



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2012

Editor: Michael Sullivan

THE BOYS COME OUT TO PLAY!



On the very last weekend of February our yo-yo weather came up with two days of sunshine, blue sky and minimal wind. Suddenly the model tables were full and so was the car park as members flocked to enjoy what felt at least like the first taste of spring. BELOW: Only two weeks earlier, the field was snowbound. Charlie Orrells was flying his Harmon Rocket with skis hastily fashioned and fitted by Dad David, whose Sunderland Flying Boat (below left) did not need its dolly to get airborne. Snow pictures by John Fowles and David Orrells.



**MONTHLY MEETING ON
THURSDAY MARCH 8TH
at the
BATTLE OF BRITAIN CLUB
is a PROJECT EVENING
and
INDOOR FLYING SESSION
Bring the fruits of your winter
labours, however incomplete.
and TALK MODELLING!**

Mat Dawson's featherweight electric foamie didn't even need skis !



Electric ducted fan enthusiast Frank Dalby Smith believes in balancing his DF fans, which turn at much greater speeds than anything to be found on an IC engine. Removed from its shroud, the fan is balanced with tiny drops of cyano, delivered to the base of the "light" blade. Call Frank for a balancing job on 01494 711365. but remember to remove the unit from your model first!



Aviation historian Arthur Creighton (on the right) chats to WLMAC member and former RAF Canberra pilot Lew Wrapson at the mid-February meeting. Creighton delivered a fascinating account of the American attempts to use remotely controlled Liberators and B17 Flying Fortresses, stripped down and packed with explosives, to attack German buzz bomb, rocket and long range gun sites aimed at London from France, Belgium and Holland. Most such attempts failed and many pilots, whose job it was to bail out after handing over radio control of their flying bombs to accompanying aircraft, were killed. Those early, disastrous attempts to perfect radio control of full sized aircraft were halted for fear of the Germans getting hold of the technology and the Americans didn't own up to it all until the nineteen sixties.



Above: "Dammit! I've left the tail at home!" This is still from a video of a 2011 meeting in France of truly gargantuan RC scale models. Worth a look on http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=zYPag3LuKIA

Above: Mat Dawson's affectionate little dog "Buffy", who has always been a calm and amiable presence at the field, has developed a taste for chasing electric models (though she has yet to catch up with one on the ground and ignores IC models.) As soon as the owner walks out with an electric model – even without the motor running – Buffy goes into hunter mode, crouching low and waiting for the moment of launch. . Mat has said that although it can be amusing to watch, he is keen to prevent her becoming a pain and will keep her on a lead or leave her in his van when necessary.

SCALE DAY 2012
HAS BEEN FIXED FOR
SUNDAY JULY 1ST



Above: Henry IV's troops struck camp in mid-February at the end of their filming session at Stocker's Farm, just across the fence from our Harefield site. The film unit was grateful for WLMAC's agreement to suspend flying for a total of nine weekdays and WLMAC was grateful for the no-fly fee paid to us. The Committee thanks members for observing the no-fly period. Nobody turned up to spoil the arrangement. Despite the big freeze, which burst a water pipe in the club house, there was flying at the weekends.