



Bristol Radio Control Model Aircraft Club (BRCMAC)

May 2013 Newsletter

Chairman's Chat

Well summer is officially here at last; I know it does not seem like it as the sunny flying weather has not really arrived. Let's hope that by next week it has settled down.

Welcome to our third newsletter this year, you will see from our editor's content that we have been pretty busy keeping things together on the site. May I offer sincere thanks for a great turnout on Saturday to everyone who volunteered to join the working party?

Around 14 members arrived, they filled in approx 31 potholes in the lane which were caused by traffic and winter flooding, some of you just kept working and did not even stop for coffee although this was available in the cabin.

Special thanks to Steve Haines who has also spent some time clearing the old equipment from the compound, and still found time to mow the strip.

Also to John Paton who spent time in the week with me to wire brush the bridge frame and paint it with various colours from tins of hammerite to slow down the rust formation, and thanks to Andy Britton for the loan of his truck which must have made filling in the potholes a lot easier.

We are desperate for new content in order to keep this publication going and have had some great articles from a few of our members, if you have not yet contributed, please consider doing so. Our editor has allocated a for sale section and a trivia corner for non aviation articles to make it easier, so please see what you can contribute, it is after all your newsletter!

See you at the flying field

Ian Ferrari

Site Security

We have not had any recent occurrences of unwanted visitors at the site; it appears that re-fitting the gate more securely has been successful. However, if anything does appear disturbed or damaged please contact Ian Ferrari at chairman@brcmac.org.uk or if urgent mobile: 07425 752694, John Paton at secretary@brcmac.org.uk or if urgent mobile: 07969 113549 or Peter Bennett on mobile: 07792 596463 or any Committee Member as soon as possible.

2013 Committee Meetings Update

The third Committee meeting of 2013 was held on 30th April

We currently have 55 members which we would like to see increase, and any suggestions for attracting new members would be most welcome.

Having addressed some of the immediate areas, the committee are now looking at the longer term future of the club, and will report on progress.

Site Maintenance

At the end of April we had an excellent turn out for the working party and several big jobs were undertaken. These being:

- The evening bridge (next to the compound) was inspected, the metal frame structure was sound but the wooden decking had suffered from being under water during the wet winter and has been re-boarded, this bridge is now open again. A wire mesh will be laid over the boards to provide a better grip and prevent slipping.



Cutting and drilling the timbers



Laying the new timbers



Finished bridge

- The track from the Duckhole end to the site had most of the holes that had appeared over winter filled and levelled.
- The car park area had a layer of scalplings spread over the low areas where water gathered.



Working in the car park



The car park levelled off and the track team returning

- The compound area was tidied up from years of accumulated rotten wood and rubbish, which was a good excuse for John Paton to put a match to it, the remainder finding its way to the tip.
- The compound was given a mowing and the brambles cut back to facilitate access when passing through for evening flying.

This was a great effort by all who helped but we still need to do some work on the port a cabin, cut the reeds between the two fields and ensure our perimeter is secure in case of animals in adjacent fields.

A new wind sock has been erected near the compound which should be more visible and give a more accurate view of the wind. (don't blame me if you hit it !!!!!!!)

An Aero-loop model retriever has been purchased for separating models from trees when necessary, this will be kept in the port a cabin, please return after use.

Club Meetings

Our summer monthly club meetings, chat and update, will continue to be held at the field on the first Tuesday of the month (April to September), and our winter meetings (October to March) will be on the first Thursday of the month, hopefully continuing at the Swan public house on the High Street, Thornbury which will be confirmed later.

Charging Station

A battery charging station running off a solar powered panel and 12volt battery will be installed in the port a cabin. This will enable charging of Ni-MH and Ni-Cd, Transmitter, Receiver flight pack and glow start batteries using your own charger connected as per the instructions. Unfortunately the system has not got the capacity to charge the larger Li-Po batteries some members are using, but should be able to cope with smaller 3s packs.

Club BBQ

The club BBQ for members and their families will be held at the field on the 13th July. We have a confirmation that well known show pilot Steve Holland will be attending with no doubt one or two of his BIG models.

We still need the support of members who hold a BMFA 'B' certificate or higher to fly and Flight Director Steve Haines will be only too pleased to hear from you.

We would also ask any member with a gas powered BBQ if it could be made available for the event, there will also be a need for members to do a stint behind the BBQ cooking and marshalling of the car park and flight line.

New Club Tub

A new club tub, well actually a well used old trainer airframe has been given a new lease of life, but to get it in the air a 46 size two stroke, 4 servos, reciever and battery are required, if you have any of the above lying around and are prepared to either donate or loan them to the club please contact John Paton.

The addition of this model will allow learners more flying time and act as a spare in case of any misshaps.

For Sale

Where space permits we will publish any items for sale that members may have.

This month the following are up for grabs



The above are all foam profile type models, the yellow model is a single but the other two boxes each contain two models. They may not be complete but if interested contact Graham Way at wobblywings@hotmail.com to discuss what's in the boxes and prices.

A bit of history

This item has been found inside a programme for a Model Air Day – Fifth Annual Rally. The Bath Festival Association, in association with the Bristol Radio Controlled Model Aircraft Club. Sunday 19th June, 1966 at R.A.F. COLERNE .

Admission by programme only. Price 2/6

About the Club....

The Bristol Radio Controlled Model Aircraft Club was formed in 1957 and has grown a lot since then. A lot of Aero-modellers are able to take up R/C flying now that commercially made equipment has become so much more reliable and so light and compact.

Most of the machines seen here today are multi-channel, up to 12 channels, quite a few with superhet equipment so that more than one model may fly at the same time. (Until recently this would have spelt disaster)!

There will be some models fitted out with proportional equipment, VERY expensive--- it helps to make flying smoother.

We are not all multi- channel in the Club however, we have some single channel enthusiasts. Many modellers enter R/C flying this way, the equipment is not so expensive and the models need not be so big. There are kits from which single channel receivers and transmitters can be made by modellers of average ability and, of course, plenty of kits for making suitable models.

If you are interested we would be glad to hear from you. The subscription is nominal and includes S.M.A.E. insurance.

The Club Officers are:-

Chairman. Mr. D. Sheppard

Secretary. Dr. G. Henley,

Treasurer. Mr. J. Reynolds

External Events

There is always a risk with publishing dates and locations of external events especially with the unpredictable British weather and other economic considerations. The most reliable source of information is either the BMFA web site or local club web sites prior to travelling.

Trivia Corner

A bit of non-aircraft related trivia from Ian Ferrari.



I have enclosed a photo I took of a 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p and 50p coins from our existing currency, which from 2008 shows on one face a section of the shield from our Royal Coat of Arms. It is interesting to see how many people were not aware that, if you lay these out as per the photograph they depict the full Heraldic Shield (the exceptions are the £1 and £2 coins each of which have full images). I have to admit that I had not realised this was on our coins and had to have it pointed out to me by my son.

Future News letters

To make future Newsletters interesting your articles or stories (visits to shows or exhibitions, model builds, flying experiences, modelling techniques etc.) for sales and anything not necessarily model aircraft related will be most welcome and should be forwarded to secretary@brcmac.org.uk for inclusion as appropriate.

Editor – Denzil Monis