

MSA Newsletter



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CONCORDE AIRBORNE AGAIN.



Our staff photographer was extremely fortunate in having his camera at the ready and captured this unique shot of a Concorde airliner which has been secretly restored to flying condition by a small group of aviation enthusiasts in a hangar at a disused airfield in Herefordshire. It was making its maiden subsonic flight over the Malverns on 1 April 2013, an event which seems to have gone unnoticed in the national press and has now become an historic scoop for the MSA Newsletter. Our thanks to Brian at EW Publications for this remarkable photograph.

2013 MSA AUCTION . The annual auction was again held in Colwall Village Hall on 7th February. The number of lots received was well down on previous years, as was the attendance, However nearly all the 36 lots sold and top price of £61 was paid for a Sagitta airframe in super condition. Financial Summary. Total paid by buyers = £ 305.50; received by MSA as a Seller = £ 2.00; received by MSA as commission = £ 29.25; total due to MSA = £ 31.25; total paid to sellers = £ 276.25. After the Village Hall booking fees were paid this year's auction barely broke even and the question must be asked - has the popularity of our annual auction declined to the point that it's future is in some doubt. Perhaps we should give it a

rest for a year or two?

HUMAN POWERED AIRCRAFT - ICARUS CUP 2013. This event has been sanctioned by the FAI as an FAI 2nd Category Event. This is the very first time that this sport has featured in the FAI Events Calendar. The event, organised by the Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS), will take place at Sywell Aerodrome Northampton, Great Britain, from 19 to 28 July 2013. Robert Hughes, Senior Sports Manager for the FAI said “The FAI is “delighted to support the Royal Aeronautical Society as it organises the 2013 Icarus Cup for Human Powered Aircraft. This is a very exciting branch of aviation and we welcome the event as an FAI Category 2 competition in the FAI Sporting Calendar. We are confident that the 2013 Icarus Cup will lead the way to the first FAI World Championship for Human Powered Aircraft in 2014 and wish the RAeS the best of luck in their preparations this year.”

CALENDAR 2013. [All competitions start at 10.30 am.]

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
April		
Sunday 7th.	E Soaring 2 - Distance	Upton - Fish Meadow
Friday 12th.	Indoor Flying [7 - 9:30 pm] THE CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE	Elms School
Saturday 13th.	F3b - BMFA National League	Upton - Fish Meadow (no club flying)
Sunday 14 th	F3j - MSA Open. This event qualifies for the BARCS League. Entries to Mike Raybone (mcmray@blueyonder.co.uk) MSA members are encouraged to enter.	Upton - Fish Meadow (no club sport flying)
Sunday 21st.	Thermal 2 - Progressive Times	Upton - Fish Meadow
May		
Friday 3rd, Saturday 4th Sunday 5th, Monday 6th	Upton Folk Festival [Town venues]	Fish Meadow is available for club flying
Sunday 5th.	Thermal 3 - Three Flight Aggregate	Upton - Fish Meadow
Sunday 19th	Slope 2 - X- country,	Malverns - Table Hill area
June		
Sunday 2nd.	Slope 3 - Limbo	Malverns - Table Hill area
Sunday 16th.	E Soaring 3 - BARCS Rules	Upton - Fish Meadow
Friday 28th, Saturday 29th, Sunday 30th.	Upton Jazz Festival	Festival Camping on Fish Meadow (no club flying)

NEWS FROM AMERICA. Some readers will know that I escape the worst of the Malvern winter snows nowadays and spend the late winter months in the foothills of the Catalina Mountains outside the sunny Arizona desert city of Tucson. By crafty use of the Internet, I try to keep the website up to date but my apologies to the three remaining MSA members not on the Internet but I am afraid you will not receive this newsletter as soon as the others. I have just been reading the March copy of RC Sport Flyer, an excellent Electric and Soaring magazine edited for many years now by soaring enthusiast Wil Byers. In his editorial Wil discusses what he describes as ‘*the evolution in electric-powered sailplanes*’. He uses the terms LMR - limited motor run and ALES - Altitude Limited Electric Soaring in describing how these

are *'rapidly changing the soaring scene forever'*. He refers to the devices produced over here by Soaring Circuits [<http://www.soaringcircuits.com/>] and Winged Shadow [<http://www.wingedshadow.com/>] as *'just one more example of innovations based on the need that continues to come out of model sport'*. He goes on to speculate that *'I am betting that it will not be long before we see a FAI competition class introduced for ALES'*. With their current F5j class failing to gain support, the need for a simpler class would be welcomed.

The magazine then features reviews of two almost ready to fly models. First the E-Flight 'Mystique, a 2.9 metre (114 inch) span electric powered sailplane with a Selig 3021 airfoil, with factory hinged flaps and ailerons and a wing loading of 10.9 oz/sq. ft. There is an excellent article at:

<http://www.aerobatics-ni.org.uk/wpa/2012/12/eflite-mystique-2-9m/>

The model is priced at \$370 here in the USA but is out of stock until May.



Also featured is the Esprit Models [<http://Espritmodel.com/>] 2.4 metre Albatross with an attractive 'Bird of Time' wing plan form which will make it easily recognisable whilst airborne. The article also shows the use of a plywood jig to cut off the fuselage nose in order to fit the motor mount with the correct side and down thrust. Visit to the Esprit Models website to see a large range of ready to fly ALES models.

Other concerns here are with regard to the use of camera carrying drones and some States have legislation in the offing to ban their use. Clearly the word 'Drone' requires definition as to the general public this conjures up an image of a Reaper seeking terrorists rather than a small RC aircraft with a video camera. The list of states pursuing restrictions on the use of unmanned aircraft systems, or UAS ('drones') continues to grow. The Academy's Government Relations Team has been diligently working to continue to update members on the progression of legislation by posting information on an informational map

posted on the AMA's website <http://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/drone-legislation/>. Over the weekend, ten new states were added to the quickly progressing list. These states include Alaska, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, New Mexico and Rhode Island. Let us hope that the BMFA has this in their sights and will endeavor in their regular discussions with the CAA to ensure that our models are exempt from regulations designed to control commercial and defence usage.

MAGAZINE SECTION.

Hand towing may be going out of fashion these days but this historic photograph shows an early example of the art. Note the hats and a string of pearls.



OVER THE PA

"Welcome to Las Vegas, Nevada. We'd like to thank you for flying Southwest Airlines, and on behalf of the flight deck we'd also like to extend a very special and very happy 101st Birthday to a gentleman seated near the front of the aircraft." *scattered applause* "So, if you happen to see the Captain on the way out, mind his walker, shake his hand, and wish him well with another 100 years working here at Southwest Airlines."

"Folks, we have reached our cruising altitude now, so I am going to switch the seat belt sign off. Feel free to move about as you wish, but please stay inside the plane till we land. It's a bit cold outside, and if you walk on the wings it affects the flight pattern."

"We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of us here at US Airways."

That's all for now folks, I will be back when the snow melts.....Nick Neve.