



NEWSLETTER

MAY 2010

Editor: Michael Sullivan

RABBIT WARS!



Field Manager Des Wheatley opens WLMAC's campaign against Harefield's destructive rabbit population with the first of many applications of "Aston Rabbitof", a garlic-laced fertiliser, widely used by market gardeners and golf courses. The makers say it will deter rabbits, deer and even crows. Rabbit holes have made our field one big obstacle course for models that rely on wheeled undercarriages to take off and land. After a hole-filling session by our work party in mid-April the rabbits returned overnight to re-dig the field, concentrating on those holes we had filled with sand. Our specially-purchased tank and spray unit was swiftly assembled and fitted to the club's rotary mower and tug for Des to go to work with. The big counter-attack had begun.

A LARGE BAG OF TOPSOIL IS TO BE DELIVERED TO THE FIELD. ABLE-BODIED MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO DEVOTE A FEW MINUTES TO FILLING IN SOME RABBIT HOLES WITH IT BEFORE THEY FLY. SPADES ARE TO BE FOUND IN THE CLUB HOUSE.

BELOW LEFT. Club house assembly team Des Wheatley, John Fowles, Mat Dawson and John Smith put the tank and spray unit together. BELOW RIGHT. Roger Darvell brought a one and a half ton roller to the field to give it a temporary Lord's Cricket Ground look, but rabbit wars has a while to go before we can claim victory.



GETTING READY FOR THAT ELUSIVE SUMMER .



Photo : Leon Taylor



Photo: Leon Taylor

Above:: Mat Dawson negotiated the delivery of filling for the puddle holes in the approach road to be delivered to the site with a heavy loader, as part of the deal. Our volunteer work party did the necessary spadework .



Another volunteer party braved a damp and bitter east wind on Saturday May 8th to assemble more model tables from kits of pre-cut parts designed and produced by Mat Dawson, who supervised the work. The tables went together in two hours as two groups competed to be the first to come up with the finished article. There are now nine tables at the field. Models on them are to face outwards, into the field, to avoid damage to parked cars or injury to people when propellers fly off, as has happened several times since the beginning of the year.



Job done! The team on the left won by a neck. But no-one was counting seriously.



Above:- Just to keep hopes for a summer alive, this was the false spring that came to us for a few days in April.



Again in the clear blue sky of that false April summer, one of Harefields's resident buzzards shares a thermal with Dave Whitehouse's electric glider. These magnificent birds of prey are cool and curious—slow down your electric model and invite them to join you!



Photo Stuart Whitehouse.

Above: What's this, then? Meals on wings? Stuart Whitehouse's electric XtraWot prepares for take-off with an egg sitting in an open egg box taped to the top of the fuselage. (On the CG of course). This arrangement will be a test of flying skill at the first of three inter-club competitions to be held at Harefield on Saturday, May 22nd. See if you can take off, fly a circuit and land with the egg still on board! There will also be a spot landing event. Flying starts at 1400. The barbecue will be lit around mid-day. Bring your own food for it. Notify Mat Dawson or Stuart Whitehouse of your interest in taking part. Details of the July competition at the Wycombe Club and the August competition at the Slough club will be published in later Newsletters.



Our smelly old club house gas oven and hob has been replaced with this snazzy Italian gas hob. Its big gas rings are highly efficient, and members are asked NOT to leave the flame burning unattended under the kettle. It uses up gas unnecessarily. See notice on the wall.

FANCY A PERSONAL LOCKER INSIDE THE CLUB HOUSE?

Consideration is being given to the construction of personal lockers inside the club house, to be offered to members at an annual rent of £25. The lockers will offer safe storage for models or parts of models (like wings), or field equipment that their owners would rather not schlep backwards and forwards on every visit to the field. Members who are interested in renting a locker should contact Secretary Roy Lanning..



Nine foot span GROG (giant rise off ground), built by Peter Neilsen and sold to Stewart Wilkinson, takes an airing in April .

There is no Battle of Britain Club meeting this month, but there will be
INDOOR ELECTRIC PYLON RACING
 NEXT FRIDAY MAY 14TH at the
CLEMENT DANES SCHOOL
SPORTS HALL CHORLEYWOOD.
 Doors open at 8-0 PM.