

WARREN FARM RADIO FLYERS **WFRF**



Ken's ViperJet carries out an impressive flypast against a beautiful summer sky.

JULY AT WARREN FARM

FIELD CONDITION & AVAILABILITY

The grass is in the best condition we have seen since returning to the site last year.

Prior to the recent bank holiday, we had asked for the strip to be mown, which Amey did at very short notice. We anticipated that, with the warm weather, we would only have a couple of weeks flying before the grass became too long again, so imagine our surprise last Friday when flying was brought to a halt by the unexpected arrival of the mower!

The mower operator, whom we now know to be named Jess, took only about 30 minutes to produce a surface like a billiard table. Your editor even considered rushing off to buy a croquet set, or maybe some bowls!

On a more serious note, we have received an email from Chris Bunting which suggests that any start on the redevelopment works is still several months away, so we plan to continue making full use of the site, weather permitting.

NORWOOD GREEN VILLAGE DAY – SATURDAY 14TH JULY

We have confirmed to the residents association that we will be attending Village Day, and have asked for a couple of tables to help us to display our models.

We have also asked for rope and fencing pins to secure our area, and we could do with help to set up the area in the morning. Vehicle access to the site will be from the corner of Norwood Road and Tentelow Lane. Access on foot can be from all around the green, however grassed mounds have been created around most of the site to discourage a further invasion by travellers.

We will need to set up between 10am & 11am, and the event closes at around 5pm. There are refreshments & toilets on site (and a beer tent). You are welcome to leave your models and collect them later if you need to go off. If you wish to fly in the morning, you can bring your models along later.

Models of all types are welcome, but with the emphasis on larger and home-built stuff rather than small foamies, as we need to show the full extent of our activities.

TAFT VIPERJET

The combination of warm weather, light winds straight along the runway and the newly-mown grass obviously had an effect on Ken Stanbury. His usual diet of lightweight foamies and flying wings disappeared in favour of something much more exotic.

The last time Ken flew the ViperJet was during our stay at Rectory Park. The 57in/1450mm wingspan model weighs in at 3Kg, and is powered by a 90mm diameter 11 blade fan, with a 5 cell 4400 or 5000 mah battery. The standard kit includes an all-metal retractable undercarriage and three position flaps.

Despite the ViperJet's exciting jet fighter appearance, Ken reports that it is "A Pussycat", with handling qualities more akin to an advanced trainer. Take-offs from the newly mown grass took no more than a third of the runway length, however landing required most of the 100mts available.

It is not that long ago that jets would have been totally unacceptable at Warren Farm. The old two-stroke powered ducted fans were so noisy that many clubs, including WFRF, banned their use entirely. Despite it's incredible performance, the electric powered fan powering the ViperJet was very quiet, sounding similar to a hair drier on steroids.



An easy take-off.



At rest, undercarriage retracted



And finally, a perfect flapless landing.