



NEWSLETTER

November 2009

Editor : Michael Sullivan

DAMAGED GATE TRAPS LONE FLYER.

Club Secretary Leon Taylor found himself locked in at Harefield after a heavy vehicle hit the main gate, distorting it so badly that the padlock was jammed in place. Even when it was levered off with great difficulty, the gate would still not open. The damage was done on a Wednesday afternoon as Leon flew his Puppeteer alone, unaware of what was going on at the bottom of the approach road. It is thought that the driver of a large vehicle, perhaps lured into Springwell Lane by his satnav that gave no hint of its narrowness, was turning round in front of the gate. It happened in broad daylight and broken pieces of the vehicle's rear lights were left behind, so theories of an attack by vandals or would-be fly tippers have been discounted.

Using the big spanners he had in his car, a lot of ingenuity and huffing and puffing, Leon managed to extract himself from his prison as the light began to fade. An emergency combination padlock and cable was brought in to secure the gate and Club Chairman Bob Young Emailed members with a reminder of the padlock's combination numbers. By the end of the following day the word went out

that the gate was operating normally. Field manager Des Wheatley, who at once stage had considered bringing in a welder to sort it out, had got to work with his own big crowbar and removed the distortion.



The second work party of the year gets stuck into those rabbit holes with sand and neat Jeyes Fluid.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH IS
THE CLUB MEETING AT THE
BATTLE OF BRITAIN CLUB,
at 8-0 pm**

It's that pre-Christmas bazaar when Peter Emanuel sets out his BRENTFORD RC goodies for us to buy presents or treat ourselves. Bring money!

Our flourishing model flying club prides itself on being democratic. 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 and they're always keen to welcome newcomers to their ranks. Once again we ask for volunteers to consider joining the stalwarts to give serious attention to the club's routine business. Our constitution calls for 21 days' notice of an application for membership, so here it is. Put yourself up for a seat on the committee by getting yourself a proposer and seconder from among your fellow members, filling in the form below, and firing it off to the Secretary, Leon Taylor. welcome. Go on! Make a personal contribution to the running of our enviable club!

COMMITTEE MEMBER NOMINATION FORM

Candidate Name : _____ (CAPITAL LETTERS PLEASE)

Proposer : _____ Seconder : _____

I agree to serve on the committee for one year

Signed : _____ Date : _____

RETURN TO:- Leon Taylor. WLMAC Secretary. 1, Chiltern Hills Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks HP9 1PJ



There was a lot of bringing but rather less buying at the October meeting. It made for an interesting model aeroplane show but business was slow and many of the bringers were obliged to take their unwanted goods home again. Chairman Bob Young urges new members to attend bring-and-buys to keep down the cost of kitting themselves out for their new hobby.



Waiting for the wind to drop during the summer, John Smith wasted no time and settled down in the clubhouse to assemble and paint new electric ducted fan models for his stable. Fine, but no glue, paint stains or wood shavings on the carpet, please John!

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING is on Thursday, December 10th, at 8–0 pm at the Battle of Britain Club. Details of some of the subjects up for discussion will appear in the December newsletter .

SEE RIGHT. The bigger they are, the harder it can be to assemble them elegantly at the flying field. Bill Mercer designed and built this ingenious model stand, seen here (right) supporting his Galaxy P51 Mustang. It is made from 15mm copper pipe and those pre-soldered "Yorkshire joints" that seal themselves into place with a lick of heat from a blowtorch. It holds an inverted fuselage safely at a comfortable working height while batteries and servos are connected and the wings installed. With the model upright, a retractable undercarriage can be cycled and tested single handedly. (Not that it is necessary with this Mustang, which is dolly-launched.) Pipe insulating foam tube is used to protect the model from damage. Bill's useful gadget is dismantled in a trice, breaking down for transportation into its three components (inset picture) .



Thirteen year old Daniel Hester has been among the last of Mat Dawson's students in the club training scheme A very quick learner, he was flying solo figures of eight in no time at all. The committee is to recommend winding up the highly successful training programme, retaining its models and equipment for refresher training for infrequent flyers who request it.

AVOID THE BIG BANG

When the clubhouse gas stove was first installed some years ago the drill was to turn off the gas at the gas bottle under the table before locking up. Members have been neglecting to do so of late, and a distinct whiff of gas has been detected when opening up at the beginning of the next flying day. Neither the flexible hose between stove and bottle nor the elderly stove itself should be trusted to be absolutely leak free. Should there be a substantial build-up of gas inside the locked club house the first person to open up would be in grave danger of setting off a bang that would ruin his entire day. Quite small, but cumulative gas leaks have been known to destroy whole houses—ask any fireman. **TURN OFF THE GAS AT THE NECK OF THE GAS BOTTLE ITSELF, PLEASE**

