

# WLMAC Newsletter February 2023

Editor – Graham Motler.



## **The eagle has landed. More flights at Pickeridge.**

There is the Moon in the background.

### **Welcome to our February Newsletter-**

Well, here is 2023, let's hope this year is going to be full-on at our two sites. For all of you who have had your induction at Pickeridge, you can now fly there unfettered, apart from no IC engines permitted. Indoor flying at High Wycombe and Aylesbury are still enjoying warm nights and no wind and January 7<sup>th</sup> gave us a full hall at Wycombe.

### **Please read this next article - It contains very important information and you have to do stuff.**

#### **Flyer ID - action required** (only takes a minute or two)

There will be a small change to the licensing and regulations this year. The operator ID for which we pay £10 a year is unchanged. And the legal test (one of the rcc or an older A test, or the CAA DMARES test) is still required. However, the CAA will start issuing "Flyer IDs" to people with the rcc or old A tests - and you will need this ID to be legal at some point. The good news is it doesn't cost anything, and you don't need to redo any tests. However, there is one small bureaucratic hoop to jump through - in order for this to happen the BMFA have to give the CAA details of the tests, and they can only do that with your permission. So, to get your flyer ID (assuming you didn't do the DMARES - not recommended) you need to log on to the BMFA membership portal at: <https://bmfa.justgo.com/>

And after logging in just accept any permission questions that pop up. If you've logged into it in the last few months' you've probably already done this and it won't ask again. If this is done you should receive a Flyer ID from the CAA at some point in 2023.

**Next of kin details (this is optional but probably a good idea – even more stuff for you to do).**

There was a discussion at the AGM about medical and welfare issues at the field(s), and one good point raised from the floor was that it would be helpful if the club had next-of-kin/emergency contact information for club members. We did have one club member taken to hospital by ambulance during the year after becoming unexpectedly ill and it was only by chance that others at the field new his wife and could contact her; and also take his car back to his house.

The good news is that this won't require any work from the club - the BMFA actually provide this for us: any member can add details for an emergency contact to their membership information on the BMFA system, and a few of the committee (currently Mat, Stuart and Roy) can see this if needed. So this is optional, but if you want to provide emergency contact details, log in to <https://bmfa.justgo.com/> and then select "My Profile" from the menu top left. Then select "Emergency contact":

**Harefield site.** Harefield, as usual, is looking very good with well-manicured grass for the main strip and the rotary areas.

There are Cup-a-Soups available in the club hut, all you need to do is boil the kettle (emptying the soup into a cup/ mug and adding the boiling water and stirring also helps). **There is no excuse to be cold.** There are also "Hot Hands" handwarmers available at a £1 a pair – these are on top of the trophy cabinet. Pickeridge has the same provisions.

Thanks to Mr Tony Parrott for letting me have a drive of his crawler cars. These are at the other end of the RC Car spectrum. We are normally driving our fast RC Cars around the Astro turf at great speed. The Crawler vehicles are more about skill and as slow as you can drive them over rocks, trees, bridges etc. there was three members out in the cold Friday. Tony P. Dave the Hat and Andy.







More crawling action!

### **Helicopter tuition.**

There was some helicopter action going on in the dedicated rotary area. Mark Pressling was on hand giving out some circuit flying instructions to Felix. We are very lucky to have a dedicated area for Helicopters and Drones, this area is a nice distance from the main strip.





Winter wings.



Jason with his Spitfire.



A nice pair of PULSE IC Planes. Dave Orrells and Tony Bloomfield.

Pickeridge site.

There is a new 2023 diary/ logbook in the club hut. For anybody who attends please record your visit/ aircraft flown etc.

The areas of the strip that were taken care of at the last work party are coming along nicely with the new grass areas looking good.



A lot of you have now been inducted and can fly there. For anyone that hasn't, you must not fly until you have. Contact Felix to arrange this - The induction is an important aspect of being granted permission to fly at Pickeridge, this is taking place to show members how the security protocols operate and explain the site-specific flying rules and flying limits etc. Inductees will also need to carry out a successful test flight. There will be an interactive demonstration of how the main gate operates, including the use of the security bollards, a further demonstration of how to drop and again to raise and lock them. These are quite heavy to use, also if you lower them to fast you will get a nice wash from the water inside the outer tube. Then you will be taken to the flying field and the flying area and will be shown including some marker posts which have been located on our western flying boundary, as an aid to its location, no flying beyond any of these. Most important you will be asked to demonstrate that you can keep your aircraft within the boundaries. The unlocking/ locking of the cabin will also be demonstrated (this contains welfare facilities, the rules/ field plan, and the attendance/ flight logbook (which needs to be completed by everyone, every time they visit). On completion of the induction, you will be given your new and shiny keys for the various gates/ the cabin and let loose.



Flying at Pickeridge recently.  
Kevin, Felix with myself having my fixed wing Induction flight.

## **Competition flying.**

Several of our members enjoy a competition or two and sometimes they have success and win awards. Firstly, our very own Mathew received three trophies last year as part of his membership of the High Wycombe club (we have a mutual agreement where members from one club can join the other without paying a joining fee) – Contact Stuart if you fancy joining Wycombe as well as WLMAC.

The large trophy was for Club Scale flying Champion, the next was for runner up concurs non-scale and the third was for Club Aerobatics Champion. Well done, the trophies were presented by Brian Seymour the Chaiman of High Wycombe club – Brian is also a member of WLMAC.



Brian also received a trophy. He had great success with his scratch built Macchi at the National BMFA Scale Competition in 2022, winning the Stand-Off Scale Class this with some fantastic mentoring from Richard Crapp who is a seasoned veteran of the Scale comp's.



Nice big smile Brian.





Brian's awesome Macchi.

**Another trophy winner from WLMAC.**

Mark Pressling competed in the Global F3N Helicopter competition (aerobics/freestyle). These are a series of comp's held up and down the country throughout the year culminating at the BMFA National's. A F3N competition has four rounds which are a mix of 7x set manoeuvres flown back-to-back and flown twice on the day. There is also a freestyle round and a flight to music round. The event has both Pro and Sports class and is a very well-structured competition. The F3N BMFA Nationals last year were held at the Flyin Fish field in Ickenham and the top Pro pilots were battling it out for a place in the GBR team for this year's world championships held in the USA.



**Indoor flying (including the BMFA Extravaganza).**

The Indoor Extravaganza is coming up very soon – 12<sup>th</sup> Feb at Wycombe Leisure Centre, 1.00 – 7.00pm. If you are intending to fly at this event, please could you pay in advance (cash on the day is also ok). QR code and weblinks are below. We were expecting Jon from Micro Aces to have a stand at this event, but due to unexpected circumstances they will no longer be there. There will be a raffle prize of a £100 gift voucher from Micro Aces for this event.

I have just scanned and pre-paid for my admission to this event. Very easy to do takes minutes.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bmfa-ife-2023>

or



**The BMFA South Midland Area will host an Indoor Flying Extravaganza**



**on Sunday 12th February, 2023**  
**at the High Wycombe Leisure Centre**  
Marlow Hill, HP11 1UP, just off M40 Jct. 4  
**from 1:00pm to 7:00pm.**

We will be using the full hall – 60m x 33m x 9m high.  
There will be 20min flying slots repeated every hour for  
RC Scale RC Aerobatic Free-flight  
Entry fee – £15 for as long as you like (Juniors free with paying adult)



Microaces F2b

Buy Pre-Booked tickets to be included in our prize draw: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bmfa-ife-2023>

Thanks to our friends at Microaces for sponsoring our prize draw again this year.

Visit Microaces for more details on this fantastic prize:

[Microaces Bristol F.2b with Brushless upgrade pack](#)

**Additional activities:**

- Aerojet chuck gliders build and fly for juniors (supported by the BMFA)
- RC Flight simulator
- R/C “Buddy Box” Trial flights in the main hall

## Other Indoor Flying

Aylesbury dates, 19.00 to 21.00 on the following dates: - At the Guttman Centre, Aylesbury, HP21 9PP.

**2023**

17th February  
3rd March  
17th March

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

**2023**

12<sup>th</sup> February - Full Hall Extravaganza (see above for details).  
25th February  
18th March - Full Hall Extravaganza

### Club nights.

The current dates for 2023 have now been added to the events schedule (below) and are also available to view on our website.

The first club night at the golf club for 2023 will be a **Life Skills night**. Please attend this, if possible, **it is Free** and we think will give us some Skills just to help us in an emergency, at the field or anywhere else. We would like to thank Roy for arranging this and the instructors for their help and giving up their time.

	Event	Location	Description
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Club meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Life Skills Evening
Thursday 9th March	Club meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Drone Racing
Thursday 13th April	Club meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	The Balsa Bash
Thursday 11th May	Club meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	TBA
TBC	BMFA Scale	Harefield	BMFA Scale Heat
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
TBC	Fun Day	Harefield	Club event.



Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> August	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
Thursday October	Club Meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Will possibly be another Quiz Night.
Thursday 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

### **Items for sale**

Jason Schofield is asking £50.00 for this Spektrum DX7 transmitter. Please make contact with him for further information.

