

Club Magazine

Merry
Christmas

WINTER EDITION 2015

Luton & District MBC

.... a club NOT just for boats

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EDITORIAL

By Sinker Dalton

Belay there me hearties 'tis the season of glad tidings and good will to all sea farers. Well just in case you have not noticed, I will remind you, it will soon be Christmas, time for festivities and the likes, unless your name is Scrooge that is. The committee would like to take this opportunity to wish all our magazine readers a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Winter Edition, which you are now reading, has been edited by the one and only Sinker Dalton including all the associated printing, binding and distribution. For future issues (2016 onwards) we are looking for a new Editor. If you are interested please contact Peter Carmen (Secretary), applicants should be computer literate and have a working knowledge of Microsoft WORD; our printing department does not like anything hand written.

As far as the future is concerned we will only continue to have a magazine while members contribute articles and again take yet another opportunity to thank all those who have contributed articles over the past twelve months which has given us one of the best Model Club Magazines available, being enhanced by its publication on the Club web-site thanks to the efforts of Bob Vaughan our Web-Master.

The last page of this Magazine lists the Clubs planned activities for 2016 up until June.

Finally in order to get you lazy lot writing, I have some suggestions on subjects that you could write to the editor about. 1) Model Shops and the quality of service they provide. 2) Got any old modelling pictures of interest with a little story behind them, and finally 3) Recommend a book to read on any modelling subject. So please put pen to paper and write a letter to the editor to contribute to the next issue of the Club Magazine.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

By Peter Carmen

Dredging of the Lake has now finished, I would say they have completed what they started out to do earlier in the year. 90% of the lake at our end has been dredged now, so we have the full width of the lake.

We have held some talks with LBC concerning the amount of food being dumped around the lake, they are aware of this and are trying to formulate a plan to tackle this. Also, we brought up about the rats, as this is directly influenced by people dumping food, again the council are aware and have strimmed back the brush around the lake to help this.

Bacon roll Sundays will continue, but will change to the Sunday after the club meeting, just so you get a reminder!

Last call for subscriptions, these are now due. If you have not paid please see Dave.

Club Clothing, if you want anything please see Sharon, we had a display of clothing items available in Novembers Club night.

There will be sailing between Christmas and New Year, so please do come down, even if only for a cuppa!!!

Also, on the Tuesday 29th , there will be a morning sail, followed by retiring to the Moat House for a lunch. Feel free to join us, even if only for the sail or the lunch. PS I would like to make it clear I AM NOT BUYING!!!!
Have a Happy Christmas

A LETTER FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Hallo one and all , many of you already know me, but for those of you that don't here is a short introduction, I have been modelling since the mid sixties when I was about 8 (so many years ago) an old keel Kraft wave princess, I still have it today, under restoration at the moment. It was then a free flight IC airplane, six months to build (lost on the second flight, gutted) then control line planes, had great fun, then got my hands on a set of RC ,tx and rx second hand, never did get it to work properly, still got that somewhere, I'm sure I will get to use it one day, got myself a mardave Ic car then with a ford Capri body on it , and guess what , yes I still have it. Then I discovered how much fun girls could be. Should have stuck to modelling, far less expensive. don't complain when you don't take them out every weekend, and only takes a minute or two of tinkering to get them all fired up and raring to go.

I digress, so after a long break I slowly got back in to modelling, first ic helicopters then electric planes and then boats, submarines, hovercraft I just can't stop I love them all. And just recently into quads, large one's small ones and FPV racing ones. I think it's safe to say that I am a jack of all trades but master of none, I do like the idea of putting a boat on the water sitting back and relaxing for an hour or so, with the only distraction being to have a chat with your friends over a cup of coffee while your boat drifts down the lake. This is in stark contrast to flying, 10 minute of Heart pounding experience, getting it into the air is the easy bit then you have to keep it up and then it hits you, you've got to get the thing back on the ground in one piece, (and they call it fun) so that's a bit about me and modelling.

Catch you at the lake side
Michael Dowsett
Your new Chairman

A YEAR IN REVIEW

By Peter Carmen

This is a bit serious, a bit tongue in cheek! First I would like to thank some people within the club. Tony Martin and his wife Lynn, for stepping up and helping at shows, these two people are stalwarts at most of the shows, helping with set ups and transport. Dave Seth, for being our heavy transport manager!!! To see his Astra with tables strapped to the trailer and his car full of models needs to be seen! Terry and Jill Martin for doing the tea every week, feeding us cake and special thanks to Jill for hitting me several times!! Tony Dalton for printing the club magazine and generally helping out wherever possible, normally in the background! Mike Skuse, for letting me bounce ideas off him and generally putting up with me! Dave and Sharon, lookout for these two.....they normally want money off you. But always there to help out whenever possible. Joe Wejman.....for coming down every week without fail. I know there are many in the club who need to be thanked personally and I endeavour to do this. But basically a big thank you to all those who even attend whether it be a Sunday, a show or club night. Without any of you there would be no club. Last but not least, a big thank you to Dave Abbott and Graham Rumble for years of keeping the club going through thick and thin!

Also we are at present refurbishing the landing stage. We will finish it the spring weather, but at present we are after any wood preservative that you may have left over. As long as it's not creosote we can use it. So any old part cans you have please feel free to donate them.

The year as a whole has been very good, we lost time at the lake earlier in the year due to it being dredged (badly) but that has all been sorted now. The bridge has been reopened so hopefully we will get more people to come to our side of the lake.

CLUB AWARDS and TROPHIES

These were presented at the November meeting.

The winners were:-

Club Dedication Award

Tony Dalton, for the club magazine and organising our change of venue

Presidents Trophy

Joe Wejman, for the new build of his barge from the film Murphy's War

Roy Davies Shield

Bob Vaughan, selected by independent judges at the St Albans Show for his boat Nordkap.

THE CLUB SHOP

The **CLUB SHOP** is currently run by Mike Skuce. He has an enormous range of parts and products in stock to help with your modelling needs, if you have a requirement for something, ask Mike or Pete Carman on a Sunday morning down at the lake.

A list indicating part of the range of materials held in the club shop is listed below:

Balsa Wood

Coloured Foam Board in Red, Green or Grey. 2 x 3ft approx.

LEDs

Motors 180, 280 and 540 types

Connectors and Switches

Digital Multimeters

Small Speakers (4v and 8 ohm)

A Range of Power Supplies

Humbrol Paint (Tinlets)

Plastic Tweezers and Clamps

Gears, Cogs, Pulleys and Worm drives

Nuts/Bolts/Washers

Plastic Boxes

Brick-a- Brack

Model Boats – see Pete Carman

THE ST ALBANS MODEL ENGINEERING EXHIBITION 2015

I arrived at Townsend School, St. Albans (the exhibition venue) before the designated meeting time of 5pm to find that a few members had already arrived and were collecting the tables and placing them in position on the stage in the Main Hall. This year it had been decided to use the school tables so we did not have the task of transporting our own tables from the Club hut to St Albans and back. The table stretchers support boxes and covers were transported there by John Allen thus were available on time so that there was no delay in setting up our stand which was completed by about 6pm. We were also provided with some spot lights (It tends to rather dark up on the stage) this most certainly improved the situation and all the models could now be clearly seen on the tables at the back of the stage.

During the setting up time a steward from the St Albans Club came to see us regarding our time slots for sailing on their artificial pond and we were duly allocated time slots for 3pm on both Saturday and Sunday.

Members had brought a good selection of models with quite a few boats some of which had their navigation and cabin lights illuminated, also some Trucks and Tanks (by John Weedon) Plastic Models (by Tony Martin), and a number of Wood & Card Sculpture Models.

I arrived 9 am Saturday morning to find that Peter Carmen was already there re-organising the layout as some additional display models had arrived. I took a walk around with my camera to see who was there, taking a number of photographs of all the different stands and models that I passed along the way. All the boat Clubs were in the main hall, including us (L&DMBC) being situated up on the stage giving us a grand view of the entire hall.

The Gym was used to house small gauge Model Train layouts, static displays of boats and the gentleman with the Card models of all the ships. The Meccano models had their own room this year which was situated further along the corridor from the Gym.

The back room (school canteen) was devoted entirely to trucks and tanks with two layouts one for the big boys and another, in the corner, for the children. There they could test their skills controlling a truck, this seemed to be very popular.

I wandered out the back of the school to the Sailing Pool. This was organised such that time slots were allotted throughout the day allotted to allow young visitors to test their skills at controlling a model boat, three radio control set-ups were available and this, like the trucks proved to be popular.

The steam trains were all fired up and puffing away giving rides to all the children as normal. Wandering further afield I found the aircraft flying ground, when I got there, late Saturday afternoon they were flying a pair of aircraft with great skill (see picture) amazing they did not hit each other, there was also a RC controlled Air Balloon but this only lifted a metre or so off the ground.

Our allocation for sailing on the pool was 3pm on both days. The first day I sailed my new model of Queen Mary 2 (1/400 Scale which allowed me to take some OTW pictures for the Model Boat Magazine to accompany my article that I had written, I was joined by Pete Carmen with his Tug which seemed to be giving him some problems and Chris Jackson.

The St. Albans Club were not doing their usual judging and presentation of prizes for best models in class etc. However we presented the Roy Davies Trophy for best L&DMBC model in show. Dave Abbott organised some non members to do the Judging and this year it was won by Bob Vaughancongratulations to Bob

I took a number of photographs at the exhibition and these are divided into the different display areas, do hope you enjoy.

Happy Modelling

SinkerD

MAIN HALL



L&DMBC STAND – ON THE STAGE





GYM HALL



MECCANO DISPLAY



STEVENAGE RAIL CLUB (In the corridor)



TRUCKS IN THE CANTEN





AIRFIELD



SAILING POOL AREA



WATERMEAD - AYLESBURY - A DAY OUT

Well there was a Sunday where there just happened to be a certain half marathon on, so a few of us decided to go to Watermead for the morning. The crew consisted of Dave and Sharon, Mike Skuse, Dave Seth and Pete Carman with a special guest appearance by



Graham Rumble! The day was bright and warmish..... Love the pictures of these two, Graham looks like some biblical icon with the light shining behind him and Dave looks so business like! Watermead Lake is very large and excellent for yacht sailing, as the wind really gets up here, but there is a nice sheltered bay for sailing normal boats. The day was just a normal sailing day for them, so we were only over there for 2 hours, but they made us welcome all the same.



This is a picture that shows just 1/5th of the lake. Watermead are very much into their yachts, but still have a very active scale section. It's always a worthwhile day out. Aylesbury is about 1 hour away by car and the car park is 100yds max to the lakeside, although disabled can drive right up to the lakeside. Graham was very happy as he got to sail the club 500 he bought along! Sharon is still being shy about sailing and I think we should all encourage her to sail more often. Let's face it, she cannot be any worse than the rest of us!!!!

BLACK PARK

Well, this is one Open day we go to every year, mainly because it's a fantastic lake with a really good cafeteria, yes I'm going on about food again, but when you are out for a day sailing, it's very important to have toilets and food!!! Just ask Terry Martin! Tony Martin really doesn't care as long as he can fall asleep in the sun! Over the years this open day has got smaller, but the hobby as a whole is getting smaller.



We as a club put on a small but comprehensive display, as usual we took our gazebo to keep the rain or sun off us depending on the day!

The boat at the back is HMS Polythemus, and is a torpedo ram. It is unusual for 2 reasons, the first being that this is semi-submersible. Meaning that at normal sailing she

would be on her plimsoll line, but at battle stations she would flood her internal tanks and got to decks awash, this would mean that literally only the superstructure would be above the waterline! This mode actually incorporates this feature and it has still not been perfected! The second reason is that we all know this actual boat as the Thunderchild from H G Wells story The war of the Worlds.



Above is a selection of Dave Abbots boats that he bought along, he even sailed them....some at speed!!





As usual this was an excellent day out and well worth the travel to Blackpark. The company is usually very good and this year was no exception. Much Mickey taking was in evidence !!

NOTES ON VENUES AND SHOWS WE ATTEND

I have been asked to do a list of shows etc. that we attend, showing what amenities are available, so here goes!

- St Albans Show** – on site disabled toilets and basic cafeteria. Free tea and Coffee for exhibitors, free parking. Entrance for public approx. £4. There is a bring and buy here.
- Blackpark Open Day** – Pay and Display car park. About £3 for the day. Disabled toilets and cafeteria around the other side of the lake about a 7 minute stroll away. Food is very good and reasonably priced. Also onsite for the adventurous is Go Ape rope walkways and Segways to hire. Also many walks onto the backlots of Pinewood Studios.
- Watermead Open Day Aylesbury** – Disabled toilets within 2 min walk, shops about a 5 minute drive away. Ramp way to access water and 2 jetties. A pub is situated about 5 mins away, free parking.
- Warwick Model Boat Show** – Free parking, and excellent cafeteria, reasonably priced, plus retailers galore to get most of your supplies from!
- Deans Marine Open Days** – Indoor and outdoor show, put on by Ron. There is a burger van present, free parking and other traders normally. A good day out to go see some of the kits this firm produces. He has an outdoor pool for sailing on as well.
- Mobile Marine Open Day** – free parking and burger van, no pool as far as I am aware, but several traders also turn up for this event.
- Haydock Park** – free parking, cafeteria and traders at this show.
- Telford IPMS** – The largest plastic model show in the UK. Parking, some free and some paid. There is an entry fee but not sure how much. Another show where there are lots of traders for modelling items, held over 2 days. You will need 2 days to see the whole show and a small mortgage for your purchases!
- Alexander Palace Model Engineering** – Free parking, and £9 entry fee. Cafeteria is ok but pricey. This show is mainly for engineering enthusiasts, not much in the way of modelling supplies.
- Mayhem at Wicksteed** – The show is free of charge, but Wicksteed Park charge for car parking, normally about £6. Free tea and Coffee but any donations go to charity. There are cafeterias around the Park. Plenty of toilets around the park as well, and disabled access to the lake. For those that are foolhardy enough to want too, we camp over the weekend, holding the legendary BBQ and drinkies on the Saturday night.

CLUB CLOTHING



No longer available

Baseball Cap



Beanie Hat £5



Dark Blue Coat (R207x) £25



Light Blue Coat (R207x) £25



Hooded Fleece £20



Short Sleeved Shirt £17



Body Warmer £22



T Shirt (ZT180) £8



V Neck Sweater (UC204) £16



Fleece (UC604) £20



Polo Shirt £12

Please place all orders with Sharon. Payment to be made at time of order please.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- December 29th** – Mid week sail 10 till 12, then adjourning to the Moat House for those interested
- January – 11th** Wotchya Building winter projects
23rd possible date for Chairman's meal – Sharon to arrange venue possibly Raven or Live and Let Die. Sharon to let Mike know the invited people from last year.
- February – 15th** Photographing Boats for website and Bring and Buy
20th work party – hut tidy
21st bacon roll Sunday
- March – TBA** Shuttleworth Plastics Show
14th Tony Martin presentation on resin casting
20th Bacon roll Sunday
- April – 11th** Club Night Sail
16th Work Party – lakeside
17th Bacon roll Sunday
- May – 9th** Talk on steam boats by Bob V, Pete C and Graham C
15th Bacon roll Sunday
28th & 29th Mayhem – Wicksteed Park
- June – 13th** Trucks and Tracks – display of trucks and trains
18th Work party – lakeside
19th Club Open Day 10am till 3pm BBQ
- July – 11th** Night sail
17th Bacon roll Sunday