

So, come as soon as you can, stay til late!

Our last meeting was on 1st April (after 12 noon), and after general complaints about the weather, it was agreed that the Website would remain as is for the immediate future. The consensus of opinion was that the existing site was adequate for club purposes, and there was no need to complicate matters. We then had tea early, which seemed to go down well with everyone!

After tea the committee were asked to explain club policy regarding the flying of Helicopters and fixed wing. i.e. who had priority etc. This was met with surprise, as the answer is COURTESY. The Committee explained that by being polite we have always managed to get along with one another (a flying machine, and a machine that flies), and there is no good reason to make rules which could hamper enjoyment and encourage selfishness.

The committee hope that this reasonable behaviour will continue in the club, so that both types of aircraft can be flown in an atmosphere of enjoyment, rather than resentment!

We then managed to corner Shahid, to make him explain the OCTOCOPTER! It would seem that Shahid has landed the job of a lifetime, as he was ASKED to learn to fly the weird machine (which is a very versatile camera). Pete seemed to take to it straight away and managed to get a short film on his mobile of the antics of the 'Thing' as it followed a canal boat up the river Stort. What else could film at 4 mph over water?

The name of the recently formed company is CINEWORKS, and Shahid is the only Pilot. (lucky him) The company film special projects like "Grand Designs" and "Restoration Home" and on occasion canal boats!

The "Thing" can fly for 8 mins (depending on Lipos), and has to be landed in a foam box (no retracts save weight) so depth perception is vital (no good for me then). It has a built in GPS system, and the gimbal mount for the camera is vibration free, however, in spite of these features Health and Safety insist on continuous checks to ensure people don't walk into it! So, as well as Shahid at the helm, there has to be a spotter (On a high crane), and a cameraman. Pinewood Studio, which are American now, are good at special effects; most of their films seem to be based on extraordinary happenings nowadays. So it would appear that Shahid is going to be gainfully employed for a long time to come (and good luck to him)

We might even see his name in the credits before long, let's hope that CINEWORKS works for him.

It DID cross my mind that the date could be responsible for a great "Wind – up" However, it was after 12 noon!

Cheers Dears, Mike