



Manx Model Flyers

November 2017 FLYPAPER

Unfortunately, this month's Flypaper gets off to a sad start with an obituary to our late Treasurer, Bob Oates.

As most of you know, Bob was diagnosed with cancer [as a result of asbestosis] last year when he relinquished the post of club Treasurer after a period of over ten years. Bob had been a member of the club for over 25 years. I remember him starting his 'camping' at the Flying Week. Although he started in a tent—albeit a large bungalow tent with luxury! He loved the idea of flying model aircraft and he had many attempts! He supported the camping and quickly moved on to a caravan with more and more luxury. Always to be seen sitting outside [if dry] in his director's chair with a cup of coffee [if in the morning] or a glass of wine in the evening. Bob loved going to Cosford and could not resist the odd model aircraft or gimmick!

Although he had sold his caravan by the time of this year's Cosford, Ivan very kindly offered to take Bob with him and join the rest of us who were in tents alongside. While we sat in with Ivan and Bob for the evening meal, we had takeaways while Bob and Ivan cooked and eat in style, steaks and deserts were the order of the day!

While Bob struggled to learn to fly for many years he did achieve some solo flying during the last 18 months and was so 'chuffed' to have finally achieved his ambition. He went out on high. He will be sorely missed from the club and by wife Maureen, daughter Kathryn, son-in law Mike, and grandson Josh.

Miles got as many members as possible to sign a card of condolence last week, and the club made a donation of £50 to Hospice, Isle of Man. The club was well represented at the funeral by over a dozen members.

On the brighter side, there will be a 'Swap Meet' at the Creg on Wed 6th Dec. Dig out those old models and bits and pieces. Coffee and biscuits will be provided.

This will follow the AGM on 22nd November at 7.30 pm prompt. The present Committee have agreed to stand again next year but new nominees would be welcome. It is anticipated that club subs will remain the same although the BMFA A.G.M is being held prior to ours and they may increase their membership. Club subs will be collected that night

if so desired but contact details must be completed, i.e. telephone numbers and internet addresses. Coffee and biscuits will be served after the meeting.

The club dinner/presentation is being held on Friday 15th Dec. at the Creg at 7.30 in the main restaurant. The Xmas menu has already been made available to all club members and choice of food must be submitted by the AGM at the latest. Dinner orders to Marty please. Anyone who has club trophies is asked to return them to me [Brian] prior to the dinner.

On the flying side of things, it has been quite eventful one way or another. There have been some good flying days and members have made the most of them—at a cost! I must be the leading candidate for crashes although not necessarily the best- but it's going to be a close -run thing. Having had my XL and my Turbulent fall out of the sky while carrying out sedate circuits and being unable to find any technical fault—the radio and batteries were found to be in perfect condition. Then my new Sukhoi, having completed 3 flights perfectly, failed to recover from a loop, buried itself into, luckily soft ground. It didn't do much for the airframe and the engine had to be literally dug out of the ground. However, the engine is back and running, albeit with a new CDI unit.

However, mine was not the only one to succumb as Nigel and John had a stupendous coming together at about 100 ft. Both I/c engined aircraft chewed into each other and exploded in a shower of debris over quite a large area. A very large black bag was needed!

In desperation, I turned to electrics yesterday [I didn't have any I/C aircraft left!] and joined 4 others up at Jurby in glorious sunshine. Sorry Alan and Marty! I got the club Riot going well, then my Eagle and Twinstar. My confidence returned slowly! John [Martin] was flying his 50ins bi-plane in his usual style. I think he must be the only member who flick-starts his engine so reliably. Mike White and son Darryl turned up with two aircraft which I have seen before doing some excellent aerobatics. Mike and Darryl put the large trainer-like model, complete with tricycle undercarriage, through some stupendous stunts using the engine to great effect. They followed this with something similar using a low-wing tail-dragger. I learnt a lot from watching a 'trainer' carrying out these manoeuvres. Following this, Kirryl put on his own display using his Walrus, and quickly settled down to some steady flying complete with some good landings. Using the confidence acquired, he moved on to his Mentor and had a two successful flights before I left.

Shaun Counsell is now the ARA man on the spot at Jurby. He has booked the club in for the 11th/12th August 2018 for our 'Fly-in'.

The 'Extension' code for the gate has been changed to 7654 as the Extension had been used by car drivers to make midnight 'donuts' on the tarmac. However, be warned that the Extension tenant has given permission to a 'learner driver' to use the extension occasionally.

While the above misuse might have removed some of the weeds unfortunately they didn't take off enough so if you can remember a shovel next time you go up, and spend some time knocking off a few of the larger tufts, it would be appreciated. The club may have to have an organised shovelling session!

The Indoor flying has started at the Tommy Clucas Centre in Peel on alternate Sunday nights, 7-9 pm. The charge is £5 per session which is good value. Why not ask Father Christmas for a model [aeroplane!] in your stocking! There will be ten sessions all told so worth purchasing an indoor plane or drone.

That's all for now folks, happy landings!

Brian King