



November 2014
 Newsletter
 Editor: David Orrells

AGM Approaches.

The Club AGM approaches on 11th December so you'll find a nomination form inside for prospective Committee members. If you wish to be nominated, get someone to propose and second you and let us have the nomination form.

As with last year, the Club will provide crisps and nibbles but we WONT be providing any sort of food. Previous attempts have resulted in some dire food so we'll repeat what we did last year, crisps and nuts only. There is a great Chippy opposite but you have to buy it!

The Club Tuck Shop has started and various goodies are available. Mars Bars, crisps and Coke are for sale at 50p each. It's operating on a Honesty Box system, shove 50p in the slot for everything you take. If this experiment doesn't work, we'll not try again and once the items are gone, they won't be replaced.

The Honesty Box coin slot is arrowed below.



British Summer Time Ends.

As the clocks have gone back and Winter approaches, the days will only get shorter and shorter. Because of this, the Solar Panel really struggles to keep up with the demand. So, for the Winter and until British Summer Time starts again, NO charging of batteries from the club leisure batteries please.





Octobers Club meeting saw Steve from Macgregor and Dave Wilshire from Motors and Rotors give an entertaining talk on the world of modelling. Daves talk was about his business and his choices of radio. He showed us some new products, centre stage was a Saito 3 cylinder radial four stroke petrol engine. It looked lovely but then so did it's price ticket!

Indoor Flying Continues.

Indoor flying sessions have started again at Vyners School in Ickenham. Keep an eye on the Club website as there are some different days of the week, the school has exams and we can't always have the same night.

Our enviable and flourishing model flying club prides itself on being democratic, we've even introduced a Constitution! Members of the committee who organise, regulate and run the club are not self-appointed. They are elected by the membership at every Annual General Meeting in December. New members are always welcome. Once again we invite volunteers to give their serious attention to the Club's routine business. Our constitution calls for 21 days' notice for an application for membership, so the application form is shown below. Put yourself up for a year's service on the Committee by getting yourself a proposer and a seconder from among your fellow members, filling in the form and firing it off to the Secretary, Roy Lanning. DO YOUR BIT!

----- Cut here -----

COMMITTEE MEMBER NOMINATION FORM

Candidate Name and email address (Capital letters please)

.....

Proposer.....Secunder.....

I agree to serve on the Committee for one year.

Signed.....Date.....

PRINT THIS PAGE AND RETURN FORM TO Roy Lanning. WLMAC Secretary.
5, Thellusson Way, Rickmansworth WD3 8RB

Web Cam.

I'm sorry but this seems to be a regular column of woe rather than a one off report announcing its arrival.

The problems have been caused by two things working together to frustrate our best efforts.

As reported last month, the mobile phone signal is only just good enough to get the picture transmitted to the Internet. If its raining or foggy, this seems to be enough to stop the signal. The trouble is, once the phone couldn't send just one photo, it wouldnt bother again and needed someone to go to to the field to restart it.

This was coupled with a software problem with the progamme that we use to take the snaps. The phone didn't like the autofocus setting so we then changed it to infinity focus setting. Unbeknown to us, this change then affected the white balance and we were then blighted by the horrible bleached out photos. The phone was supposed to go to sleep, wake up and then wait 1/2 a second to allow the phone to adjust to the light outside. However, the phone didn't wait but took the photo immediatley and before it adjusted to the light outside. This latest problem has been overcome by keeping the phone screen on, all the time. This will obviously use more power so we've bought a big leisure battery to provide power to the phone.

We were so frustrated by the problems and at one time were convinced that it was the phone itself. So, we bought another mobile phone from E Bay to replace this one. Now we've managed to get the first one working, we'll instal the second phone and have both.



So, where do we point the second phone? Suggestions amongst the Committee have included the car track, the strip itself, inside the club hut or the Tuck shop. Please, let us know. Out towards the strip is the current favourite.

The outfield has enjoyed the fine Summer and all the tracks that we had cut are well and truly overgrown once more. Rather than wait and hope for Sita to return we've decided to hire something very big and very heavy to do it ourselves. It has to be big and heavy as the brambles mountains are very substantial. It wont be cheap but at least if your plane does go down out there, you'll have fighting chance of not only spotting it but getting to it too!



Something like this....

On the same subject, if you do venture out there looking for a plane, try and let someone know that you are going out there. It's very big and easy to trip up or fall over something and be lost forever.

I've included a picture of an unusual plane that I found as I searched for a potential future project.

This is a prototype Vickers 161 and was the only one built, it mounted a 37cm cannon set to fire forwards and upwards at a 45 degree angle up into the bellies of bombers. The breech was alongside the pilot so that he could sort any loading problems out. They only built one, it was too slow to catch modern bombers.



The Car Consortium continues to grow, it gives members a chance to do something when the weather is not good enough for flying. The members can be seen having a play on the Astroturf, one bonus is that the cars tear up the moss that grows making the surface better for our planes!

We've checked and our BMFA insurance covers you for cars too, so we're all insured. If you want to be included in the E mails about the Cars, let Tony Parrott know, his e mail address is atv4x4@hotmail.com. Even if you only have a mild interest, let him know, there is no obligation to buy. This way he'll include you in the group e mails. No doubt talking about weighty issues such as toe in angles, gear selection and 2 wheel v 4 wheel drive.



If you are spectating, stand well back, these things really shift and one hitting your ankle is going to damage the car. And break your ankle.



Brentford RC have supplied two cars that are available for members to try before you buy. Tony has them at the field if you want to have a look.

Spares are readily available and are cheap too.

One is two wheel drive and the other 4 wheel drive. Both are electric powered and come complete with Radio Control sets on 2.4Gig.



Above is the 2 wheel drive car, everything you need for £105. The other one is 4 wheel drive and costs £155.



West London Model Aeroplane Club, Car Racing Consortium.

To reassure those dedicated fliers there are some basic rules drawn up by the Car Consortium.

Fliers have ABSOLUTE priority over Car use of the AstroTurf. For most of the time, the cars will use their own dedicated track by the pits. However, the cars don't damage the AstroTurf so they can race up and down quite happily.

Before you use the AstroTurf, the same rules apply as to Helicopter pilots, who can only use it after checking with fliers. As it takes time to set up and remove the ramps, they'll only be doing this when flying is taking a break due to weather problems.

Electric powered cars only.

Only drive on the AstroTurf, the grass is easily damaged.

Don't use the car track until the grass has grown, that will be months away yet.

Carry the car to the AstroTurf.

Don't use the car park, EVER.

The Car Consortium have bought and paid for the ramps so no using them unless you've paid to become a member of the Consortium. Similarly, they've put the work in to reveal the car track, don't use it unless you become a member.

The Club hut is looking decidedly sad at the moment, it needs another coat of paint. We'll all set to next year and spend one weekend preparing it and another slapping on some paint. We've not decided a date yet, we'll keep you all informed.

That's about all we've got planned for next year unless you want to see anything else. If so, let us know at the AGM.

Member Mike Faul is pictured here twice, once when he had just successfully passed his A test and once after he received his certificate from Chairman Mat at the Club night. They both look a bit happier at Club night!

