

# WARREN FARM RADIO FLYERS **WFRF**



*Another new shape in the air at Rectory Park – Ken Stanbury's B17 "Flying Fortress".*

## OCTOBER AT RECTORY PARK

### FIELD CONDITION AND AVAILABILITY

The field is still in good condition, and was mown about two weeks ago.

We have received advance warning that a circus will be on the field next May. They will be on site from Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> until Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>, however the show will be open to the public only Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>, so it may be possible for us to fly whilst they are setting up on the 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, and whilst they are striking camp on the 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be in contact with the circus in due course to confirm how we can work together to ensure safe flying.

### OLD MODELS REHOMED

Last month we received an email from Perivale resident Joe Abberley, with an offer of a part-build Precedent Electra-fly, free gratis and for nothing. Joe was moving home, and wanted to see the model go to a good home.

Blake Guyan, also a Perivale resident, was quick off the mark, and within hours of an email being sent to all members he was the proud owner of a traditional build electric self-launching glider – essentially a thermal soarer with a small motor to gain height instead of the (now rarely seen) bungee towline system.

Blake has been modifying the nose to take a modern brushless motor instead of the "Can" type which was in use when the model was kitted many years ago. We look forward to seeing it in action at Rectory Park soon.

Many thanks to Joe for his generosity. We wish him happiness and good luck in his new home.



## **KEN RERUNS WWII (FROM AN AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE)**

Ken Stanbury's love of American cars seems to have been replaced by a love of American aircraft.

Several days of fine weather in the latter part of September coincided with the park being mown – hence a sudden rush to get models into the air.

Firstly, Ken arrived at the field with his old Vought Corsair, rarely flown since we left Warren Farm over two years ago. The model performed faultlessly, with Ken grinning like a Cheshire cat.

The unusual “Bent Wing” appearance of the Corsair was designed to provide clearance for an enormous propeller, whilst using short



undercarriage legs to avoid damage when landing on the pitching deck of an aircraft carrier.

The Corsair was originally designed for the US Navy, but was used more by the US Marine Air Corps, flying from makeshift island runways, and our own Fleet Air Arm, who overcame the issues which limited its use on American aircraft carriers



Not content with stunning us all with the Corsair, Ken arrived at the field a few days later with an enormous B17 Flying Fortress. He had wisely refrained from flying this model when the field was busy, however with the reopening of local schools the park is relatively free of families playing in our flying area, so this was the ideal time.

Despite its size, Ken reports that it flies much like a trainer, although it needs to be flown down to a landing rather than floated in as can be done with some models.

The model has great presence in the air. A mother walking with her toddler spent a lot of time with us asking questions. The little lad stood open mouthed as this beautiful model performed in front of him, and it would be no great surprise if he returned when he is a bit older with a burning ambition to take up model flying





Finally, getting fed up with scale flying, Ken then produced his old Viperjet.

With all the appearance of a true jet powered aircraft (which would not be permitted under WFRF rules) the model is powered by a 90mm Electric Ducted Fan (EDF), and tears around the sky sounding more like a hair dryer on steroids than a model aircraft. Although this is a model for experienced flyers only, it is not the vicious brute that it's sleek appearance suggests.



#### **AND FINALLY**

Another look at some of Ken's masterpieces.

