

# WLMAC Newsletter December 2020

Editor – Felix Scicluna



Felix's Khyosho Spitfire recently bought off Tony P, now ready to fly

Welcome to our December Newsletter, where we find ourselves at the end of the latest lockdown. Those in Tier 2 will be clear to attend the field again from the 2<sup>nd</sup> December depending on which tier you're in – see the WLMAC website for the latest guidance? Also, we will be unhindered by the TV company now until the spring. Other than this Very little to report back this month with no projects and no field activity. Mat and Stuart had a Zoom meeting with South Bucks Planning and we hope to receive their formal guidance shortly, we can then submit our application.

## Parish Notices

**Up and coming Club night / AGM** – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 20:00, which will be a Zoom meeting. Details will be sent out in time for the meeting.

**Membership fees** have not been changed this year and can be paid from the beginning of December, the preferred method of payment will be by bank transfer

to the WLMAC account, details below. A cheque posted to Stuart Whitehouse, details also below. For those who can only pay cash, please preferably contact Stuart, otherwise contact Mathew. Charges are as follows:

WLMAC full member: £120 (or 1 instalment of £60 with £60 balance in June)

WLMAC social member: £32

WLMAC Junior member: £47

BMFA membership is: £38 (junior £17; family junior £13).

**HOT NEWS** - WLMAC will pay the CAA fee again this year for each full member, provided your BMFA membership is paid via WLMAC and payment is received no later than 18<sup>th</sup> January.

The club fee is due by the end of December; members who have not renewed by the end of January may be required to pay the joining fee to re-join. **BMFA insurance lapses at the end of the year, so from 1st January you are no longer insured and must not fly, unless you have paid the BMFA fee to us, to another club or to the BMFA directly.**

**BMFA clear us to fly from 2<sup>nd</sup> December (Text from BMFA website)** –

The Government have released updated guidance that comes into effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> December when local restriction tiers will replace the current National restrictions in England.

Based on this guidance, and subject to Parliamentary confirmation, Model Flying Clubs in all Tiers can re-open; however, you are expected to operate in a Covid secure way. See <https://clubsupport.bmfa.uk/6-steps-to-covid-secure>

The rule of 6 also applies in all Tiers and you should not organise gatherings of more than 6 people. However, should more than 6 people independently attend a flying site this does not appear to be a breach of the regulations provided that they do not mingle.

Members should avoid travelling in to and out of Tier 3 (Very High Alert) areas.

**Filming at the field**-The TV company intend to continue next year with our continuing co-operation at the field.\_Filming will be stopping by the end of November and is not likely to re-commence until March/ April 2021.

**Last day at the patch before lockdown**- 4<sup>th</sup> November had lovely calm weather and this resulted in a good turnout of members before the second lockdown. Before the end of the day, we were queuing up to fly.

**Pickeridge Farm update** – Mathew will soon be arranging morning and afternoon visits for members to see our new site.

**Advertising on our Newsletter**- As we have not had the opportunity to have any bring and buy, bring and give or swap meets, anyone who has any RC items they would like to sell, please send details to me for publishing in the Newsletter. Please send a picture and details to Felix, including if the items are for sale or to free to club members.

**BMFA AGM**- Roy Lanning attended the Zoom meeting and reported back to our committee that the national survey had been a huge success, out of a possible 31,900 members 10,500 have taken the time to complete the survey. Prize winning members have been notified, if anyone of you have managed to win, please advise Felix or a committee member, it would be good to hear that one of us has won something. Roy also mentioned that next year the BMFA will be 100 years old and they are looking at ideas on how it will be celebrated.

**Field is ship shape and ready** – 28<sup>th</sup> November still in lockdown and Tony is out there on a cold frosty morning making sure it's in top condition for our return hopefully after 2<sup>nd</sup> December if we get the go ahead.



**Charlie gets another stripe**- From second officer with 2 stripes Charlie is now a first officer with 3 stripes and 500 hours on type, luckily he is still flying a few days each month and when not on standby he is permitted to take on other work, driving Stobart artics has become his part time work. Very resourceful Charlie, well done





Meanwhile Dad Dave is in the Ukraine looking out at the snow. Soon be home for Xmas Dave.

## **New Members**

This Month, we welcome Steve Lanbridge who has written his piece to introduce himself. We look forward to meet you at the patch.



Hi, My name's Steve Langbridge

I am one of the latest members to join WLMAC.

I have been flying for only 6 years, starting with the wrong model, a 450 sized Helicopter.

I soon learnt 2 important lessons from that, Wind makes them crash, and flying indoors, in a hall makes them crash. But the positive side, just, I soon became very good at repairing Helicopters.

My next venture was to build a Hexcopter, which I still fly today. The latest development was to install a 360 degree video camera, to record the flight in VR (Virtual Reality).

I joined a model flying club 5 years ago, but was after joining was advised that I needed to pass a Fixed Wing plane test if I wanted to fly solo. This required instructions with a club instructor on the trainer plane and Buddy Box setup. This led me into flying Fixed Wing planes.

Many Helicopters, Drones, Delta Wings, EDF Jet and Fixed Wing Planes have followed, and I now have my A Certificate in both Fixed Wing and Multirotors. Helicopters still to come.

Currently I am actively training for my Fixed Wing B Certificate which is partly why I have joined this wonderful flying club.

I have only managed 2 very enjoyable sessions this year due to lockdown but I am really looking forward to meeting you all.

Best regards in flying

Steve Langbridge

With no more scheduled meetings this year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year. Hopefully next year, Things can only get better!

Felix Scicluna