

## Some sad news

Long time member Ron Colmer, also know as Beefy passed away at the end of January.

Although Ron hadn't been a regular at the flying site for many years due to ill health he was once one of the club's most active members, earning himself a life membership for his many years of hard work for the club.

Ron even hosted club Barbeques in his own garden and was also well known in Netley village where he ran a successful engineering company bearing the Colmer family name.



Ron Colmer

*Taken at the Hamble Club August 2017*

The club has sent a condolence card to Ron's wife, expressing all our sympathies, as always our thoughts are with Ron's family at this difficult time.



-----  
**SOME MEMBERS HAVE  
BEEN VACCINATED.**  
*It should all be over soon!*  
-----

Dear Fellow Firebirds Club Members

Although a sad start to the club newsletter it is also at these times that we are reminded that our hobby and more specifically our flying club is the legacy of people like Ron. Without the past club custodians there would be no club and we wouldn't be able to enjoy lazy summer days sat in a field having pointless chats with our mates (and occasionally flying model aeroplanes). So.. thank you to Ron and all those that have given their time to the Firebirds Model club.

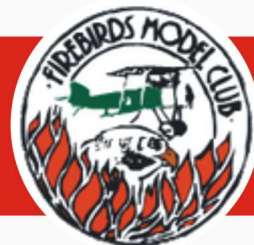
Yes, I know 'a lazy summer day sat in a field is currently a bit of a dream, but with what we are seeing on the news with the vaccine roll-out that dream could become a reality really soon, fingers firmly crossed.

I was speaking to Keith (our membership secretary) last month and he advises that club membership renewals remain strong despite the difficult situation, with just a few members deciding not to renew this year. He also advised that with two members leaving we have accepted 2 new members and welcome Rajon (Raj) Ahmed and Jason Lindsey to the club.

The Committee have asked me to remind any members that have not renewed from last year that their places are guaranteed until April after which the automatic right to renew will cease and places may be offered to new members. Past members who wish to re-join should approach a committee member to ensure their interest is registered.

See you all soon (hopefully).

Chris



## The BMFA have been on Zoom again !

This time talking about Article 16 and having watched the zoom meeting I now think I understand what article 16 authorisation is....

.... So in the UK all flying is legislated via the CAA and their rules cover everybody (and everything) that flies with only a few exceptions paper aeroplanes for example us aero-modellers are firmly included.

.... So following the most recent legislative changes and some 'arguably' rushed amendments following 'potential' 'quadcopter' miss-use the UK published new rules CAP 722, this now being the primary guidance document for the operation of unmanned 'aircraft' within the UK.

Some CAP 722 rules would have damaged our established sport so the BMFA using it's collective power (all of us) negotiated with the CAA on our behalf and agreed article 16 authorisation, this special agreement allow us, as BMFA members to carry on flying pretty well as we always have, as long as we show and prove our competency.

You can watch the presentation here... <https://youtu.be/4whTAaz2hyY>

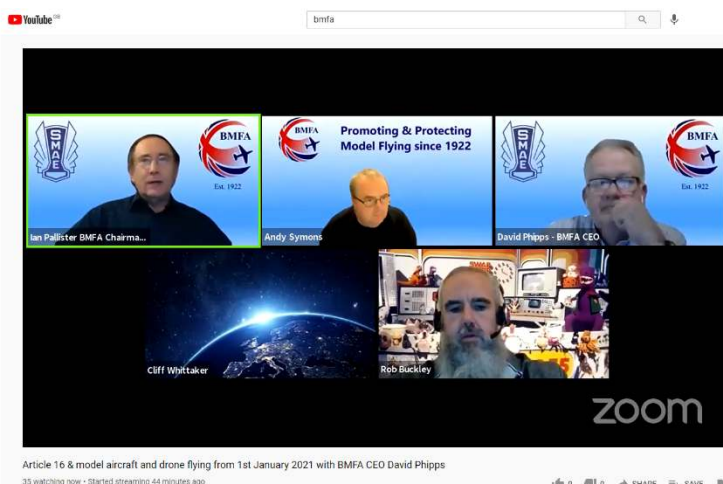
*Of course, there are many other article 16s, article 16 was also in the news recently when the EU invoked it re. Northern Ireland and vaccine imports, that was obviously nothing to do with model flying !!!*

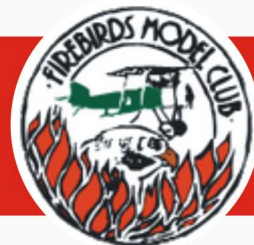
You can see the article 16 authorisation guidance here... <https://rcc.bmfa.uk/article-16>

I also learnt whilst watching the presentation, that, in theory any accident or incident we have while flying should be notified to the AAIB! Yes... in theory every heavy landing, engine failure or tree interaction should be reported. Watch the above presentation to see what the BMFA guys have to say on the matter.



Just a reminder don't forget you need to have your number CAA registration number on your models, it's the law!





## Still not re-joined ? THIS YEAR'S FEES

Adult club membership fee for 2021 is £62. The BMFA fee stays at £38 so the Total payable for most members is £100. If you are a country BMFA member you will just pay the £62 to the club.

NOTE: The above excludes the CAA licencing charges, which like last year the club recommends members do directly with the CAA, and remember your 2021 renewal could be soon for many.

## Paying your membership

OPTION 1. Find a committee members letterbox and drop it in.

OPTION 2. By post - send a cheque to

Firebirds Model club  
c/o 6 Maytree Close  
Locksheath  
Southampton SO31 6NQ

OPTION 3. By Bank transfer

Account name: WARWICK KA (he's our membership secretary)

Sort code: 55-70-05

Account number: 75528037

Use a reference: Your Initial Your Surname and FB (for Firebirds)  
Example: K Warwick FB

Flying times at new site: **\*\*\* ALL FLYING SUSPENDED \*\*\***

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<i>Quiet (Electric)</i>	<i>Electric and I/C</i>		<i>Electric and I/C</i>		<i>Electric and I/C</i>	<i>Electric and I/C</i>
14-00	12-00	<b>NO FLYING</b>	12-00	<b>NO FLYING</b>	10-00	10-00
20-00 or dusk*	16-00		16-00		14-00	13-00

**PADMAC flying times. The shared site arrangement with PADMAC has ended**

## **Poorly club member**

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

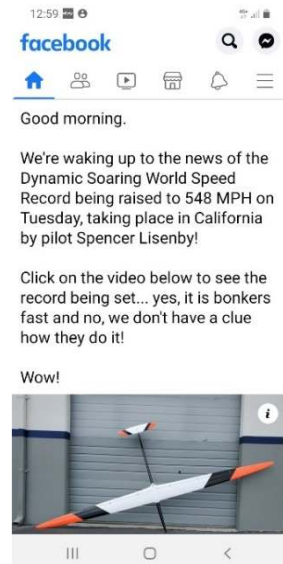
## **FUTURE CLUB NIGHTS - Advance notice**

**ALL \*\* Postponed \*\* due to Covid 19 restrictions.**



## No point watching this video it's FAR TOO QUICK !

The BMFA posted a video on Facebook I did watch it, but be warned it is very very fast, watch the video here [https://youtu.be/4eFD\\_Wj6dhk](https://youtu.be/4eFD_Wj6dhk). Apparently 548 mph !!



When I (Ed.) am talking to other aero-modellers at the flying field, I often feel like 'MY FRIEND' in the picture below.. Obviously not the pink dress, party hat and balloon though. Which one are you ?





Did you see the other aircraft ?



Somebody bought me a book of Matt Pritchett's cartoons for Christmas 'the best of Matt 2020' I am sure if I mention the book the telegraph won't mind me sharing a few with you, they made me smile.



# Firebirds Model Club

News, Views & Information - February 2021



## 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](mailto: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	<a href="mailto:russell@pilot1.co.uk">russell@pilot1.co.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Dave Hoppe	07704 826343	<a href="mailto:davehoppehome@gmail.com">davehoppehome@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Alan Shergold	07973 221915	<a href="mailto:alanshergold@hotmail.co.uk">alanshergold@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Secretary	Rob Cope	07795 996549	<a href="mailto:copes02@ntlworld.com">copes02@ntlworld.com</a>
PRO	Peter Clark	07867 557964	<a href="mailto:psclark911@hotmail.com">psclark911@hotmail.com</a>
Flying Site Rep.	Vacancy		
Safety Officer	Geoff Griffiths	023 9265 5931	<a href="mailto:ggriffiths@hotmail.com">ggriffiths@hotmail.com</a>
Membership Sec.	Keith Warwick	07887 486040	<a href="mailto:keithw11@hotmail.co.uk">keithw11@hotmail.co.uk</a>

## 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.**