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SEADOG



South Eastern Area
Digest Of Gen

AUGUST 2004

The newsletter of the South Eastern Area - BMFA / SMAE www.sebmfa.org.uk

2004 SCALE DAY AT CHARING



SE5a seen at Charing

Due to a mix up with the Hastings Club, when they offered our Scale Day to the London Area, we had to make last minute arrangements for the 2004 running of the Scale Day and Towner trophy. The situation was saved by the timely offer of their facilities by the North Downs MFC at their field at the top of Charing Hill in Kent.

Keith Miller and myself went down to view the site and meet the Members of the Club and their landlord, Farmer Bob Wills. We were very impressed by the site and even more so by the friendliness of the Members and Mr Wills who promptly offered to do a barbecue for the meeting. The field was a large open expanse with no obstructions - nothing for me to be able to land in at all ! This did make for very short

notice of course, only allowing for notice in the BMFA news but not in any of the modelling press due to their long lead times.

The morning of the competition dawned clear and warm and Keith and I were down there early together with Colin McGinn our helicopter man who had brought two scale helicopters to represent those who cannot keep their wings still. Mr Wills and his good lady had already started putting up the direction signs in the area, which made finding the field much easier - the lanes are very narrow in that part of the world, and then set about lighting up the barbecue. They produced bacon, eggs, pork or beef sausages, fried onions and rolls and would supply these in any combination as required - all very delicious (and fattening). Tea, Coffee and soft drinks were also available.

Sixteen models were entered in the competition, all being to a high standard of finish and all flown in the right (scale) manner. Several other models were present but not entered or did not fly for various reasons - a delightful F86 (Sabre) model which was jet powered and had a very scale undercarriage could not have coped with the length of the grass and a superb bi-plane (PT 17 Stearman) fitted with a seven cylinder radial engine could not get the tick-over low enough to cope with the downhill landing and would have run off the end into the long grass.

The first aircraft airborne was a Hawker Tomtit built from the Veron Kit with modifications to improve the fidelity to scale (smaller tail surfaces etc) this started the rush! As we did not have a very large entry there were no more than two aircraft on any one frequency so everyone could fly as much as they liked. Only one aircraft came to grief when a crosswind gust caught it and turned it towards the pilot bay marker and the spectators so the pilot put it down somewhat heavily and quickly - it should be repairable for next year.

Judging was, as usual, done by the pilots themselves and resulted in a win for the Piper L4 "Grasshopper" (military Cub) of Mr Stephen Archer, which was a delightful large scale model fitted with a twin cylinder engine, being flown from the front seat and having a radio operator (facing rearward) in the back seat. It flew in a most realistic and sedate manner. Second place was taken by the Sopwith Pup and third by the Hawker Tomtit.

Our grateful thanks go to Bob Moreton and the Members of the North Downs M.F.C. for their kindness and hospitality both on the day we went down for a looksee as well as during the scale day itself and to Bob Wills and his good Lady again on both occasions and for putting up the signs and cutting the grass to give us plenty of parking space and, with their friends assistance, supplying such an excellent barbecue.

If you were not there this year - you missed a treat - make sure that you attend next year and do your best to win the cup or at least have a happy and enjoyable day!

Bob Cutter.

Southeast Area Chairman.

BRITISH MODEL FLYING ASSOCIATION

SOUTH EAST AREA

Minutes of a South East Area ordinary meeting, held on Wednesday, 7th July, 2004 at the Angel Centre, Tonbridge

Present: Bob Cutter, Chairman (Felbridge Flyers RMFC); Keith Miller, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Ed co-ordinator (Tonbridge); Allan Young, Secretary (Tonbridge); Colin McGinn (Thanet MFC); Michael Riggs (MFFG); Ian Menage (Bromley Soarers); John Richardson (MFFG); Terry Bradley (Surrey MAC); Keith Wright (Horsham & District MAC) Bob Hart (Wealdon MAC & Hastings MAC Ltd); David Stiff (Riddlesdown MFC)

The meeting opened at 8pm, Bob Cutter in the Chair.

1 **Apologies from Absence:** Harry Hutchings (East Grinstead)

2 **Minutes of the Previous meeting,** 7th April 2004: accepted and signed.

3 **Matters Arising:** none.

4 **Officers' Reports:** The chairman reported that he and Keith Miller attended the June Areas Council meeting, when the issue of examiners serving other clubs than their own was debated, the ratification was deferred until the full Council meeting of 18th September. Keith Wright reported that the ratification may yet be rescinded. Keith Wright may be able to attend this meeting as Area delegate. The Secretary's report would be covered in item 7. The Treasurer presented the accounts to date, summarized below:

Nett income from Odiham FF Gala and Area Support	£ 1684.80
Expenditure:	£ 419.87
Bank current a/c	£ 368.45
Bank deposit a/c	£ 4251.86
The Odiham Gala resulted in a loss of	£ 48.81

There was a further discussion regarding how the Area might be of financial help to affiliated clubs.

Keith Miller would like to see clubs sponsor more events, Colin Mc Ginn favoured more varied and larger events – perhaps a public Hop Farm scale day – and suggested purchase of frequency and sound level monitors for each examiner.

5 **South East Area Competitions:**

(a) Scale Day. To be hosted by North Downs MFC on 1-8-2004. The Chairman and Keith Miller visited the flying site, which seems suitable, BBQ, parking and toilets will be provided. (b) Towner Trophy for Thermal Soaring. To be hosted by Eastbourne MFC on 26-9-2004 at Deanland Airfield.

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There was a general discussion on **Area publicity**, including the on-going problem of club secretaries not keeping their members informed of Area and BMFA matters. Among the items discussed were (a) Area events should be advertised in the BMFA Newsletter calendar, and on the Area website. (b) SE Area general meetings to be re-scheduled to occur immediately before the Areas Council Meetings, so that topics for the Areas Council meetings could be raised and the wishes of our member aired (proposed by K Miller, seconded by C McGinn, carried). (c) Agreed to publish the names and addresses of Area examiners and club contacts in the 'Seadog' newsletter.

Bob Hart will provide listing of Area examiners. Suggested that Secretaries could be asked for preferred choices of communication – post or email.: (d) Now that Seadog was on a regular basis, it was desirable that all members should be encouraged to have an input.

6 **Crawley Indoor Meeting Insurance:** Keith Miller reported that the Insurers would not offer cover for loss of revenue, only reimbursement of expenses in the case of cancellation. Not to be pursued. Confirmed that the hosting club, Crawley MAC, received 50% of any resulting profit from these meetings; Keith will note this in Seadog to encourage other clubs to host events.

7 **Child Protection:** Agreed that the BMFA be asked to provide two 'road-shows' at different venues in the Area, to explain and answer questions on the scheme. The Secretary reported on a letter received from Leicester suggesting that the previous meeting displayed, amongst other things, some confusion and misunderstanding of the Child Protection policy. The secretary felt that since the BFMA was the only source of information, any such confusion and misunderstanding could only be due to Leicester not explaining the policy with enough clarity. A reply would be sent. There was further discussion from which it appeared that clubs were minded to insist that short of not admitting juniors, parents of juniors must understand the club policy and rules and must be present on the field with their children at all times.

8 **Flight Challenge 2004:** 10th July 2004 at NEC Birmingham. Keith Miller will attend. Colin Mc Ginn may also attend.

9 **Any other Business:** (a) The Ashdown FF Gala on 25th July 2004 will be an all day event. (b) Keith Wright had contact with the Hastings club, who apologised for the matter of re-affiliation to the London area – the club will not now proceed with this. (c) Colin McGinn reported a problem that has arisen at Thanet MFC, where a member is insisting that he be allowed to take independent insurance, contrary to the rules of the club for BMFA insurance. The member concerned is considering litigation for his rights. (d) Ian Menage outlined the position regarding Bromley Soarers loss of their flying field pending the outcome of the investigation into the fatal accident. It appears that the local Council may institute a permit to fly regulation, and if so other Councils may follow, banning flyers without a permit. There was also the question of the definition of 'light models', it seems models up to 500gms are categorized as 'ultra light' Ian is in contact with the BMFA, and will liaise with Crawley club who have experienced similar problems at Epsom Downs.

The meeting closed at 10pm.

Signed as a fair record of the meeting.....Chairman

THESE MINUTES ARE UN-CONFIRMED AT 12^h July 2004

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British Model Flying Association South East Area

There will be a meeting of the South East Area Committee at the Angel Centre, Tonbridge on Tuesday, September 14th 2004 starting at 8pm. The Agenda will be as follows:-

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Minutes of the last Area meeting on 7.7.04**
- 3. Matters arising from 2**
- 4. Officers' reports :**
 - Chairman**
 - Secretary**
 - Treasurer**
 - Council Delegate**
 - PRO**
 - Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator**
 - Education Co-ordinator**
 - Webmaster**
- 5. South East Area Events**
- 6. Child Protection Roadshow**
- 7. Forthcoming Full Council and Areas Council Meetings**
- 8. Any other business**

Please endeavour to arrange for your club delegate to attend this meeting if at all possible. Petrol expenses are refundable.

Allan Young, Secretary 3

South East Area Meeting On Tuesday, 14th September

Advice of the above meeting is included with this issue of SEADOG and some explanation is called for by the change from our usual Wednesday evening meetings. The meeting has been called, amongst other things, to be able to brief our delegates in respect of the Full Council and Areas Council meetings, due to be held respectively on September 18th and October 2nd. In order to allow for time for the relative agendas to arrive from Chacksfield House and bearing in mind that our Council Delegate, Keith Miller, is due to go away on holiday on the Wednesday, September 15th, the only practical time to have our Area meeting is on Tuesday, September 14th. Hopefully, clubs will have received their own copies of both Agendas by then and their delegates will be able to discuss any items which concern them.

Education Matters

Our Education Coordinator Keith Miller, in conjunction with his counterpart in the London Area, Terry Rounce, recently took part in a three day visit to a school for children with learning difficulties in Chatham. This was a most rewarding experience and involved the children making a large number of BMFA Aeroglide Mk 2 chuck gliders and getting them to fly. In the course of the sessions, Terry gave a demonstration of sport aerobatic flying and Keith demoed indoor and outdoor free flight models, in the course of which his "Cloud Tramp" stick model got into lift and promptly disappeared into the blue!

Southern Model Airshow 2004

Presented by Croydon Airport Model Flying Club

This years Southern Model Airshow on the 18th/19th September at the Hop Farm Country Park in Paddock Wood will be improving on the highly successful formula used in 2003 with a combined entry to the model airshow and the hop farm on a single ticket.

To date over 100 pilots have booked for the show, which will provide a thrilling display from some of the UK's best pilots.

Model boats will be well catered for with the use of the ex-Plumpton boat pool and the hop farm already has a tarmac track for RC cars.

Will Curtis of the Honda Dream Team will be providing a thrilling lunchtime display in his Sukhoi 26 including live commentary whilst performing the aerobatics. Will is recognized as one of the UK's best aerobatic display pilots and was the 2002 Breitling Aerobatic Champion. This is not to be missed.

In excess of 30 model traders have already booked for the show so it will be the ideal place to come and pick up those modeling goodies, fuel and a fantastic day out for the entire family. Other modeling attractions are the CAMFC bring and buy, raffle with prizes to suit everyone (Hawk 30 donated by HeliLeisure, as well as the promise of kits, other goodies and maybe even a ride in a full size Pitts*) plus a swap meet and pyrotechnic display on Sunday only.

* to be confirmed

Anyone staying over on Saturday night will be well catered for. The Hop Farm restaurant will stay open until 6:30 and later in the evening the band will be playing again in the Dray Museum

For up to the minute information and general information please see our dedicated show website www.southernmodelairshow.co.uk.

Alternatively call the following for more information:

General enquiries & Pilots: Roger Godly 020 8653 6963

Traders & Camping: Sandra Taylor 020 8657 7061

General information about the Croydon Airport Model Flying Club can be found at www.camfc.freeserve.co.uk

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