

WARREN FARM RADIO FLYERS WF RF



"When cold March winds" etc. – a few hardy souls brave the elements.

APRIL AT WARREN FARM

WARREN FARM DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The meeting previously scheduled for 30th March, so we and other interested groups could enter into discussion with prospective bidders, has been cancelled by Ealing Council,. This is a great disappointment, and Bob Howard has expressed his displeasure in an email to the council officer concerned.

The final short-listed bidders have now been requested to submit proposals by no later than 13th April. The bids will be evaluated on 27th April, and the successful bidder notified on 28th April.

We will then be able to enter into negotiations with the successful bidder to ascertain what the future holds for WFRF. Until then, there is little more that we can do.

The Ealing Gazette ran a very supportive article on Friday 16th March. The local residents group has advised us that their website has attracted increased traffic since the Gazette article was published. In addition, they are pursuing other avenues to safeguard the future of Warren Farm.

Please keep an eye on the website :- www.wfig.org.uk

FIELD AVAILABILITY

The football season is drawing to a close, with cricket taking over on Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 28th April. The groundsmen will be dismantling goalposts at any time from Monday 16th April onwards. Please give them room to work in safety.

There are afternoon football matches on Saturdays 1st & 14th April. There are only 1 or 2 football matches each Sunday afternoon, so with the lighter evenings flying should be possible after the end of these matches.

Some of the cricket matches are scheduled for a 1pm start, so please be prepared to arrive and leave early. We will try to liaise with the cricket teams wherever possible.

BATTERIES

If you have not flown throughout the winter, please check your Tx & Rx batteries before attempting to fly. Modern Ni-Mh batteries are less robust than the old Ni-Cads, and can become unable to hold a charge if left to go flat over the winter.

FIELD CONDITION

The grass has been mown, and is in superb condition. We want to keep it that way, so I/C flyers, please remember to bring a drip tray. This should be used not only to catch refuelling spills, but also to prevent horrible exhaust marks spoiling the grass. This is especially important if the exhaust on your model points downwards.

Remember the golden rule :-

NO DRIP TRAY = NO FLYING and NO ENGINE RUNNING!!!

RECENT ACTIVITY

Our group of members recently cleared for solo flight are gaining in confidence and skill, and are demonstrating multiple low passes for the camera. The foam Cessnas, Wot-4s and Extras are easing the learning curve, whilst the “Swift” flying wings seem to be ideal aerobatic confidence builders, being able to withstand “Unscheduled Arrivals” with the minimum of damage, and also being economical to run on their 2 cell batteries.

Balsa models such as the Vanquish are also appearing, and are ideal for anybody planning to take the “A” certificate test this year. Remember that the minimum weight for a model used in the “A” test is 1Kg.



In the meantime, our newly qualified BMFA approved instructors have been putting in the hours with those beginners still at the dual control stage. Most of our instructors have training models fitted with buddy box equipment, all have Futaba buddy box leads and transmitters, and some also have the necessary equipment to buddy up to JR or Spectrum radio gear.

If you have not flown all winter, and need a refresher with one of our instructors, please feel free to ask Bob Howard, Tom Thomas, Paul Perkins, Nigel Smith or Rick Smith. They will be happy to help.

Please remember, however, that our instructors will also want time to fly their own models.

AND FINALLY

Because of security concerns at the Olympic and Paralympic games taking place this summer, the CAA have put in place flying restrictions in a “No Fly Zone” covering most of the London area, and also around the events taking place away from the main Stratford East complex. Whilst all full size aviation is affected by these measures, model flying is only affected if the models weigh more than 7Kg, and so should not affect us at Warren Farm. However if you intend to fly at other sites where larger models are permitted please visit the CAA website to determine the locations and dates covered by these restrictions.

Tom Thomas

Field Officer

Fred Dunckley

Vice Chairman

Bob Howard

Chairman/Secretary