

WLMAC May Newsletter 2024.



Editor – Graham Motler.

Welcome to our May Newsletter-

I would like to thank David Orrells for stepping in to help with the April newsletter, great Job.

We are now moving into slightly more favorable weather and will soon be into BBQ's at both sites.



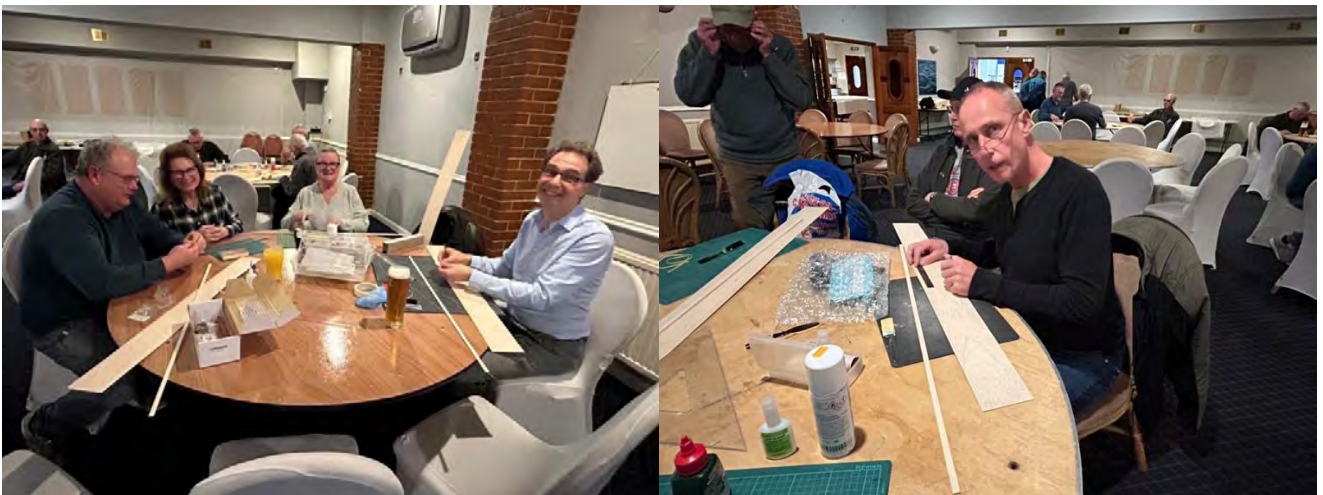
Tony is Happy after we fitted new blades to Pickeridge's mower.

Club Nights.

Last month we held another "Balsa Bash," at the Uxbridge Golf Club. Raj from ALIGN T-REX in Slough gave us a good deal on the main ingredient (the balsa) for the construction. All the competitors needed to provide was a cutting mat, some tools and glue. Fun was had by all that participated. I must say the skills are getting better each year. The object of the night was to construct a rubber powered, free-flight aircraft that would fly the entire length of the side hall. There were some obstacles in the way including the ceiling, the floor, other competitors and last of all the two steps to the stage. We had an allotted time to construct and fettle. Then there was an allowance of three flights each. It was good to see two ladies take part, Lorri and Dawn. Lorri would like to thank Mathew for his guidance in the construction, as he is banned from the competition. There were three unbelievably generous cash prizes.



I give you the competitors.



Let the battle commence.



The two lovely ladies, Lorri and Dawn.



Last minute fettling.



Roy is loving the aromas.



Your Doorman for the night.



Longest flight prize won by Lorri.



Second longest Brian Seymour.



Third place Adrian Svensson.

The food as always was hot, and fun was had by everybody.

Harefield Site.

The site is still looking good but please be mindful of the ground conditions around the flying areas. Appropriate footwear should be used. Cold and wet feet are not good when you are trying to concentrate on your flying. Also keep to the mesh area when walking out to the flight line. As always there is plenty of soups and snacks to sustain your warmth and energy.

Fuel.

We've been liaising with Justin, the new owner of Southern Modelcraft and have now received the 1st delivery, the various brews and pricing are as follows.

- 10% Nitro (20% synthetic oil) is £23.
- 5% Nitro (15% synthetic) – Standard Laser Mix, is £21.
- 5% Nitro (7% synthetic) – Low Oil Laser Mix, is £17.
- Straight Methanol, is £11.

Pickeridge site.

There has been a lot of activity. We had a mini workparty the last week of April. Tony B and I up-ended the grass cutting tractor and fitted two new cutting blades. This was long overdue and has given it a new lease of life. Tony can now cut the grass a lot quicker, there are now grass cuttings coming out of the rear and not clogging up the mower deck. It was good to see Tony with a smile, his head set on with his Reggae music playing. We also painted the roof of the club hut with some special paint, Colin and John donned white coveralls, gloves and hats to do this. Other members made some alterations to the charging bench next to the hut. We would also like to thank Felix for the many days he has given up working at the site.

Felix and I had some pre-Corfu flying time at Pickeridge last Saturday. Plenty of flights with small wheel aircraft. We were lucky to have two red kites flying around at the same time. I think they were just inquisitive to what was in the air space at the time. Wind was moderate with no glaring Sun. It was nice to be able to sit in the club hut, in the warm and boil the electric kettle for hot drinks while our batteries were on charge outside. Having 230v is an absolute luxury at the site. We have a diary at the site for members to log in and out each time they visit and fly, looking at this, there are many entries of members visiting.

We have been informed by Suez the owners of Pickeridge that they are going to leave the outfield untouched to promote wildlife and there definitely seems to be more deer around. If you are there and you see any notable wildlife, if possible, please take some pictures and send them to me.



Colin and John, well done great effort.



Jeff and the team.



They call him Tony the Blade.



I don't only fly helicopters
and do like the new WLMAC clothing.



Felix going on the patch.



We flew this selection of aircraft to show small wheels do work there.



A bit of aerobatics from a Red Kite. At no time was it bothered by our activities.

BMFA Area News

Four of us participated in the recent BMFA Southern Area meeting. The subject that night was what each club provides in the way of events and facilities. It became apparent that there were several clubs that can't fly for some of the wetter months of the year. We are fortunate in that both our sites are very well drained and we can fly all the year-round.

New Members

Please welcome Neil Martin and Chandra Wickremasinghe who have recently joined our club. Neil after some training has now passed his Fixed Wing A and Chandra has started training.



Neil with his Riot.



Chandra

Also, another 2 Members completed their Pickeridge induction with Felix Last week.

TBT (Tony Bloomfield Tuning) Monthly Tips.

When tuning an engine in a plane where the tank is not quite at the desired height, only fill the tank a quarter full, this will make sure as the tank empties it will not go lean, it might be slightly rich at the beginning but will run fine for the whole tank.

Projects.

My Angry Bird

During one of our indoor flying nights at Wycombe Leisure Centre My OMP M2 helicopter decided to part ways with me and hide on the heat exchangers in the ceiling. When it was recovered a few weeks later (along with another Seven aircraft) it was clear there was some minor damage to the boom and blades. At that point, I made a managerial decision and would treat it to an upgrade. This kit came from Midland Helicopters. A new Angry Bird Canopy and lots of pretty looking CNC cut parts and Carbon fiber sides. All parts came with new bolts. Out came the Locktite and off we went. As time was getting close for Corfu, I thought this would be the best option.



Looking smart.

Richard Saunder's be2e biplane.

Another winter project. This one is Richard's be2e biplane, powered by a Mills .75 diesel. It's a free flight model - so there's no danger of it ever tipping up at the field. Though I did sneak it there for a quick photo op and test glide.

It's built from a plan that I downloaded from the Outer zone website. But when I clocked that the plan first appeared in *Aeromodeller* magazine in 1959, something rang a bell. It turns out that 11-year-old me kept his copies of *Aeromodeller*, and a rummage through some old boxes produced the somewhat dog-eared mag in the building pic.

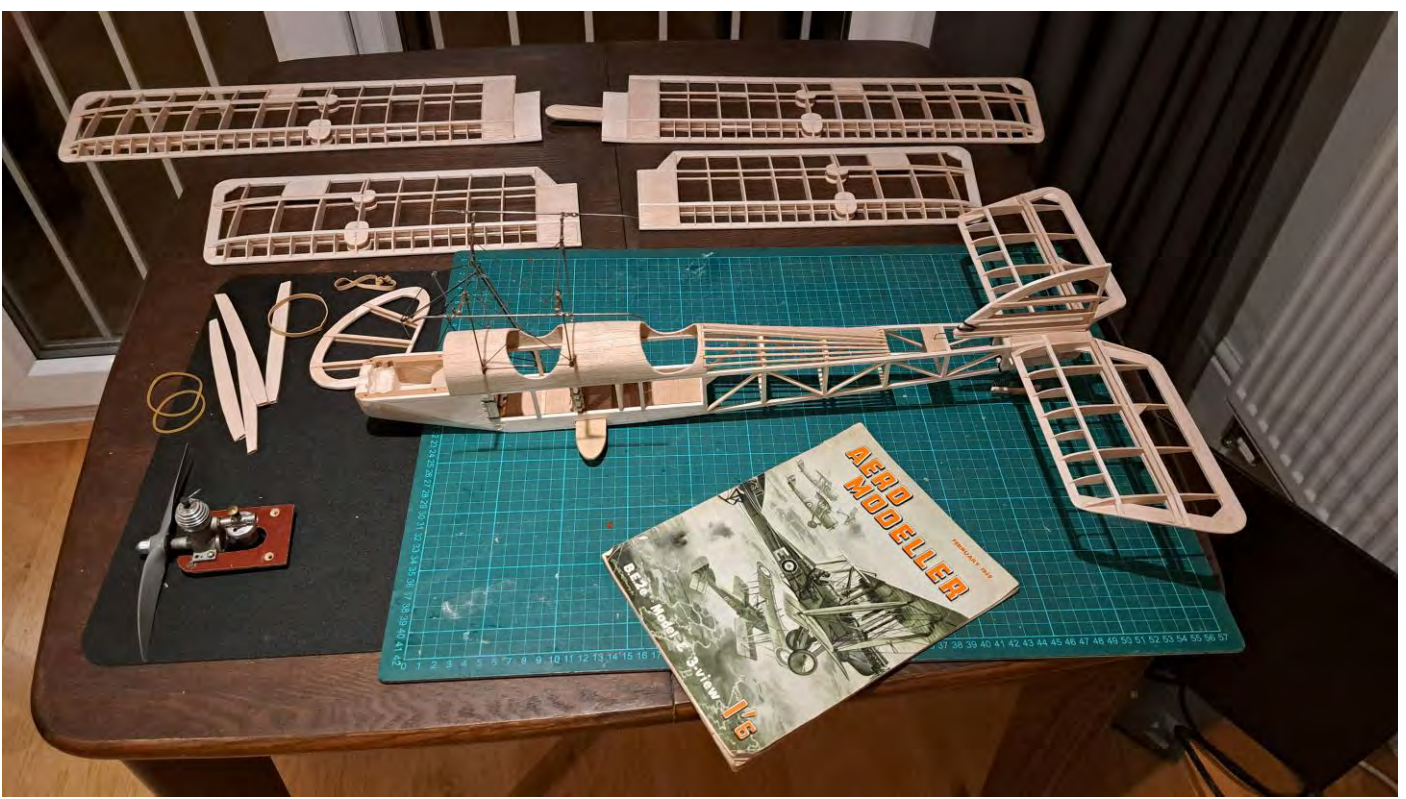
The plan was created by Doug McHard, who also provided perfectly detailed 3-view plans of the full-size aircraft - and the wonderfully atmospheric cover art. They really don't make 'em like him anymore.

Needless to say, at this small scale it's been a very finicky build. Very much in keeping with the free-flight ethos of the day, everything - and I mean everything - is designed to knock off in unscheduled contact with terra firma. There are rubber bands all over the place. And the wafer thin interplane struts are hollow - secured by shirring elastic that is threaded up through the lower wing, through the front strut, up and over the upper wing, then back

down through both wings and the rear strut before being tied off under the lower wing. Believe it or not, it kind of works.

There's still a bunch of struts and rigging missing and loads of details that could be added - but a possible maiden at Old Warden later this month is looming, and it's driven me crazy enough already. When the fun stops, stop.

Cheers Richard Saunders.



Full size gliding 2024



After the success of the full-size gliding day that we did at Booker last year, we are looking to run the same again this year. It will be a weekday between mid-June and mid-August - we will choose a day to suit as many people as possible once we know who is interested. It's open to family members - a few partners flew last year, and non-flyers are welcome to come along and watch.

Cost is £85 for a flight (usual price is £120) which is an aerotow to 2500' flown by the instructor, and then you can do much of the flying once off tow. If the air is totally dead flight time is just under 20 minutes; longer if there is any lift around. Maximum pilot weight is 102kg, minimum about 45-50kg. No prior experience necessary.

If you are interested in coming along, please either join the WhatsApp group (link is in the Harefield noticeboard WhatsApp), or message Stuart.

The yearly Corfu Boys Holiday.

Every year since 2004 various members from WLMAC have gone to Corfu. The only time I believe this was interrupted was YES, the dreaded COVID 19. It proves to be a great way to get out into the sun and do what we do best. Eat, swim, and fly stuff. and yes, sorry Pina Coladas and Lager (small quantities of course).



Also, can be found on Facebook.

The Club rules.

These were emailed out to everyone and contain a few changes, please read them to ensure that you know them.

NB Its highlighted that you **must** call the farmer Richard Orr before crossing the fence onto his land. We have a good relationship with him, he's promised that he will always allow access, but he likes to know when someone is on his land. Please follow the rules and call him before going out to retrieve a model! His number is on the inside of the door to the Club hut.

Indoor flying dates for the next season.

Wycombe Indoor Flying Dates 2024-2025

- October 2024:
 - Sunday 13th - **2 Zones** 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- November 2024
 - Saturday 2nd November **2 Zones** 6:00pm - 8:00pm
 - Sunday 10th - 3 Zones 6:00pm - 8:00pm
 - Saturday 23rd - 3 Zones 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- December 2024
 - Saturday 7th - 3 zones 6:00pm - 8:00pm
 - Sunday 22nd - 3 Zones 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- January 2025
 - Sunday 5th - 3 Zones 6:00pm - 8:00pm
 - Saturday 18th - 3 Zones 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- February 2025
 - Saturday 1st - 3 Zones 6:00pm - 8:00pm
 - Sunday 9th - **3 Zones 1:00pm - 7:00pm - Afternoon Extravaganza!**
 - Sunday 16th - **2 Zones 5:00pm - 8:00pm**
- March 2025
 - Saturday 1st - 3 Zones 6:00pm - 8:00pm
 - Sunday 16th - 3 Zones 6:00pm - 8:00pm

EVENTS The other dates of key events for 2024 have now been added to the events schedule (below) and are also available to view on our website.

	Event	Location	Description
Thursday 9th May	Club meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Skills Evening – Brown paper covering and Fusion 360/ 3D printing.
Sunday 2 nd June.	BMFA Scale	Harefield	BMFA Scale Heat
Wednesday 12 th June	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
Sunday 7 th July	Fun Day	Harefield	Club Event.

Wednesday 10 th July.	Field Meeting	Pickeridge	BBQ & Electric Flying.
Wednesday 14 th August	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
Wednesday 11 th September	Club Meeting	Pickeridge.	BBQ at the field
Thursday 10 th October	Club Meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	
Thursday 14 th November	Club Meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Quiz Night.
December 12 th	AGM	Uxbridge Golf Club	Membership renewals
December 12 th	Christmas Meal	Uxbridge Golf Club	Partners are welcome but are required to pay full price of meal