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# NEWSLETTER

June 2013

Editor: Simon Hilson

## Tri Club - Round 1

An outline of the informal inter-club competitions for 2013 was given in last month's news letter. This year, we will be joined by Chesham Model Flying Club in place of Slough, who are unable to take part.

The first two events will be held at the Wycombe Club, Flackwell Heath Field on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June. The events are designed to be fun and are open to anyone with an A cert and above.

It would be great to have a few more fliers from WLMAC taking part this year. The events are designed so that almost any plane can be used. Dig out an old plane from the hangar and have a go. A pristine plane is definitely not required - chairman Mat's WOT-4 undercarriage was held on with bits of servo lead last year which provided plenty of amusement for spectators when it inevitably collapsed!

The competition will consist of two rounds.

The first will be timed touch and go circuits, which will involve five circuits each with a wheel touch on a designated target on the field. The aim is to complete the five in the shortest time, but if you fail to touch there are time penalties. Times can be reduced however by touching the wheels in the higher scoring zones of the target.

The second round will involve taking off and intercepting an aeroplane towing a streamer. The shortest time will win.

Directions to Wycombe's field have been sent with this newsletter. A BBQ will be available should you wish to bring your own food to grill.

Start time is 2pm though you can turn up earlier if you wish to have a fly before the events start. There will also be an opportunity to fly after the competition has finished.

### Mike Sullivan

Many of you will by now have heard of the sad death of our much valued fellow member Mike Sullivan, aged 76.

Mike joined WLMAC in the early nineties and for over 13 years acted as our Newsletter Editor; a role he was superbly equipped to fulfil given his professional background as journalist and TV presenter with the BBC, Sky TV, and others.



Mike was a skilled cartoonist and many of the newsletters he edited included a cartoon to add some humour or to make a point about safety or club rules in a light hearted way. One of Mike's cartoons is reprinted on page 2.

Mike also provided the commentary at scale day - a job he greatly enjoyed. His journalistic talents conveyed an authority along with a sense of fun to the commentary which will be greatly missed.

Our feelings of sadness at the passing of an old friend remind us of the good times we shared as revealed in these pictures taken in happier times. Our deepest sympathies go to his wife Yanni and wider family.



### Diary Dates

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June**  
Advanced Aerobatics training.  
Club field from 1pm.

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June**  
Tri Club events at High Wycombe

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup> June**  
Club meeting at field with BBQ and electric flying

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June**  
Basic aerobatics training.  
Club field from 1pm.

## New Arrivals at the Field



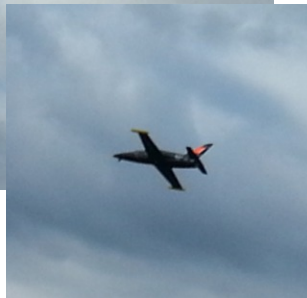
*Bill's Graupner L39 Albatross EDF Jet*



*Chairman Mat's Hangar 9 BF109. The weathered look was achieved by brushing matt paint over the covering*



*Albatross fly-by*



## In formation, but....



*Formation practice is continuing but Tony needs to learn to fly the right way up!*

## Lower, Lower!



Stuart Whitehouse took advantage of a calm sunny evening on the 5<sup>th</sup> May to treat members at the field to a display of ultra low prop hanging. If you want to learn this or a new aerobatic manoeuvre, come along to the regular training sessions.



*Stuart's 2M electric Sebart Funtana can perform almost any manoeuvre due to its large wing area, light wing loading and big control surfaces.*



*I've managed to get it down to seventy Db but it's giving me a bit of a cooling problem!*



# Bank Holiday Monday Flying



*Summer 1940 over Harefield*



*Chairman Mat's 109*



*BF 109 looking for targets of opportunity*



*Simon's Cougar on landing approach*

Bank Holiday Monday on the 6<sup>th</sup> May was a rare perfect flying day.

Temperatures were around 20 degrees with light winds and a few clouds which provided a perfect backdrop for some formation flying and other warbird adventures.



*Len's Cub about to touch down*



*Taking off for another sortie*

Charman Mat and David Orrells turned the skies over Harefield into a scene from the 1940's several times during the day.

Thanks to Des, the grass around the strip was in excellent condition so run offs or landings that did not quite make the strip were not a problem.



*Simon's Yak 54 - the pilot could take no more and bailed out.*



*Looks like Chairman Mat got the Hurricane.....*

EDF jets, aerobats and scale civilian models were also flown reflecting the wide variety of planes owned by members.

## Motion Blindness - possible cause of mid airs?

Motion blindness, when an object seems to disappear when it's in front of a moving background, might explain some mid air collisions. It's certainly a great excuse for people practicing formation flying! Follow this link for a demonstration. <http://www.msf-usa.org/motion.html>