

Stansted Model Flying Club Newsletter – November, 2018

Our Annual General Meeting be held on Monday, 3rd, December at 8PM in Ugley Village Hall

The November Monthly Meeting was well attended. The highlight of the evening was an impressive practical presentation of 3-D model aircraft printing by James Blease. James said that he had to spend several months learning how to program the printer but was able to download for free complex model designs from the Internet. Apparently, considerable 3-D Computer-aided Design skills as well as a knowledge of aerodynamics is required to create these designs. Such designs take many months to produce.

Although it requires only about £20 of material (plastic filament) to print out models, it takes many print runs of many hours to produce each discrete element – which then have to be butt-jointed together to form a finished component such as a wing half.



James' printer is on the table to the left where it is printing out a section of wing, and examples of completed work are on display to the right.

Although heavier than traditional construction - but not excessively so - the 3-D printed output looked well suited to the smooth surfaces and faster flying of the "warbird" model genre. The printed structure could perhaps be described as semi-monocoque, with much of the strength in the outer skin but supported by an intricate internal web-like structure. James' offer of the half Spitfire wing for free was not taken up by any of the members present!

Mike and Dane brought quite a few models and other items to sell but have some items still to sell - maybe they will bring them along again to the December meeting.

I've been indulging in a late burst of flying up at Hadstock before I leave the club. Occasionally, there have been a few other members up there, showing that not all of us have yet gone into hibernation for the winter!

Events:

Monday 3rd December – AGM and pre-Xmas get together

Monthly Meetings for the start of 2019:

January, February, and March - on the 1st Monday of the month 8PM at Ugley Village Hall.

April – on the first Monday of the month at the flying site from 4PM if the weather is suitable and if not at Ugley Village Hall at 8PM.

SMFC AGM Agenda:

1. Welcome and Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM – These can be found on the SMFC Web Site.
3. Matters arising.
4. Committee Members' reports: Chairman; Membership Secretary; Treasurer; Secretary, Safety Officer & Website Admin.
5. Presentation of Alan Banks and Nigel Smith Memorial Trophies
6. Election or Confirmation of Committee Members : ALL positions are available to be contested and the post of Secretary will be vacant.
7. Committee Proposals:
 - Club Subscriptions for 2018
 - Any other Committee Proposals.
8. Members' Proposals.
9. A.O.B.
10. Close and hot refreshments.

And Finally:

Well, this is it, finally: my last Newsletter for the club. I will be standing down as Acting Secretary at the AGM and will be leaving the club at the end of the year. With my move to Stanstead Abbots it has not proved very practical to travel regularly all the way to Hadstock to fly, so I shall be seeking out a more local club in the New Year. This may well be Harlow, so I would hope to meet up with SMFC members who are also members of Harlow MFC too. I shall also be looking out for any invites to Harlow MFC members to SMFC events – so you may see me up at Hadstock now and again.

I greatly appreciate the support and interest of SMFC members in my model construction and flying endeavours over that last decade or so, as well as the opportunities you've all given me to observe some interesting flying – it's nice to see that it's not just me who crashes!

Repair/Re-Build of "Queen Bee"

*Moral: don't try to fly
in high winds!*



Step 2: Stick what you can together – skill at jigsaws is an asset here. Add in a "few" new bits.



Step 1: Collect and lay out all the bits that you can find – refrain from despair/panic!



Step 3: Admire the result before covering – and risking a test flight.

May I wish you all the best for the future and, of course, a great Xmas!

Laurie