

Newsletter



January 2009

Editor Nick Neve.

Number 78

2009 AUCTION

This will be held on **5th February** in Colwall Village Hall. It would be appreciated if those sellers with a number of entries could contact Nick Neve [01684 561160] beforehand or email him at nickneve@clara.co.uk with a descriptive list of items.

CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE. This will be held at the Elms School on Friday 10th of April 2009 between 7 and 9:30 pm. This year it is based on the BMFA "Gyminnie Cricket" model, see the details below. Malcolm White has a supply of kits and rubber available.

2009 Chairman's Challenge Rules.

Specification of the Model:

The model must be to the same plan form as the "Gyminnie Cricket" published plan. That is to say:

The maximum projected wingspan of 381mm (15") and a maximum chord of 101.6mm (4").

The tailplane to have a maximum span of 220mm and a maximum chord at the centre of 45mm.

The motor stick and boom to be the same length as on the published plan.

Also:

The fin has to be the same shape and area, and in the same position as the published plan.

The following modifications to the model can be made:

Sizes and quality of balsa used.

Type of covering.

Type and size of propeller.

Cross section and length of rubber motor.

Airfoil sections on the flying surfaces.

Any small details within the model e.g. Rear motor hook, Pylon, Rib positions.

Useful websites:

<http://www.bmfa.org/education/kits.html>

<http://www.bmfa.org/tech/indoor/files/GCPlanA4.pdf>

http://www.bmfa.org/tech/indoor/files/GCbuild_inst.pdf

For indoor materials contact: -

Sams Models, The Chapel, Sandon, Buntingford, Herts. SG9 0QJ, Phone - 01763

287606 www.samsmodels.demon.co.uk

Flitehook, 42 Player's Crescent, Totton, Southampton, Hants. SO40 9AZ. Phone - 023

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The Challenge event will be held at the Elms School on Friday 10th of April 2009.

NATIONAL HEIGHT RECORD. We hear that the BMFA Council have now approved the claim by Steve Hannon for a new National Height record. Steve attained an altitude of 690m [2,264 ft] above Fish Meadow last August. Congratulations to Steve who now holds both the altitude and duration records. Members of the MSA currently hold four national records, the others being indoor duration records in the Cat I class [ceilings under 8 m].

MSA AGM, DRAW AND PRIZEGIVING. This took place in December in Colwall Village Hall. The MSA subscription remains fixed at £10.00 so with the BMFA fee set again at £28.00 the total due for

a senior member is £38.00. Malcolm White won the draw for the second year running and Steve Hannon was declared Club Champion so nothing much changes round here. Mike Grantham stepped down after many years a Club Competition Secretary and John Freeman was elected in his place. It was also agreed that we would hold a "pairs" thermal event during the summer where a less experienced pilot is teamed with a more experienced one, however the event will not count towards the club championship. It was also announced that the gate code would revert to the 2007 combination on 1 Feb 2009. Call Nick Neve on 01684 561160 if you do not know what it was then.

TALKING TIMERS. I have located an unusual source of talking timers at a cost of £9.99 each including delivery from Cobolt Systems Ltd, who supply items for the blind (obvious I suppose when you think about it).

Search their site at: <http://www.cobolt.co.uk/> . When set on count down the remaining time is spoken every hour until the last hour, every 10 minutes until the last 10 minutes, every minute until the last minute, every 10 seconds until the last 10 seconds then every second. This is useful in a number of MSA thermal events where precision landings are called for.



BMFA AGM. We sent a junior staff reporter to the BMFA AGM held at Coventry on the 23rd November. First and foremost this was the occasion at which Jim Andrews of the MSA was elected a Fellow of the Society, the highest award that can be bestowed upon a member. We congratulate Jim on the lifetime of dedication and service he has given to aeromodelling. Unfortunately our junior reporter's camera failed to record this historic event and caused some alarm by catching fire later in the evening. He also reports that the membership fees, including insurance, for 2009 will remain at the same levels as 2008, that is no increase this year. The BMFA income rose above the one million pound mark for the first time in its history and the membership was up slightly at 36,500. On the safety front, accident claims were down at 28 (2008 - 34) but the damage awards are increasing all the time. Because of this the BMFA have had to increase the civil liability upper limit of indemnity to £10,000,000.. Other sports now have even higher limits and one recent claim resulted in a £6,250,000 payout. Members were reminded that the personal accident part of our insurance did not apply to members over 80. John French was re-elected as Records Officer with 1,075 voted to Steve Ogden's 590. This represents just a 4.6% turnout. The vacant post of Secretary is expected to be filled this month by the co-option of Robin Sleight whom some members will recall was the Contest Director at the 1998 Upton-upon-Severn World Championships.

FEES [Effective 1 Jan 2009] are now due.

Senior fees (aged 18+): BMFA £28.00, MSA £10.00, total £38.00;

Junior fees (under 18): BMFA £15.00, MSA free, total £15.00;

Family (Seniors): BMFA £28.00, MSA £10.00, total £38.00;

Family (Partners): BMFA £18.00, MSA free, total £18.00;

Family (Juniors): BMFA £11.00, MSA free, total £11.00.

MSA Social Member (non-BMFA): MSA £10.00, total £10.00.

When completed, please post your renewal, enclosing your MSA membership card if you are renewing an existing membership, a photocopy of your current BMFA card if you have joined elsewhere, plus a stamped addressed envelope and a cheque made payable to "Malvern Soaring Association" for the full amount (including the BMFA if applicable) to:

Tony Wright,
29 Jasmine Road, Malvern Wells, Worcs,
WR14 4XD.

Tel: 01684 566192.

ROYAL AERO CLUB TRUST BURSARY SCHEME.

The Royal Aero Club Trust has opened its bursary scheme for young people for the 2009 season. Each bursary, of up to £500, is available to anyone between 16 and 21 years of age wishing to progress their interest in either air sports or aviation. The closing date for applications is 31 March 2009. The Royal Aero Club Trust has been running the programme for nine years and a wide range of bursaries has been awarded. Activities available in the programme include gliding, ballooning, paragliding, hang gliding, parachuting, flying microlights, motor gliders, fixed wing or light aeroplanes and helicopters,

building and flying model aircraft. Bursaries are also available for Personal Computer or Flight Simulator pilots wishing to have their first experience of an air sport. Applicants must be UK citizens, resident in the UK, and training and flying can only be conducted at Clubs, Associations or training establishments in the UK. Applications, which must arrive at the Trust by 31 March 2009, are to be submitted through a Sponsoring Organisation, Club or Association.

Full details, rules and an application form are available on the Royal Aero Club Trust web site, <http://www.royalaeroclubtrust.org>

HELP FOR NEW MEMBERS. David Toye has asked that the following be published. David was a Club Instructor at his previous club before moving to Malvern.

"Any newcomers to flying might like to bear in mind that I have an effective "Buddy Box" system to help with those early slope flights. I can link up my FF9 transmitter with one of its predecessors, a Skysport 6, via an electronic trainer lead to enable you to enjoy your early flights without the worry of crashing your new model. The only restriction is that both my Skysport 6s ("your transmitter") are on Mode 1 - i.e. elevator on the left stick, which happens to be the way most of our members fly. Enjoy all of the fun of flying without any of the accompanying responsibility for safety or the model (my model!), as all responsibility for your flying rests with me. If you would like some help, ring me on Malvern 576577. I am happy to give up some weekday flying time and the use of a trimmed model to help get you started. David Toye.

Many thanks David for offering to help in this way.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

MSA PROGRAMME - 2009. Club Championship events are shown in **bold** type.

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
<u>January</u>		
Thursday 8th	Club meeting 8pm, doors open 7.30pm	Colwall Village Hall
Friday 9th	Indoor Flying	Elms School
Sunday 18th	Winter 3: Speed	Table Hill area
Friday 30th	Indoor Flying	Elms School
<u>February</u>		
Thursday 5th	Auction: 8:15 pm, doors open 7.30pm	Colwall Village Hall
Sunday 15th	Winter 4: Mini Cross country	Table Hill area
Sunday 22nd	Winter 1 [resheduled]: Loops and landings	Table Hill area
Friday 27th	Indoor Flying	Elms School
<u>March</u>		
Thursday 12th	Club meeting, 8pm, doors open 7:30 pm	Colwall Village Hall
Sunday 15th	Slope 1 - Slalom	Table Hill area
Friday 27th	Indoor Flying	Elms School
<u>April</u>		
Sunday 4th	BMFA F3b League	Fish Meadow (no club flying)
Friday 10th	Indoor Flying, "The Chairman's Challenge"	Elms School
Sunday 19th	Slope 2 - Limbo	Table Hill area
Saturday 25th	BARCS Open HLG [F3K] event	Fish Meadow (open to MSA members also)
<u>May</u>		
Sunday 3rd	Thermal 1 - Precision Duration	Fish Meadow
Sunday 17th	Thermal 2 - Three Flight Aggregate	Fish Meadow
<u>June</u>		
Sunday 14th	Slope 3 - Loops	Table Hill area
Friday 26th & Saturday 27th &		

Sunday 28th July	24th Upton Jazz Festival	Fish Meadow (no club flying)
Sunday 5th	Slope 4 - Speed	Table Hill area
Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th	British Triathlon	Fish Meadow (restricted club flying)
Sunday 19th <u>August</u>	Thermal 3 - Progressive Time	Fish Meadow
Sunday 2nd	Thermal 4 - Rudder Elevator Spoiler event	Fish Meadow
Sunday 30th <u>September</u>	Slope 5 - Cross Country	Table Hill area
Saturday 5th		
Sunday 6th	Hereford MAC / LMA Show	Much Marcle
Sunday 6th	Thermal 5 - Regressive Time	Fish Meadow
Sunday 20th	BMFA F3b League	Fish Meadow (no club flying)
Sunday 27th <u>October</u>	Thermal 6 - BARCS Rules	Fish Meadow
Saturday 3rd	BARCS Open HLG [F3K] Event [reserve day]	Fish Meadow
Sunday 18th	Slope 6 - Speed	Table Hill area
November		
Thursday 5th	Club night	Colwall Village Hall
<u>December</u>		
Thursday 3rd	Annual General Meeting and Prize Draw	Colwall Village Hall

EAT CATTLE REARED ON FISH MEADOW You now have the opportunity to eat one, visit <http://www.pegotyhedge.co.uk> to discover how. I have just tried the organic cottage pie and found it delicious.

MAGAZINE SECTION. January is the traditional time for predicting what is in store for the coming year. We confidently predict that in:

JANUARY. All flying is halted by freak hailstones as big as footballs. A Met Office weather-girl admits: *'We didn't see that one coming.'*

FEBRUARY. With the emergency services distracted by flooding, Somali pirates make off with six Upton Marina cruisers. England wins the Six Nations Rugby, their final match being played at The Royal Albert Hall due to flooding at Twickenham.

MARCH. Nick Leeson is made Governor of the Bank of England. Gordon Brown explains: *'We needed a man who's seen a run on a bank.'*

APRIL. Following an exhaustive health-and-safety debate, the Croome Point-to-Point fences are removed. The course has flooded anyway, and is now home to a flock of confused pelicans.

MAY. The first rice crop is successfully harvested on Fish Meadow.

JUNE. Gordon Brown visits the Three Counties Show and would have been taken round the "Eco-friendly Climate Change Green Drought Garden" had it not all been washed away in violent thunderstorms followed by flash floods.

JULY. A tsunami travels up the River Severn as far as Worcester. Andy Murray wins Wimbledon after snow interrupts play. *'It takes a Scot to win in these conditions'* he says.

AUGUST. Roman Abramovich's yacht is carried up the River Severn by a freak wave and is grounded on Fish Meadow. George Osborne, taking 'a RC gliding holiday' with his family, is spotted borrowing oilskins from the oligarch.

SEPTEMBER. New series of "Strictly Come Swimming" abandoned when John Sergeant beats a dolphin by popular vote.

OCTOBER. Prince Charles grows a record pumpkin and concedes he owes it all to GM. The Upton to Worcester river-bank path is deemed too dangerous for ramblers because it's too near the water.

NOVEMBER. A Tate cleaner wins the Turner Prize for a broom she accidentally left leaning against a door. The first oranges are harvested in Malvern as a late heat-wave hits Worcestershire.

DECEMBER. As the pound reaches parity with the Zimbabwean dollar, Robert Mugabe steps in to bailout Britain.

Please fly safely all the time, Nick Neve.