



March Newsletter.
Editor : David Orrells

This Month, the Club Hut Leak is Counted As News.

Well after another awful month of weather, the fact that the Club Hut has had a leak is counted as news. I know there have been some lovely days but in the main the high winds or rain have limited the amount of flying we can do.

On the good days you can see a fair smattering of fliers on the webcam so thats good to see. However, in the main its been another awful winter. So, the Club Hut sprang a leak and Chairman Mat moved quickly to get the whole roof recovered. The roofers added some chipboard over the whole roof to eradicate the hollows and the ridges. These ridges are bad for the felt and can reduce its lifespan so they've been covered over.

The aerial shot above was taken by Dave Whiteley so thanks to him for the shot.



Below is the roof that had pools of water which didn't help. The shot above shows it all nicely felted over.



Reminder.

Whilst very few people have been flying recently, some have still managed to leave the gate unlocked on occasion. Chairman Mat found the gate only secured by the combination lock and not the keyed padlock. So, as the weather improves and more of us get the chance for a fly, please remember to lock the gate!



Work Party 19th Saturday March.

Last year we had the area out to the right of the field all cleared by tractor. This exposed some concrete and reinforcing bar that has been dumped over the years. We need to collect all this and throw it all in a convenient hole that is already out there. By clearing these obstructions, we can get a slightly smaller tractor to return and cut the weeds later in the year, at the moment these obstructions would break the smaller tractor.

We also need to apply some lawn sand to the AstroTurf which will kill the moss.

To help the access from the pits to the runway we've bought some ground reinforcement mesh that needs laying.

The new Club roof has some exposed wood that needs painting too.

So, there is plenty to do at the field, please turn up and help, the more the merrier. It starts at 10 in the morning and we'll supply a hearty lunch of soup, bread and cheese to finish.

Needless to say, there will be no flying while the work party is ongoing.

Next Club Meeting

Thursday 10th March is our next Club night at the Battle of Britain Club and its Bring and Buy and Projects night combined. So, get your half built models, your ARTF's out and let others see what you've been building over the Winter. It does NOT have to be a fully detailed scale model of a Spitfire, anything will be of interest to others so bring it along.

However, if you have had enough of the super scale Spitfire, why not bring it along and sell it to someone else. That also means that it will be worth coming along with some cash to flash, you never know, you could come home with a super scaled Spitfire or Bf109!



A New Season Starts.

After the Winter lay off with very little flying, please make sure that you give your airframes, electronics and batteries a really good check before flying. All sorts of things can go wrong after a long period in storage so don't send the model into the air without a good check.

This may include getting the radio system checked by the manufacturer or an agent.

Please make sure that you range check your plane too, we're going to have a bit of a safety drive on this. Whilst you're at it, ensure a fail safe is set on the model too. There will be spot checks to ensure that we are all doing our bit to keep it safe.



Builders
Board

Here are some snaps sent in by Richard Norris, but I'm afraid to say that I'm a little light on detail. The Spitfire has a 72" wingspan and looks like it may well be a kit/ARTF. My apologies to Richard if in fact he's spent 8 years building this up from a plan he drew himself.



I've got nothing on the motorbikes but I know that there are others out there who know exactly what they are.

Please send me your photos and a bit of detail about your project and we'll show them off to the other members.

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These are all Tony Parrott's models, he's been busy building these beauties.



A snap with Tony to show the sheer size of these models.



This one had an awful tail vibration so was not allowed to fly.



Certificate of Lawful Use.

We've now received our Certificate of Lawful Use, a sort of halfway Planning Permission. It won't give us huge rights and noise complaints will still be our main threat. But it will mean that we will be considered if and when there are changes around us in the Planning world. The Planners know we exist and we have to be considered.

Ukraine.

I've accepted a new job that involves me working for the OSCE, Organisation for Security and Co-Operation in Europe, working full time in Ukraine. I'll be working in the East where they were fighting last year and still continue to take pot shots at each other. I'll be monitoring the ceasefire and reporting back so that the Peace Initiative can continue. I'll be gone for 6 months or a year, depending on whether I like it.

I will continue to write the Newsletter from over there so that's why I need snaps and stories sent to me. I will get back from time to time but it's a really long journey home due to the distances, it really is a huge country.



Where I'll be, the eastern part of Ukraine.

We've got a new member in the Club, Marcus Richardson, I've not got a photo but if you do meet him, make sure you say hello. He's a good flier and is well on his way to gaining his A certificate.

<https://youtu.be/d4INx2Wn6Oc>
Pop this into YouTube and have a look. It's a LiPo battery being deliberately abused to cause a fire. Have a look, the resulting fire is very fierce, make sure that you charge yours outside and keep an eye on them!

Gentlemen, we need to improve our standards at the field. We've got a working, running toilet but this is rarely a first choice for a lot of members. Now, we're all adults and there is nothing really wrong in walking off to the nearby bushes for a wee. But can we please stop the habit of weeing in the car park, up against the hut, the gates or on the approach road to the field. We can all walk that short distance into the hut if needs be, we don't need a second naughty chair for toilet training!