



October Newsletter

The last Summer BBQ.

The last of this Summers BBQ's was held on Wednesday 11th September and the weather was not kind. This resulted in a lower than normal turnout, the weather was changing from rain, to sun then to windy

The leaky bathroom tap in the Clubhouse has been repaired. I'm told under the lifetime warranty offered by John H on all of his work. Some conditions apply. (Only covers work in the WLMAC Clubhouse, on a Tuesday, during the Summer.)



BMFA Scale success!

Fresh from his visit to Romania, Mat took his Firecrest off to the BMFA Scale Championships in September held at Buckminster. This time Mat entered the Firecrest into F4C, the museum quality models. In Romania he was in F4H where the models appearance was judged from 5m away. For this 'higher' class, the Judges get up close and personal, but then static judging is increased to 50% of the score. His plane had scored highly in static in the World Championships so Mat gave it a go. Remember, this model was built merely to prove the design, the bigger one will be built with some tweaks, where the Judges have noticed 'mistakes'.

The next International Scale competition is to be held at Buckminster in 2026 so Mat is hoping to compete with the new, larger Firecrest. It looks like Balsa Cabin will be receiving a big order in the coming weeks ready to start the Winter build. At least there wont be ay problems with Customs. Unless Lincolnshire has declared independence by then....



A Tale of Two Shows

Now that we've lost the North Weald show, Wings n Wheels, there aren't that many model shows available or close to us anymore. In the interests of true science, Mat and I decided to visit the two remaining shows in the South even if they were further away and decide which show we'll visit next year.

The first was the Southern Model Show in Headcorn, Kent, about a 90 minute drive away. This was similar to Wings and Wheels but smaller. There was a bring and buy as well as an excellent turnout of model boat clubs, complete with a temporary pond. There was a continuous flying display with many impressive jets, aerobatic planes and some scale warbirds.

The following week, together with Roger D who was kind enough to drive, we travelled to the Large Model Show in Much Marcle which was a two hour drive away.

The weather was not kind with low cloud and the occasional shower of rain.

However, the planes were really impressive and were flown really well. There were fewer jets and far fewer aerobatic planes. The Trade attendance was on par with the Southern Show too.

In summary, the LMA was more the flying show that we were interested in. The sight of three huge Wellingtons lumbering around in formation was a sight to see. I never took a camera as the weather forecast was so poor so no decent photo's I'm afraid.



The LMA Show



The Southern Model Show

There was a new trade stand in attendance too.

Planes Revived

is re-manufacturing Top Flite kits, laser cutting them for accuracy. The full range of extra parts is available too, cowls, retracts, cockpits, the quality looked really good, check out their website for more details.

<https://www.planesrevived.com>



Free Flight Adventures

Here's a pic of Richard Saunders little free flight BE2e biplane on her maiden at Old Warden this summer. Plus a shot of him heaving her aloft to get an idea of her size. Richard has been kind enough to write a few words about his free flight adventures. Against all odds, she flew straight off the board. Unfortunately, a couple of flights later, the Indian Mills .75cc diesel that had been coughing out oily black exhaust gave up the ghost and refused to start again. Serves me right for not installing the sweet-running Mills that I'd acquired from Tony Bloomfield. Needless to say, an engine transplant is underway.

Apart from showing off the atmospheric in-flight shot by Andrew (son of David) Boddington, please could I take this opportunity to try to whip up some enthusiasm for free flight from any of you guys who've never tried it? The Old Warden airfield that houses the Shuttleworth Collection of ancient aircraft is only an hour up the A1, and the events that Modelair put on there each year are an amazing chance to have practically an entire airfield at your disposal. Not that this guarantees your pride and joy won't end up in the trees (last year, and the year before) or in the car park (this year).

But - hey - that's what free flight is all about. The moment your plane leaves your hand, it's up to its own devices. And for someone like me who sweats buckets on every approach to the Harefield astroturf, that problem of landing your plane vanishes completely. Que sera sera. It'll land where it bloody well chooses to.



If you've never given free flight a go, why not put Modelair's May Fly at Old Warden in next year's diary? Admission's free. Or, better still, dust off that building board, slap something together (free flieters come in all shapes and sizes) and join in the mayhem.





On Saturday 28th September Mat and I visited the BMFA centre at Buckminster for a Best of British day. There's no denying that the centre is over two hours drive away from us. However, as a once a year treat, it's worth the visit.

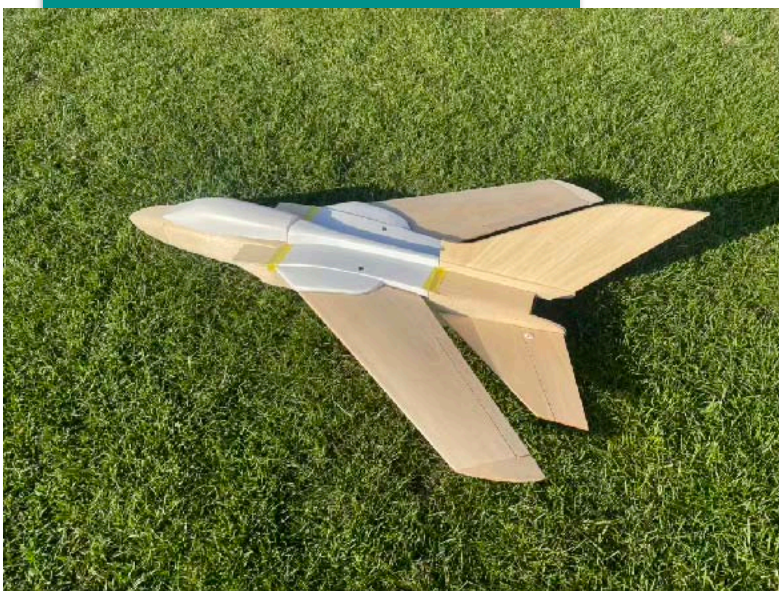
The runway is huge, smooth and flat. There are no trees to worry about either. There's a good cafe on site so the first thing we did was to sample breakfast.

We had planned to attend on Friday but the weather was terrible so we delayed for a day. The Saturday weather was much kinder with blue skies and sunshine.



There was a large variety of models on show and most were flown.

The event had been organised through the RCM&E forum and was set to promote British manufacturers, Laser engines and to have fun. As it turned out, it mattered not what you bought to fly, nobody checked or cared what you flew.



Well known designer Tony Nijhuis was there and he flew a couple of his upcoming designs. The most impressive was the Tornado complete with working swing wing. The model is powered by a single 70mm EDF and it flew really well.

He also flew a Javelin model that is very new but I never managed to take a photo of that.

Keep an eye on his website, they're not on it yet, I've just checked.

And finally, here's some important dates for the near future.

Thursday, 10 October	Club meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Quiz night
Sunday, 13 October	Indoor Flying High Wycombe	Wycombe Sports Centre	Indoor flying with HWDMAC club 6pm-8pm
Saturday, 02 November	Indoor Flying High Wycombe	Wycombe Sports Centre	Indoor flying with HWDMAC club 6pm-8pm



Dennis dug this slightly older model of a Bf 109 out the other day, it looks factory fresh but there are one or two creases when you look really close. It really grooved around though!

Not to be outdone, Mark proved that he doesn't always fly helicopters either.



Rowan bought his Laser in line twin and fired it up the other day, it sounded wonderful!