



Voice<<<<>>>pipe

The Newsletter of
The Mid-Thames Model Boat Club



Oct 2021

Issue 172

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- Model Boat Show 2022

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Dates for your diary

- Sun 3rd October Round 6

Yachting

Fiesta/Victoria 10am > 1pm
Handicap(Any yacht)1pm>4pm

- Sat 9th October Round 6

Tugs & Scale 10am > 4pm
Free sailing & Competition

- Sun 17th October Round 3

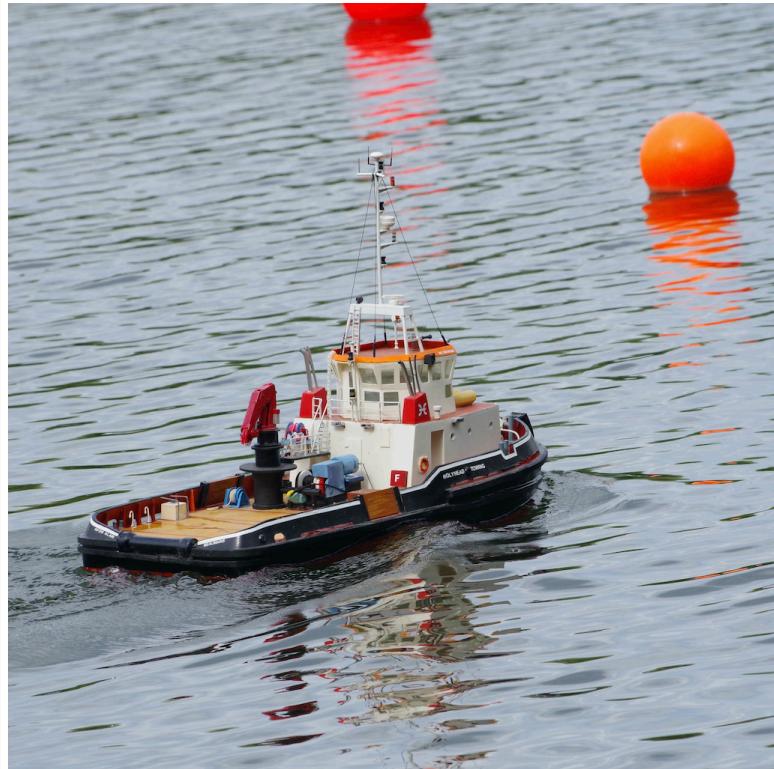
Yachting
DF95 10am > 1pm
IOM 1pm > 4pm

- Sat 23rd October Round 6

F/E 10am > 4pm
Club500, F600B, Wacky Races,
Mono 1 & Run What Ya Brung

- Thur 18th November 8pm

Club Evening Meeting
Quiz Night



This super scale model tug has a go at 'Bashing the buoys' on Chairman's Day

Chairman's Corner by Tony Simons

The weather has been kind this year with most events taking place on dry warm days. The Hi5 lake has provided excellent model boating in very amenable setting. Attendances to organised events have been very good and this would suggest the activity leaders are meeting members expectations. If you have thoughts about how to improve them, (Activities not the leaders) please speak with the activity leader. This said I notice that there are often constructive conversations taking place to keep us at the top of our game.

I welcome & thank Lawrie for taking on the role of "Scale Leader" I have left the format wide open for Lawrie to bring his own ideas into play so I leave further announcements re - Scale to him.

Chairman's Day.

Modestly attended but given the ongoing Covid issues this was to be expected. I enjoyed the day so my thanks to all who took part and provided entertainment. My personal input to the Wolf and Sheep game with Club 500s was limited by my batteries dying very rapidly followed by my tug trying to de-construct itself when attempting the scale course but at least I now know where

- **Thur 16th December 8pm**
Club Evening Meeting
Christmas Celebrations
- **Thur 20th January 8pm**
Club Evening Meeting
Display boats in build, Bring & Buy Sale, Concurs Competition Judging
- **Thur 17th February 8pm**
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

the water has been getting in. That aside a very good day in excellent company thank you all.

Electric outboard for the rescue boat

We now have an electric outboard for the rescue boat which has been very useful not only in rescuing models but makes for an easy check of the water for weed before activities start.



The battery is very heavy but when batteries become available again a Lipo battery pack could be made of similar capacity but much lighter.



Our intrepid test pilot Colin sets off on the inaugural powered voyage to who knows where.



Harvesting the weed again! - not surprised he wanted an electric outboard.

Anyone wishing to use the outboard can but if you haven't used one before please ask as it is important to connect the wire to the battery the correct way around in addition to knowing the

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

For Sale

Contact Dave Parker

Tel: 0118 9700162

Email: parker42@btinternet.com



Radio Link T4EU 2.4GHz...£25

Modified to provide steering & throttle control of twin steerable drives. Includes Tx and two Rx.



Leopard LBA2445-3400KV brushless motor.....£20

Boxed & unused (would suit Wacky Racer/Mini Mono running 3s Lipo)

features of the outboard both to control speed and setup on the transom bracket.

The battery is kept charged by the solar panel on the roof of the storage trailer but also the cables need to be connected the right way.

Grounds maintenance

Several volunteers have been trimming the willow and surrounding bushes. Not having a trailer has hampered moving cuttings to the compost heap, but when time allows, I will build a basic trailer to transport the bags of cuttings. It is ours to maintain we are the only people using this area and appearance reflects on us. It is also easier to access the water if the herbage is kept in check.

My thanks to Richard and Colin S for placing the fibreglass decking sections that make access to the water without using the pontoon, I am building a platform that sits on legs with adjustment to compensate for the seasonal water level changes this will sit in front of this area complete with the boat lift for heavier models. No idea what date I will have the construction completed but hopefully this October.

Model Boat Show 2022

I am aware our hobby is in danger of fading as numbers partaking don't seem to be climbing. The hobby used to support two magazines now there is only one. The Beale Park Model Boat show was a way to promote the park, our club, and our hobby and it used to have a large following. The show was Richard Howards creation (Richard and his uncle founded the Beale Park we know) we used to team up with the Kent Model Boat Exhibition team to put on the "Beale Park Model Boat Show" in the past few years inviting other model boating clubs and organisations. Sadly the new administration doesn't see this as "their" show and would wish to charge us.

I have in mind to continue promoting our club and the hobby at another venue close by, to date I haven't received a reply. As and when we have a suitable location I will inform you as without your continued support there can't be a show.

The scheduled winter evening meetings will take place at Hi5! The details about access and time to be confirmed closer to the date.

Finally a reminder to everyone about the Two Person Rule in force at MTMBC. If you are using our facilities @ Hi5! there must be another person present to summon help in the event of an emergency.

Tony

Fast Electrics by Dave Parker

Racing in 2021 so far

As Covid 19 restrictions have diminished we have been able to run all three scheduled F/E race meetings in this quarter and had some F/E fun on Chairman's day. We have been lucky with the weather and all events were able to go ahead as planned.

Numbers taking part in Club500, F600B and Wacky Races have been healthy but competitors taking part in the new Mono 1 class could do with a boost. So if you have a potential Mono 1



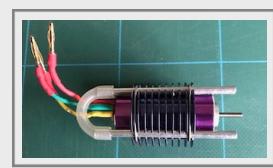
Surpass Hobby C2830 brushless motor.....£15
New & Boxed. Outrunner 1,000kV



Hobbymate HB2835 brushless motor.....£15
Outrunner 3,600kV. Would suit 2s Lipo. 6 or 7 Cell NiMH in Mini mono (Wacky Racer) or Mini ECO



Fusion Boost Sealed Lead Acid 12 volt mains powered battery charger.....£5



Feigao brushless motor.....£10
1308418L with water cooling added. 3,223kV, 13Amps.

racer why not come and join the mayhem fun. No it's great fun really and we will be gentle with any novices.

It is encouraging to see so many Fast Electric boats being run during Alan's regular Saga Sailing meetings on a Wednesday morning which bodes well for the future of racing at MTMBC.

Championship Standings after 5 Rounds

As the end of the season draws closer there is only one more opportunity to improve positions in the table. Competitors are reminded that it is the best score from 6 rounds of the championship that count after rounds were reduced by 1 from the best 6 of 7 due to the Covid 19 restrictions earlier in the year.

Club 500				F600B			
Racer	No	Points	Position	Racer	N	Points	Position
Colin M	6	30	1	Tim K	8	39	1
Tim K	8	22	2	Colin M	4	27	2
Harry S	14	21	3	Alan W	7	17	3
Joshua S	3	18	4	Tony S	1	14	4
Lawrie C	9	15	5	Steven G	5	11	5
David W	1	9	6	David W	3	7	6
Wiki D	13	7	7	Colin S	2	5	7
Steven G	16	4	8	John M	10	5	7
Leo	10	3	9	Leo/Wiki	9	3	9
Colin S	15	2	10				
John M	4	1	11				

Club500 - The championship winner is decided but it is very close for second, third and the minor placings.

F600B - The top two positions have been decided but third and the minor places are still up for grabs.

Wacky Races

Racer	No	Points	Position
Dave P	8	45	1
Tim K	3	27	2
Steven G	2	21	3
Tony S	5	9	4
Colin S	6	5	5
Leo/Wiki	11	4	6
Nathan V	1	3	7
Lawrie C	13	3	7
Alan W	4	2	9
John M	14	2	9
Jamie V	12	1	10

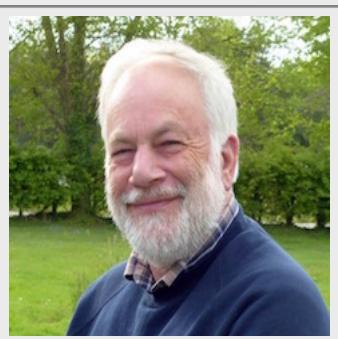
Mono 1

Racer	No	Points	Position
Dave P	1	42	1
Tim K	3	28	2
Steven G	2	22	3
Alan W	7	8	4
Nathan V	8	6	5

Mono 1 - First place is settled but it is close for second & third with one round to go.

Wacky Races - The top position is settled but it is still close for second, third and the minor placings.

Club Contacts - Your Committee



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Weed

During the last three race meetings blanket weed has proved to be a problem especially at the September race meeting. We have been able to clear the racing line of any on the surface but much of it lurks below and only becomes evident when and if a submerged boat returns to the surface covered in it.

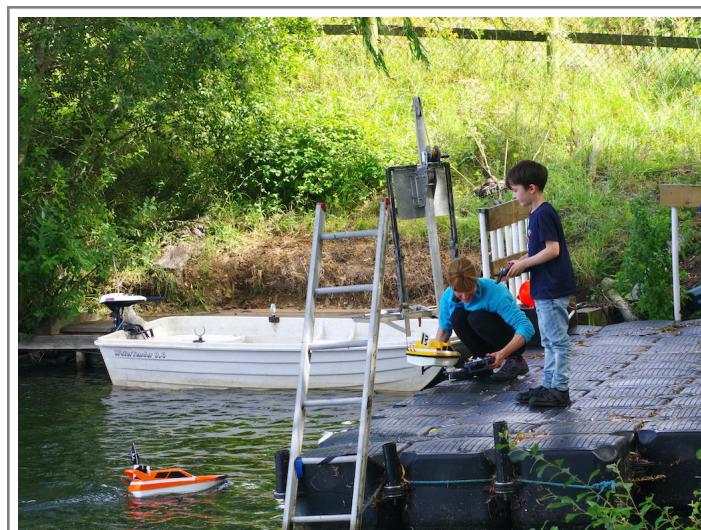
But never fear we have our own 'Weed Finder General' who regularly locates the biggest underwater patches.



Chairman's Day

An enjoyable time was had by all on Sunday 15th August. The fun & games for Club500s included 'Who's afraid of Wiki Wolf' and 'Bashing the buoys'.

All but one boat was let loose as sheep on the normal Club500 'M' course and then the Wolf was released with the freedom to roam in any direction and catch the sheep.



A victorious lone wolf returns from chasing sheep

When caught (touched) by the wolf the sheep must retire and the game is to see which is the last sheep standing and how long the wolf takes to catch them.

Unlike in normal racing where going the wrong side of a buoy leads to missed buoy time penalties Bashing the Buoys requires competitors to hit the markers while running round the usual 'M' course in a anticlockwise direction without any clockwise running.



Colin showing how it's done

Club Contacts - Your Committee



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Once a boy is missed they must wait until the next lap for another attempt. Hitting all the buoys in the shortest time is the object of the game.

F600Bs and Tugs also tried this game. It is not as easy as you might think. Probable because of their manoeuvrability tugs seemed to be the most effective.

Well done to Leo & Colin M who were the wolves in the 'Who's afraid of Wiki Wolf' competition. Colin M also claimed first place in 'Bashing the buoys.'

**See you lakeside soon
Dave**

Tug Towing by Tony Simons

Tug attendances continue to be good although since courses akin to the real world the numbers have tapered no doubt due more to the holiday season than navigational challenges.

All are welcome to join us if only to find out what using tugs is about. We have a selection of barges for smaller tugs as well as the new towing model mentioned below.

As the experienced are getting very good I have been reviewing a tighter course based again on the entry to Southampton water from the Solent. For novices there will as always be free sailing or a basic course to try your skills at boat handling.

I have been watching a vlog on YouTube called "TimBatsea" Tim skippers a twin screw tug pushing and pulling fuel barges around the New York area. He explains what he is doing and why to get his tug and barge into and out of berths, alongside ships for bunkering (Refuelling of the ship) making allowances for wind, tide and other traffic. This link will give you an insight to his daily job, while we don't do quite the same thing there are useful lessons for boat handling. https://youtu.be/E2Qisa5_xUU



A bit dusty after years of storage.

We have all been wishing we could tow a ship rather than the barges so I have purchased, from Richard Howards collection, a 7' long hull originally used as a scale model of a proposed ship. These scale models are attached to a gantry that travels along a very long tank to establish the hull efficiency, stability etc. Wave generation helps in establishing seakeeping abilities etc.

Club Contacts - Your Committee



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This link to YouTube will give a brief look at tank testing.
<https://youtu.be/OD4ApYYtRaQ>

The time had come to put this model to use. It was fitted with four water ballast tanks and enough decks to permit attachments for towing ropes. It was first used on Saturday 11th Sept.



Even at 7' it provided a notable change in approach to towing as the hull moves easily through the water but the weight of ballast gives it momentum, the long-term intention is to add a further 4' centre section also with water ballast tanks but have the hull able to be transported and stored in three sections.

Tony

Yachting Autumn Statement by John Price.

Over the summer several regattas have suffered from a lack of wind.. The approach of autumn may very well herald the return of better racing conditions. The forecast for our next regatta is nice and breezy.



Jostling for position on a calm day

The cooler, cloudier weather will also discourage the growth of weed so there is much to look forward to.



Why I want to be a Captain by a 10 year old U.S. schoolboy.

I want to be a captain when I grow up because it's a funny job and easy to do.

Captains don't need much school education, they just have to learn numbers so they can read the instruments. I guess they should be able to read maps so they don't get lost.

Captains have to be brave so they won't be scared if it's foggy and they can't see, or if a propeller falls off they should stay calm so they will know what to do.

Captains have to have eyes to see through the clouds and they can't be afraid of thunder and lightening because they are closer to them than we are.

The salary captains make is another thing I like. They make more than they can spend. This is because most people think captaining a ship is dangerous—except captains, because they know how easy it is.

There isn't much I don't like, except girls like captains and all the girls want to marry captains, so they always have to chase them away so they won't bother them.

I hope I don't get seasick, because I get carsick and if I get seasick I could not be a captain and then I would have to go to work.

So please take note that being a captain is much better and easier than going to work. And you get the girls! ed.

The more blustery conditions will put more strain on our boats so check your rigging to make sure it is up to the task. Include batteries in your checks as they will have more work to do.

There have been cases of people turning up with new yachts without numbers on the sails. Please make sure you have them as it makes racing difficult. Contact me to check available numbers. Also let's brush up on the racing rules of sailing. They are on our website under "yachting" and are very simple.

John

Scale by Lawrie Cooper

As you will have seen, I have recently taken over as Scale Leader, and a short introduction is in order. It all started years ago, when I was given a boat for my son, so I put a motor and radio in it, and it's all been downhill from there. The problem was that there was nowhere to sail it.

Many years later, after a number of diversions, mainly full size cars and retirement, my wife and I bought season tickets to Beale Park, as it was a pleasant place to go for a walk and a cup of tea in the afternoon, after all the kids had gone home, and the rest is history. I progressed from the wooden cabin cruiser to Club 500, and a Beale Barn boat. I am currently building a ferry, and restoring an ice breaker



Some detailed scale models at a recent Scale meeting.

Whilst most scale boats are considered a little fragile, I think it's important to keep them active, rather than collecting dust, so I'm considering what we can do to give them a regular run out.

Science Museum Boats





What did the pirate say when he found his wooden leg in the freezer?
Shiver me timbers!
What do pirates wear when it gets really cold?
Long Johns.
Why did nobody want to play cards with the pirate?
Because he was standing on the deck.
What's the difference between a pirate and a cranberry farmer?
A pirate buries his treasure, but a cranberry farmer treasures his berries.
How did the pirate call his mate?
On his aye phone.
The First Mate Says "Captain they be going 1.151 miles faster than us, that be Crazy"
The Captain replies, "oooh arrr that be knots"
Why don't pirates like travelling on mountain roads?
Scurvy.
What's a pirates favourite type of music?
Rum & Bass!
Which element on the periodic table does a pirate like the best?
Arrrrgon!
No, hang on...
Gold!!!!
What would Santa say if he was a pirate?
Yo ho ho ho.
Why did the pirate go on holiday?
He was in serious need of some Aaaaaar and Aaaaaaaar.
Why did the pirate have to go to the apple store?
To get a new lpatch.

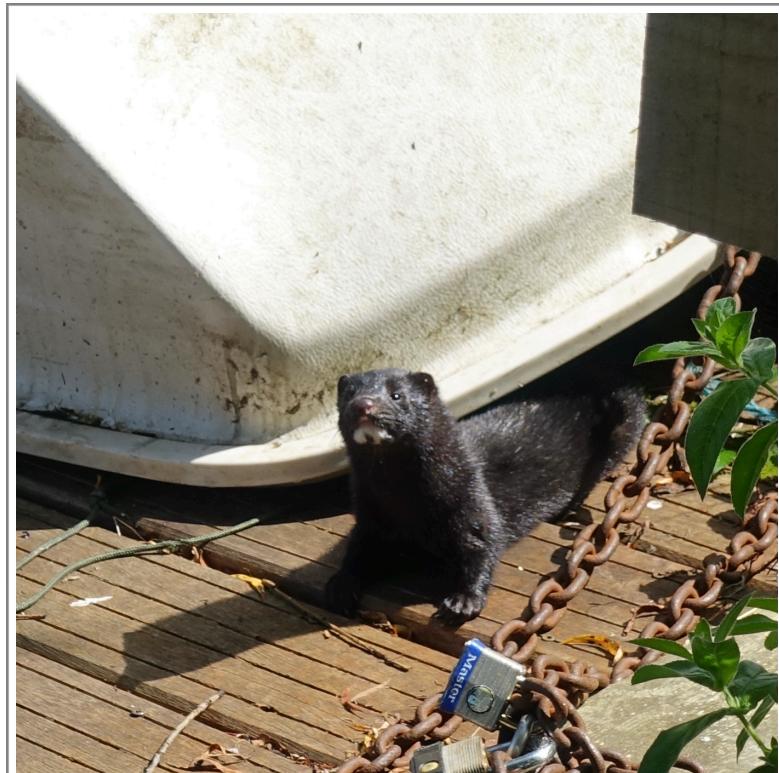
About 10 years ago, I was closing down the remains of a large group of companies. I had a strange phone call from the Science Museum. They were computerising their inventory, and two shipbuilders model ships had been loaned to the museum 100 years ago, and they wanted to know if they could keep them, as they were about to be taken off display.



The company had closed its shipping operations 50 years ago, and the ships sunk or scrapped before then.
So I went to have a look. As they were about 6 foot long, I arranged for the museum to keep them. Sadly, I don't think their old steam exhibits are still on display.
I few months after I retired, I had a phone call from an old colleague. They'd found another one, but it had been damaged but enemy action!

Lawrie

Saga Sailing



One of the locals checking out the action @ Saga Sailing on a Wednesday morning

What do you call a pirate who has three eyes?
Piiirate.

Why do pirates really like pizza?
Because it usually comes in pieces o' eight

Blackbeards friend Bluebeard was killed in battle, how did he bring him back to life?
With Sea Pee Arrrgh.

The pirate had spent a lot of time in the sun so he decided to go to the skin clinic and get the moles on his back checked out by a specialist.
The specialist takes a close look at them and says "it is ok, they're benign"

The pirate replies "Check again, I think there be eleven"

What did Blackbeard say on his 80th birthday?
Aye matey.

How do pirates discipline their children?
Stern-ly

Why are pirates so angry when they come back from the toilet?
After the p has gone they become irate.

What do pirates wear when it gets cold?
Arrr-gyle sweaters.

Why do you never ever see pirates crying?
They like their private-tears.

What do you call a pirates sword that is completely blunt?
A cut-less

A pirate walks into a bar, it was at that moment that the pirate realised that he was wearing his eyepatch on the wrong eye.

What is a pirates favourite letter of the alphabet?
P, because it is like an Arrrr but missing a leg.

Why do Pirates carry swords.
Because swords can't walk.

Why did the pirate have to walk the plank?
Because he couldn't afford a dog.

A slice of apple pie is £2 in Jamaica and £3 in the Bahamas.

These are the pie rates of the Caribbean.



Looking for inspiration! or has Colin dropped some money?

