

Stansted Model Flying Club Newsletter

July, 2016

Our next Meeting will be at Hadstock, on Monday 1st August.

Come at 4Pm, stay 'till? We had good weather at the last meeting, so here's hoping!

Not a great turn out at the last meeting, but the weather wasn't bad for those who came. Bill's new trainer put on a good show, along with Laurie's Cruiser. Roy very kindly let me have a go with his trainer (with Bill on the Buddy Box). Great fun!

Still enjoying the evening, Roy had a go with the Twin Star. Gerry, who always turns up, gave his Arising Star an airing with Bill again doing the honours. Linda, sadly, could not fly her Angel, as it suffered a hard landing a little while ago. However, her flying is getting so good now that this is sure to be a very short setback.

It is with great regret and sorrow that we have to inform you of the recent death of our former Club Chairman, Paul Pichel. He will be sadly missed by his family and fellow modellers. After a courageous battle, he finally had to succumb to the illness that dogged him for so long and in so many ways.

(You've forgotten to mention the bacon butties supplied by YT at the last meeting, Mike – perhaps you had gone home by then! Hope to be able to provide tea, biscuits, and more bacon butties at the next meeting – LP)

Cheers Dears

Mike

SMFC Summer Events:

Families BBQ – Sunday 21st August.

This is a new event to encourage family members to join us on site: a lunch-time BBQ. Possibly, some of our more skilled members could give some flying demonstrations. We would also like to offer the opportunity for family members to try their hand at flying a model aircraft. We would use the club trainers for this purpose, working with a Buddy Box system. The SMFC's BMFA Club Insurance would cover "tasting" flights under supervision by designated club members by people who have never flown a model aircraft before. This insurance would not cover flying by any other visitors.

Further details will be circulated nearer the event. We need volunteers to help run this event and to man the club BBQ. As it's only a lunch time event, the task should not be too arduous.

Visit to the South Norfolk Club.

We have been invited by the South Norfolk Model Flying Club to come and fly at their flying site just this side of Norwich for a day. This visit will probably take place in early October. Bill Michie will be organising the visit.

Scale Day:

As has been the case for several years, this event attracted a good level of support. Attendees voted for the best scale model and best pilot of the day. The scale model winner was Roy Spence for his 1/3 scale Pitts Special – built to Large Model Aircraft standards of construction and detail, and consequently of considerable "heft"; so much so that it requires a high degree of skill to fly well

and has a very long landing run. The clear winner for piloting ability was Bill Michie: for his achievement in flying the Pitts so well and for getting it back on the ground in one piece – a long roll out, ending in a “hand-brake” turn to avoid running onto the tarmac! Both winners received a bottle of wine in appreciation of their efforts.

Although a lovely day, I found the flying conditions somewhat challenging: a moderate breeze that should have been manageable resulted in significant turbulence over the patch near ground level. After a decidedly hazardous take off with my 4-motor Staaken RIV, narrowly missing the pits, I elected to pitch it into the corn, rather than attempt a landing! Quite a few members elected to keep their lighter models on the ground, but it was good to see such a range of scale bi-plane models at the flying site. Mark will be posting photos of the day on the club website soon.

Paul Pichel - RIP



Paul (on left) with his “trademark” scale model Hurricane

Six Club Members (including two Committee Members), accompanied by two wives, attended the Funeral/Cremation Service yesterday for the Late Paul Pichel, held at Parndon Wood Crematorium in Harlow. The service was very nicely run and was a great send-off/tribute to a very popular man. There were fitting tributes from various Family Members and the Motorcycle Club that he belonged to, and many mentions of Paul’s love for Aeromodelling.

Afterwards, three Members also attended the “get-together” with snacks & refreshments, where there was opportunity to speak to Debbie and Family Members. At the venue there was a continuous slide-show of Paul in his various activities and Family events, which was a really nice touch. Our attendance was greatly appreciated and the Family wishes to thank the Club for its concern and support during Paul’s illness and the Funeral.

And Finally, Trainers:

Thanks to Trevor Sexton, who donated an old “foamie” WOT 4, the club now has an electric trainer to complement the I/C powered Irvine Tutor acquired by Bill Michie recently. The model needs a small amount of work but should be at the flying site at the August Club Meeting. Trevor also donated a couple of 2200ma, 3-cell batteries but we could do with a couple more – they do not need to be in tip-top condition. Also, the donation of a basic LIPO charger would be welcomed.

Laurie