

Southern Area Newsletter



June 2004

Hi,

At last the weather has started to improve and we can actually start to enjoy our flying (we fly all year round and sometimes I have to admit it's not too much fun when you can't feel your fingers and the models frozen to the ground!). I attended this year's Balsa Brain contest with the idea of collecting a few notes for this Newsletter. Unfortunately it wasn't particularly well attended and only FOUR clubs made the effort to enter a team. The entry from PADMAC (Portsmouth and District Model Aircraft Club) couldn't even manage a team of four and arrived with only three. Yours truly was co-opted into joining in as I used to be a member of PADMAC many years ago. I managed to get my own back as PADMAC won and now have to host the contest next year! Be prepared to be bombarded with notification of next year's competition as it would be a shame if this contest was to shrink and disappear without trace as most those who were there on the evening will agree that it was a fun night out.

Another event I attended was an evening at Southampton Model Aeroplane Clubs Concours d'Elegance event. This was a particularly well organised event and again all who attended had a most enjoyable evening. There were several very interesting models of prototype aircraft, some of which I wouldn't have believed had it not been for the scale documentation, especially the 'Flying Pancake' a Chance Vought V-173 by John Moxham (see photo on page 7).

Our esteemed Southern Area Hon Secretary has been on his hol.....er business trip to Taiwan of all places and sent me a press cutting from one of their English speaking newspapers. Apparently the head of the nation's secret service and police forces have decided that there was no evidence of the possibility of an attack by radio controlled aircraft at the inauguration of the president Chen Shui-bian, although an attack by a radio controlled helicopter would provide the best chance! Subsequently 1000 RC helicopter pilots have been investigated by the national security service and issued with permits to fly.

Nominations for BMFA awards will be required soon for presentations at the AGM. The list of possible awards is large and any member of the BMFA is eligible. If you have someone who perhaps has cut the grass at your patch for the last 25 years or something equally worthy, then this is your chance to nominate that person for an award. For a list of possible awards, contact Linda Harding at BMFA head office who I'm sure will be delighted to help you.

Now a plea from Roger B (Southern Area Chairman and Vice Chairman BMFA). How would you like to go to the BMFA Nationals this year at Barkston Heath on August 28/29/30th get in for free and get paid £60.00 per day? All you have to do is to volunteer to help out with the running of the event. If you're interested, talk to Roger. His contact details are on the back page.

Happy Landings
Ken

What's On

Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th June
International Aerotow for RC large scale gliders.
Middle Wallop
Nr Andover, Hants
Contact: Tony Baker on 02380 233605

Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th June
LMA Duxford Model Show
Cambridgeshire.
Contact Tony Hooper on 01926 641490

Sunday June 20th 10:00—19:00
BMFA Electric Fly-In.
Winchester Club site
Contact Andy Palmer on 023 92 253761 (see page 6 for details)

Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th June
Wings and Wheels Model Show
North Weald Airfield, Essex

Sunday 4th July
BEFA Electric Fly-In
Middle Wallop Airfield

Sunday July 4th
BMFA Scale Day and BBQ
Portsmouth and Districts Club site at Thicket Farm
Contact Doreen Palmer at doreen.palmer@vtplc.com

Sunday 18th July
BMFA Southern Area
Glider Fly-In

Tangier Farm, Bishop's Waltham

Saturday and Sunday 21st/22nd August

Royal Victoria Country Park Hobby Extravaganza

Details from Steve Warren on 01329 832343 or 07979 244247

Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th September

International Aerotow for RC large scale gliders.

Middle Wallop

Nr Andover, Hants

Contact: Tony Baker 26 Wilton Ave, Southampton SO15 2HJ or on 02380 233605

BMFA Southern Area Committee Meetings, Shedfield Reading Rooms, Shedfield, Southampton, Hants

September 6th, November 15th (AGM) ALL welcome.

**Southern Area BMFA
Would like to invite you to a BBQ and fly-in at
PADMAC site, Thicket Farm on
4th July 2004**

All are welcome, no competitions, just a good site to fly with a BBQ. Food will be served from 13.00 to 14.00 on the day. Please let Doreen Palmer know by e-mail Doreen.palmer@vtplc.com or Telephone 02392 253761, if you intend coming along, so we can cater appropriately.

If you are unsure of where Thicket Farm is, go to PADMAC website on www.padmac.net where you will find a location map.

Look forward to seeing you

**Swindon Kite Festival
Wroughton, 8th and 9th May 2004**

John Harvey of SERFS contacted me recently to ask if I was interested in attending a Kite Festival at Wroughton weekend of 8th and 9th May 2004.

Well, having nothing to do, and curious as to what the Education Co-Ordinator could do at a Kite Festival, I decided to give it a go.

I spoke to one of the organisers who kindly got me a pass into Wroughton and Andrew and I set off on a very wet Saturday with a box a darts, building boards etc. with little thought that it would be the correct venue for us.

We arrived just about 10.00 to very wet weather indeed. No kites flying and very little else happening. We had a set of trestle tables set up for us with "paper aeroplanes" sellotaped to them. We took that as being where we were for the day.

We had gone to see how the land lay, and to say it lay in our favour is an under statement. Andrew and I were rushed off our feet all day. We got a system going whereby I was building with the children and then Andrew was assembling and trimming. We built approximately 35 darts and sold the rest of the box (a box contains 50) during the day, were very busy but thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

The children were really hungry to learn, do, chat and fly as much as possible. Thanks to Andrew for helping me and John for giving me the contact in the first place.

If it becomes an annual event, which they are hopeful of, then Education will be there.

Doreen Palmer
Southern Area Education Co-Ordinator

Child Protection

Good news for the Education Co-Ordinator and her trusty husband. This last week we have both been given clearance to work with Children and Vulnerable Adults.

It was an extremely easy process. We filled in a form (I have loads of spares). Got the form verified by BMFA (either Dave Phipps or Mike Goldby) then waited for the CRB to contact us. They did so, we filled in the next set of forms, verifying what we had put in the first, sent them back and waited again.

Andrew's came through on Thursday 6th May and mine came back on Tuesday 11th May. We had our local club meeting on Thursday at which I was known as "Dodgy Doreen".

We are now happily going on to the next stage, which is the training. I am given to understand this will be one evening and that the BMFA will pay for it.

As you can see, it is a really easy process and I cannot encourage your clubs enough to take up this chance. It is a way forward for our younger flyers, and let's face it, we could do with some young blood in the hobby.

If you want any further information, or a form to get you on the first step towards accreditation, give me a call, or e-mail me (number and address on the back of the newsletter), I will be delighted to help (if I can).

Doreen Palmer
Southern Area Education Co-Ordinator

B.M.F.A.

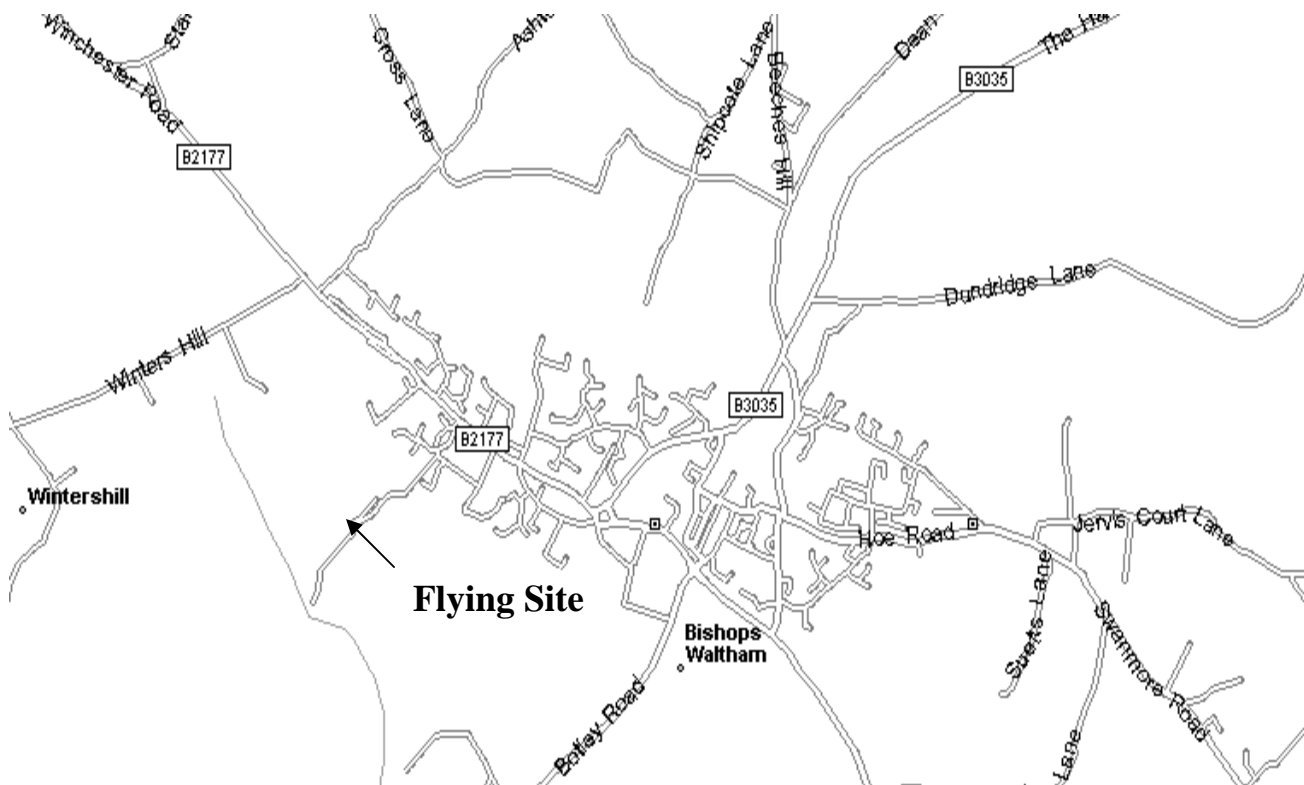
Southern Area

Glider Fly-In

Sunday July 18th 10am onwards

Choice of bungee or winch launch. Separate class for any Electric glider. All welcome at:

Tangier Farm, Tangier Lane, Bishops Waltham, Hampshire, off B2177



All frequencies will be used. Entry fee £3 per pilot.
For more information contact: Steve Warren on 01329 832343

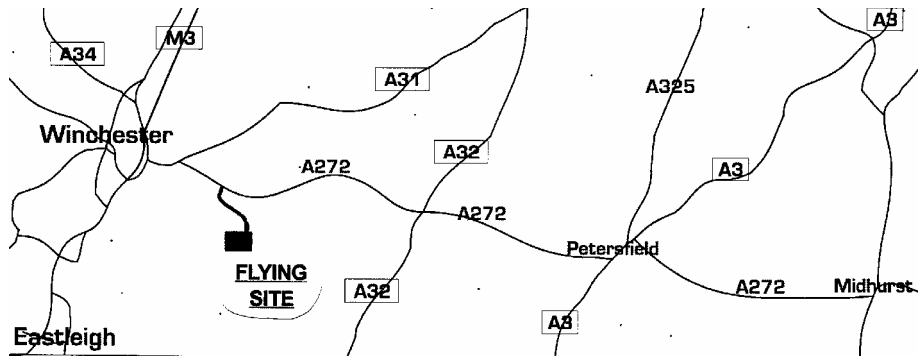
B.M.F.A.
Southern Area
Electric Fly-In

June 20th 10am-5pm

Access off the A272 Winchester to Petersfield road.

Trophies for scale aircraft by popular vote.

Other trophies. Lunchtime All Up Last Down Comp. Lovely site courtesy of Winchester MAC with large area of short mown grass. Join us for a relaxing fly



All frequencies will be used. Entry fee £3 per pilot.

For more information contact Andy Palmer at 92 Durley Ave, Waterlooville, Hants PO8
8TZ. Tel: 023 92 253761.
Email: palmer99@tiscali.co.uk



Southampton Model Aircraft Club's Concours d'Elegance night at the Atherley Bowling Club.

Extraordinary 'Flying Pancake' Chance-Vought V173 from John Moxham. Twin electric power.

Superb 'Fly Baby' from Albert Silvey.
Winner of Gold Award and Doug Gordon Trophy



Massive Dornier 335 Arrow 'Push-me-pullyou' with twin electric power from Steve Leach. Overheard to say he will have to close the M3 to enable it to take-off!