



March

2024

***YOU SIMPLY MUST BE
AT HAMBLE CLUB ON
TUESDAY 19TH MARCH
At 7.30pm***

Dear Members

Welcome to Chris's Winter Therapy session.

So, I can't get out of the house without getting wet, or cold or stuck in traffic... the Ukrainian flag still appears at the top of our newsletters 2 years after it first appeared and I don't even understand what is actually going on in Gaza. Then there's the economy, the fuel prices, inflation and a new round of government in-fighting as we prepare for another general election. Then there is the medical system where my friends and colleagues are struggling to get appointments whilst others appear to get all the help they want without boundaries. This list could go on and on, I must have the winter blues!

But... if I come back to our flying club for a moment, as the winter blues set-in, it is increasingly important that we remain a strong club, a group of like-minded people brought together for a few hours a week, our personal therapy time, time to forget all the problems at home or around the world.

But there brings another problem.....our field! It is currently too boggy to visit or even cut. Unless you are pretty brave and very careful, flying at the field is probably off limits.

Model flying and our wonderful club can, however still help...

As we all know that the good weather is just around the corner and our club's committee members are inspecting the 'strip' weekly, the mowing team have even, 'carefully' managed to do at least 2 cuts using hand propelled mowers. With just a few sunny days and perhaps a bit of wind the field will dry off quickly and before you know it we will be back flying again.

Don't forget there are many things you can do while you are waiting, it may now be time to brush off last year's models and check them over and be ready for when the weather does change.



And... an absolute must this month, is the club get together at the Hamble social club, I know sometimes it is hard to think about going out on a cold wet evening, but if you do, you can at least say you have done something. Don't let the winter blues win! The more of us that attend, the better it will be. I am going to bring some models to sell and hopefully a new indoor model aeroplane I have been building, I hope it flies!

Something else happening this month is the table top sale at Romsey. Always a popular event and frequented by many of our members.

I just realised I am rambling on. I have a half built indoor model plane to complete, several planes to get ready for the summer, a collection of models for sale to bring along to Hamble club, a boat to get ready for a visit to canoe lake, a new kite to get ready for when it's too windy to fly and a Newsletter to complete. There, I Feel better already, thank you Firebirds model club for giving me so much to do.

Now on with the Newsletter, see you all at the Hamble flying club on Tuesday!!

Chris

ANNOUNCEMENT...

The club would like to announce that Pete Clark has stepped down as club Vice Chairman, Pete has decided to take a break from model flying generally, to concentrate on other projects.

The remaining committee would like to express on behalf of all club members their absolute thanks to Pete for what he has done for the club over many years, both as an active member, committee member and a friend.

Pete, if you change your mind the club is always here for you.

... & COMMITTEE VACANCY

Following on from the announcement above, Pete is the second committee member to step down recently so there is at least one vacancy on the committee. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact a committee member.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership secretary confirms that despite the announcement above, Membership remains strong, and we are in a position to consider new members. If you have friends, family or work colleagues interested in doing something new or different, perhaps bring them down the field (when the weather is a bit better) and introduce them to their yet undiscovered new friends.

If you are reading this newsletter, don't yet know any members but are interested in finding out more about our club, why not drop an e-mail to one of the committee members listed at the foot of the newsletter, no obligation and we don't bite.



NEXT HAMBLE CLUB MEETINGS

*Times for all the below, arrival from 7pm events start at 7.30pm

Tuesday March 19th - Anything and everything! As this will be the last 'general' get-together meeting before the summer, please come along, no stipulated theme, fly something little or drive an R/C car, bring your latest model, something to sell or just have a drink and a chat. See you there!!

Tuesday April 16th – QUIZ NIGHT organised by club member Steve Newell and his wife Toni.

Something special, club member Steve Newell and his wife Toni have promised to hold a quiz night. Pre-covid, these events were really enjoyed, so a big thank you in advance to them for arranging this evening.



The image on the right shows our last winning team (together with the Newell 'quiz maker' family.) Last time we had a club quiz was (prior to Covid) and I did abysmally (Ed.)

Remember the Hamble club's address is - 33 Beaulieu Rd, Hamble-le-Rice, Southampton SO31 4JL

SUMMER AT THE FLYING SITE

With a bit of luck, the weather should improve and from May onwards meetings at the Hamble club will be suspended as we all expect to be down at the field flying. Hopefully a few BBQ's can be scheduled too. Hamble club meetings will resume in September when we have already pencilled in a possible visit from the BMFA's Andy Symons - Club Support Officer.

NOT RENEWED YET?

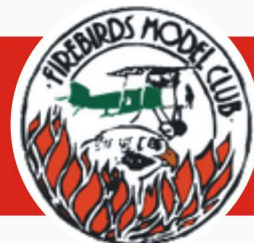
Reminder, if the club has not received payment before April 1st, a member will be considered as not renewing. Their details will then be removed from the club / the BMFA membership database. Thereafter, they would be considered a new member and subject to any joining fee or membership cap in place at that time. Come on, if you haven't re-joined do it now, you won't regret it.

ANYBODY GOT A TRAINER FOR SALE?

The club would like the facility to offer trial flights to prospective members this year but don't have a suitable trainer. If anybody has a suitable trainer for sale or to donate to the club for this purpose, please speak to a committee member. Member Alan Shergold has lent the club 2 transmitters to use as a buddied pair so we just need a suitable aeroplane, ideally one that uses 3 cell 2200 batteries.

CLUB 'GROUNDSMAN' REPORT

The club's site rep and mowing team report that, as of the time of writing, that the 'pitch' is very boggy including the approaching path. Although it is currently impossible to get the mower up the hill from



its store, a couple of members have managed a few 'Boggy Cuts' using hand propelled 'push' mowers. So, a Big Thanks to them!

CURRY NIGHT ANYBODY?

As you may know Raj one of our club members owns and runs a 'curry house' restaurant in Fareham, several members have got together in the past for a curry night. If anybody is interested in doing this again, speak to Alan Shergold, who is happy to organise and attend. Raj and his team always look after Firebirds members especially well and sometimes even give a little discount off the bill... Thank you Raj.

CHRISTMAS ALREADY?

Although it is far too early to mention that particular 'C' word, our chairman Russell confirms that Christmas raffle draw tickets are already on sale and selling well. Remember, buying a few draw tickets each month greatly increases your chance of winning a prize without shelling out too much money all at once.

IMPORTANT – NO FLYING on EASTER SUNDAY (REDUCED HOURS BH FRIDAY AND MONDAY)

Whether you consider yourself a 'religious' person or not you will undoubtedly know that Christmas day and Easter Sunday are two of the most important days in the Christian calendar. As a mark of respect for our potentially Christian neighbours the Firebirds model club do not fly on these two days. Once again, NO flying on Easter Sunday please.

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

EASTER SUNDAY ... NO flying!!

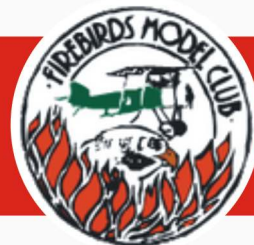
EASTER Monday - 10am - 1pm (electric and IC)

GOOD FRIDAY get-together

Let's start the flying season with a get-together down the field, the club will provide some hotdog sausages and rolls, bring your own drinks and a deckchair. Partners and prospective members welcome. Attending numbers will be collected nearer the time. If Good Friday is looking like a bad day weather-wise the event may be moved to Easter Monday. Bank holiday flying hours will apply (as above). It is likely that we would meet a 10am for a fly and then hotdogs at 12-12.30.

ALLOWING OTHERS TO FLY YOUR MODEL AEROPLANE

Although often un-written, it is an accepted part of model flying that things can and sometimes do go wrong and for many 'repairing' is a strangely 'enjoyable' part of the sport. We should all take responsibility in minimise risks and all members should know that, if you allow somebody else to fly your model you do so at your own risk. When learning to fly we will often ask an instructor or fellow flyer to test fly our models or use a buddy-lead to take over our early flights in case anything should go



wrong. If you ask a fellow member to operate as your buddy, or test your model you do so at your own risk, no experienced club pilot would put your model at risk, but accidents do happen.

IT'S A NEW YEAR.. LET THE COMMITTEE KNOW WHAT YOU WANT

The committee is happy to try and arrange things or give way to members who would like to arrange something, but, you need to say something. The type of things you might like to do may be as follows... Training Sessions, FunFly sessions, Members Trip/s, Boat Lake Visit, Kite flying sessions, BMFA 'A' Test day / training and of course inside events in the winter.

Again please let a committee member know.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PAT PARSONS

Pat Parsons, who remains a life member of the Firebirds flying club was one of the earliest members of the club when it first started, meeting in a back room at Botley Fire station where Pat was a reserved firefighter. Although he has moved up-country to be with his family he is often mentioned down the flying site and this month Pat turned 90! We would all like to wish him a very HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!



ROMSEY (MOUNTBATTEN SCHOOL) TABLE TOP SALE

Next tabletop sale will be held on Sunday 24th March 2024 at Mountbatten School, Romsey, SO51 5SY

Doors open to sellers with a booking at 8:00am and doors open to buyers at 8:30am.

Admission is only £4, under 16s free. First table costs £9 (including one admission); additional tables cost £5 each. Refreshments available. For satnav, the postcode is SO51 5SY.



A LITTLE BIT INTO THE FUTURE



A VIDEO SUGGESTED BY ROB COPE

Rob wrote.. I found this interesting, not least for the tenacity of the bloke. I'd have stopped and given up at several points in this build - especially the connecting-up moment. Regards, Rob

Subject: Wow Micro

<https://youtu.be/eldEwrlqr1s?si=mX7A2EmCDub21ZJm>



I LEARNT A NEW FLYING TERM - Pilot Flying (PF) and Pilot Monitoring (PM)

When two pilots fly a fixed-wing aeroplane which requires a two-person flight crew, the aircraft commander, who must be appropriately qualified and hold the rank of Captain, will normally occupy the left hand seat and the First Officer or Co-Pilot will normally occupy the right hand seat.

Full article <https://skybrary.aero/articles/pilot-flying-pf-and-pilot-monitoring-pm>



THINKING OF FLYING BIGGER? This might be of interest.

Link to full story below.

The Cost Of Owning & Operating A Single Engine Cessna

It might be more achievable than you think.

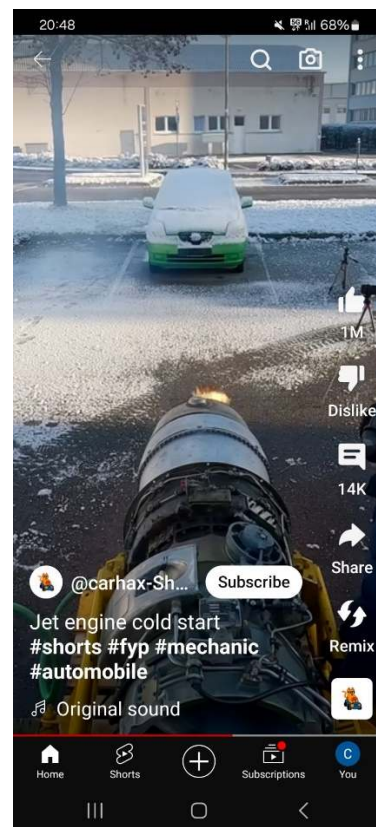
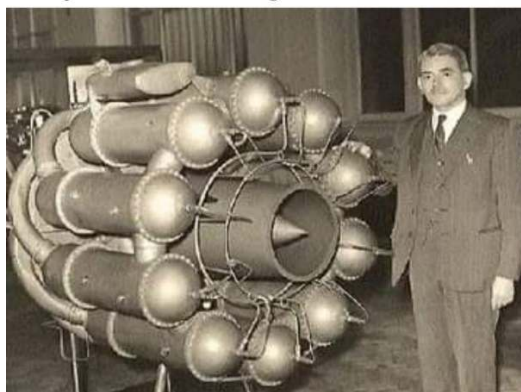
BY PATRICIA GREEN PUBLISHED JAN 9, 2024



Link to full story <https://simpleflying.com/cessna-private-ownership-costs-explained/>

INTERESTING THINGS FOUND ON THE INTERNET

Sir Frank Whittle ground tests the first Jet Engine ever in 1937, at the British Thomson- Houston Factory , Rugby successfully. It would mark the beginning of the Jet Age in Aviation History. Whittle had actually developed the Jet engine on his own without support from the Air Ministry, and had formed Power Jets along with 2 other ex RAF service men. The prototype was created with very limited funding.



1. An interesting fact about the funding of the jet engine.

2. A Jet Engine used to de-ice a car!



INTERESTING THINGS FOUND ON FACEBOOK



1. 'Have fun, stay warm and grease those landings' official words from the BMFA!

2. Remember the sketch, love the programme? Who knew it was filmed in Hampshire!



3. I'm sure I remember these?.. and clackers too!!



THERE'S A NEW AND TALENTED MODEL MAKER ON THE BLOCK

Well done Charles, a beautiful model, you put many of us to shame.



I got started with this cloud clipper kit I won at the raffle, I didn't realise it was so big! It is 71" span, almost as tall as me!

22:03





SEE THE TAG LINE FROM 1954

"One of the best ways Men get to know each other" the other is of course is "flying model aeroplanes"

LOOK MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 16, 1954



*One of the best ways
Men get to know Each Other...*

Start a new comradeship this Christmas, with your boy and LIONEL TRAINS. Share with him the matchless thrills of railroading . . . and the deep satisfaction of building a bigger and better railroad. Stop in at your Lionel Dealer's right away for a complete choice of Lionel sets. See Magne-Traction at work . . . the exclusive feature that makes Lionel locos go faster, pull more cars, climb steep grades. Pick the accessories that will add exciting action all along your right of way. You can buy a complete set of LIONEL TRAINS for as little as \$19.95! Get started now!



For details of all Lionel Trains and Accessories, see the great new Lionel 1954 Catalog. Your dealer has it!

LIONEL TRAINS

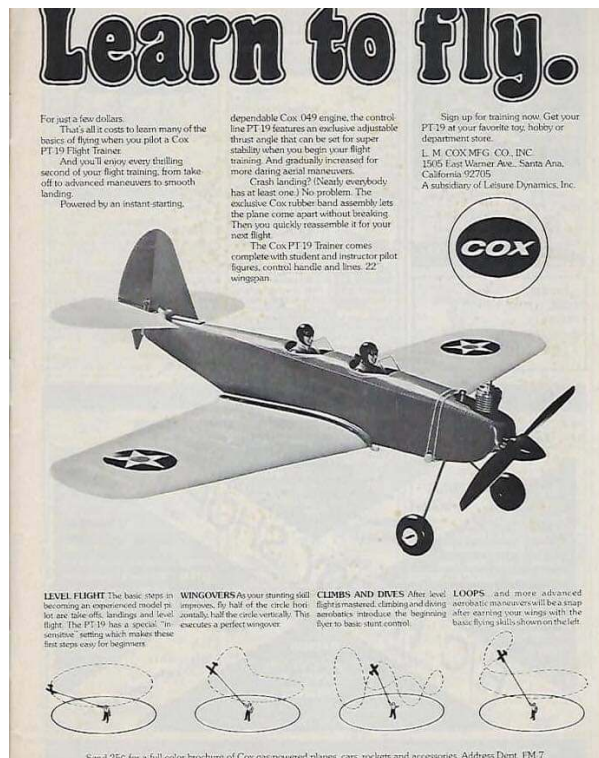
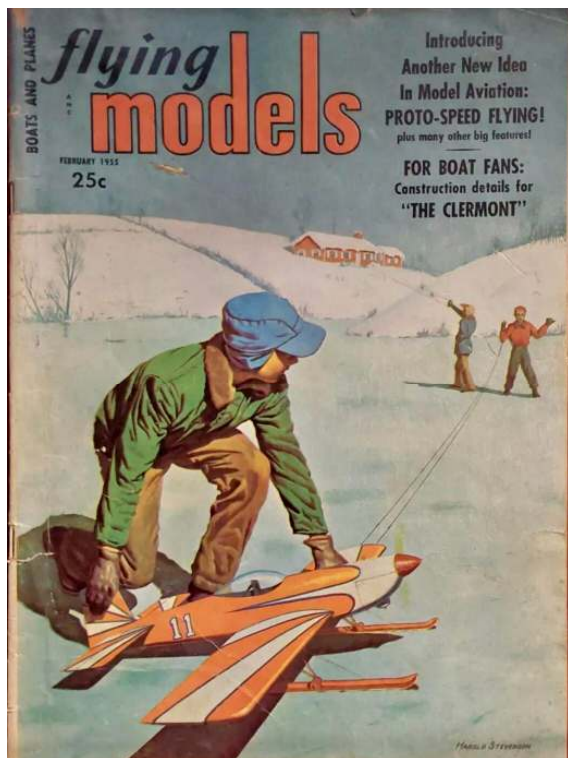


ONLY LIONEL TRAINS HAVE MAGNE-TRACTION



DON'T YOU JUST LOVE THE HISTORY OF OUR SPORT

Before R/C there was control-line flying, sadly a dying art. *below image is dated 1955.*



SORRY THE FOLLOWING IMAGES ARE A BIT BEHIND THE NEWS

Remember the news back in January "Boeing shares fall after door panel blown out of plane mid-flight"? Thankfully nobody was physically hurt but it got the comedic juices flowing on the internet.





Getting ready for the 2024 Firebirds quiz...

Anybody remember what year this happened and where?



ANYBODY TRIED THIS GLUE?

Why am I asking? Watch the YouTube video later in the newsletter and you'll understand why.





INTERESTING?

How Many Horsepower Does A Commercial Jet Engine Have?

Follow this link for the answer..

.... <https://simpleflying.com/commercial-jet-engine-horsepower-guide/>

How Many Horsepower Does A Commercial Jet Engine Have?

It is impossible to precisely estimate engine thrust in horsepower.

BY DR. OMAR MEMON PUBLISHED JAN 26, 2024



SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

Free 'foam' model making plans

Follow this link for more information.

<https://www.nerdnic.com/>

And somebody who has used this site and built a foam aeroplane, that really flies and is under 250gms

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9kolf5xA0E>





I DON'T BELIEVE I WATCHED THIS!

You know the old saying "it's like watching paint dry" well this video is exactly the same but with glue!! If you want to know the answer you'll have to watch it too, the answer is rather surprising.

Follow this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCm25z2CR6g>



Not wanting to tell you the answer but when you've watched that one, you could watch this one...

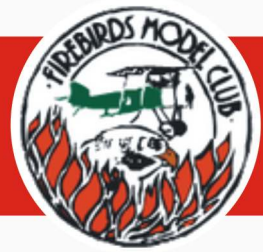
Follow this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnJ85Sz1iak>



Pilots of Illegally flown Drones are being caught and prosecuted... here's how!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=szWIHH0Pd6o>





WHO KNEW THERE WERE SO MANY SERVO SIZES.

I'm currently building a tiny indoor model and needed a small servo I didn't realise there were so many different sizes of 'small' servos. And... in the end this list didn't include the actual size I needed, mine are even smaller!!

Servo Size Explained

by Motion RC February 18 2018

RC servos are categorized into six standard sizes shown in the table below. To help you select the correct servo for your project we have included an approximate weight and size specifications for each servo category. Please note, servos can vary from these guidelines, so always check the product page for detailed specifications.

Servo Size	Weight Range	Typical Servo Width	Typical Servo Length	Typical Applications
Nano	Less than 8g	7.5mm	18.5mm	Micro airplanes, indoor airplanes, and micro helicopters
Sub-Micro	8g to 16g	11.5mm	24mm	1400mm wingspan and smaller airplanes, small EDF jets, and 200 to 450 size helicopters
Micro	17g to 26g	13mm	29mm	1400 to 2000mm wingspan airplanes, medium and large EDF jets, and 500 sizes helicopters
Mini	27g to 39g	17mm	32.5mm	600 size helicopters
Standard	40g to 79g	20mm	38mm	2000mm wingspan and larger airplanes, turbine powered jets, and 700 to 800 size helicopters
Large	80g and Larger	> 20mm	> 38mm	Giant scale airplanes and jets

Information From

<https://www.motionrc.eu/blogs/motion-rc-blog/servo-size>



These (below) will be at the HAMBLE CLUB on Tuesday if anybody is interested?

FOR SALE an ESC, Brushless Motor, DSM2 receiver and a couple of servos. Wrapped in an old polystyrene aeroplane. £20?



FOR SALE a model aeroplane disguised as some kind of hawk. Ideal for getting rid of pigeons, includes ESC, motor and a DSM2 receiver, the claws even operate from a servo, like landing gear!! £40.



FOR SALE a H-King F-4 (Kit) Glue-N-Go Foamboard 700mm aeroplane. But unlike from Hobbyking when new, this one has already been glued and is ready to go, includes ESC, motor and DSM2 receiver. £35.



FOR SALE The ubiquitous. Phoenix 2000. ready to go, includes ESC, motor and DSM2 receiver. In excellent condition (unlike mine Ed.). £60.





A 'necklace thing' £5 anybody ?



Only ever attempted to fly this once.. it didn't go well! Sat in a cupboard ever-since needs new blades.. £50 ?



Don't forget it's your club and it will only every be what you make it..

Please do come to the Hamble club on Tuesday the 19th if you can.

And remember to Grease those landings!



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

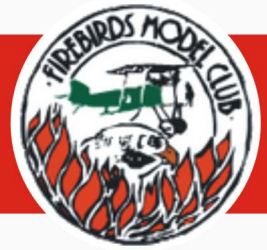
Senior - £105 + £47 = £152

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.

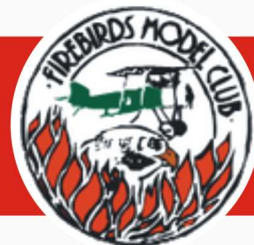
Find a committee members letterbox and drop it in. (cheque or cash)

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.



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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<i>Quiet / Electric</i>	<i>Electric & I/C</i>	<i>Electric & I/C</i>	<i>Electric & I/C</i>	<i>Quiet / Electric</i>	<i>Electric & I/C until 2pm then Quiet / Electric until 4pm</i>	<i>Electric & I/C</i>
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

News, Views & Information - March 2024



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	- Vacancy		
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	gcgriffiths@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.