



December Newsletter

Gate lock Cut

As most are aware the entrance gate lock was cut off overnight near to 15th November by ne'er do wells. At first we thought that nothing else had happened but it turns out that one of the other land users had their hut broken into and stuff stolen. Luckily for us, they never made it to us, this time.

Luckily we found the old padlock as the thought of replacing 120 keys at £3-4 each was going to be eye watering. So in the short term Roy L has kindly lent us another chain. We'll find a mobile welder and have the gate repaired so that we can dispense with the chain and go back to using the sliding bolt. We used that before a lorry damaged the gate and the sliding bolt is no longer long enough.



Now that the dull and gloomy days are here, the Solar panel is working hard to keep up with our demands. When we do erect the panel, if it's a gloomy day, place the panel flat on its back. If it's sunny, erect it and angle it to the sun. When it's dull, it will then collect energy from the whole sky rather than half the sky.

Mat kindly brings his generator up to give the huge batteries an extra boost.

When you are the last one out, use the big chain and keyed padlock but leave the little chain and combination lock just locked to the gate. If the thieves comes back and both chains are securing the gate, they'll just cut both off. This way, we at least have a chain and combination lock to secure the gate for the short term. We were lucky to find the keyed padlock, it could have easily ended up in the canal.

Without publishing everything in a Newsletter, we are taking steps to increase the site security.



Thanks go to Tony and Rowan for an entertaining and informative talk on engines and all things oily on Club night. They stepped up to the mark at a moments notice after the original speaker, my son Charlie, had a better offer. He took an opportunity for a quick and cheap trip to Las Vegas with his girlfriend. I will endeavour to tie him down for a future talk about his career from WLMAC junior member to Pilot with British Airways.



Congratulations go to these smiling people. Mat, Mike Stuart (presumably he was taking the photo) and Kevin were all examined the other day and received accreditation as BMFA instructors. They used willing volunteer student pilots Steve and Mehdi. Also in the picture are head honcho examiner Dave W Duncan Mc and Gordon from Hemel Club, who took the same examination.



This is the area directly opposite the Pilots box and just a small area the lumberjacks cleared.



The cut down trees were all moved by Farmer Toby and his tractor and piled up near the car park.

AGM and Christmas Dinner Details.

The AGM and Christmas Dinner take place on Thursday 12th December at the normal venue, the Golf Club. If you'd like to come to the dinner, let Roy know as quick as you can as the cut off date is approaching!

Both are optional but if you are a member, the Club subsidises your meal, so members only pay £20 per person, non-members will be £27 and children £13.50 . Any associated costs will be added to your membership fees and will be payable at the AGM.

Roy's email is **rlanning55@outlook.com**

The AGM will follow afterwards and then the best bit, we all get to pay our subscriptions! The BMFA subs have increased by £2 to £49.

The Club sub's can be paid from 1st December. The preferred method of payment is via bank transfer to the WLMAC account, as this incurs lowest bank charges. If not paying online, payment can also be made by cash or cheque on the night at the AGM or by a cheque posted to Stuart Whitehouse, details also below.

Subs for 2025 are as follows:

WLMAC full adult member: £130

WLMAC social member: £20 (this amount has reduced this year)

WLMAC Junior member: £35

BMFA membership: £49 (junior £20, family junior £15)

CAA registration: £11 (not payable by Juniors)

Xmas dinner at AGM: £20 (£27 for guests) children £13.50

Total for an adult member with BMFA and CAA = £130 + £49 + £11 = £190.
(or £210 with Christmas dinner)

Account for online payment (preferred method):

Sort code: 40-38-20

Account number: 41139258

Account name: West London Model Aeroplane Club

Payment by cheque – please make payable to WLMAC and post to:

Stuart Whitehouse

Orchard End,

Bentley Road,

Slough.

SL1 5BB

The club fee is due by the end of December; members who have not renewed by the end of January may be required to pay the joining fee to re-join. BMFA insurance lapses at the end of the year, so from 1st January you are no longer insured and must not fly, unless you have paid the BMFA fee to us, to another club or to the BMFA directly.

Our arrangement with the High Wycombe club (<https://www.hwdmac.co.uk/>) flying at their large new field at Cadmore End continues. You can pay their sub's via WLMAC if you wish. Any current WLMAC member with an A-cert can join High Wycombe without paying their joining fee while they remain a member of WLMAC – if anyone wishes to join HWDMAC who is not already a member there, please contact Stuart for details.

