



2019 Newsletter Issue 1 (April)

The front page will always feature a photo of a club model or models so make sure you help by sending your photo's (and articles) to anthclif@tiscali.co.uk if you want to be in line for a front page feature.



Billy Bennett has been busy over the winter. He built this 81 inch Cessna 182 from the Top Flite kit and powered it with a Laser 100 four stroke nitro engine. It looks real in the air and Billy definitely enjoys flying it. His reason for building it was unusual.....he had a cowl.

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Club Web Site:- www.wrcfs.co.uk

BMFA Web Site:- www.bmfa.org

The comments contained within this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinion or judgement of the committee or club members unless specifically stated. Neither the editor, nor the club shall take responsibility for the content of articles submitted or published in this newsletter.

Editorial

The run between Christmas and Easter is traditionally a time for workshops and building. This year has been slightly different for me though, as I have actually got some flying in on a fairly regular basis. This has been in no small part down to the fact that the strip and access to it have remained in good shape. I can't remember the last time that the strip had no marshy bits and where we park was puddle free for the entire winter.

We lost Dave Burton over the winter after a three year battle with cancer. During that time I never once heard him complain about his lot in life, in fact he just ploughed on with doing stuff around medication and hospital visits. I must admit that I have on occasion felt ashamed about how little I manage to crack on and do stuff by comparison. Andrew shares some thoughts about Dave later in the newsletter.

Ant

The Business End

For those who are not aware, there have been a few committee changes. The committee this year are:

Chairman	Andrew Lowthian
Secretary	Dave Buckingham
Treasurer	John Griffiths
Newsletter Ed	Anthony Cliffe
Webmaster	Billy Bennett
Safety Officer	Bill Bonner
Events	Paul Rice

Some good news. It was time for renewal of our lease at Arrowe Park, and Andrew was able to negotiate some changes to flying hours. They are simpler, with all days the same, longer overall hours available, and no days that are electric only.

Every day	Any model aircraft between the hours of 10:30am and dusk or 9:00pm (whichever is earlier)
Additions for summer time only (BST)	Gliders between 7:00am or dawn (whichever is later) until 10:30am. "Silent" (electric powered) aircraft excluding drones from 9:00am until 10:30am.

These new flying times are part of our contract with the council so are now already in effect.

Lever's

We normally have a hot pot in the spring, but this year we have had to postpone it. The reason for this is the auction we are holding on April 17th which will take up the full evening, even with the earlier start. This auction is largely, but not exclusively, from the hangar and workshop of the late Dave Burton. Items for auction have been circulated separately but include airframes, RC gear, batteries and tools. Doors open at 7:00pm and the auction will start at 7:30pm.

The summer club meeting will be a barbeque down at the strip, and there will be a club meeting at the Lever Club in September for the Ivan Mottershaw Builders Trophy. The intention is to try and run a hotpot later in the year if at all possible.

Out In The Park

It worked!!! General consensus is that the drainage at Arrowe Park has worked. There has not been the slightest sign of a puddle, despite a rampaging quad bike sinking into the boggy bit to the side. I know it has not been the worst of winters, but there does not seem to have been a day that flying would have been restricted by the state of the strip or where we stand or park. Result!



I have flown a few times over the last few months, and always with company, and I know others have flown almost every week. I am glad that the days are getting warmer (although it randomly hailed today) and I know that the strip at Arrowe will get busier as summer looms. I am hoping that the knock on effect of the draining will be that the grass grows slower as the ground is less wet. My EDF models would love that. Wishful thinking?



Undercover

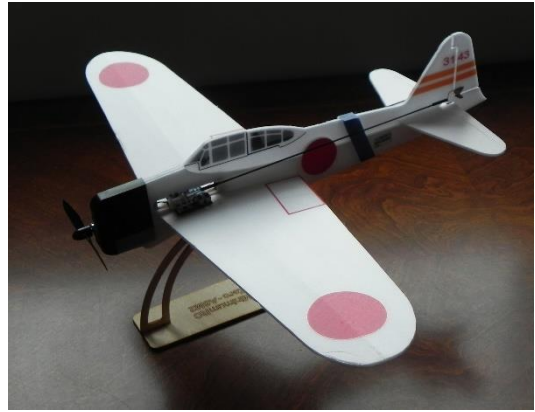
Indoor flying has been at Hilbre High School this year. There have been a couple of issues with communication (they have not opened up and we didn't know that they weren't going to), but they have given us a session in recompense. As a venue it is excellent. The parking is right



outside and the hall is an excellent size. Models flown have been fixed wing, heli and quads. Most have been RTF models, but in my last session I flew a very quick to build kit that I spotted in RCM&E, and it was awesome. It may well be that you have the remains of a small indoor model, and I can honestly say that for

just over a tenner including delivery and a motor the Minimum RC Zero would be an excellent way to resurrect its guts.

If you have never been to an indoor session at all, then give it a go next season. Flying at Hilbre High School is due to resume in September.



Lets Get Building

Ok club members it's still building season so let's see all you Balsa bashers and those who have never built before give it a try, maybe include your children or Grandchildren in the build make it fun and exciting.

I am looking for built aircraft for the Ivan Mottershaw Cup contest later this year.

Let's get creative and build anything from WW1 Through present day, Scratch built or a Wacky racers design, use your imagination and surprise us, Building is lots of fun and also pleasing give it a go.

Simple rules all planes must be Built from a kit or scratch built NO ARTF aircraft will be allowed or judged.

I am available for help and advice on build questions or paint schemes if anyone needs it.

With over 40 yrs building experience. No I can't build your plane for the contest!

Due to the Sad Passing of Dave Burton the Hot Pot supper was delayed we will arrange a date for this around this event later in the year we will keep you posted.

Looking forward to seeing some fantastic planes and ideas Let's get as many entries as we can for a great fun day Event.

Limey, Event director.

Dave Burton

Dave joined our club in August 2009 and became Treasurer in 2011. On a personal note I became aware of him when this long haired, bearded chap came down to the strip enquiring about joining earlier in July. Imagine my amazement when I learnt that he was a Professor and the Director of the General Engineering Research Institute at Liverpool John Moore's University.

He served our club well and attended every committee meeting until 24th October last year. He was determined not to give up on life from the day he was diagnosed and, with what he called 'my sheer bloodyminded, dogged determination', he defied every medical professional by beating their prediction of 12 months and surviving 3 years.

We became firm friends and met on many, many occasions but there is one meeting I'll never forget. Down at the strip one day, many years ago, Dave and I were flying around quite happily, enjoying the day. It was lovely, the sun was shining in a blue sky with a light wind down the strip. Dave shouted 'landing' so I said 'Okay, I'll keep out of your way'. He was making his approach and had to abort the landing, and as he took off again that was when we had that meeting.

Yes it happened in mid-air! However hard you try to do that it's very, very difficult. It was a total accident, Dave's model fluttering down like confetti and mine plummeting to the ground like a screaming banshee. Anyway, the long and the short of it was that he blamed

me and I blamed him. We laughed about it over the years and chatting to him in hospital last December we had a laugh.....but he still blamed me!

Dave was a master joke teller, none of which should be repeated in this newsletter, but he also had a wicked sense of humour; often referring to my stripy shirt as a deck chair.

For 10 years WRCFS have held an open Scale Competition and I could guarantee that Dave would be at the PA explaining not only the manoeuvres but the aircraft the model represented. It was easy, free flowing and simple to understand and I'll miss that. He will be hard to replace.

There were many responses from club members and I felt I had to end by mentioning a few:

- He made light of his illness and I hope that I could show as much courage.
- Such a gentleman and a great loss to the club.
- I'll miss our chats at the strip.

And finally

- Goodbye my pal, Rest in Peace Dave

Andrew Lowthian

Future Events

17th April – Auction

The Lever Club, Greendale Rd, Port Sunlight. Doors open 7pm. Auction starts 7:30pm.

12th May - WRCFS Fun Fly

The usual balloon bursting, spinning and similar daft competitions at Arrowe Park.

5th June - BBQ

Tea time barbeque at Arrowe Park.

14th July – WRCFS Club Competitions including the Alf Witherup Memorial Cup

The annual aerobatic, scale, and novice flying competitions at Arrowe Park.

5th September – Ivan Mottershaw Builders Trophy

Peer judged competition and club meeting at the Lever Club, Greendale Rd, Port Sunlight. 8pm.