

Welcome to our April newsletter.



Ok Mathew it goes in the tyre, it's not a vitamin drink!

Parish Notices - Workparty- We will be looking for plenty of volunteers on Saturday the 9th of April at Harefield. The club has purchased large amounts of Ariel soap powder for moss control on the Astro-Turf. There will also be other jobs to be carried out. Our famous chef, Andrew, will be on site with his culinary delights for lunch when we're done. Please bring some tools with you as per usual. We will also organise another workparty, at the Pickeridge site, for a general bit of spring maintenance, at some stage, although it is looking in very good condition already thanks to the efforts of last year.



Uxbridge golf club (Clubnight)- On the 10th of March we had two Speakers on the platform. They were two of our members, Tony Bloomfield, and his son Darren. The subject was about how Darren got involved in RC car racing. They told us how it went from local racing to racing all over the world. Tony sent me this short message for all who attended – “Just a little thank you from myself and Darren to all the people who came to the March club night to listen to a talk on the RC car side of the hobby, the two hours went so quick

Mat had to tell me to think about packing up. I certainly enjoyed myself and so did Darren. Hope you all did too and we would be willing to do another one if it was found to be worthwhile”.



A very young Darren and Tony.

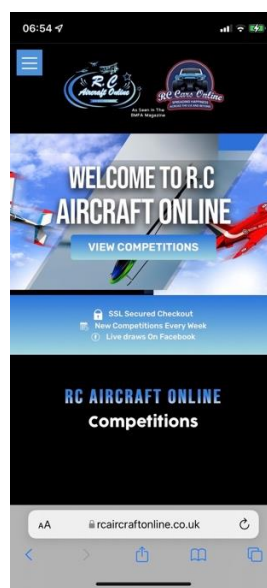


Older versions.

WLMAC WIN BIG!

We were also presented with a raffle prize from RC Aircraft Online. We won this prize because we are entered, as a club, in their free monthly draw (for the chance to win a club trainer package). The prize couldn't be prised from the clutches of two of our trainees. They also have loads of other raffles you can pay to enter for other RC aircraft related items – check them out using the following link. Several of our members have already won major prizes <https://rcaircraftonline.co.uk/>

John and Nick



Next clubnight – Balsa Bash (with awesome cash prizes).

Our next event at the golf club will be on Thursday the 14th April. Again, you are all welcome to participate (or just watch/ heckle). The challenge will be to design/ construct a Balsa, rubber band powered, flying machine. This will need to fly as far down the length of the room as possible and the furthest flight wins. All materials will be supplied, just bring your own glue, knife and something to cut on. Roy will send out a reminder nearer the time with a suggested list of tools you will need to bring. There will, as usual, be unbelievably generous cash prizes for the winner and runner up. So, any of you seasoned “Free-fighters” can test your mettle against those who only usually fly proper indoor models such as “Shockies” etc. Completely unrelated - we also might have some tuition on soldering if anybody is interested.



100 years of the BMFA.



This is the 100th year anniversary of the BMFA. There will be many clubs throughout the country organising special events to celebrate this

If anyone has any other suggestions, as to how we could celebrate 100 years of model flying, please let a member of the committee know.

The main event (Wycombe, Hemel and WLMAC clubs organised the 1st official event of the year). Sunday the 20th of March. The venue was sports hall at Handy Cross. The time was 13.00 hours. What a great 6 hours of flying did we all have. The afternoon was split into three categories - Scale models, Free-flight, and the Shock flyers with separate slots, so as to ensure none of the smaller models were affected by the larger ones. Several of us arrived early to help set up the hall. There was also a flight simulator set up in the entrance to the sports centre. There was an area set up for Heli's and Drones to practice in. Mathew had one of his Microaces models called a Scrappy on the Buddy box, this proved to be great attraction. There were 85 paying entrants, the majority were pilots.

Microaces had a display of their extensive model range. They also donated a model for the Raffle, an Albatross. The winner was Carl Beaumont. We finished at 19.00 hours. The various disciplines had plenty of

time to do their thing and the free flight was fascinating to watch while we waited for the next RC slots. Ian Pallister (BMFA Chairman) was on hand to congratulate everyone involved.



Dawn on the buddy box with Mathew.



The "proper" flyers waiting for a free-flight slot to finish.



Microaces display stand.



More Microaces aircraft on display.





Ian Pallister (BMFA Chairperson)



Andy (of Robotbirds fame), a new WLMAC member?

Field Updates.

Harefield – All looking good. Tony has started mowing again and this together with the up and coming work-party should set it up for the season and be another good reason for a get together. In the meantime, some mower maintenance and the initial prep for the new Quad Racing Area at Harefield (more on this further on – keep reading).



Pickeridge – A bit more movement with regard to our planning application – The Environmental Health Officer (EHO), following his site visit, has recently sent some proposals of conditions to Mathew and these have been tweaked/ agreed. The next stage is for the Planning Officer to complete his final report and then it goes to the Planning Committee for their consideration/ decision. This could be as early as this April. We will also be doing some pre-season maintenance including some mower and bench repairs. There will also be a work-party, sometime soon, to start the maintenance on the runway and Mathew will send out an email with details a bit nearer the time.

Projects – The committee recently received a member proposal from Kevin Lambi. This was to extend the rotary area to accommodate a multi rotor racetrack. The request after careful consideration was given the go ahead.

Multi-Rotor FPV Racing at WLMAC - Part 1

Hello everyone. As you know my entry into WLMAC was not the normal route. It was via the rotary patch as I had achieved the BMFA Multi-Rotor A achievement and was actively seeking the B achievement which I got in May 2021. From there I started my fixed wing journey and achieved my fixed wing A in October 2021 and quite happily flying my Riot and delta wings as I start my fixed wing B journey. Looking at the BMFA achievement scheme site I noticed there was a new achievement for Multi-Rotor FPV Racing and I thought I would like to also give this ago.

What is Multi-Rotor FPV Racing? Well Multi-Rotor FPV racing is drone racing from a First-Person View perspective where a pilot of a drone that has a camera and video transmitter. They also wear some kind of goggles which enables them to fly through an obstacle course with their drone as quickly as possible.

I reached out to Mathew and Stuart about if this would be something the club would entertain. I put a formal proposal to the club committee, and I was informed that my proposal was accepted. I would like to say a big thank you to the club committee for allowing this opportunity and the privilege to add another use to the Rotary patch.

What's next?

- Procuring of the racing obstacles which will be donated to the club
- Planning of the racecourse which will be in line with the BMFA achievement (see picture below).
- Assisting with updates to bulletins such as the Rotary patch bulletin.

Mock-up of possible FPV Racing area in line with BMFA Multi Rotor A certificate



Could I have a go? Sure, although we don't have the racecourse quite yet I have a spare set of goggles and can take you on a FPV journey to see if you are interested or if you have never experienced FPV before. Now I am down the field most Saturdays and some Sundays (with permission) and will ensure that I have a FPV capable drone and have my spare goggles with me. I can also setup a buddy system for those who are more daring.



Ok, I'm in! How much is it going to cost? Well, the good news is (most of) you will already have a transmitter capable of flying a drone, so all you need to do is purchase a drone, receiver, goggles and 4 batteries which will on average would set you back around £400 which is roughly the cost of a FMS Avanti V3 70MM EDF with one battery that I have my eye on! I have put some links below to some sites that I use:

[iFlight Nazgul 5 V2 4S FPV Quad \(PNP\) | HobbyRC UK](#) – Suitable PNP 4S Drone - £209.45

[Spektrum DSMX SRXL2 Receiver w/Connector Installed SPM4650C - Nexus Modelling Supplies \(nexusmodels.co.uk\)](#) – Spektrum Receiver to install in a PNP drone £38.49

[Emax Transporter 2 5.8Ghz FPV Goggles – Unmanned Tech UK FPV Shop \(unmannedtechshop.co.uk\)](#) – “Box Goggles” (For starting out) - £89.99

Stay tuned for part 2.

Indoor Flying - There are lots of videos of these events on Facebook and Youtube, uploaded by Hemel Hempsted Model flying club.

For now, the Indoor flying has been put to bed. Watch this space later on in the year for any information on venues and dates. If you fancy participating get a model ready over the Summer.

CAA Operator ID Reminder — By now most of us have placed our ID on our models. If you are bringing a model out that has not been used for a while, please remember to check it has your current ID, clearly labelled in accordance with the CAA instructions. It can be located on the outside of your model or inside a compartment that you don't need to use a tool to open it. I have noticed one aircraft with the ID inside a model, under a wing that is fixed with screws, this is not permitted (no tools must be needed to access the operator ID).

Up and coming Events

	Event	Location	Description
Thursday 14th April	Club meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	The Balsa Bash
Thursday 12th May	Club meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Skills night
TBC	BMFA Scale	Harefield	BMFA Scale Heat
Wednesday 8 th June	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
TBC	Fun Day	Harefield	Club event.
Wednesday 10 th August	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
Wednesday 14 th September	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
Thursday 13 th October	Club Meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Will possibly be another Quiz Night.
Thursday 10 th November	Club Meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Will be Drone Racing Night.
TBC	AGM	Uxbridge Golf Club	Membership renewals
TBC	Christmas Meal	Uxbridge Golf Club	Partners are welcome but are required to pay full price of meal