



## April

## 2024

**LIGHT HEARTED & FUN  
A FIREBIRDS QUIZ NIGHT!**

**TUESDAY APRIL 16TH  
At 7.30pm**

Dear Members

I am sat here on a day when, unusually I really could and should be flying... the weather is definitely becoming more Spring like. So I'll try and keep this newsletter short allowing you, the reader plenty of time to get yourselves and your fleet ready for some serious flying.

Chris

P.S. That bit was short, so doing well so far..

**\*\* THIS IS MOST IMPORTANT \*\***

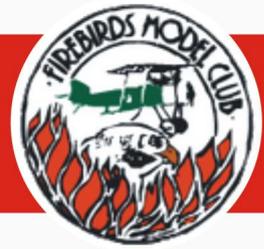
If somebody you knew went out of their way and spent hours of their personal time doing something to benefit you, wouldn't it be very rude not to say Thank you?

I don't believe anybody would say no to the above statement, so please can as many members as possible come along to the Hamble club on Tuesday April the 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.. (arrival from 7pm) to say Thank you to our member Steve and his wife Toni who have prepared a quiz night evening for us.

And not being good at quizzes is not a justified excuse... you won't be any worse than me (Ed.) and, if you really want a guaranteed 'wooden spoon' we can make a team ..

The event will be light-hearted and good fun guaranteed. It will also be the last indoor event this year.

See you all on Tuesday, I think I have team name ready .... How about... "Not a chance" 😊



Now back to more mundane stuff...

## **COMMITTEE VACANCY Still available.**

Following recent announcements there is at least one vacancy on the committee. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact any committee member.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

We are pleased report a couple of new members this month, so please, if you see someone new down the field make them feel welcome. And to the new members please make yourself known, get involved and welcome to the club.

The committee do also have a couple of other possible new joiners in discussions, but the club is still in a position to consider a few new members. So, please do get in touch.

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.

## **BMFA Newsletters now on line**

Perhaps you all received an e-mail from the BMFA re. the 'online' BMFA and BDF News magazines which can be views at the following addresses..

BMFA News archive <https://bmfa.org/bmfa-news>

BDF News <https://britishdroneflyers.org/news/bdf-news-archive>

The Achievement Scheme Standards and Guidelines documentation has also been added to the new platform, the 2024 booklets are available to view and download from...

<https://achievements.bmfa.uk/the-tests/standards-guidelines-2024>

## **We were Well-ahead of the BMFA!**

Not wanting to show off, but your Firebirds Newsletters have been on-line for many years, you can view Firebirds model club newsletters going back right back to 2014, it can be really interesting looking back ...

Here is the link - <https://firebirds.org.uk/newsletters>



## Just one story from a 2015 Newsletter

Alan just getting his Majestic Major ready for lift off. This is a lovely thing to fly and we had some great goes with it.



Sadly, it did end up in the tallest tree at poplars and required a local tree surgeon to rescue it.

AND BACK TO 2024... I Bet you still remember that day Alan 😊

## A Walk on the 'wet' side

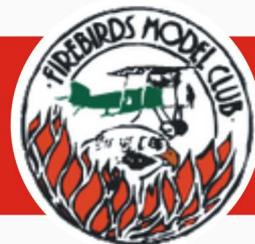
A few years ago, a few members admitted during various conversations that they had dabbled on the dark and 'wet' side, that they secretly has a few model boats between them so on the 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022 a couple of those members met at canoe lake in Southsea for an hours 'boating'.

**26 Apr 2022**



Those members all said that it should be done again in 2023 but somehow that year passed without a visit. But a new Date has been set and, subject to the weather a group is going to meet up at Canoe lake on the ... will you be there? Speak so Geoff, Rob or Chris Fisher for more information.

**Date for your diary... 23rd April 2024, a Tuesday @ 10am  
at Canoe Lake Southsea.**



## Many Years Ago..

The Firebirds arranged for a guest speaker to attend our evening get-together at the British Legion club in Netley and that is where many of us met Mr Eric Moody who sadly passed away recently. Eric's story made him rather famous amongst aviation enthusiasts and he spent much of his retirement doing after-dinner speeches across the country.



Hero British Airways pilot dies aged 84: Captain Eric Moody saved hundreds from certain death after calmly telling passengers 'we have a small problem, all four engines have stopped' as jet flew through cloud of volcanic dust

By Matt Strudwick and Zoe Brennan  
21:01 21 Mar 2024, updated 12:08 22 Mar 2024



## The ultimate birthday 'shop' for aviation lovers...



### Classic Wings

8.8K likes · 9.5K followers

Classic Wings are based at Imperial War Museum, Duxford. We offer truly memorable flights in our fleet of vintage aircraft, which include genuine Tiger Moths, 1930's Dragon Rapides & T6 Harvards



## April Fools

OK, I know it is too late to do play an April Fools joke on you all, but I am just reporting what has happened during the last month.

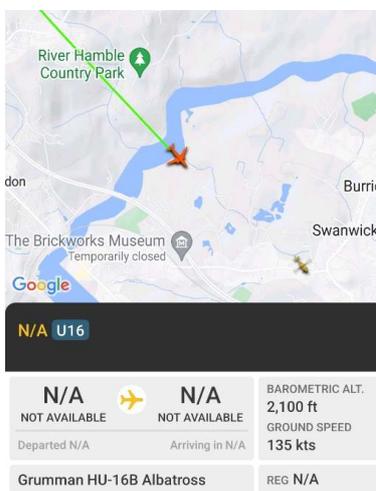
Available in 2025 , tests have been conducted to fly the new all electric aircraft offering flights from Fuerteventura to Lanzarote



You could almost believe it couldn't you? The 2 islands are really very close and there are some high peaks to connect the cables to... maybe they're on to something!

## Grumman HU-168 Albatross sea-plane

There has been Several sightings and many more hearings of this historic aeroplane, not sure why but the aeroplane has been residing at Southampton Airport for much of this last month.





## A wonderful photograph

Is it a real photo or a clever Photoshop manipulation? Whatever is true it's a wonderful picture especially to us here in Hampshire with Mr Alliott Verdon Roe (Avro) being so heavily associated with the area.

## Avro vulcan & Avro lancasters

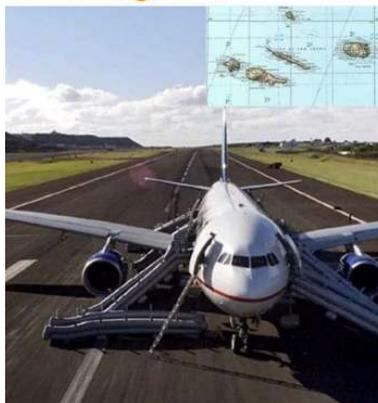


There is much written on the internet about the man and the company, but this (link below) this made interesting and slightly different reading... <https://www.baesystems.com/en-uk/heritage/av-roe---company--avro->

## Another HUGE Glider

If you already knew the story of Captain Eric Moody who's death was reported earlier in the Newsletter then you will know that his Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet was, did for a while become a glider. But, this glider pilot's flight will take some beating, and the reason, it ran out of fuel (a maintenance error)!!

Air Transat Flight 236 lost both engines over the Atlantic, and set a glide record for a commercial airliner of 120km as the pilot successfully made an emergency landing at Lajes Air Base in the Azores. – check the comments 😊





## Did you want join the Mowing team?

The flying site can be a wonderful place to be early in the morning with several acres of grass land all to yourself, and a few deer of course. The field is still a bit soft but the mowing team has managed a few more cuts and rolls. If you want to join the mowing team mention it to a committee member.



## Going Green we can always convert the mower to electric





## Sometimes it's just TOO windy to fly!

Too Windy to fly? Not at Firebirds it isn't, several members go together on a particularly windy Saturday for a bit of Kite flying. And at one point a local Kite came to have a look at what was going on a kite and a kite in the same photo!!



## The Firebirds Kite Flying CLUB !





## The club has a new trainer

Club Chairman Russell secured this rather nice 1.3m Valiant as a new club trainer, it will be ideal for introducing new and prospective members to our wonderful hobby.



## From The committee

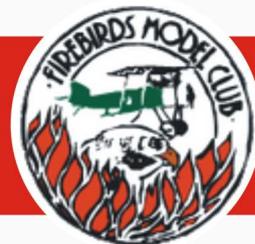
I said I would keep this newsletter short but I still have a couple of things that the committee has asked me to mention.

As always our landlord farmers have asked that we remind all members that the farm is a working farm and although we do pay rent flying sites are hard to find. So... always respect their crops and keep to cut paths, it may look like grass to you and me, but it is how they make a living. Take nothing away with you that you didn't bring, any fruits, berries, mushrooms etc. are not ours, they belong to the farmers. Always take anything you bring back home with you especially bits of aeroplane, this item was found recently left on the field, thankfully by another member and not one of the farmers!

Parking make sure you leave the gates clear and park on the right... if no parking available there is plenty of parking at the bottom of the hill ask a comitee member if you need any further information.

Always pull the gate too, so it looks closed and put up the wind-sock when in flying.



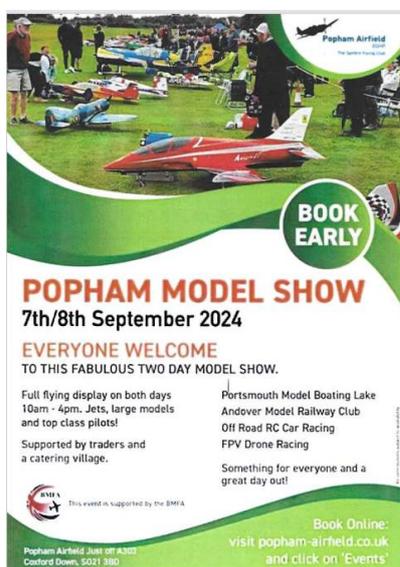


## REMEMBER & PLEASE DO SUPPORT

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

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

### A LITTLE BIT INTO THE FUTURE



### NOTICE.

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 committee member should you have any questions.

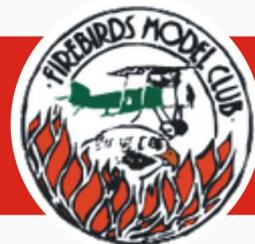
### A FINAL IMPORTANT NOTE

It is a requirement of membership that members fly legally, in the UK this includes being registered with the CAA and displaying a sticker on any models that you fly.

The committee is trying to work out a system to log CAA memberships and compliance.

# Firebirds Model Club

News, Views & Information - April 2024



**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 &amp; 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!!**



## 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	<a href="mailto:russell@pilot1.co.uk">russell@pilot1.co.uk</a>
Vice Chair	- Vacancy		
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:copest02@ntlworld.com">copest02@ntlworld.com</a>
Flying Site Rep.	Keith Warwick	07887 486040	<a href="mailto:keithw11@hotmail.co.uk">keithw11@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Safety Officer	Geoff Griffiths	023 9265 5931	<a href="mailto:ggriffiths@hotmail.com">ggriffiths@hotmail.com</a>
Membership Sec.	Paul Brown	07730 202510	<a href="mailto:paulprb@gmail.com">paulprb@gmail.com</a>

General contact e-mail address - [firebirdsmodelclub@outlook.com](mailto: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.**