

WARREN FARM RADIO FLYERS **WFRF**



Bob , Andy Turner and Paul on duty at Norwood Green Village Day (Photo by Richard Grimshaw)

JULY AT WARREN FARM

Lots to report on this month, hence the delay.

NORWOOD GREEN VILLAGE DAY

Our static display at Norwood Green Village Day was very successful, with several enquiries.

The weather remained fine all day, and the other stands were well worth a visit. Congratulations to Norwood Green Residents Association for a well run event, and for providing entertainment in the form of a superb female local singer.

Bob, Paul and Richard were manning the stand, ably assisted by Andy Turner from West London MAC, and Sean Mendis from the Northwick Park club, both of whom have been invited to come and fly with us at any time.

We will try to advise on the dates for the 2024 event in good time, so that more club members can reserve the date to come and help out.

FIELD CONDITION

The field is now in superb condition, thanks to the Greener Ealing team led by John Carpenter. There is now a bald patch due to vandalism, of which more later, but this will not affect flying.

The rabbits are still busy, but not quite as badly as before. We can only keep filling in the holes! LBE have advised us that they have this issue with sports fields and school playing fields across the borough.

TOILET

By the time you read this, the old toilet will have been replaced, as the pump had ceased to function. The locks will remain unchanged. If you feel you may need to use the toilet, please contact Bob Howard on 07958 240 380 for the new code.

SECURITY INCIDENTS

There have been 3 security incidents at the field in the past few weeks.

Firstly, several weeks ago a picnic & barbecue had been held overnight on the runway. Food containers and glass bottles had been left scattered on the site, which we had to clear up. A worrying factor was that the mower was due on site. Had the mowing machine hit the bottles, dangerous glass shards would have been thrown around, potentially injuring dogs, walkers and even the mower operator. Such bottles are also known to start fires

On Saturday 24th June, just as we were packing up, a group of about 12 youngish males appeared on the field, and began setting up a boxing ring. An older woman, who seemed to be in charge, told us that they were going to do some filming for their club.

Bearing in mind their size and number, and the fact that they were boxers with a very intimidating presence, we had little choice but to leave them to it. Tom bravely continued flying with his little Corsair – perfectly legal as it is below the 250g limit.

This has been reported to Ealing Council, who have advised that they need permission from the council for both the boxing ring and for commercial filming. We have established that the boxing club is a registered company, and their details have been passed to the council.

Following this, on Sunday 2nd July, we received a report of another overnight party on the runway. They had left a terrible mess, having had some kind of a bonfire (clearly much bigger than a disposable barbecue) on the runway. An area of grass approximately 1m x 2m has been burned right down to the topsoil. Again, a vodka bottle was left on site.

Most worryingly, they had clearly been burning paper, much of which had blown across the runway and lodged in the long dry grass. That it did not ignite a major grass fire is some kind of miracle.

Bob, Tom and Paul arrived on site with bags and gloves, but to our surprise a group of dog walkers arrived and immediately pitched in to help, which reduced the clean-up time by half. We are very grateful for their kind assistance.

Photos of the mess and clean-up operation on page 3.

Katie Boyles (Warren Farm Nature Reserve) is on the case. She is hoping to have security patrols stepped up, especially on Saturday evenings, which is when the problems occur.

AND FINALLY

Do any of you watch “The Footage Detectives”, broadcast at 5pm Sunday evenings on Talking Pictures (Freeview 82, Sky 328).

On Sunday 4th June, they did a major item on model flying, including a lot about the film “Sky Pirates”. An email from your very own editor about the models, radios and pilots was broadcast, complete with a few photos.

This episode will be repeated on Monday 10th July at 6pm. You can also watch online at tptvencore.co.uk, but you will have to register & put up with endless adverts!

It is high time model flying had more television exposure. TPTV seems to be the only channel which is aware that we exist.

