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HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2014 ENTERS WITH A DELUGE.

A very wet December ended and a wet January started off the New Year. More storms are promised as I write this so even more rain. The field has withstood all this water remarkably well but over the last week of the year a sink hole has opened up. This has increased in size and on 2nd January it measured about 4 x 3' and about 5' deep. The hole is over to the left as you leave the club house, about 30 yds away. Luckily Roger Darvell was on site doing some more work on the pits area and he'll fence it off and try and tip some earth into the hole.



Here is a snap of the work Roger has started on the pits, he's dug the sodden earth out and will replace the area with 'burn off' like we've used elsewhere. The tables can sit on this and we'll be dry underfoot at last.

Also visible are the new concrete car park dividers, these are very heavy and will damage your car if you reverse into them. Don't trip up, either!



AGM Well Attended

In mid December we held our Annual General Meeting in Uxbridge which was well attended with nearly 50 people in attendance. Two new members were elected to the Committee, Tony Parrott and Frank Dalby Smith.

The Club members voted in a Constitution as recommended by the Committee and after a lot of work by Stuart Whitehouse to make it fit for WLMAC.

After several unsuccessful efforts at feeding members in recent years, this years snacks and nibbles seemed to be the best catering compromise.

Brentford Models were in attendance and hopefully did some decent trade. If you do need a special something, ring Peter or Pramath beforehand and they can normally bring it along to the meetings.

Tony Parrott.

Apart from the obvious hobby, Tony enjoys foreign travel whenever work permits and shooting.



Frank Dalby Smith

Frank flies a combination of electric and ic models and will continue to help Mike Pugh with the training.



Chairman Mat has still got some copies of the Scale Day 2013 video for sale, if you'd like a copy, get in touch with him, £10 a copy, all proceeds go to the club from now on. Thanks again to Phrix for filming and making the DVD.

A couple of points were raised by members, which are valid points for us all to remember.

Takeoffs should never be towards the club house or the pits area. If the wind is in an awkward direction, either use the extreme ends of the Astroturf or learn to take off cross wind. Even if your plane can take off and turn in the width of the Astroturf, don't line your plane up pointing at the Pits.

Secondly, when a member calls 'Landing', clear the runway to allow them to land. Some members have continued to fly near or over the runway as others approach. This is off putting so we all need to take heed and clear the area when a 'Landing' is called.

Indoor Flying Returns
on Friday 10th January
at
Vyners School, 7-9pm.





On 5th December a large tree came down across our access road, completely blocking all access to the field. The tree came from the Canal side of the boundary so we contacted the Canal Trust to get them to cut down the remaining tree as that was looking rather precarious. Of course, that weekend enjoyed lovely weather but we were unable to take advantage, typical!

The tree from the Canal side, the remaining trunks on the left looked rather fragile. They were removed some days later.



Luckily the tree was cleared very quickly by Graham Nye who shares the site with us.



Sita then arranged to provide greater site security by having this large mud bank to be built, aka The Mudderhorn. We'll plant some prickly bushes on it to make it even more difficult to climb.

They've continued this work by then securing the old entrance by building another mud wall over the old gate. The aim of the work is to secure the site from unauthorised access. The access road is a bit muddy but they'll be finished by the weekend 11/12th January, weather permitting.





Veteran Committee Member Retires.

Bob Young has decided to step down from his Committee duties after many years sterling work. After joining the club in 87 he became part of the Committee in 88 with initial roles of Treasurer / Membership until 91 when he swapped roles to become Secretary / Newsletter Ed. After Lloyd retired from Chairman in '92 and became President Bob and Peter became Co Chairmen as well as their other duties.

In Jan 96 Leon became Chairman and Mike Sullivan became Newsletter Ed and Bob continued as Secretary/newsletter publisher.

Then in Jan 02 he swapped roles with Leon and became Chairman/newsletter publisher. He also designed the club website and with Richard Norman got it up and running.

In May 2003 in addition to this he resumed editing the Newsletter whilst Mike was on a walkabout which continued for another five years.

After several years in Jan 2012 Bob retired from Chairman's role and subsequently became events secretary.

During his 25 years he also spent many hours with the landowners seeking to protect our activities at the field particularly in the early days.

He did the deal to purchase our current clubhouse with Sita and had to deal with a number of tricky membership issues over the years, as well as helping to develop the club from about 60 members to the 100 we have today. Enjoy your retirement!



Pictured to the left is the smallest quad copter in the world. Together with its transmitter, it fits in the palm of its owner, Roger Darvell. It was a Christmas present to him but it does seem to be suitable for inside only.