

“It’s always a good evening, so have a go!”

We started off the last meeting with a club Raffle which raised £29 for club funds, and provided the lucky ones with a wide selection of prizes.

Jason introduced Shahid who is now our safety officer, a very experienced flyer and more than ready to help Bill with explanations on the use of computer radio. Shahid came complete with a Lap-Top and flight simulator, where he demonstrated prop hanging, and other interesting flight patterns which can be achieved, when you develop the skills needed which in my case will take a long time! Anyway, the use of computer radio it was explained is not simply to use all the special features, useful as they may be.

It was made clear that your servos must be mechanically well set up, so as to give you the best chance of powerful accurate movement and an understanding of mechanical advantage (or disadvantage). One very popular use of special movement was exponential, which made controls soft in the centre, although allowing full movement of control surfaces at maximum stick movement. This can catch out the unwary. The best plan is to not use too much, say 30%, which will give you a softer centre control, and not frighten you too much at full deflection! Bill showed the effects of various inputs on his “Shockie’.’ where the control surfaces are big, and the movements large enough to demonstrate effectively.

To wet our appetites, Shahid showed a DVD of a young German flyer performing really outstanding manoeuvres with a large petrol powered model Yak. (why is it that the Germans always seem to excel at these competitive situations?) Shahid suggested that he (the German) was using a lot of mixing in order to produce the movements demonstrated. He said that mixing should not replace mechanical trimming, but it often does! To save time, and to be able to fly a bent model!

A few of us including Peter and myself~ had a “go” at the simulator, and enjoyed a bit of reckless flying and crashing (at no cost).

We are indebted to Shahid for bringing along his gear and letting us loose on it and also for his very interesting approach to “Freestyle Aerobatics” (nothing to it really!)

Our first Indoor meet on Jan 22nd was very well attended, including Laurie’s Ornicopter! Laurie very kindly helped me to trim out (long overdue) the little “Cub I1 and it is now much more docile (doesn’t try to kill itself) and enjoyable. Bill had a job getting there due I think to work and he and Rob enjoyed the fun with their “Breezes”. Bob Coat was very busy taking photographs of unsuspecting flyers, and also nearly got run-over by a Tiger Tank which Laurie was demonstrating. Mark had some bad luck when his sweet little Biplane met something bigger and suffered as a result. Before I forget, Club members are invited to attend a talk at Harlow club on Fri 4th Feb 2011, at the usual venue Moot House, The Stow, Harlow.

Paul Winter will be giving a talk on “How to make your models lighter” (he makes his own “Light-Ply”). There is a lot to get through, so please note the talk is at 8pm sharp!
Cheers dears, Mike