



Driftwood

Newsletter of the Shepton Mallet Drifters MBC December 2008



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Christmas Festive Night Sail
Collett Park
Set-up 2.30pm –start 4pm
Saturday December 13th
Drifters AGM
Sunday 11th January
Please be seated by 10:20am

Pugwash (Barrie Stevens)

Another year virtually done and dusted! It was yet again a very eventful year, and each year we plan our events at the start of the year only to find that a few new ones pop up. Like this year we had the Yeomans Quarry weekend in June which was organised at the last minute but was very successful as long as you don't let the weather get the better of you!! Phill Sadd started the year looking pretty miserable when it rained but as the season went on he was getting withdrawal symptoms when it did not rain!! The other new event was the Gartel Railway in July which was also successful and is about the only event apart from Weymouth when the sun made an appearance!

A bit of sad news, and any Drifter who went to Weymouth and showed an interest in styrene sheet and Footy's was sure to have met Ricky Webb from the Eastleigh club sadly he passed away in November.

Finally seasons greetings to everyone and lets all hope for a good and prosperous new year.

Editorial

First and most important may I wish all members and their families a "**Very Happy Christmas**" and to thank all contributors for their input to "Driftwood" and help during 2008. As we approach the end of another year it must have been the wettest on record for model boating. One thing was sure, it kept dry for Weymouth, and that dreaded weed stayed away. Now what's ahead for 2009? This month we have extracts from the latest issue of "Ponderings" the SWAMBC Newsletter, and sadly report that Graham Castle the editor of Ponderings will be giving up his post in February. With our AGM on the horizon (January) please enter the date and time in your "New" diary. **Of course one of the highlights this month is our Christmas Night Sail on Saturday 13th. As usual, help would be appreciated in setting up the event and equally in dismantling, tables and gazebos afterwards, that is always a help so we can get back home in good time. If you would like to bring any goodies (mince pies, sausage rolls etc.) they would be welcomed. DON'T FORGET YOUR TOURCH!**

Verd Redwood (our treasurer) has produced a new three-page leaflet, presented at the last meeting. The centre pages details the clubs meeting dates at the Thatched Cottage and Collett Park it also includes Drifters events throughout 2009. These dates will also be promulgated in Driftwood as far in advance as possible.

I don't usually advertise commercial publications in Driftwood but a "one off" special hit the news stands in (November) published by **Marine Modelling International** under the editorial-ship of our Chairman **Barrie Stevens**, it is MMIs "one off" Submarine Special. Even if you are not into submarines it makes excellent reading, and incorporates a first-rate articles on the "Evolution of the Submarine" and the "Human Torpedo" both by **Robin Trott**. Another well written piece by **Michael J Tunnicliffe** on the card model of a German WWII mini-sub. Also in the special was mention of the late Steve Webb and his submersible chariot and **Phillip Warren** with his matchstick submarine Fleet. Oh! The centre spread is a simple plan to construct your very own submarine. Will we see any at Collett Park? (Ed. This news piece was not solicited by our esteem Chairman and no numeration passed hands)

Drifters AGM

This will be taking place at the **Thatched Cottage** (normal meeting venue) on **Sunday 11th January 2009 at 10:30am**. The agenda will be the same as previous years. **It is requested that members be seated by 10.20am**

so that the meeting can start promptly at 10.30am. Nominations for places on the committee must be made to the secretary Mike Knight Tel: 07747 600748 Email maknight9@hotmail.com The AGM will be followed by lunch at the Thatched Cottage, lunches can be booked on an individual basis at the Thatched Cottage.

10% Discount for all Members ! (Every little helps!)

Thanks to Robin Trott informing all members at our last meeting, we can now obtain a 10% discount at "TOYMASTER" which has set up shop within the complex of Haskins Retail Centre, Shepton Mallet. Just show your Drifters membership card to gain this advantage. On sale they have a range of "airfix" models plus limited items of modelling (i.e. Paint, glue etc.). Apparently, just after Robin mentioned this at our Monday club meeting, someone went into TOYMASTER flashed his membership card and received his 10% off! Now I must remind members this 10% is not on furniture, clothes and kitchen things! In addition "Aldi" is also within the Haskins Centre and on my last visit caught sight of quite cheap "hardware" items that may help in model building, or DIY around your estate? **Financial News Flash...Make sure suppliers are charging the new 15% Vat**

Bath Bugle Call

Once again the Drifters were in attendance at this modelling exhibition in Bath. **Congratulations to Robin Trott** who achieved a "Highly Recommended" for his diorama depicting a scene of three Japanese warships. Altogether 8 members (Verd, Chris and Steve, Maurice and Janet and Dave Semper) exhibited their models.

Early News Flash

Arrangements are in hand for the 2009 South West Model Engineering Model Making and Hobbies Exhibition, taking place again on our doorstep at the Bath and West Showground. Verd Redwood, our treasurer, will be organising the Drifters space, like last year. There will be camping on-site and all the usual refreshments and facilities. The dates are 18 and 19th April..... "Watch this space"

Ponderings Newsletter of SWAMBC Issue 56 November 2008

This month we are fairly up to date with extracts from the SWAMBC Newsletter as we report on the November issue number 56. The sad news is that Graham Castle is giving up his position at editor. He has been excellent in the roll, with Ponderings becoming very professional in layout and content. He will be a hard act to follow. It appears to be all change at SWAMBC with Barrie retiring and our secretary Mike Knight taking over as treasurer.

As most of us know Barrie was the first Chairman 15 years ago, edited the original SWAMBC Newsletter, became a founder member of COMPASS (Cool I forgot that one!) and was involved with UKRCC, as well as starting and organising (for 14 years) the Weymouth Model Boat Festival, and as a side line organised the model boating side of Bristol IFOS, Portsmouth IFOS 1 and 2, and Leith in Scotland. This of course was not a solo effort, as Jackie was always there organising the paper work (registrations, forms and correspondence).

Camborne Pond Hoppers MBC have been quite busy with old and new venues to exhibit their boats, and like a number of other clubs, following the first show a second has been requested. Like a number of other clubs their season is about over so it is down to the workshop to build new models for 2009. Oh! One of their members (with no personal transport) travels all over using taxis, taking with him tables, a gazebo and of course his model boats all over west Cornwall. **Clevedon and District MBC** seemed to have hit the jack pot in 2008, and now has a permanent site within the pub grounds next to their lake where they can hold events. Also ahead with their dates as next June on 20th they are holding a "Picnic by the Lake" where all clubs are invited as an "Open Sale Day". To close in 2008 the Clevedon MBC are holding their Christmas Night Sale on December 20th. A highlight at Clevedon was a "footie" race in the fog initiated by Andy Trewin (who gave a talk to our members "Drifters" at the last meeting). **Exeter MBC** their pond has been really busy as last August and "Adventure Sports Day" was held incorporating canoes and large inflatable spheres with people inside virtually walking on water. The day seemed to have worked well with model boats, as their lake is split into two. The Exeter night sale had a perfect evening with zero wind and dead calm water dozens of boats on the water and the best part with the ladies kindly providing sausage-rolls, pasties and cakes (sounds great). **Falmouth MBC** good weather accompanied their "Open Day" last August, following their AGM Ted Dunstan is now Secretary and Events Co-ordinator his telephone number 01326 377 122 (*I put that in so you can up-date your "Old" What's on Guide*) It appears the club is now into building cabin cruisers, is this the latest craze? **Looe MBC** held a great "Fun Sail" day with a number of other clubs turning up, Plymouth, Truro, Newquay, Camborne clubs, Appledore Bideford, Penzance and Northampton, quite a line up. The commercial pedalos have been put away at the end of the season so they can put the model buoys back in the water for their steering course.

City of Plymouth MBC their membership has be retained, but like a number of other clubs their junior membership is practically non-existence and as such concern about the future, the scale steering has declined dramatically with just a dozen taking part in their last event. Let us hope that 2009 brings better luck. Although their club pool is

rather small they also have use of a brackish lake at Millbrook where they store their dinghy courtesy of Millbrook Council. Their clubs Christmas sail is on Saturday 6th December (week before ours). **Poole Radio Yacht Club** unfortunately their August Open Day had bad weather although the event was well attended, they also played host to the "Vintage Model Yacht Club" which also included scale sail and free sale (with vane, the original sailing race steering control system). Their club's AGM takes place on December 7th. **Sedgemoor MBC** one of the clubs which are holding their Christmas event after the Christmas Day, yes on Sunday 28th December Sedgemoor are inviting all clubs and their members to their "Christmas Cracker" apparently tea, coffee soup and a few mince pies on offer. The club is now moving into the winter series for the tough? IOM sailing guys. **Solent Radio Control Model Yacht Club** another club with a full social (sailing) diary. The club's 30th anniversary was held on 13th July, making it one of the oldest clubs in SWAMBC, it was celebrated with a BBQ, the event was well patronised with members and families. The committee at the club have had to come up with a new set of rules regarding hovercraft mainly for safety and insurance risks (*Ed. How large are their hovercraft?*) Visits by the club included "Meet the Navy" at Portsmouth and the model boat weekend in the Historic Dockyard. **Warminster MBC** Their report brought back memories of Collett Park and the days of cleaning out the lake, the Warminster Council came up with substantial cash to have the lake cleaned and removed a number of underwater obstructions that suddenly stopped boats in their tracks. Their recent trip to their pond involved scale sailing in a force 12 with horizontal rain! (Yes, we've all been there).

Weymouth and Portland MBC also ended the season on a wet and windy day at the Magerton Mill pond, followed by lunch at the Mill Cafe, this had been a regular club activity subsequently the Mill owner allowed the club to have an extra days sailing on the Mill pond, unfortunately the Mill is now closed for the winter season. This is a private location so unfortunately it is members only. As we know the official Club Lake is at Radipole in Weymouth (well known during WIMMF). **Penzance MBC**, if you are ever in the area they sail at the Wherrytown Pool next to the Lidl Store on the promenade, all are welcome, Thursdays and Sundays 12:30 to 17:00. **Woodspring Model Sailing Club** the well known "Pilot Cutter" day started wet and windy but faired up nicely around 11am, combining little and large fleets, Beryl made the tea and coffee (always a winner). Quite a spectacular start as the boats lined up for the start with tan and white sails flapping in the wind. Finally a friendly event took place at the Woodspring water called "**The North East versus the South West**", each year an event is held either in Aberdeen or Woodspring and this being the 4th year at Woodspring, the format of the event is fleet racing IOM yachts. No scores for top finishers but the team with the lowest average score over two days wins the coveted silver Quaich Trophy (Scottish Drinking bowl) first sailed for in 2005. **Yeovil Model Warship Association** continues their twice-weekly meetings (a very busy club). Unfortunately the club has dispensed with the open "Warship Day" held annually due to lack of grey funnel warships (*ed. Something like the RN?*) but instead it will be a general "Open Day" on the lines of the one held annually at Crealy Park, trying to attract greater attendance. This is an excellent lake, parking lakeside, pub by the lake, just off the main A37 Yeovil road (very easy access), and toilets on-site.

Diorama time at Weymouth IMMF 2009

For all those modellers interested in building/making dioramas, the Weymouth International Maritime Modelling Festivals theme next year is "A Riparian Experience", (*ed. Adj. An owner of land bordering a river of/or inhabiting a riverbank*) the last time I heard this expression was in the TV comedy series "Keeping up Appearances" used by the character "Mrs. Bucket.

For Sale

A well built lovely little model of a 1930s Pilot vessel the "Guardsmen" (shown at the last meeting) with electric motor and steering servo. Built to a high standard. Only £50 Tel: Colin 01761 414067

***** OPEN DAYS - EVENTS - FESTIVALS - MEETINGS ***** *PUT THEM IN YOUR DIARY NOW!*

| | | | |
|-------|---------------------|---------------|--|
| Dec. | 13 th | Collett Park | Christmas Night Sail Contact Jackie or Barrie 343017 |
| Dec. | 20 th | Clevedon MBC | Christmas Night Sail |
| Dec. | 28 th | Sedgemoor | Christmas Cracker Winter Open Day Sail contact Russ Chilcott |
| Feb. | 14 th | Yeovil | Fleet Air Arm Museum Contact Barrie or Jackie 343017 |
| April | 18/19 th | Bath and West | Model Show contact Verd 343832 |
| May | 25 th | Sherborne | Sherborne Castle Festival contact Danny 01747 822686 |

Well that completes the known list for this issue, if you know of any more please let me (the editor) know so that I can include it in the next issue of Driftwood. E-mail gemini01@btinternet.com Tel: 01749 830015. Don't forget if you want to contact the organisers, please be aware they are volunteers, so don't phone at Midnight or any ungodly hour (i.e. during Children's TV time/Coronation Street/Eastenders/10'clock news etc.)

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
SHEPTON MALLET DRIFTERS M.B.C
Held at the Thatched Cottage Monday 10th November 2008
Meeting opened at 7.30pm

Present

Barrie Stevens, V. Redwood \\
(Treasurer), M. Edwards (Acting Secretary), C. Button, B. Chantler, G. Haberfield, D. Harris,
N. Harvey, S. Jackson, B. Leakey, P&I. Rodda, C&P. Sadd, D. Semper, T. Smith, R. Trott

Apologies

M. Knight T. Brooks, D. Porter,

Minutes of last Meeting

Read and approved

Matters Arising

The Chairman thanked David Semper (DS) for standing in for him at the last meeting.

Chairmans Report

Barrie confirmed that this was a quiet time of the year for events but reminded everyone that the Night sail is on the second Saturday 13th December 2008. The meeting was advised that in the event of inclement weather the shelter would be used again as a refuge from the storm. Parking must be on hard standing only and no parking on grass. Danny also mentioned that the Yeovil Model Warship Association have invited us to their night sail on the first Saturday in December (6th). Contact Danny for more details. It was reported that one of the gazebos was damaged. This was not discovered until it was erected and the point was made that damage should be reported at the time as this would save some heartache. These were last used at the scale steering event. Also this event coincided with our only designated first Sunday club sailing day and some concern was expressed about holding events on these dates. The reasons for doing so were previously discussed and agreed but the general opinion was that first Sundays should be reserved for Drifter only events.

Treasurers Report

Verd reported that there had been no events since the last meeting and no change from last time. He confirmed that the Bath Bugle Show is on 23rd November 2008 at the pavilion in Bath. Contact Verd if you want to attend. The club has also been invited by Melbury Abbas Preservation Society to attend a charity event on 17th-18th July 2009 at Woodfrys Farm, Melbury Abbas Sherborne (SP7 0DB for those of you with them new fangled Sat. Nav. things). Again contact Verd for more details.

Our AGM will be on Saturday 11th January 2009 at the Thatched Cottage. 10.30am start and lunch afterwards for those who desire it. Verd mentioned that there is a pond liner in our storage container. It is free to a good home.

SWAMBC AGM

David Semper (DS) gave a stimulating and interesting resume of this event whose memberships make it the biggest Model Boat Association in the U.K. He brought the meeting up to date with the latest deliberations of this august body. The change of Chairman means that Barrie has stepped down and this coupled with Graham Castle relinquishing his post as Newsletter Editor means some new faces in new places. One of these is Mike Knight who is now the treasurer of SWAMBC. Copies of the minutes are available for anyone needing them but David's description was accomplished. Gus lamented the demise of the What's on guide a view shared by the majority present.

AOB

Barrie congratulated Robin Trott on his recent marriage and so did we all, this prompted Robin to divulge the fact that Toy-master within the Haskins store at Shepton Mallet and also their Wells and Minehead branches will give a 10% discount to Drifters members on production of their membership cards. This plus my Bus Pass should lessen the economic downturn. There was no other business and the meeting was called to a close at 8.15pm.

We were then treated to an excellent presentation by Andy Trewin on footy yachts and bottle boats. Must remember to use plastic not glass bottles and make sure it fits the 'BOX' somehow.

NEXT CLUB NIGHT MEETING
The DRIFTER AGM
10:30pm Sunday 11th January 2009 Thatched Cottage

DEADLINE for DRIFTWOOD Sunday January 25th 2009

**STOP PRESS! ... STOP PRESS! ... WEYMOUTH INTERNATIONAL MARITIME
MODELLING FESTIVAL 2009 TRADE and STATIC DISPLAYS TO BE HELD IN
THE PAVILION COMPLEX CONFIRMED!**