



# February



**February Club night:**

**Thursday 15th Feb**

**Alan Shergold's video.**

Welcome to February 2018's Newsletter!

For such a short month February can sure drag on, but with the days getting longer and hopefully warmer things are definitely on the up!

I have to make a special mention in my pre-amble to Paul this month he was up at the field flying hoping to get some personal flying in, when I asked him to have a look at one of my models. I did feel a bit guilty as he spent so long looking at my model/s that he hardly got time to fly his own models Sorry and Thank you Paul.

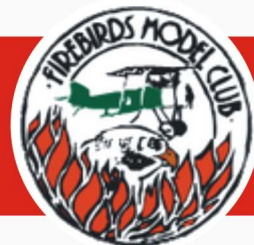
One of the models that Paul helped me with was a Phoenix 2000 powered glider that I won 2 years ago at the Christmas draw, having put it in the air he handed me the controls and she flew like a dream, I think I am going to enjoy flying her.

One of the things that Paul noticed was that the ESC didn't have the motor set to stop on throttle off causing the folding propeller not to fold and therefore creating unnecessary drag. Programming the ESC was on the surface of it really easy, but using nothing but a series of beeps was a bit daunting but thanks to YouTube I managed to fix that and now my props fold just as they should.

I also had a chat with Geoff Scott last month (he used to do the News Letter before me) and I was a bit embarrassed when I found out that he still reads it, but thankfully he did say that I had been doing a 'reasonable' job. I did suggest to him that he came up to the field in the summer to say Hi and perhaps we would allow him a 'guest' flight to show him what he is missing at our new flying site.

Now let's get on with the February 2018 edition of the Firebirds Newsletter.

Chris.



## Committee News

Here's the latest from the committee room.

### Pat Parsons is awarded a BMFA Certificate of Merit

Our ex-chairman and life member Pat Parsons was finally awarded his Certificate of Merit at the BMFA Head office in Leicestershire. Tony Butterworth sent this e-mail to the club together with the picture you see below

**From: Tony Butterworth** (Chairman - Southern Region of the BMFA)

**Subject: Patrick Parsons** (Ex-Chairman and life member Firebirds model club)

*After much chasing the BMFA eventually got Pat to visit their HQ. The picture below shows the result.*

*He has contacted me and I sense that he enjoyed the visit and appreciated the warm reception he got upon arrival, in fact in his own words.*

*"It was great!"*



*Presented by Dave Phipps, CEO of the BMFA*

**"Well-deserved Pat and great to see you still wearing your Firebirds jumper"**



## Firebirds model club – AGM 2018

The Club's AGM took place on Thursday 18th January 2018 at the Hamble Club.



Unlike last year there were a few changes to the committee this year following Pats move to Leicestershire and Paul taking on a rather large renovation project (see image below).



The new Committee line-up is as follows,

CHAIRMAN	RUSSELL LEWIS
VICE CHAIRMAN	DAVE HOPPE
TREASURER	ALAN SHERGOLD
SECRETARY & MEMBERSHIP	ROGER STANTON
SOCIAL REP	PETE CLARK
SITE REP	KEITH WARWICK
SAFETY OFFICER	GEOFF GRIFFITHS

# Firebirds Model Club

News, Views & Information - February 2018



## CLUB FUEL Etc.

Russell Lewis has a few bottles of Caster Oil based fuel from the club's stock at 50% off to clear, first come first served. Speak to Russell for details.

## MEMBERSHIP

40 members have already re-joined the club for 2018, which is good going at this early stage of the year. However, as spring approaches with hopefully the prospect of better flying weather, please remember that if you haven't re-joined you cannot fly at our site until you do. Unless you have renewed your BMFA membership via another club (or as a Country Member) you are not insured to fly anywhere else either.

**\*Important Note\*** - Any member not paying their membership before the 1<sup>st</sup> April will be considered as a having not re-joined and have to re-apply to join the club.

## CHRISTMAS DRAW 2018

From the end of the month Pete Clark will be selling Christmas Draw tickets so don't forget to bring some money to the site!.

## Confirmation of out-of-bounds / No-fly area

No further complaints from our neighbours.

## Poorly club member

The committee would like to wish Iain Niven, Joe Humphries, Terry Jacobson and Graham Barker swift recoveries and looks forward to seeing them all back down the field soon.

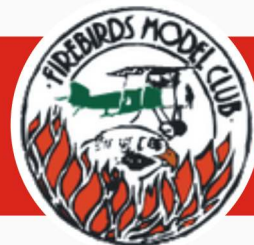
## A & B Certificate's

Last month Lee Fryer asked if anybody was interested in doing their A / B certificates, we are lucky to have several qualified examiners at the club, in addition to Lee we also have Geoff Griffiths and James Graham. If you want to do gain your certificate, please speak to one of them.

## Peak Down Flying times.

Mon – Fri	1200 – Dusk
Sat – Sun	1000 – 1600.





## 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>

September 8,9<sup>th</sup>

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

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

## Firebirds Constitution and Rules.

The Firebirds constitution and rules document has had a few tweaks following the change of flying site, it is recommended that all members re-familiarise themselves with this document. The current 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>.

## New members

All clubs need new members from time to time and perhaps some junior members would be nice?

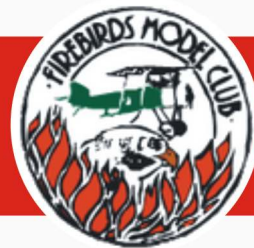
Perhaps the chap in the image below is a bit too young though?

To see what happens when he tries to take off click <https://imgur.com/gallery/oP9R0pg>



If you have friends or family interested in joining the Firebirds why not bring them to the flying site for a look at what we do, please speak to a committee member if you need any advice.

If you are reading this Newsletter and would simply like to know more about joining the club please contact our Membership Secretary Roger Stanton on 01489 784152 or email [roger-stanton@sky.com](mailto:roger-stanton@sky.com).



## February Club Night

The February Club night (Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>) will be Alan Shergold's video record of the club's flying site activities in 2017.

This has been a great success in past years so please give maximum support for Alan's hard work. Rumour has it that there may be commentary this year! The 'Movie' will start at 8pm.



## "Oops" Wrong NAME on Award !!!

The committee would like to apologise to Rob Exall who was awarded the safety award for 2017 however there was some confusion during the engraving of the awards and by mistake his brother's name was engraved on the award rather than his. The mistake has now been rectified and we believe Rob saw the funny side. Sorry Rob... Good luck next year Les!

## This Newsletter is now Sponsored!

A New Sponsorship deal has been agreed with A W Vans, who for a yearly amount will have a mention on this Newsletter each month.

AW Used Vans based in Romsey and Founded in 2012 by Shane Fryer (Lee Fryer's Son, a club member) Telephone - 01794 332288 or e-mail [contact@awusedvans.co.uk](mailto:contact@awusedvans.co.uk)



If you are considering purchasing a van, why not give them a try.

## Christmas Gifts

John Williams sent in this photo of one of his Christmas Presents and said...

"This model is a Cessna 182 by Dynam, nice plane for £108 but like most scale models it needed a lot of weight up front to balance it, in this case 7.5 oz. I hope it's not too heavy to fly"

Very nice, much more exciting than a pair of socks!! (Ed.)



*Specifications: Wing Span: 1280mm - Total Length: 1000mm - Motor: Brushless ,kv950 - Servo: 9g high-speed (4 PCS) - ESC: 30A - Battery: Suggested 1800 - 2200mAh 3S*



## Pat Parsons

Pat sent me the following early in January....

*Hi Chris*

*Another good newsletter thank you, I have been really hectic making models recently. The Chatterbox is all finished ready to go and the Matador is now well underway and being modified for electric use as it will be cleaner and easier.*

*Now that the weather is getting better I suppose I will soon be at work in the greenhouse and model making will have to take the back burner.*

*Looks like a trip to BMFA is soon too, so I suppose it will be time for a wash and shave and get the suit out!!!!*

*Regards to all the Lads and the Ladies, see you soon (I hope),*

And then sent me these pictures.....



Brrr..



Matador bones awaiting it's skin



Chatterbox awaits it's proving flight



Later in the month he wrote....

*Hi Chris*

*just a few more words from the North, as you know I am underway with the 'draw prize' model, I am going to modify the Matador front end and fabricating a cradle to carry the motor, it will be removable making it easy to get to the motor, and if necessary changes can be made thrust and motor. Choice photos will show my mods.*

*Regards to all down South*

*Pat*

I decided to go the clean way (electric), so I omitted the engine bearers and beefed up the firewall a little....



Then I made a tiny 'BIRD box' to hold the motor which I fabricated it to be removable for maintenance.



Modified matador undercarriage. I moulded to the fuselage a ply plate then drilled holes for small cable ties, the ties act as a shock absorbing device if not fully tightened.







## An excerpt from the BMFA Members Handbook 2017

### 18.2 A Safer Flying Field and You

*When you arrive at a flying field and before you start flying, we recommend that you take a few moments to consider the surroundings and the flights you will be making.*

*Think S.W.E.E.T.S.*

*S - Sun*

*W - Wind*

*E - Eventualities*

*E - Emergencies (Inc. Failsafes)*

*T - Transmitter Control*

*S - Site Rules*

**Sun** – *Where is the sun in relation to where you will be flying? Will it affect your flight patterns? What actions will you take if you accidentally fly ‘through’ the sun? Should you be wearing sunglasses? Remember that low sun in winter can be a particular problem.*

*BMFA Members’ Handbook 43 Effective August 2017*

**Wind** – *Consider the wind strength and direction. How will this affect your flights? Will you have to modify your normal take-off and, especially, your landing patterns? From your local knowledge, will there be any turbulence with ‘this’ wind direction and strength? And how bad might it be?*

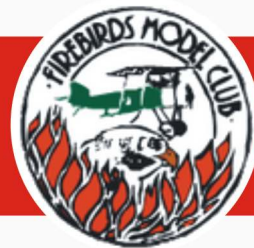
**Eventualities** – *What will you do if you hear or see a full size aircraft or helicopter flying at low level near the field? What if the landing area is suddenly obstructed when you are on finals to land? What will you do if a nearby footpath or bridle path suddenly has walkers or horses on it?*

**Emergencies** – *You may have an engine cut at any part of a flight so consider where your deadstick landings might be safely made and which ground areas you should definitely avoid. How will you warn other field users if you have an emergency? You may also have a complete loss of signal and therefore before every flight you should check that the failsafe is working how you expect it to.*

**Transmitter Control** – *Is the site pegboard in operation? If not, why not? Where has the pegboard been placed? Are you familiar with the system and understand how it works?*

**Site Rules** – *Are there any specific site rules you should be aware of? Most importantly, where are the no-fly zones or dead airspace areas on the site?*

*The answers to most of these questions are contained within these Safety Codes and your local Club rules but you will be making the final decisions as to whether flights can be made safely. If conditions are poor or a site is unsuitable remember that a decision not to fly can be both valid and sensible. We would also recommend that you review the sections on the sun and wind throughout the day as they obviously change over time and this may affect some of the decisions you will be making.*



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

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).

## **Words of Wisdom from the flight line**

If you can't work something out.... Try searching YouTube or Google.

## **Alternative Model Shop**

Following the reported loss of mainly Trains and Planes in Gosport several members have reported that The Andover Model centre may be a useful source for bits and pieces.

They don't have a website, but well worth a visit.

Andover Model Centre can be contacted on 01264 355033, the address is 117 The Commercial Centre, Picket Piece, Hampshire, SP11 6LU

If anybody does visit let me have a review and perhaps some photos for the Newsletter.

## **Keeping in touch.**

Several members have asked whether the committee can help in setting up some method for members to keep in touch, so that they arrange to be at the flying site together.

If you are interested in having this type of system e-mail [firebirdsmodelclub@outlook.com](mailto:firebirdsmodelclub@outlook.com) and let us know your thoughts.

Previous suggestions have been WhatsApp or Messenger, please let us know your choice / alternative option / express your interest.



## This month down at the field

14<sup>th</sup> of January could have been a bit difficult, as when the first pilots arrived there was a collection of vans vehicles and motorbikes down at the bottom of the field. One of the group immediately came over and apologised saying that they were having a practice session.

Safety was discussed and together it was agreed that we would be able to fly safely but would keep away from the area where they were.

The good news is with the relationship between us and the moto crossers being a good one there wasn't a problem, long may this situation continue.

Obviously safety is always paramount always consider safety first.



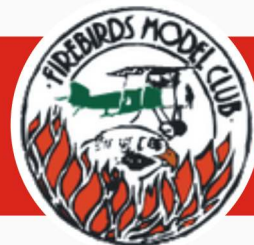




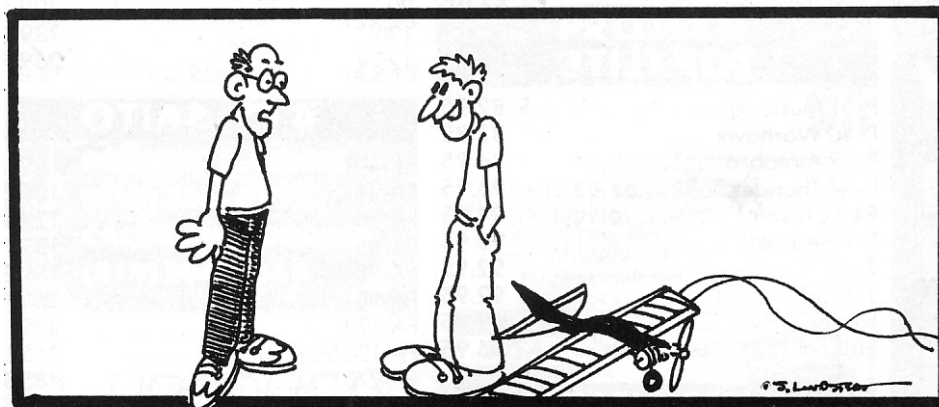
**Something to look forward to. (Pete's new model currently being 3D printed)**







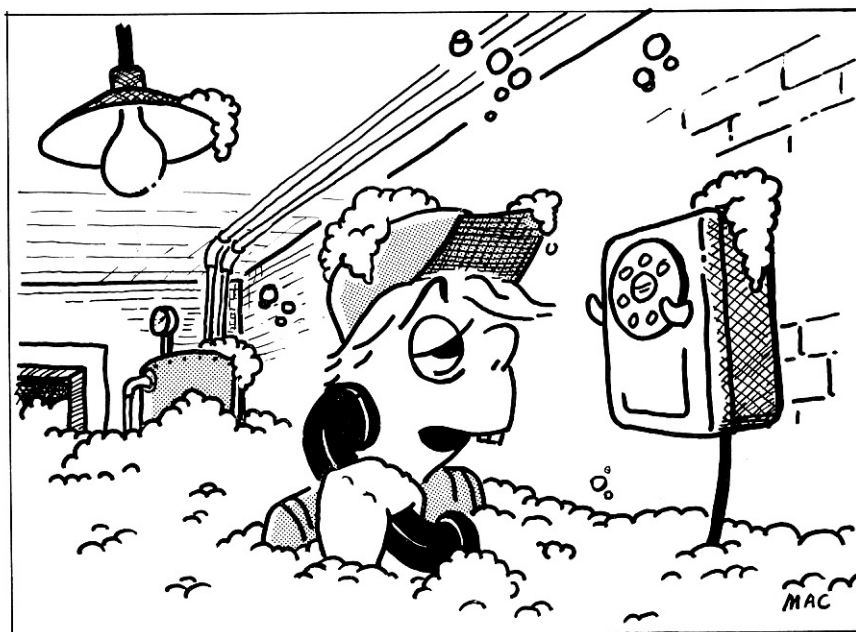
A light-hearted moment.



"IS THAT R.C.?"

"SURE IT'S R.C. -- REAL CONTROL!"

By Steve Lindstedt

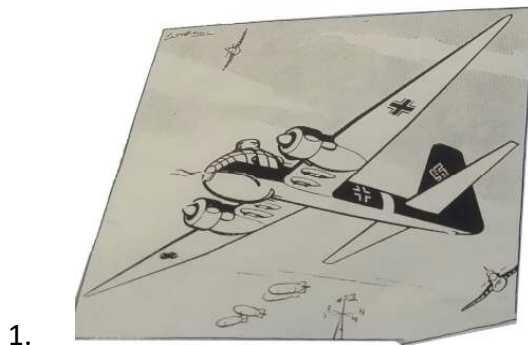


"Uh . . . I think we got a little problem down here in the foam wing department."



## 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).



## This month's video!

Roger Stanton thought members might enjoy this video...

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/ie3SriLlcUY>

Superb WW2 photo reconnaissance Spitfire video, American pilot



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 - February 2018



## 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.

Chairman	Russell Lewis	023 8056 1397	<a href="mailto:russell@pilot1.co.uk">russell@pilot1.co.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Dave Hoppe	07704 826343	<a href="mailto:davehoppehome@gmail.com">davehoppehome@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Alan Shergold	07973 221915	<a href="mailto:alanshergold@hotmail.co.uk">alanshergold@hotmail.co.uk</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.	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.	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.

**Remember... Safe flying is no accident.**

## 'Oddentification' answer

1. Junkers Ju 188

2. Ju 88/Bf 109 "Mistell"