

Stansted Model Flying Club Newsletter

March, 2017

Our next meeting will be on Monday 3rd April: at Ugley Village Hall at 8PM – or at the Flying Site from 4PM until dusk if the weather is good.

Mike's Chat:

At our last meeting we were given another chance to fly indoors - by courtesy of Mark who set up (with the help of Pete, who likes to complicate things) a simulator running a bombing programme. The simulators provided us with a variety of aircraft that were mostly unsuitable for hitting a target which moved about! (although to be fair, Mark did tell us which way the target was going.) This led to the less fussy of us dropping bombs in any which way, provided they could work out how to master the double tap release (a devilish Pete system (I plead guilty!)) The saving grace about the evening was that the good flyers made as many spectacular crashes as the ordinary flyers, and Pete was awarded "Best Crash" when he dumped a Vintage type model (with full bomb load?) into the target area. To be fair Pete didn't have any more choice of model type than the rest of us, or did he? (he hinted darkly).

Anyway, it was a great evening that was enjoyed by all and we give our grateful thanks to Mark Mould for getting there early and setting it all up so that we could sharpen our reflexes without damage or loss.

We MAY have a good evening at Hadstock suitable for flying or a general forum in the village hall. Here's hoping, we are due some good weather, sometime.

Cheers Dears

Mike



Fun Bombing Competition in Progress



Yet another spectacular crash – but not by Mike, this time

Forthcoming Regular Club Events:

Monday, April 3rd: An informal evening at Ugley Village Hall from 8PM, ready for the new flying season. Members may wish to bring in any new models that they will be flying this season. If the weather is good, the venue will be changed to the flying site from 4PM. I will circulate an e-mail on the day or maybe the day before if the weather forecast makes this option viable.

First Monday of every month from May to October – Club Summer evening flying sessions.

Club Events for the Summer Flying Season:

The club will be hosting a BMFA Team Selection event on Sunday 23rd April so 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.

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

East Anglia Area “Clubman” Aerobatic Training Events:

These Clubman Events are aimed at ordinary club members who would like to have a go at aerobatics - not necessarily to perform a schedule but to be coached on how to fly a proper loop, bunt etc. The idea is to help club pilots who wish to learn how to improve their aerobatic skills by providing coaching by experienced aerobatic pilots – to be clear; this is F3A or precision aerobatics and not 3D aerobatics. 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. As the day progresses, and depending on the pilot, it is hoped to expand to flying at least 2 to 3 linked manoeuvres. Clearly, those who want to have a go at the full Clubman Schedule will be encouraged to do so. The aircraft that can be used include Wot 4s, Acrowots, as well more specialist aerobatic aircraft of both 3D and F3A types. Pilots will get advice on their aircraft setup as well as guidance on how to fly the manoeuvres in the Clubman Schedule.

These events will take place as follows:

Clubman 1 - Sunday 30th April - Raydon & District MAC

Clubman 2 - Sunday 21 May - Harlow & District MFC

Clubman 3 - Saturday 17 June - South Norfolk (near Wymondham)

Clubman 4 - either Aug 12/13 or Aug 19/20 - awaiting location.

Maximum number of participants will be 12 with the host Club guaranteed 5 places. If you are interested in taking part in one of these events, please contact Peter Jenkins at peterjenkinsbmfc@btinternet.com. There will be a charge of £5 per entrant to cover the costs of providing food and drink and to meet other miscellaneous costs

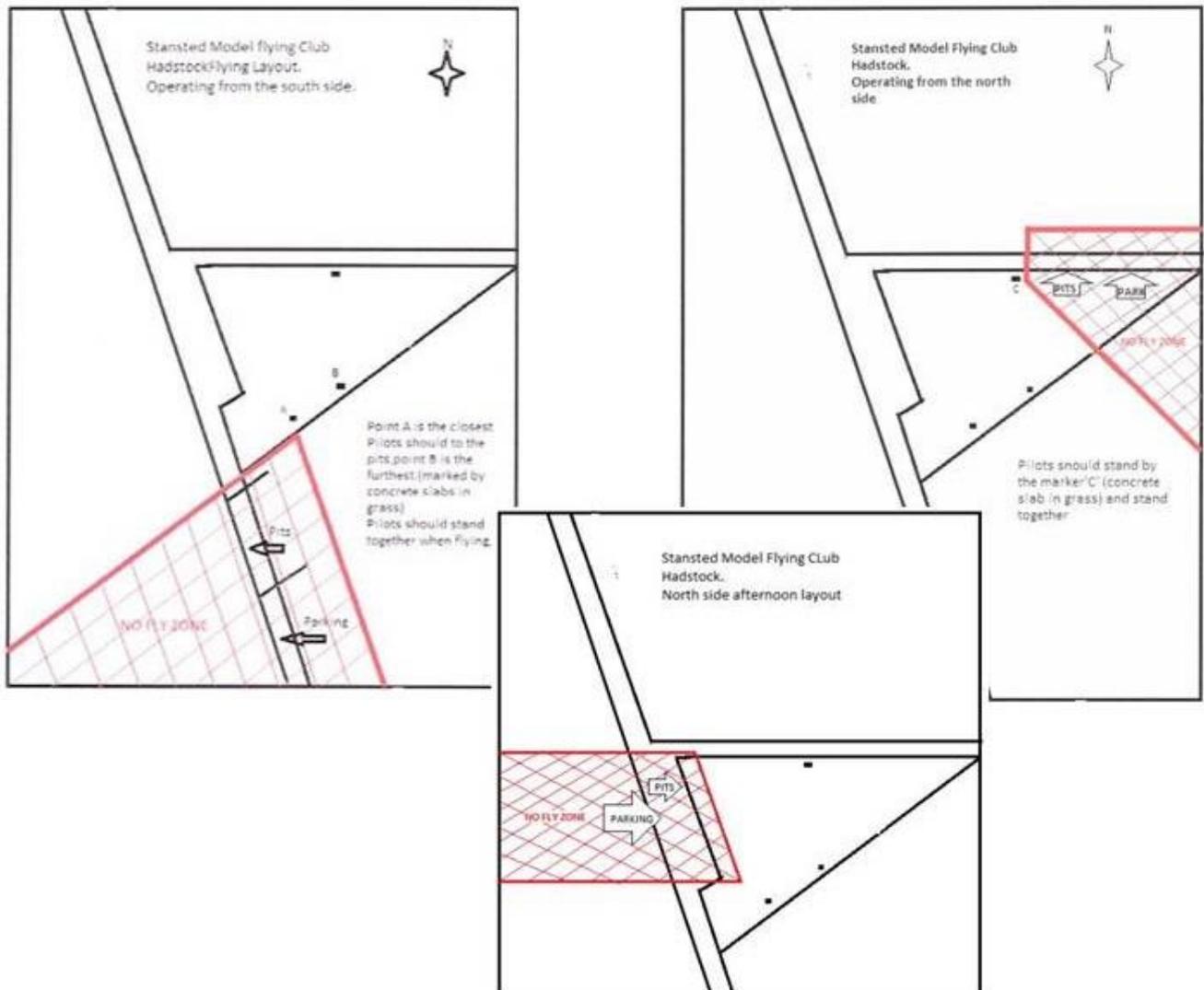
Membership Update:

With over 85% of last year's membership signed up for this year, the club should be solvent for 2017 – which should please the Treasurer! I'll be sending out reminders to the laggards, so maybe there will be a few more renewals, ready for the start of the summer flying season.

Pilot Positioning at the Flying Site:

I've noticed some members operating model aircraft whilst standing in the pits near to their cars recently – no doubt the cold weather has discouraged people from moving too far from the warmth of their cars! As we are coming up to the new flying season, when there will be many more members on-site, it seems an appropriate time to remind members that they should stand together

at the locations shown on the site "Operating Diagrams" as shown below (and displayed on the back of the notice board at the flying site) when operating model aircraft. This will ensure that models are flown from positions at least 30M from cars and spectators – as required by the SMFC.



And Finally:

My house hunting is making progress with an offer accepted on a bungalow in Stansted Abbots. The main attraction for me is the cavity walled and heated garage with a small loft area above it – a "Man Cave" that's just right for model building and storage!

Laurie