



NEWSLETTER

May 2004

Editor : Bob Young

ACCESS MYSTERY AND SERIOUS NOISE ALERT

Committee member Peter Nielsen arrived at the field on Sunday morning 25th April, to find that our access gate had been double-locked by the addition of a steel cable combination lock of the type generally used to secure motorcycles.

As he carries a hacksaw in the car, he was able to cut the cable and gain access in less than fifteen minutes. This extra lock was obviously brand new so it is safe to assume that it was bought and placed by someone with a grievance against the club, rather than for example, a teenage prankster having a laugh with his mates. This is the third occasion that such a device has obstructed our access and it hardly needs emphasizing the inconvenience that would arise if it were put in place while a member was flying and thus prevented from leaving the field. It is for this reason that we keep two pairs of bolt cutters in the clubhouse and as an additional safeguard, strongly recommend that all members keep a 12" hacksaw with fresh blade, in their cars as a 6" Junior hacksaw would be quite inadequate.



This brings us to the question of the perpetrator's motive and what we can do to appease him/her. As the identity is unknown, we can but guess, but it seems more than likely that noisy flying by our club members has caused this latest reaction and it is no coincidence that it occurred after a warm wind-free Saturday when one member in particular was flying a noisy two stroke on full-throttle and another was flying far too near outlying houses on the outskirts of Harefield. Both these members know of the latest problem and have promised their full co-operation.

This episode is **SERIOUS** and re-emphasises the need for strict noise and boundary control. Now that the weather is improving, local householders will be relaxing in their gardens and it is doubly important that



we keep noise to a minimum and keep within our authorised boundaries if we are not to risk serious and damaging reactions from our neighbours.

Please study this aerial photograph and ensure that

with the exception of low throttle landing approaches, you do not fly to the South of a line drawn along the length of the clubhouse, nor beyond the line of trees to the west of our mown area. If you are unclear about the practicalities of these restrictions, please ask the advice of a committee member.

Please make a note of the noise reduction suggestions overleaf and apply as many as you can, remembering that it is not merely the measured decibels of an engine that can irritate our neighbours but also its tone; it is well known for example that the 'demented bee' sound of an old two-stroke is far more irritating than the higher measured decibels of the typical four-stroke.

Some noise control suggestions:

Only use full-throttle when taking off. The rest of the flight should be at half-throttle or less.

Remember that reducing the revs means reducing the noise.

Use larger propellers to restrict your engines to a maximum of 10,000rpm.

Fit your engines with the Irvine Mouse extra silencer.

Avoid the use of early two-strokes with un-baffled silencers.

Our Next Meeting on the **13th May 2004** at the Battle of Britain Club will be a **Bring and Buy**. The side doors will be open at 7.45pm and 30 mins will be allowed for members to set up their goods so that the sale will commence at 8.15pm prompt.

There will be a raffle with prizes that include a variety of powered mini tools suitable for the modeller. So don't miss this meeting as there will be something for everybody. Don't forget to bring your friends and family.



Des Wheatley and Bob Young with the seller. Picture taken by Leon Taylor

NEW WLMAC MOWER

At our last meeting, the committee decided to purchase a ride-on mower to complete the Eastern flying area extension. Chenies had refused to cut the grass with their cylinder mower as they consider the ground to be too rough. The mower will be used to cut and roll the area until Chenies agree to take it on and then it will be sold. Leon Taylor, Des Wheatley and Bob Young were assigned the job of finding a machine. After a few days of searching, a suitable machine was spotted on Ebay and subsequently passed an inspection visit by the procurement team. Brian Lee, our "Topcat" Ebayer, was then assigned to secure the machine for the club and duly got the highest bid in within seconds of the closure of the auction.

BMFA 'A' TEST

The following members have passed their BMFA 'A' Certificate Test during last month:

Stuart McCarthy
Stewart Wilkinson
John Fowles
Brian Lee



This model is for sale and will be at the bring and buy



Brian Lee ready for another mission

FUEL FOR SALE

John Fowles has taken delivery of a further supply of fuel and has some for sale at the following prices per gallon:

10%	£10.00
5%	£8.50
Std	£6.50

Call John on 01923 775749 if you would like to buy or find out more.