

# Stansted Model Flying Club Newsletter – May, 2018

*Mike's Chat:*

***Our next meeting will be at Hadstock. It's Summer, well almost, so see you on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June***

I saw Peter in the town recently and we both agreed that it was too hot! Anyway, no doubt we will be flying before long. Martin was up there on the bank holiday with a very nice Cirrus Moth powered by an ideal engine, an O.S. 48.

We also had the pleasure of a new member's company: namely Peter Sainsbury, who had a very nice (big wingspan) electric glider. It went up like a rocket on only a three cell battery as Peter tried to encourage our old friend the Buzzard to join him. A very interesting model, an OD (Own design) with about two-metres wingspan.

*Cheers, Dears, Mike*

## **General Data Protection Regulation:**

Tony Sparsis writes:

I have been appointed Data Compliance Officer for Stanstead MFC. On May 25<sup>th</sup> the General Data Protection Regulation comes into force. As a Club we have to be compliant with this Act and the data we collect and what we do with the data. On the website [www.stanstedmfc.com](http://www.stanstedmfc.com) there is a new policy that has been put up. It's called the Privacy Policy and I urge each member to read the policy. There is a link at the bottom of each page and one in the documents section of the site.

The GDPR includes the following rights for club members:.

- The right to be informed
- The right to access
- The right to rectification
- The right to erasure
- The right to restrict processing
- The right to data portability
- The right to object
- The right not to be subject to automated decision-making including profiling.

On the whole, the rights of the individuals will enjoy under the GDPR are the same as those under the Data Protection Act, but with some significant enhancements.

You can contact me via e-mail: [tonysparris@gmail.com](mailto:tonysparris@gmail.com) or mobile 07710205762 Jason has also created a Facebook group that you can sign up to. The link is on the front page of the Club's website.

## **Safety Matters – Positioning of Pilots:**

This is a topic that comes up regularly in the newsletter, but still needs repeating and emphasising as several members seem to think that it does not apply to them.

Mike Pearce, our Safety Officer, writes:

- 1) All club members are subject to the club's rules.
- 2) When we are flying from the south side of the field (parked on the road nearest to the farm) the pit area must not extend past the beginning of the grass area.
- 3) The closest we can stand to the pits when flying is the first slab in the grass. This gives around 30 meters of dead airspace between the pits area and the operating area when flying an approach parallel to the pits area. This is a safety margin to protect people in the pits area and any members of the public on the path. It does reduce the landing area available but it is needed for safety reasons.
- 4) All operating pilots should stand together. This is essential as it enables communication between pilots and makes all the available field usable.

Regardless of the above it's worth mentioning model flying is regulated in the UK by the Civil Aviation Authority and regulations regarding model flying practices are subject to the Air Navigation Order, which is embodied in UK law and you could be prosecuted for breaking this law.

Our Chairman, Jason adds:

The rule regarding the distance from the pits to the first slab is 30 meters and this is the safety distance that comes from the BMFA. Whilst the BMFA guidelines are just guidelines, the Article from the Air Navigation Order that the BMFA handbook is taken from is not a guideline, and as we have the available field distance we will comply.

### ***And Finally:***

On a lighter note, it seems that I've brought the high winds that seem to dog my attempts to fly my lighter models at Hadstock to here in southern Greece. It's been decidedly breezy if pleasant in the sun by the sea. Just as well that I did not bring any models with me!



*Still, the food is good! Something for the next club barbeque?*

*Laurie*