



Affiliated to the British Model Flying Association Club No. 561

NEWSLETTER MAY 2014

NEXT CLUB MEETING: WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY 2014 AT 6.45PM
Change of Venue: North side Flying Field, Saddlescomb Road

Website: www.brightonradioflyingclub.co.uk

BRFC Committee Members for 2014 are:

Nick West	Chairman
Andy Murdoch	Vice-Chairman
Ian Smith	Honorary Treasurer
Gitta Horan	Honorary Secretary
David Rayner	Committee Member
Ken Norman	Committee Member
Marcus Smith	Committee Member

Contact details are on the Website.

FROM THE COMMITTEE:

The Committee hope you enjoyed the Indoor Flying sessions which were organised over the winter months. Now the weather is looking better, we hope to see more members at the field. Perhaps a few more Permit to Fly Tests are due soon. . . . better get practising!! And don't forget the Fun Fly Competition on 11th May.

Events Calendar for 2014 – Key dates are listed on the back of this Newsletter

Club Memorabilia

- We still have a limited number of Club Baseball caps available for sale at £10 each. If you are interested please contact the Secretary.
- Logo stickers are now available to members at a cost of £1 large sticker; 50p small sticker – perfect for displaying on your models!

Fuel Order 2014

Bring your cheque (payable to Nick West) with you to the next Club Meeting on 7th May. This is your last chance to place your order. Delivery in June.

Congratulations to Ronnie Dawson on passing his BMFA 'A' test.

Helicopter Permits – Changes to rules

Following feedback from members and after much lengthy discussion by the Committee, the original club rule relating to flying of helicopters will be formalised and incorporated into the Constitution. In future, BRFC will be promoted to new members primarily as a Fixed Wing Club. Members must pass a Fixed Wing Permit to Fly test before being allowed to fly helicopters. This will satisfy the Club requirement that they have proven their knowledge of no fly zones and general safety procedures. There will be no requirement to pass the BMFA Helicopter A test. The club has no provision for helicopter instruction and will refer members to the BMFA handbook for guidance/advice. Some safety guidance will continue to be included in all new members packs.

Club Nights - Support your Club

Why not come along to our next meeting?

June, July and August Club Meetings will be held at the Field – you are welcome to arrive any time from 6.45pm and perhaps a BBQ will be in order. Let's make the most of the good weather.

AT THE FIELD . . .

Safety

- Incident Report Forms are located in the spares box in the field shelter if needed. Completed forms should be handed to a Committee member.
- Please remember to launch your aircraft from the same end point of the strip, for safety reasons and to avoid any confusion.

Working Party

Unfortunately, the working party date on 6th April was cancelled due to the weather, but thank you to those members who turned up any way and got stuck into some of those jobs that needed doing. Giving up your time on such a dreary day was much appreciated.

Glider Competition Report and Results – 13th April 2014

By Andy Murdoch

What a shame weather stopped the glider competitions last year..... or was it?

Normal procedure for BRFC glider events is to brush the dust off something that hasn't seen light of day for a year, stick it on the bungee and see what happens. Often something along the lines of the following:

Since the last outing the battery died/got used for something else so a quick scrounge gets it in the air - only to find that the rushed model setup ended up with a reversed rudder.

Disaster averted, re-launch allowed, near loop off the line full one minute flight followed by a land outside the field.

This year was different. This year people had time to plan, to fettle, to get new models ready, and to take incompetence to a whole new level.

First candidate for numpty of the day is yours truly, having spent literally minutes grafting a beautifully crafted aluminium adjustable hook into my new plastic and foam electric glider. I got cold feet and packed the trusty Don Moreman Gentle Lady. Having rigged it on the table in the car park, distracted by the chairman I watched as the wind dumped it on the deck snapping the tail off.

Having spent an hour setting up the bungee the wind changed, then changed again 180 degrees at a time. We finally decided that a downwind launch somehow became into wind somewhere up the line, so we left things heading away from the road.

Test launches showed luck was going to play a part today...

While we were setting up a certain Stephen Horan, who spent the previous evening grafting a hook onto an electric Olympic, asked me to help with a test flight. When a quick c of g check showed that a hand launch would probably result in a loop and a crash I left him searching for ballast.

Meanwhile Kevin Willis confided that a small miscalculation in his hook placement needed urgent surgery. A quick rummage in the tool box came up with a drill to get him on his way. Meanwhile, back at camp Horan, a spark plug (yup) and some more lead got the balance point far enough forward for a test glide. All looked good so a first power assisted launch led to comments such as: "I don't like it", "It won't turn" etc. Usual first encounter 3 channel glider reaction, much like Marcus Smith's first go on a Gentle Lady.

First round and we have:

Me with Phoenix, second ever bungee launch, wouldn't get off the line (something Peter would later look upon with envy) and landed early but on the spot for some pride recovery.

Then some other people flew, all with better results until Peter, bless him, made even me look good. We let him have a re-launch, that's how bad his hook is, but that also ended prematurely so he bowed out, much to everyone's disappointment.

Then Stephen's first ever bungee launch. "Would I launch it for him?" No! I did offer some advice, soundly ignored, but he survived and landed within the field for a score.

Round 2. Having learnt from Richard's first flight, I headed for the hill behind the pits. Due entirely to me having the wrong, too heavy model and not in any way to my lack of ability, I completely failed to match his performance. Being a bit preoccupied I managed to miss Nick and Kevin's flights, mind you I wasn't distracted for that long...

Richard put in another lovely flight, still missed the spot though. Not bitter.

Then Stephen's up. A bit of pre-flight coaching on how to use a slope for lift and he's off. Unbelievably he listens a bit and has a proper good flight, actually maintaining height and everything.

So the final result, victory at last for Richard. I would rub that in a bit more but as he donated his bungee to the club in a fit of massive generosity I feel that would be inappropriate. Thanks Richard, next time... I fluked a second and, wait for it, Stephen nabbed third.

Lessons learnt from the day:

- Lack of preparation can nobble a good pilot (Kevin).
- The right model, intelligently flown takes some beating.
- The Chairman needs more practice.
- I'm better at telling someone how to fly than flying. (Open to offers for coaching Nick)
- You can go from "I don't like this" to third place in four flights.

As a corollary, due to Peter opting not to fly the last bungee we let Steven take it. This time he got it. We only landed when the power boys wanted a fly and he managed a 4 minute 51, best time of the day.

Finally, in the all up last down electric launch Kevin reasserted his authority with Richard nearly matching him with his lovely big Swift. After I landed I wandered over to see how Kevin was doing. Having to put down trim in because he couldn't see his model wasn't the answer I wanted to hear. Well done though.

Gliding. Makes you laugh, makes you scream in frustration. If we ever as a club take it more seriously I am not sure it would be an any more fun couple of hours.

Thanks to everyone who helped run the bungee, especially Trevor, Nick Taylor and David Rayner, and to Paul for the timing.

Special thanks to Nick West for running the event and providing (not so) hot cross buns.

Full Results of the Day

Position	Name	Score	
1st	Richard Wade	600	including 30 & 50 landing points
2 nd	Andy Murdoch	394	including 30 landing points
3 rd	Stephen Horan	119	1 st time flying gliders!!
4 th	Kevin Willis	177	
5 th	Nick West	167	
6 th	Peter McFarlane	30	

Well done to everyone who took part.

2014 - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<p>MAY Wednesday 7th Club Meeting at Field 6.45pm (Place orders for Summer Fuel)</p> <p>Sunday 11th Fun Fly Competition 10am</p> <p>Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th May LMA Airshow, Rougham RAF Bury St Edmund (IP30 9LZ)</p>	<p>AUGUST Monday 4th August Committee Meeting 7.15pm</p> <p>Wednesday 6th August Club Meeting at Field 6.45pm</p> <p>Thursday 14th to Sunday 17th August Airbourne – Eastbourne Air Show</p> <p>Saturday 30th & Sunday 31st August Shoreham Air Show</p>
<p>JUNE Monday 2nd June Committee Meeting 7.15pm</p> <p>Wednesday 4th June Club Meeting at Field 6.45pm</p> <p>Sunday 8th June BMFA tests 10am</p> <p>Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th June Wings & Wheels North Weald Airfield (CM16 6HR)</p> <p>Sunday 29th June Family and Friends Day 10am</p> <p>Monday 30th June Committee Meeting 7.15pm</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER Monday 1st September Committee Meeting 7.15pm</p> <p>Wednesday 3rd September Club Meeting 8.00pm Patcham Community Centre</p> <p>Sunday 7th September Glider Competition Phase2 –Bungee Launch 10am Electric Mass Launch 30 second climb out</p> <p>Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th September Southern Model Show, Headcorn</p> <p>Monday 29th September Committee Meeting 7.15pm</p>
<p>JULY Wednesday 2nd July Club Meeting at Field 6.45pm</p> <p>Sunday 13th July Alternative Family & Friends Day 10am</p> <p>Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th LMA Cosford (TF11 8UP)</p> <p>Saturday 20th July Scale Model Flying Day 10am</p>	<p>OCTOBER Wednesday 1st October Club Meeting 8.00pm Patcham Community Centre</p> <p>Date to be Confirmed Indoor Flying at BACA</p> <p>NOVEMBER Monday 3rd November Committee Meeting 7.15pm</p> <p>Wednesday 5th November AGM 8.00pm Patcham Community Centre</p> <p>Date to be Confirmed Indoor Flying at BACA</p>
<p>DECEMBER Monday 1st December Committee Meeting 7.15pm</p>	<p>Wednesday 3rd December Rejoining Night 8.00pm Patcham Community Centre</p>

The Committee look forward to seeing you at the next Club Meeting on

Wednesday 7th May 2014 at the field 6.45pm