

Stansted Model Flying Club Newsletter

January, 2017

**Our next meeting will be at Ugley Village Hall on
Monday 6th February at 8PM**

“A fun indoor chuck glider competition!”

Mike's Chat:

Well, we have poor weather now but we are getting ready for spring weather (whenever it comes). So far, it has been cold or windy, or both. Alan kindly offered to give me a few flights using the “buddy” system on what turned out to be the only good day of the week. Unfortunately, I had already given up and arranged to go out so I missed not only a good flying day but one that was slightly warm.

Our first meeting of the New Year kicked off with a very nice presentation by Laurie, who showed his scale “Taube” model (first flown in 1912 and used operationally in the very early part of WW1) and called by Laurie by its proper name: “Steel-Dove”. A lovely model but, unusually for Laurie, an ARF from the USA. However, some mods were needed to the undercarriage and the control surfaces. All the control surfaces employ “wing warping” and their “Pull-Pull” control wires are routed via some acute angles: lots of friction, then – needing strong and heavy servos in an already very heavy model! So it flies rather fast but it still looks right in the air. The undercarriage was badly placed, resulting in “nose-overs” and had to be re-positioned (*to the correct scale position, actually. LP*). Anyway, having overcome the first few flights, Laurie is quite pleased with it and it is strong! (*Flies like a bird - built like a brick sh_t House! LP*)



Howard then told us about his foray into the USA market in search of an engine but instead finding a very unusual ARF model which slotted together with everything pre-cut and slotted, requiring no tools or building skills whatsoever, much to Howard's disappointment - 'cos he does like to struggle with construction and provide his own contribution – and why not? His is rather good at it.

Our annual stab at free-flight, in the form of indoor chuck gliders, will take place at Ugley Village Hall at 8PM sharp next Monday 6th February. A fun event that requires little more than a thorough knowledge of aerodynamics, astute model trimming skills, a good chucking technique and a little luck! The chuck gliders will be supplied by Bill, as usual. See you there!

Cheers Dears

Mike

Forthcoming Club Winter Events:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Feb 6 th | Indoor Chuck Glider - Fun Competition |
| March 6 th | Bombing Simulator - Fun Competition |
| April 3 rd | TBN - May be held at the Flying Site if the weather is suitable |

Club Events for the Summer Flying Season:

As usual, the club will be hosting a BMFA Team Selection event on Sunday 23rd April, one of four such competitions used to select the UK team for European and World Championships. The patch will not be available for flying by club members until after the event is complete – expected to be by 17:30.

It is proposed that the club runs a Training Day or similar in June, a Scale Day in July, and a Families Day in August. Use of the patch for general flying may be restricted until these events end – usually by 4PM.

If a club member or two are prepared to run some half day events, such as glider duration, spot landing, and “limbo dancing” fun competitions, or interest group meetings, such as “old timer” model aircraft, these can be scheduled, probably in the earlier part of the summer. It is not expected that these events would significantly restrict general flying.

Bill hopes to arrange a visit to the South Norfolk Model Flying Club during the summer.

BMFA Updates:

Achievement Scheme Web Pages.

The BMFA have pushed out a number of updates recently, several concerning their Achievement Scheme. As a result, they wish to encourage BMFA Members to visit their Achievement Scheme web pages and to subscribe to the News Section.

Multi-Rotor Tests Guidance Video Released.

The BMFA Achievement Scheme Review Committee has produced a Multi-Rotor tests guidance video for candidates and examiners. This is the first of a series of videos that the BMFA hope to produce and they would welcome your feedback. You may view the latest post at <http://achievements.bmfa.org/multi-rotor-tests-guidance-video-released> or via the BMFA Web Site “Videos” page.

Instructor & Examiner Workshop

BMFA's East Anglia Area Cordially invite all Area and Club Examiners, Instructors and potential Test Candidates to a Fixed Wing 'A' and 'B' Instructor & Examiner Workshop, hosted by South Norfolk MFC (just off the A11 near Wymondham, Norfolk) on Sunday 7th May 2017, commencing at 10 am. For further details please contact the SMFC Secretary.

Club Examiner Status.

It is proposed that “Club Examiner” Achievement Scheme grade be renamed “BMFA Examiner”, reflecting that this status is part of the BMFA and should be to a nation-wide standard. It is expected that this proposal be placed before the May BMFA Full Council. If you wish to comment, please contact the East Anglia Area Committee.

Clubman Aerobatic Events.

Peter Jenkins, the Radio Control Competition Secretary, East Anglia Area will be running 4 Clubman Events this summer, specifically to help club pilots who wish to learn how to improve their aerobatic skills by receiving coaching for F3A/precision aerobatics. Pilots will get advice on their aircraft setup as well as guidance on how to fly the manoeuvres in the Clubman Schedule (this is the start point for competitions in the GBR/CAA - the body responsible for organising the national F3A competition calendar). Most of the manoeuvres in the Clubman Schedule are the same as the B Certificate so getting this coaching will help those who want to go for their B Certificate. The number of participants for each event day will be restricted to 12.

SMFC Membership Update:

To date, over three quarters of last year's members have renewed their club membership for 2017. The first batch of BMFA membership certificates have been received and posted out to members – those are for those members who paid for BMFA Membership via the club on or before the club meeting on the 2nd January. The next batch of applications will be sent to the BMFA after the club monthly meeting on the 6th February and should be back, ready to be posted to club members, by late February.

And Finally:

I've been involved in the dubious joys of house-hunting for some time (down-sizing ready for old age). Houses with more than a "postage stamp" garden – even just big enough to fly a micro multi-rotor - seem incredibly scarce. As for workshop and storage space for model aircraft! Looks like I will have to cull my model aircraft collection (probably not before time.)



I told you that you couldn't store any more models inside!

Laurie