



NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2010

Editor: Michael Sullivan

SCALE DAY IS ON SUNDAY, JULY 4TH.

For years we have called it "Scale Day" but it is really our annual "Open Day", when members bring their models, new or otherwise to show them off and enter them into friendly competition. Friends and family turn up to enjoy a barbecue day out in what we hope will be summer weather. The old, flawed and time-consuming judging system is to be replaced by of a panel of non-competing judges and there will no longer be a special class for electric powered models, which will be absorbed into the four main classes for civil and military models, large and small scale. Volunteers are sought to join the pre-Scale Day work party on Saturday, June 3rd to prepare the field and the club house for the big day.

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NEW BENCHES ARE A BIG HIT.



Our ten self-built flight preparation benches are highly popular and in great demand so be ready to share the use of one when things get really busy. After some discussion about the best way to position them the consensus has been that it is safer to point running engines out into the field rather than at parked cars and people sitting in chairs behind the pits. In addition, the benches are being moved forward from the pits by a few yards and spaced out to give users more elbow room.

RABBIT WARS STILL RAGING

Anti rabbit spray is being applied frequently to the field, backed up by applications of detergent to our topsoil hole fillings, designed to discourage the rabbits' persistent re-digging. Members are asked again to make their contribution to the battle by taking the time to fill in some holes before they begin their flying. Get there early to do a stint on Scale Day morning!

FREQUENCY CLASH WARNING.

A 35MHz frequency peg, removed from the board without its owner's knowledge on a busy Sunday flying day, left two flyers exposed to the danger of a shoot-down as they flew at different times, each unaware that the other was on the same frequency. Fortunately the two transmitters were never switched on at the same time. It has been impossible to establish the precise sequence of events or the reason for them but the incident has revealed a dangerous chink in our safety armour.

There is a high incidence of pegs abandoned on the board at the end of the day. Pegs left inadvertently overnight on the board should be cleared by the very first person of the day to arrive.

When other flyers are present, however, no single member may remove another member's peg from the board. If it is thought that a peg owner has left the site without taking his peg home with him, the most careful inquiry of everyone present must be made before removal of the peg is considered and a committee member should be involved if possible.

Be peg-conscious.! If you have given way to another flyer and taken your peg off the board, clip it to your transmitter as a reminder that you are not in possession of the frequency.

POOR PEG DISCIPLINE IS DANGEROUS. IT LED TO THE DEATH OF A BOY SPECTATOR AT A LOCAL CLUB A FEW YEARS AGO WHEN HE WAS HIT IN THE HEAD BY AN OUT OF CONTROL MODEL.

YOUR PROGRAMME FOR SCALE DAY 2010 ON SUNDAY, JULY 4TH

WEATHER. If the weather forecast raises doubts about Scale Day, a go or no-go decision will be made on the Saturday afternoon. The decision will be emailed to all members and posted on our website, www.wlmac.co.uk. If it is a no-go, Scale Day will be postponed until the following Sunday, July 19th.

ENTRY TO THE FIELD. We never leave our front gate unlocked, even on Scale Day. Make sure you have your key with you and/or ensure that friends arriving separately have a mobile phone. A number to call will be posted on the gate and someone will come down to let them in.

TIMETABLE :-

1030 to 1300 General flying is permitted, under normal club rules.

1300 to 1400 Lunch and competitors' practice flyingone at a time.

1400 to 1600 Scale entrants' flying, two at a time and overlapping to ensure continuity of flying and spectator interest. Competitors should be alert to start-up and take-off instructions from Stuart Whitehouse.

1630 Judges' announcement and presentation of awards.

Entrants should register with the Contest Director, Stuart Whitehouse, (pictured right as Master of Ceremonies at the May competition meeting) as soon as possible after arriving at the field. Stuart will allocate models to each class as he sees fit, to balance the numbers in each. An entrant may nominate a pilot to fly a model for him if required.

The classes are as follows:- Small Civil
Small Military
Large Civil
Large Military

Electrics may take part in all classes. There will be awards for best built model and the best flight of the day.



Oops! A competing model loses its delicate payload (bottom left) on take-off in the egg-carrying event.

GOOD COMPETITION TURNOUT

A healthy visitation from members of the Wycombe and Slough model clubs took part in a dead stick spot landing and egg-carrying competition at Harefield in May. The weather was good and the atmosphere convivial (below right). Gareth Gates of the Slough Club won the spot landing and WLMAC's Chris Card' who did the scoring, came first in the timed circuit with an egg on board – some consolation for the loss of his mighty electric Yak, which he managed to knife edge to destruction before the competition started. The expensive crash was attributable, said Chris ruefully, to a “previously unknown-to-me hazard known as a knife edge snap.” Consult your “Theory of Flight”, Chris!

The next inter-club competition will be on Saturday July 10th at the Wycombe Club.



TAKE A LOOK AT OUR RULE BOOK. The 2010 edition of WLMAC's club rules is being posted on our website, www.wlmac.co.uk. Take a look, please! Rules can be tedious, but they're important.

OUR JUNE CLUB MEETING
is at the field on
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9TH
With electric flying and an
EVENING BARBECUE.