



**** NEXT EVENT ****

**Christmas Party
Thursday 12th December**

Dear All

Welcome to the November and penultimate 2019 Newsletter!

For those of you who like catching up on the newsletter via the web-site I am pleased to say that the facility for downloading Newsletters from the Web-site is working again!! Although I have had to remove some of the old less used pages.

Your club web-site is available here... <http://firebirds.org.uk/index.html>.

See you all at the Christmas Party, but for now here is the November 2019 newsletter..

Chris.



There's a lot going on in government and I don't mean BREXIT!

It is important that as many members as possible attend the Christmas party this year, as there have been some important legal changes that affect our hobby. This will be DISCUSSED AT MEETING.

The BMFA have been working very hard on our behalf.

If ever there was a time to catch up with the BMFA web-site, it's now.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT - CAA DRONE AND MODEL AIRCRAFT REGISTRATION AND EDUCATION SCHEME (DRES) 28/10/2019

<https://bmfa.org/News/News-Page/ArticleID/2627/CHAIRMANS-STATEMENT-CAA-DRONE-AND-MODEL-AIRCRAFT-REGISTRATION-AND-EDUCATION-SCHEME-DRES>

UPDATE - CAA DRONE AND MODEL AIRCRAFT REGISTRATION AND EDUCATION SCHEME (DRES) - Information for members 23/10/2019

<https://bmfa.org/News/News-Page/ArticleID/2625/UPDATE-CAA-DRONE-AND-MODEL-AIRCRAFT-REGISTRATION-AND-EDUCATION-SCHEME-DRES-Information-for-members>

UPDATE - CAA Drone and Model Aircraft Registration and Education Scheme (DRES) 21/10/2019

<https://bmfa.org/News/News-Page/ArticleID/2624/UPDATE-CAA-Drone-and-Model-Aircraft-Registration-and-Education-Scheme-DRES>

The BMFA held a poll !

Did you vote ? This is was the outcome..



This survey is now closed. 60% of survey respondents selected "Paperless electronic membership documents emailed on joining. (Current method)" 40% of survey respondents selected "An option for hard copy documents including a plastic credit card sized membership card (would involve an extra charge)"



Skittles evening 17th October

The Skittles evening on the 17th October, at the Hamble club was a great success several members brought partners and the Russell brought some prizes.

Winners and losers were ...

Best Male Russell	24
Best Female Jenny (Cope)	20

Wooden Spoons went Rob and Ann.

Thanks go to those that helped on the night especially Sharon, Emma and Maxine.



Action shots from the night..



Autumn Swapmeet

Sunday 17th November 2019

from 8:30am to noon

Mountbatten School, Romsey, SO51 5SY. Admission £4, under 16s free. First table costs £9 (including one admission), additional tables cost £5 each. Refreshments available.

News from the High Street



John Lewis says it stopped selling drones in May amid concerns they were being misused by the general public.

Last year's disruption at Gatwick Airport by drones in December and falling sales prompted its decision, the department store chain said.

"Following the Gatwick drone security breach in December 2018, we made the decision to stop selling drones at John Lewis & Partners this year," said John Lewis' buying director of electricals and home technology Laurence Mitchell.

"Sales were also in decline due to the growing number of restrictions around flying these devices in built-up areas across the country."

John Lewis previously stocked a range of drones, including several models by DJI, the world's biggest consumer drone maker, which were priced at between £1,000-£2,500.

DJI Announces Its Smallest and Lightest Drone Yet

So, the government bring out legislation to stop the unsafe and inappropriate use of drones, (potentially ruining our hobby in the process) then... DJI comes up with an ultra-light drone that'll allow you to side-step a lot of those restrictions! At 249 grams, the Mavic Mini is DJI's smallest and lightest drone yet. It's so small and light that you don't even need to register it with the FAA!! It is rather nice though (Ed.)





The Perfect Christmas present ...? (FAA registration not required)

It is rumoured that following the success of the skittles evening, the Newell family (creators of the annual quiz night) have had an idea, and a rather excellent idea it is too... they have suggested..

“.. a competitive evening of micro-flying with a purpose built obstacle course!!”

Date to be confirmed.

So this inexpensive tiny quadcopter might just be the perfect Christmas present ...? Practice now to make sure you are ready for the big event..



Note: ... I have got mine and I'm already practicing !! (Ed.)

CLICK THIS LINK to BUY ONE NOW .. https://uk.banggood.com/Eachine-H8-Mini-Headless-Mode-2-4G-4CH-6-Axis-RC-Quadcopter-RTF-p-975808.html?gmcCountry=GB¤cy=GBP&createTm=1&utm_source=googleshopping&utm_medium=cpc_bgcs&utm_content=garman&utm_campaign=pla-gbg-rm-all-purchase-pc&ad_id=323612825005&gclid=CjwKCAiwo9rtBRadEiwA_WXcFsE0WVtE6kIjwSMTAnX59_jedFoQk58FHWRgLVkUfoiWxcoNUkhcCCdAQAvD_BwE&ID=23342482&cur_warehouse=CN

Balsa Brain Friday 8th November

Once again the BMFA's Southern Area Balsa Brain Quiz was hosted by the Firebirds this year, attendance was good with the Firebirds putting in 2 teams, but like last year our teams didn't come near the top... At half-time there was an excellent free buffet (funded by the Southern Area).



Note: Photos from 2018 event

At the end of the evening the Southern Area Chairman, Tony Butterworth, thanked the Firebirds for hosting the event.



One of our members spotted this poster...



Advance Notice – No more flying at Woodlands.

Due to lack of members using the woodlands school site and the increasing unavailability due to for football matches over the winter season, it has been decided to not renew our agreement with the school therefore as of the end of November DO NOT FLY at WOODLANDS SCHOOL.

We are hoping that come the spring when the weather is better and the football season is over that we can perhaps try again.



This month down at the field...

Woodlands - 27th October 2019, no wind, no rain just beautiful sun.. although starting to get a bit nippy now!

Pete flew . . a self-built delta wing with a push propeller which flew remarkably well with just elevons (see below). It flew so smoothly that I (Ed.) suggested that he had stabilisation installed, which he didn't take to kindly too!

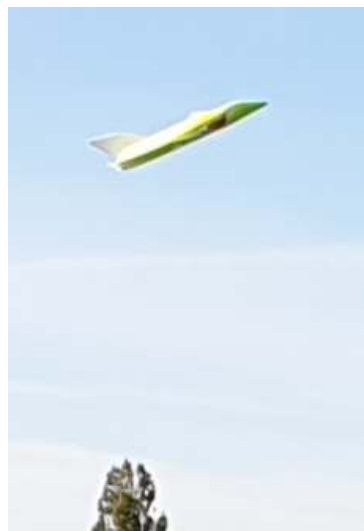
What are Elevons ?

Elevons or tailerons are aircraft control surfaces that combine the functions of the elevator (used for pitch control) and the aileron (used for roll control), hence the name. They are frequently used on tailless aircraft such as flying wings. An elevon that is not part of the main wing, but instead is a separate tail surface, is a stabilator (but stabilators are also used for pitch control only, with no roll function, as on the Piper Cherokee series of aircraft). The word "elevon" is a portmanteau of elevator and aileron.

Elevons are installed on each side of the aircraft at the trailing edge of the wing. When moved in the same direction (up or down) they will cause a pitching force (nose up or nose down) to be applied to the airframe. When moved differentially, (one up, one down) they will cause a rolling force to be applied. These forces may be applied simultaneously by appropriate positioning of the elevons e.g. one wing's elevons completely down and the other wing's elevons partly down.

An aircraft with elevons is controlled as though the pilot still has separate aileron and elevator surfaces at his disposal, controlled by the yoke or stick. The inputs of the two controls are mixed either mechanically or electronically to provide the appropriate position for each elevon.

They were also used on the Avro Vulcan, Northrop Grumman B-2 Spirit, Concorde and the Space Shuttle Orbiter.





Russ flies a new model with LEDs on all surfaces?

Russ had a go with this new aircraft, which he had never flown before but because of the limited space at woodlands it's 'maiden flight' was kept short for safety reasons.

It was a shame that the sun was so bright as this model also has LED lamps on all the surfaces so that the plane can be flown at night !

Dave Shows us how to do the perfect launch...



Just look at those long shadows and this was taken just before lunch-time...

CUPS / awards from 2018...

In preparation for the Christmas party and the 2019 club presentations can members holding 2018 cups please return them to a committee member.





Never Volunteer! by Alan Shergold

It was a lovely Sunday weather wise when I arrived at PADMACs site for a few hours flying, I was at first surprised to find only PADMAC members, not that was a problem and I soon settled in to a really good flying session.

After some while one of the PADMAC guys was about to go home and asked if someone could help him with the gate as the cows were in that area, sure I said, "I'll help" and walked beside his car down to the gate.

Well, I must have looked a bit like the Pied Piper as all the cows started following us and by the time we got to the gate I was fully surrounded by cows and there was no way I could open the gate to let the car out!

So there I was, standing by the gate, it felt like ages and I was wondering what to do next then, one of the cows, a troublesome young bullock full of testosterone started eyeing me up, he had his head down and a nasty look in his eye, I felt he was going to charge at me!

So, with my personal preservation in mind and with a rush of adrenaline I quickly opened the gate, just a fraction and slid through the tiny gap, leaving the car inside with the cows, but most importantly me safely outside.

Then again wondering what to do next, I heard a voice calling, looking up the field I could see Ken striding across the field, with a large bag under his arm the cows must have thought Ken had food and off they all went.

Great, that's that problem solved, I opened the gate letting the car out and start walking back to the flying area shouting "Many thanks" to Ken as I walked.

I was a good way back when I became aware that the cows were not far behind me, then I felt a good thud in my back. I turned around to find, yes that same bullock had charged me. I started walking backwards keeping my eye on this pesky animal and, as if things couldn't get worse, I fell over, falling mainly on my shoulder but with my left knee resting squarely in a lovely fresh cow pat!



Now you may have noticed that I have a stand on which I Prepare my planes for flying, the reason being that, having reached an age where, if I get down I simply can't get back up again without something to hang on to.

So there I am flat on the ground surrounded by cows and I'm dreading they may trample me. So at the top of my voice I shouted for "HELP" and fortunately the other boys heard me and came to my rescue.

The rest of the day was spent with everyone taking the micky out of me especially about the sh**t on my trousers. That particular herd is no longer at the field but I am now not as confident about walking out to collect a downed aircraft if the cows are in the area and if you need someone to assist you when there are cows around the gate, well, perhaps... Ask someone else !!!!!

NOTE from Editor: The above 'true' story happened some time ago and whilst no serious injury occurred (other than perhaps a soiled pair of trousers) it does remind us all that we should take care when around our bovine friends. Thank you Alan for sharing the story that must have been pretty scary (and smelly)!



Committee News

Here's the latest from the committee room.

PADMAC flying times (once initial introduction done with a principle / committee member).

	Power	Electric/Silent
Mon to Sat	10:00 to 18:00	10:00 to Sunset
Sunday	11:00 to 18:00	11:00 to Sunset

PADMAC rules can be found here. http://www.padmac.info/PADMAC_flyingsite_rules.html

Woodlands school Flying site.

Flying times this weekend..

Saturday 16th November 10:00am to 3:30pm

Sunday 17th November unavailable

**** IMPORTANT ** YOU MUST NOW LIAISE WITH ROB COPE BEFORE FLYING AT WOODLANDS, AS PERMISSION NEEDS TO BE GRANTED BY AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL ****

The Schools address is....

Woodlands Community College / School. Minstead Avenue, Harefield. SO18 5FW
Toilet facilities are often available.

SAFETY NOTICE

Please do not fly untested aircraft at Woodlands school, there simply isn't enough space should an aircraft not fly 'to specification'. Please also remember nothing too large or noisy.

Poorly club member

Continuing thoughts and good wishes from the committee to all poorly members.

FUTURE CLUB NIGHTS - Advance notice

Christmas Party

Thursday 12th December

At the Hamble club a buffet will be provided. Next years fees will be confirmed during this meeting and renewal fees can be paid on the night. Anybody not renewing before the end of December will not be able to fly from the 1st January. We will also be presenting the yearly awards.

AGM

Thursday 16th January

Please let a committee member know in advance if members would like to any specific items discussed.

Table top sale / small indoor models Thursday 20th February

Firebirds Model Club

News, Views & Information - November 2019



Club Information

This section gives a summary of club services and contact details.

Glow Fuel, Glue and other bits and pieces available

Fuel is available through the club and supplies are held by the club. All grades of fuel are available to order. Russell holds many other useful items: glo-plugs, propellers, glue, fuel tubing, wing bolts etc.

Russell Lewis

023 8056 1397

russell@pilot1.co.uk

Club Meetings

Our meeting venue is the Hamble Club at this address:

Beaulieu Road
Hamble, Southampton,
Hampshire, SO31 4JL



The Club requires each member to sign in at every arrival using the book usually kept at the bar. There is a way round this and that is to join the club. This is not expensive, particularly for OAPs who pay £8.00 for the first year, and if you live locally it provides a cheap night out!

External Events

If you need more details on any particular event, then go to <https://bmfa.org/Contests-Events/Contest-and-Event-Calendar>. **BMFA Bulletins are available on-line at this [link](#) ...**

Firebirds Model Club Committee

The following are the contact details for the Committee. Each has given permission for their phone number and email addresses to be included in this Newsletter.

Chairman	Russell Lewis	023 8056 1397	russell@pilot1.co.uk
Vice Chair	Dave Hoppe	07704 826343	davehoppehome@gmail.com
Treasurer	Alan Shergold	07973 221915	alanshergold@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary	Rob Cope	07795 996549	copest02@ntlworld.com
PRO	Peter Clark	07867 557964	psclark911@hotmail.com
Flying Site Rep.	Vacancy		
Safety Officer	Geoff Griffiths	023 9265 5931	gctriffiths@hotmail.com
Membership Sec.	Keith Warwick	07887 486040	keithw11@hotmail.co.uk

Firebirds Constitution and Rules.

The Firebirds constitution and rules document can be found at the bottom of the 'about us' section on the web-site or by clicking the following link.

<http://firebirds.org.uk/onewebmedia/FIREBIRD%20CONSTITUTION%20%26%20RULES.pdf>.

Remember... Safe flying is no accident.