



September 2014  
Editor : David Orrells

# BMFA Nationals Visit Report

This recent Bank Holiday weekend saw the BMFA Nationals at Barkston Heath and Mat and I paid a visit. After camping two years ago we opted for comfort and stayed in a pub in Grantham. The weather was fine for both Saturday and Sunday but we'd left before the awful Bank Holiday Monday weather arrived. There was a good trade attendance but in all honesty, it wasn't much bigger than Wings and Wheels.

We enjoyed watching the various disciplines that were on display, each one is stunning to watch. Some of the highlights for us were the control line team events where three people dance in the middle whilst controlling planes that are racing at high speeds was something else to see.

We then watched the Pylon Racers where the planes race around a triangular course. The flying skill and speed of reflexes to control these planes left us shaking our heads in disbelief.

The main event as far as we were concerned was the Scale flying, these museum quality planes take years to build and are then committed to the air.



One notable attendee was our Club Member Roger Moffat with his Sequoia Models stand. Roger had his stunning kits on display where people could see the perfect fit of his kits.



At the beginning of August Derek Jones arrived at the field with his beautifully built model of a Spitfire for its maiden flight. Derek has built this from a Tony Nijhuis semi kit and sports an OS 200 up front. The first flight suffered from lack of power but this was sorted for the second flight with a larger propellor. John Smith was at the controls and the plane flew very well indeed. However, one wheel refused to come down and the plane was landed in the long grass over to the right. Unfortunately, it suffered some quite bad damage during this. Derek was unfazed by this, promising to fix the damage. The plane was finished to a very high standard and is shown here in all its glory.



## New Cones.

Hopefully you have noticed some small changes at the field with the addition of a row of cones in front of the pilots box. These have been added to provided some protection to pilots from errant planes. The leaning rails also have had some orange mesh fencing added. This is stop people walking between the rails and the table.

This is after a couple of incidents where pilots have walked between the rails with planes with their engines running. This then presents the flying pilots with a spinning propellor inches away from their faces!

So, when you carry your plane out to the flightline, place the plane on the floor before you go and check with the other pilots that its safe to go out and launch. Don't walk up to pilots carrying a plane with a running engine. No-one can hear anything because of the noise and a spinning prop can be very off putting!



# Vandal Attack

Unfortunately we were visited by some mindless jobs the other night who were captured on our web cam. They can be seen sitting on the tables at 19.34 but have gone by 19.39 leaving a trail of destruction behind them. Luckily, they only tipped most of the tables over but they did smash two of them up. Tony Parrott and I did go to the field once we had seen what was going on but this was too late to find anyone there. These tables have since been repaired and the matter reported to the Police. The two snaps are shown below.

Thanks to Robin Kearney for taking these images from the web cam page.

Following on from that, the web cam has been getting more and more unreliable so Robin has been asked to work his magic over the whole system. He's managed to do this and it will be up and running as soon as possible.

WLMAC



WLMAC



Battery 100% 24.0°C

2014/08/14 19:39:50

2014/08/14 19:34:50

## WLMAC Shop Set to Open

In partnership with Brentford Radio Control, WLMAC are going to start a small 'shop' at the field. After having a servo go rogue the other day and having to cut the days flying short, we are going to experiment with selling some essential bits at the field with stock held in the Club House.

We'll start off with glue, popular sized propellers, glue, (slow and medium), epoxy glue, cyno kicker, thread lock, fuel tubing, glow plugs, throwaway knives, wing bolts, fuel, multi charge leads, receiver packs. The sort of stuff that we all forget but need at the field when something breaks, falls off or you forget to bring it.

It will operate on a cash only basis and only when a keyholder (to the cupboard) is present. Unfortunately, if there isn't a keyholder present, you won't be able to buy anything, but that's no different to where we are now.

We'll see how it goes before deciding whether we continue with it in either a larger or smaller way but hopefully it will be sooner than later!



## Guest Speakers.

If you know any guest speakers that would be suitable for WLMAC, please drop Frank Dalby Smith a line. He's in charge of organising speakers and he's always on the look out for new and interesting speakers.

## National Scale Competition at WLMAC?

Following on from the visit to the Nationals, Mat and I were talking to the Contest Director and have offered WLMAC as a possible venue for future Scale Competitions.

WLMAC members would not be allowed to fly on the day of the competition. However, we would host some of the best scale planes and pilots in the world to our club and watch our own 'private' display. This is likely to be sometime in 2015 at the earliest but we'll keep you informed.

There are three main classes in the Scale Competitions.

Flying only which is pretty self explanatory. The only judging is on the flying schedule, there was a Black Horse kit taking part in that competition.

Stand Off Scale where the plane are judged for their scale appearance from 5 metres together with their flying.

F4C where they are examined with a microscope and their flying appearance.

So, we'll all miss a days flying but we'd get to see some of these models compete, another day to fire up the BBQ.



We did buy a new windsock and pole for the Club over the weekend. This is on a 6 metre pole and will replace our old one. So, take it in and out every night like we do with the existing one. The old one is going to be permanently erected directly opposite the pilots in its own cone. This will be directly in eysight out in the far rough.

We did have the option of several shapes of windsock, some really weird and wonderful shapes are available.