

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



The Newsletter of  
The Mid-Thames Model Boat Club

Oct 2023

Issue 180

## Chairman's Corner

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- Saga Sailing
- Weed
- Chairman's Day
- Hi5! Access

## Fast Electrics

- Update
- Championship positions
- 2022 trophy presentations

## Tug Towing

- Update

## Yachting

- Update

## Scale

## Dates for your diary

- **Sun 1st October**      **Round 8**  
**Yachting**  
Fiesta/Victoria      **10am > 1pm**  
Handicap(Any yacht)**1pm>4pm**
- **Wed 4th October**      **10am >**  
**Saga Sailing**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sat 7th October**      **Round 7**  
**Tugs & Scale**      **10am > 4pm**  
Free sailing & competition
- **Wed 11th October**      **10am >**  
**Saga Sailing**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sun 15th October**      **Round 8**  
**Yachting**  
DF95                      **10am > 1pm**  
IOM                        **1pm > 4pm**
- **Wed 18th October**      **10am >**  
**Saga Sailing**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sat 21st October**      **Round 8**  
**F/E**                        **10am > 4pm**  
Club500, F600B, WackyRaces,  
Mono 1 & Run What Ya Brung



Something a little different from Chairman's Day

## Chairman's Corner by Tony Simons

Sadly Alan Whitbread passed away on 12<sup>th</sup> August and as you know he contributed in many ways to the running of our club. He was a valued Committee member and led Saga Sailing and the Steam section. A very pleasant helpful man who has been involved in many aspects of keeping the club running and was a great source of assistance when moving the club assets to Hi5 and solving the puzzle of how to assemble the floating pontoon and much more. He will be sorely missed.



## SAGA Sailing

Lawrie Cooper and I will continue running Saga sailing notionally on a Wednesday but I would like members who are interested to let Lawrie or myself know their phone numbers so that you become part of a "WhatsApp" Saga group where anyone can input a message that all can read. This will make it easier to know if anyone else is going to be present and if the weather dictates a change of day.

The Fast Electrics "WhatsApp" group has been very successful in confirming numbers attending and arranging impromptu meetings.

## Weed

Weed continues to be the main topic of the year resulting in several yacht meetings being cancelled. The main way of tackling this is to keep cutting which has been impaired with the weed cutting platform needing reinforcement. Further work is required to enhance the means of slotting the rescue boat into the rear of the platform and fitting a cover over the boat when not in use. Volunteers for a work party before the weather gets cold would be appreciated.

- **Wed 25th October 10am >**  
**Saga Sailing**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sun 5th November Round 9**  
**Yachting**  
Fiesta/Victoria 10am > 1pm  
Handicap(Any yacht) 1pm > 4pm
- **Sat 11th November Round 8**  
**Tugs & Scale 10am > 4pm**  
Free sailing & competition
- **Thu 16th November 8pm >**  
**Evening mtg Quiz Night**  
Venue TBA
- **Sun 19th November Round 9**  
**Yachting**  
DF95 10am > 1pm  
IOM 1pm > 4pm
- **Thu 14th December 8pm >**  
**Evening mtg Christmas celebrations**  
Venue TBA
- **Thu 18th January 2024 8pm >**  
**Evening mtg Display boats in build, Bring & Buy, Conkurs Competition Judging**  
Venue TBA
- **Thu 15th February 2024 8pm >**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
Venue TBA

On the positive side my thanks to Jason who brought his extended hedge trimmer to cut back the willow curtain over the tables and water side to open up visibility from the bank onto the racecourse.

I have added an extending rake of lighter construction for weed removal also there is a 24volt hedge cutter that hopefully will cut weed.

#### Chairman's Day

A small number attended as the weather wasn't kind, given this limited the events it was possible to run but an improvised Scale course was arranged. Using any boat, the aim was to go around the course in a direction this was timed, repeat the course in the reverse direction the skipper with the closest matching time is the winner, sound easy trust me it isn't!



Some fun & games round the scale course

Congratulations to John Price who was the clear winner equaling his forward and reverse runs round the course exactly.

A fair amount of time was spent sheltering from the rain under the canopy behind our area as ever talking about many subjects.

My thanks to those who braved the adverse weather your company is always a pleasure a special mention to Dave for the excellent cake.

#### Hi5! Access

The water is available all year and many intend to continue sailing through the winter months. If you are attending Hi5 outside of an organised meeting contact one of the Committee for the new number to the padlock used on the entrance chain.

## 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](mailto:parker42@btinternet.com)

See Page 8 for some offers

Lets hope for a warm dry autumn so that we can catchup on the rained off days.

Tony

### Fast Electrics by Paul Garson

Well can you believe it we are already on the run into Christmas and Round 7 of the 2023 Club Championship is behind us.

This round was run on Saturday 23rd September and was well attended with the numbers for the Wacky and Mono1 classes showing a marked increase in drivers.

As always the preparations before the races are a hive of activity and these pictures show just that, although some racers are more relaxed than others.



Tim meticulous as ever in his preparation



Jason cool and collected or looking for inspiration?

Hopefully we can have some action shots for the next newsletter to really get your interest up and the blood flowing.



Now where did I put the boat, Steve doing a bit of searching, he did eventually find it



The Daniels, Wiki and Leo preparing their fleet for a full days racing

The replacement propeller for the F600Bs has proved to adequately do the job and will now become the standard and at the price we cannot go wrong. I must say it was rather enjoyable doing all the research and testing then finally coming up with a cheap viable solution.

**Club Contacts - Your Committee**



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Tony Simons**

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Dave Parker**

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**Dave the Master rearing to go in the Wacky Races and Mono 1 classes**



**Mike with his Club500 all prepared, ready go and improving race after race**

**Championship positions**

The current championship standings in each class are as follows:

**Club 500**

Pos	Name	Points
1	Paul Garson	46
2	Wiki Daniels	32
3	Leo Daniels	30
4	Mike Durrett	23
5	Tony Simons	18

**F600B**

Pos	Name	Points
1	Paul Garson	54
2	John Martin	31
3	Leo Daniels	31
4	Wiki Daniels	15
5	Steve Greenslade	14
6	Tony Simons	12
7	Alan Whitbread	4
8	Alan Burgess	2

**Club Contacts - Your Committee**



**Club Treasurer  
Peter Butler**

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John Price**

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**Saga Sailing Co-ordinators**

**Wacky Racers**

Pos	Name	Points
1	Tim Kozlowski	36
2	Jason Collins-Webb	15
3	Steve Greenslade	15
4	Leo Daniels	12
5	Dave Parker	9
6	John Martin	3

**MONO1**

Pos	Name	Points
1	Tim Kozlowski	36
2	Steve Greenslade	20
3	Dave Parker	12
4	Leo Daniels	7
5	Paul Garson	4
6	Jason Collins-Webb	2

On Saturday 4th November we will have the riggers, hydroplane and cat day and the format for the day has yet to be decided so if you have nothing on for that day join us for a bit of fun. Steve Greenslade will have his nitro riggers out on the day and we should hopefully see some real and not to noisy action, come on Steve.

**2022 Trophy Presentations**



Wiki presenting Dave with his winners trophies for the Wacky and Mono1 classes

**Club Contacts - Your Committee**



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The winners and runner ups from last year were at long last presented with their trophies. Dave Parker won both the Wacky and Mono1 classes with Tim Kozlowski being runner up in both. Tim did however win both the Club500 and F600B classes with Colin Mears runner up. Well done to all.



**Wiki presenting Tim with his winners trophies for the Club500 and F600B classes**

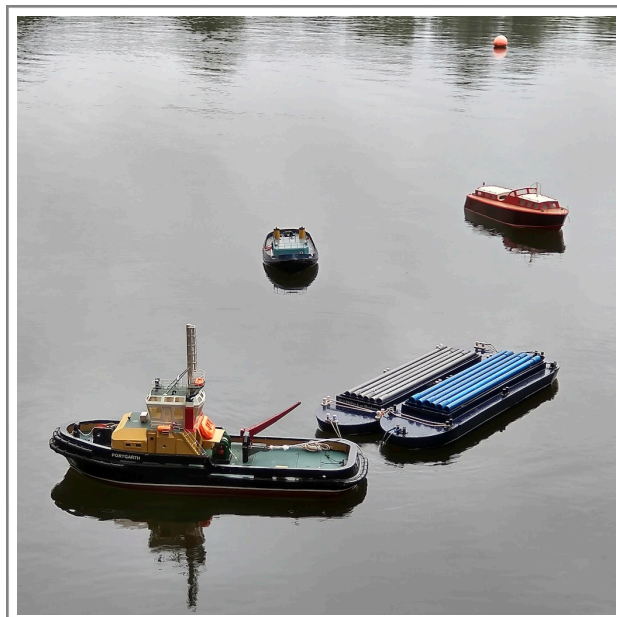
Well to end let me make another punt for fast electrics. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, if you want to add a bit of excitement to at least one of your Saturday mornings a month come and join us. There is something for everyone from the more sedate CLUB500s to the wildly fast Mono1s and the F600Bs and Wackys give something in between. It's really good fun and not just the racing, there's also the racers good company to be enjoyed.

**!!! COME AND JOIN THE ACTION IT'S GREAT !!!**

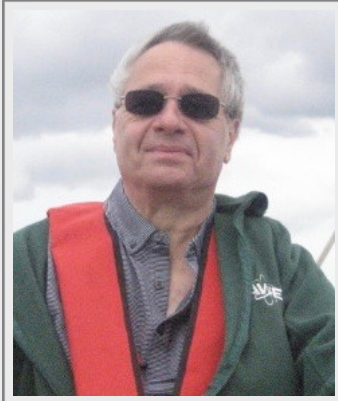
Hopefully see some of you at the lake with a fast electric boat.

*See you Lakeside  
**Paul***

**Tug Towing** by Tony Simons



## Club Contacts - Volunteers



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### Some terrible maritime jokes

**Q** What do you call a ship that blinks a lot

**A** lighthouse.

**Q** What does Captain Jack Sparrow usually cook

**A** Pyrex of the Caribbean.

**Q** What do you call a boat with A I

**A** Row-bot

**Q** What activity do zombies like to do on a cruise ship

**A** They like to shuffle-board!

**Q** What ship is most liked by all the vampires

**A** Blood vessel.

**Q** Why was the kid so happy dreaming of sailing in a sea full of soda

**A** Because it was just a Fanta-sea.

**Q** Why did the sailor fall asleep

**A** Because he went snore-king!

Numbers have recovered at the last meeting maybe it was the lure of "Endeavour" being on site? Courses have been limited by the location of the weed but have still made life challenging for tug skippers to follow the navigation lanes. I must comment about some of the final berthing starting in a most unpromising way but ending professionally a pleasure to watch.

I hope to increase the numbers on "WhatsApp" Tugs group as dependent on weather. I intend to continue meetings and so if you would like to be included please let me have your phone number.

My thanks to Lawrie for putting pictures of Tugs and Scale onto our club Facebook page.

As ever if your tug is having a day off or you would like to try a tug please let me know I usually bring a spare when we have meetings.

Tony

### Yachting Autumn statement by John Price

Sadly there is still no yachting activity to report due to the weed in the lake. Our yachts, with their long fins, get stuck in it much more than the power boats.

We have a member with a Canterbury J class yacht which has a short keel faired into the hull. We should try this to see if it slides over the weed.

I had an email from a member of Reading Sailing Club (model section) asking if we sailed DF65s. It turns out that they are also suffering from weed but they cut and collect it and add "plenty" of dye in an effort to improve things.

They race twice a week with up to 15 skippers! We have an invitation to go along for a look and/or have a go. They sail on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30 ish. To have a go you will, of course, need a DF65.



A while ago I emailed our yachtsmen about a couple of sail winches and a Micro Magic yacht kit that had generously been given to us to sell for club funds. The winches have been sold but the Micro Magic is still for sale. The price is reduced to £50



Having yachts of fun!  
 Ferry impressive!  
 It's time to sail-abrate good times,  
 come on!  
 Let's fish upon a star.  
 Worry less and paddle more.  
 You know I was mermaid to be in  
 the sea!

which is an absolute steal as it has several upgrade parts included. The purchase price would have been well over £200. There are 2 masts, 2 fins with ballast, 2 rudders and 2 main booms with kicking straps. It is a very interesting project. Let me know if you would like to see it.



With temperatures dropping and cloud increasing, the weed will decrease and I anticipate restarting regattas in October.

**John**

**Scale**

Scale has been quiet but here are some 1:1 scale photos.

