

Stansted Model Flying Club Newsletter

June, 2016

*Our next Meeting will be at Hadstock, on Monday 4th July 2016.
Come when you can, stay till....?*

We had good weather last time, (so here's hoping)

What could have happened? At our last meeting we had SUNSHINE all the time just like the days of old, and to cap it off Jason was flying a Junior 60 with a diesel Engine! Which was all very nostalgic!

In complete contrast Bill brought a huge petrol powered high winger, a VALIANT with a 35cc engine. It took off, and then went vertical (still going up) which was all very stimulating until a wheel came off! This made way for all sorts of advice, but Bill carried on enjoying the flight, and when the time came to land, Bill gently stalled the Valiant in the crops, which meant he got away with it completely. Steve also landed his Heli in the crops and also suffered no damage. Roy's Piper Cub flew very well and had an interesting version of The O.S 160 F/S to pull it about. It has Spark ignition running on methanol! and the wheels didn't come off!

Unfortunately my Discovery was lost at pilot change over (I grabbed the tranny from Laurie, and looked at the tranny instead of at the model, and didn't pull out from a terminal dive in time) which meant curtains for the model and only the wheels were saved (wrong size for Bill anyway!). So it's back to the lumbering Riot.

Jack (Jason's son) had a fine old time with his Spitfire and Mark Mould's Sun Surfer was in its element cruising about in the sunshine.

A very pleasant evening for all (except me).

Ho! B,,,,y Ho!

Cheers Dears

Mike

Line up at the Pits at the June Club Meeting



I can't entirely pass over my contribution to Mike's model's sad demise. Mike generously handed over control to me to try it out but I found the model to be very twitchy, in spite of the centre of gravity and the control throws being set as recommended. I had to hand back control to Mike before I crashed his nice new model (but not with the intention of letting him do so!) I do prefer to use a forward centre of gravity and reduced control throws for most of my models. LP

SMFC Summer Events:

Training and Development Day – The Training and Development Day went ahead on Saturday 18th June. There was a reasonable turnout of fliers despite the weather being cool, cloudy & breezy, probably 15 or more during the day. Not many asked for help, but two new Members got several flights, thanks mainly to Roy Spence & his own Trainer. Roy also flew his FPV model but only the two new Members took advantage of the opportunity. Phil's new Angel was also test flown by Bill. The Club Trainer was flown to make sure it was OK but it didn't get used as Roy used his own trainer & gave several flights' tuition. Most Members simply flew "for fun" rather than for tuition, but that was their choice.

Thanks go to Bill Michie for supervising this event and to all the Instructors and Examiners who committed to be at the flying site for the day.

Scale Day- Sunday 24th July:

As usual, normal flying at the site will be suspended from about 11AM to 4PM, when only scale and scale-like model aircraft may take to the air. This event provides the opportunity for club members to display their most cosseted models to other club members but "scale-like" will be interpreted very flexibly! There will be a mild competitive aspect to the day, with models and pilots being assessed by their peers.

Families BBQ – Sunday 21st August.

This is a new event to encourage family members to join us on site: a lunch-time BBQ. 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.

Mark's Safety Spot:

No words from Mark this month as he and Linda are in places across the channel, allegedly taking part in demanding Pattern Aerobatic competitions but apparently just sunning themselves:



North Weald Club Fly-in and Bring and Buy:

I popped in to this event on North Weald Airfield at the end of May. The weather was decidedly non-flying weather: cold and very windy, so I did not attempt any aviation. A few more hardy souls from the North Weald club put up some of their heavier and faster models, although I can't say that flying such models so close to an active runway with light aircraft landing not far away appeared to be quite in accord with the spirit of the Air Navigation Act: "thou shall not endanger any flying.....". Hope there's better weather at "Wings and Wheels" this weekend.

Flying apart, I did enjoy a very nice burger and picked up quite a few very cheap bits and pieces, and a little model of a wasp (an ornithopter) – might do for our Scale Day!

And Finally – the Vickers Varsity:

An item in RC Model World from a Richard Sperry requesting any scale plans of the 1950's vintage RAF crew and non-fast jet pilot trainer – the Vickers Varsity (often referred to as the "Pig" because of its rotund fuselage) caught my attention this month. I put in quite a few hours on this already rather antiquated aircraft in the late '60s and I bought a vacuum formed plastic model kit of it many years ago, which came with some good 1/72 scale drawings. I also found a drawing that I produced when I calibrating airfield and navigation aids when flying in the "Pig", probably scaled from an official RAF handbook. Copies of the plans have been sent to Richard and it is hoped that he will go ahead and produce nice model of this forgotten aircraft – well not quite forgotten; as there is one example in the RAF Museum at Cosford and another in the Imperial War Museum at Duxford.



Laurie