not the 14th as advertised). Now you have a full 10 months and 2 weeks to get that festive model built, Happy Christmas!

SWAMBC Newsletter

Unfortunately due to the clash of publication dates, extracts from Ponderings, the SWAMBC Newsletter will appear in the next issue of Driftwood (albeit a little dated), but the full February SWAMBC

Newsletter "Ponderings" can be found on the SWAMBC Web-site. As stated at the Drifters AGM, Dave Semper is now the SWAMBC representative for the Drifters, taking over from our long-standing rep. Verd Redwood.

New Member

We would like to welcome **Brian Lovejoy from Evercreech**, to the club; we wish you many happy boating days with the club, may your batteries remaining charged and dry! Good luck with the model you are currently constructing.

Bryn Bach Park MBC

We have, once again been invited to their Scale and Sail day on 16th August. A venue situated in an adventure park (with a model airfield, golf course and BMX track) there is a splendid caravan park on-site with electrics, showers and all mod cons etc. right near the lake. Bryn Bach Park is near Merthyr Tydfil and the "Black Mountains", an ideal site seeing area, but if you need to book your caravan pitch please do it ASAP as it is in the middle of the summer holidays. Telephone number for the park is 01495 711816.

Membership fees

First the good news, there will be NO increase in this years membership fees ! Next the bad news, by the time you read this letter they are due. Membership fees are one of the main contributions to the clubs funds and without these the club could not operate. The other main advantage is insurance. By paying your membership fee you have 3rd party Public Liability Insurance which is required at the majority of events on the model boating calendar, and certainly by all events run under the SWAMBC banner i.e. competitions. So it is most important to pay your clubs subscription as soon as possible so that you can retain your insurance to enter or exhibit at any given festival (including Weymouth!)

Cost and How to Pay your Membership Fees

Ordinary Membership (including PL insurance) £14 due 1st February 2008

Family Membership (including PL insurance)

Members living in the same household £17 due 1st February 2008

- 1 Enclose cheque payable to "**Shepton Mallet Drifters MBC**"
- 2 **Enclose your name and address**
- 3 Send or contact: The Membership Secretary, Drifters MBC,
Verd Redwood, 20 Starling Way,
Shepton Mallet, Somerset. BA4 4EG
Tel: 01749 343832

REMEMBER NO membership..... NO Insurance

Drifters v Sedgemoor. The Great Swimming Pool Challenge

Once more swords were drawn (transmitter switched on) at the revival of the "swimming pool challenge". For a number of years this annual event has taken place between the two clubs. The event was on the books again this year but unfortunately, although finding a new venue, it has had to be cancelled. Apparently, building work at "The Haven" has taken longer than expected and therefore the swimming pool will not be available. I expect later in the year we shall have our usual skittles challenge with the Sedgemoor team, so in the end we have something to look forward too in the Sedgemoor/Drifters challenge..

SWAMBC "What's on Guide"

Sadly this publication will not be published this year due to cost and other clubs and members (NOT the Drifters) not purchasing this worthwhile booklet. How ever there will be an 8 page pamphlet produced by SWAMBC and issued to clubs so that they can reproduce it for their members, Also most information contained in the previous "Guide" will be available on the SWAMBC Web Site. We will endeavour to publish SWAMBC dates from the pamphlet when possible under the heading "**Some Future Events**" at the end of each newsletter.

The good news is that "Ponderings" the SWAMBC magazine (which is getting better every issue) will still be published and can be seen on the SWAMBC Web Site, a hard copy can be borrowed from the club or purchased. Extracts will still appear in Driftwood throughout the year.

You're nicked!

A windsurfer was ordered out of the water by a Bermudian Police patrol for "failing to keep his vessel in a seamanlike order". The police sergeant complained that the man did not have a regulation anchor, 10ft of chain, warp, two oars and a lifebuoy.

Bringing tears to your eyes!

Hernias were a common problem in sailing ships in years gone by when men would strain at heaving ropes, equally common was the cure. Men would climb aloft, secure their feet to the yards and hang upside down for a quarter of an hour. Perhaps the NHS should invest in, a couple of ship's masts.

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

Don't forget deadline 30th March for "Driftwood items" to Ted ASAP gemini01@btinternet.com

Yeovil "Fleet Air Arm Museum"
Sailing Collett (normal club meet)
Club Meeting
Bridge End, Wales
Bath and West Model Show?

SWAMBC at Collett
Club Meeting
Collett Day
Int. Model Festival Weymouth
Bryn Bach Park MBC, Tredegar

Christmas Night Sail

Saturday 9th February Contact Jackie Tel: 01749 343017
Sunday 2nd March 2008 (about 10am to 12)
Monday 10th March Thatched Cottage 7:30pm
Fri/Sat 5/6th April Contact Carol & Phil Sad Tel: 01749 347121
Sat/Sun 12/13th April (to be confirmed) Contact Jackie
Tel:01749 343017
Sunday 11th May (Scale Steering Competition) contact Mike Knight
Monday 12th May Thatched Cottage 7:30pm
Sat. 14th June Drifters run the lake-side events
Sat/Sun 12/13th July Contact Mike Knight
Sat. 16th August Contact Mark Jennings
e-mail: Mark.jennings4@virgin.net
Sat. 13th December at Collet Park (advance warning!)

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SHEPTON MALLET DRIFTERS M.B.C Held at the Thatched Cottage Sunday 13th January 2008

Meeting commenced at 1038

Members present

B Stevens(Chair) V Redwood(Tres) D Harris(Sec) K Hickman, W Hickman, J Hickman, P Sadd, C Sadd, A Martin, B Leakey, N Harvey, R Trott, C Button, I Rodda, P Rodda, D Semper, T Smith, I Holland, M Holland, D Porter, E Porter, F Biggs, B Lovejoy, T Biggs, S Jackson, C Jackson, J Stevens, G Haberfield.

Apologies

P Warren, M Knight, R Stevens, M Stevens, G Bowkett.

Minutes of the last AGM

These were read out to the members, approved and signed.

Matters arising

Child Safe policy to be reviewed and progressed, with input from the local council.

Chairman's Report

Barrie spoke about Pond Clearance, carried out by contractors. Quadron and the council were not previously aware of the amount of effort required, and the amount of rubbish created during the year. A small digger was used, and 15 lorry-loads transported from the site! Local residents had complained about the rat problem, largely because of the habit of feeding the ducks. This problem is being investigated, and progressed by the council. Barley straw was deployed this last year, with a marked improvement in the amount of weed being reduced. Barrie thanked Verd, Danny, Ted and Maggie for their efforts on behalf of the club during the year. Charlton Brewery Lake was discussed, and it was decided that to sail there, we must have a minimum of three members present, in the interests of Health and Safety.

Treasurer's Report

Verd reported that we now have 75 members, 9 of which are original members. Thanks were given to the auditors. Fees for 2008 are staying the same, at £14 for individual members, to be paid by 1st February, to keep insurance up to date. The year's accounts were proposed for approval by Bill Hickman, seconded by Dave Semper, unanimously approved.

Secretary's Report

Danny said that during the year, he had actually received one item of mail for the club! Danny stated that he was standing down due to distance from home, and other commitments.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Ted gave a comical introduction to his report, stating that solicitor's letters would be forthcoming, for any members who thought that his fact-finding trips abroad during the year on behalf of the club were misconstrued as holidays!!! His report thanked members for their support during the year, and stated that with the demise of the "What's on Guide" he would endeavour, through Driftwood, to keep members informed of forthcoming events in SWAMBC and local invitations. Barrie took the opportunity to ask members for assistance with our website. (contact Barrie)

Election of Officers

Barrie and Verd were prepared to carry on in their positions for another year. Danny proposed that Barrie Stevens as Chairman and Verd Redwood as Treasurer be elected for the coming year, seconded by Dave Semper, and carried unanimously. Mike Knight had volunteered his services as Secretary. He was proposed by Bill Hickman, seconded by Jenny Hickman, and carried unanimously. Ted Porter was co-opted to the committee as Newsletter Editor.

Any Other Business

A tri-fold leaflet to replace the "What's on Guide" is in progress, and should be available for distribution to all SWAMBC clubs by the end of January. Five hard copies will be forwarded to each club, who may then copy as many leaflets as required for their members. It was requested that an updated Club leaflet be produced. David Semper was co-opted as SWAMBC Rep for the club, replacing Verd who wished to stand down.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 1145.

A short period was then taken, to raffle the illuminated magnifier, kindly donated by Kevin Fleet, and to present the prizes for the Xmas night sail, chosen by the local newspaper's photographer. A quick run-down of future events was given, anyone interested in attending, names to Jackie soonest please. The members then dispersed, some taking advantage of the opportunity to have lunch at the Thatched Cottage.

Events

Saturday 9 Feb	Yeovilton, open for exhibitors from 7.30am
W/end 5/6 April	Bridgend Camping £6 per night, exhibitors free to Festival.
W/end 12/13 April	New show to be held at the Bath and West Showground. Camping, parking and entry to the show, free to exhibitors.

NEXT CLUB NIGHT MEETING
7:30pm Monday 10th March 2008 Thatched Cottage!
DEADLINE for DRIFTWOOD Sunday March 30th 2008

