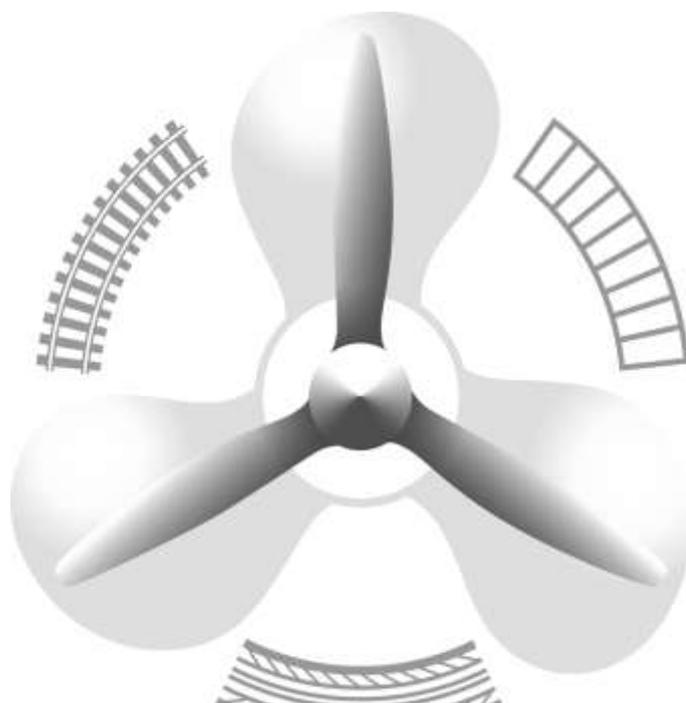


# Luton and District Model Boat Club



A club not just for boats

The bacon rolls have escaped

s

*Summer 2015 Edition*

# *Editors Notes*

Well we are 6 months into the year now, so I hope you are all ready for Christmas!

The AGM is in September.....it's not long away!!!

There is a serious danger of bacon rolls escaping over the next few months, so please kill and eat as many as possible!

On a serious note, I would like to thank all those that have turned up to support all the events so far this year and hope to see more of you in the coming 6 months.

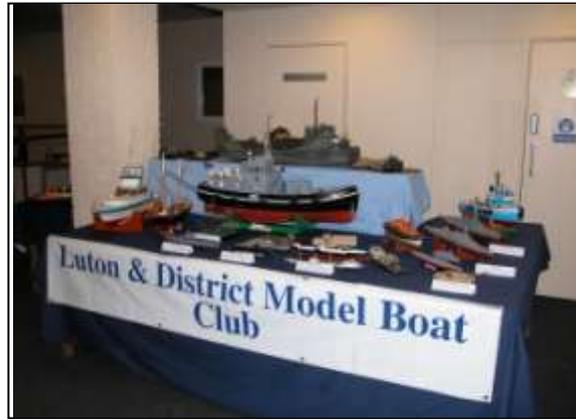
I have a few boats for sale still, 2 yachts (Vic Smeed designs) a small tug and a couple of warships. Feel free to contact me if you are interested.

## IPMS MILTON KEYNES 2015

Yet again I persuaded Pete Carmen to provide me and my models with transport to the venue at Milton Keynes. An uneventful trip this year as Mike Skuce was in charge of navigation, thus we had no detours through the country side and proceeded straight up the M1 motorway to junction 15, then around what appears to be a ring road to arrive at the venue within half an hour or so of having left my house in Luton.

On arrival, we could see that Tony Martin's car was already parked and therefore proceeded into the maze of halls in an effort to locate our display tables. These turned out to be tucked in a corner at the top of the first floor stairs. Dragged out the blue table cloths and covered the tables including the additional shelf made from our boxes and a ladder stretcher.

Having put the stand together we all returned to the cars to retrieve the models, return to the stand, unpack them and lay them out. After about an hour all the setting up was completed and we could relax and go have a cup of tea, or in Terry's case a tea and several sandwiches (oops Pete told me to say that). Photo's 1 and 2 show our stand with Dave Seath in attendance



Moving further in towards the refreshment area on the first floor there are a number of stands displaying tanks, aircraft and cars some with a considerable amount of detail added. Photo 3.



Photo 3

Moving the other way along the first floor I came across some a model depicting couples dancing the Vienna waltz complete with orchestra Photo 4. In addition there were also some models of individual people dressed in period costume Photo 5 all from the Letchworth Scale Model Club.



Further along the first floor corridor right at the end there was a diorama showing the Royal Air force Mountain Rescue Team at work Photo 6.



Photo 6

Just off the first floor corridor to the right is another small hall with a variety of aircraft models Photo 7



Photo 7

If you venture out of the main building and around the back there is yet another hall again with a variety of models and a few trade stands. One item worth mentioning is a cut-away model of a freighter showing all the inner workings including the boiler room crews quarters captain's cabin etc all done in fine details, must have taken many hours of work including research to be able to create such a model. Sorry no photos I forgot to go back when I had my camera in my hand.

Finally the main ground floor hall is devoted to all the trade stands, most selling plastic kits but there are a few specialists' stands selling tools and paint etc. Photo's 8 and 9.



Photo 8



Photo 9

I walked around this hall with Pete Carmen and Mike Skuce, despite Pete's attempts to get me to buy yet another plastic kit I managed to resist the temptation only succumbing to purchasing a pack of foam backed abrasive paper which was being sold off at half price.

In my opinion this is an interesting show and well worth a visit with lots of tools and materials to purchase including a variety of plastic kits.

# A day at Beale Park

When Chris Jackson offered me a seat in his car for a visit to Beale Park on Holiday Sunday (24<sup>th</sup> May 2015) to attend their Model Boat Show, well naturally I jumped at the chance as I had not been there before. The occasion was the Beale Park Model Boat Show, thus it was a boating occasion. Beale Park, for those of you that do not know, is located at Lower Basildon, six miles from Reading on the A329 between Pangbourne and Streatley. Beale Park is also the home of the Mid Thames Model Boat Club one of the largest club in the south of England with over 100 members. Within the park they have the use of three lakes, the inner lake may be used during normal opening times and the outer lakes may be used at any time.

We set off at about 8.30am on Sunday morning and had an uneventful motorway trip down the M1, round the M25 and along the M4 leaving it at junction 12 and then proceeded in accordance with the signs to Beale Park.

On arrival we proceeded to the entrance and asked about the cost of getting in (Chris had been told that if you had a boat we could get in for free?) but no we had to pay, once we had our tickets we went into the park to find other model boaters in attendance. Chris immediately made enquires about free entry and was told to see the club secretary for free passes which were duly handed over. I then went back to the entrance and managed to obtain a full refund, which made a good start to our day.

We were made very welcome all the other model boaters at the show, and told where to set up shop. Chris had brought along two small boats, a table and two chairs which we carried in and set up in a vacant space, I then departed to find the restaurant in order to obtain cups of tea and a chocolate biscuits for both of us.

Facilities included a pavilion that was used to house the model traders which included Component Shop, Model by Design/DK Figures, Fleetscale and Mac Mouldings. There are Toilets nearby all this being located by the entrance at one end of the Model Boating Lake.

At the other end of the lake there is a restaurant serving a good selection of hot food including tea, coffee and ice cream. Another attraction, located some 100 metres from the lake was a model museum, this housed over three hundred model boats and aeroplanes some professionally build which is well worth a visit. Photos 1 to 5 show a general impression of the model boating pool layout.

Clubs exhibiting there were Portsmouth Display Team, The Surface Warships Association, Sevenoaks Scale Model Boat Club, Kent Model Boat Display Team, Mid Thames Model Boat Club, Broomfield Boat Club, Whitton Modellers, Hanwell & District Model Society, Chris Jackson and I representing our Luton Club with a small display of models. Photos 6 to 15 show all the models that were on display.

Before the Portsmouth team got to do their display there was a chance for Chris to have a sail with his boats one of which is shown in Photos 16 and 17.

At about 1pm the display got underway, initially it was an enactment of a large convoy that would have sail from Nova Scotia to Liverpool and during their voyage being attacked by German 'U' boats, all of a sudden there were a number of explosions the results of which can be seen in Photos 18 to 24 this included the destroyer escorts letting off depth charges in order to kill the 'U' boats.

Part two of the display was typical of the 'D' day landings showing Tanks being landed from a LCM onto a floating pontoon as shown in photos 25 to 28.

Must say that I enjoyed the display and I am reliably informed that their display of the battle of Trafalgar is even more impressive.

The organisers have now acquired my E-Mail address and assure me that there will be a formal invitation for our Club to attend next year complete with free passes. Well this is the end of my short report but I would like to express my thanks to all those that made us feel welcome at Beale Park and to Chris Jackson for the invitation and associated transport to the venue.



Photo 01



Photo 02



Photo 03



Photo 04



Photo 05



Photo 06



Photo 07



Photo 08



Photo 09



Photo 10



Photo 11



Photo 12



Photo 13



Photo 14



Photo 15



Photo 16



Photo 17



Photo 18



Photo 19



Photo 20



Photo 21



Photo 22



Photo 23



Photo 24



Photo 25



Photo 26



Photo 27



Photo 28

## Steam in the Park

We were invited to this by a gentleman who volunteers at the Museum up at Stockwood. We accepted as it's a local event and as a club this is what we are trying to do. We were promised a gazebo and tables. On the day we got.....tables and gazebos! Not knowing how many would turn up I got up to Stockwood for 8-30am. Nothing was open and no one around. After a few minutes and a quick explore, we were told that the event did not start till 11! Could have stayed in bed with a bacon roll!!! We met the event organiser, who was very helpful, with the tables etc. A bonus was a bacon roll at lunchtime for free!!!! RESULT. The two museum steam engines were fired up and after talking the gentleman running them it turns out that the smaller of the 2 engines was the one I used to play on in Manor Park, Luton. This bought many happy memories back of playing in the park with my dad when I was younger, something I had totally forgotten about. The gazebo was set out with tables, boats loaded for display. We had a good turn out from members, putting a wide display of boats out. Steam boats were also evident on our stand. A few old trucks turned up for display as well, and some were very well turned out while one was in a very original condition, including rust!!





## BUILDING THE ESSO GLASGOW (Plastic Magic)

### PART THREE

#### **THE SUPERSTRUCTURE**

Following on from Part Two of my article about building the Esso Glasgow and having described how I modified the hull and installed the control systems, the next stage is to make and paint the superstructure. This in my opinion this is the most difficult of the three tasks.

Firstly I removed the superstructure parts from their spru's and then I decided to read the instructions, which is very unusual, as I normally just dive in and plod on, however on this occasion it proved to be the right thing to do as there were instructions to fill a total of six holes in the upper decks, these not being required (I missed one as you will read about later). Having filled the holes and cleaned away any surplus filler from the deck, the decks were then put to one side until required **Photo 25**.

Next job was to prepare the decks for painting. The well decks required a green finish and the upper decks required a wood brown finish, so I masked all the parts that did not require any paint finish at all, that is the superstructure white parts and guard rails (**Photo 26**). I then gave the decks a coat of Halfords grey undercoat (**Photo 27**) when this was dry I added masking tape to cover the upper deck areas so that I could then paint the well decks green. When the green paint was dry I carried out a similar procedure for painting the castle decks brown. The finished painted decks can be seen in **Photo 28**. Finally all the other decks were painted brown and allowed to dry before removing all the necessary masking tape (**Photo 29**).

With the main decks painted this allowed some assembly to take place to the main deck so the walkways were assembled and painted before being glued and fitted into position as shown in **Photo 30**.

Before assembling the superstructure I decided to fit a small LED's inside each of the cabins to provide the lighting, also to fit port and starboard navigation lights to the bridge wings. Each LED, about 2 x 1.5mm in size, had a pair of fine wires added to them and the complete assemblies were then fitted and bonded inside each of the cabins, each LED assembly was tested before, during and after fitting to ensure that there were no failures to the final assembly. A wiring diagram is shown in **Photo 31**. With this completed the navigation lights were added to the underside of the bridge wings which then allowed the Aft and Amidships superstructures to be assembled, threading the connection wires of the LED's through each of the deck levels to exit below the main deck and be finally terminated on small printed boards which had a lead and plug fitted for connection to the Radio receiver for connection to its 4.8 volts supply (**Photo 32**). The assembled superstructure complete with companion ways may be seen in **Photo 33**.

Having completed the assembly of the main superstructure and associated lighting wiring this then allowed the assembly and painting of all the detail parts, however before proceeding with this, I noticed there were no side rails to the upper bridge deck. On closer inspection of the instructions, none shown at stage 8, however at stage 10 suddenly the side rails appeared on the upper deck drawing with no indication or parts reference as to how they got there. Inspecting all the parts on the drawing supplied showed no such part existed I therefore reverted to trimming a small strip of plasticard and glued two short pieces into position either side of the upper deck. With this little problem solved I continued to assemble and paint all the small parts. The Skylight was glazed on the inside using thin clear plastic sheet and then fitted and glued into position together with the painted Life Boats as shown in **Photo 34**. All the other small parts are shown in **Photo 35** mounted on wood formers and in the process of being painted. The completed small parts consisting of Davits, masts, Ventilators etc. were then assembled to the each of the decks (**Photo 36**)

however there were some parts left over and on closer inspection these proved not to be associated with the model I was building, they were machine guns and gun mountings (**Photo 37**) has anyone a model with such parts missing? I noticed that there was a hole in the upper forward deck and on checking the instructions it turned out that it should have been filled when I did the others, this posed a small problem as everything was assembled and painted. My solution was to machine a small plug made from some left over spru. This was painted deck brown and when dry pushed in the hole from under the deck and glued into position. This just left me with the rigging to do, and then the model would be completed. I used some fine black cotton from the wife's sowing box. There were small holes in the deck which allowed the rigging to be threaded through and secured under the main deck. The rigged vessel can be seen in **Photo 38**.

Next a buoyancy test in the Test Tank (bath). I anticipated from the hull buoyancy tests carried out previously that a small amount of ballast would be required in order to lower the vessel down to its water line and fully immerse the propeller. The vessel was placed into the Test Tank and as predicted it did require a small amount of ballast. The superstructure had lowered the hull in the water at the stern but required some ballast at the bow, so small lead weights were added until the hull floated correctly about its water line. The weights were then bonded into their respective positions and the vessel re-tested in the test tank **Photo 39**.

The final test was to try the Esso Glasgow in open water down at Wardown Park. I awaited a suitable day with very little wind and calm flat water **Photo's 40, 41 and 42** show the vessel sailing on Wardown Lake – Project Completed.

Do hope that all those who have read this three part series on building the 'ESSO GLASGOW' have been encouraged to take up the hobby of building and converting plastic boat kits, commonly known as 'Plastic Magic', may be not such a small scale as the one in this article but all the 1/350 and 1/400 scale models of larger vessels have lots of detail and can produce a very satisfying model capable of being sailed on our Club Lake.

Tony Dalton



Photo 25 Upper Deck Holes Filled

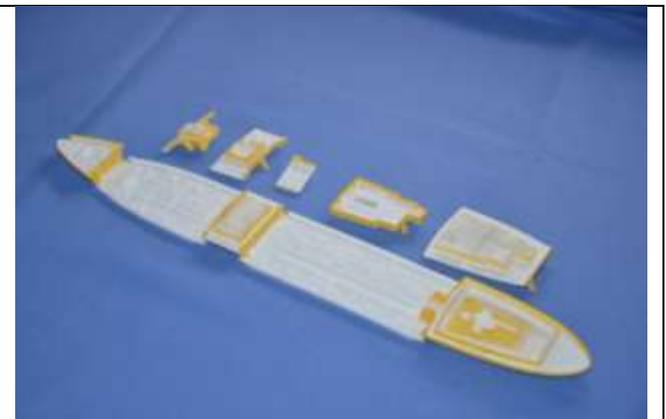


Photo 26 Decks Masked for Painting



Photo 27 Decks undercoated

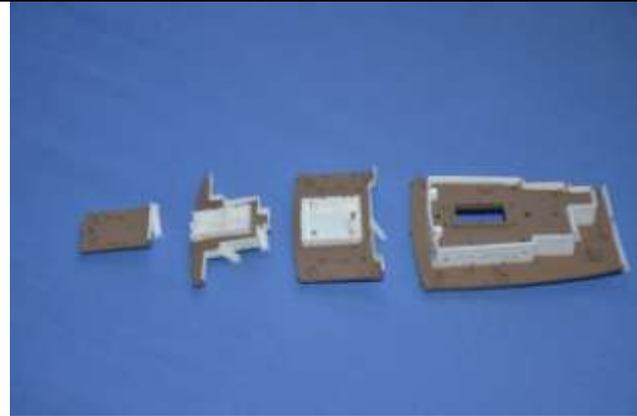


Photo 28 Castle Decks Painted

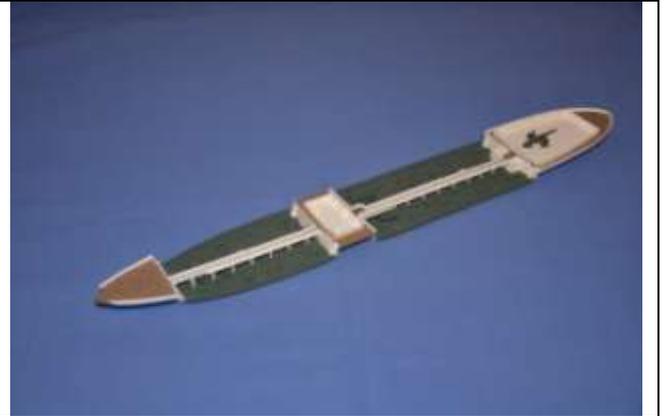


Photo 29 Upper Decks Painted

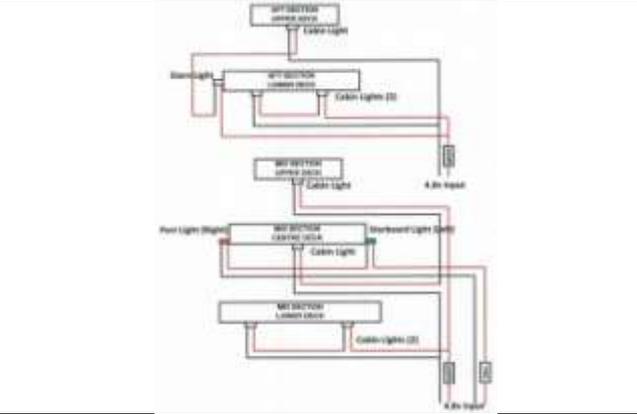


Photo 30 Walkways Painted and Fitted



Photo 31 LED Wiring Diagram

Photo 32 Completed Wiring

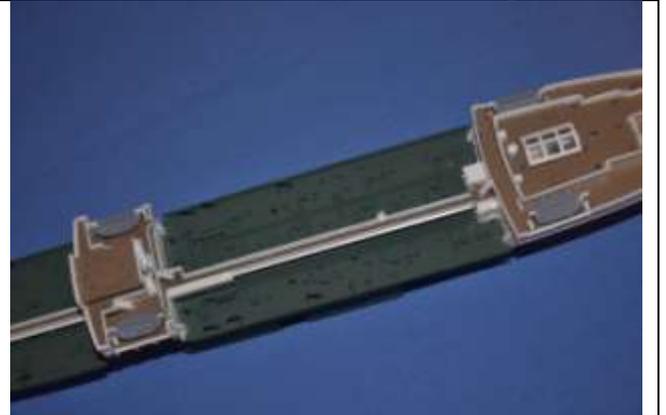


Photo 33 Superstructure Assembled

Photo 34 Life Boats Fitted



Photo 35 Small Parts for Painting

Photo 36 Assembled Superstructure

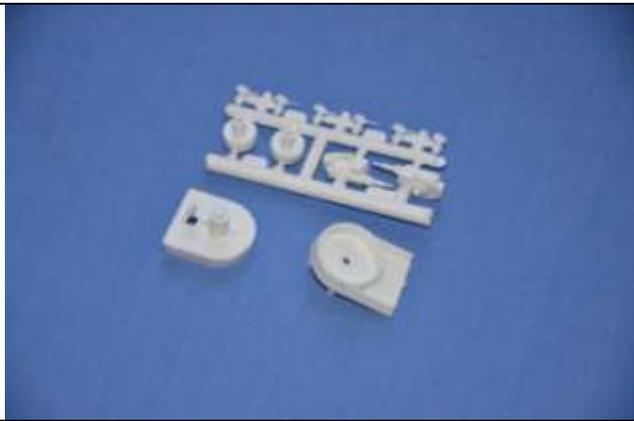


Photo 37 Surplus Parts?



Photo 38 Some Rigging Added



Photo 39 In the Test Tank (Bath)



Photo 40 Wardown Lake

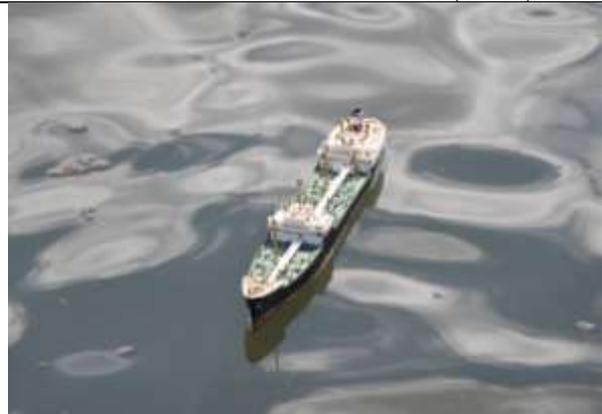


Photo 41 Wardown Lake



Photo 42 Wardown Lake

# Wicksteed Park Mayhem Weekend

AHEM AHEM. This is a local show, held on the same bank holiday weekend every year. Its primary aim is to encourage all people to come along and have a sail of your boats. This year was no different EXCEPT>>>>

NO HIGH WINDS >>>>>>>>NO RAIN!!!!!!!!!! In 9 years of running it has happened to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> time ever!!.

Set up for the main clubs attending is on Friday, this normally involves a small group of dedicated modellers putting the tea tent up, tea is free all weekend! Donations accepted!) And setting up the steering course and straight running course.

Saturday anyone can turn up and put a boat in the water. Simple.

This year all the usual faces were there, the Scottish contingent, the Welsh Wonders a gentleman from America and several clubs from all over the southeast and Anglia. The whole weekend was fairly good weather for a change. Most clubs were a bit annoyed at this as we had to postpone the usual gazebo flying competition! Let alone missing the vertical mist.

All things aside, Dave Seth and I both enjoyed ourselves, tiring as it always is, a bacon and egg roll for breakfast does wonders, especially with the free tea all day!. For those who don't believe, on both Saturday and Sunday I actually sailed my Atlantis for a couple of hours each day! Saturday was busy with lots of people in the park visiting, especially as the park has had major refit. New paths all around the lake giving better access to the lake.

Sunday was bit over cast but the rain held off all day. Terry, Jill, Dave, Sharon, Tony and Lynn turned up to make a merry little band. Tea was drunk, bacon rolls ate and cake eaten. So a few pics below to show what was missed!





Yes I did build a BBQ, yes I did cook for others on that BBQ, and yes that is a tin of soup on the BBQ!  
 Next year is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mayhem. See you there!

# Diary Dates

Night sail Wardown Park 6-30pm till 9pm 18<sup>th</sup> June

**Hitchin Market Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June THEMED "BIG BOYS TOYS"**

**Please bring along any r/c cars, planes, trucks, tanks, boats, subs etc.**

**Starts at 9am till 4pm**

Harpenden Armed Forces Day 27<sup>th</sup> June

Set up from 9-30, please bring models along for the day. They are trying to build us a pool so small boats can be demonstrated.

A flyer will be handed out nearer the date with more info. We have been asked to display as many military boats as possible.

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WORKING PARTY LAKESIDE 4 July

Just to spruce up the area and remedial work. Please let Pete know if you can help in advance!

**Hitchin Gala Day. 11<sup>th</sup> July.**

**Set up from 9am. This is the fundraiser for local charities. Please come along and support this event.**

Themed Sailing day- Working Boats. 12<sup>th</sup> July

**Club night, Planes and Helicopters.13<sup>th</sup> July**

Stevenage 12 hour Boat Marathon. Fairland's Park. Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2015

We are entering Somersby if possible as a club for this event. Please bring your own boats to have a sail. You do not have to stay all day, a few hours just to support both clubs will suffice

CLUB OPEN DAY 26<sup>th</sup> July

If anyone has anything special they want to happen let Pete know. I can fire up the BBQ if reqd.