

WARREN FARM RADIO FLYERS

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"SQUADRON SCRAMBLE – BANDITS AT ANGELS 15.

Paul Perkins has at last been able to finish & test fly his Supermarine Spitfire.

SEPTEMBER AT WARREN FARM

FIELD CONDITION & AVAILABILITY

The runway is in good condition, and has recently been mown.

With the recent improvement in weather conditions, some members have been flying most mornings, with some returning for an encore later in the day. It is as well to make as much use as possible of the facilities, as we cannot be sure how much longer they will be available to us, although we are given to understand that we are safe until the end of the year.

A SPITFIRE FLIES AT LAST

Following his successful flights with the Hurricane, Paul Perkins has resurrected his Spitfire project,

When Paul first joined WFRF about 10 years ago, he had already begun to build this model from the PICA kit, designed by the great Dave Platt. Flying the model was very sensibly shelved until Paul was confident that he had gained the necessary skills and experience, however the loss of Warren Farm meant that the near-complete model was consigned to the loft for several years.

Having completed the electric Hurricane, Paul decided to replace the 60 size 2 stroke engine in the Spitfire with an electric power train identical to that in the Hurricane. The first test flight revealed that this was a great decision – it flew perfectly from the first take-off.

We look forward to seeing both WWII models in action for the rest of our time at Warren Farm

We are assured that there is no truth in the rumour that Paul is planning to grow a handlebar moustache!



STILL ON THE SUBJECT OF WWII

Ken Stanbury has also been keeping the WWII theme alive.

Ken has recently acquired the FMS model of the P51D Mustang, which he has reported as being a delight to fly, much easier to take-off and land than his previous Mustang.

The model really looks the part in the air, and attracted a lot of attention from passing dog-walkers.

Kens model is in the colours of the 332nd Fighter Group, better known as the “Red Tails” or “Tuskegee Airmen”, the fighter group consisting entirely of black airmen. During the time that they were tasked with escorting bombers over enemy-held territory, they reputedly never lost a single bomber to fighter attacks. Their reputation was instrumental ending segregation in the US armed forces.

Not content with this, he has also brought out his B17 “Flying Fortress”, one of the largest models which we were able to fly during our time at Rectory Park.



Despite it's size, Ken reports that the model handles like a trainer, with none of the unpleasant vices often displayed by multi-engine models.

The reliability of electric flight is ideal for this application – even more so on twin-engine models. There is a saying that “If one engine of a twin fails, the remaining engine will always provide enough power to fly the aircraft all the way to the scene of the crash”

The only thing missing from Ken's model is the throb of four Wright “Cyclone” radial engines.

ROBOTIC ORNITHOLOGY - AGAIN

Those of you who know Guy Lee-Emery will know that, as a New Zealander, he has been known to make unkind comments about the wildlife of Australia :-

“Australia is full of creatures that just want to kill you”

“Of the 10 most poisonous snakes in the world, Australia has 9 of them. That is before you start on the scorpions and funnel web spiders.”

“The coast? Full of sharks, crocodiles and box-jellyfish”

How odd, then, that Guy's latest project is none other than an Australian Pelican!



Model on the – er left? Or is that the real one? We could try feeding both of them fish to find out.

The model is built entirely from foam, with the electric motor behind the head and the battery in the beak. Or should that be “bill”?

First flights have been “eventful” as the bird is not yet fully house-trained. Guy is now making a few adjustments to the controls, and we look forward to seeing it in the air regularly

“A curious bird is the Pelican. Its bill can hold more than it’s belly can”.



AND FINALLY

We are pleased to welcome Paul Derbyshire as a WFRF member.

Paul has been a “Dronista” for some time, but has now decided that the time has come to learn to fly fixed wing models.

We hope Paul will enjoy his time with us.



Ken brings the B17 “Flying Fortress” in for a perfect 3 point landing.