



*Fancy a get together?
Let's meet for a chat at
The Hamble Club
Tuesday the 20th January.
They're expecting us!*

Hi all,

I am so sorry, but this Newsletter is going to start with an apology again.

This time my apology is for a very short and unexciting newsletter, I just haven't been able to get much keyboard time lately.

But as I have a few important things to mention I thought I had better at least send something.

Hopefully, you would all forgive me and hopefully, I will have more time next month.

See you down the field soon

Chris

Below are 'The Important Things' I need to mention this month. Also you will find the details you need to renew your membership, if you haven't renewed already.

Remember you have to have renewed both your club and BMFA membership before flying in 2024. Don't forget your CAA registration and to sticker each model that you fly.



1. Club Get together.

The Tuesday February 20th get together has been designated as a '**Bring and Buy evening**'. Bring along anything you might want to sell and some cash just in case anybody brings along anything you fancy.. from a bag of screws or a couple of servos to that old war bird gathering dust in the loft. **Arrival from 7pm**. Note: Although designated as a 'bring and buy' evening, it is still primarily a get together so if you can, please do come. It would be great to see you there.

2. Membership

Paul, our membership secretary, has reported strong renewal numbers with just a few confirmed non-re-joiners (which has been mainly due to ill health.) If you are one of those members, the clubs thought are with you, please do keep in touch.

The committee further confirm that, based on current flying site utilisation and renewal numbers, we are currently open to new members. If you have any interested friends or relatives, please do try and get them to visit the site for a chat.

3. **** IMPORTANT ** Please use the windsock at all times..**

There has been an Airprox report doing the rounds at the BMFA recently and a copy was also sent to the committee. I will hopefully report on this more fully in the next use letter, but Basically an **AIRPROX** is a situation where the distance between aircraft and their relative positions and speed are such that safety may be compromised.

The Airprox being discussed was a situation where a group of full size aircraft, namely the RAF red arrows display team flew across a location where model aeroplanes were flying which resulted in an Airprox situation.

Nobody was hurt and, in actual fact the red arrows display team didn't even know that the situation had occurred but the committee having discussed this issue suggest that one thing we should do is...

WHENEVER YOU ARE FLYING AT THE FIELD PUT THE WIND SOCK UP.

The idea behind this is, that the wind-sock would be visible to (most) full size aircraft if they over fly our site at low levels, giving them some warning that we are there. Please do this even if there is no wind and the sock is not strictly necessary for our activities.

4. And finally...

As a new flying season begins please do let the committee know of anything you would like to see happen within the club during the year, training, certification, perhaps a trip somewhere? Let us know and we will see what we can do!



FIREBIRDS MODEL CLUB FEES 2024

Club fees for 2024.

This figure does **not** include membership of the BMFA.

Firebirds Fees 2024

Senior - £105

Junior - £35

Family Senior - £90

It is a requirement of flying with our club that you also have BMFA membership (below).

BMFA Fees 2024

Seniors - £47

Juniors - £20

Family Partner - £30

For most members that renew their BMFA membership through the Firebirds club the following totals apply.

Firebirds and BMFA membership

Senior - £105 + £47 = £152

Junior - £35 + £20 = £55

Family Senior - £90 + £30 = £120

NOTE: The above excludes the CAA licencing charges, which like last year the club recommends members do directly with the CAA, and remember your 2024 renewal could be very soon for many.

**** See below for how to pay ****



Paying your membership.

OPTION 1.

By Bank transfer to our *NEW* Lloyds Bank Account.

Acc name: Firebirds Model Club

Sort code: 30-99-50

Account number: 81911160

Reference: your name.

OPTION 2.

By post – Send a cheque to..

Firebirds Model club c/o 11 Granada Road, Hedge End, Southampton. SO30 4AL

OPTION 3.

Find a committee members letterbox and drop it in. (cheque or cash)

NOTICES.

You must have paid your fees to be able to fly after the 1st January.

Members not renewing by April 1st 2024 will be considered as not renewing and need to be considered as new members and subject to any joining fee or membership cap then in place.

Please contact a comitee member should you have any questions.

Firebirds Model Club

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Flying times : (from December 2021) correct at time of newsletter publication

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Quiet / Electric	Electric & I/C	Electric & I/C	Electric & I/C	Quiet / Electric	Electric & I/C until 2pm then Quiet / Electric until 4pm	Electric & I/C
10-00	10-00	10-00	10-00	10-00	10-00	10-00
20-00 or dusk NO NIGHT FLYING	16-00	16-00	16-00	20-00 or dusk NO NIGHT FLYING	16-00	13-00

Or put another way:

<i>Quiet / Electric – NOW everyday of the week</i>		
Monday	10-00	20-00 (or dusk) NO NIGHT FLYING
Tuesday	10-00	16-00
Wednesday	10-00	16-00
Thursday	10-00	16-00
Friday	10-00	20-00 (or dusk) NO NIGHT FLYING
Saturday	10-00	16-00
Sunday	10-00	13-00

<i>Electric & I/C – Five days a week</i>		
Monday	NO FLYING	
Tuesday	10-00	16-00
Wednesday	10-00	16-00
Thursday	10-00	16-00
Friday	NO FLYING	
Saturday	10-00	14-00
Sunday	10-00	13-00

'Bank Holiday' exceptions to the above.

Good Friday 10am - 1pm (electric and IC)

EASTER SUNDAY ... NO flying!!

ALL BANK Holiday Mondays - 10am - 1pm (electric and IC)

CHRISTMAS DAY... NO flying!!

Firebirds Model Club

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Poorly club member

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

FUTURE CLUB NIGHTS - Advance notice

Winter events see body of newsletter and, we're far too busy flying in the summer 😊.

Club Information

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

External Events

If you need more details on any particular event, then go to <https://bmfa.org/Contests-Events/Contest-and-Event-Calendar>.

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	07503 153962	russell@pilot1.co.uk
Vice Chair	Peter Clark	07867 557964	psclark911@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Alan Shergold	07973 221915	alanshergold@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary	Rob Cope	07795 996549	copest02@ntlworld.com
Flying Site Rep.	Keith Warwick	07887 486040	keithw11@hotmail.co.uk
Safety Officer	Geoff Griffiths	023 9265 5931	gcriffiths@hotmail.com
Membership Sec.	Paul Brown	07730 202510	paulprb@gmail.com

General contact e-mail address - firebirdsmodelclub@outlook.com

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.