

# WARREN FARM RADIO FLYERS **WFRF**



*A wonderful display of models at Norwood Green Village Day*

## **AUGUST AT WARREN FARM**

### **FIELD CONDITION & AVAILABILITY**

The recent spell of hot dry weather has resulted in zero grass growth, so mowing has not been necessary. Following the rain over the last few days, we will have to wait and see whether any growth takes place, however the rainfall in this area has been so little that we hope that the runway will remain usable.

There is still no news on a start date for the redevelopment works, however the QPR Financial Fair Play case has now been settled. We have no way of knowing if or how this will affect future plans for the site.

### **NORWOOD GREEN VILLAGE DAY**

This was an unqualified success., which we hope to repeat next year

A number of models of all types were on show throughout the day, and all of the members present were kept busy explaining what we do, and how the plans for Warren Farm are affecting our future.

We received a lot of support from the public, and it has been suggested to us that Norwood Green Residents Association, who organised Village day, may be able to use their influence to help us to continue flying.

We could not have hoped for a better pitch to display our wares. We were in the shade of a large tree (very welcome on such a hot day), and were perfectly positioned for the maximum possible exposure.

One of the visitors was a Polish girl, who was descended from one of the fighter pilots based at Northolt during the Battle of Britain. She was delighted to learn that Ken Stanbury had once built a Hawker Hurricane finished in the colours of one of the Polish squadrons.

Many thanks to the gallant band of helpers who spent the early morning roping off the area, and later helping to clear away, as well as doing a really great PR exercise, Thanks also to Steve and Sara Searle, who do such a great job of organising the event.

## **NEW (AND NOT SO NEW) SHAPES IN THE AIR**

One of the models on display at Village day was Chris Woodward's newly built DB BiStormer, which was still awaiting the final touches.

Chris has since successfully flown this beautiful classic model. First flight was, to say the least, exciting, as the model unexpectedly lifted off during taxiing trials, however Chris managed to fly it safely around the circuit.

The unplanned sortie was due to the model being somewhat overpowered by a 8 cell battery.

This has now been replaced by a 6 cell battery, and subsequent flights have been a much more relaxing experience.



*BiStormer on taxiing trials – and unplanned take-off*

Another recent reappearance has been your editors famous “Project X” which was frequently featured in the newsletters a few years ago.

The Skyways Hawk 70 is, like the BiStormer, a design from the dim & distant past, which disappeared when the proprietors of Skyways retired. Some of the the Skyways range was eventually reintroduced by Masons Models, of Spalding, Lincolnshire, and the model built from their plan pack by your editor now features on their website.

Unfortunately, the model suffered a rare mechanical failure shortly before we were forced to relocate from Warren Farm to Rectory Park, and as the model was unsuitable for the Rectory Park site repairs were abandoned and the model relegated to the loft.

The model has now been fully restored to flying condition, and following it's appearance at Village Day, it was re-test flown a couple of weeks ago.

It looks good, it flies beautifully, and the well-silenced Laser 70 four-stroke purrs like a well-oiled kitten. Further flights are planned as soon as the better weather returns, with a view to getting in as much flying time as possible before we have to leave Warren farm again.



*The Hawk 70 comes in for a perfect three-point landing*

## **DOG WALKERS**

**We recently had a problem with a couple of dog walkers on the runway.**

**One of our members was already in the air when two women with large dogs entered the runway. Instead of simply walking across the field, they stayed playing with their dogs on the runway whilst our member was waiting to land.**

**When approached they were very reluctant to leave the runway, even when it was explained to them that the runway is mown for our use as part of our agreement with Ealing Council, for which we pay a licence fee.**

**It was explained to them that we had been using the site for over 20 years, a fact of which they claimed to be unaware. In fact, they claimed to have been using the site themselves for many years without ever having seen us before.**

**They were adamant that, if the area was for our use, we should have posted a notice. They may well be right about that, so a bright orange A3 size notice has been printed and fixed to a post, which will be planted near the runway shortly.**

**It will be interesting to see how long it lasts before it is vandalised.**



## **AND FINALLY**

**A new TV series is starting at 7pm on Sunday evening on Channel 4.**

**Flying Across Britain is presented by Arthur Williams, a qualified pilot and paralympic cyclist, who, when not flying, uses a wheelchair. His previous programmes suggest that it will be well worth watching.**

**The blurb in the TV times describes the programme as “An engaging celebration of aviation hobbyists and British eccentricity”.**