

# WLMAC Newsletter October 2022

Editor – Graham Motler.



**The Eagle Has Landed at Pickeridge.**

**Welcome to our October Newsletter-** September has again been a full-on month.

Thank you to Felix for stepping in for the August Newsletter as I was on holiday traveling around Scotland. Our last BBQ was held at Harefield. That was another great success. We had three more student pilots take their Fixed Wing A Test and passed.

### **Some imminent dates for your diaries**

Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Club Meeting	Harefield	David Orrells' talk about his time in Ukraine.
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**Fixed wing A test passes.** We had three more pilots pass there Fixed Wing A certificates. Nick passed his in August. Then Ashok and Darren passed in September. Well done guys. We are doing really well this year for pilots passing various types of tests this year.



Nick



Ashok



Darren Bloomfield.

**Harefield site-** Harefield is looking really tidy and fresh. Tony Bloomfield is a master of the tractor and strimmer. We have also had some new aircraft stands made. We have changed the designs from the last three that were made. The changes have been as a request of some of the members. There were two craftsmen who carried out the construction, Felix and Jeff Creak. Two of the old ones were taken to Pickeridge by Roger and his truck.



**September BBQ and Club-night-**



And that Gentlemen is the last Wednesday evening BBQ for 2022.



**Pickeridge Site** –Great news for Pickeridge. The cabin has now arrived and is in place. This arrived on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 09.00. There were several members waiting to carry out some work duties to accommodate the unit. The lawn mower is located at one end and the other end will be for all the usual necessities. Refreshments, warming up and at some stage battery charging. The previous day Felix and Tony were on site to give the grass a trim up. Unfortunately, Tony realised the mower was struggling to cut the grass. On further investigation on the Friday, it was obvious there was damage to one of the pulley bearings and belt for the mower deck. Mathew was straight on the Net, locating spare parts. These were fitted on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>. Felix has been vigilant in carrying out more Induction courses. We must be very mindful when we are flying at Pickeridge. Straight across from the runway is the main road. Felix has marked the edge of the no-fly zone with a red post. In no circumstances an aircraft to be flown the other side of this. There is a notice board in the container with the rules for this site along with the Field Plan. Everybody who will be allowed to fly here must have been successfully inducted and have read/ understood the rules.

The local pub called the Fox and Pheasant is a very handy location for anybody using the field who feels the need for food, drink or the loo. We've had numerous visits there over the course of our planning application and more since the site has become operational, every time the food and service has been very good, at the last visit we had their fish and chips which were great.



Nice one Colin.





The new windsock support being prepared.



New pinboard with the rules on display and the first aid box fitted.



New parts being fitted to the ride on mower. Belts and pulleys and a quick sharpen of the cutting blades.



Grass cutting induction “that’s the front, that is”.



And we're off.



And not to forget Tony Bloomfield.



**Indoor flying date info from Cliff (Aylesbury Club) and Brian (Wycombe Club).**

**This season's indoor flying, 8pm to 10pm on the following dates: - At the Guttman Centre, Aylesbury, HP21 9PP.**

**2022**

21st October  
4th November  
18th November  
2nd December  
16th December

**2023**

6th January  
20th January  
3rd February  
17th February  
3rd March  
17th March

**High Wycombe dates at Wycombe Sports Centre. Opening times are 6pm to 8pm. Handy Cross, HP11 1UP.**

**2022**

15th October  
19th November  
10th December

**2023**

7th January - Full Hall Extravaganza  
4th February  
25th February  
18th March - Full Hall Extravaganza

**Also, looking forward to next BMFA South Midland Area Extravaganza.**



The Date for this has now been agreed Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

Entrance to the hall will be at 13.00 and finish at 19.00.

Entrance fee will be £15 per person.

Change of flights time slots will be 20 minutes per class.

Scale, shockie, and free flight.

We'll have drones and helicopters with the RC like we did last year.

The venue for this will be the same as this year.

Wycombe Sports Centre, Hand cross junction 4 M40.

Thank you to Kevin for these next two articles.

The story of a lost drone. That was found and how to not lose it again.



Hi everyone, with Mathew's recent passing the Multi-Rotor A test and quickly getting the hang of line-of-sight tricks he threw down the gauntlet of new tricks I haven't tried yet like a stall turn. As it was a windy Sunday with very little fixed wing action, we utilised the main patch (with the permission of those who had fixed wing craft) and while trying to get my brain to communicate with my fingers of how to pull off the trick, Mathew had already started to pull them off (not my fingers). As the day grew later, I was left of my own and still had plenty of batteries left to practice the "quad stall turn". It got to the point where I was starting to get the hang of it but then I had a moment of disorientation and stuck the quad in the long grass. Now normally this isn't such a bad thing as I have a buzzer to locate the quad.....but this time the battery disconnected itself which meant no buzzer. I proceeded to do a grid search knowing I would be looking for a needle in a haystack. After what seemed like forever (about an hour and a half) I noticed that someone else showed up. It was Jason who was with his son working on a club task. Jason kindly offered to help and also volunteered his son as well. After about 15 minutes Jason managed to locate the battery and then 15 seconds later locate the quad. Funny thing, it was a lot closer to the patch than I thought it would be. Anyways I gave Jason my thanks offered to let him cut in front of me during the next BBQ but I know he has that well covered so I said I would buy him a drink the

next time I saw him.

So how am I going to prevent this situation happening again? But purchasing and fitting a lost model alarm. The latest lost model alarm has a 100db beeper with a strobe led light attached to a tiny 1s battery. It is designed to work as a normal beeper but also if somehow your battery gets disconnected with will beep every 3 seconds for about 30 hours (when fully charged), If the beeper is installed on the outside of the craft during dusk hours and night hours it will strobe as it has a light sensor-built in. The lost model alarm is not just for quads, you use it for fixed wing craft too. If you would like a demo come see me at the field.



Kevin

### Multi-Rotor FPV Racing at WLMAC - Part 3

Hello everyone. It's been some time since my last update on the FPV drone racing course. But I'm happy to report that the FPV drone racing course is now up and running.



The reason on the delay was due to the flags which took their time to get and also source the parts for the generic white flag which can be seen between the two WLMAC flags. The pictures you see is based on my initial layout in Part 1 (WLMAC newsletter April 2022) which is based on the BMFA FPV Racing A Cert. It took about 20 minutes to setup the course but when it was up and running myself and Mathew decided to give it a go.



What I can tell you is that it is harder than it looks. I can fly a quad in First Person View (FPV) but when it comes to flying them against objects close to the ground or through a flag slalom, that it's a totally different kettle of fish. Needless to say more training and stick time is required to get through the course. Future training will probably involve a couple of gates and the flags so we can get used to the closeness to the ground.

As usual if anyone fancy's a go or just wants to take a ride just let me know. I'll also be planning to invite the High Wycombe and Hemel Hempstead club to come down and have an FPV session with us.

Frank Dalby-Smith. Subject: SE5A - Maiden and pic's.



SE5A built from Flair Kit, 2 years in the build, 52" span, O.S.56Mk3 engine, by Frank Dalby-Smith. It's now had about 6 flights and so far, so good.

## Up and coming Events

Date	Event	Location	Description
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Club Meeting	Harefield	David Orrells' talk about his time in Ukraine.
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Club Meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Quiz Night
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	AGM	Uxbridge Golf Club	Membership renewals and Christmas Dinner
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Meal	Uxbridge Golf Club	Partners are welcome but are required to pay full price of meal