



February 2014
Newsletter.

Editor David Orrells

February looms, has anyone flown this year?

A slightly tongue in cheek headline but it's not far from the truth. The field is still there but it's very, very, wet. Luckily for us, the Astroturf provides a perfect runway, the pits are bone dry thanks to the latest work by Roger and there is soup in the hut.

You just have to get from the pits to the runway somehow!

There has been some flying by members, inbetween rain showers but photo's are few and far between.



Bill Mercer with the recovered Stinson.

Lost and Found

Some six months ago, and just 30 seconds into its test flight, Hemal Pandya's Parkzone Stinson Reliant was lost to the impenetrable undergrowth that surrounds our patch. However thanks to Tony Parrott and his latest hex-copter it's just possible the Stinson could be returned to flight.

Actually finding the model involved nothing more complicated than lashing a digital video camera to the underside of the multi-rotor and then flying a grid pattern over the suspected crash sight. Three flights later there was enough footage to be able to triangulate a fix on the downed foamy. That's when the proper work started. With no clear route to the wreckage, which is why it hadn't been found some months ago, Tony had little choice but to whip out his chopper. No, not that sort of chopper but rather an insanely sharp Gerber machete which made light work of even the heaviest bits of bramble.

Having recovered the wreck back the benches it soon became clear that while the accident damage was fairly light the weather and wildlife had all but written it off. With the wing off it was more than little obvious that a small family of mice had been calling this place home. They'd made a top job of insulating the sleeping quarters with bits of leaf and dried grass but they'd trimmed it with bits of tyre, engine cowl and insulation stripped from the speed controller. If that weren't bad enough the receiver was full of water. For sure the airframe could definitely fly again but the cost of the electricals to make that possible makes it very unlikely. However all is not lost as it looks likely to change hands for an undisclosed sum to a fellow Stinson owner whereupon it will be stripped for spares.

This is Tony Parrots new Hexacopter that was involved in the rescue. Its a DJI F550 Flame Wheel bought from 'Build Your Own Drone' website. Tony bought a kit of parts and assembled it and then attached an camera underneath. He then flew it over the search area and bought the camera home and reviewed the footage that had been filmed.



DJI F550 Flame Wheel.
Or
Eagle Thrust 2 Hubble GTi Turbo Multicopter

Friday 7th February Indoor Flying at Vyners School, between 7-9pm.

On Thursday 13th February the Club night is Projects Night.

The little green plane below is taking the indoor flying world by storm. It's a EFlite AS3Xtra, complete with gyro that you can help to fly all those tricks. Come along and see them at Vyners.

A chance to bring your latest creation along for others to examine and admire. It doesn't matter if it's an old model getting a makeover, an ARTF or an exact scale 1/5 masterpiece. Bring it along and have a natter, we can all learn something and it might inspire others to have a go.



As the weather is so poor at the moment, the hut is likely to have higher occupancy than normal. After a quick Committee discussion, we've fitted a Carbon Monoxide detector to make sure everyone stays safe. The rather dull photo to the right really does need the arrow to show the detector.



The aerial photo has been sent by John Root and Stuart Whitehouse, it's a view from the canal towards our field from 1949.

<http://www.britainfromabove.org.uk/image/EAW024872>

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Up until this point I wasn't particularly bothered about Gay marriages!