

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

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

In this issue...

- 1.....[Committee News](#)
- 2.....[Down at the Field](#)
- 3.....[Safety Matters](#)
- 4.....[Fly Past](#)
- 5.....[External Events](#)
- 6.....[Club Information](#)

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.

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

Committee News

Here's the latest from the committee room.

Hedge End Carnival Gala Show

The Firebird's stand at the Carnival Show last year was a great success and we have been asked to do the same again this year. The show will be held on Saturday 2nd July at Greta Park. Volunteers to provide models for the display and to help man the stand should contact Russell Lewis (contact details at the end of this Newsletter).

Waltham Chase

Waltham Chase Aeromodellers have invited Firebirds members to a barbeque and Vintage model fly-in on Sunday 3rd July. Control line up to 3.5cc will also be allowed, as will free flight rubber powered and gliders. Mode 2 fliers can also have a go on a 96" span KK Falcon and Majestic Major. Anyone interested should contact the Secretary.

Blue Gryphons Fly- In

The blue Gryphons have invited the Firebirds to attend a fly-in and barbeque on Saturday 23rd July. They have a wonderful site that is on a full-size airfield, but parking limitations mean that they can only allow us to bring 8 cars with up to 2 people in each car. Large models are welcome, although the BMFA Noise limit applies. Helicopters are not permitted. Further details will be given nearer the date, but anyone interested should let the Secretary know as soon as possible.

Flying Site Issues

Earlier this month Pat found another broken prop blade on the strip when he was mowing. These have caused significant damage to the mower in the past, most recently to the clutch and drive belt. Repairs can be very expensive so do all you can to retrieve broken blades etc. If your search is unsuccessful, let a committee member know so that a group search can be organised. If your crashed model also makes a hole in the strip, make sure you fill that in too!

Someone has filled one of the rubbish bins with old wings etc. Of course it could have been an ex-member trying to find a new home for them, but if not please remember that the bins are for normal rubbish (eg empty drinks cans etc) **THEY ARE NOT TO BE USED FOR GETTING RID OF CRASHED OR OLD MODELS.**

Future Club Nights

Thursday June 16th - Barbeque and fly-in at Roughay Farm (location details below) for all model types. Flying can start at 2.00pm and will continue until sunset. The barbeque will start about 6.00pm. Again, bring your own food and drink. These events

Firebirds Model Club

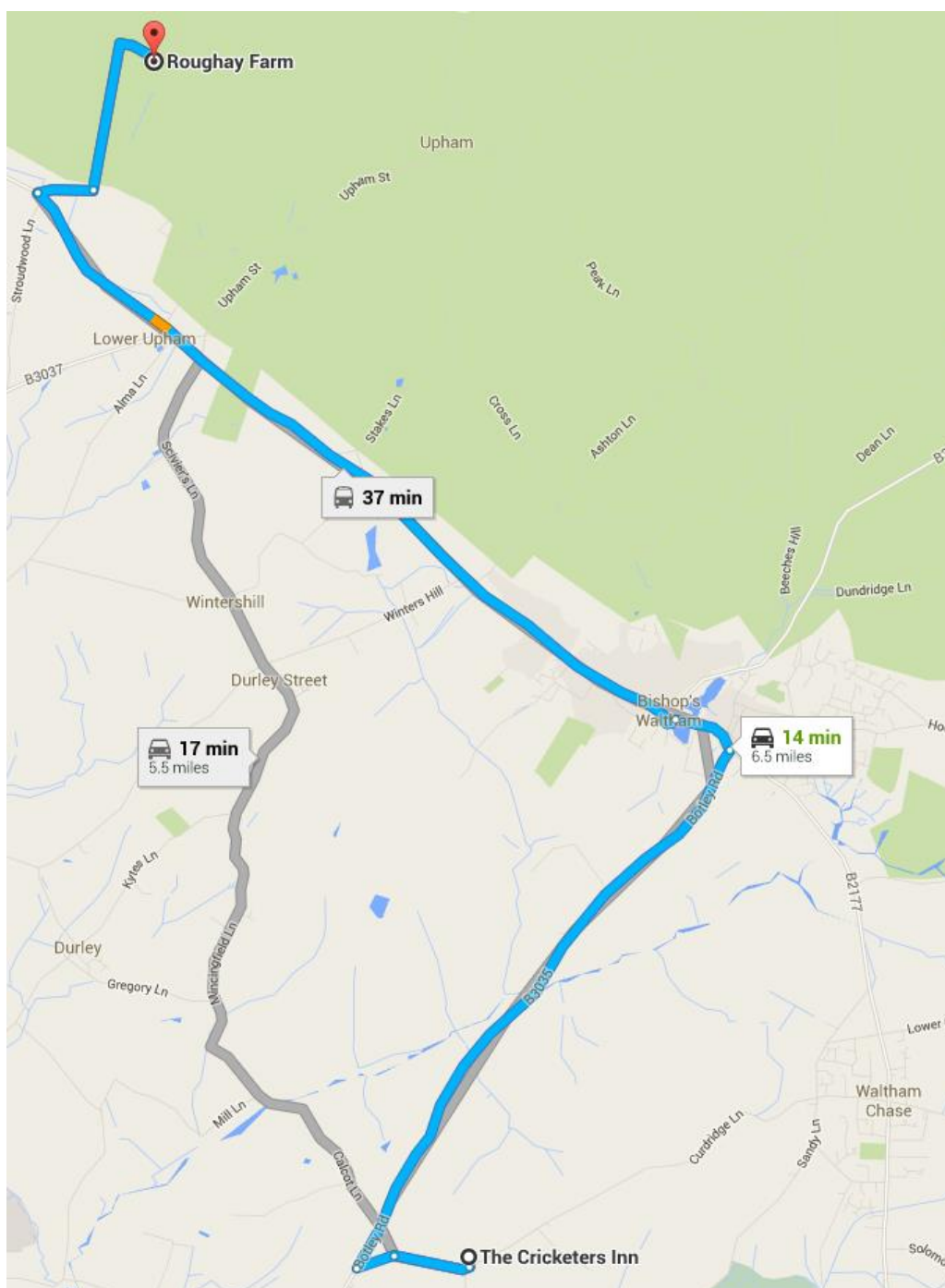
Newsletter June 2016

were a great success last year so make sure this date is in your diary. If the weather forecast is poor, keep an eye on your emails as it may be slipped to the following day or possibly to the Saturday.

July/August – Fly-ins and barbeques, dates and locations still to be confirmed.

[Roughay Farm \(click here to see it on Google Maps\)](#), Southampton SO32 1JP

Here is a picture of a route from the Cricketers pub near Poplars. See also the text directions below the picture.



Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

1. Start at The Cricketers Inn, Curdrige Lane, Southampton SO32 2BH, United Kingdom
2. Head south-west on Curdrige Ln towards Lockhams Rd for 0.3 miles
3. Turn left onto The Plantation for 0.1 miles
4. Turn right onto Botley Rd/B3035 for 2.2 miles
5. At the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto B2177 for 0.2 miles
6. At the roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto Winchester Rd/B2177, continue to follow Winchester Rd for 2.9 miles
7. Turn right onto Hatchley Ln for 0.2 miles
8. Turn left onto Red Ln for 0.6 miles, destination will be on the right

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

Down at the Field

Saw a couple of new planes down the field this month so to kick off, here's Geoff's



WOTs WOT XL alongside my own standard size WOTs WOT. Geoff's has a petrol 2-Stroke up front (can't remember the size) whereas mine has an OS 90 4-stroke.

The motor gives plenty of power so she climbs out nicely.

This shot gives a better idea of the beast's size (66" span, verses 45" for the standard one).



Geoff and I discussed the flying characteristics of our two planes and we both felt they were great sports models. There were no real vices and both had great aerobatic performance with good slow handling.

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016



Mike turned up with this very nice Seagull Decathlon. Seagull do a range of sizes for the Decathlon, this is the smallest intended for 40-46 2-stroke engines. With a 67" span, it's still pretty big though.

I believe Mike has 65 4-Stroke up front.



Welcome to recent joiner Keith who was flying his Freewing Pandora on the day I met him.

Here's Pete launching his F22 Raptor. This thing cuts a fine dash in the sky.



Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016



The Raptor has all the usual controls plus thrust vectoring, flaps, retracts and leading edge slats. Here she is with everything hanging down (minus the U/C) for a superb looking high alpha landing approach. The U/C has now been sorted so she comes in like this for a landing on wheels.



Justin snapped my Dewoitine on a flyby. She flies nice on a calm day but is horrible in the wind. You've got to watch out for tip stalls too.

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

Here's Rob's Hangar 9 Toledo coming in for a landing.



Roger was throwing his Veron Viscount around the sky (a 1961 design). This was in the April edition of the BMFA News magazine.



Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

Annoyingly, I missed Alan's DC3 while it was in the air. Still, it looks pretty on the ground too.



Safety Matters

Had a quick scout around the BMFA website for any recent safety related articles and came across the following.

USE OF MOBILE TELEPHONES IN PROXIMITY TO ELECTRONICALLY PROGRAMMED TRANSMITTERS

The JRCUC has reported there may be a problem associated with operating mobile telephones in the close proximity of programmable transmitters causing the memories to be partly or fully erased. This problem has yet to be scientifically substantiated; however, it is generally known that RF radiation can disable or permanently damage some modern electronic devices.

Although the risk may be small, we believe it should be minimised by bringing it to the attention of members and clubs. Pending resolution, we recommend that mobile telephones are not switched on within 10 feet of any programmable transmitter. This may appear to be overkill, but better safe than sorry. Care should be taken during pre-flight checks to ensure that all controls are operating fully and in their correct sense and to ensure that the memory has not been affected by any undetected or unknown transmissions since the last flight.

Firebirds already has a rule or recommendation that phones are not brought to the flight-line, so I thought it worth bringing this article to everyone's attention just to heighten awareness.

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

Fly Past

Here's Chris' third blog instalment.

My First Year (6 months) with the Firebirds.... Continued....

So all is going well, I am now flying regularly on a buddy lead with my instructor Russell, although I am starting to realise that this flying 'lark' is not as easy as I thought it would be. When I am at the flying site and I see model military jets (EDFs) flying past at unbelievable speeds and aerobatic planes flying knife edge just feet from the ground, I realise how much I still have to master.

The most difficult thing I found whilst mastering this 'flying thing' has been over-correcting, which is then made worse when incorrectly over-correcting the 'wrong way' and then adding a bit more because the aeroplane still isn't correcting... RUSSELL... You have control!!!

I don't know if it is a regular experience, but the other issue I had was concentration, first flight of the day pretty good, second flight much better, third flight of the day and I start making mistakes and feel less in control, fourth flight of the day RUSSELL... You have control!!! This effect also comes into play after a longer flight, things feel good for the first few minutes, but as the flight comes towards its end it can be a welcome feeling to be back on the ground.

What I hadn't mentioned previously was that my daughter was already a junior member of the club (although due to college and work she only flew once during 2015), so I had visited the flying field on previous occasions so sort of knew how things worked. One important thing, I never quite worked out who was allowed to sit in the deckchairs, were they just for committee members or only the older members. Perhaps was there a specific chair for the chairman? I didn't want to upset anybody and sit in their chair!

After a few visits I realised that actually all the members were pretty decent people and after just 2 months I actually sat in one of those chairs... or at least until Pat arrived!!

As I have got better it has been strangely difficult to accept the positive and generally complementary words of Russell my instructor as, although I had just taken off, done a figure of eight, a square box shape and then landed and it almost feels like you haven't just done it. Being on a buddy box makes you feel somehow that your instructor is still doing something although they didn't once take control.

So, as I say my flying was improving and my confidence growing, I would easily get this cracked by Christmas I thought.... Perhaps I shouldn't have thought it... As, second flight of the day mid-flight I flew out towards the scout camp, and prepared to bank right for a landing approach, flying is starting to be fun (again thinking to myself)... then, just as I came back around bringing the nose towards the pits...

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

nothing, nothing at all, absolutely no control ! RUSSELL... You have control !!!
RUSSELL... You have control!!! ...but he didn't either, he too had nothing.

This hobby could get expensive!

To be continued...

External Events

The following events have been gleaned from the BMFA website. I've picked out events that are either in Hampshire or its neighbouring counties (except for a couple of the larger events which are further afield).

There may be other events that I've either missed or are not on the BMFA calendar. I shall include these as-and-when they come onto my radar.

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

June

05/06/2016 - Farnham Model Helicopter Club Open Day

Surrey

25/06/2016 - F3K BMFA League - TVSF 1

Berkshire

25/06/2016 & 26/06/2016 - Wings and Wheels Model Spectacular

Essex

Location: North Weald Airfield, Essex, CM16 6AR, England

Time 9.30am - 5.30pm

Full details at: <http://www.wingsnwheels.net/>

Email: admin@wingsnwheels.net

Phone: 01242 604126

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

July

03/07/2016 - Waltham Chase Aeromodellers have invited Firebirds members to a barbeque and Vintage model fly-in on Sunday 3rd July. Control line up to 3.5cc will also be allowed, as will free flight rubber powered and gliders. Mode 2 fliers can also have a go on a 96" span KK Falcon and Majestic Major. Anyone interested should contact the Secretary.

17/07/2016 - BMFA (South) eSoaring League

West Sussex

23/07/2016 - Blue Gryphons Saturday Fly- In. The blue Gryphons have invited the Firebirds to attend a fly-in and barbeque. They have a wonderful site that is on a full-size airfield, but parking limitations mean that they can only allow us to bring 8 cars with up to 2 people in each car. Large models are welcome, although the BMFA Noise limit applies. Helicopters are not permitted. Further details will be given nearer the date, but anyone interested should let the Secretary know as soon as possible.

24/07/2016 - Helipad Scale Fly In 2016

Hampshire

30/07/2016 - F3K BMFA League - TVSF 2

Berkshire

August

20/08/2016 - BMFA Free Flight Southern Gala

Wiltshire

September

04/09/2016 - BMFA (South) eSoaring League

West Sussex

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

17/09/2016 - Farnham Model Helicopter Club Open Day

Surrey

24/09/2016 - BMFA Stonehenge Cup Free Flight International

Wiltshire

25/09/2016 - BMFA Equinox Cup Free Flight International

Wiltshire

25/09/2016 - BMFA 4th Space Meeting & Team Trials Reserve

Wiltshire

October

01/10/2016 - Reserve date -F3K BMFA League – TVSF

Berkshire

09/10/2016 - BMFA Free Flight Team Selection Reserve Date

Wiltshire

09/10/2016 - BMFA (South - Reserve) eSoaring League

West Sussex

Regular Open Meetings

In addition to all the above there are regular monthly open meetings at the following venues:

Waltham Chase Aeromodellers Indoor R/C Small Models

Hampshire

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

Wessex Soaring Assoc. monthly slope fly-in

Wiltshire

FLITEHOOK Indoor Free Flight Meeting

Hampshire

See <https://bmfa.org/Contests-Events/Contest-and-Event-Calendar> for more details.

Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

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



Firebirds Model Club

Newsletter June 2016

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.