

Touchdown



The Westland & Yeovil District Aeromodelers newsletter

February - 2009

New Helicopter Section

We are planning on establishing a new helicopter section, to help people start out on this side of the hobby – see James Moon for times, assistance with set-up and help with testing of new models.

Child (& vulnerable adults) protection

We need to revisit our policy on this; so there will a major discussion on this at the next monthly meeting on 24th March.

Chairman gets his 'A'

Our esteemed chairman has just passed his 'A' certificate (your editor got his last year). Please try to get this basic safety / competency qualification if you haven't already - it really is quite easy.

Safety

We seem have become too relaxed over the winter building season, lets improve this before something or someone gets broken. Please remember :-

- Use the frequency board.
- No more than 4 aircraft in the air at once.
- Fast & low aircraft, don't mix with slow & low aircraft or with helicopters. Please negotiate flying slots to avoid this; OR ELSE there may be some-one hovering / prop-hanging in the middle of the patch when your engine stops (or visa-versa).
- Launch and recover from the patch, fly from the flight line, talk in the pits.
- No-fly zones – remember these are for safety reasons, which have become even more important with the nursery opening to the public.

Training Co-ordinator

Ted Saddler has been dragooned into the role of training Co-ordinator, he will look after the training equipment (E.G. as club owned buddy leads) and arrange for their use.

Sheep

The Merriott field is currently lunch / bed / toilet for a small flock of sheep.

- Currently the sheep are free roaming, so please close the gate while flying
- By the time you read this there will be a cheap trowel stored with the frequency board, please use this to remove droppings from the path, pits etc before some-one steps it.
- Avoid scaring the mutton (it effects the taste).

Site changes (Merriott)

- With careful juggling, the new waterproof bag just about will hold the grey box, and the frequency pegboard / windsock.
- See notes above regarding sheep

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In build

The following projects are known to be in progress :-

- The editor has 57" span an electric Long-EZ-46 awaiting final power plant selection. In accordance with my tradition, this ARTF will take longer to complete than most people take doing a full design and build !
- The chairman is doing a 72.5" "Classic Biplane" despite an obvious shortage of space (see below), this is expected to fly in about a month.



N.B. Also shown is a model radiator faithfully reproduced at 1:1 scale and detailed to full museum quality

- The treasurer is building a 104" 1:3 SIG Spacewalker – Originally this had an illustrated build log; but the web site discussion group involved crashed last week and lost the entire log (hopefully the plane's only crash).
- If you have an interesting / challenging project (or even if you're just proud and want to brag a little), send a few words and/or a photo(s).
Show the world what's happening in your garage / workshop / kitchen table.

Newsletter distribution

This newsletter is meant to be for all members, but currently I just post a copy on the web and email every-one; this means people not on the net don't get to see it. From now on I will be printing a few copies, to bring to club meetings and the flying patch, there will also be a copy or two with Richard at the shop.

Does any one have a better way of doing this (apart for letter post which we can't afford)?

Websites & Contacts

Aerofly (simulator)	http://www.aerofly.de/
BMFA (our entry)	http://www.bmfa.org/links/Model_Clubs_UK/index-14.html
Bristol Model engineers	http://www.bristolmodelengineers.co.uk/
Corton Denham (slope)	Streetmap.co.uk
Eastnor Castle (show)	http://www.eastnorcastle.com/special_events.aspx
Ezone	http://www.ezonemag.com/
FMS (simulator)	http://fms.pathbot.com/

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Websites & Contacts (continued)

Ilminster R/C club	http://www.ilminster.net/
Merriott (field)	Streetmap.co.uk
Model Engineers	www.communicate.co.uk/twc/yeovilmodelengineers
Much Marcle (show)	http://www.largemodelassociation.com/eventcalendar.htm
New website	http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/westlandaeromodeller
Newsletter archive	http://www.home9999.plus.com/WHLMAC/news.htm
Planning	Minutes for Area west meeting on September 2005
Westlands (field)	Streetmap.co.uk
White Sheet (slope)	http://www.artemisdriving.co.uk/whitesheet/index.htm
Woodspring (show)	Woodspring Wings Show 2009

Flying Times

The permitted flying times are subject to common sense and courtesy :-

Day	Notes	Merriott field	Westland's aerodrome ¹
Monday	78dBa or less		18:00-20:30 ²
Tuesday		12:00-20:00 ²	Evenings ²
Wednesday	Summer only		17:00-20:30 ²
Thursday			Evenings ²
Friday		12:00-20:00 ²	Evenings ²
Sat & Bank Holidays			12:00-sunset
Sunday		09:30-13:30	09:30 – 13:30 ⁴ (New)
Any	Silent flight ³	All day ²	All day ¹

Note :-

- ¹ When closed to full sized aircraft.
- ² Flying should cease at sunset on either site.
- ³ NOT all electric models are silent, please be considerate.
- ⁴ Helicopter's only.

Meetings

The Club nights are on the 4th Tuesday of every month (except December) at 20:00 in the Watercombe suite, Westland Leisure Complex.

We meet in the sportsman bar for a drink before (particularly when it's cold).

Articles, cartoons, notices, better photos & other contributions

If any of you have anything interesting, amusing or informative that you would like to share in the newsletter please send it to me, by e-mail is best (my address can be found here :- <http://www.home9999.plus.com/contact.html>). But any material will be gratefully accepted, at a club nights, or on the field. I can also be contacted on 01935 445311 or 01935 823409.