

Southern Area Newsletter



Hi,

Well, the rains (and wind) have finally arrived. I have to say I'm not too disappointed for two reasons. One, my garden needs it and two, I've used so much fuel this year (over 8 gallons!!) all my pocket money's gone.

Although things will start to get much quieter now on the model front, there are still events being organised for indoor flying—see What's On guide. Also, of course there is the Southern Area AGM on the 17th November. All Southern Area BMFA members are encouraged to attend, as feedback from 'grass roots' is an essential part of the running of the Area. Last but not least I have the report (and pictures) on the Pioneering Designs meeting held on the 9th August. Ron Hughes, Chairman of the Salisbury Club and organiser of the event, has to be congratulated on it's success after almost three years of planning.

Happy Landings—Ken

Note to Club Secretaries,

If you have anything going on that you would like to publicise or any interesting happenings in your club, don't be shy—send me a copy and I'll print it in the next newsletter. I can be contacted either by e-mail or snail mail. Articles e-mailed in Word format would be great. My address can be found on the back page.

What's On

November 17th
Southern Area AGM
Shedfield Reading Room
Church Lane
Shedfield (Nr Wickham)
Hants.
20:00 hrs

November 22nd, January 17th 2004, February 21st 2004, March 20th 2004
Indoor R/C meeting
Main Hall
Fleming Park Leisure Centre,
Eastleigh
Hants
19:00 — 22:00 hrs
Contact Chris Carr (07990 514671) or Alan Wallington (01489 573141)
Or visit www.wcaero.fsnet.co.uk

PIONEERING DESIGNS 1903- 1913
Meeting on 9 August 2003 at the Winchester site and organised by
Salisbury Model Flying Club.

This event was deemed a great success and very different! Entrants travelled from as far afield as Cornwall, Surrey and Yorkshire.

One is always apprehensive about planning any outdoor events in the British Isles but, a week prior to the meeting, the 2003 heat wave began, and twenty-four hours before the event a confident prediction was for temperatures of 35°C/95°F. These were slightly exceeded. On the day we motored through early morning mist and put up three fair -sized gazebos.

With an initial interest from over twenty modellers, inevitably a few would fall by the wayside, but fifteen good and true pieces of real craftsmanship were to be displayed. These were to include Antoinettes, a very special 1909 Blackburn monoplane by Andrew White, several 1912 Blackburn monoplanes, a four-engined Sikorsky wonderfully detailed by J Stuart Lever, a remarkable tailless biplane the Dunne D8 by John Moxham, and the highest scoring exhibit for static. a magnificent Boxkite by Richard Hawke.

Richard likes a challenge and enjoyed the theme of the meeting. It is difficult to find words to describe his standard of build, with some technical assistance from the Shuttleworth collection! His friend, Dave O'Brien, was to win first place overall (static and flying combined). His Handley Page Yellow Peril, from works drawings was of high standard but it proved less difficult to fly than the Boxkite. Two Bleriot's had been entered, one with a masterpiece dummy 3-cylinder Anzani motor by Gordon Acomley. A unique contribution was a Donnet Leveque Flying Boat by John Thompson, Honorary Secretary of the Southampton Club. In fact, the Southampton Club had really taken to this event.

This meeting was organised but reasonably relaxed. Ron Claridge, Southampton Club, took an Antionette into the skies at 10.00 a.m. to set the flight pattern. As conditions warmed up, pilots struggled a little in precision and no-one is likely to forget Richard Hawke's commendable efforts in using extensive throttle to control his Boxkite. Much applause followed the safe landing.

All the entrants were presented with commemorative certificates. Prizes went to

1 st Dave O'Brien (Leatherhead)

2nd Richard Hawke (Leatherhead)

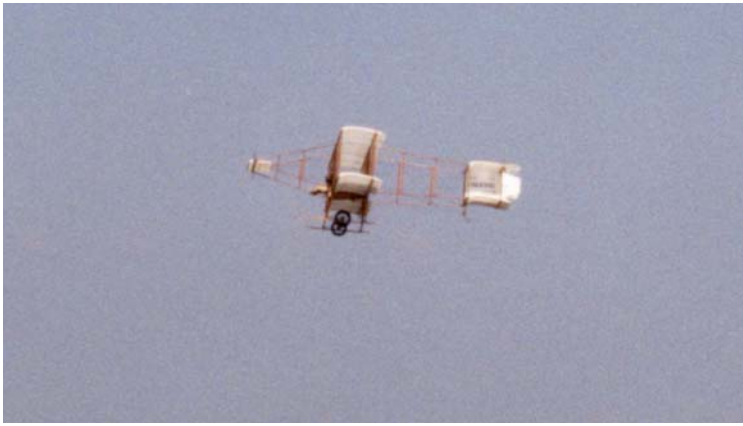
2nd Maurice Brookes (Pitney)

Additional awards for Craftsmanship went to John Thompson and J Stuart Lever.

Salisbury Club wishes to thank the Winchester Club for the use of its site and the BMF A for its support.

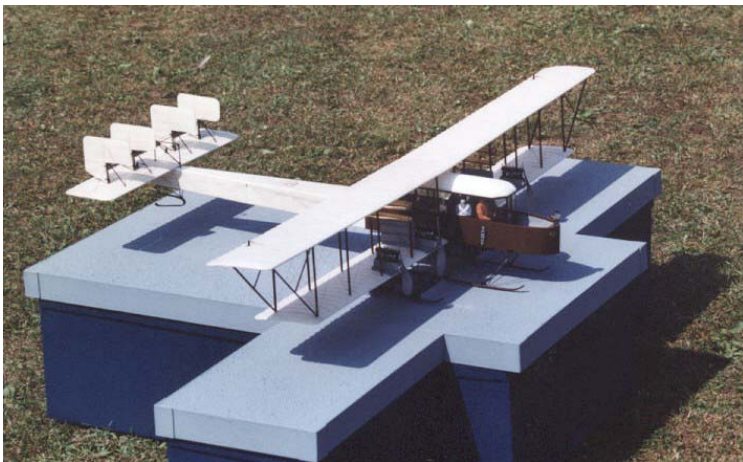
This was a landmark meeting, a Centenary event, and a moment in time, but rather different from the Wright Brothers' icy experiences on 17 December 1903. Just after 3 p.m., everyone melted away!

Ron Hughes
Chairman
Salisbury Model Flying Club



Richard Hawkes Bristol
Boxkite in action.

Bleriot by Gordon Acornley.



Magnificent Sikorsky Russian
Knight by J Stuart Lever.

Dunne D8 by John Moxham with
Antoinette in background





Winning Model HP Yellow Peril
by Dave O'Brian



Boxkite with automaton pilot



Two different scale Blackburn Monoplanes – note the pilots