

WLMAC Newsletter April 2023

Editor – Graham Motler.



Welcome to the April newsletter.



And your winners for the indoor Drone Racing Competition, at Uxbridge Golf Club. For full details read on.

2023 new club rules have now been emailed to all members. So, if you can't remember them, word for word, from last time then it would be a good idea to read them.

Harefield site. A bit soggy, at present, but with its Astroturf, hardstanding and paving it still means that there is no excuse not to go (between the showers).

Pickeridge Site. Bizarrely, is unaffected, it drains brilliantly. The photo below is from this week and the grass has already been cut to its lowest level ready for the new season.



Pickeridge a few days ago. TB in action again.



Nice to see Leon at the patch taking in the fine country air

New member to WLMAC. We would like to welcome our newest member, Rowen Stanton. Please, if you see him at the field, make him feel very welcome. Rowen joined after seeing our recent club advert in the BMFA Classifieds.



Ian White's Revived 35-year-old Plane.



I asked in for some information on this restored Plane.

Hi Graham, it was modified from a David Boddington design that I built 35 years ago. It has been in my loft for the last 30 years. it had deteriorated considerably so required stripping and recovering in Oratex. The red and the yellow colours were sprayed with B&Q emulsion sample pots. Originally powered by an OS40 four stroke, it now flies on a 25-size electric motor and 3300 3s lipo's. He actually resurrected it so he could take it to Pickeridge and fly it there. Thanks for your story.

Rock crawling "action"?



Tony and Andy making use of the whole site to go Crawling. Andy using Tony's car as a steppingstone

A lesson learnt, by Dave Orrells.

Many years ago, when my son Charlie was flying model planes he bought this Seagull Tucano and I installed a Saito four stroke 21cc petrol engine. He flew it a few times, declared it underpowered and stopped flying it. He eventually stopped flying models and I bought it from him. I promptly hung it up in the loft and left it.

However, over the last couple of weeks I got it out and repaired all the bits that needed fixing. I checked over the batteries and replaced them in the end. I took the engine out and Tony B kindly checked it over and got it running. I re-installed the engine and brought it to the field on Saturday 4th March. We eventually got it to run (I had the throttle reversed) and I committed it to the air.

The first flight was fine, Mat was my trimming buddy and we soon had it hands free and flying straight and level. I landed it and reduced the over sensitive ailerons and fitted the cowl. The second flight was uneventful and not underpowered at all. I tried a loop, which I had also completed on the second flight, this is where it went wrong. I became disorientated at the top; the plane had rolled as it climbed and came drifted towards the flight line. The end result was that I was unable to work out which input I needed, and it came straight down, inches beyond the flight line. So, it crashed the correct side of the line.

The plane is totalled but the engine seems okay as the ground was very soft. It needs checking over as the front pushrod guides are bent, we don't know about the pushrods themselves. I'll strip it down and check everything.

The retracts seem okay too.

So, what lessons are learnt?

Don't fly in poor light with a camouflaged plane or keep the manoeuvres simple is the main one. How not to become disorientated is harder but I'm sure the poor light contributed to the crash. Whose fault was that? Mine, pilot error is the answer. Still, no-one was hurt and it's only a toy plane after all. The engine performed very well and sounded great so I'll repair it come what may.

Thanks Dave





Pickeridge site, a rubbish update -

Felix and Jeff will be taking on another project, to construct a large picnic table with built in benches so members can take the weight off their feet and have a civilised sit down, similar to that at Harefield. There is a new 2023 diary/ logbook in the club hut. For anybody who attends please record your visit/ aircraft flown etc.

We had another fly tipping incident outside of the gates. This was a substantial number of boxes and building rubbish. Suez were informed. Photographs of address labels were taken and were handed over. After some investigation it is understood that the culprits were found. Good job all around for the investigation work.

To mitigate the likelihood of a reoccurrence, Suez will be taking steps. They are in the process of deciding what to do. This will likely involve reorganising the entrance, possibly removing the existing, round, concrete, obstructions and then having a second set of gates installed. This will still give off road parking at the gate so the gates can be unlocked but will not leave enough room for any largescale tipping.

Club nights.

Thursday the 19th March was our indoor Drone Flying Competition night at Uxbridge Golf Club. There was a large number of enthusiastic, budding, Drone Pilots all sitting on the edge of their seats.

The names were all put into a cup of hands (mine). To make it fair, the names were then picked, at random, by Stuart. The first heat was very competitive, no one wanted to get knocked out. There was a special prize for the winner. A t-shirt and as always, a more than generous amount of cash. The battle went on with lots of encouragement from the audience.

We tried to keep it a fair race. The course was around the chairs with polls cable tied to them, (no expense spared). As the night went on the numbers were slowly whittled down until we reached the finals, (same old faces). First place was Colin with Dennis coming second. Your runners up were Roy and John.



Colin first place



Dennis second place



Well done, Roy.



Grab that cash, John.



Even James was able to compete with his bandaged fingers. Only needed his thumbs.



Great news with regards to James's incident at Harefield. As you might have heard, James's fingers came in to contact with a prop. We would like to thank Mathew and Dave Orrells for their positive actions in getting James to Hospital. First action was to phone Mount Vernon A&E dept, "sorry we are full" next was to get him to Hillingdon Hospital, after checking his injury they put him into an Ambulance and transported him to Wexham Park Hospital as they had plastic surgeons "on hand" there and surgery was carried out on his fingers. It is looking pretty good and is now back at the strip flying again.

Streff-Jet building night.

30th March some of us went to Studley Green Community Centre for an evening with High Wycombe Model Flying Club. This was to collect and participate in the construction of our indoor ducted fan “Streff-jets” To see them fly come along to one of the indoor sessions.



Felix's Hawk.



Mathew's F18.

Slough RC model shop – is open but has moved premises.

Mathew and Felix were at Pickeridge the other day and then decided to go and have a look at the new shop in Burnham as it is a mere 15mins drive away. From looking at the photos, Mathew sent to me, the new shop is more old school with a nice walk around area. So, you can easily get to all the little bits you want to graze, instead of them being hidden away in the warehouse. The staff are very helpful and their names are Nobby, Mamos, Sam and Dave - their entire existence is to help you with your modelling needs. If they haven't got what you specifically want in stock then just ask and they'll see if they can get it in. The new address is 34 Eastfield Road. Burnham. Bucks. SL1 7PE. 01753 522222.





Ample parking at the new Slough Models Shopping Emporium

Indoor Flying. 18th of March was our most recent indoor session at High Wycombe. It was another full hall extravaganza. The next will be Saturday the 8th at 18.00 to 20.00 hours full hall and then 15th April 2 zones 18.00 to 20.00 hours.



A small selection of heli's suitable for indoor flying.

Remaining Indoor dates.

High Wycombe dates at Wycombe Sports Centre. Opening times are 6pm to 8pm.

Handy Cross, HP11 1UP.

2023 - 8th April - full hall again and 15th April - 2 zones only.

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.

	Event	Location	Description
Thursday 13th April	Club meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	The Balsa Bash
Thursday 11th May	Club meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Skills evening
Sunday 11 th June	BMFA Scale	Harefield	BMFA Scale Heat
Wednesday 14 th June	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
TBC	Fun Day	Harefield	Club event.
Wednesday 9 th August	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
Wednesday 13 th September	Club Meeting	Harefield	BBQ at the field
Thursday 12 th October	Club Meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Will possibly be another Quiz Night.
Thursday 9 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

Items for Sale

Club Member Bob Howard has come across some modelling items for sale,

The vendor lives in Shepherds Bush, so not too far to travel for collection.

Please contact Bob Howard on 07958 240 380 for their contact details.

Rip Max Spitfire KwikBilt kit . Boxed and apparently untouched – £120.

This was originally a Mick Reeves kit with foam wings.



Acro wot. 58" span fully acrobatic model – £100.

Ben Buckle kit . Super sixty - £80.



Flair scout series Puppeteer II boxed – £150.

Other Items for sale.

Please contact Mitch from the High Wycombe Club on 07931 929535.

It will be supplied fully serviced with two build plates, a new nozzle, new hotend silicone sock and a selection of filaments to get you going. £500.

