

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter October 2015

Welcome to the firebirds club newsletter see below for a clickable table of content headings.

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Poplars Flying Times

Summer (BST):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
13:00-18:00 QF	13:00-18:00 All		13:00-18:00 All	13:00-21:00 QF	10:00-14:00 All	10:00-13:00 All
18:00-21:00 All						

Winter (GMT):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
12:00-18:00 QF	12:00-18:00 All		12:00-18:00 All	12:00-21:00 QF	10:00-14:00 All	10:00-13:00 All
18:00-21:00 All						

[Note 1: 'QF' means Quiet Flight. That is gliders and electric models.]

[Note 2: Finish times are either as stated above or at sundown - whichever comes first. No night flying is permitted.]

Bank Holidays

For all days except bank holiday Mondays, flying times are the same as normal (see above tables). On bank holiday Mondays, Saturday hours apply i.e. 10am to 2pm. The reasoning behind this is to avoid annoying our "neighbours" when they may be relaxing in their gardens. These times were also declared to Winchester Council when we were granted our Lawful Development Certificate, which is effectively planning permission for our model flying. The only other bank holiday anomaly is Christmas Day when no flying is allowed, whichever day of the week it falls on.

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Committee News

Here's the latest from the committee room.

Our next meeting is the Bring & Buy sale. Whether you are buying, selling or just spectating, please see the **Future Club Nights** section for important details on this event.

Christmas Raffle

Another plea for members to keep buying Christmas Draw tickets as sales are still slow. Please contact Pete and get some tickets. You may win a plane!

2014 Trophies

Winners of 2014 Trophies are requested to return them to Paul Adams or another committee member as soon as possible so that they can be engraved with the 2015 awards.

Flight-Line Safety

There have been a couple of close shaves recently involving models veering towards the flight-line on landing because of a cross wind. This was not because the wind was blowing towards the flight-line, in fact the wind was on the pilots backs. The problem involved models that touched down and then bounced up slightly. The wind then caused the models to weathercock such that they pointed towards the pilots! Please bear this in mind when flying in cross winds!

Andover Models

Justin and I recently visited Andover models, which is almost a 'local' Model shop for us Southamptoners now. Justin was good enough to write a short piece on them, so here it is together with some snaps I took.

Ever since the demise of Hobbystores and with Planes and Trains deciding to move to Guernsey or Gosport (unsure which) but both equally as hard to get to without a boat, many of us have struggled with not getting a "fix" having a root about in a model shop.

Internet shopping is great & very convenient but for many it's just not the same. Many members may be aware of and have visited Sussex models down in Worthing but Andover Models seems to have gone unnoticed by many.

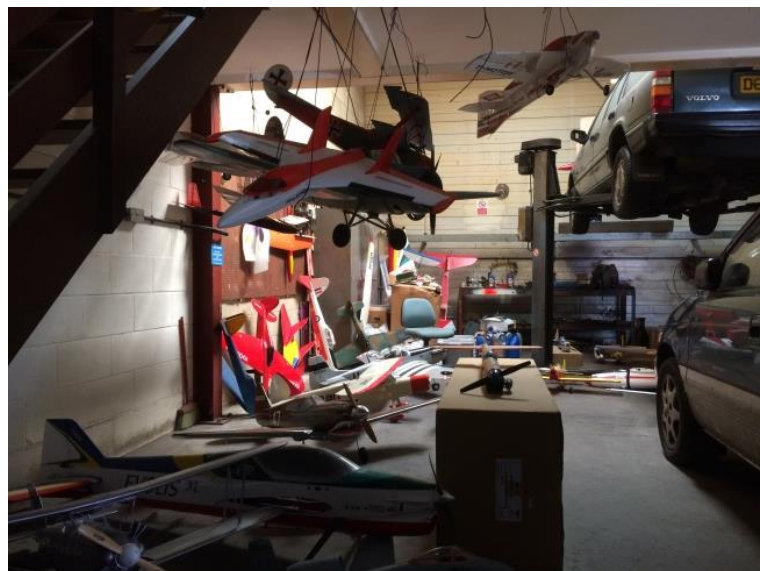
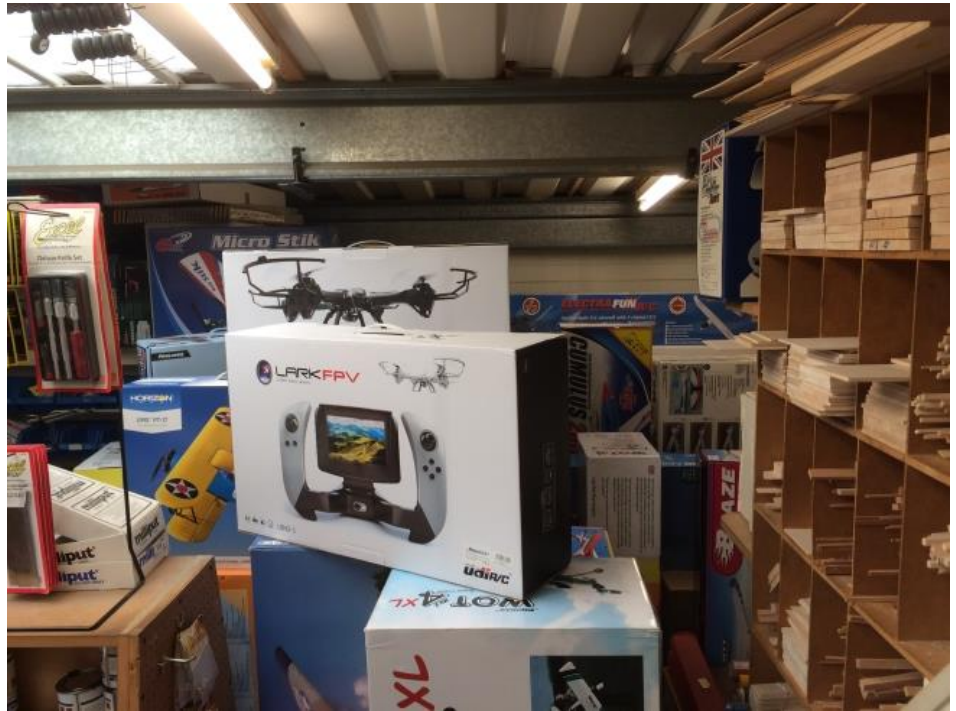
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Situated on a quiet retail park to the east of Andover this little Aladdin's cave is well worth a visit if you're going that way or fancy a little road trip on a rainy day. Based in what at first seems to be a small backstreet garage the proprietor "Nev" has somehow managed to shoehorn more aeromodelling stock than was ever available at Hobbystores (not hard towards the end) and the aforementioned Mainly hard to get to shops combined.

In fact one of the only criticisms is that there is too much in there and his range of ARTF kits is hard if not impossible to fully view, the only place locally comparable for being so ram packed is Geoff Scott's wallet (hey! – ed.).

You name it and "Nev" seems to have it and if it's not in he can get it the next day.



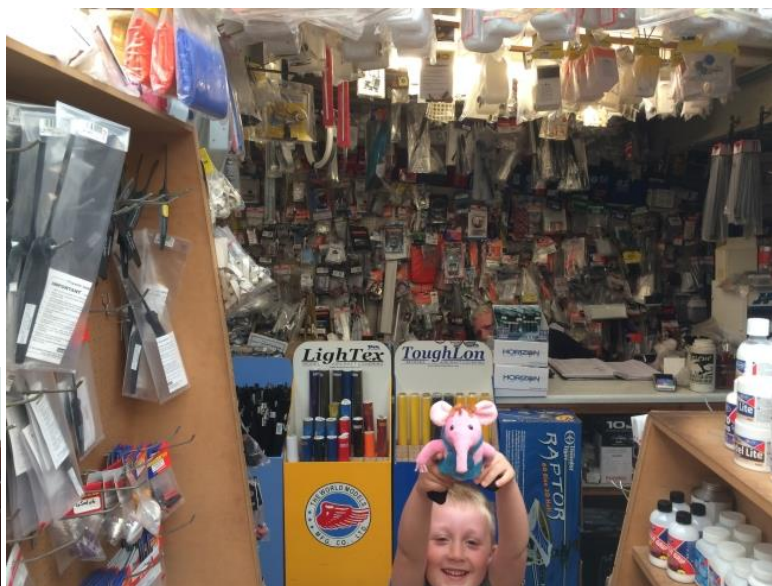
But that's not all! Downstairs you will usually find around ten to twenty second hand planes & gliders, some ready to fly and some airframe only but all there to tempt you into parting with some cash.

There were planes on both sides of the cars and the back of the car nearest the camera was rammed full of planes and spares too! I didn't look inside the Volvo up on the lift.

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At some point Nev dropped a clanger but luckily Justin's son Tom was there to pick it up.



Nev even has quite large models in stock, this 2.2m Hurricane being a case in point.

Andover Models can be found at the following address:

Picket Piece
117 The Commercial Centre
Andover SP11 6RU
Tel: 01264 355033

September Club Night

Seventeen members attended the September club night, which featured an excellent talk on Thermal and Slope Soaring by Paul Adams. Paul used a selection of models to help with the talk, and he was assisted by Mike Harvey who brought a couple of 1/3rd scale aero-tow scale gliders. Once again Alan Shergold provided the screen/projector etc. Paul explained the differences between the two disciplines and used slides to illustrate the points he was making. The talk concluded with a film shot by Mike, which showed some very impressive aero-tow action at a competition at Middle Wallop.

Future Club Nights

15th October - will be a Bring & Buy Sale. It is likely that we will only have one sale per year in future, so this could be your last chance to pick up something cheap or offload some old models/equipment before October 2016! You are strongly advised to attend this event to avoid missing out on some amazing bargains! As usual Russell

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will be the auctioneer, and it is worth going just to hear his banter and colourful descriptions of the items on offer!

The Hamble Club opens its doors at 7.00pm and ideally all items for sale should be logged in with Russell or Paul Adams by 7.30pm, 7.45pm at the latest. The sale will start at 8.00pm sharp. Sellers are requested to provide a short description of the items they are selling, together with their name and a reserve price if required.

November 20th - The November club night will be a day later (ie Friday Nov 20th) to coincide with the BMFA Southern Area Balsa Brain competition. The Firebirds are the holders of the Trophy, so plenty of support to help us win it for the third time in succession would be appreciated. There should be free buffet supper too.

December 10th - The Christmas Party will be held on 10th December (the second Thursday of the month). As usual, the subs for next year will be agreed and the Trophy Award Ceremony will take place. The Christmas Draw will follow, with about £500 of prizes available. Don't forget to keep buying those tickets from Pete Clark you have to be in it to win it!

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Down at the Field

Well Saturday the 19th September was a glorious day so the planes and cameras were out.



A shot across the pitch as we were all just about ready to fly.

Here's Alan's DC3 and Storch both looking great in the September morning sun.



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Geoff's had a few issues with his Yak just not running right. Here he is prepping it for what turned out to be a successful few flights.



Alan with his Majestic Major restored to full health after its recent tree landing. ****Breaking News**** Alan has just gone solo on the Major. Congratulations Alan!

Rob's spitfire was on site for an engine tune up. Some taxi trials revealed that the placement of the (fixed) undercarriage was not ideal. It needed to go home for some re-bending.



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Terry is very pleased with his recently built Matador. It flies beautifully.

Later in September now, here's Pete with his Eurofighter Typhoon. This version appears to be ahead of the game because it has swivelling thrust vectoring nozzles. According to Wikipedia: "Eurojet is attempting to find funding to test a thrust



vectoring nozzle (TVN) on a flight demonstrator". I don't know why they need funding. I reckon we just show them Pete's, it flies great. Job done. Millions of Euros saved.



The model sounded great and flew very well. I really like it when the air going through the plane makes as much or more noise than the electric motor, which was a feature of this plane.

Safety Matters

At work we have a monthly invitation to attend a talk from Safety and Reliability Society (SaRS). For the September meeting, John H. delivered an excellent talk on Safety and Airworthiness Aspects of the IMechE UAS (Unmanned Aerial System) Challenge.

The challenge engaged University Undergraduate teams from April 2014 to June 2015 in the design, construction, development and demonstration of an Autonomous Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS).

Safety and Airworthiness was considered in the Challenge under the context of:

- Legal and Regulatory Requirements
- UAS Challenge Safety Management
- Design safety requirements and Flight Readiness Review
- Challenge Safety Case
- Site safety procedures
- Teams' Own Safety Assessments
- Design and operation specific safety issues and features

With a Maximum Take-off Mass (MTOM) limit of 7 kg, and operating within Visual Line of Sight (VLOS), the Unmanned Aircraft (UA) was designed to undertake a representative humanitarian aid mission.

The system was required to operate automatically, performing a series of tasks such as area search, navigating waypoints, accurately dropping a payload and returning to base via a defined route.

The exact details of the waypoints were not made available until the day of the competition. The runway at Bruntingthorpe was used for the challenge. *[Note: The image below indicates the nature of the competition route but it is not Bruntingthorpe. At some point there was a venue change to Bruntingthorpe]*

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Take-off was conducted within a designated take-off and landing box, into wind. After take-off the system had to maintain steady controlled flight at a height of 100 ft.

The UAS then had to automatically fly around selected waypoints WP1, WP2, WP3, whilst remaining inside the designated flying zone, and avoiding no-fly zones.

Having identified the target, the UAS had to automatically position itself to deliver one payload (a bag of flower) onto the target

Finally, the UAS had to return and land at the designated take-off and landing zone.

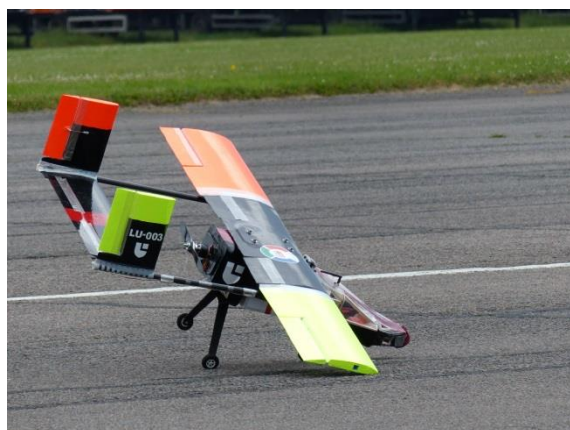
There were a variety of design solutions for the challenge. Here are a batch of quadcopter designs.



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This one was 3D printed but had rigidity problems so it required further bracing with wires.



There were fixed-wing designs too. All aircraft had difficulty landing and none came away from the event in one piece.



The University of Nottingham were the winners of the Safety and Airworthiness Prize with their orange fixed-wing design and accompanying documentation/presentation.



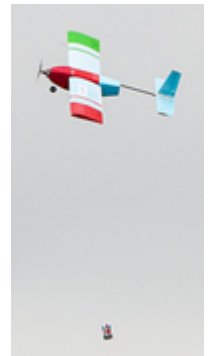
Looking like something from DARPA, there was even an entry that had a carbon fuselage and blended wing

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The overall winners were the University of Southampton (Yea!) with their fixed-wing design. Here it is dropping the payload over the target.



The landing wasn't quite perfect.

Fly Past

No fly past article this month.

External Events

Southern Counties Swapmeet - 15/11/2015

Admission only £4, under 16s free. Tables £8 including one admission. Sellers from 8:30am, buyers 9am to noon. More details at www.hmfa.hampshire.org.uk. To pre-book tables only call Mike Stokes on 07702 742647.

Disciplines: Control Line, Electric, FPV, Free Flight, Gas Turbine, Indoor , RC Fixed Wing, RC Helicopters, Scale, Slope, Soaring, Space.

Starts: 15/11/2015 at 09:00

Ends: 15/11/2015 at 12:00

Venue: Mountbatten School

Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 5SY

Website: <http://www.hmfa.hampshire.org.uk/>

Contact: Mike Stokes on 07702 742647

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Club Information

This section gives a summary of club services and contact details. Apart from the “Future Club Night Programme” most of the info here is fairly static.

Cheap Glow Fuel

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

Contact: Terry Jacobson on 023 8040 2080 or see him at the field.

Club Clothing

A number of items of club branded clothing are available from a local supplier. The current prices are:

Sweatshirts	£14.25
Polo shirts	£12.50
T shirt	£ 8.50
Caps	£ 7.95

All shirts are Fruit of the Loom and available in all sizes up to XXL & most colours. There is also a huge range of quality outwear that can be embroidered with the club logo.

Contact Justin on 07572 613190, email windgyber@hotmail.com or see him at the field.

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! The entrance to the club is on Hamble Lane and the club looks like this:

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Firebirds 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	Pat Parsons	023 8056 2611	patrickparsons.parsons3@googlemail.com
Vice Chair	Russell Lewis	023 8056 1397	russell@pilot1.co.uk
Treasurer	Paul Adams	023 8069 2729	paul.adams10@tiscali.co.uk
Secretary	Roger Stanton	01489 784152	roger-stanton@sky.com
PRO	Peter Clark	01489 692881	psclark911@hotmail.com
Flying Site Rep.	Dave Hoppe	07704 826343	davehoppehome@gmail.com
Safety Officer	Geoff Griffiths	023 9265 5931	gcgriffiths@hotmail.com
Membership Sec.	Roger Stanton	01489 784152	roger-stanton@sky.com



Remember...
Safe flying is no accident.