

# REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 57639 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 59/46

Date of writing this report 15th January 1947

Vessel's Name *S.S. (Sandsucker) "Garth"* of *Stockton*

Tons Gross 424 Net 153

Built at *Newcastle* When *1925* 5

Casualty notice sent to Owner *9.1.47*

Owner's reply *10.1.47*

Owner's Name *Bristol Sand & Gravel Co., Ltd. (J. E. Peters, Mgr.)*

Address *129, Redcliff Street, Bristol, 1.*

## SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

Previously before  
Sinking Committee.

Date  
Last Minute

## Particulars of Classification.

*+100A1  
943  
SS No 3-3,38  
SS No 1-43  
TSN 943 CI  
Fitted for pumping and  
carrying sand in bulk 7,38*

Casualty

*26th November, 1946*

Particulars of Casualty

This vessel sank in Redcliffe Bay, Bristol Channel, on the 26.11.46 after fouling the anchor chain of the steamer "BLAIRDEVON."

In reply to the special casualty notice the owners state that a salvage contract has been signed. The work should begin during the present week, and if successful, it is hoped to refloat the steamer in anything up to eight weeks according to weather and conditions.

13th March, 1947.

In reply to enquiry, the Owners state in a letter dated 7th March, 1947:-

"Weather conditions have seriously delayed salvage work on this vessel.

Gear which had to come by road from Falmouth and Dover has not long reached Bristol, and actual operations only commenced on the 5th inst.

There appears to be no reason to suggest that the salvage will not be successful, but the

position has of course been practically at a stand-still for the last month."

GARTH (sandsucker).—Bristol, Nov. 26.—At about 4.30 a.m. to-day sandsucker Garth was in collision with steamer BLAIRDEVON (from Alhomen), at anchor in Walton Bay. Garth was sinking and trying to make for beach and the lifeboat was sent from Weston-super-Mare and Bristol tugs went from Portishead. The lifeboat arrived at Portishead and reported she found nothing. Sandsucker presumed lost. BLAIRDEVON proceeded to Sharpness.

London, Nov. 26.—It is thought that the sandsucker Garth was torn open below the waterline through fouling the anchor chain of the steamer BLAIRDEVON. The BLAIRDEVON has since arrived at Sharpness. The Garth had a crew of seven men.

Bristol, Nov. 26.—Sandsucker Garth sighted at low water about one mile from Walton Bay Signal Station and three cables from the shore. It is reported that one body and a dinghy have been found at Severn Beach.

GARTH (sandsucker).—London, Nov. 26.—The sandsucker Garth was proceeding to Avonmouth from Cardiff. (See issue of Nov. 27.)

Gloucester, Nov. 27.—Master of steamer BLAIRDEVON reports that at 4.20 a.m. on Nov. 26 the sandsucker Garth struck her anchor chain and drifted clear. No apparent damage to BLAIRDEVON.

GARTH (sandsucker).—Bristol, Dec. 10.—A boat, 18 ft. by 6 ft. by 4 ft., marked "15 persons," an ash boat oar, an oak boat oar, a 22-in. water barrel and a small piece of timber were found at Severn Beach, near Bristol, on Nov. 26. The boat and the oak boat oar are now lying at Sea Wall Farm, Severn Beach, and the other articles at 27, Beach Avenue, Severn Beach. These are thought to be part of the equipment of the sandsucker Garth, which sank on Nov. 26 in Redcliffe Bay. (See issue of Nov. 28.)

GARTH (sandsucker).—London, Jan. 6.—In reply to inquiry, Lloyd's Agents at Bristol write under date of Jan. 3: So far as we can gather, the owners of the sandsucker Garth are endeavouring to negotiate for possible salvage of the vessel, but nothing definite has been arranged. (See issue of Dec. 12.)

GARTH (sandsucker).—Bristol, Jan. 8.—The owners of the sandsucker Garth state that they have completed a salvage agreement and that it is hoped to commence salvage operations in about two weeks. (See issue of Jan. 7.)

Suggested Record

Date of Committee

Committee's Minute

FRI. 17 JAN 1947

FRI. 14 MAR 1947

W312-0112 (1/2)

610 14/3



WRECK SECTION

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SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

s.s. "GARTE" continued.

16th April, 1947.

In reply to enquiry, the Owners replied on the 11th instant as follows:-

"I regret to say that the exceptional weather conditions have caused Salvage work to be suspended on this steamer owing to the abnormal amount of fresh which carried down so much Severn mud and caused the wreck to silt up.

Further consideration will be given to the possibilities of raising her under more moderate conditions but there is now of course some doubt as to the prospect of doing so at a reasonable cost."

Suggested Record

Minutes of Committee

Committee's Minute

143.

Wrecked 11.46  
FRL 18 APR 1947

Wrecked 11.46



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Foundation

W312-0112 (2/2)