

Inside This Month

- Memories of the Air War (part 4).
- Invitation to Hanworth Airpark MFC Bring & Buy Sale

Also any other news as it comes.

The next club event will be on

Monday 25th September, 2017

At the Royal British Legion

Common Road

Flackwell Heath

HP10 9NS

And will be

The Multi-Media Masters Evening



Come along and marvel at the works of art produced by your fellow members and perhaps display some of your own. The Club Gala would have been an ideal opportunity to capture some entry material for this event but unfortunately it ultimately had to be cancelled due to bad weather. However, hopefully you all still have some other pictures that can be entered for the evening's entertainment.



Remember that it is no good having a perfect photo or video if the subject is only a speck in the centre of the frame. There is plenty of good editing software available for PCs and mobile phones, some of it even free, that will remove the surrounding space and enhance your effort.

There will be four entry categories this year: **Model Aircraft / Real Aircraft / Aviation Video / Aviation Art** and the rules will be the same as last year as published in the August 2016 Newsletter which is available on the [Club Website](http://www.hwdmac.co.uk). There is also an entry form on the website that can be found at <http://www.hwdmac.co.uk/photo-competition-entrants/4592814940>.

However, the general rules are reproduced overleaf.

Even if you do not want to enter please come along and see what your colleagues can do and vote for your favourites.

Basically:

Photos

- Photos must have been taken by the entrant;
- No fancy editing of the photo is allowed except for cropping, contrast and brightness.

• Videos

- May be up to 4min. duration (depending on how many entries are received only the first 30 to 60 seconds may be shown during the initial rounds but the full videos will be shown in the final);
- Must be taken/owned and edited by the entrant;
- The clip may be a compilation of shorter clips;
- Audio may not be included in play-back.

• Aviation Art

- May be hand or computer drawn;
- Must be the work of the entrant;
- Must be provided in a displayable format, e.g. original drawing or on a tablet or as an A4 print.

All entries to be submitted with a brief description of the entry (subject(s), location, event, etc).

- Entries should be submitted before 24th September 2017, but depending how many entries are received 1 per entrant may be accepted on the night.

Guy

THE AIR WAR SEPTEMBER 1939 TO MAY 1945 BY A SCHOOL BOY.

(Some memories of old from Dick Edmonds who may not have seen it all but has certainly seen a lot of it. Ed.)

Part 4

D-DAY THE ALLIES INVADE NORMANDY

It was June 6th 1944, I was at school in a class when the door burst open and it was a very excited Headmaster announcing that the allies had landed in Northern France. For the last few months the amount of aircraft activity had increased considerably and now all our aircraft had large black and white stripes on the wings and fuselage. These were Invasion Stripes, intended to help the trigger happy allied gunners identify friend or foe.

V1 PILOTLESS FLYING BOMB

The V1 pilotless flying bomb, also known as Buzz Bomb or Doodlebug, was one of Hitler's secret weapons. It was known as Hitler's terror weapon. They were launched from the north east coast of France Belgium and Holland towards London. The bombardment started in June 1944 and at its peak 100 a day were launched. Fortunately not every one hit the London area but there were many casualties. My mother had an aunt who lived in central London and she was having a worrying time so Mum and Dad invited her to stay with us here in High Wycombe for two or three weeks. It was on the second day of her stay when there was a terrific explosion we rushed outside to see what was happening and about a mile or two away was a column of smoke rising in a westerly direction. Aunty said this was the first time she had seen any smoke from a Buzz Bomb but heard plenty of explosions. This was the first one we had experienced in the High Wycombe area. We concluded Hitler was after Aunty but his aim was not very good.

Some weeks later, it could have been late August or early September, my friend Rex and I decided to go camping for a few days, Rex had a tent and my Grandfather allowed us to use his field. The weather was fine and windless with a mist hanging over the Wycombe valley and from our elevated position we could see the factory chimneys protruding through the mist. We were preparing breakfast when we heard an explosion and there was this column of smoke rising up through the mist on the other side of the Wycombe valley, We had not heard any Buzz Bomb sound from its engine so I concluded it must have been gliding for some distance with the motor off. I think it hit the ground in open country as I did not hear of any damage or casualties. A few weeks later something woke me up from my sleep then I realised it was the spluttering sound of a Buzz Bomb engine. I was lying in bed petrified and then to my horror the sound stopped. I scrambled under my bed and said a prayer and waited for the explosion and waited and waited. Nothing happened, my prayer had been answered. Again this Doodlebug must have had a long flat glide as I never did find out where it struck the ground. This was the end of my Buzz Bomb experience as the allied armies overran the launch sites on their advance into Germany.



[These were the Vergeltungswaffe 1 or Vengeance Weapon 1, a small pilotless aircraft powered by a pulse-jet which gave them their characteristic sound. They had a rudimentary distance measuring device that cut the engine and tipped the horizontal stabiliser when over the target so that the bomb came down vertically. Often this did not work and the aircraft flew onward until the fuel ran out and then glided to earth, which is how some managed to reach High Wycombe. (Ed.)]

OPERATION MARKET GARDEN



I guess many people will be mystified by the heading and wonder what it's all about. Operation Market Garden was the name given to a large airborne attack mainly by British parachutists and glider-borne troops, supported by ground forces, in an attempt to cross several large rivers including the Rhine by capturing and holding the bridges that crossed these rivers in Holland. This event took place from the 17th to the 25th September 1944 and on these dates I was

attending Mill End Road School. We heard a very loud aircraft noise and there was a long stream of gliders being towed by transports and bombers in an Easterly direction, I cannot remember the exact date and I believe it happened more than once. Aircraft that I recognised included Douglas DC3 Dakota, Short Stirling and Handley Page Halifax. Gliders included Horsa and Hamilcar. There were other gliders that I did not recognise, probably American.

WAR END IN EUROPE

The European part of World War Two ended on May 8th 1945 when Germany surrendered and this ended my AIR WAR. However there was one more event that I can write about. Some RAF air fields staged an open day for the general public at the wars end. To have a look at the aircraft my friend Dave and I went to RAF Booker which is close to High Wycombe. It is now called Wycombe Air Park and is owned by Wycombe District Council. I cannot remember very much about the aircraft they had on show but I do remember a Wellington bomber and a De Havilland Dragon Rapide bi-plane transport. Short flights were offered in the Rapide for 10shillings so my mate Dave and I had a flight, quite thrilling for two 14 year olds.

Dick

That 10/- (ten shillings) that Dick and his friend paid for their flight back in 1945 would be worth around £20.00 today. It was probably several weeks' pocket money or earnings from a paper delivery round which was the main employment for young boys back then.

Hanworth Airpark Model Flying Club (HAMFC) are holding a Swapmeet / Bring-and-Buy on Saturday October 7th.

Doors open 9am for sellers and at 10am for buyers

There is no charge for either buyers or sellers

Venue address is :-

Hanworth Royal Naval Association Club 15 Park Rd, Hanworth TW13 6PP

For further information contact Nick Parsons Tel: 07973165715 email:nickparsons21@gmail.com

HWDMAC stopped holding a table-top sale or auction due to lack of interest. Do you think we should hold one again? Would you attend and support such an event? Please let one of the Committee know your views.

Committee Members for 2017

Office	Name	E-mail	Telephone
Chairman	Stephen Berry	Data removed for Web publishing	
Deputy Chairman	John Quelch		
Treasurer (Acting)	Malcolm Connell		
Secretary	Daren Brand		
Membership Secretary	Mike Winston		
Competition Rep	Guy Pickett		
Training Rep	Jonathan Harper		
Flackwell Rep	Ron Spencer		
Chinnor Rep	Brian Seymour		
BFMA & Safety Rep	Mitch Mabbutt		
Newsletter Editor	Malcolm Connell		
Web Site and Communications	Ian Scottow		

Meetings and Events in 2017

Date	Day	Event	Location
25 September	Monday	Multi-Media Masters	RBL
23 October	Monday	Talk - Stealth Technology	RBL
27 November	Monday	AGM and Subs payment	RBL

The Editor, Malcolm Connell, 38, White Close, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP13 5NG. Phone: 01494 531314
 Deadline for October Newsletter - 14/10/2017 Email: malcolm.connell@ntlworld.com