



# Driftwood

Newsletter of the Shepton Mallet Drifters MBC August 2008



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**Thank you to all helpers at this  
years Maritime Modelling Festival  
- Weymouth 2008.**

**Administration officers, Pool  
erectors, peg board keepers,  
event announcers,  
and members on security.**

## Pugwash (Barrie Stevens)

**Greetings All!**

As you can read in events reports below the last couple of months have been very hectic on the events scene, and the pain of the high fuel costs has affected some of the farther to travel to events. Certainly the shortest to travel to and the shortest duration event (2hrs) so far this year has been the St Peters Hospital fete in Shepton Mallet (full report page 3)

One of the spin offs from the Yeomans Quarry excellent event was that the Gartel Railway near Templecombe saw our club stand and invited us to attend a Transport Day on July 27th at their own railway. The attraction was that they had their own lake which we could use. We had 6 Drifters families there and I must confess that it is the most enjoyable day I have had this year sailing R/C boats!! Even though there was weed around the side of the lake the channels and natural harbours in the weed made for excellent navigation and as the weed was the large oxygenating weed you could see it easily. The only on the water rescue needed was when George would loose another prop ..... I think the last count was three!! Lots of other vintage transport was there which included model and fullsize steam vehicles, lorries, cars, motorbikes. We have been invited back next year and it will be a two day event.

**NB: If anyone is interested in attending the East Somerset Railway (Cranmore) event over the August Bank Holiday weekend 23,24, & 25<sup>th</sup> please let Jackie know ASAP. Due to the low numbers of Drifters booked in so far, we may have to cancel!**

## Editorial

One minute one is "wondering what boats to take to Weymouth" and the next one wonders "what boat to decorate for the Christmas Night Sail at Collett". Welcome to the August issue packed again with news and correspondence (i.e. letters). Again this month we present "at a glance" Club Open Days, and as the price of fuel increases the local Open Day events are becoming more popular. There were fewer campers this year at Weymouth for the International Maritime Modelling Festival (IMMF) but overall another excellent show and with a certain trader selling more tanks than boats who knows more car park space may be required to display these land vessels? During the show another trader explained to me the powers of super glue and stuck two pennies together (mine and Verds), two whole pennies, that's the price of a teaspoon full of petrol!

## Charlton Brewery Lake.

Due to the obstructions near and in the lake and the added difficulty in launching models, it has been decided that the Lake at Charlton Brewery, until further notice, will no longer be used by the Drifters MBC as a venue. All meeting dates at this location are now cancelled.

**Thank You from Trevor Smith** (the member with the excellent toy/model boats of yesteryear).

Unfortunately Trevor took ill whilst at the "Open Day" at Yeomans Quarry. Trevor ended up in Yeovil hospital with "Transient Global Amnesia" in other words temporary loss of memory. Apparently quite rare,

and fortunately unlikely to recur. He would like to thank the members who helped him pack up his collection of models and especially to Verd for the concern and phone call.

P.S. Trevor was at Weymouth for the IMMF, operating in the pool outside the pavilion with two mechanical fish and a squid, they were so life-like (fish like) that a second take with the eyeballs was required, as usual the younger (and some older) spectators were impressed.

### **SWAMBC Small Yacht Results - Round 3 2008 by Danny Harris**

My apologies for taking a while to issue the results, but Weymouth and 3 Katherine Jenkins concerts this month have taken up a large amount of my time! Thank you to the Plymouth club for hosting this round, and to Ron Fry and his team for their efforts on the day.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Skipper</b>	<b>Points(after discard)</b>	<b>SWAMBC</b>
<b><u>65 Class</u></b>			
1 <sup>st</sup>	Neil Harvey	9	21 Points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Paul Newman	11	18
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Steve Bowles	19	16
4 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Wetherby	23	15
<b><u>78 Class</u></b>			
1 <sup>st</sup>	Danny Harris	4	21
<b><u>100 Class</u></b>			
1 <sup>st</sup>	Terry Fry	12	21
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ron Fry	15	18
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Charlie Sells	23	16
<b><u>100+ Class</u></b>			
1 <sup>st</sup>	Paul Newman	10	21
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Neil Harvey	16	18
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Steve Bowles	20	16

Although slightly better than the entries at Poole, I was disappointed in the number of yachts on the day, only 18. I know people have other commitments, and the price of fuel is a problem to us all, but it would be nice to see greater numbers at Exeter and Sedgemoor to complete the series. My thanks to Plymouth and Stoke Gabriel clubs for their support. *Danny*

### **Shepton Mallet Hospital Fete**

Just a small local event which the Drifters were invited to attend, and so with the weather forecast not so good a number of members still turned up with their pride and joys (models). In the end the weather was fine, although a little windy, we were established next to the "have-a-go" bottle stall. Once again a great hic! hic! show, and as usual much interest from the public. The organisers announced that they made just under £3000 for the local hospital and a big thank you to the Drifters for an interesting display and the small pool which was an attraction for the children to be able to play with some of our small boats.

### **Yeomans Quarry 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open Day**

First "Thank You" to Glastonbury Music Festival for allowing us to have your rain/mud this year. No need for the "Table Top" pond, we had an overnight lake in an ideal position right in front of our stand. Yours truly sailed his solar powered boat (well I sort of pushed it) followed by Steve J with his table top warship, with full radio control. Although we were close to one of the main entrances, few people looked at the boats on the Saturday (blame the weather!)

### **Weymouth IMMF**

For a change the weather forecast was dull and dreary, well almost, we had a fair share of wind, til the sailing event, then it sort of died off, not so much sun this year, although the rain stayed away. Once again the pond outside the pavilion was well used, this year more than ever, probably due to the number of spectators surrounding the area. We shared the weekend with the last few days of the "Spirit of the Sea" a new event on the Weymouth tourist/visitors calendar with yachts, stalls and other seamanship

presentations crowding the Weymouth harbour area. This of course brought more spectators to the pond side by the Pavilion, which resulted in more modellers showing of their prize possessions. **At one stage you could not move on the water for Canadian geese, tugs, lifeboats, RAF rescue craft, Gus's rowing boat, trawlers, warships, swimming fish, a yellow submarine and the odd yacht, a great turnout, one of the best I have witnessed on the pond since we tried for the record a few years back.** Perhaps we could resurrect that record now that Ghz. frequencies are available

Although not so many model boats in the main hall (or campers at Lodmore this year), the traders had their usual stands, with one stand, in particular, doing a roaring trade (in tanks!) as mentioned in my editorial. Unfortunately limited sunshine meant the solar boats were resting part of the time, except one, this was built by Alan Senior, I timed his solar boat of just 3.5 seconds over the drag racing course, Barrie and yours truly, were impressed, it will mean going back to the drawing board for quite a few contenders. Another solar vessel (by the same modeller) was a hover craft again moving at high speed with a 1mm gap between the hovercraft skirt and table top. Other events at Weymouth covered the usual Off Shore racing by OMRA and the events at Radipole Lake. The evening show was first-rate and helped kick-off another excellent IMMF. I have been informed that the "Spirit of the Sea" is earmarked for the next 4 years running up to the Olympics in 2012 and that includes the Modelling Festival, we shall have to wait and see where, as the Pavilion is due a major overall. *(Incidentally 20 years ago, when I lived in Weymouth, they said the Pavilion was due to be demolished then!)*

### **SWAMBC Newsletter**

Due to the timing of the production of the next issue of Ponderings we are unable to bring you up-to-date news about other clubs in SWAMBC in this issue of Driftwood.

### **Open Days - Special Events - Open Days - Special Events - Open Days -**

Please be advised that the following dates/times may change due to adverse weather conditions or other unavoidable incidents. Check with the organisers if you have a long journey. **Most of all, are your batteries charged?**

Aug.	10 <sup>th</sup>	Falmouth MBC	Open Day
	16 <sup>th</sup>	Tredegar Bryn Bach Park MBC	Open Day - e-mail <a href="mailto:Mark.jennings4@virgin.net">Mark.jennings4@virgin.net</a>
	17 <sup>th</sup>	City of Plymouth MBC	Open Day number 3
	23 <sup>rd</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup>	Cranmore Railway	Usual set up and evening meal (if ordered)
	23 <sup>rd</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup>	Margham Park	Sailing weekend and Country Show (FREE)-Adv. booking req.
	24 <sup>th</sup>	Sedgemoor	Pete's Fun Day
	24/25 <sup>th</sup>	Garth MBC	Open Event
	25 <sup>th</sup>	City of Plymouth MBC	Open Day number 4
Sept.	6 <sup>th</sup>	Evercreech Show	Static only
	7 <sup>th</sup>	Camborne Pond Hoppers	Open Day
	7 <sup>th</sup>	Taunton (Vivary Park)	SWAMBC Scale Steering round 6
	7 <sup>th</sup>	Burnham (Apex Lake)	SWAMBC Small Yachts Finals
	14 <sup>th</sup>	Looe MBC	Fun Day "Open Day"
	21 <sup>st</sup>	Crealy Park, Exeter	SWAMBC Scale Steering
	21 <sup>st</sup>	Tone Valley MBC	Harold's Fun Day
	28 <sup>th</sup>	Burnham (Apex Lake)	SWAMBC Fast electrics Finals
Oct.	11 <sup>th</sup>	Bridgewater (Puriton Village)	<b>SWAMBC AGM</b>
Nov	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bugle Call, Bath, Pavilion	Static Display, names to Verd, a good venue to start your Xmas shopping!
Dec.	13 <sup>th</sup>	Collett Park	<b>Christmas Night Sail</b>

Well that completes the known list for this year, if you know of any more please let me (the editor) know so that I can include it in the next issue of Driftwood.

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 Coronation Street/Eastenders etc.)

### **Some Future Events involving the Drifters (Put them in your diary NOW!)**

**Don't forget deadline 28<sup>th</sup> October for "Driftwood items" to Ted ASAP [geminio1@btinternet.com](mailto:geminio1@btinternet.com)**

Bryn Bach Park MBC, Tredegar

Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> August Contact Mark Jennings

e-mail: [Mark.jennings4@virgin.net](mailto:Mark.jennings4@virgin.net)

Mid Somerset Show

Sat. 17<sup>th</sup> August Contact Steve Jackson ASAP

Cranmore Railway

23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> August Contact Jackie ASAP

Evercreech Show

Sat. 6<sup>th</sup> September Contact Verd 01749 434832

Christmas Night Sail

Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> December at Collett Park (advance warning!)

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**  
**SHEPTON MALLET DRIFTERS M.B.C**  
**Held at the Thatched Cottage Monday July 21<sup>st</sup> 2008**

**Meeting Opened at 7.45pm**

B Stevens(Chairman), M Knight(Secretary),V Redwood (Treasurer), R Trott, C Button, Christine Button, G Bowkett, N Harvey, B Leakey, K Fleet, I Rodda, P Rodda, S Jackson, J Stevens, D Semper, T Brooks, P&C Sadd, E Porter

**Apologies**

T Smith, D Harris

**Minutes of Last Meeting**

Read and approved

**Matters Arising**

Nil

**Chairmans Report**

Barrie reported on events held at Cranmore and Collett Day, thanks received from Weymouth Council and SWAMBC for Drifters support at Weymouth event.

**Treasurers Report**

5 subscriptions not renewed, £55 taken on the Have A Go at Collett Day. There has been a slight increase in the insurance charge as a result of a handling charge.

**Secretary's Report**

Nothing new to report.

**Driftwood Report**

Driftwood now 16 pages, (*one of the editors jokes*). No Ponderings report in next issue as it will not be out in time.

**WEB SITE**

There was criticism of the web site not being up to date, George Bowkett volunteered to run and update website.

**Charlton Brewery Lake**

Water is deemed un-sailable and therefore will be delisted as a club sailing site.

**EVENTS**

Gartell Railway –	27 <sup>th</sup> July Jackie Stevens gave details of set up and times, numbers to Jackie asap.
East Somerset Railway –	23-25 <sup>th</sup> August, £7.50 per head for train, names to Jackie asap
Mid Somerset Show –	17 <sup>th</sup> August, Steve Jackson obtaining details, names to Steve asap.
Margam Park –	23-25 <sup>th</sup> August contact Ted Porter for details.
Evercreech Show –	6 <sup>th</sup> Sept 8-12AM names to Verd

**AOB**

Colin Button had 2 years of magazines on Titanic available.

Jackie/Ted Porter to update Drifter Tri-fold asap.

Next meeting all details of points to be raised at SWAMBC AGM to be raised.

Meeting Closed 8.20pm.

**NEXT CLUB NIGHT MEETING**  
**7:30pm Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2008 Thatched Cottage**

**DEADLINE for DRIFTWOOD Sunday September 28th 2008**

