

Mid Thames Model Boat Club Welcome



Welcome from the Chairman

Thank you for your interest in our club. We are a small but growing club, (just over fifty active members at present), operating in the pleasant surrounds of Bay Lake at Hi5's Reading Activity Centre.

Our members have varied interests that we cater for at Bay Lake, which is available to members outside of organised events, but within the time slots agreed with our hosts Hi5. A detailed calendar is available on the Website via the News & Events tab where you can also see our quarterly Newsletter 'Voice Pipe'

Below is a brief synopsis of the club's main activities but please do explore the website at <https://www.mtmbc.club/> for a more in depth examination of what the club is about. You could also view our facebook page and perhaps join the private MTMBC group. <https://www.facebook.com/> Search for - MTMBC : Mid Thames Model Boat Club.



We have a dedicated area by the lake, where we have a pontoon to provide safe access to the water, a storage unit with battery charging facilities, R/C rescue boat also a rowing boat for more serious rescues.

In the winter months, we have four meetings in Tidmarsh Village Hall, which are mainly social, but include bring & buy model sales, and our AGM.

We have a small but growing junior section, (often youngsters out to beat grandad or dad in a race!), and we run a small fleet of "have-a-go" boats for newcomers of any age.

Steam powered boats are very welcome - we do have a few enthusiasts for these models in the club, and would be delighted to swell their ranks.

The only boats we cannot allow within the club are anything IC powered.

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Yachting section



We have a small but active group of sailors that meet twice a month on Sundays for regattas but sailing can be done most days of the week. There are two regattas on each Sunday. On one we race small yachts:- Fiestas, Victorias and Dragonforce 65s in the morning and in the afternoon there is a HANDICAP race where any yacht can be sailed. On the other Sunday we race Dragonflite 95s in the morning and International One Metres in the afternoon.

While the Racing Rules of Sailing are the basis of our competitions, our racing is relaxed and stress free and people who are sticklers for the rules will not enjoy themselves!

Fast Electrics section



We have a very active group who build and race fast electric boats. These are organised into five groups; four competition groups Club500 - a widely raced club class boat, F600B - a faster club class boat developed in house, Wacky Races, Mono1 and Run What Ya Brung which is an informal gathering on race days.

In addition to these monthly organised racing activities, fast electric boats of all descriptions are run throughout the season.

TUG section



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Tug enthusiasts have regular towing competitions once a month, using a variety of barges, and even a ten-foot model cargo to tow. Whether you just want to enjoy free sailing your tug or with a tow, all are welcome. A friendly competition takes place navigating tugs singly or in pairs with a tow around a buoyed course trying not to hit any buoys. Many of the model tugs have propulsion systems accurately copying modern full-size practices, making these models extremely manoeuvrable.

Scale section

Various steering and time trial competitions are run throughout the season for our many "scale" enthusiasts. There is a wide range of scale models sailed at the club that cover the whole spectrum from warships, lifeboats, merchant ships, sailing barges, and even the odd hovercraft and airboat. Keep your eyes open for the rare and unusual models that occasionally take to the water.



SAGA sailing

Many of our members are experts in their own fields, so friendly advice and help is always on hand if needed.

Saga Sailing is an open invitation to join a weekly gathering of any members with any boat, to sail in the company and safety of other members. A chance to put the world to rights over a cuppa, to test out vessels, get support, technical advice and even steal an idea or two!



I hope this introduction has given you a feel for our club, but if you have any queries, please come along to one of our organised events, or feel free to contact me for a chat on 07772 447723

Please do not forget to:-

- 1) Complete a membership form and send it to Jeanette, our Membership Secretary, e-mail membership.mtmbc@gmail.com
- 2) Pay your membership fee by Bank Transfer or Cheque to Peter, our Treasurer who can be contacted by e-mail ox119py.mtmbc@gmail.com

Tony Simons
MTMBC Chairman