

January 2025

Issue 185

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### Dates for your diary

- **Wed 8th January 10am >**  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sat 11th January 10am > 4pm**  
**Fast Electric Testing &**  
Practice any F/E boat
- **Wed 15th January 10am >**  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Wed 22nd January 10am >**  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sat 25th January 10am > 4pm**  
**Fast Electric Testing &**  
Practice any F/E boat



Racers gather for the final rounds of the F/E championships

## Chairlady's Corner By Wiki Daniels

As another year draws to a close I am delighted to review 2024. We've had a very good year filled with active participation and lots of opportunities to sail, race and tow a wide variety of model boats. Luckily the weed was kept at bay this year, let's hope it's the same for 2025!

The fast electric section has been ably led by Paul Garson who has kept us all to order and ensured fair racing throughout the year. The final rounds of the championships have been completed with Leo Daniels winning Club 500 and F600B and Tim Kozlowski winning the Wacky and Mono 1 championships.

Many thanks to Dave, our fountain of knowledge, who continues to provide us with hints and tips throughout the year.

We've had good participation in Fast Electric practice days, including several attempts at breaking the MTMBC speed record which was 68 mph but now is standing at 69 mph.

The sailing section has seen numbers boosted by a couple of visitors from Oxford Model Boat Club, after the arrival of a rather aggressive swan at Hinkey during the spring and summer months, and we hope to see them join the club in 2025.

- **Wed 29th January** 10am >  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Wed 5th February** 10am >  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sat 8th February** 10am > 4pm  
**Fast Electrics** Testing & Practice  
any F/E boat
- **Wed 12th February** 10am >  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Thur 13th February** 8pm >  
**MTMBC AGM**
- **Wed 19th February** 10am >  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sat 22nd February** 10am > 4pm  
**Fast Electrics** Testing & Practice  
any F/E boat
- **Wed 26th February** 10am >  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sun 2nd March** Round 1  
**Yachting**  
Fiesta/Victoria 10am > 1pm  
Handicap(Any yacht) 1pm>4pm
- **Wed 5th March** 10am >  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sat 8th March** 10am > 4pm  
**Tugs & Scale** Tune up, free  
sailing & competition
- **Wed 12th March** 10am >  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sun 16th March** Round 1  
**Yachting**  
DF95 10am > 1pm  
IOM 1pm > 4pm
- **Wed 19th March** 10am >  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome
- **Sat 22nd March** Round 1  
**Fast Electrics** 10am > 4pm  
Club500, F600B, Wacky Races,  
Mono 1 & Run What Ya Brung
- **Wed 26th March** 10am >  
**Midweek Mariners**  
All types of boat are welcome



Barry Eggleton with his MTMBC Speed Record holding catamaran. Wow! the record now stands at 69 mph

Compared to last year our income vs expenditure has remained fairly stable, with income boosted through the sale of boats that have been donated to the club.

Please continue to help out by keeping our area in Hi5! clean and tidy, and by cutting back any vegetation (tools can be found in the boat shed). Many thanks to Tony for his continued innovations in stabilising the pontoon and his continued development of the weed cutting platform.

Special mention must also be made of our aspiring YouTuber - Lawrie Cooper - we now have 148 subscribers and over 12,000 views for the Best of 2024 Review <https://youtu.be/SGbDRUiHhkc>. Please continue to share the link to our channel as it all helps promote the club and attract new members <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-XjT0cY7iWtANPpNFx2IJQ/>.

Looking forward to 2025

We have a packed calendar with events on almost every weekend. Please let us know of any additional events you would like to see incorporated and of any events you are attending outside of MTMBC.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for their tireless efforts, and every single member for your enthusiasm and support. Wishing you all a happy and prosperous New Year. May your boats sail smoothly and your batteries never run low!

Wiki

**At the lake with Tony Simons**

As part of our rent is keeping the area we use tidy there have been several relatively short but productive weed-clearing sessions cutting back brambles, sweeping fallen leaves, etc.

Tools are on-site in the store secateurs, spade, shovel, broom, rake, and 24-volt hedge cutter please bring gardening gloves, if everyone gives 10 minutes/month it makes light work.

The focus as the weather warms is to get the weed-cutting platform modified and back in use once available the right-hand bank can be trimmed back as overhanging branches have snagged yachts, and the lower growth has attracted powered models both very fast and slow requiring the rescue boat to be deployed, it will also provide a stable platform for trimming the willow tree branches hanging in front of line of vision for racing.

The jack-up platform has been further modified to make it easier to raise and lower I will soon leave the hydraulic jack on site and show a few how to raise and lower the platform.

The step from the ramp onto the platform is to be replaced the new one will be bolted to the platform this will also assist the ramp in stiffening the platform from rocking when raised high.

**Tony**

### ***Fast Electrics*** by Paul Garson

Well 2025 is upon us, where did 2024 go to??????????

Planning for the 2025 Championship is well under way with the Wacky and Mono1 racers already hard at work testing to ensure a successful season. Cannot wait to see what the year holds and with racers keen to improve on their last year's positions we are in for a great year's racing.

The final round of the Club championships, round 8, was run in October 2024 and saw some really good racing with racers trying to ensure as high as possible placing in the final standings. The boat of choice in the Mono1s at present seems to be the Tenshock Scord with a splattering of Zoom 3s and one very quick Slider. While in the Wackys it's the Tenshock Mini Scord and of course two rather lovely Nisses together with a Mini Slider.

The weed did not present a problem this year and this was probably down to the cooler weather. Let's hope we see much of the same for the coming year.

This all bodes well for 2025 and no doubt the Championships will be even closer than in previous years.

With 2024 behind us we can look back on a very successful season that saw a growth in numbers in the F600B, Wackys and Mono1 classes, with numbers in the F600B and Mono1 classes nearly doubling.

Congratulations to all the individual class winners and well done to everyone else.

### ***New Speed Record***

During the year a Club speed record of 68 mph was set by Barry Eggleton only to be broken a bit later by, you guessed it, Barry himself.



**Club Contacts - Your Committee**



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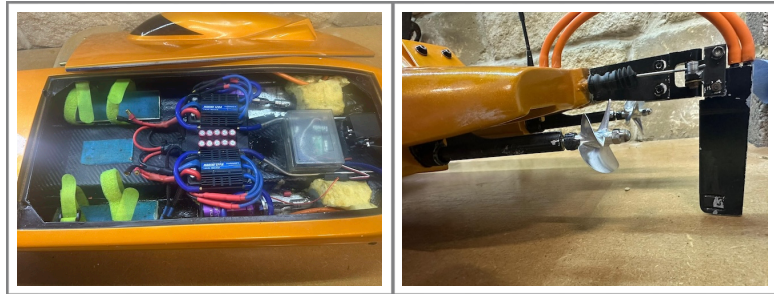
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At a F/E practice day on November 16th he set a blistering top speed of 69 mph. *GO BARRY GO.*

The boat is a Silver Fox hull bought in 2018. It's powered by two Turnigy 3674, 2200kv motors, oil lubricated 4.76mm flex drives turning two 50mm x 1.6 pitch 3 blade props. It runs 6s per motor with 4 x 6000mAh 3s batteries through 2 x 120amp ESCs.

It weighs in at 4.1kgs without batteries and the batteries weigh 1.7kgs so 5.8kgs all up.

Congratulations Barry. Can anyone else go faster?

**Championships**

The final 2024 Championship standings in each class are:

**Club500**

Position	Name	Points
1	Leo Daniels	45
2	Paul Garson	36
3	Wiki Daniels	24
3	Tony Simons	24
5	Mike Durrett	16

**F600B**

Position	Name	Points
1	Leo Daniels	48
2	Steven Greenslade	38
3	Wiki Daniels	33
4	Tony Simons	25
5	Alan Burgess	18
6	Jeff Gurney	7
7	Edwin Sudds	3
8	Mike Durrett	2
9	Colin Sayer	1

**Club Contacts - Your Committee**



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Wacky Racing

Position	Name	Points
1	Tim Kozłowski	51
2	Dave Parker	45
3	Leo Daniels	20
4	Steven Greenslade	19
5	Jason Colins-Webb	6
5	Bill Campbell	6
7	Barry Eggleton	5
8	Paul Garson	4

Mono 1

Position	Name	Points
1	Tim Kozłowski	54
2	Dave Parker	34
3	Steven Greenslade	30
4	Leo Daniels	14
5	Barry Eggleton	12
5	Bill Campbell	12
7	Jason Colins-Webb	9
8	Edwin Sudds	5



Multihulls on display at the Riggers, Hydros & Cats meeting

## Club Contacts - Your Committee



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## Riggers, Hydros & Cats

A riggers, hydro and cat day was held in November 2024 and was well supported as can be seen from the array of boats present in the above photograph.

They certainly are different to a Mono hull and a lot quicker. Steve Greenslade had his nitro rigger out and again he battled to get it going but did manage a few successful runs. Go Steve Go!!!!!! There is a lot to be said for electrics, plug in a battery and go.

## What's ahead for 2025?



A busy time in the pits on a typical race day

Plenty of fast electric racing for a start with another eight rounds of the Championships to be run from March to October and as mentioned earlier the Wacky and Mono1 racers are already testing. Should be an interesting season for these classes. With the growth in numbers, 2025 should prove to be a very competitive year and throw a few challenges at the organisers to overcome.

Definitely there will be a GASTRO (Gas/Nitro) day so anyone with a gas or nitro boat, get them ready. We will also hold another multihull day during the course of the year, so racers get them sorted too.

It is hoped to have an Open/Social day during the summer months to try and encourage a few new members from within the existing members family groups and also let our family members see what we get up to on a Saturday morning.

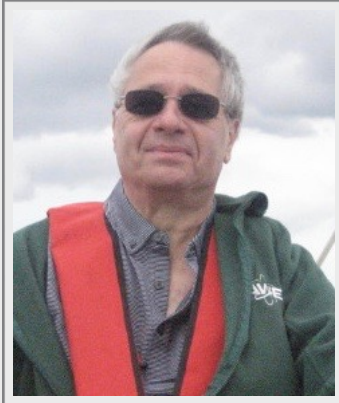
There will definitely be a riggers, hydro and cat day.

Otherwise much the same as for 2024.

Well to end, I know that I have said it all before and am starting to sound like a broken record but let me make another punt for fast electrics. If you want to add a bit of excitement to at least one of your Saturday mornings once 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.

See you lakeside **Paul**

**Club Contacts -  
Volunteers**



**Webmaster  
Chris Withey**

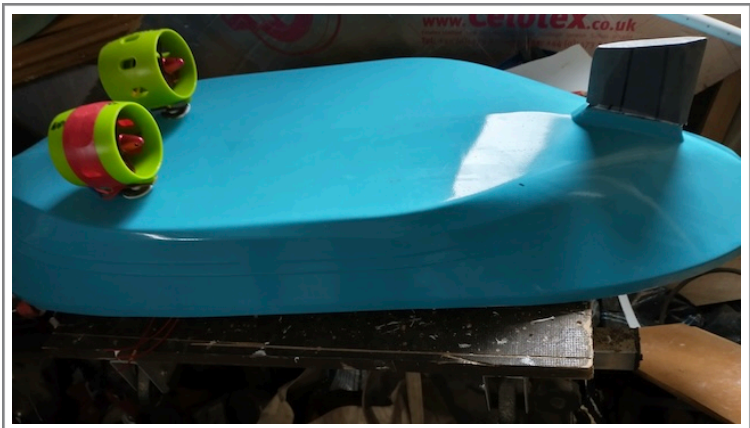
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**Tug Towing** by Tony Simons

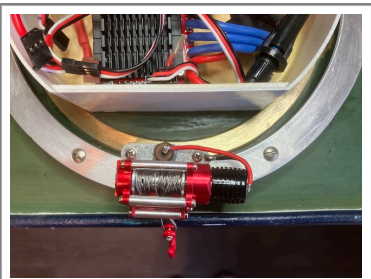
The last organised meeting had good attendance, and everyone had a go at towing and had fun doing so, which is the main aim. Cold weather has reduced my enthusiasm, but the spring brings an expanded fleet and interesting modifications.

Jason is building a new tug and I am also in the process of building a new Tractor tug.



The pictures show the deck loose fitted, the inside of the tractor tug showing the azimuth drive mounts and the underside shows azimuth drives and skeg.

Dave has added a winch to the carousel on his SDM.



Richard has a rewiring project in hand and Peter has rejuvenated the large model of a transformer that provides a load for a crane barge. This will require teamwork with two tugs positioning the crane barge and a crane driver it all adds up to a challenge with a difference!



1. Why did the vegetable cargo ship sink? It had leeks.
2. Why did the boat offend every other boat at the dock? It was because of his pent up anchor.
3. Hundreds of people lined up for the paddle sale at the boat shop. It was quite an oar deal.
4. Why was the sea upset at the shore? Because it never waves back.
5. What kind of boat will exchange money for your baby teeth? The Tooth Ferry.
6. What is considered the world's best and fastest bilge pump? A frightened man with a bucket.
7. Make sure you watch out for those new Bluetooth icebergs. I hear any ship that gets too close to one will sync.
8. What should you do to keep your boat in tip top shape? Give it a regular dose of vitamin sea, of course.
9. What's the cheapest method of travel? By sail boat, of course.
10. Did you hear about the zombies that could swim? They say they came from the Dead Sea.
11. Did you hear about the sailor who failed his boating exam? Word is he got C-sick.
12. What do you call a broken boat in the middle of a storm? A hardship.
13. Did you know that Captain Hook only paid half when he got his hook? That's because he bought it from the second hand store.
14. What do you call a boat that's fully automated? A row-bot.

In 2025 I intend to run similar courses as used at present to test ship handling skills but also make the crane barge available as an extra challenge

My thanks to Lawrie for the videos of our tug towing and then placing them on YouTube, sadly tug towing on its own hasn't produced a large number of views but mixed with other boats brings the viewed numbers into the thousands. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-XJT0cY7IWtANPpNFx2IJQ/>

Tony

### Scale by Lawrie Cooper

Autumn has been well supported, with the addition of two motor/sailor yachts, a stern trawler and an exceptionally fast river cruiser. The lake has been adorned by these and the usual boats, and 7 tugs, with much of this being caught on video.

The review video launched in October has been a great success for this type of video, with over 11,000 views. Hopefully, this will encourage interest in the club, and find us new members. Two further short videos have been released since then. To see the videos, search YouTube for "Mid Thames Model Boat Club" and about a dozen appear. There will be more to come once the weather improves, especially if we have some interesting boats.

YouTube views will be tailing off over winter, so in the Spring (either 8 March or 12 April), I would like to see our best, or long forgotten boats on the lake for some more video.

Lawrie

### Yachting by John Price

#### REGATTA 6.10.24. ViFi65 and HANDICAP

We were lucky with the weather. It was chilly but dry until 4pm when we were packing up. The wind was from the SE which is not the best direction as it comes over the hotel and trees, causing turbulence. This meant that high levels of concentration had to be maintained at all times.

Strangely there was more weed than the last two meets but it didn't disrupt the racing as it was in short lengths and we didn't need to launch the rescue boat. Perhaps we need a WHS. (Weed Handicap System) At the end of each race we measure the length of weed we are towing and add them up at the end and apply a formula to the final scores. As we all know, length isn't everything but it's the best we can do!!

A big feature of the day was the ski boat towing hordes of screaming school girls on a long raft device. The waves it created were the largest we have seen and had white caps that we're actually breaking. The Fiestas were worst affected by the waves.

There were 3 Fiestas in the morning and One DF65. In the afternoon we had two Fiestas and four One Metres. Because of the conditions races were taking 15 to 20 minutes but we still completed 6 races in the morning and 6 more in the afternoon.

Tony P and Lloyd from Oxford joined us again.

#### REGATTA 26.10.24.

That was the calmest regatta in living memory! The races took so long we only completed 3 in the morning ViFi65. In fact there were 5 Fiestas so it was fair racing. David had his brand new



15. Give a man a fish, and he'll eat for a day. Teach a man to fish, and he'll never be around for the weekends anymore.

16. What do you use to tighten up loose, sagging parts of a boat? Boat-tox.

17. Did you hear about that amazing new nautical theme restaurant? I hear it's pier-reviewed.

18. What do you call the boat that Jesus was on when he calmed the storm? A worship

19. What did the sailor say when his crew was finally ready to set sail? It's a-boat time!

20. What did the aspiring captain say to his boss? I'll get my own boat schooner or later.

21. What did the one ocean say to the other ocean? Nothing, they just waved at each other.

22. What did the captain plead with Medusa when he accidentally looked her in the eye? Turn me into stone all you want but please, don't rock the boat!

23. Why couldn't the minor get in to watch the pirate movie? Because it was rated arrrr!

24. Why did no one like to sit with the lady at the back of the boat? She was very stern.

25. What did the empty boat say when he was asked why he wasn't leaving the dock? "I haven't got a crew."

26. Why does everyone love boat stories? They always have a ferry tale ending.

27. What did the choking life vest say to the rescue ring after he performed the Heimlich? "You're a real life saver!"

28. What did the deck say to the waves that came crashing on board? "Water you doing here!?"

29. Did you hear about the premier cruise for zombies? I heard their destination was the Dead Sea.

30. Why did the speed boat take double the time to get back as the rest of the boats? It decided to take the sea-nic route.

Fiesta which still needs a bit of fettling. He says it was expensive and the quality left a lot to be desired.

Lloyd had technical problems and only finished one race.

RESULT:- 1st Tony P, John, Stephen, David, Lloyd.

Thankfully there was very little weed.

In the afternoon we were hopeful that the larger One Metres would go better but the wind dropped even more and the first race took 35 minutes, which is the slowest we've ever recorded. Two boats did not finish. The boats then became completely becalmed and the meeting was abandoned.

For the record David won, followed by Tony P, Tony S, Peter and John.

Tony P was sailing a One Metre which he had bought the day before and just had the evening to prep it. It was going very well and looks like a good buy at £200.

REGATTA 3.11.24 ViFi65 and HANDICAP.

Jolly Jack Tars,

'Twas a rather nice day's yachting. It was exciting to see our boats actually moving! Races took about half as long as the week before, ie about 15 minutes. We completed 5 races in the morning and another 5 in the afternoon.

There were 3 or 4 instances of small weed slowing boats down but as we did 5 races we could discard our worst scores.

In the afternoon Tony P had range problems so the rescue boat was launched. It also rescued John's IOM from the embrace of the trees.

Tony P brought along his rescue duck which did a fine job of shepherding becalmed yachts. Apparently, in the past, spectators have tried to feed it!

In the morning the boats were all Fiestas. David still hasn't managed to get his brand new Fiesta going properly. It must be disappointing.

Tony P won, followed by John, Lloyd one point behind and then David.

In the afternoon HANDICAP we started with 5 One Metres and a DF65. Peter dropped out after 2 races. John won, then came David, Tony P, Lloyd, Tony S and Peter.

REGATTA 23 11 24.

Well guys, I was going to ask you what you wanted to do about tomorrow but the forecast is so dire that I'm afraid it is cancelled. Wind from south, 28mph gusting over 50! and rain all day. It's a shame we will miss the last regatta of the season but we have



31. Why didn't the boat's band come back with the rest of the crew? They were Maroon 5.

32. What did they say was the best cure for scurvy? Vitamin Sea!

33. Some of the cast of Friends were shipwrecked, but made it out alive. They say it was because Lisa Kudrow and David was a well-trained Schwimmer.

34. What did the captain say to the boat that was following his boat too closely? "Hey, stop sailgating me!"

done quite well this year. Admittedly some regattas were not overly blessed with wind but they did take place. In the next few days I shall try to marshal the scores into some sort of order. Watch this space. Thanks for your support this year. Remember, if there is some nice weather and you want to sail, get on here and we'll arrange it.

#### YACHTING RESULTS FOR 2024.

ONE METRES.....Only 3 regattas were completed so no trophy will be awarded this year. Just for interest the result was John P.....4, Peter B....6, Tony S.....10.

(With our scoring system the lowest score wins).

VICTORIA, FIESTA, DF65....your 4 best results are totalled.

John P....4, Tony P.....9, Lloyd.....10, David S.....15.

Others competed but because they did not compete in 4 regattas, club rules state that their score cannot be included. (See website)

#### HANDICAP

John P.....7, Lloyd.....9, David S.....11, Peter B.....16, Tony S.....18.

I have included the scores of two Oxford MBC members as without them several regattas would not have counted. Also, they are going to join our club in 2025.

It was a good year with plenty of action and fairly decent weather.

The new calendar starts in March so see you then, if not before, and all the best for 2025.

**John.**

#### **Boats in Dry Dock by Alan**

This is a new feature hopefully to be written by you, the members, for interest and the amusement of other members.

For every boat that makes it to the lake there is probably another one sitting awaiting attention of some kind and so it might be of interest to know what we, as a club, have in the reserve fleet. That way, if any members have previous knowledge of the boat concerned (as many will have been through several hands) or have spares which may assist in rebuild further down the line or can proffer tips having built a similar model in the past, these details can be shared. Suggested by Alan Burgess and his is the first model in the Dry Dock.

As you can see this is a large (48") wooden hulled launch - formerly named "Gastema" based upon my judicious use of sandpaper - which certainly seems to have been through several incarnations. I believe it may have at one stage been steam powered (as there was a club flag inside and there's two patched holes visible on the underside of the cabin roof which I can't otherwise explain) but it's now sporting a large electric motor running a single 3 blade propellor which



## Trading Post

Trading Post is an area where members can advertise their model paraphernalia. So if you have to sell, swap, or just want something send contact details, brief description and a picture if possible to:-  
[parker42@btinternet.com](mailto:parker42@btinternet.com)

### For Sale

Garnock tug, 50 cm long – very well made model complete with wooden case & display stand. Needs radio, ESC & batteries. Steering servo is fitted but probably needs attention.



Proceeds towards club funds. Offers to the Treasurer please at [ox119py.mtmbc@gmail.com](mailto:ox119py.mtmbc@gmail.com)



requires an additional plate on the stern to address the torque. Whether this is actually sufficient to allow it to sail level at speed remains to be seen as it's not yet touched water under my ownership (although I've a spare 12v lead-acid battery from my



long gone ZZR1200 sitting in the garage which will be utilised when the time comes).

The woodwork on the fore-deck is probably original to the build and I'm in the throes of covering the green painted decking with similar wood strips which will be stained/varnished to provide a more cohesive appearance. The stern area will have a resin dingy mounted to provide a "handle" to allow easier removal from the water plus I've some "previously enjoyed" railings in the spares box to complete the cosmetics before applying a new coat of paint to the hull. Internally, I've already addressed the remounting of the rudder servo plus the water-cooling will be upgraded beyond the short in & out tube. I might even see if I can get the navigation lights working.

**Alan**

Are you working on a boat in Dry Dock? If you would like to contribute to this new feature please submit an article with separate pictures to the editor at [parker42@btinternet.com](mailto:parker42@btinternet.com)