



Newsletter
Editor : David Orrells

The Battle for Harefield Site

As expected, there is no real news to report on the battle to keep our Harefield site. Bidwells, our Land Agents, have written to Sita explaining the position as we see it. Despite not having a written agreement nor paying rent, we still have tenant status. There have been efforts in the past to have formal agreements but these have never transpired. According to Bidwells, these matter not a jot and we are tenants. The law gives a fair bit of protection to tenants and we await a reply from Sita. Undoubtedly Sita have passed the letter onto their Legal Dept and there was never likely to be a quick response, it will take time for Sita to establish their position. We will report their reply, as and when it arrives, we don't expect a reply until early March though.

There have been meetings at the field between Sita and British Solar Renewables (BSR), these two Companies announced in August 2014 that they had reached a deal for solar farms on all of Sitas brownfield sites. Again, please don't talk to Sita or any of the representatives about the negotiations, we're not saying you cannot be polite or offer them a cup of tea though.

Understandably, several members are looking at the lifeboats and have looked at joining other Clubs to ensure that they have somewhere to fly at least.

Watford Wayfarers has accepted several members and are currently full. They fly from a site at Bovington Airfield. They don't have access to the runway but a piece of land to the North which would have been part of the airfield.

Chesham Model Club have also accepted a couple of members too, they fly at their own site just South East of Tring.

Phoenix Club near South Mimms have taken on some members, this is a big Club with over 200 members. They have a very developed site with excellent facilities.



The Queue to join Watford Wayfarers in January

Watford Wayfarers have a much bigger sky for them to fly in than our Harefield site but their facilities don't match ours. The runway is a decent size but has the occasional rabbit hole, something that we know all about.

Head on Smash on the AstroTurf.

During a lull in flying activity, a couple of members had a quick blast around the AstroTurf with their cars. The same as planes have mid airs, the cars had a head on smash very quickly.



One received some minor scuffs to the front bumper. The other had the entire front end obliterated. Have a guess which one is the Volvo and which the Peugeot in this picture.

Tony Parrots 'Volvo' v. Richard Norris' Peugeot.

Club Night Talk

The February Club night was well supported as there was a very interesting talk from Tony Eaton about Rudolph Hess and his flight to Britain in 1940. He gave a compelling talk about how it wasn't the work of a madman as its often described, but a serious attempt at a peace deal.

Tony's talk was well researched and supported with interesting slides.

After the talk we had an open discussion about the future of the Harefield site and the work done so far to try and protect it. We discussed the search for a new site was not going well due to the density of population in this part of the world. Members made some very useful suggestions which the Committee are now exploring.



Here is a picture of Steve Emmanuel receiving his A certificate from Chairman Mat. Better late than never!



Here is a snap of John Smiths very pretty Cap 232 in Breitling colours. Unfortunately all was not well, the plane crashed out in the rough and damaged the wing and ripped out the firewall. John is well prepared as he already had another identical one, still in the box, waiting for such a day.



Here's is Bill demonstrating the cowl for his FW 190 that's he's currently working on at home. The snap was taken some months ago but then I forgot all about it. Or he has joined the Masons.....

Indoor Flying

The next session of Indoor Flying takes place on

**Friday 6th
March**

between 7-9pm at
Vyners School. Get
your foamies out and
have a go.



Club Night Thursday 12th March

Our next Club night at the Battle of Britain Club features a talk from Scale modeller extraordinaire Richard Crapp with detailing demos. Richard is a regular competitor in the National Scale Championships and also represents Britain at the World Championships. His planes compete in the Exact Scale class where they are subjected to minute examination from Judges. After that, he has to fly it in a Scale like fashion, carrying out pre arranged scale manoeuvres.

Here is a snap of his Westland Wessex, a tri motor dating from 1930.

