



Voice<<<<<<>>>>>>pipe

The Newsletter of
The Mid-Thames Model Boat Club



April 2017

Issue 154

Chairman's Corner

Fast Electrics

- Testing, Tune up, Practice & Have a go day
- F600 brushless motor upgrade
- Electra event Hosted by MTMBC
- F/E @ MTMBC Open Day

Tug Towing

- Practice Day
- Tugs @ MTMBC Open Day

Yachting

- Hints & Tips

Scale & Saga Sailing

- Concurs winning entry
- Saga Sailing update

Dates for your diary

Sunday 2nd April

Yachting Round 1

IOM & Handicap (Any yacht)

Saturday 8th April

Tug Towing Round 1

Free Sailing & competition

Saturday 22nd April

Fast Electrics Round 1

Club500, F600B, Wacky Races & Run What Ya Brung

Sunday 30th April

MTMBC Open Day

Sunday 7th May

Yachting Round 2

IOM & Handicap (Any yacht)

Saturday 13th May

Tug Towing Round 2

Free Sailing & competition

Chairman's Corner by Tony Simons



Jim Wilshire receives the trophy for his winning entry to the Concurs competition held at the AGM.

I gather the shortened AGM met approval from members attending. It is proposed to do the same next year e.g. Sending out reports etc. prior to the meeting and collect any issues requiring attention before the AGM.

A warm welcome to the new members we have recently attracted and thank you to the members who have renewed. If you, at any time, have reason to think the club isn't up to your expectation please let the committee know. (Nicely)

As mentioned in the previous Voice Pipe Kent MBC Display team are not able to run a model boat show at Beale Park this year with us as the junior party. This show provides one of the many organised background activities that make Beale Park what it is and in return we have an excellent venue to operate as a club every day the park is open with all the amenities we enjoy.

Plan B is to hold a "Club Open Day" Sunday April 30th To this end your Committee and myself have put in a lot of time contacting the 40 plus clubs and organisations, "Marine Modelling International" magazine etc. who normally attend the "Beale Park Model Boat Show". Enquires have been replied to and meetings taken place with key park personnel to organise

Dates for your diary

Sunday 14th May

MTMBC Host Electra Championships & Novice Challenge

Saturday 20th May

Fast Electrics Round 2
Club500, F600B, Wacky Races & Run What Ya Brung

Sunday 28th May

Stevenage Model Boat Club Fun Day MTMBC members are invited

Saturday 10th June

Steering competition Round 1

Sunday 11th June

Yachting Round 3
IOM & Handicap (Any yacht)

Saturday 17th June

Tug Towing Round 3
Free Sailing & competition

Saturday 24th June

Fast Electrics Round 3
Club500, F600B, Wacky Races & Run What Ya Brung

Trading Post



RYAS scroll saw 90w, only 18 months old, used once but no longer needed. Cost £80 will accept £50 excellent condition and in original box.

Please Contact Jim Wilshire
01635 253141.

Fiesta Yacht For Sale

Former club member Phil Wild is selling his Fiesta. He says it is in good condition and would make a good starter boat.

Asking price **£70**. Please contact Phil on 01491 651 605.

this event. We have at time of writing seven clubs attending but sadly apart from the committee only three of our members have volunteered to help deliver the day.

Oxford MBC have transferred their "Hinksey 400" racing to our Open Day (Similar to Club 500 racing) and marshals are needed to help our guests. Dave Parker has been busy setting out a race time table incorporating our demonstration races with Oxford MBC races.

I wish you good weather and boats that don't fail when shown the water we designed them float on.

Fast Electrics by Dave Parker

The first F/E meeting of the Season

This was a Tune up, test, & Have a Go day on Saturday 25th March. It was nice to see some of the newer members attending and 3 visitors from another club. Unfortunately they arrived close to mid-day when we were packing up so they did not get to see much action.

All the sailing took place in the morning on the inside lake where many models took to the water.



There was plenty of activity in the pits as boats were being set up and readied for testing.

Some racers were testing their F600Bs and gaining some valuable experience on set up and racing. It seems a good battery, fully charged, will be required to complete the race time of 6 minutes. Keeping weight towards the stern appeared to help the handling so it may also be an advantage to add some weight at the stern.

Upgrade to the F600B

7 x F600s including the Prototype have now been upgraded to F600Bs and returned to their owners in time for the start of the racing season. A further new F600B has been sold and we have enough parts for another. *If you would like to join in the improved, faster, and more fun, F600B racing we can build one for you priced at £112.*

Trading Post



Model River Tug For Sale

Scratch built from Marine Modelling plans & article "Betsy Bev" This model can be operated as a conventional tow or pusher tug and has been upgraded to actively tow model payloads in either configuration.

You just need some radio gear.

£50

Contact Dave at parker42@btinternet.com or ring on 0118 9700162



Model MTB For Sale.

This super Graupner model has kindly been donated to MTMBC by David Wilkins. This nicely put together model is 42 inches long and has three graupner 500 motors. Each prop shaft has an oiling tube fitted. Comes with transmitter, charger and lipos so is completely ready to go.

The club is asking for **£100**, which is a fantastic bargain. Please contact John Price on 01189 414766



Whoops! a little too close for non-contact racing.

Electra's Visits

MTMBC will host 2 rounds of Electra Championships again in 2017 on Sunday May14 and Sunday July16. As in previous years they will run 2 Novice Challenge races exclusively for MTMBC Members. So why not join in the racing with other club members or come along to spectate and chat about F/Es with Electra racers and your fellow members.

MTMBC Open Day

We plan to hold F/E demonstration races at the open day again this year. We will also be hosting Oxford Model Boat Club's fast electric club class races.

They race a small boat called the Hinksey 400 so it will be interesting to see how they go about their racing.



Needless to say we need to put on a good show so please bring your Club500 and/or F600B along to race and be prepared to help out with some buoy judging if needed.

Currently the plan is to hold a F/E session in the morning scheduled for 11:30hrs to 12:30hrs and one in the afternoon at 13:30hrs to 14:30hrs. The order of play for each session will be:- Hinksey 400: Club500: Hinksey 400: F600b: Hinksey 400.

I like to think their racing was inspired by watching our demonstration races at previous model boat shows so it would be nice to put on a good show for them and the other clubs attending.

Trading Post

Trading Post is an area of Voice Pipe where members can advertise their model paraphernalia. So if you have any you would like to sell, swap, buy or just want something send contact details, brief description and a picture if possible to:-
parker42@btinternet.com

Tug Towing by Tony Simons

Practice Day

We had a good practice session on March 11th with seven attending sadly no champagne for new tug launches but several new hulls in the planning so we may yet have a traditional launching ceremony this year.



Newer members quickly got on top of towing a barge round the course without hitting the buoys a bit of a worry to the old hands, may have to resort to building those radio controlled buoys that provide a narrower gap between them when a tow approaches.



Hagrid making a tricky approach to the parallels in the windy conditions

If anyone needs a tug I suggest a look at the adverts in Voice Pipe and E bay has yielded good tugs at sensible prices but if unsure what you are purchasing seek advice there are many within the club who will be glad to help.

Open Day

On Sunday April 30th we are holding a Club Open day as part of the "On water" activities we are displaying tug towing but need tugs and their skippers to make this happen.

There are two sessions 12 to 12.30 pm and 2.30 to 3 pm even if you can only be present for one session it will be appreciated. Apart from tug towing demonstrations we often act as an impromptu rescue service for other craft that have failed this can at times be an interesting challenge.

Club Contacts - Your Committee



**Chairman & Tug Leader
Tony Simons**

Tel: 01993 868293

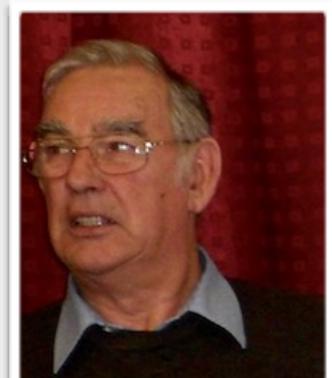
Email: tony406@btinternet.com



**Treasurer & Webmaster
Ian Hughes**

Tel: 07740 345129

Email: ian@ihughes.co.uk



**Membership Secretary & Scale
Leader**

Roger Strudwicke

Tel: 01628 526577

mail: rogerstrudwicke@gmail.com

Yachting

Hints & Tips

Some selected Hints & Tips from the Dabblers suggested by one of our more experienced yachters.

Be warned, learn from other peoples misfortunes, and not your own mistakes.

- When changing your car for another one make sure your boats fit in it
- When bending over putting your boat in the water, make sure you have nothing in your top pocket that might fall into the lake
- When bending over the side of the jetty make sure your hearing aid is secure. Glasses, Mobile phones that sort of thing.
- Check neck straps, radios do not float.
- There is a competition to see how far you can travel in your car with a radio on your roof without it falling off.
- Before you leave home check that your radio and boat are switched off, because by the time you get to the lake the batteries could be flat.
- Check your boat is turned on before you launch it.
- Boats do not steer very well with stands attached.
- To make white wood glue go off quickly mix it with superglue.
- Carry a clothes peg with your name on it for the frequency board.
- Carry spare crystals, in case of a clash with another member.
- Check out your boat works before you leave home

This list may stop you having a BAD day.

- Boat, and stand if used.
- Sails, and Jib pull down sheet if used.
- Batteries (one spare for boat and transmitter if you can run to it) as you never know when a cell is going to pack up.
- Radio.
- Radio Pot lids.
- Mast spacers.
- Tools.
- Spare rudder servo.
- Spare receiver.
- Insulation tape.
- Gaffer tape.
- Lunch.
- Chair.

Scale & Saga Sailing by Roger Strudwicke

Scale

Congratulations to the "Concours" winner - a few more entries next year please! We know you have them hidden away! Presumably all those nice warm well equipped workshops have been busy over the closed season - we await the results!

Club Contacts - Your Committee



**Yachting Leader
John Price**

Tel: 0118 941 4766

Email: jetpipe@talktalk.net



**Ladies & Associates
Representative
Janet Burch**

Tel: 01635 34403

Email: janet.burch@talktalk.net

Our Concours winner Jim Wilshire has kindly supplied some details on his winning entry.



Built from a kit by Palaform of a Griffon 600, Length 600 mm Width 300 mm, powered by brushless 400 motor with lipo 2.2Ah 3 cell, esc and all parts supplied by Palaform.

I have found a very good company for police names Pontypaint.com who supplied exact typeface and quick.

Constructed from 2mm and 3mm depron using UHU POR glue, all parts push out and were well labelled. The only problem encountered was fitting the skirt which was a bit tight on measurement and you definitely need very strong 2 sided tape.

The only disadvantage is that there is no reverse, but with such a tight turning circle this should not be a problem.

It runs well with a lot of power from one motor controlling lift and propulsion. It cost around £80 inc. all you need.

Cheers Jim



Saga Sailing

Too cold at present - us oldies have more sense! An email ring is being set up by Alan Whitbread, so it will be easier to know who is coming - no more wasted trips.

Club Contacts - Volunteers



**Voice Pipe Editor & Fast
Electrics Leader
Dave Parker**

Tel: 0118 9700162

Email: parker42@btinternet.com



**Saga Sailing Co-ordinator
Alan Whitbread**

Tel: 077765 263718

Email: orsonkarte@btinternet.com

'Saga' Sailing update

We are pleased to announce that Alan Whitbread has volunteered to assume the role of coordinator for the regular Thursday spring/summer afternoon Saga Sailing sessions on the inside lake at Beale Park. In the past, these have been a popular opportunity for members who have retired, or don't work on a Thursday afternoons to get to the park (weather permitting) for some fun and social boating.

Whilst Alan is keen to try and be there every week, he will obviously not be able to achieve this every time, so the plan will be to promote the creation of a self-sustaining group of regulars who communicate with each other by email to confirm their attendance.

In the meantime, if you are interested in joining the group, please email or telephone Alan so that he can plan for the first Saga gathering. Alan's contact details:

[Tel: 077765 263718](tel:077765263718), or orsonkarte@btinternet.com

Extract from the log of HMS Victory **(Revised following Nelson's 21st century return to his** **flagship!)**

'Order the signal Hardy'

'Aye aye Sir'

'Hold on - that's not what I dictated to the Signals Officer. What's the meaning of this?'

'Sorry Sir?'

'England expects every person to do his duty, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religious persuasion or disability' 'What gobbledygook is this?'

'Admiralty policy I'm afraid Sir. We're an Equal Opportunities employer now. We had the devil's own job getting 'England' past the censors, lest it be considered racist.'

'Gadzooks Hardy. Hand me my pipe and tobacco.'

'Sorry Sir. All naval vessels have been designated smoke-free working environments.'

'In that case, break open the rum ration. Let us splice the mainbrace to steel the men before battle.'

'The rum ration has been abolished Admiral. It's part of the Government's policy on binge drinking.'

'Good Heavens Hardy. I suppose we'd better get on with it. Full speed ahead.'

'I think you will find there is a 4 knot speed limit in this stretch of water.'

'Damn it man! We are on the eve of the greatest sea battle in history. We must advance with all despatch.'

'Report from the crow's nest, please.'

'That won't be possible, Sir.'

'What?'

'Health & Safety have closed the crow's nest Sir. No harness. And they said that rope ladder doesn't meet regulations. They won't let anyone up there until a proper scaffold can be erected.'



Q: Why don't pirates shower before they walk the plank?
A: Because they'll just wash up on shore later.

Q: Why is pirating so addictive?
A: They say once ye lose yer first hand, *ye get hooked!*

Q: How do pirates know that they are pirates?
A: They think, therefore they *ARRRR!!!!*

Q: What happened when Bluebeard fell overboard in the Red Sea?
A: He got *marooned*.

Q: How did the pirate get his Jolly Roger so cheaply?
A: He bought it on sail.

Q: What has 8 legs, 8 arms and 8 eyes?
A: 8 pirates.

Q: What do ye call a pirate with two eyes and two legs?
A: A rookie

Q: What did the ocean say to the pirate?
A: Nothing, *it just waved*.

Q: What's the difference between a hungry pirate and a drunken pirate?
A: One has a rumbling tummy, and the other's a tumbling rummy.

Q: What does a Dyslexic Pirate Say?
A: *RRRRRRRR*

'Then get me the ship's carpenter without delay Hardy.'
'He's busy knocking up a wheelchair access to the fo'c'sle Admiral.'

'Wheelchair access? I have never heard anything so absurd.'
'Health & Safety again Sir. We have to provide a barrier-free environment for the differently abled.'

'Differently abled? I've only one arm and one eye, and I refuse even to hear mention of the word. I didn't rise to the rank of Admiral by playing the disability card.'
'Actually Sir, you did. The Royal Navy is under-represented in the areas of visual impairment and limb deficiency.'

'Whatever next? Give me full sail. The salt spray beckons.'
'A couple of problems there too Sir. Health & Safety won't let the crew up the rigging without safety helmets. And they don't want anyone breathing in too much salt - haven't you seen the adverts?'

'I've never heard such infamy. Break out the cannon and tell the men to stand by to engage the enemy.'
'The men are a bit worried about shooting at anyone Admiral.'

'What? This is mutiny.'
'It's not that Sir. It's just that they are afraid of being charged with murder if they actually kill anyone. There's a couple of legal aid lawyers on board, watching everyone like hawks.'
'Then how are we to sink the Frenchies and the Spanish?'
'Actually Sir, we're not.'
'We're not?'
'No Sir. The Frenchies and the Spanish are our European partners now. According to the Common Fisheries Policy, we shouldn't even be in this stretch of water. We could get hit with a claim for compensation.'
'But you must hate a Frenchman as you hate the Devil.'
'I wouldn't let the ship's Diversity Co-ordinator hear you say that Sir. You will be up on a disciplinary.'

'You must consider every man an enemy who speaks ill of your King.'
'Not any more Sir. We must be inclusive in this multicultural age. Now put on your kevlar vest - it's the rules.'

'Don't tell me - health & safety. What happened to rum, sodomy, and the lash?'
'As I explained Sir, rum is off the menu. And there's a ban on corporal punishment.'
'What about sodomy?'
'I believe it's to be encouraged Sir.'

'In that case, kiss me Hardy !'

Q: Why does it take pirates so long to learn the alphabet?

A: Because they can spend years at C.

Q: How much did the pirate pay for his peg and hook?

A: An arm and a leg.

Q: Where can ye find a pirate who has lost his wooden legs?

A: Right where ye left him.

Q: How do pirates prefer to communicate?

A: Aye to aye!

Q: How do ye turn a pirate furious?

A: Take away the 'p'.

Q: Why did nobody want to play cards with the pirate?

A: Because he was standing on the deck.

Q: What's orange and sounds like a parrot?

A: A carrot.

Q: What does a vegan pirate do in jail?

A: Starrrrrve!

Q: What are the 10 letters of the pirate alphabet?

A: I, I, R and the seven C's

POSTED BY THE MID THAMES MODEL BOAT CLUB ON 1ST APRIL 2017

WANTED

M

T

—



M

B

C

Have you seen this man?

A.K.A. - "THE CHAIRMAN"

For Membership Card Fraud

F £0,000 REWARD!

WILL BE PAID FOR THE APPREHENSION OF THE INDIVIDUAL PICTURED ABOVE, IN ADDITION TO ANY REWARD OFFERED BY THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.

LIBERAL REWARDS WILL BE PAID FOR ANY INFORMATION THAT SHALL CONDUCE TO THE ARREST OF THE PICTURED FRAUDSTER OR HIS ACCOMPLICES.

BE CAREFUL, HE MAY PRESENT IN A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT GUISES USING ONE OF THE FAKE MEMBERSHIP CARDS PICTURED BELOW. SHOULD A MEMBER CATCH THIS PERSON SNEAKING AROUND USING A FAKE CARD THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY WILL STAND THEM A FREE COFFEE IF HE CAN BE FOUND IN THE CAFE.



Breaking News: Membership Secretary admits to supplying fake cards!! Up to their necks in it - the pair of them? Ed.