



Bristol Radio Control Model Aircraft Club August 2010



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DENZIL'S DITHERINGS:

Quite a lot has happened recently, not least the proposal of a new Wind Farm being developed in or around our Duckhole flying field. Time-scales and impact are as yet undefined, but I would emphasise that the Committee is exploring all possibilities of maintaining a flying site within the Duckhole area. Please refer to the wind farm's official web site www.stoneyardlanewindfarm.com which is regularly updated, or contact any member of the Committee for an update.

We have recently hosted several unpublished events at Duckhole, primarily to promote model flying and our club, we have had Thornbury Amateur Radio Club and local Scout groups down the field for Buddy Box flights. Other events have included Thornbury Carnival, and our annual BBQ which are covered separately within the Newsletter along with an update of the Wind Farm developments and members visits to Weston Park and Woodspring Wings shows.

Events coming up are the Franklin Trophy, a BMFA Examiners Workshop and our End of Season Dinner, please give these events your support where possible.

The Port a Cabin has been painted, primarily to make it less visible from the surrounding area, and general site maintenance is an on-going task to keep our facilities up together. If you see a small job that needs doing, then bring a few tools on your next visit, that way the work is spread around.

Please note, that though our site is now more secure, the fence should still be put up at the end of flying sessions to protect the strip.

Recent BRCMAC Committee Meetings were held on 25th May and 22nd June and the latest BMFA Western Area meeting was held on 1st June, minutes available from Secretary.

Congratulations to John Harris, who has been appointed as a BMFA Area Chief Examiner.

Recently Steve Haines has had a minor operation and is recovering steadily at home, Ian Ferrari has had a major operation and post surgery complications have kept Ian in hospital.

Our best wishes to both Steve and Ian for a full recovery, and speedy return to the field.

Cheers for now.

Denzil

Contact: chairman@brcmac.org.uk

WINDTURBINE UPDATE:

I'll just try to bring you all up to date on where things stand with the wind farm project, but I'll warn you - these sorts of things take quite a while to get going, so don't expect things to happen quickly.

We (the Club) think we have identified a couple of alternative fields that could be used as flying strips; we would, of course, only proceed with one. We have yet to "walk the chalk" with the Landlord in order to see how we would proceed (that's my next task).

Denzil and I met the WPD L (Wind Prospects Development Ltd) people at their public exhibition in Oldbury-on-Severn recently and were able to get a bit more information on the planning and construction process. They are currently preparing their planning application, which they will submit in August.

We don't know how long the planning application will take to be considered and approved, or what level of local opposition there will be (considerable, I suspect) but I'll keep you posted if we get any feedback from WPD L. We are being positively recognised by WPD L in their planning application, and they seem genuinely keen to help us relocate.

From what we gathered from the WPD L people there is about a one year "engineering" phase before they even put a spade in the ground. Depending on their final sequence of construction for the four turbines we should not see any disruption until 2012.

I'll keep you all posted.

Ian Cook - contact: iancook@brcmac.org.uk

FRANKLIN TROPHY 2010:

Saturday 11th September is the date for this year's Franklin Trophy competition. Make a note in your diary now! Let's hope the event will be as good as it was last year, if not better. The weather was perfect for once and we had a really good turn-out of some fine scale models. But there is always room for more.

Don't forget, it is not just an event for the die-hard scale fans amongst us. Any 'A' flyer or better and any model can take part provided the model has some 'scalish' aspect to it. This includes ARTFs, sport scale, aerobatic scale, and second-hand models. The more, the merrier!

As well as the Trophy, prizes are awarded for the best the best ARTF model and the best 'A' pilot, and 'A' pilots are awarded double flying points in the main completion.

The rules are the same as last year.

So go on – bring a model and have a go. You might surprise yourself!

WESTON PARK MODEL AIR SHOW:

Where is Weston Park? Weston Park is at a place called Weston under Lizard and is approx. 4 miles to the north of junction 3 of the M54. It is also the venue for, in my opinion, the best “locally organized” model display in the near area, for this we can thank The Wrekin MFC who obviously put in a lot of hard work. The attendance here matches the numbers at Cosford which has the added attraction of the Air Museum. We have been here for the last five years with our caravan, arriving on the Thursday and staying until the following Monday. This gives us the Friday free and as the Cosford Museum is only 5 miles away, we have become regular visitors.

The display flying here is always to a high standard with traders flying their latest designs and WW1 groups having 10 minute dog fights. The real interest here is the evening “off the peg” flying, this is where the display flyers polish up their sequences and the non display flyers try to prove that their skills are just as good, not always with the results that they expect. If you are lucky you may well get the opportunity to talk to the “star” flyers.

Well illuminated models fly well into the late evening, electric of course, and from a distance could well be mistaken for a UFO. The show opens at about 10 am but the car park is full well before this time and the trade tents are bursting with modelers searching for the elusive bargains, I managed to pick up two receiver batteries for £4.00, the fact that they could no longer sell Ni.Cd batteries after the end of the month and were getting rid of the stock had nothing to do with it, I put it down to my bargaining powers.

Flying is not limited to models, every year there is at least one slot for full size each day and one year we were graced by The Red Arrows and what a display they put on just for us. The family is catered for in the form of craft tents, fun fair, model boats, competitive model car racing and military vehicles.

The grounds are extensive and with some limitations you are free to roam anywhere. The house boasts a very select restaurant, a grill restaurant and a tea room and have recently opened a Farm Shop using one of the coach houses, we have only got as far as the tea room and a ice cream. Over the period of the show the miniature railway operates and this is always a crowd puller

I hope that we will be able to continue our annual visits to Weston Park and it is a venue that I would recommend to all model flyers.

John Paton

A NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY:

Grateful thanks to all those who contributed to this Newsletter. If you would like to contribute an article for any future Newsletter (any and all articles are welcome).

Email to secretary@brcmac.org.uk or post to:

BRCMAC Secretary, Chris Owen, 64 Worthing Road, Patchway, Bristol BS34 5HX

A ‘Big Thank You’ to my wife Carla for assembling this Newsletter

Chris Owen



WOODSPRING WINGS:

Well it was a few weeks ago that the Woodspring Wings show took place down at Yatton. The weather could have been better, particularly on the Sunday which is the day I went. Despite the windy conditions and a short sharp shower which disrupted flying for a period, it did not stop the flying throughout the rest of the day.

And there were some fantastic models taking part. The most impressive of which must have been the two huge Pitts Special bi-planes built by Richard Rawl, complete with moving wing walkers! The models were flown by him and Steve Holland in a near-perfect synchronised display and the wing walkers were controlled separately by Steve's other half in time with the music!

Another duo of note was the pair of BAE Hawk jets in Red Arrows colours. As with the wing-walking bi-planes, these were flown together as a pair, complete with smoke systems. They put on a fantastic display and had a real presence in the air. So realistic.

Perhaps the fastest model at the show was a small, high performance electric model called a Voodoo, made mainly out of carbon fibre. I have never seen anything fly so fast in all my life. It was truly stunning! It was flown at the same time as a group of much slower planes which emphasised the speed difference quite markedly. The commentator glibly said that the pilot of the Voodoo had to be particularly careful to avoid any other models because if he were to hit one, at the speed it travelled it would go clean through it! I wonder how he knows?

There were some very impressive WW1 fighters flown by members of The Dawn Patrol. All their models are built to the same 1/3rd scale. No two models are the same, each representing a different aircraft that took part in the conflict. Fantastic.

There was the usual toffee bomber which this year actually managed to hit its target and spread its load of sweets on the strip, much to the delight of the crowd of young children who ran on scrabbling after them. Good to see these old traditions still survive.

And of course there were lots of goodies to be bought from the many trade stands, which is one of the main reason for going – to stock up on those bits and pieces, and cheap fuel of course.

All-in-all, a pretty good show. Let's hope they order better weather for next year.

Peter Bennett

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

SEPT 2010

11th Franklin Trophy Competition at Duckhole
12th Examiners Workshop at Duckhole
12th Fly In at Haverfordwest (contact: john.beechey1@btinternet.com)

OCT 2010

5th Winter Meeting start - The Chantry, Thornbury (8pm)
30th End of Season Dinner - The Anchor, Oldbury-on-Severn (7.30pm)

DEC 2010

7th A.G.M - The Chantry, Thornbury (8pm)

CLUB BBQ – JULY 2010:

Luckily this year we had reasonable weather to hold a BBQ, ok it was a bit breezy and the wind direction was across the strip but this did not deter the demonstrations we had planned for the evening. A total of 69 people attended and donations to the cost were generous.

We kicked off with the club flyers,

Adrian Mansell Flying his Zephyr.
Chris Madge and his Extra
Steve Haines with his Mustang,
Peter Bennett and his P40
Martin Fardell with his spacewalker

The control line team South Bristol MAC were up next, Starting off with combat flying followed by team flying. Two youngsters then showed us how team flying is done. Finally a single plane speed flying, going so fast and loud it was making me dizzy let alone the pilot. May thanks to these guys for there demonstrations.

Thanks to John Harris the flight controller who coordinated the flying.

Chris Owen, Phil Hill and the Ladies did us proud with the BBQ food. with the queue for food showing how good it was.

Commentary on the Microphone was provided by John Paton, may thanks for that.

And finally thanks to all the Committee and helpers with the setting up and taking down and organising the event.

Patrick Rowe



THE FRANKLIN TROPHY FOR SCALE MODELS - 2010 COMPETITION

The Franklin Trophy is awarded annually to the Club Member who accumulates the most points for the combined static and flying elements of the competition. The Wilkins Trophy will be awarded to the 'A' Flyer with most points

Date

Saturday, 11th September, between 11.00 – 13.00 hrs. If the competition cannot take place on this date, it will be rearranged for the first flyable Saturday morning thereafter.

Eligible Models

All models of scale or semi-scale nature. To be eligible, a model must be owned by the competitor but not necessarily built by the competitor, and may include second-hand models and ARTFs. Models that have participated in previous events may still be entered.

Flying

Models must make at least one flight, and there is no limit on the number of flights that may be made. Members not wishing to participate in the competition will not be precluded from flying. However, the Club rule that no more than six models may fly at any one time must be observed throughout the event.

'A' Pilots Bonus

Double flying points will be awarded to all 'A' pilots, with the exception of any 'A' pilots who, in the opinion of the organising Committee, would benefit unjustly thereby (they will be notified at the start of the event).

Judging

All club members present at the event will be entitled to vote and will be issued at the with voting slips on which they will indicate, in order of preference, the three best models for general appearance, and the three best models for flying throughout the event. At the end of the event all judging slips will be collected, the scores totalled, and the winner announced. The Trophy will be presented at the AGM.

Scoring

For every judging slip returned, static and flying* sections will each score as follows:

- 1st position - 3 points
- 2nd position - 2 points
- 3rd position - 1 point

(* Plus the 'A' Pilot's bonus where applicable)

Best 'A' Pilot & Best ARTF-

Certificates will also be awarded for the best ARTF model.

Peter Bennett - Event Organiser

Club Website: www.brcmac.org.uk