

The next club meeting will be

Monday 22nd June, 2016

At the Flackwell Field

NO7 at the Royal British Legion.

From about 7.30pm until dusk

This will be the usual June gathering at the field.

If you do not normally come to Club meetings then try to get to this one and perhaps meet some of the other members that you may have missed in the past.

This is not long after the longest day and the sun does not set until 9.25pm so it will be light until late. Why not put some of those fancy lights on your plane (we suggest not your best one) for added visibility and we can have a Sunset Fly-In. There are plenty of instructions available on the Internet but a good introduction can be viewed [here](#) and there are a host of suppliers on Amazon and eBay. Watch out for strange prices at model shops.

If you want to use them the facilities in the club house are available.

July Meeting

The following month will be the Club Summer Gala at the Flackwell field. Further details of this event are on page 4 and they will be expanded next month.

Other Future Meetings

Just a reminder of the meetings in August and September which will be the Chuckie Challenge glider competition and the Photo/Video evening. Again there are more details inside.



From the Chairman's Cockpit

I have enjoyed so much good weather recently and having more time to fly, I have enjoyed both fixed wing and quad copter flight. I have a new model (an Acrowot fitted with an 80 f/s) and I am just in the process of getting going with a Quad Racer and some FPV goggles – just blame Mitch, I can't explain the move in this direction so I must be under his hypnosis!!! In reality though, it is interesting, it is stimulating and it is something different to play with.



Firstly, some news from the Towersey field in the form of some proposed changes to the field layout and indeed the use of the field. We should all look at initiatives that allow us to get the maximum benefit from our yearly rent and this often involves looking beyond typical RC flying. At Flackwell, we tend to race cars when the weather for flying is unsuitable but the guys at Towersey have chosen a different pastime. When the wind is too much for RC flying, they are taking up kite flying and have since approved this with the farmer. So, if you want to spend more time on the field, whatever the British weather throws at us – go buy a kite!! If you want to know more about the proposed changes to the field layout, speak to Brian and Gavin, we think they have come up with some good plans. Further discussions with the farmer may bring more changes with regards to how we can include the Towersey field in future club events which I think will be a benefit for all. We have also approved expenditure for mower, shed maintenance and the purchase of a roller. We have also received news that a multi-rotor racing club may be forming near to our Towersey field, something that we will be keeping an eye on in the future – not just in terms of the affect it could have at our flight field but also looking for positive ways to interact.

At the Flackwell field, we have just obtained our first flight bench – we shall call it version 1 as we would very much like a second one with some minor modifications. We are very thankful to Rich who sourced the timber and constructed it for us.

I hope this will be really helpful for those who perhaps aren't able to easily kneel down on the grass and what I would suggest is that when you are ready to fly you use it and then once engine running etc, you vacate it for the next person and so on. As I said, hopefully we will soon have two. It isn't suitable for larger models that require restraint both at the tail and in front of the wings but as a generic (up to 120 size) build it works fine.



One of the topics that has really hit our radar over the last couple of months is the number of people currently having training and the number of people who haven't passed or ever taken an "A" test.

Your committee or in fact Mike Winston (who has done all the investigation), has established that there are approximately 25 members (almost 20% of the membership) who are active fliers but do not hold a BMFA "A" Certificate. Broadly, these fall in to three categories; some are at beginner or near beginner status and are receiving regular training, some are able to fly and in the main safe to fly but need more practice and advice to reach the "A" standard and finally, some are very competent fliers but for various reasons have not taken the "A" test, either because arranging it is seen as difficult or due to lack of motivation / interest.

Under the Club Rules, all of these members are required to fly under supervision, which in the case of competent fliers is a great shame, knowing the pleasures and flexibility that solo flight (without a "supervisor"/watcher being present in the pilots box) can bring.

So, what have we done about it so far? The recent introduction of the "Yellow Sticker Scheme", which is given to safe competent pilots to practise for their "A" certificate, has had some success, but we are still not always seeing the endeavour and motivation to take and pass the "A" test.

There may be many reasons for this, timing and coordination, pre-test nerves, the introduction of an examiner that you have never seen or spoken to before, the perceived formality of the event, are a few that I can think of and there may be a few more that apply on an individual basis.

In recognition that this is a hobby and “National Achievement Schemes” are not everyone’s cup of tea, we have been thinking of a revised way of providing a “Pathway to Solo Flight”. In the interests of keeping our Club Rules up to date, this scheme will be known as the “Pathway to Solo Flight” and will be incorporated in the next Club Handbook update.

To address some of the issues above, we will be introducing a Club Proficiency Test (CPT) as an alternative route to achieve approval to fly solo. Upon introduction, the full progression from beginner to “A” certificate standard and beyond, will be as follows -

Competency Status	Beginner or near beginner	Can Fly but needs further coaching to achieve "A" certificate standard	Can almost fly to an "A" standard, but needs further practise to achieve consistency	Pilot CHOICE of taking CPT or BMFA "A" Certificate	Further Achievement
Action Required	Tuition / Supervision mandatory	Tuition required / supervision mandatory	"Yellow Sticker" and self-driven practice.	On passing, solo flight is permitted *See note 1	Solo flight permitted. *See note 2

There are a couple of notes that you should pay attention to –

Note 1 – The Club Proficiency Test will allow you to fly solo at HWDMAC sites but will have NO status elsewhere. Other clubs may insist on an “A” certificate being produced if you fly as a guest or in a competition – this includes any inter-club competitions that have reciprocal visits to other club sites.

Note 2 – If you have taken and passed the Club Proficiency Test but want to proceed to the “B” standard, you will have to go back and take the “A” certificate before moving on to the “B” Test. Many examiners will allow you to do both on the same day.

Note 3 – New members joining the club who are already competent but have no “A” certificate (often because they have previously flown at a club that was not BMFA affiliated or that did not require one), can take the CPT as soon as they have familiarised themselves with the club rules and are confident of passing the test.

So, what is the Club Proficiency Test? Well, it is important that the club is not being seen to lower its standards but there are ways we can alleviate some of the “blockers”. Basically the CPT will be exactly the same as the “A” test, assessed by two actively flying committee members who know what to look for and who have passed the “A” test and have been flying for more than two years. It will not be a “soft touch” but it may be the answer to some people’s issues with a national accreditation scheme and the perceived pressure on performance.

This will achieve the following –

1. Coordination and timing of the test will be no problem, often only requiring a couple of days’ notice.
2. Any pre-test nerves are alleviated by the fact that you are doing it with people you know.
3. The formality of the event is lessened
4. More flexibility i.e. we know what you can achieve and therefore if you fail in a particular exercise once, we have the flexibility to ask that you do it again rather than failing you on first attempt.
5. If you are being “club trained” and have achieved your “yellow sticker” then you are almost there as we already know what you are capable of and we wouldn’t suggest taking the test unless we thought you were ready.

The CPT will include theory questions which will comprise a selection of existing BMFA “A” certificate questions AND club specific questions regarding flying field rules, etiquette and safety.

It should also be noted that Mitch has put a CPT together for multi-rotor fliers who have no other form of accreditation so doing the same for fixed wing, brings it in to line.

So, that’s all folks....for now!

All the best and enjoy your flying, **Steve**

HWDMAC Summer Gala 2016

A reminder that this year's Summer Gala will be taking place on Sunday July 17th, not August as in previous years. Kick off will be around 2.30pm and with flying 'till dusk.

This year sees the return of the Scale Competition. Mike Winston has agreed to dust off the Scale Trophy that he won in 2014 with his SE5a and we will be running the Scale competition again at this year's Gala. General format is that models have to be scale (at least nearly so) and 2 marks will be awarded, one for static appearance and the other for performing a realistic scale flight. The marks will be combined and the model gaining the highest marks overall will be the winner. Notice the words "realistic scale flight".

Don't forget that partners, friends and family are all welcome to join us as well.

The aim of the day will be to have fun and enjoy our hobby so no strict schedules to adhere to but some other possible events that could be run may include;

- Aircraft taxi race around the strip – by all accounts good fun last year.
- RC Car Grand Prix around the strip.
- Fly-By from the Clubs Winter Build 'Construction Cartel' showing off their hard work – (might give me another target to have mine finished by!)
- And maybe some other 'Fun-Fly' competitions we didn't get a chance to run at the Fun Fly event in May – Limbo anyone!



2015 Gala



2015 Gala

There will be a barbeque in operation but final arrangements for this have yet to be confirmed

Further details / confirmation of the day's competition and activities will be in the next Newsletter, which will be out early next month, so keep an eye out and if you have any suggestions or question about the event please contact your friendly competition rep. Guy Pickett-Jones at mrp_guy@yahoo.co.uk

Guy

Fly a Spitfire

Do you fancy flying a Spitfire? Well of course you do, so hi you hence to the Maidenhead Heritage Centre and have a go on their Spitfire simulator. Yes, many flight simulator programs for personal computers have such an option but the one in Maidenhead has a full reproduction cockpit and surround screens and gives a much better feel. You get as much tuition as you want from the volunteers and if you feel confident why not try flying through the centre of Tower Bridge.

The simulator is part of the Air Transport Auxiliary "Grandma Flew Spitfires" exhibition that will be of interest to anyone looking at the history of flying. There are other exhibitions about the heritage of Maidenhead as well.

We were reminded of this facility by Andy Trevena and the attached leaflet gives contact details.

Building Help Wanted

Club member Emil Waszkiewicz is asking for help to finish building some RC models. He says:

I'd like someone to help me finish building my RC models as I have no time. We've recently had a baby girl (she's 2 months old now) who's keeping us busy plus normal workload so not much time left for planes. I would like to have them done as soon as possible. Maybe someone would be interested to earn some £££ and help me out. Thanks!

The main assembly has been done but there is some finishing needed such as fitting engines and radio gear. The list of tasks is:

1. Seagull model: Zero - fit an engine Saito FG-19R3 gas radial, servos & receiver
2. Spitfire 83" wing span; servos & air retracts fitted already, need to fit engine O.S. GF40 Link to spitfire <http://www.dbsportandscale.com/spitfire-mk-1a-kit-6502-p.asp>
3. Black Horse model Ryan: need all servos, receiver & engine fitted, ideally petrol e.g. Saito
4. Also at a later date L-59 Albatros EDF 90mm from Hobby King



If you can help please contact Emil at emil@hammerheadgc.co.uk

Found on the web

We suggested earlier that you could put lights on a model and fly later in the evening. Have a look at <https://youtu.be/WWJleGMU16U> and see some amazing footage of how to do it full size.

Steve is really getting into the quadcopter thing and suggests this link to FPV Allstars III - "All the things you can do with FPV"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bM4IplfEkSY>.

He also reminds us of an alternative version of a display that we have mentioned before but it is well worth repeating:- Aerobatic syncro display of a radio controlled model Extra (flown by Mike Williams) and a full size Extra (flown by Chris Burkett) flying side by side. Fantastic!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebUw4X_zQhY



Future Meetings

Well at last here is the reminder for the August and September Club meetings. The August 2016 meeting will not be on a Monday but will be on Sunday 21st in the afternoon and will be the **Chuckie Challenge**. The challenge is to design, build, and fly a simple chuck glider that will stay aloft longer than anyone else's. The club will supply balsa strip for the fuselage and a sheet of balsa to cut the wings and tail from, together with all the other necessary bits and facilities but you have to provide the design. All building must be done on the day.



The September meeting will return to the normal night and venue and will be the **Photo and Video Competition**. The aim is to capture the sheer majesty of model and full size aviation marvels. There will be categories for still pictures and video clips. Judging will involve everyone at the meeting and will probably be on a knock-out basis. We are now into the airshow time of year so get your cameras out and start taking pictures.

Brian

Committee Members for 2016

Office	Name	E-mail	Telephone
Chairman	Stephen Berry		
Deputy Chairman	John Quelch		
Treasurer	John Compton		
Secretary	Brian Seymour		
Membership Secretary	Mike Winston		
Competition Rep	Guy Pickett-Jones		
Training Rep	Jonathan Harper		
Flackwell Rep	Ron Spencer		
Chinnor Rep	Gavin Compton		
BFMA & Safety Rep	Mitch Mabbutt		
Newsletter Editor	Malcolm Connell		
Web Site and Communications	Ian Scottow		

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Meetings and Events in 2016

Date	Event
27 June	At Flackwell Field
17 (or 24) July (Sunday)	Summer Gala
21 August (Sunday)	Chuckie Challenge
26 September	Photo and Video Competition
24 October	Talk - Speaker and subject to be advised
28 November	AGM and Subs payment