

2025

Visit to Gloucester Archive Hub

The Gloucester Archive put on a special display regarding the use and development of Canals in the county which eventually created Gloucester as an inland port,

We were invited to display model boats on our stand, which we did and created a lot of interest with all the different types we displayed with models of ships from the 1800s to the modern day including submarines! Some of them would have been seen on the Ship Canal especially Mayflower of which we had two versions, as she was rebuilt many times going from steam to diesel and now back in steam and resides in Bristol Harbour, it would be nice to see her back in Gloucester even for a short visit

The Archive is very well organised and they kept providing more stands as we produced more boats! Tea and Coffee plus cakes were laid as well.

The main exhibits were the maps held by the Archive of various canals, the main one being the Ship Canal. Did you know there was a plan to join Dursley to the Canal but it never happened. There was a lot going on with the ladies doing their raffia work and various stands from the Cotswold Canal Group and others, sadly due to the high winds the Hereford and Gloucester Canal group were not present which was a pity, their records are held in Hereford not Gloucester.

If you get a chance to visit this Hub please do it is very interesting and well run, they even have parking on site!



2024

We strongly supported the Bourneville Club on their Navy Day at their splendid pool in Birmingham



Some of our Club members boats at the Bourneville Navy Day 2024

For a video of the event Click [Here](#).



Ted receiving a Tankard and a snifter of Glenmorangie from Nick the new Chairman as a small thank you for running the Club as chairman for almost thirty years.





Some of the Fun Day boats on display



Our Club's display supporting the 200th anniversary of the founding of the RNLI, at Croft Farm on the Avon near Tewkesbury



Ted and Simon with their prize winning models at Knightcote Model Boat Lifeboat Day.

AGM

In late February we held our AGM, which was quite well attended, we now have a new Chair, who together with the recently elected Secretary and Treasurer plus several new committee members have given us a good new team to run the Club. We thank those who have vacated their positions after years of service especially Ted Tedaldi and Bob Hinton who have given decades of helping the Club especially surviving Covid and other problems that arose over those decades.

Due to the very wet weather the Canal banks are very soft, members are requested to use poles when recovering boats instead of standing on VERY dangerous slopes where they could fall in, also you are damaging the banks of the Canal.

Winter Weather – The River Leadon takes a short cut to the River Severn



We supported the Gloucester Docks Show in late August 2023 both by displaying our boats on the Dockside and also by sailing them in the water where a good display of various craft were shown including sailing and electric models of various types



Our stand at the Speechouse Show in August 2023

We were invited back to Knightcote Model Boat Club and yet again

managed to be in the prizes on their Navy Day. Mike won best boat on the water and Bryan was runner-up.



On June 4th we had our first "Fun Day" at Over since the start of Covid, the event was well supported with lots of sailing and boating competitions plus lots and lots of cake! A good time was had by all and the weather was very kind to us. We were pleased to see so many members and their families.

We are intending to update the website as we have had comments to the effect that we, as a Club no longer exist! Please be assured that we are thriving and starting the year with over 120 active members, watch this space.

We held our first AGM for three years on February 22nd and it was fairly well attended.

We have elected a new secretary and a new Treasurer as Bob has health problems and demoted himself to assistant treasurer, thank you for all your work over the 30 years you have held the post. I will put details on the website when I know their contact details. The Club membership has held up well and we are financially stable.



Boats on the water at Over

January 2023





Bournville Model Boat Club

We were invited to the Bournville Club to their Naval Day and nine members took their boats there on Sunday June 19th. In fact we were the largest group of visitors, we were looked after well and thoroughly enjoyed the day. They have a wonderful Boating Pool, created during the depression and was financially supported by the Cadbury family. We put on a great display.

Rob Strong

To celebrate Rob's life as a member of the Club, in spite of being confined to a wheelchair, his models were sold and we have now installed a bench bought with the money raised, as his friends and family wished, the bench has been officially handed over to the Canal Society.

Rob joined the boat club in the mid- nineties and we have only ever known Rob in his wheel chair. Rob had a motorcycle accident in the mid-eighties.

Rob's enthusiasm for bikes, cars and boats was infectious. Rob loved his quite quick boats and give him his due, you never felt wary when he was thrashing about on the water. He was always coming up with good ideas to improve his boats and make them realistic. Having said that, he has the only planing Matchbox Corvette . One of Rob's Saul party tricks was to ride the wash of canal craft or to escort the craft on their way.

Rob was always keen on the shows, models, cars, motorbikes, even steam rallies as there would probably be a road he could propel himself along. At Over Robert at one time used to propel himself to the winding hole. His Doctor could not make out how fit he was.

Rob will be missed as a good keen Clubman.

Rob, from those that knew you. Thanks for the memories.

TED

Chairman Gloucester & District Model Boat Club.

David E's "Lady of the Lea" gunpowder barge now with topsail



Brian E's new PT boat with pacific camouflage, very effective!



20 Years at Over

A small group of members met to celebrate the occasion when we moved to Over 20 years ago to sail on the Hereford and Gloucester Canal Basin at Over. Because of Covid restrictions we were limited to just six to comply with regulations, however they did manage to eat the entire cake!



"Come on down" Over is lovely.



Weed collected at Over

The Club set up three working parties in action for three weeks. The picture shows the amount of weed collected in the first week, it is enormous. The weed was wheelbarrowed around and placed on the river bank as an attempt to reduce bank erosion at high tides. The weed stretched about 20metres along the bank in Swiss roll style about 70cms dia 1mtr long.

June 2023 – until October 2023 we have , we hope, just carried out our last weeding session for the year we may not like the weather but waterweed loves it!

Same as the above except that a new Floating Weed ia becoming a great nuisance, with a splendid effort by 12 members, under the supervision of John Hamer, cleared the entire Canal Basin so that the restarted open day could go ahead on June 4th, well done the volunteers!

Weeding at Over

All carefully spaced out and clearing the Canal Basin which was totally choked with weed due to the conditions this year and our enforced absence.





Fairmiles at Warwick



30 Years Celebration – 30th June 2019



Fun on the Canal, youngsters having a go with our Club "Training Tugs"



Our celebration Cake organised by Derek



Our Committee about to eat all the Cakes



This is the 'Wheely Boat' which is based at Over and gives trips on the Canal to the disabled and can take people in wheel chairs as well, named after Sir Charles Morrison MP who was a great supporter of the charity, they also use the boat at times to help keep the Canal clear of weed and cut back encroaching growth. They can be contacted via 'Sailing for disabled'. Some of our members help out with this charity.

Sunday June 30th we celebrated our 30 years with a party at Over on the Canal, we were very pleased to see so many members turn up plus the general public, there was a good display of boats and the youngsters (plus their Dads!) enjoyed the two 'Have a go' small tugs we have built so people can try their hands at radio controlled boating, the free tea and cakes were enjoyed and Derek had organised not only the barbecue but a special cake with our badge on it, and it tasted nice too. The "Sailing for disabled" "Wheely Boat" took people on trips down the Canal and also rescued the occasional model that got into trouble, the weather was fine and we even signed up new members which is always pleasing.

We are here at Over every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday afternoons, for those of you with Satnav the Postcode is GL2 8BZ plenty of free parking space please come on down and visit us we will be glad to meet you.

Tall Ships at Gloucester Docks 2019

To all I promised 30 models of various types and that's the number we displayed. Phil enjoyed himself steaming away, two boats at once, was he practicing for an on the water display? Meanwhile the upstairs crew, besides pushing crisps through the floor boards showering those below entertained with several demonstrations. Phil, yes another, entertained with engine start up, sirens whooping, navigation lights, search lights, finally all guns blazing, a good draw for the for the visitors. Peter Haines had his narrow boat lit up but his star attraction, waving Ken certainly entertained the children and women. Dave Lock brightened up the skies with his Smit tug in full navigation mode. To brighten up the guys with their grey ships on the ground floor, live music by various artists kept them awake. Derek's Mayflower tug was probably the main talking point of the three days. There are many suggestions as to why she at one time had railings along the sides. A person who had worked on her in this guise said it was for when she worked in the Bristol Channel in rough weather the sea water could clear the decks. I think we all had a good time on the stands and wandering around. TED

28 May 2019

30 Years Celebration – 30th June 2019

Last summer we celebrated 30 years of model boating in Gloucester, as you can see reading in the 'History' section we have had our ups and downs and have moved all over the place settling, we hope finally, here at Over on the restored section of the Hereford to Gloucester Canal. The Canal Society keep this area very well maintained and even in my time have doubled the length in water, well worth a visit even just for a nice walk along the bank. Please come down and see us and we will even let you have a go (at any age, see below) with our new small tugs which are under construction, or if you belong to another Club please bring your boats.

Spring 2019 Come and have a go!

At Warwick we purchased two small tug kits which club members are going to build for use by the general public. These will be available at Over, and when we go to other places, so that children (and grown ups) from 5 to 85 (if accompanied by a responsible adult!) can try their hand at radio controlled model boats and maybe be persuaded to join us and enjoy the fun we have with all sorts of models. these models are now built and Danny has built two "Control Posts" so that you the public can have a go, we would love to see you (see paragraph above) and we will be starting in the spring, watch this space or come down and visit us at Over later this year.



Stop Press!

Danny has built the first of our new "Come and have a go" tugs and it is now undergoing "Sea Trials" ready we hope for Easter and all including children and prospective members will be welcome to try out our hobby, so if you are interested please come and see us. Wednesday or Sunday afternoons are the best time and a designated member will let you have a go (under their supervision).



Warwick Show 2018

The Club displayed 30 members boats at this year's show, the most ever and Ted managed to squeeze them all onto the stand, our display was well received by the visitors and the "compere" of the pool was especially pleased when Phil put his steam dinghy on the water as he thought it was the first time they had had live steam on the pool. Dens again confounded visitors when we explained he drilled .4mm holes in .6mm stanchions, not once but dozens of times in his wonderfully detailed models! Don't worry we don't know how he does it either, The WW2 grey fleet was shown in abundance and we were complimented on our display of steam models. There are other show pictures on this website.

We will be back next year, it is going to reduce to a two day show we hope it keeps going especially as there is serious doubt over the Bristol Show which we did consider supporting.

Over Canal Basin

We are now back to normal at Over Canal Basin and especially on Sundays and Wednesdays our members have returned to sailing their boats, in peace and quiet and visitors, who are always welcome, will be able to see what we do and will have interesting boats to look at when they walk by or stop to talk.

Speech House Show



In September 2018 we put on a good display at the Speech House Steam Rally they not only gave us a space but built a temporary pond so that we could sail our smaller boats this created a lot of attention from the large crowd that support this event in the Forest of Dean Phil's steam boats in particular created a lot of interest especially when he fired one of his engines up on the stand.



On the May Bank Holiday 2018 we held one of our fun days for members and their families, we held Micromagic racing to Ted's rules for the sailors and steering competitions for the motorboats under Bryan's rules, good fun was had by all, lunchtime was an american picnic (you bring and share) with Derek providing the Barbecue, good fun was had by all, and even the weather co-operated!

At our AGM we re-elected our Chairman Ted and our Treasurer Bob, our two stalwarts Peter and Barbara stood down after 5 years hard work, Bryan has replaced Peter in the important post of Secretary but we are looking for a Social Secretary to replace Barbara, the Clubs finances are sound and our sailing venues in good shape particularly Over Basin which we help to maintain by weeding and Algae Control and has never looked better due to the hard work of John Hamer and his team of volunteers.



2017 Warwick International Model Boat Show

Once again we exhibited at the Warwick Model Boat Show, where we put on a very good display of members boats, most finished and some under construction, there was a lot of interest shown in our exhibits and we also floated some models on the pond that the organisers provide, Bob's new amphicar was of great interest as were the large speedy boat models and Denes showed how it was possible to drill a 0.4mm hole in a 0.8mm brass rod to impressed onlookers! Sadly there were a few less stands and some regular traders were missing so we hope that the show will go on.



2017 Canal Open Day at Over

We put on a very good display at the Over Open Day supporting the Canal Society and ensured that there was something to look at for the spectators with model motor boats, steam boats and displays by the Micro Magic sailors and the One Metre Class especially Kevin with his One Metre, it is a bit narrow for these large fast sailors, who normally sail on a private lake that our club have access to, but they demonstrated the dexterity required to sail these racing models.



This was the “Harbour” used during our recent boat “Driving Tests” where we attempt to manoeuvre around a fiendish course devised by Brian and friends, when we had finished the sailors had an elimination race where the last yacht drops out until there is a final winner. We try various skills competitions during the year apart from the serious sailing series to create interest for members of the club and at the interval we all ate “Beans on Toast”



We put on a good show at the Speech House Steam Rally and even had boats circulating on the 12 foot by 10 ft pool they built for us (tastefully decorated with logs!).



Club Officers and members attended the ceremony when **The Hereford and Gloucester Canal Trust** were presented with **The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service** for the splendid work they are continuing to carry out in restoring the Canal, which is one of our main sailing venues. Our main contribution to this is to maintain the water quality in the Canal Basin by algae control and the hard graft of weeding the basin which would quickly become unusable without this work.



Mallards Pike Picnic 2016 once again we had a good turnout of members and families for this event and better weather this year!



Warwick International Boat Show

We put on a good display at the Warwick Show, in a good position after Ted managed to get us moved! The Venue has been increased in size and now also has a larger pool to sail the boats, Bob's Bond Lotus created a lot of interest, with luck it should be a finished exhibit by next years show.



May Fun Day 2014



Presentation of new Picnic Tables to the Canal Society

The Gloucester & District Model Boat Club has enjoyed another years sailing at Over Basin. Club membership is now at a record level with 115 members.

Attendance has been at record levels with well over the twenties on Wednesdays, up to five members from Hereford. Many of this year's new members who are retired are keen to go boating, Also this year we have had a number of members join who are wheelchair bound,

joining Rob who has built and sailed for years. Some of our new members have never built a model boat. Members have been kept busy guiding them. Very often the following week they have turned up for the next stage. One member Dave who is in this category set sail in October. The joy on his face was worth all the effort and has given enthusiasm to others. Unfortunately our treasurer Bob, an experienced modeller who specialises in one off amphibious vehicles may well soon join the above. Bob is determined to be back at Over.

Our annual Beans on Toast Sunday saw two dozen members enjoy another fine day; unfortunately through lack of wind the sailors stood around all day looking rather forlorn.

The motor boat boys lent their models to the sailors to cheer them up or rib them. The competitions were well patronised.

The photo shows a ready laid table for the first sitting, sauce and cheese at the ready

.Our fortnightly Micro Magic yacht competition sometimes sees fourteen yachts taking part. The rules are simple, first over the line wins. The ladies show no mercy for the men.

A photo shows how a good wind makes exciting sailing.

Dave our new webmaster has just completed this stern paddler making its debut adventure.

Ross's Clyde Puffer sedately sails the canal. The model is about three feet long and powered by an electric motor. A skipper on the bridge, crew on the deck preparing to off load a cargo of stone.

As I write this article it has been raining for nearly two weeks. All boats are tied up and wives becoming frustrated with men under their feet.

Ted Tedaldi.

Chairman



Our display at the Over Canal Festival 2015 where we put on a good display of boats and kept the public entertained, nice day Saturday but Sunday spoiled by rain