

Stansted Model Flying Club Newsletter – June, 2018

Mike's Chat:

Our next meeting will be at Hadstock. It's Summer, so see you on Monday 2nd July from about 4PM.

At the June meeting I was lucky to see quite a few new models, (new to me that is), flown by Jamey Starting with a very nice Gangster 53 (the little one anyway) which flew on rails. Roy got his Piper Cub fired up (4st Twin) and it droned about the sky looking almost like the full size.

Then it was all hands to the works as Jamey (with help) started to get his recently purchased, and rather splendid Thunderbolt (alright P47)) fixed up and ready to go. The undercart was a little "bendy" and the first attempt to take off resulted in a nose down scamper across the grass, which fortunately did not become a take-off. The grass was very "rubbery", and caused a lot of drag so a quick leap into the sky would have been a disaster. However, with a little more elevator and coaxing on the throttle, a very well-paced take-off was achieved. Jamey took it too high for me to see much more, but anyway Jamey was pleased with it, AND it came down safely!

Meanwhile, Roy's Cub kept me entertained. Jason then turned up with Jack, who still has his first aerobatic electric model (wish I could say the same.) Then Peter Sainsbury had a go with his Acrowot. Peter flew it with great style in spite of the rather brisk wind which turned up (as always).

Cheers, Dears, Mike

From the BMFA:

Update on BMFA Response to Recent Changes to the Air Navigation Order.

"The latest meeting between the Department for Transport (DfT), Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and representatives from the UK Model Flying Associations took place on 15th June at the DfT offices in London. The most urgent matter to address was the recent change to the Air Navigation Order (ANO) which introduced (in Article 94A) a 400ft height limit on the operation of all Small Unmanned Aircraft (SUA) which will come into effect on the 30th July 2018. Whilst the changes to the ANO are primarily aimed at regulating 'drones', the 400ft restriction will also apply to model aircraft below 7Kg.

However, we are pleased to report that agreement was reached that the Model Flying Associations will collectively apply for an exemption from Article 94A to allow their members to continue operating model aircraft below 7Kg above 400ft as they do under the current ANO. The DfT and CAA were supportive of this course of action and did not foresee any reason why the exemption would not be in place in time for the 30th July.

Negotiations on the other changes introduced in the ANO (operator registration and online testing for pilots) remain ongoing, but for now it is business as usual for members of the BMFA, LMA, SAA & FPVUK."

And Finally:

Just a short newsletter this month as I have found it difficult to get on-line at many of the sites I've been on this month. Greece is a lovely place but is sparsely populated in many areas – and I seemed to have found many of these! Mind you, I've found plenty of places that would be great for slope soaring – Greece seems to be mostly made up of hills.



Spot the Motorhome!

Laurie