



# NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2011

Editor: Michael Sullivan

## THE VERY LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE..



Adam Parkes and Bill Mercer expose themselves in the late September heat wave at Harefield and David Orrell's electric Sunderland flying boat flies into the setting sun in mid-October, on the last spell of benevolent weather before wind and winter chill began its journey down from the North East.

There will be a **WORK PARTY** at the field on **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11th** for general field and road maintenance. (tackling animal-related holes and road ruts.) **SOUP AND ROLLS FOR LUNCH!**

**THE MONTHLY MEETING**  
ON **THURSDAY NOVEMBER 10TH**  
At the **BATTLE OF BRITAIN CLUB** at 8–0 p.m. will hear an illustrated talk on **THE HISTORY OF ROYAL FLYING.** by Squadron Leader (Rtrd) **Graham Laurie,** formerly of the Queen's Flight. Leon Taylor says "This is a fascinating talk, particularly suitable for the ladies. Bring your **WAGS** (wives and girl friends)."

### INDOOR FLYING.

**DAVID ORRELLS** has arranged another season of indoor flying sessions at **ST CLEMENT DANES SCHOOL** **CHENIES ROAD, CHORLEYWOOD** **HERTS WD3 6EW**

To take place from 8–0 p.m. on the **FIRST FRIDAY** of the month.

Friday November 4th  
Friday December 2nd  
Friday January 6th  
Friday February 3rd  
Friday March 2nd

Come in from the cold! Bags of parking. Helicopters and fixed wing all welcome. £10 for each of the first three sessions.

### DOUBLE TROUBLE



Tony Parrot and David Whiteley have been perfecting a cabaret act with their identical, hand-launched Parkzone "Stryker" foamies—powered to high speeds by electrically driven pusher props.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM is to be at the Battle of Britain Club at 8–0 p.m. on  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8th.

Adult membership fee will stay at £55 plus £15 Astro Turf contribution. (£70)

Juniors and social non flying members £30 (Total).

Joining fee £150.

(The BMFA fee will be communicated by email to members before the AGM)

Cheques should be made out to the West London Model Aeroplane Club or, if you are paying cash, please present the EXACT AMOUNT.

If you are not attending the AGM, get your cheque off BEFORE THE AGM to:  
The WLMAC Treasurer, Stuart Whitehouse,  
Orchard End, Bentley Road, Slough SL1 5BB

(For electronic transfer: 40-38-20 Acc No 41139258. Use your name as reference.)

NOTE THAT IF YOUR WLMAC SUBSCRIPTION REMAINS UNPAID BY THE LAST DAY OF THE YEAR YOUR BFMA COVER WILL BE INVALID AND YOU MAY NOT FLY. IF IT HAS NOT BEEN PAID BY THE END OF JANUARY, YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL CEASE.



Newsletter's Agricultural Correspondent reports that weeds appearing on the Astro Turf runway are "opportunistic" plants, some from seeds blown on to the turf during a wet summer, others contained in the underlying sand and finding their way up through the drainage holes in the turf backing. Not a serious threat and really nothing to worry about!



ABOVE: There was no shortage of helpers, advisors and volunteer throttle benders when Steve Hester bolted his massive and expensive seven cylinder OS Sirius radial engine (inset) to one of our model tables and fired it up. Steve is threatening to mount it in his recently-acquired Flair quarter scale Stearman biplane but admits he has a lot of flying training to do before he can handle it. In the meantime, he says, the engine will stay on a display plinth at home "because it looks so magnificent." Steve also says that any advice from more experienced club members "would be most welcome." (Who said "Don't"?)

## WLMAC RULES REVISED

The club rules have been carefully revised to exclude out-dated or redundant rules and to take account of changes to the field itself.

The new rules include a clear and detailed account of the arrangements and procedures for retrieving downed models from Stocker's Farm, to avoid giving cause for complaint to the owner, whose goodwill is important to us. Members should take the time to read them carefully.

Among some interesting additions to the rules is the possibility of subjecting some electric ducted fan foamies to the seven-in-the-evening curfew that is already applied to IC models on the grounds of noise nuisance. Although they are few in number, some DF electrics emit a loud, high-pitched whine that rivals a noisy two-stroke for irritation factor, earning them the nickname "screaming hair dryers." If any two members consider a model to be excessively noisy, it may be grounded until it can undergo a noise meter test, though the current wisdom about noise is that "perceived excessive noise IS noise!"

There is also a heavy reminder that members must take "every reasonable precaution" to ensure that both they and their models are capable of safe and controlled flight before launching off.

The new rules also remind members that everyone is responsible for keeping the field ordered, tidy and secure, including taking away and disposing of full bin bags from the club house.

It is time to give members the annual reminder that despite all the good-natured flight line wisecracks about "the committee", its members are not a self-appointed collection of control freaks, but dedicated club members, democratically elected at every Annual General Meeting, who give their time to managing the club and its finances. This year they oversaw the installation of our Astro Turf runway and organised the biggest and most successful Scale Day in the club's history. The West London Model Aeroplane Club has nearly a hundred members who are proud and appreciative of the convivial atmosphere at Harefield. You are invited to make a contribution to that by offering to do a year's service on the committee. Get yourself a proposer and a seconder from among your flying mates, fill in the form below and fire it off to the Secretary. It looks a bit formal but it is the proper way to do it – the committee does everything properly, with the welfare, safety and contentment of every member in mind.

### COMMITTEE MEMBER NOMINATION FORM

Candidate's name.....(Capital letters, please)

Proposer.....Seconder.....

I agree to serve on the committee for one year.

Signed.....Date.....

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RETURN TO: Roy Lanning, WLMAC Secretary, 5, Thellusson Way, Rickmansworth WD3 8RB

### MISSING GAS BOTTLE

One of the blue gas bottles is missing from its place underneath the table in the club house. The word is that somebody borrowed it and the borrower is asked to return it, please!



AND FINALLY. This is a Gannet backing into its spot on a Yorkshire cliff face crowded with fellow gannets. That's right—BACKING in! In high wind the bird's technique is to fly into wind and adjust feet, wings and tail to vary the drag until the wind moves it slowly backwards. This slick bit of flying was captured by a wild life photographer at Flamborough Head.

LEFT: A study in concentration. The new rules state that chopper flyers must seek the approval of every fixed wing flyer present "before each and every flight".

