



## DECEMBER



**FIREBIRDS CHRISTMAS**

**PARTY**

**14<sup>th</sup> December**

**Hamble Club 7.30pm**

Welcome to December's Newsletter!

Firstly, happy Christmas to you all and thank you for the assistance of many in getting me through my first year of being newsletter editor. I did suggest to the committee that as it was now nearing the end of my year in the 'seat' that it might be somebody else's turn, but I think it fell on deaf ears so you will have to put up with my newsletter 'style' for a bit longer.

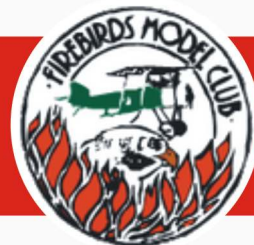
Had an interesting one this month that took a lot of digging on the internet to fix, couldn't get telemetry to work on an Orange R920x receiver, eventually worked out that you can disable telemetry by binding with an additional bind plug across the throttle link (which I didn't). Found out that the resistance of the ESC was enough to mimic a bind plug and was disabling the telemetry feature took several hours to find something so simple... !

Had an interesting time at the First Aid talk (see later in the newsletter) and as per his recommendation I would like to let fellow club members know that I now have a First Aid kit in my car ☺

Now let's get on with the December 2017 edition of the Firebirds Newsletter.



Chris.



## Committee News

Here's the latest from the committee room.

### \*\* IMPORTANT \*\*

Firebirds model club now have ceased their arrangement with Poplars Farm, as of the end of November 2017, Firebirds members no longer have any right of access to the farm.

## Christmas Party and draw

The **Christmas party** is on Thursday 14th December (i.e. a week earlier than the normal Club Night date). As usual there will be a **FREE** buffet supper and of course the 2017 Christmas Draw will take place after the 2017 trophies have been awarded.

There will be approximately £800 worth of model flying goodies in the draw, well worth buying a few more tickets and making sure you are there to pick your prize on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Last months - FIRST AID DEMONSTRATION

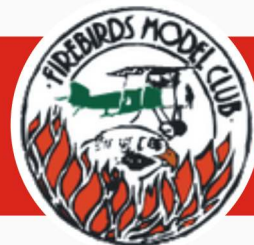


A BIG THANK YOU to Dave Dewey and his son Chris both volunteers with the ambulance service for their First Aid lecture and demonstration on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November.

The 'Dewey Duo' put together a really informative evening demonstrating their knowledge and passion in helping people involved in medical trauma. The evening went really quickly and although done in a light hearted and down to earth way covered some really serious potential situations from minor cuts to the use of public defibrillators.

Dave suggested that we all download an app to our smart phones that show the location of your nearest defibrillator [<LINK>](#). The app confirms that there is one available at Corehampton Golf club. Another useful app for communicating with the emergency services in a 'discreet' way was recommended, ideal for teenagers out on their own just in case they get into a difficult situation [<LINK>](#).

Note: Dave also mentioned that IC fuels may contain some nasty chemicals, if you do cut yourself and there is a chance of fuel contamination please mention this to whoever treats you.



## OUR CURRENT SITE– Peak Down !!.

Peak Down flying times

Mon – Fri      1200 – Dusk

Sat – Sun      1000 – 1600.

### **A couple of important things to note**

- Take care when driving to the pits as there may be bumps and ruts hidden in the longer grass.
- **Please shut and lock the gate if you are the last member leaving the site.**
- Please consider taking first aid equipment with you as there will be no facility on-site
- **You should also keep a mobile phone with you in case of an accident.**
- Please, Please, Please show extra consideration to our new neighbours, please fly considerately especially during the initial 'honeymoon' period.

Don't forget there is no charging facility on site so make sure you take plenty of batteries or a charging facility with you.

### Advance notice - Known motocross dates (subject to change)

Peak down will not be available for Firebirds use due to motocross events on ...

February 24, 25<sup>th</sup>

October 6, 7<sup>th</sup>

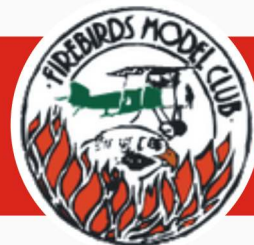
Other dates will be announced as they arise, potentially with short notice

### Safety reminder

Peak Down - with the expanded flying times it is also more likely that members will fly on their own sometimes.

This is not banned by club rules, but if you fly on your own it is at your own risk. You should keep a mobile phone with you in case of an accident, especially if you need to go searching for a lost model

Please consider putting a first aid kit in your car.



## An excerpt from the BMFA Members Handbook 2017

### *5.10 Personal Accident Insurance*

*(a) Members of the BMFA between the ages of 3 and 85 are covered by a standard personal accident policy whilst participating in Association activities which include the building and flying of model aircraft for sport and recreational purposes as well as travel to and from the flying site.*

*(b) Personal Accident Cover is extended to cover first time visitors to a club who have no previous experience but who are seeking to try out model flying prior to joining the club and BMFA. Indemnity under this 'First Time Inexperienced Flyer' provision will only be in place when flights are being totally organised and supervised by a suitable club member approved by the Club Committee. The limit of this indemnity is 3 separate day visits for any single inexperienced flyer.*

## CHRISTMAS DRAW 2017

Christmas Draw tickets are still on sale so don't forget to bring some money to the site! See Pete Clark. **STOP PRESS** :- It has been announced that there will be nearly £1000 worth of prizes so don't forget to buy your tickets and attend the Christmas party so you can choose your prize!

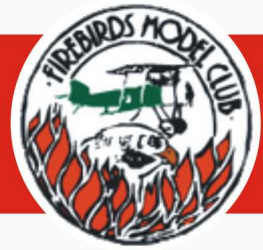
## Others using Peak down site:

Access to Peak down is only available to the man who farms the lower end of the field, the Firebirds who have the lock combination and the tree surgeons that deliver the wood chippings. Nobody else has a right to access the site the test will always be do they have the key code for the lock.

Rob Exall went to the Peak down site during the month and found the gate open and a van parked across the entrance, 2 further vehicles were parked down by the Motocross course where men were working. Rob and his brother were rightly annoyed as they had driven all the way to the site. He contacted Roger.

Roger replied on behalf of the committee.. "If the gate had been opened then it must have been someone associated with the motocross club who had the lock combination. You should have asked them to let you in as we are paying good money for access to the site. If it happens again and they refuse, then by all means call me or any other member of the committee (phone numbers at the end of each newsletter)."

Hopefully these are just teething problems but please keep committee members informed so we can deal with and advise appropriately.



## **FUTURE CLUB NIGHTS - Advance notice**

January - The club AGM will be in January (see below)

February - Allan Shergold's ever popular movie night.

March - "Show and Tell" night for your latest model, together with a Table Top Sale for any spare models/engines/tools etc. Indoor flying with small helis etc should also be possible.

April – Steve Newell and family's Quiz Night, was a really good evening last year please support.

May - First 2017 Barbeque at the site (date dependent on weather).

## **Firebirds model club – AGM 2018**

The Club's AGM will take place at 8.00pm on Thursday 18th January 2018 at the Hamble Club.

An Agenda and Minutes of the last AGM will be circulated by email before the meeting. The Agenda will include a vote to elect the 2018 Committee so if anyone is interested in standing, please contact the Secretary. Other items for the Agenda must be forwarded in writing (an email will do) to the Secretary by 11th January 2018 at the latest. Only items on the Agenda will be discussed at the meeting.

In addition to the loss (from the committee) of Pat Parsons, another committee member also wishes to stand down. So far we have had one volunteer to stand for election, but it is most important that at least one other member comes forward. Volunteers should contact Roger Stanton.

## **2018 subs – You can pay at the Christmas party if you bring your cheque book !**

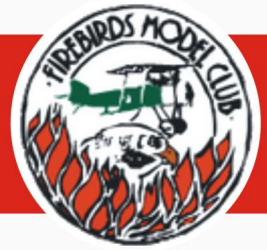
The BMFA will decide its 2018 Subs at its AGM on 17th November 2017. Once these have been announced, the Firebird Committee will discuss Firebirds subs at their meeting on 7 December 2017.

At the Club Christmas Party on Thursday 14th December, the Committee will make their recommendation on subs before asking the members present to decide by a vote what the 2018 subs will be. Those who wish can then pay their 2018 subscription during the party.

Please note that to be able to fly with insurance from 1st January 2018 you must have paid your subs!

Those who join the BMFA as Country Members, or via another club, must show proof of 2018 BMFA membership to the Secretary.





## Another Peak Down site issue (previously covered in a separate e-mail)

You need to be aware of is that although the motocross competition preparations normally take place on the Saturday, occasionally some work will be done during the previous week.

Should you come across this situation you still have the right to access the site (your knowledge of the gate combination is proof of this) but it is your responsibility to assess whether it is safe to fly.

If you believe it is unsafe then you can always ask them nicely to move their vans etc, but the bottom line is that if they can't or won't you must not fly.

## Captions anybody ?

Geoff Griffiths saw the picture of him and Viv at the First Aid meeting last month and thought that members might like to use it for a 'just for fun' captions competition?

So let's give it a try... here is the picture again, together with my attempt at a witty caption to start things off. Please send me your entries for publication in next month's newsletter.



1. Chris Fisher .... "OK Viv we'll do our best, but I don't think we can save his legs".

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Space left for more entries ☺

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## Lest we forget

These pictures were sent to me rather aptly on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, eagle eyed Russell Lewis thought that other club members would appreciate one of Southampton's remembrance day tributes.



## Let's See your Den Shed Garage or Man (person) Cave

These before and after pictures were sent in by Pat Parsons, he says he is settling in well and as you can see in the picture the chatterbox model is well under way.





## Romsey Auction

Club members Pete Clarke and Russell Lewis both had tables at the Romsey Bring and buy sale last month. Russell says he sold everything he took and cleared out many of his unused items, which of course made room to buy a new one! As you can see in the pictures his new Twister model is like new apparently only flown once, Russell says the kit to build it costs more than he paid for the whole model.... happy days!! And a sneaky look at his man cave too !



## Words of Wisdom from the flight line

“There are three simple rules for a smooth landing,  
but unfortunately nobody knows what they are.”

## Peak down ‘a Naturalists Dream’

Anybody flying out our wonderful new flying site can't help but notice the wonderful flora and fauna including many different bird species, most are too far away to photograph but Paul Adams managed to capture this little Robin Red Breast just in time for Christmas. So Sweet!







## This month down at the field

Perhaps some of the last photographs from the Poplars farm flying site. P.S. Beware of anybody selling a low mileage caravan in perfect condition on eBay, the floor is rotten!



And perhaps the last pilot to actually take off (and land) successfully ☺





## This month down at the 'New' flying field

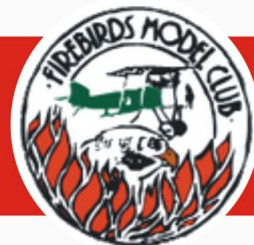
Russell Lewis Tweaks the engine on the new model he bought at Romsey Auction. The Twister really lived up to its name and did some seriously quick loops and rolls, before.... the engine cut out followed by a perfect but distant dead stick landing and a rather long walk. Hence the engine tweaking!



Dave tries out his new toy.. apparently whilst visiting Sussex models to buy the prizes for the Christmas draw he just couldn't resist this quadcopter. Rumour has it that Sussex models gave him and Pete a good discount on over £800 worth of great kit so better get yourselves some more draw tickets.







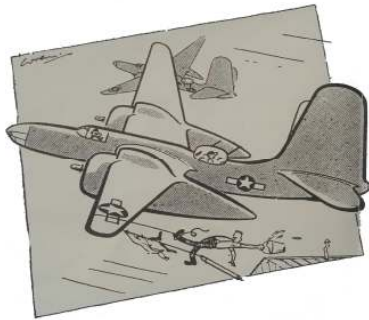
A light-hearted moment.



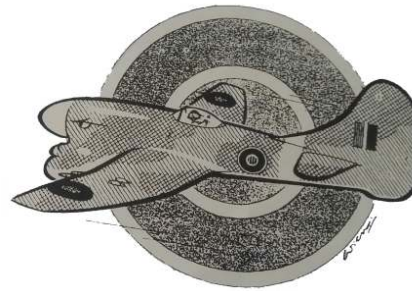


## How well do you know your aircraft?

More 'Oddidentification' cartoons from world war II, do you recognise these aircraft from their cartoon image ... (answer on last page).



1.



2.

## This month's video!

Be warned this video isn't really worth watching, but you will only find that out after you have watched the first 3 minutes ... <https://youtu.be/DBxYGa5larM>



Do you have a suggested video for next month's Newsletter ?

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Notice the Newsletter is a bit empty, less interesting?

Please e-mail items for the Newsletter to [firebirdsmodelclub@outlook.com](mailto:firebirdsmodelclub@outlook.com).

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# Firebirds Model Club

News, Views & Information - December 2017



## Club Information

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

## Discounted Glow Fuel

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

Russell Lewis

023 8056 1397

[russell@pilot1.co.uk](mailto:russell@pilot1.co.uk)

## 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!

## 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.

Stand in Chairman	Russell Lewis	023 8056 1397	<a href="mailto:russell@pilot1.co.uk">russell@pilot1.co.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Russell Lewis	023 8056 1397	<a href="mailto:russell@pilot1.co.uk">russell@pilot1.co.uk</a>
Treasurer	Paul Adams	023 8069 2729	<a href="mailto:paul.adams.at.home@gmail.com">paul.adams.at.home@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Roger Stanton	01489 784152	<a href="mailto:roger-stanton@sky.com">roger-stanton@sky.com</a>
PRO	Peter Clark	01489 692881	<a href="mailto:psclark911@hotmail.com">psclark911@hotmail.com</a>
Flying Site Rep.	Dave Hoppe	07704 826343	<a href="mailto:davehoppehome@gmail.com">davehoppehome@gmail.com</a>
Safety Officer	Geoff Griffiths	023 9265 5931	<a href="mailto:gcgiffiths@hotmail.com">gcgiffiths@hotmail.com</a>
Membership Sec.	Roger Stanton	01489 784152	<a href="mailto:roger-stanton@sky.com">roger-stanton@sky.com</a>

## Local Tree Surgeon

Mathew Cross 01489 799982 or 0778 842 4756. Or one of his team members James. 0749 5033 561.



## Flying Times Peak down

Please consider our neighbours at all times.

Mon – Fri      1200 – Dusk

Sat – Sun      1000 – 1600.

## External Events

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

## Regular Open Meetings

There are regular monthly open meetings at the following venues:

Waltham Chase Aeromodellers Indoor R/C Small Models Hampshire

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.

## 'Oddidentification' answer

1. Douglas A-20G Havoc

2. Hawker Tempest