

Stansted Model Flying Club Newsletter – August, 2018

Our next Monthly Meeting will be at the Flying Site on Monday, September 3rd from about 4pm – so come on up.

Mike's Last Chat:

I've decided that it's finally time to hang up my transmitter!

My eyesight is no longer good enough to drive to the flying site, much less keep a model aircraft in view when I'm there. I'm finally retiring and will be selling off my models.

Laurie has agreed to list the main items in the club newsletter. Anything not sold, plus modelling bits and pieces, I will bring to one of the winter indoor meetings to sell to club members. Here's hoping they go to good homes and can be still seen at the flying site.

Cheers, Dears, Mike

Scale Day:

We will be holding our deferred annual Scale Day up at the flying site this Saturday, 1st September. This is our most popular yearly event with usually a fine array of scale models present. We expect to get the BBQ operational now that the crops have been harvested. At the time of writing the weather looks promising, so dig out your best scale – or even "scale-like" – models and join in on the day! Families welcome.



The poster features the Stansted Model Flying Club logo (a blue circle with a white airplane) and the BMFA logo (a red and blue circle with a white airplane). It includes several images of model aircraft: a biplane, a propeller plane, a jet, a helicopter, and a glider. The text is arranged as follows:

Stansted Model Flying Club

Scale Day

Saturday 1st September
Flying from 10:30hrs
BBQ

There will be a prize for the Best Scale Plane and a prize for the Best Pilot on the day.

Bring the family

Directions
Google map references
Turnoff on the B1052 opposite Bowers Lane onto Park Farm
52.061330, 0.269525
The Flying site is at:
52.069740, 0.260662

Events:

Monday 3rd September – Monthly Meeting up at the flying site – from 4PM ‘til dusk.

Monday 1st October – Monthly Evening Meeting. Up at the flying site or in Ugly Village Hall – depending on the weather.

Monday 5th November – Monthly Evening Meeting from 8PM at Ugly Village Hall

Monday 3rd December – AGM and pre-Xmas get together at 8PM at Ugly Village Hall.

BMFA Stuff:

Drone Legislation:

The Government is currently consulting the public on Drone Legislation and intends to introduce new laws to address the perceived safety, security and privacy threats that arise from the increasing use of drones. The government’s proposals are in “Taking Flight: The Future of Drones in the UK” at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/drone-legislation-use-restrictions-and-enforcement>. These new rules will affect **all** model flying so the BMFA is asking everyone to respond before the consultation period ends on the 17th Sep.

The BMFA posted a news article on 21st August flagging this up. You can find it at: <https://www.bmfa.org/News/News-Page/ArticleID/2539/UK-Government-consultation-on-the-Future-of-Drones-in-the-UK-We-need-your-help-before-17th-September>. If you follow the link, you will find that the BMFA has put in a link to the Government Survey at: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/drones/> as well as providing a document that gives the response of the BMFA and the 3 other Model Flying Groups. This is now an opportunity for all 36,000 BMFA members to provide their input to impress on the Government that we are not to be pushed around! Following the guidance in the document which can be found at: <https://www.bmfa.org/Portals/0/CEO/ConsultationResponse.pdf>), it is relatively easy to fill in the Government questionnaire. The BMFA wish us to make sure that the Government is aware that there is a strong group of aeromodellers who have operated safely for many years and are not going to be a push over when some highly contentious laws are being drafted for the commercial use of drones in UK airspace.

BMFA Council Meeting:

The next full Council Meeting will take place in Leicester on Saturday 8th September 2018. There are 2 substantive proposals: the adoption of a cup for the GBRCAA (precision aerobatics) Team selection winner, and to include the lat & long details in all BMFA event descriptions. Your area delegate will be seeking the Area Committee's guidance on how to vote on these proposals at the East Anglia Area Committee meeting on 30th August.

Instructor & Examiner Workshop:

The East Anglia Area is running another Instructor & Examiner Workshop on the 8th September. Details were attached to last month’s newsletter.

The Patch:

I’m sure that you have all noticed just how fine the patch is looking these days. All this is down to Jason, of course, who as ever has taken considerable efforts to treat the patch to weed killer and to other grass boosting treatments. I’m amazed at how quickly it has recovered from the long hot and dry spell. Our thanks go to Jason!

Membership Secretary:

I’ve currently handing over the role of Membership Secretary to Tony Sparsis. Tony has been leading the club’s response to the new General Data Protection Regulation and you will have received several e-mails etc from him over the last few months on this subject. I’m sure that with this background that Tony will make an excellent Membership Secretary and maybe he can find ways to reverse the slow decline in membership numbers that we have experienced over the last few years.

Mike Moylan's Models:

Mike has the following models for sale:



I understand that Mike has some electric powered models as well. If you are interested in acquiring any of these models or seek further details, please contact Mike on 01799 513215

And Finally:

I've been up at the flying site a few times recently, mainly for test flying, and even managed to get my 12½ft span Handley Page O-400 back into the air after it languished in my garage in an un-flyable condition for the last couple of years. I'm pleased to say it is flying better than ever.

Encouraged by this success, I decided to try again to tame my small 28" Sopwith Camel model – its flying characteristics closely mimic the unstable original. I would have liked to have taken a photo of this "interesting" model flying but wasn't brave enough to let go of the control sticks!



I am finding the long journey to the flying site from my new home does rather put me off going up there as often as I should. This does rather confirm that I need to move to a more local flying club - so I shall be saying goodbye to you all at the end of this year.

As the weather for the Scale Day is looking promising for my light and slow flying scale models I've been practising packing as many as possible of these models into my car! See you there!

Laurie