

WLMAC November Newsletter 2023

Editor – Graham Motler.



Welcome to the November newsletter.



Very nice example of a Toplite Mustang by Richard Saunders just before its maiden flight.

Well, 2023 is slowly coming to an end, the weather is all over the place but this is not holding members back with plenty of flying at the fields and related activities. Also, indoor flying is now well under way.

Next month we will be having our AGM and Christmas meal. The costs for the meal this year will be - Club Members £18, friends and family £24 with juniors £14. Mathew has sent out an email with the details, reply to that to secure a booking. The times are as follows - Those of you who will be eating, dinner will start at 7.00pm so, you need to be there a bit earlier so you can get drinks and get seated. Sub's payment on the night will follow at 8.00pm and the AGM proper will start at around 8.30pm.

Club AGM and Nominations - Members of the committee who organise, regulate, and run the club are not self-appointed - they are elected by the membership, at every Annual General Meeting, which this year will back at **Uxbridge Golf Club** on Thursday 14th December immediately after our club's Christmas Dinner.

So, once again we invite volunteer members to give their serious attention to the Club's routine business. [The club constitution calls for 21 days' notice](#) for an application for Committee membership, so the application form is at the end of this newsletter. Put yourself up for a year's service on the Committee by getting yourself a proposer and a seconder from among your fellow members, filling in the form and firing it off to the Secretary, Roy Lanning.

New members and Training

Mike Marman has informed me there have been 14 new members join our esteemed ranks this year. Some have already got their own achievement certificates, and the others are undergoing training. Saturday morning is training day. For those of you who are on the training WhatsApp page, a Go or No go for training will be sent out, depending on the weather forecast. We would like to thank all the trainers and examiners, who give up their free time to prepare you all for your test.

Who the hell is that or what's my name etc? – Following a member request, for some way to identify who they or any other members are, your committee have come up with a potentially useful addition to our website? - We have now introduced a section called “Mug shots.” Click on the WLMAC logo on the web page and scroll down, click on the relevant section and use the gate code to gain secure access, there are handy sub-sections for identifying the committee, new members and existing members – If you are missing or notice any errors (wrong name/ photo) then please send your photo or details of any correction to Felix and he'll sort it.

We are also in the process of updating the Photo Gallery function. So, to help bring this up to date please send in any of your modelling related photos. Email them to Graham service@thecareavanman.co.uk or WhatsApp them to him.

Harefield Site.

Just to remind pilots, when you are walking out to the patch, if the weather has been bad and its getting a bit slippery that there is a mesh walkway from the pits to the right-hand side of the pilot's box. Also, there is a good stock of Cup-a-soup's, tea, and coffee. Please don't get cold. Hot drinks are free all you need to do is boil a kettle and ideally after wash up any mugs etc,

Another testing day at Harefield. With some club's not having any, enough or suitably rated examiners, we are happy to help and invite other clubs in our area to take advantage of our facilities, to get some testing done. We now have examiners for all the classes that we are allowed to fly at our sites. One weekend recently, we had five members from Hemel Hempstead pass tests for various achievements. This was then followed by another weekend when their chairman, ED White, came to us to do his Fixed Wing 'B' Certificate (2 examiners required for this test) which he successfully passed.



Well done Ed.

Pickeridge Site.

Pickeridge site is now fully 240v. There is a fridge, 2 ring hob, a kettle and WI-FI. Another fully stocked tuck shop and hot drinks available. We also have mains drinking water. The club hut has now been fitted with some CC TV cameras. These keep an eye on the strip, pits, and the back side of the hut. The images are being recorded to keep an eye on the place, to check for unwanted visitors. We would like to thank Felix and Pete Ledger for all the hard work. Also, John Merry has now fitted out the hut with more than enough sockets. There is an extension lead to put through an open window for charging Outside Only, on the bench constructed by Jeff and Felix. We will be looking into making some more benches at Harefield so we can bring some of the older ones to Pickeridge. Tony B and Mathew have been maintaining the strip, this is also looking good. There has been a lot of weedkilling and the runway is getting better and better.

Mathew is preparing for our full planning application and will start this process in the New Year.

Keys have been purchased for the new lock of the main door. So, if you have an old key please arrange with Felix about obtaining one (you can dispose of the original).

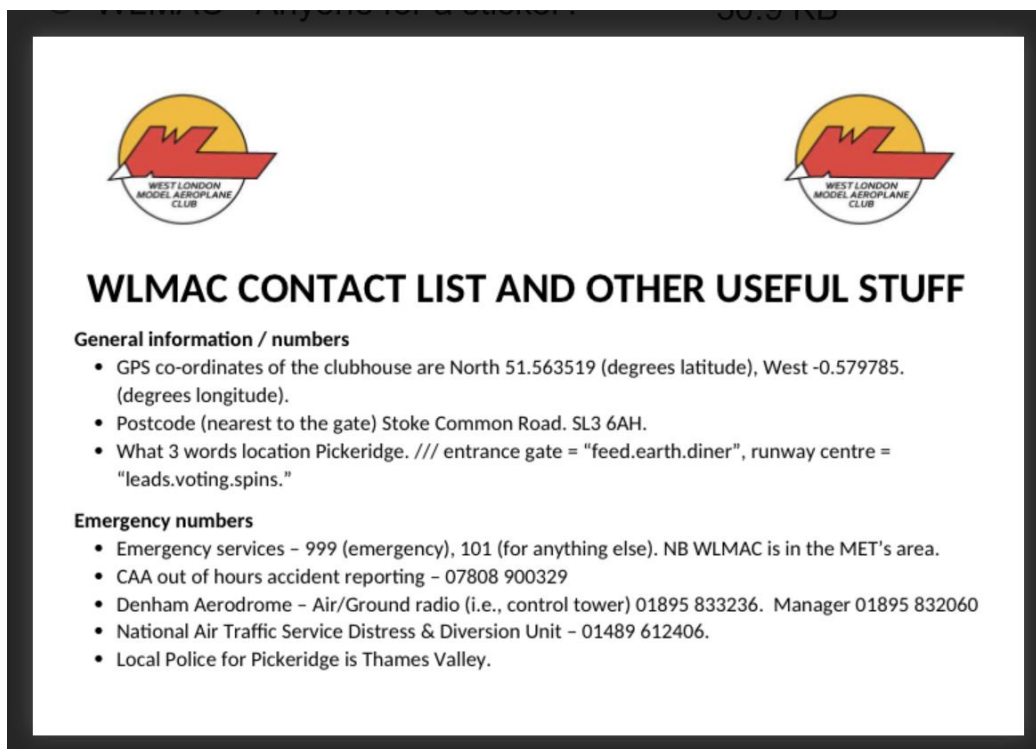


Jonathan Blewett's Pitts at Pickeridge. Lovely day for it. 5 batts and plane with little wheels, not a problem.



Another Felix and Jeff production - The new battery charging bench.

This is the contact list for Pickeridge. It's also displayed on the inside of the entrance door and on the notice board (we have similar thing at Harefield).



The notice board features two logos of the West London Model Aeroplane Club (WLMAC) at the top. The logos consist of a stylized red and yellow wing design within a circular frame, with the text 'WEST LONDON MODEL AEROPLANE CLUB' below it. The main title of the notice is 'WLMAC CONTACT LIST AND OTHER USEFUL STUFF'. Underneath, there are two sections: 'General information / numbers' and 'Emergency numbers', each followed by a list of relevant details.

WLMAC CONTACT LIST AND OTHER USEFUL STUFF

General information / numbers

- GPS co-ordinates of the clubhouse are North 51.563519 (degrees latitude), West -0.579785. (degrees longitude).
- Postcode (nearest to the gate) Stoke Common Road. SL3 6AH.
- What 3 words location Pickeridge. /// entrance gate = "feed.earth.diner", runway centre = "leads.voting.spins."

Emergency numbers

- Emergency services – 999 (emergency), 101 (for anything else). NB WLMAC is in the MET's area.
- CAA out of hours accident reporting – 07808 900329
- Denham Aerodrome – Air/Ground radio (i.e., control tower) 01895 833236. Manager 01895 832060
- National Air Traffic Service Distress & Diversion Unit – 01489 612406.
- Local Police for Pickeridge is Thames Valley.

Club night reminder – It's this Thursday 9th at Uxbridge Golf Club, starting at 8.00pm and is Quiz-night, with the usual unbelievably generous prizes. The teams will be selected at random on the evening. If you fancy something to eat, get there earlier.

Assistance required - Also, on the subject of future Quiz-nights, if any of you Aviation buffs would like to have a go at formulating the questions for a quiz, then the floor is open. Please get in contact with Mathew or Stuart and they will explain what is required?

Club nights –

Last months club night, at Uxbridge Golf Club, was a talk about IC engines. This was presented by our very own "Mr IC" himself, Tony Bloomfield. I didn't realise there was so many types of model engines. Different fuels as well. We also had a bring and buy section at the back of the room.



Tony in deep thought, ready to answer more questions.



Think we need some extra lighting next time (or a flash)?



Nice to see many members attending the talk.



Bring and buy items.

Indoor Flying at Wycombe Leisure Centre - Handy Cross, junction 4, M40.



Thank goes out to Brian/ Wycombe Club for arranging the indoor flying again.

HWDMAC have kindly invited WLMAC to join them for their indoor flying at the High Wycombe Leisure Centre, see dates below. £10 per session, payable on the evening.

Dates for indoor flying at High Wycombe Leisure Centre (all times are 1800-2000 local).

- **Sunday** 12th November - 2 zones
- **Sunday** 26th November - 2 zones
- **Saturday** 9th December - 2 zones
- **Sunday** 14th January - 2 zones
- **Saturday** 27th January - 2 zones
- **Sunday** 11th February - 3 zones - FULL HALL
- **Saturday** 24th February - 2 zones - FULL HALL
- **Sunday** 10th March - 2 zones
- **Saturday** 23rd March - 2 zones

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

	Event	Location	Description
Thursday 9 th November	Club Meeting	Uxbridge Golf Club	Quiz night with Awesome Cash Prizes
Thursday 14 th December	AGM	Uxbridge Golf Club	Membership renewals
Thursday 14 th December	Christmas Meal	Uxbridge Golf Club	Partners are welcome but are required to pay full price of meal

OpenTX to Edge TX update – Advice and offer to help.

I have been asked by Kevin Lambi to put this information article in the newsletter, so here it is.

Hi all, I upgraded my Radiomaster TX16's to Edge TX, in the last month, for testing and have decided to stay on Edge TX as it seems to be receiving a lot more attention than OpenTX. Also, all new opensource hardware radios such as Radiomaster Radios have Edge TX installed. To that end I will be offering to update people's radios from OpenTX to Edge TX starting with Radiomaster radios and then move on to other radios with OpenTX (if it is warranted).

There is a catch with the update. Any "widgets" (a widget is anything on the screen such as model picture, timer, channels, etc) will be lost in the update and you will have to replace them for each of the models you have on the radios.

I also have noticed that some people have been using the same micro-SD card that came with the radio. This is fine but will make the conversion process and future backup process on the radio very slow so I would recommend getting a nice new one from Amazon. My preferred go to for a radio is a "Scandisk Ultra." They come in various sizes but it looks like the cheapest deal (at time of writing) is 2 x 32GB for £9.99. Very handy if you have 2 radios or if you want to keep a second copy just in case anything happens. At a high level the process to update the radio will be.

1. Backup SD card contents to the laptop
2. Update the radio to Edge TX 2.8
3. Convert SD card contents from OpenTX to Edge TX
4. Check all is ok
5. Update radio to Edge TX 2.9
6. Check everything is ok
7. Replace widgets (I will show you how to do this a couple of times then you should be able to go it alone)
8. First time model check when at the field (as if this was a new model)
 - a. Check bindings
 - b. Check controls
 - c. Check failsafe
 - d. Range check
 - e. Test fly

If you would like to update your radio from OpenTX to Edge TX then please let me know. I'll be around at the field as usual.

COMMITTEE MEMBER NOMINATION FORM

Candidate name (and Email address, please).

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Proposer.....Seconder.....

I agree to serve on the Committee for one year.

Signed.....Date.....

PRINT THIS PAGE AND RETURN FORM TO Roy Lanning. WLMAC Secretary. 5,

Thellusson Way, Rickmansworth WD3 8RB

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