



Flight Desk

August 2007

The official newsletter of Chesham Model Flying Club Ltd

Volume 19

Issue 4

August Club Night

Newground

Wednesday August 15th

18:00 'til Dusk

Come and enjoy Silent Flying at Newground.

Any electric can be flown. BBQ if you bring food. Firework Finale
(bad weather and we do it on the 22nd!!)

Editors Ramblings

Well, another mixed bag of flying. Why is it that Fridays are good with loads of you flying, only for the weather to turn on the Saturday when it is my turn. Still, flying the less favourable winds teaches you lots.....they tell me.

I learnt a salutary lesson at the field on Saturday flying a pair of pushers. They had both been "repaired" following mishaps but were not performing very well. They seemed down on power and I was blaming the lipo's. Sitting talking to Jeremy with one of them on my lap, he asked if I had got the prop on the right way round. Remember, it is a pusher. Sure enough, I had installed a tractor prop backwards to push the air out the back. Reversing the prop resulted in a tractor prop pushing the model instead. What a transformation. I picked up the second model, turned the prop around and started to enjoy "Pushy Cat" which was looking and sounding very jet like. Two minutes in and we noticed a trail of smoke which was very "Red Arrows" but not planned. A quick landing was called and as it touched down I could see a fire under the canopy. The speed controller had caught fire. Happily, I was able to pull it from the model and only a bit of covering was damaged. A later check showed that the configuration was pulling 28 amps static from a 35 amp speed controller. Allowing for some unloading in the air, it should have been a good safe margin. A faulty controller, possibly. Whatever the cause, I was amused to hear the members present asking if a new rule for electric flyers should be to carry a fire extinguisher out to the flight line.



My neighbour and flying companion, Bob, is approaching the end of a build project which I anticipate seeing in the air soon. He has made a lovely job of electrifying the Great Planes Slow Poke and for the first time has elected to fit a pilot. When I saw it in its unpainted state, I challenged him to make a good job of painting it. Imagine my surprise when a couple of days later he called me in to see something. Bob's pilot had been transformed. Well done said I, was it difficult? Not at all says Bob, my

daughter also thought I would make a mess of it, so she painted it. Personally, I think more fear in the eyes would look better, Bob.

Happy Flying.

As always, you can contact me (Colin Hooper) at:

webmaster@cheshammodelflyingclub.co.uk

Committee Matters

The programme of events for the next few months is:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| August 15th | Silent Flight @ Newground 18:00 |
| September 8th | AHA Flying @ Newground (Limited club flying) |
| September 12th | Committee Meeting WHC 20:00 |
| September 22nd | Halton Apprentices Tri-Annual Reunion - Club Display organised |
| October 17th | Club Night WHC 20:00 |
| November 14th | Committee Meeting WHC 20:00 |
| December 19th | Club Night and AGM @ WHC 20:00 |

Chairman's Soapbox

AUG 15th CLUB NIGHT - NEWGROUND (WED. TILL LATE)

This is our second Silent Flight Extravaganza, - not the usual Pednor venue or indeed the Whitehill Centre. Previous years have shown a lack of interest for a speaker at the Whitehill Centre, - perhaps it is the time of year. Anyway, - get your electric models sorted - **now!** Ray Birdseye has advertised this evening as a fun time for everyone. Bring a picnic or something for the barbeque. There will also be fireworks, kindly provided by Richard (Mr. Enthusiastic) Ginger. Don't worry; - we have 3 fire extinguishers on hand! See you there!

PEDNOR

Thanks to Al Spicer and Ray for continuing with the clean up at Pednor. All the surplus wood on site has been removed and clearance of weeds in car park 70% complete. More volunteers required!

MOWING

Patch mowing at both sites has not been satisfactory of late. Our patch-mowing contractor has not been able to mow regularly due to pressure of work. For this reason his services have been amicably terminated. In due course we will engage a replacement. In the short term we are reliant on club members to provide the manpower. Newground was a mess just a week ago. Now thanks to several committee members and Trevor Mines, it looked a picture on Sunday 5th August. The patch is cut, the outfield gang mown, the track and turn-around area has been mown, and the one metre high roadside hedge has been cut. Pednor is more of a problem, - volunteers complete with their own petrol rotary mower should contact me.

RAF HALTON TRI-ENNIAL APPRENTICES RE-UNION - SAT 22nd SEPT

This is a club display for our members to 'strut their stuff' before an audience of hundreds of former Halton Apprentices at the RAF base. Only 'B' certificate pilots can fly. Car passes are limited, - if you want to participate contact me or Ray Birdseye. Remember, - it is car passes, - so you could poach a lift with someone else who is attending if you can fix it. There will be a full size display of several aircraft, - most probably helicopters around lunchtime. Arrival time will be approx 9.00am and our 'Peg

Off' system of transmitter control will operate. Important, - if you secure a pass you must be certain of attending, - illness excepted.

Events Co-ordinators bit

EVENTS

Hi Folks,

Well I am gradually finding my feet since being "press ganged" onto the committee. You know, you don't even get to keep the shilling that you find in your beer these days!

So what have we had on the events front over the last few months?

Ah yes, of course, we had our first stripper at the April Club Night! Richard Ginger revealed all in front of 30 of his club mates! "All" being "all the parts of an OS 46 aero engine" that he stripped down to its bare essentials and then rebuilt with new bearings, piston and liner. I wasn't going to miss this one and I was glad that I didn't! Richard obviously has had quite some experience over the years with engines and that certainly showed on the night. Even with a little heckling here and there I thought Richard did a sterling job and from what I gather so did most, (if not all), who attended. Well done Richard and many thanks!

Thanks also go to all who turned out, a good show chaps!

.....

At the end of April the AHA used our Newground site to conduct their trials. AHA? I hear some of you ask! Well to be honest I didn't know either, (not being a heli man), so off I went to Newground to find out! AHA, for those of you who, like me, didn't know, stands for Aerobatic Helicopter Association and is the specialist body within the BMFA representing all radio control helicopter disciplines. Check out their website www.aha-online.org.uk

you may find it interesting! Upon arrival I found it to be a friendly, family atmosphere despite the competitive nature of the event.

In fact, it was actually a competition. They have several competitions through the season and then the British team members are chosen from the results. They will be back at Newground on Sep 8th and I have been told if any members wish to go along to spectate they are welcome! There will of course be no club flying during the trials!

In June of course we had our usual "Silent Flight" evening at Pednor. Despite the brisk wind there was a good turn out. In fact it was the first time I've seen so many cars in the car park! The wind didn't deter though and plenty of flying took place. Another first for me was a visit to the field opposite ours up the valley to retrieve my Slinger, which I might add "landed" and not "crashed" just the other side of the trees!

*We will be having our next "Silent Flight" evening on August 15th at Newground at 6.00pm! So make a note that it is to be held for the first time at **Newground** and **not** Pednor! Don't forget we have a BBQ at Newground, so if you fancy a little "outside cooking" bring something along! See you there, 6.00pm at **Newground**! **If the weather is bad, we will hold it on the following Wednesday (22nd).** If in doubt, call Ray on 07703 768354.*

Ah yes, we now come to the infamous bombing competition, originally scheduled for July 1st but which, unfortunately, was postponed on the day due to bad weather. You were not getting off that lightly though! Dave Anderson rescheduled for July 22nd and what a day it ended up to be! The weather started sunny and despite a few patches of cloud, held for the



whole day. There was a reasonable turn out, 10 competitors in all. I do of course use the term "competitor" lightly as of course it was all about having fun and I think all who were there will agree there was an excellent atmosphere!

After the pilots briefing the fun commenced! Dave Anderson was to go first, to show us all how it's done. We all followed in turn and by the end of the first round we had a pretty good idea it wasn't Dave who was going to win! He was however still in with a podium chance. Round two and Dave kissed his chances goodbye as "several" bomb runs pushed him further down the score sheet! Never mind Dave, in your own words "it's not the winning, it's having fun that counts"! You were just having fun further down the score sheet than us!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

For the first time in three years I actually got my first bomb on the patch! This was all too much for me as most of you know "I don't do competitions"! So whilst still overwhelmed with hitting the patch it was time to "cheat"! On my second run I let go 100 bombs, yes folks 100 and despite that I still didn't win! There was however a twist here, all the bombs had a number on them and all the competitors gathered them up, amidst the red smoke, (now where did that come from), as they were to be their entry numbers in the "free raffle"!



If I had to pick a flyer of the day I think it would have to be Phil Camp. Why? Well a little over a year ago Phil said he had thought about coming along for the day but didn't think it was "his scene"! Not only did Phil take part this year, he built his own bomb release mechanism, accomplished two successful "bomb runs" and finished in a respectable 7th overall! And if he wasn't enjoying it then he put on a convincing act! Well done Phil and maybe next year we'll see you on the podium?



The official results for the day were, in reverse order, 3rd Ray Birdseye, 2nd Cliff Vincent and 1st Alan Spicer!

Well done Al' and remember to keep that trophy polished!

The raffle winners were, in reverse order, 3rd Mike Martin, 2nd Dave Anderson and 1st Dave Anderson!

Well Dave, at least you went home with something, as well as a rather smoky table cloth!





Sympathy's go to Mike Martin. I shall say no more other than his 3rd prize in the raffle, (bin liners), came in handy!

Thanks once again to a brave Dave Anderson for yet another successful and enjoyable "fun Day"!



Ray Birdseye, CMFC events coordinator events@cheshammodelflyingclub.co.uk 07703 768354

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

So what's next?

Wednesday 15th August brings us the first "silent flight" evening to be held at "Newground" starting at 6.00pm. Bring your electric planes, helicopters, and gliders, (powered gliders only, club rule)! Not forgetting something for the BBQ! If the weather's bad, come on the 22nd instead. There's even going to be a fireworks finale!

.....

The AHA will be at newground on Saturday 8th September. As usual there will be no club flying whilst the trials are in progress. However, if you would like to go along to see what it's all about then by all means do so. Though not a helli man myself I did find it quite interesting when I went along last time!

Saturday September 22nd is the "Halton Apprentice Tri-annual Reunion" at RAF Halton. There will be a flying display by CMFC so if you are a "B cert" pilot and can make yourself available then please contact me ASAP! We need as many "B" pilots as we can possibly get so please give it a thought! We really could do with your support!

October, (date to be finalized), we will be having the "Allan Crook Memorial Scale Model Competition"! This is an historical event for our club with its roots stemming from the clubs formation back in the 1980's! If anyone has any scale models then please give this competition your support. This year will be the 10th anniversary of the competition which was started in memory of Allan shortly after he passed away in March 1997. More information, including rules etc will be issued soon. So please dig out that scale, (or semi-scale), model from the loft/garage, dust it off and bring it along! It's not the winning, it's the taking part that counts!

Club night, Wednesday October 17th at the white hill centre. We will be having a talk by Ali' Machinchy of Al's Hobbies. As you will probably know Ali' is a flyer of high repute winning many national and international events! So come along and have those questions answered, be they about Al's Hobbies, jets or competition flying! This is a rare opportunity to ask the "pro" directly! DON'T MISS IT!!!!

Ray Birdseye, CMFC events coordinator events@cheshammodelflyingclub.co.uk 07703 768354

Members Ramblings

None of you are doing anything interesting, apparently. OR if you are, you can't tell the rest of us. Remember, this is your Newsletter as well.

Instructors Corner

INSTRUCTORS CORNER WITH AL SPICER



I bumped into Al at the field when he was partaking of a picnic with his wife and mother. He looked in need of a good rest. I hear that his life has been pretty hectic of late and the candle is burning in more than one place. He is, therefore, excused from his Instructors Corner this issue. (Colin)

The Instructor Rota

The rota for the next rest of 2007 is as follows: -

| Month | Date | Instructor | Month | Date | Instructor |
|----------|------|------------|-----------|------|------------|
| January | 6 | Dave | July | 7 | Al |
| | 13 | Geoff | | 14 | Frank |
| | 20 | Al | | 21 | Dave |
| | 27 | Frank | | 28 | Andy |
| February | 3 | Dave | August | 4 | Al |
| | 10 | Geoff | | 11 | Frank |
| | 17 | Al | | 18 | Dave |
| | 24 | Frank | | 25 | Andy |
| March | 3 | Dave | September | 1 | Al |
| | 10 | Geoff | | 8 | Frank |
| | 17 | Al | | 15 | Dave |
| | 24 | Frank | | 22 | Andy |
| | 31 | Dave | | 29 | Al |
| April | 7 | Andy | October | 6 | Frank |
| | 14 | Al | | 13 | Dave |
| | 21 | Frank | | 20 | Andy |
| | 28 | Dave | | 27 | Al |
| May | 5 | Andy | November | 3 | Frank |
| | 12 | Al | | 10 | Dave |
| | 19 | Frank | | 17 | Andy |
| | 26 | Dave | | 24 | Al |
| June | 2 | Andy | December | 1 | Frank |
| | 9 | Al | | 8 | Dave |
| | 16 | Frank | | 15 | Andy |
| | 23 | Dave | | 22 | Al |
| | 30 | Andy | | 29 | Frank |

Additional instruction is available at Newground on Saturday or Sunday afternoons with Robin Thwaites. Please telephone to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Committee

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Chairman | Dave Humphrey | 01494 791258 | davedesign@btconnect.com |
| Secretary | David Turner | 01494 864863 | turnnerdm@btinternet.com |
| Treasurer | Bob Bennett | 01494 864751 | bob.bennett@wychwoodrise.co.uk |
| Membership | Dave Anderson | 01494 583127 | david.anderson267@ntlworld.com |
| Newsletter | Colin Hooper | 01494 866387 | colin.jayne@wychwoodrise.co.uk |
| Instructors | Alan Spicer | 01494 783214 | alan.spicer@onetel.net |
| Events | Ray Birdseye | 07703 768354 | events@cheshammodellflyingclub.co.uk |

Instructors

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Alan Spicer | 01494 783214 | 07860 843613 |
| Andy Hawkes | 01494 772854 | 07855 146945 |
| Frank Dalby-Smith | 01494 711365 | |
| Dave Anderson | 01494 583127 | |
| Robin Thwaites | 01494 758079 | |

"CAPTION COMP"

Thank you all for your response to the caption comp we started in the last newsletter. There were quite a few of you who sent in captions. I have chosen one as you can see below. All contributors will remain anonymous if desired, so if that's what stopped you last time, then you have no excuse this time!

I'm a little short on photographs though, so please do send some in!



"Always remember that your model looks so much better with a pilot figure installed."

The winner, with his truly inspired caption, was Adrian Jack, well done.

Now for this months photo, with kind permission from Mike Martin!

"Mike and his Wot 4"



Please send caption answers titled (Mike and his Wot 4) and any photo's you may have for future insertion to

events@cheshammodelflyingclub.co.uk