

# WARREN FARM RADIO FLYERS



*"Capiche" - sound like a veiled threat from the script of "The Godfather". Paul Perkins' electric aerobat climbs away from the strip at Warren Farm for another aerobatic sortie – practising for something even better!*

## AUGUST AT WARREN FARM

### FIELD CONDITION & AVAILABILITY

The runway is still in good condition.

The landing strip and toilet were recently lucky to escape unscathed when vandals struck again. A stolen motorcycle was thrashed around the site, then dumped and set alight, causing a grass fire which destroyed several acres of what has become a valuable wild flower meadow. We have been unable to ascertain whether the skylarks, which we have tried to avoid disturbing, were affected by this terrible act.

Please continue to keep your eyes open for any suspicious activity, and report it to Bob.

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### "A" CERTIFICATE SUCCESS!

Members will probably recall that Tamas Garai has tried twice to take the BMFA "A" Certificate test, once at Warren Farm before we had to move, and more recently at Rectory Park. On both occasions, the test had to be abandoned due to ill-behaved cricketers swarming across the flying area well ahead of their scheduled match time. On both occasions, Tamas was forced to make an emergency landing, resulting in damage to his model.

We are pleased to learn that Tamas has at last been able to retake and pass the test, thanks to our old friends at West London MAC. Congratulations to Tamas for persevering despite setbacks not of his making.

### DRONE LEGISLATION

Members will no doubt be aware of the controversy regarding the misuse of drones.

As we all expected, the government has produced proposals for legislation to control the use of drones. A perusal of the document suggests that they are aware of the difference between model aircraft and drones. They are also aware of the culture of safety which has always been fundamental to model flying club activities. The alleged incidents which have caused this have not been connected with conventional model flying activities, and appear to have been the result of drone owners determined to get their photo at all costs - an attitude common among the dreadful "Paparazzi".

How the legislation will affect responsibly-managed clubs such as ours remains to be seen, however the BMFA are actively doing their utmost to protect our interests.

The details of the proposals can be found at :-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-proposed-measures-for-drones-in-the-uk>

or

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/benefits-of-drones-to-the-uk-economy>

The consultation is a 65 page PDF document, but is a fairly easy read.

### **A NEW SHAPE AT THE FIELD**

Before the shocking news in 2012 that we were to lose our flying site at Warren Farm, Paul Perkins had begun building a 62inch span Hawker Hurricane from the Tony Nijhuis plan/semi-kit. This was always expected to be a long build, with a conventional open structure from balsa & ply, and the project was shelved when it became apparent that Rectory Park was not going to be the ideal site to fly it – even before we learned of the MFA redevelopment project.

Our unexpected return to Warren Farm spurred Paul into action to complete and fly the model before we are forced to vacate the site again. Paul very sensibly spent a few weekends flying the Capiche and an electrified Arising Star trainer to acclimatise himself to flying larger, heavier models than he had become used to at Rectory Park.

The first take off on 5th July turned out to be something of a non-event – the model flew perfectly from the first take off, and after several circuits landed perfectly on the well-mown grass. The model has since been



flown several more times, with the undercarriage now retracted for even better scale effect.

A wonderful sight which we feared we would not see.

Paul is now converting his Spitfire from I/C power to electric, using the same type of motor, battery and speed controller employed for both the Hurricane and the Arising Star. We look forward to seeing this famous warbird in the air soon.

### **PLANS SERVICE DEMISE?**

For many years, “Build It Yourself” model flyers have been able to access a wonderful catalogue of plans covering 70 years of model aircraft design.

Sadly, we understand that Nexus Publications, who hold the RCM&E and RCMW magazine plans ranges, have ceased trading. We can only hope that some way is found to preserve our model building heritage.

WFRF chairman Bob Howard has contacted the BMFA asking if they could find a way to preserve the plans portfolio not only for posterity, but to safeguard the future of “Traditional” aeromodelling.

## **GREAT FLYING WEATHER (FOR A SHORT WHILE)**

The recent spell of dry weather and lighter winds has prompted the re-emergence of some familiar shapes at the field.

**Ken Stanbury has recently been flying his twin-electric Cessna 310, from the Dynam kit. The flight pattern with the wheels retracted is very realistic, and the retract system copes well with the smooth runway at Warren Farm.**

**Twin engined models have always been a challenge with I/C models, as the asymmetric thrust resulting from loss of power on one engine often made the model very unstable. This problem is virtually eliminated with the more reliable electric power.**



## **VISITORS TO WARREN FARM**

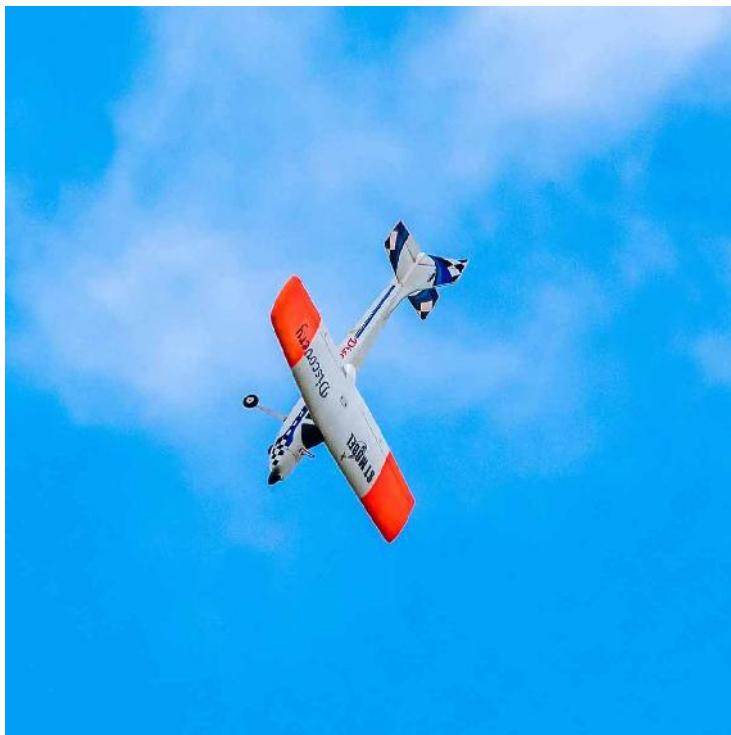
**Some weekday flyers at Warren Farm were recently visited by a couple of walkers, Nabil and Rosanne, who spent some time chatting about our models and taking photos.**

**Nabil very kindly emailed some of the photos, and the quality of the photography was outstanding, showing the venerable old Discovery trainer in a new light.**

**Many thanks to Nabil for these – we hope to see both of you again soon.**



*Gossamer Wings*



*Coming out of a loop – not bad for a 6 year old foamie trainer!*

## **AND FINALLY**

**The council contractors are continuing to maintain a beautiful runway for us. We hope to see as many as possible of you making use of it whilst it is still available to us.**